



Northeastern University

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Northeastern Voice

Electronic edition, Vol. 1 No. 17, Apr. 23, 2008

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President meets with newest Presidential Scholars

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Featured Article

**MEETING OF GREAT MINDS
President meets with newest Presidential Scholars**



Northeastern University's Presidential Scholars and Hodgkinson Awards winners were recognized April 18. Students, parents, mentors and university leaders turned out for the 4 p.m. event.

Faculty Senate taps Steven Morrison

The Faculty Senate voted in economics professor and chair Steven Morrison as chair of the Senate Agenda Committee April 23.

Artistic works festoon the campus

Depictions of the local police force and golden fields of Idaho and Washington are two large-scale artistic renderings now hanging throughout campus, visible signs of Northeastern University's growing commitment to arts and creative expression.



Northeastern in the news

- James Alan Fox, Lipman Family professor in the college of criminal justice, [was interviewed by the NBC Nightly News](#) for a piece on gun violence.
- Joan Fitzgerald, Associate Director of Northeastern University's Center for Urban and Regional Policy, [was quoted in a Denver Business Journal](#) story April 21 on the right-to-work debate.

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President meets with newest Presidential Scholars

Full of excitement and promise, the newest Presidential Scholars and Hodgkinson Award winners turned out April 18 with parents and mentors to ring in the newest chapter of their educational careers.

In a late-afternoon ceremony at 340 Egan, honorees mingled with president Joseph Aoun, college deans and faculty leaders in a ceremony recognizing their accomplishments thus far.



President Aoun greets students, parents and faculty at the April 18th Presidential Scholarship and Hodgkinson Awards Presentation. / CRAIG BAILEY

In welcoming remarks, Aoun spoke of the value of an American education in rounding out a student with creative experience. He also spoke of the value of a co-op education. Describing the university's role as one that "activates your genes" — he emphasized the importance of "nurturing" a student to capitalize on their innate aptitude.

"Our job is not only to get you ready for the world, it is to get you ready for life," Aoun said.

Students already showed themselves to be formidable talents, said Susan Powers-Lee, executive vice provost.

"They're all just wonderful students. We had so many great applications it was difficult to make the final cut," she said.

The presidential Scholarship is a merit-based, highly competitive scholarship awarded to only eight of 200 applicants. The Hodgkinson Award is based on scholastic achievement, character, leadership and cooperative work experience.

Presidential Scholar Tom Cinq-Mars, who was in attendance with his mother Susan Jay, has had a world of experience already. In 2007, he traveled to Salamanca, Spain to study the Spanish-Soviet history from 1935 to 1945, and soon he will travel to Russia for a study-abroad program.

Majoring in history and Spanish with a minor in Russian and Eastern European studies, Cinq-Mars said Northeastern professor Jeffrey Burds helped him carve out a research niche. "Northeastern was one of the top schools everybody wanted to apply to when I was in high school, and with good reason. I've been very happy here."

Other scholars recognized during the ceremony were Susan Dye, Bouvé; Kareem Ghobrial, engineering; John Griffith, engineering; Carolina Morgan, arts and sciences; Michael Paradiso, business; Kristen Ripple, Bouvé; and Robert Uvanovic, arts and sciences.

In addition to the presidential scholars, Hodgkinson Achievement Award winners were also recognized. This year's winners are Kate Allstadt, arts and sciences; Mischa Bauermeister, arts and sciences; Richard Desmond, professional and continuing studies; Elizabeth Fang, Bouvé; Stacey Markovic, engineering; Kevin Roche, computer and information science; Kiette Tucker, business; and Allison Wyman, criminal justice.

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Faculty Senate taps Steven Morrison

Economics professor and department chair Steven Morrison was voted in as the new chair of the Senate Agenda Committee April 23, replacing Carol Glod, who concluded her three-year term. Members of the full Faculty Senate made the vote during its final meeting of the current academic year.



Steven Morrison

Praised as a deeply experienced and congenial stalwart of the Faculty Senate, Morrison said he is eager to take up the reins, starting this July.

"My goal is to work closely with the interim provost (Stephen Zoloth), and with fellow committee members in the next chapter of the Faculty Senate," Morrison said. "My work with the interim provost and the provost will focus on the continuation of the university's overall advancement, and on our efforts to foster the Faculty Senate's participation in the shared governance of the university."

In her final report to the Faculty Senate, Glod said Morrison would be a talented successor, one with longstanding experience at the university and with the Senate Agenda Committee.

"He will be a great person to take up the challenges associated with the next set of issues the Faculty Senate will address," she said. Later, in an address to the senate, she thanked Morrison for nominating her to the chairmanship four years ago.

"Overall, this has been a great experience," she said. "It has been an honor and a pleasure" to work with you all, "and a great ride."

Glod received a standing ovation from senators.

Looking toward the future, interim provost Zoloth said Morrison is a "great guy" with whom he is looking forward to working with. "He has had a tremendous amount of experience on the Senate Agenda Committee — this is a great move."

Morrison's service goes back many years. His membership on the Faculty Senate extends back to the late 1980s, and he has been a member of the Senate Agenda Committee since 2001.

In addition, he has served on the Faculty Senate Financial Affairs Committee, the Committee on Funding Priorities, the Fiscal Advisory Committee and he co-chairs a sub-committee on the NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) Reaccreditation committee.

He also chaired of the College of Arts and Sciences Tenure and Promotion advisory Committee.

— Susan Salk

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A wheat field as photographed by professor Neal Rantoul now hangs down the side of Meserve Hall, as part of a Northeastern Creates artistic installation. / CRAIG BAILEY

Depictions of the local police force and golden fields of Idaho and Washington are two large-scale artistic renderings now hanging throughout campus, visible signs of Northeastern University's growing commitment to arts and creative expression.

The two separate art projects were installed as part of Northeastern Creates, a campus-wide initiative to promote arts and creativity.

- In one project, Art and Design professor Mira Cantor explores the image of the modern police department in an exhibit of charcoal drawings on display at the Curry Student Center.

Her large-scale drawings of Boston and Northeastern police department officers is done with an eye toward capturing the feel of a "melting pot" within an organization that integrates power and serves a largely segregated populace, she said.

Cantor's drawings seek to show her subjects as human beings with families and lives outside the uniform. "I wanted to get at their personalities," she said. "The uniform is not the person."

Cantor is working with the city of Boston to mount an exhibit of 35 of her police drawings at the John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse from January through March of 2009. After that, she will travel to the Netherlands to oversee an exhibit of 10 of her drawings at a gallery outside Amsterdam.

- In another project, photography professor Neal Rantoul captures landscapes in a large-scale series of wheat fields. His work, which has been reproduced in 40-foot by 32-foot prints, now hangs on the exterior Meserve Hall.

The image was shot with a Toyo Field 8 x 10 view camera on color transparency film. His series of wheat fields, which grow in a region called "The Palouse," captivated him for their long horizon lines and beauty, he said.

"Growing up in Connecticut, I was hemmed in by trees and a lack of a horizon line," he said. By contrast, the wide-open spaces were a welcome relief.

Rantoul published "American Series" in 2006, which contains a collection of wheat fields.

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