Northeastern University launched its first online academic journal March 12 with the goal of creating a high-quality, open-access venue for readers and authors in the area of environmental science.

Co-editors Elham Ghabbour, a senior research scientist in chemistry and chemical biology, and Matthews Professor of chemical and biological chemistry Geoffrey Davies, working in conjunction with Northeastern Libraries and the Institutional Repository (IRIS), created The Annals of Environmental Science, the first online academic publication hosted by Northeastern.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for Northeastern to take advantage of an initiative that speaks to increasing the pipeline of individuals with knowledge of science, tech, engineering and math (STEM) education," said Donnie Perkins, professor and associate dean at Harvard School of Public Health.

"This is about the dance, at Barnet."
Students to be speaking in tongues
Northeastern expanding modern language offerings

BY SUSAN SALK

M any years ago, the average stu-
dent at Northeastern had to be
dragged into a language class.
“Now, they’re knocking down our doors
looking for classes,” said arts and sciences
Dean James Stellar.

And the administration has answered
that call with the creation of a new, high-
service World Language Center.
Beginning in July, students will have
expanded course choices and time slots,
including Saturdays, with which to delve
into the growing list of language offerings.
They include Chinese, Arabic, Hebrew,
French, Spanish, Russian and Por-
tuguese.

At the same time, the university will
begin hiring faculty to teach courses that
will be closely matched with the skills re-
quired in a particular course, said Dennis
Cokely, associate professor and chair of
modern languages.

“Curriculum changes and in-
ternational initiatives will
help drive our
course offer-
rings,” said Cokely, explaining that the
new center will have flexibility to respond
quickly to students who find themselves
in need of new language skills to partic-
icipate in a program or co-op assignment.
“In the next few years, we expect to add
25 languages to our program.”

Other plans include the creation of a
web-based platform to assist students in
their language courses and a measure to
hold class sizes to only 18 students.

The new language center will be
housed in the School of Professional and
Continuing Studies (SPCS), and be man-
gaged by Cokely. Previously, language of-
ferings were managed by the College of
Arts and Sciences.

“This is a great partnership between
arts and sciences and SPCS,” Stellar said.
“We’re able to capitalize on the financial
flexibility of the professional school, and
offer our students what they need in spe-
cific language training.”

He added, “It’s a win-win. The fac-
ulty, students and administration are all
happy.”

University Vice President Christopher
Hopey, dean and director of SPCS, de-
scribed his school as an “incubator” for in-
novative language programs.

“SPCS has the mechanism to make
more of an investment in languages, and
the president and provost were looking
for innovative ways to expand language of-
ferings.” Hopey said.

The Northeastern University Cultural
and Language Learning Society will ad-
vice the new language center. The group
is composed of 800 students who are
training and learning more than 20 lan-
guages from their peers.

The group’s growth is a reflection of
the growing demand powering the new
center.

“Demand is up because students in
today’s global economy require stronger
language skills,” Cokely said. “If they want
to compete globally they need to speak
the language.”

New partnership aims at solving conflict

Two faculty members in the international relations program have launched a
multi-country partnership aimed at conflict resolution.

The International Conflict and Negotiations Consortium: Negotiating Com-
plex Multilateral Issues and Resolving Conflicts in the 21st Century was first pre-
sented during the Research and Scholarship Expo in March by professors Denis
Sullivan and Denise Garcia of political science.

Garcia recently visited Madrid to initiate the consortium with its first partner,
the recently created Institute for Conflict Resolution at the University of Castilla
La Mancha (UCLM). She met the former director-general of UNESCO, Federico
Mayor, who expressed interest in cooperating with Sullivan’s Dialogue of Civili-
izations program.

First class set to begin in Australian program

The first cohort of master’s students
was recently admitted to a dual de-
gree program offered through North-
eastern and Swinburne University of Tech-
nology of Australia.

Twenty-three students from various
Asian nations have enrolled in one of two
programs, either a master’s of interna-
tional business, or a master’s of ac-
counting, according to Patrick Plunkett,
director of international initiatives. An-
other 40 will enter the program in July,
said Christopher Hopey, dean and direc-
tor of the School for Professional and
Continuing Education.

“Swinburne tells us that already this is
the most popular interna-
tional program they’ve
ever launched,” Hopey
said. “Australia is a pop-
ular destination for Asian
and international stu-
dents. They’re on the
same time zone as China
and Asia; it’s less expen-
sive to live in Australia;
and immigration laws are
very encouraging to stu-
dents looking for perma-
ent residency after they
graduate.”

With the dual degree,
students are prepared for leadership roles
in multinational companies, and are
trained to approach the work world with
“imagination and vision.” Plunkett said.
It is perfect for the international stu-
dent who wants a U.S. university degree.
but, for whatever reason, has difficulty
entering the United States to study, Plun-
ckett explained.

“This is especially good for students
who have visa difficulties, but who real-
ly want a U.S. education.” Plunkett said.

Students will earn a master’s in two
years, benefiting from Australian and
U.S. faculty, and also earn an option to
study in Boston, according to a brochure
on the program. Two Northeastern pro-
fessors were set to fly to Australia in July
to begin teaching.

The heightened visibility of North-
eastern University in Australia will help
Northeastern recruit students from var-
ious international locations, including
India, China, Singapore, Thailand, Ar-
gentina, Kenya and Australia, Plunkett
said.

Students, in turn, will gain a broader in-
ternational perspective as they seek to po-
sition themselves in careers within the
global economy, he said. The program
will help position students as future lead-
ers, with “imagination and vision.”

“Swinburne has well estab-
lished recruitment in East and South Asia,”
Plunkett said. “Nor-theastern and Swinburne
are closely linked, each have memberships in
the World Association of Cooperative Education,
and we have symbiotic programs in each insti-
tution.”

Northeastern is only the
second American university to establish a
link of this kind with an Australian university,
Plunkett said. The School of Profession-
al and Continuing Studies will oversee
the new program, he added. Plunkett is
full of optimism for its success.

“The value of this is a true partnership,”
Plunkett said. “This really has a value
added, brought by the fact that we’re
definitely working with academics who really un-
derstand the Australian market.”

And the two universities making it all
happen really understand each other.

“The key to the success of internation-
el partnerships is for the universities to
grow together,” Hopey said. “In this case, they
like each other, and they understand each
other’s mission.”

— Susan Salk
Invisible and universal
Northeastern campus to have widespread wireless by September

The university is on track to near-universal wireless Internet access by the start of fall classes.

Wireless access was widely requested in a 2006 information-services survey on campus, especially by senior administrators, said IS Vice President Robert Weir. “We figured out how to make it happen, both financially and technically,” he said. “We made a presentation and it was accepted.”

The two-level service will have an open component “that anybody can use, including visitors,” and an “authenticate-ed version,” with more secure connection and additional services available to members of the Northeastern community.

“The network isn’t entirely new, he explained; it builds off current NUNET and ResNet capabilities and antennas, though “we have to do some wiring in some rooms.”

When it’s completed, Northeastern’s wireless network will cover everything but residence hall rooms and student apartments. “Every student in a residence hall has an extremely fast Internet connection already,” he said. “Next to which wireless would look extremely slow.”

“Every student in a residence hall has an extremely fast Internet connection already — next to which wireless would look extremely slow,” Robert Weir, vice president for IS said.

“Over 80 percent of students will never reach that quota,” he said, noting that the new policy was created with cooperation from the student government.

“Over 80 percent of students will never reach that quota,” he said, noting that the new policy was created with cooperation from the student government.

nu briefs
MACGILLIVRAY NAMED CHIEF OF ADVANCEMENT
Diane MacGillivray has been named senior vice president for advancement. She is an associate dean for advancement at the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California. “I have seen her skill, enthusiasm and dedication for her work firsthand,” said President Joseph Aoun, former dean of the USC college. MacGillivray has a bachelor’s degree from Boston University and a master’s from USC. She begins work July 1.

NORTH LOT CLOSED FOR STUDENT MOVING
North Lot remains closed this week to normal parking to facilitate student move-out. All faculty, staff and students who normally park in the lot are being asked to park in the Columbus surface lot during the day or overnight. North Lot reopens Sunday, April 29.

ZIPCAR PRESIDENT SLATED FOR CEO BREAKFAST
Scott Griffith, president and CEO of Zipcar, will speak April 25 at the latest CEO Breakfast, an ongoing series of fora that recognizes national business leaders. Griffith, who became Zipcar’s chief executive in 2003, has seen the car-sharing service’s membership and revenue growth expand by more than 100 percent per year. The breakfast will be held at 60 State St., Boston.

Charitable Funds Campaign ongoing
Employees asked to donate to area causes through annual university effort

Have you made your pledge yet to Northeastern’s Charitable Funds Campaign yet?

By participating in NUCFC 2007, you will be supporting programs that impact the lives of people in the neighborhoods right around our campus. Your contributions will help to address critical issues affecting the community and the city such as health care, education, housing and economic development. You can direct your contributions to specific agencies and causes.

The NUCFC web site makes giving to your favorite charity convenient. A few simple clicks on the Web site — www.northeastern.edu/nucfc — will show you the nine agencies supporting more than 500 charities and help you make the pledge. You can make a one-time donation by April 30 or elect to have payroll deduction withholdings from May 2007 to May 2008.

The campaign runs through the end of April; if you pledge during that time you will automatically be entered into a drawing for a $25 gift certificate to the Northeastern Bookstore. Two winners are chosen weekly. Winners announced so far are Margaret Geller of IS Operations & Solutions and Marion Sullivan of the College of Criminal Justice.

For more information contact the campaign manager, Kathy Newberry at ext. 5849, or at k.newberry@neu.edu

--- Joanne Durham

Cynthia Brown, budget and grant coordinator for the Center for Community Health Education Research and Service, chats with Regina Hendrix, eastern regional manager of America’s Charities, during a Charitable Funds Campaign information session at Columbus Place.

SUNY BRIEFS
CRAIG BAILEY

The Northeastern Voice, the newspaper of the Northeastern University community, is published 15 times a year by the Office of Marketing and Communications, 500 Columbus Place, Boston, MA. (617) 373-7225 (Voice) (617) 373-5450 (Fax) www.voices.neu.edu

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Celebrating the lyrical

Northeastern poets join Boston festival

BY SUSAN SALK

Far from the daily hackneyed grind of text messages and e-mail gathered some of the region’s finest poets, among them several Northeastern teachers, to parse out the stories and meaning from life’s experiences.

Japanese cormorant fishing, as witnessed once on holiday, was the inspiration for a work by English professor Francis Blessington; mythical musician Orpheus, come back to life, riding a subway car and carrying a boombox was imagined by English teacher Joe De Roche after a real-life experience with a loud commuter. And the history of his family name, purchased in the 18th century from the Holy Roman Empire, was incentive to senior associate dean for academic and faculty affairs Stuart Peterfreund.

The three read from their work during the 7th annual Boston National Poetry Month Festival, held recently in the Boston Public Library. They joined event cosponsor Harris Gardner ’69 in an experience aimed at “weaving poetry into the fabric of everyday life.”

“Poetry is still continuing to grow, but of all the literary arts, its wider approval has further to go,” Gardner said. “Most people on the street, if they’re asked about poetry, think first of a poetry ‘slam.’ Although some of the best slam poets are fine poets in print, there are too many people who are what I call ‘Rice Krispies’—they’re too much ‘snap, crackle and pop.’”

To Peterfreund, the author of four books of poetry, there is also room for a little self-deprecating humor in the words of a poem. Wryly, in his work “On His Last Name,” Peterfreund reflects on a moniker that means “friend of the rocks.”

“My family could not afford to be a Diamond, a Goldstein, or a Silverman—not even a Rubenstein or a Kupfer,” Peterfreund recited at the library’s auditorium, concluding. “And since that time, our friendship has kept us busy, placing stone, after stone, after stone.”

Peterfreund runs most of his poems by his wife for the initial “audience reaction,” and said he can tell immediately from her facial expression whether he has penned a “keeper.” Although not a religious man, his deep connection with his Jewish roots inspired him to explore the ancient practice of buying a name.

While vacationing in Japan, Blessington witnessed the practice of cormorant fishing. The practice involves putting the bird on a leash and placing a pin in its throat so it can’t swallow. In this way, fish are caught.

“I found myself writing from the point of view of the bird, and the frustration I imagined,” he said.

“The fishermen reel in the collared birds, snatching prey from their gagged gullets, shaking them like laundry, shouting and flipping them back” Blessington read to an audience at the Boston library. “Racing other boats they bang bamboo punt poles on the gunwales to lash the robbed birds rediving—again—memory-less—hungry—into the shimmering dark.”

While riding beneath the city in a crowded subway, De Roche found a glimmer of inspiration in an everyday annoyance. “This man came onto the train with a boombox, and he annoyed me a little,” he said. “I started imagining Orpheus.”

In his mind, the mythical musician wore a leather jacket and rode a motorcycle through six poems worth of material.

“A poem on a page should be uttered,” De Roche said. “To hear it uttered makes it come alive.”

Three Northeastern faculty poets read from their work during the 7th annual Boston National Poetry Month Festival, held recently in the Boston Public Library. They joined event cosponsor Harris Gardner ’69 in an experience aimed at “weaving poetry into the fabric of everyday life.”
This is the part of the work that I do that can best be explained through interpretive dance,” joked John R. Engen, associate professor of chemistry and chemical biology, describing how proteins in the human body change shape and size depending on whether they’re behaving normally.

Engen, a Faculty Fellow at the Barnett Institute, thinks a lot about these proteins — specifically, about how better understanding their changing shapes and what happens when they mutate could help treatment options and strategies for a number of devastating diseases, including AIDS and cancer.

Engen and his colleagues use sophisticated tools to measure the molecular weight of proteins to the Dalton (1 Dalton = 1 trillionth of a trillionth of a gram). They do this by weighing them with a mass spectrometer, an instrument that can measure the masses and relative concentrations of atoms and molecules. Labeling them with a substance called deuterium during the analysis enables the researchers to get a sense of the shape, size and other features of the proteins, even though they are thousands of times smaller than what you can see with a microscope.

Engen came to Northeastern in September from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He brought along his existing strong ties to researchers at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and since being jointly appointed in Northeastern’s Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology and the Barnett Institute, has partnered with a number of local institutions also conducting groundbreaking research in the field, including Harvard Medical School and the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Engen has also forged a strong relationship with the Waters Corp., the company that makes the mass spectrometers that Engen and his colleagues use in their research. Barnett has historically worked with James Waters, founder of the Waters Corp., very closely: the center’s director, Barry Karger, holds the James L. Waters Chair in analytical chemistry and the lab that Engen works in is named “The James L. Waters Mass Spectrometry Facility.” The lab has been completely refurbished and updated with Waters Corp. equipment and is reopening in a ceremony May 1. The lab is fitted with four new mass spectrometers, one of them generously donated by Waters.

“Two of the primary reasons I came to Northeastern were the Barnett Institute and Boston,” said Engen. “When it comes to the work that I do and the people and institutions on the cutting edge, many of them are in or near Boston. This is where I felt I could really advance my work.”

Engen speaks fast and with the enthusiasm of an investigator hot on the trail of a suspect when he describes the work that his lab is doing. One current project involves the investigation of a protein called Nef, which is important for HIV/AIDS.

“We’re trying to gather more information and determine why the Nef in some people is deadly but a slightly different form of Nef in other people is harmless,” said Engen. “It has to do with the shape, and we’ve got to figure this out.”

“I think of our research like this: when you’ve dropped your keys at night and you’re trying to find them on the ground in a dark parking lot, the first place you look is under the streetlight,” said Engen. “We’re just hoping to shine a light on the pavement – the proteins – to try and see what’s happening. One of our streetlights is mass spectrometry.”

“There are people all over the world working on all different aspects of this kind of research,” he said. “What I hope we’re doing in my lab is adding a piece to the puzzle that will help researchers, scientists and doctors better understand these diseases and ultimately, treat and cure them.”
Carter Partnership Award goes to Northeastern students, partners

Boston preschoolers are getting a head start in their education, thanks to the work of students at Northeastern and two partner institutions.

The work has now been recognized with a Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Award Partnership Award, which honors campus-community collaborations.

Students at Northeastern, Wheelock College and Suffolk University volunteer with Jumpstart's School Readiness for All Initiative, which enlists and trains college students to mentor preschoolers in the Roxbury neighborhood.

"One of our university’s defining characteristics is our commitment of engagement with the communities around us," said Northeastern's president, Joseph Aoun. "This recognition from the Carter Partnership reinforces what we know to be true, our neighbors are partners with whom we forge a common destiny."

"Our graduates will be successful not only because of what they have learned at Northeastern, but also because of what they have learned here in Roxbury and Mission Hill, in the Fenway and the South End, and throughout Boston," he said. The winning consortium was one of three finalists for the Carter Partnership Award.

Meghan Schumacher, Northeastern's senior site manager for the Roxbury program, said about 77 Northeastern students, and about 60 each from Suffolk and Wheelock, work with preschoolers on literacy. Jumpstart's goal, she said, is that "every child in America enters kindergarten ready to succeed."

Northeastern's students each work with two children, and commit 10 to 15 hours per week to the program — some as volunteers, some as work-study employees and some for course credit, she explained.

The Carter awards, established in 2000 by the former president and his wife, are presented to collaborative programs in six states and India.

Northeastern Provost Ahmed Abdelbary helped establish the first awards in the Carter's home state of Georgia, where he was a dean at Georgia State.

"The model worked very well in fostering academic-community partnerships," he said, and quickly expanded to other states.

This is the first year a consortium of universities was a finalist for the Massachusetts award, according to Barbara Canyes of the Massachusetts Campus Compact, which represents 65 higher-education institutions. The Campus Compact is the Carter foundation's designee to choose award-winners in the Bay State.

Canyes said the Massachusetts award has been presented only once before, in 2004. At that time, she said, "we didn't consider consortium applications. But (the judges) considered this quite intriguing — it brings more leverage, getting higher-ed institutions to work with each other. It could be an example to others."

The award, a $10,000 prize split between the winning institutions and the community partners, was presented at a dinner April 9 at UMass-Boston.

--- Voice staff

Speakers drawn from media, public health

Graduation, continued from Page 1

noratory facilitates the interdisciplinary study and application of digital technologies, with the goal of changing how people think and communicate.

His nonprofit organization, One Laptop per Child — which he developed at MIT — produces and distributes low-cost, self-charging laptop computers to children in developing and impoverished nations who have minimal access to modern education and infrastructure.

Negroponte wrote the bestselling book "Being Digital," and has provided start-up funding for more than 40 companies, including Wired magazine. He also serves on several corporate boards, including Motorola and Ambidex Devices.

Negroponte received his bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture from MIT, and joined the institute's faculty in 1966.

Additional honorary degree recipients at the morning ceremony will be engineering innovator and philanthropist Bernard Gordon, founder and chairman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Open Courseware Project; and the late biologist Roger Kornberg, who shared a Nobel Prize in 2006 with a colleague for their discovery of the DNA-replication mechanism.

Gordon, who was awarded the National Medal of Technology in 1986, also co-founded NeuroLogica Corp., a designer and manufacturer of neurological imaging equipment founded on the principle that all people should have access to high-quality medical imaging. Northeastern's Bernard M. Gordon Center for Subsurface Sensing and Imaging Systems was named after him.

Manning, who heads Chicago's largest university, has placed great focus on embracing his institution's urban surroundings, with hundreds of programs that engage civic, community, corporate, government, and foundation partners to enhance the quality of urban life in Chicago.

After the morning ceremony, an afternoon commencement exercise will confer degrees on 900 graduate students and adult learners at 1:15 p.m., in Northeastern’s Matthews Arena.

Prokhorov-Stih is nationally recognized for his research on violence prevention. As Massachusetts' first female public health commissioner, she established the first Office of Violence Prevention in a statewide department of public health.

During her tenure, she also expanded programs for HIV and AIDS prevention, as well as drug treatment and rehabilitation.

Honorary degree recipients at the afternoon ceremony will include philanthropist and chemical engineering leader George J. Kostas, founder of Techno-Economic Services Inc., who will receive a doctorate of science, and Northeastern trustee George W. Chalmillard, former CEO and chairman of Teradyne Inc., who will receive a doctorate of business administration.

Kostas, a Northeastern graduate, spearheaded the creation of "Xenoclad," a revolutionary thermochemical process — based on his own patents — in which aluminum is plated in atomic form on metal substrates, rendering them resistant to corrosion. The university's George J. Kostas Nanoscience Technology and Manufacturing Research Center was named after him.

Chalmillard, also a Northeastern graduate, played a key role in Teradyne's success for almost 40 years, having joined the company as an engineer in 1969, taking on the role of president and chief operating officer in 1996, chief executive officer in 1997 and chairman in 2000.

Journals starts

Journal continued from Page 1

said, “If it’s not a very good paper, we wouldn’t accept it.”

The journal, overseen by a 12-member editorial board from across the globe, covers all the range of environmental science topics. They include absorption theory and properties of air quality and monitoring, astrophysics, ecology, geochemistry, microbiology and more.

Seven articles have been published in the 68-page first edition. Davies predicts the second edition will bring the publication up to 150 pages by the end of the year.

Ghabbour said the journal helps fill a gap in environmental sciences. “Right now there are not many journals that are open and free,” she said. “Most require a credit card, or charge per page for that access.”

“If you’re in a poor country where the soil is eroding, and I don’t have any technical help, how am I going to gain access” to the cost journal? she asked.

Open access also benefits the published author by making his or her work more readily available, and thus, increasing the chances that others will cite the work, she added.

Edward Warro, dean and director of Northeastern Libraries, congratulated Ghabbour and Davies for their commitment to the principle of open access.

“The library was delighted to work with them to host the Annals of Environmental Science.”

The library was also delighted to work with them to host the Annals of Environmental Science. “The library was delighted to work with them to host the Annals of Environmental Science.”

For her research on violence prevention. As Massachusetts' first female public health commissioner, she established the first Office of Violence Prevention in a statewide department of public health.

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--- Voice staff

STEM camp

STEM, continued from Page 1

followup sessions.

The university is also exploring ways to involve parents, "to empower them to know where their son or daughter should be" in their educational development.

The focus, he said, is to "prepare them for what math and science they should be taking when they get into ninth grade, to set a gateway for their high school math and science classes.

Harris said the point is not to push students early into the STEM professions, but to "open up possibilities and options. If a student is not good in science or engineering, it should be because they choose not to, not because they’re not prepared or feel that they don’t have that option."

Northeastern is one of only 20 universities and the only one in New England — that received the Harris grants, named for former astronaut Bernard Harris, a flight surgeon who was the first African-American to walk in space.
BETH BRITT
Title: Associate Professor, English
Years at Northeastern: 10
Terminal degree and institution: PhD in Rhetoric and Communication, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

WHO OR WHAT STEERED YOU INTO TEACHING?
My mother taught high school biology, so I grew up seeing the rewards and challenges of the teaching life. As an undergraduate, I considered being a lawyer or a writer. It wasn't until I was in graduate school for professional writing that I considered going into academics. I received a teaching assistantship and discovered that I liked working with students.

DO YOU HAVE A PHILOSOPHY OR PRINCIPLES GUIDING YOUR TEACHING?
I try to get students to see that what they believe or think they know is always a matter of perspective.

BRIEFLY, TELL US ABOUT YOUR FIRST EXPERIENCE IN FRONT OF A CLASS.
I was a teaching assistant about to go into my first classroom. I was looking through the window of the classroom at the professor who had been teaching in that room before my class. A student in my class peered through the window with me and asked, “Do you think that's our professor?” I said, “No, I am,” and he laughed. (I looked much younger than my 23 years.) The student was mortified when we went into the classroom and I stepped to the front of the room.

IF YOU WEREN’T TEACHING, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?
Garden design.

WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK OR MOVIE YOU RECOMMENDED?
Book: The Secret of Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd. The coming-of-age story is compelling, but what I loved more was the voice of the southern narrator. The book is set in South Carolina in the 1960s; I grew up just over the border in rural North Carolina during the same time. Hearing the narrator made me remember things I had long forgotten.

Who or what steered you into teaching? Students steered me into teaching. It was not the original plan, but when I started to see the light go on for students and to witness transformations, I was addicted.

DO YOU HAVE A PHILOSOPHY OR PRINCIPLES GUIDING YOUR TEACHING?
It's really about engagement: getting the students involved with the material, helping them to see how it fits in with the rest of their studies and how it will be useful in their lives. But this is only possible by virtue of the fact that I really believe that Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and Microbiology are the coolest things ever.

BRIEFLY, TELL US ABOUT YOUR FIRST EXPERIENCE IN FRONT OF A CLASS.
It was a nightmare. I was a first year (first week) graduate student thrown in front of a biology lab with almost no time for preparation. To make matters worse it was a night lab and most of the students were considerably older than me. I was 21 at the time and looked about 16. So I'm sure the students were thinking: what is this little girl going to be able to teach us? Because it was a lab, my presentation was mercifully short. I have no recollection of the topic only that when I stood up to speak every single molecule of water left my mouth and my tongue became affixed to the roof of my mouth. It is very difficult to speak under those conditions!

IF YOU WEREN’T TEACHING, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?
Well I'd definitely still be doing science. But if you mean if I were to do something completely different, than I would be torn between writing a novel while ensconced in a cozy cottage on the west coast of Ireland or working at the UN as High Commissioner on Human Rights (you didn’t say that I had to be realistic).

WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK OR MOVIE YOU RECOMMENDED?
Book: Mountains Beyond Mountains The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World, by Tracy Kidder. I recommend this book to my students and to anyone else who will listen. It's the true story of a Harvard physician who has not only walked over mountains, but also moved mountains to bring healthcare to the impoverished people of Haiti.

WHAT WOULD YOU HIRE TO PLAY YOU IN THE FILM VERSION OF YOUR LIFE?
Uma Thurman (again, you did not say that I had to be realistic)
With the 105th commencement exercises, Northeastern continues its tradition of honoring longtime leaders in their fields who embody the university’s core values. Commencement also allows graduates and their guests the opportunity to hear from thought leaders on a variety of issues.

This year, morning graduates will learn from Nicholas Negroponte, founder of One Laptop Per Child, and afternoon graduates will list to Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith, a national leader in public health and violence prevention.

Here is a brief look at the lines and careers of those who will speak as well as those who will be honored by the university at the May 5 ceremonies.

**NICHOLAS NEGROPONTE**
**Honorary Doctor of Public Service**

A pioneer in the field of computer-aided design, afternoon commencement speaker Nicholas Negroponte has gained recognition as one of the foremost futurists of our time. Negroponte is an离开 the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was cofounder and director of the MIT Media Laboratory and remains Jerome B. Wiesner Professor of media technology.

Negroponte pioneered collaboration between academia and industry. Out of this experience came more than 200 publications and three texts.

Negroponte earned a master’s degree in architecture from MIT in 1966 and joined the faculty. For several years, he divided his teaching time between MIT and visiting professorships at Yale, Michigan, and the University of California at Berkeley. In 1968, he founded MIT’s Architecture Machine Group, studying new approaches to human-computer interaction. Out of this experience came more than 200 published articles and three texts.

Negroponte helped lay the foundation for the MIT Media Laboratory, which opened in 1985. The lab pioneered collaboration between academia and industry and among academic disciplines.


**BERNARD M. GORDON**
**Honorary Doctor of Science**

Bernard M. Gordon and his teams are responsible for dozens of engineering milestones.

Gordon spent the bulk of his career at Analogic Corp. In 1964, he founded Gordon Engineering, which was later recognized for its invention of the first solid-state X-ray detector. In 1969, Gordon Engineering became Analogic, which focused on developing data acquisition, medical, industrial monitoring, and control, special-purpose computation, and digital communications systems. Over the years, Gordon served as board chairman, president, executive chairman and chief executive officer.

Gordon began his college education before enlisting the Navy in 1944. In 1945 he returned to MIT, earning his bachelor’s degree in 1948 and master’s degree in 1949, both in electrical engineering. Gordon and his wife, Sylvia, have distributed more than $100 million through the Gordon Foundation, much of it to train outstanding engineers and scientists and to support educational and medical initiatives. In 2006, Northeastern received a $20 million gift in support of the university’s Gordon Engineering Leadership Program and its Bernard M. Gordon Center for Subsurface Sensing and Imaging Systems.

In 1986, he received the National Medal of Technology from President Reagan.

**SYLVIA MANNING**
**Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters**

An English and literature scholar with many years as an administrator, Sylvia Manning is chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).

A native of Mount Vernon, New York, Manning earned her undergraduate degree with honors from McGill University and her Ph.D. in English language and literature from Yale University. She joined California State University at Hayward in 1968 as assistant professor of English. Over seven years she was promoted to associate professor and held administrative positions as interim chair of the art and English departments as well as associate dean for arts, letters, and social sciences.

In 1975, Manning moved to the University of Southern California as associate professor of English and associate director of the English department. She later became a full professor and served as chair of the English department, vice provost for undergraduate studies, and special assistant to the president in 1988.

She then served five years as vice president for academic affairs for the University of Illinois system.

A former Woodrow Wilson Fellow and Danforth Teaching Fellow, Manning has continued to teach and write throughout her administrative career. She serves on the executive committee of the board of directors of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce and on the boards of Chicago United, the Noble Street charter school and the Chicago Central Area Committee.

**DEBORAH PROthrow-STITH**
**Afternoon Speaker**

Physician, social scientist, and innovative advocate, Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith is a nationally recognized public health leader.

Prothrow-Stith is associate dean and professor of public health practice at the Harvard School of Public Health, where she created and served as a founding director of the Division of Public Health Practice. She developed and wrote *The Violence Prevention Curriculum for Adolescents,* a forerunner of violence prevention curriculum for schools and communities. She is also the author of *Deadly Consequences,* the first book to present to a mass audience the public health perspective on violence.

A graduate of Spelman College and Harvard Medical School, Prothrow-Stith worked as a physician in Boston and broke new ground with her efforts to have youth violence defined as a public health problem. She collaborated with others to create a violence prevention movement that has been influential in Boston and nationwide. In 1987, then-Gov. Michael Dukakis appointed her the first woman commissioner of public health in Massachusetts. In that capacity, she established the first office of violence prevention in a state department of public health, expanded prevention programs for HIV/AIDS, and increased drug treatment and rehabilitation programs.

She has authored or co-authored more than 80 publications, including *Murder Is No Accident* and *Sugar and Spice and No Longer Nice."

**GEORGE W. CHAMILLARD**
**Honorary Doctor of Science**

George W. Chamillard has earned distinction as an influential corporate executive.

Chamillard joined Teradyne, which manufactures automatic testing equipment, as an engineer in 1969. He was named vice president in 1986, president in 1996, CEO in 1997, and chairman in 2000. He served as CEO and chairman until he retired as CEO in 2004 and as chairman in December 2006.

Chamillard has also played an important role in the governance of Northeastern University. Most recently, he chaired the search committee that led to the selection of Joseph E. Aoun as Northeastern’s seventh president. He was elected to the corporation in 1991 and to the board of overseers in 2002. In 2004, he became a trustee. Chamillard graduated from the Wentworth Institute in 1958 with an associate’s degree in industrial engineering. He served in the Coast Guard until 1966, then attended Northeastern in the evenings for eight years while pursuing his bachelor of industrial technology and his master of business administration degrees. He worked at the Foxboro Co. from 1960 until 1969.

He is a director of Mercury Computer Systems Inc. He has served as director of Varian Semiconductor Equipment Association and the Center of Quality Management, and chairman of Semiconductor Equipment Materials International and the Massachusetts High Technology Council.

**GEORGE J. KOSTAS**
**Honorary Doctor of Science**

George J. Kostas has been a successful entrepreneur and generous philanthropist.

Kostas spent more than three decades leading Techno-Economic Services Inc. (Tesco), a company he started in 1972. Tesco was originally focused on developing new chemical processes to be licensed by others. Under Kostas’ direction, the company developed “Xenoclad” — based on Kostas’ patents — to plate aluminum in an atomic form on metal substrates to render it resistant to corrosion. Tesco has since branched into commercial real estate development and other investments.

The son of Greek immigrants, Kostas earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering at Northeastern in 1943. He completed an executive M.B.A. program at Columbia in 1967.

Kostas and his wife, Angelina, have supported the Biology of Inflammation Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, and are strong supporters of the Greek Orthodox Church. Attributed to real estate development and other investments.

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The voice of the students

Drawn by diversity, commencement speaker to talk about change, dreams

A

president of the Latin American Student Orga-

nization last year, Sergio Marrero often spoke in

front of meetings — “10 people or so,” he said. As a

professor’s pet, he always knew whom to ask and rec-  

trasted major, Marrero was juggling speechwriting with finishing his capstone project: an inventory management systems for a New Hamp- 

shire electronics company.

His own dream of a Northeastern education was formed not in learning about the co-op program — the most common answer for students — but in the uni-

versity’s diversity. “The opportunities, the breadth of majos, the campus life, it’s all so diverse and vast,” he said. “That’s what attracted me.”

But of course he took co-op jobs: at Gillette — before and after its purchase by Proctor & Gamble — and at

Pepsico in Arizona, working as a supply chain associate. Before that, though, he and two friends will backpack through Europe — new to Marrero, except for a brief stay in London some time ago.

But even before that, he has to get through his speech on May 5 in the BankNorth Garden. And among those thousands of pairs of eyes turned on him will be those of a big Marrero party.

“I have a rather close-knit family,” he said. “Fourteen people are coming — I had to wheel and deal a little fur- 

tickets. And they were coming even before they knew I was speaking.”

Senior graduating into pro baseball

O

n a frigid April day in Michigan, graduating senior Chris Emanuele braced against the cold and pre-

pared to take the field as a brand new member of the Lansing Lugnuts, a single-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays.

The all-time leading Husky in hits and total bases was first drafted into the Blue Jays’ organization in March 2006 as an outfielder for the single-A Pulaski Blue Jays in the Appalachian League.

Faced with a demanding schedule of workouts, bat-

ting practice and games, Emanuele said the long season of everyday play is something he has dreamed about since he was old enough to hold a bat.

“Ever since I was 3 or 4 years old I’ve wanted to be a baseball player,” he said. “All I’ve ever wanted to do was get an education and become a pro ballplayer.”

With a record-breaking four years on the Huskies under his belt, Emanuele has fond memories of his time with the team, and coach Neil McPhee, the man who discovered him at a scouting showcase in Wareham.

Among the highlights was the leadoff home run he got over the Red Sox pitcher Matt Clement in Florida in 2006. Northeastern played the Red Sox in its annual exhibition game in Fort Myers, Fla., and McPhee remembers it well.

“This is the best type of opportunity to have a home run off a major league pitcher,” McPhee said. 

On April 19, he hit his first home run with the Lugnuts, securing a win over Kane County and helping Lansing to tie the team record of eight straight wins.

Crediting Emanuele as a talented, multi-faceted play-

er, “He’s got a lot of the tools. He’s good at hitting, field-

ing and running,” McPhee said. “The major league looks for players who have multiple skills.

Although cracking into the major leagues is a long shot, McPhee said Emanuele’s combination of talent and competitive drive gives him a “legitimate shot” at making it.

The Mississauga, Ontario native was one of North-
estern’s strongest players. In his final season, he led the team in home runs, RBIs, doubles, triples and stolen bases. He also played errorless baseball in all 99 games.

Senior graduating into pro baseball

BY SUSAN TALK

Senior graduating into pro baseball

BY SUSAN TALK

The 2003 Vermont championship against Stony Brook, Vermont and the University of Maine, was a standout experience, Emanuele recalled. “Nobody thought we were going to win, so we just relaxed, had fun, and we wound up winning.”

Prior to moving to the Lugnuts, Emanuele also played for the Auburn Doubledays in the New York—Penn League. His move reflects the growing stature of North-
estern in major leagues.

Three other former Huskies were drafted in 2006. Adam Ottavino joined St. Louis Cardinals affiliate the Palm Beach Cardinals; Dave Pellegrine will open the season with the Orenz Owlz of the Pioneer League, which is affiliated with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim or-

ganization; and Matt Morizio joined the Burlington (Iowa) Bees, an affiliate of the Kansas City Royals.

Also playing in the major league organizations are Car-

los Pena with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays’ triple-A affiliate; Luke Cainhin with the San Diego Padres’ Portland Beavers (A&A); and Justin Hedrick with the Connecticut De-

fenders (AA) in the San Francisco Giants Organization.

Seniors’ gift for helping Northeastern

Pledge drive draws matching funds

N

early 820 seniors had pledged to the senior gift going into the last week of April, in the first year that both alumni and student affairs of-

ficials have overseen the annual fund drive.

Also for the first year, the president and several trustees have joined the drive, offering matching funds triggered by levels of senior-class participa-

tion.

President Joseph Aoun pledged a donation of $2,007 if more than 500 seniors joined the gift drive; trustee Henry Nasella ’77 offered another $2,007 once the drive reached the $570,750 mark. A group of trustees will donate $2,007 if 1,000 seniors pledge by the end of this year’s fund, and for each donor over 1,000, the trustees will add $5 per student.

Edward Klotzhiere, vice president for student af-

fairs, said this year’s “very concerted” effort enlisted students to make the don-

ation pitch to their peers and included a number of special events designed to convince students to pledge.

The senior gift will aid student life programs, Klotz-

hier said. “Seniors’ donations come from their own excellent experience at Northeastern, and they’ll help others have an excellent experience,” he said. “It can give graduating seniors a sense of ownership of on-

going programs at the university.”

Sara Pope, associate director for Student Alumni Con-

nections in the Office of Alumni Relations, has worked closely with student affairs, co-op and others to create a new senior and student traditions pro-

gram, promoting class affinity, university connec-

tion and understanding of philanthropy and volun-

teerism.

“These initiatives span across the university and re-

flect a major mission of the current administration — shaping our students into future leaders, not only in the world, but for Northeastern as well,” said Jack Moynihan, vice president for alumni relations.

To pledge or donate, visit www.classof2007.neu.edu.

Students volunteer with community groups

M

ore than 100 Northeastern students helped 11 community partners during a Day of Ser-

vice in the inauguration of the univer-

sity’s new president.

Northeastern’s Center of Community Service or-

ganized the event, which saw 136 students volunteer at AIDS Action, City on a Hill Charter School, Eagle Eye Institute, Ellis Memorial and Eldridge House, the Esplanade Association, Generations Inc., Lena Park, Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly, Mission Hill School, New Mission High School and Sponta-

neous Celebrations.

Cumulatively, the students and a Northeastern 

staffer donated 685 hours of service.

“Thank you once again to the 136 students,” wrote Mike Zimm, reading program coordi-

nator at City on a Hill. “The work North-
estern University is doing for the community will rip-

ple much longer than the splash.”

Separately, but also on March 31, alumni partici-

pated in their own day of service at the Greater Boston Food Bank, sorting and packing donated items.
Media critic challenges assumptions

By Susan Salk

Back when Marcus Welby was the most famous doctor on TV, things were simpler in the media biz. Three networks filled the airwaves with nightly 30-minute news shows and hourlong local news, and a hit like “Marcus Welby MD,” “MASH” and “Dallas” reigned supreme.

It might be funny to think back on the television lineup from today’s perspective. But media consolidation expert Benjamin Compaine wonders who has the last laugh.

“Those old shows remained some of the biggest ratings grabbers in history,” said Compaine, a lecturer in the School of Technological Entrepreneurship.

At the time, a television show that attracted the eyes of 30 percent of Americans with televisions was considered good. Today, 19 percent is considered commendable, and a 12 percent rating is good, he said. “In 2006, the five networks together control 51 percent of the typical night. In 1970, the three networks owned 38 percent,” he said.

Compaine debunked theories of corporate ownership conspiracies and described trends in television, newspapers and radio stations influencing today’s market.

“Niche programming, a wide array of television stations and news networks, and recent Internet trends have fractured the old-fashioned audience base, he said.

The amateur market, fueled by the Internet, sites like YouTube and reality programming, has contributed to this trend.

Although an image of large corporate ownership of media still exists, today’s reality differs from that impression, he said.

“I often hear anecdotal complaints that radio is programmed by conglomerates in Texas. But NPR, which controls 20 percent of all radio, is actually based in Washington, and American Public Radio is based in Wisconsin,” he said.

Boston boasts 34 radio stations, 22 of which are owned by just six companies, he noted. “My sense is that there’s still a lot of competition out there,” he added.

The newspaper industry is another media outlet that draws criticism of those who argue papers should be “family owned,” not corporate entities. “Let me remind you that Hearst was a family, and don’t forget the Loeb family, owners of the Manchester Union Leader,” he said.

Citing a recent University of Chicago study on the influence of newspapers on citizenship, Compaine said that newspaper editorial endorsements have been found to hold little sway over voter action in the polling booth, and that actually public opinion within a region helps shape newspaper coverage.

Those who saw television programming as a way to “give the people what they want, not what they want,” were disappointed when Fox television entered the scene and created the aggressively lowbrow hit “Married with Children,” he said.

Compaine is the author of “The Digital Divide” and “Who Owns the Media.”

Living with cancer

Surgical professor: We’re all carrying tiny tumors every day

By Susan Salk

Dr. Judah Folkman, Andrus Professor of Pediatric Surgery and professor of cell biology at Harvard Medical School, addressed overflow crowds at Northeastern’s Raytheon Amphitheater on the wonders of his angiogenesis research and discoveries.

Credited with making seminal discoveries in the mechanism of angiogenesis, which in turn has opened up a world of cancer and tumor treatments, Folkman keynoted the Barry A. Berkowitz Symposium on Biotechnology before a receptive audience.

It wasn’t always easy to convince the scientific community of his novel ideas. Thinking back to the 1970s, to his early research of angiogenesis research, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1990.

By declining an already established field of hypotheses, he encountered his share of skeptics.

“Scientists have their beliefs, just like the clergy,” he joked. “It’s hard to change their minds.”

His hypothesis in 1971 that solid tumors are angiogenesis-dependent initiated studies of studies that span diverse disciplines today, from the mechanism of angiogenesis protein can kill tumors, he said.

The latest research is showing that a single angiogenesis protein can kill tumors, he said. So promising is the research that the New England Journal of Medicine devoted half its editorial space in a 2006 issue to promising discoveries related to the protein. “We’re now attaching the article to all of our future grant applications,” he joked.

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Cornel West, professor of religion at Princeton University, electrified a full Blackman Auditorium on April 9 as he ran through a history of U.S. racial attitudes and some of his prescriptions for change. He spoke of “my beloved Roxbury” and offered congratulations to “my new friend and brother Joseph Aoun” on his inauguration as Northeastern’s president, and talked at length about this “fragile yet precious experiment called democracy in the United States,” urging students to “muster the courage to think critically about the past and the future.”

The way West

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A study done by Arnold Arulie and Jack Levin, professors of sociology and anthropol- ogy, was cited in a People magazine article in March about animal abuse; the study found that people who commit animal cruelty are five times more likely to commit violent crimes against people.

Barry Bluestone, dean of the School of So- cial Science, Urban Affairs and Public Policy, testified before the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services on April 4 regarding hous- ing production and affordability.

William M. Fowler Jr., Distinguished Pro- fessor of history, has been named George Washington Distinguished Professor by the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati. The mission of the Society is to educate Massa- chusetts citizens about the history of the American Revolution. Fowler will hold the appointment for four years.

Thomas Havens, professor of history, has been awarded a Japan Foundation Short-Term Research Fellowship for his research on the history of parks and public space in Japan. He will travel to Japan this summer to conduct research.

Jean Flitely McGuine, senior clinical spe- cialist at Bouve College of Health Sciences, has been named assistant secretary of health and human services by Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick.

Jack McDevitt, associate dean and associ- ate professor of criminal justice, testified be- fore the U.S. House Judiciary Committee on April 4 about the repeal of laws which allow some convicted felons to purchase firearms.

Walter Robinson, Distinguished Universi- ty Professor of journalism, won a Sigma Delta Chi Award in public service from the Society of Professional Journalists for a series of sto- ries he oversaw at The Boston Globe on debt collection in Massachusetts.

Samantha Friedman, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, was featured April 6 on the Brian Lehrer Show on WNYC-FM in a segment about her new book, “The Housing Divide.”

Milda Richardson, lecturer in architecture, presented the paper “Charles Donagh Magin- nis, architect for the Catholic Church in Wash- ington, D.C.,” at the seventh biennial sympo- sium on Building Spiritual Washington, held March 17 at Catholic University School of Architecture.

Kwamina Panford, associate professor and associate vice provost for academic opportu- nity, attended the first Global Collaboration on Labor Migration April 15-16 at the International Institute for Social History in Amsterdam on April 13 and 14. The collaborative effort will conduct a two-year study on labor systems and labor relations.

Leonard Brown, associate professor of African-American studies, spoke to The Boston Globe for an April 20 story about Jazz Week in Boston. “We want people to understand how much jazz there is in the Boston area,” he said.

Walter Carl, assistant professor of commu- nication studies, was interviewed by Time for an April 23 story about word-of-mouth mar- keting that recruits unpaid volunteers to talk about products. “It gives people social cur- rency,” he suggested.

David Czesnulik, director of operations for the Center for the Study of Sport in Society, spoke with The Boston Globe for an April 12 story about plans for a private regional sports facility at a former Massachusetts military base. “It's not the way to go because of the grow- ing number of programs and adult leagues,” he said. “There just aren’t enough fields to go around.”

Richard Daynard, professor of law, was inter- viewed by The Pitch for an April 5 story about the Kansas law firm Shook Hardy, which has represented tobacco makers for 43 years. “They clearly were the nerve center for the tobacco industry,” he said.

Rashmi Dyal-Chand, associate professor of law, was interviewed by the Minneapolis Star- Tribune for an April 14 article about micro- lending. “It’s simplistic to assume that simply giving loans will prepare someone to get their foot in the door, that simply giving money re- flects the sorry state of education that is a problem,” she said.

Charles Fountain, associate professor of jour- nalism, spoke with the Boston Herald for a March 29 story on professional athletes start- ing blogs to fire back at critics. “Obviously as the number of voices in any conversation grows, the dominance of any one voice is going to shrink,” he said.

Murray Forman, assistant professor of com- munication for 15 years, talked with the Seattle Post-Intelligencer for an April 8 story about the increasing use of profanity. “You hear some- thing enough and it begins to wear down your resistance to it,” he said. “I hear it more on the streets. I hear it more from my students.”

James Fox, Lipman Family Professor of criminal justice, wrote a column for USA Today on April 18 about the shootings at Virginia Tech. “The comforting news is that the risk is exceedingly small,” he wrote. “The chance that your college-age son or daughter will be gunned down, purposely or at random, by a vengeful classmate is akin to the chance of a deadly lightning strike.”

Robert Gilbert, professor of political science, spoke in late April 12 with the National Public Radio program “Day to Day” about presidents’ and candidates’ illnesses. Arguing against full dis- closure of illness, he said: “The public does not understand the nature and severity of many illnesses and presidents or candidates might be injured profoundly by disclosure of misun- derstood and misinterpreted information.”

Robert Hall, associate professor and chair of African-American studies, was interviewed for the April 22 “Urban Update,” on WHDH- TV Boston, about the late singer James Brown.

Paul Harrington, author of the book for Labor Market Studies, was quoted in the April 13 Providence Journal-Bulletin in a story about his talk to the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. “The fundamental constraint to continued growth of the econo- my is the labor supply,” he said. “Unless com- muters come here, an economy whose labor supply rises only 5 percent can’t grow.”

Dan Kennedy, visiting assistant professor of journalism, spoke with The Sun of Lowell, Mass., for an April 13 story on radio host Don Imus’ controversial remarks. “Racial attitudes have changed and I think maybe the times caught up with Imus,” Kennedy said. “The times changed and he didn’t.”

Steven Kursk, associate academic special- ist in finance and insurance, spoke with CIO Magazine for a March 19 story on CFO-CFO cooperation. “For financial reporting, the buck stops with the CFO and other executive management, so they drive the show,” he said.

Jack Levin, professor and director of the Radnack Center on Violence and Conflict, was interviewed by the Christian Science Monitor for an April 18 story on the Virginia Tech shoot- ings. “For a period of time, colleges and uni- versities will take the law and order approach, and it will make students and professors and administrators feel safe,” he said. “They won’t be safe, but they’ll feel safer, and that isn’t a small thing.”

William Mayer, associate professor of polit- ical science, talked about the presidential campaign for the April 18 story about the rediscovery of a lost production of “Boris Godunov” at Princeton. “It’s certainly significant to be hearing and seeing it all together,” he said.

Harlow Robinson, Matthews Distinguished Professor of modern languages, spoke with The New York Times for an April 11 article about the rediscovery of an 1874 production of “Boris Godunov” in Moscow. “It is certain- ly significant to be hearing and seeing it all together,” he said.

Andrew Rohm, assistant professor of mar- keting for 15 years, talked with Forbes for an April 18 story a CEO change at New Balance. “If the change is too much, they risk diminishing or distorting the brand is known for among runners,” he said.

Andrew Sum, professor and director of the Center for Labor Market Studies, wrote a column for the April 12 Berkshire Eagle about helping teens work. “A more successful youth employment and training system can help pro- mote the future growth and quality of our state’s resident labor force and help stem high levels of out-migration,” he wrote.

Sean Varano, assistant professor of crimi- nal justice, spoke with the Patriot-Ledger of Quincy, Mass., for an April 2 story about police using a robot to end a standoff. “In the last 15 years there has been a real trend in policing to figure out the appropriate use of new tech- nology,” he said. “This scenario is an excellent example of using it effectively.”

Michael Zack, associate professor of infor- mation operations and analysis, spoke with the Patriot Ledger of Quincy, Mass., for an April 12 story about Revolutionary War re-en- actments around Patriots Day. “April 19 was their 9/11,” he said. “There are a lot of parallels to today.”

Mo Zell, associate professor of architecture, lectured at the School of Architecture in the S.C., Civic Design Center. The exhibit, “Shop- ping the Urban Experience Using Residual Space,” ran from January through April and was cosponsored by Clemson University.

April 24, 2007   The Northeastern Voice
Well before Marc Pellegrino should have been actively pursuing a co-op assignment, he dashed off an e-mail to a prospect at the music trade magazine Billboard. A freshman at the time, he remembers, he was thinking, “it’s never too soon to start working connections.”

A year later, now happily ensconced as an editorial intern at the major trade pub, Pellegrino recalls how his best-laid plans almost didn’t happen.

“I had an interview with the events office, and I didn’t get the job. I was crushed because I really wanted to work at Billboard,” he said. “Although she offered to pass along my resume to the editorial office, I didn’t really expect a call.”

When the call finally did come through, his apartment was packed up and he was heading home for break. “All I had was a computer and a jack, and I was trying to scramble to get the magazine some (writing) clips,” he said.

Since arriving at the New York City office, Pellegrino has written four online stories for the web page, dealing mostly with music industry business, and is working on a piece for the printed magazine.

He also transcribes notes for numerous writers and assists the events planner as well. A musician himself, Pellegrino was drawn to Northeastern to study the music industry, and hone his skills at the piano and guitar.

“The music industry is such a unique concept. It’s unlike your typical business model,” Pellegrino said, noting that changes in the way music is created and downloaded have forced insiders to innovate and “ride the wave.”

“People have this misconception that music artists are making millions of dollars, laying around on their yachts,” he said. “It’s so untrue. They work hard.”

Learning the ways artists earn their money and distribute their music to the world has been an eye opening experience. Pellegrino began tapping at the keys of a piano when he was four. Music has “run in his veins” ever since. With his co-op experience, Pellegrino plans to build a career around that love.

“In a lot of careers, a lot of people have jobs and they have their passions, and the two are mutually exclusive. I don’t plan to end up like that. I think you can have a career that you love.”

**Marc Pellegrino**  
Class year: 2010  
Major: Music Industry  
Co-op Coordinators: Kate McLaughlin

Let us know  
Do you know of a student who has had an interesting co-op job? Send story ideas to:  

Susan Salk  
The Voice  
598 Columbus Place  
s.salk@neu.edu