MET Welcomes Three New Faculty Members

Plus! Transforming the potential of education using technology.

First Prison Arts Scholars
Making a positive impact through music in prison. See page 10.

Making Connections
A look at some of the conferences sponsored by MET this past year. See page 13.
Dear MET Alumni,

What has given me greatest satisfaction over the course of my deanship is meeting students who have benefited from our programs—and sharing their sense of personal accomplishment. The majority of MET’s students are in programs that didn’t even exist when I took on this role a dozen years ago. Throughout this time, Metropolitan College raised its academic standards, extended its reach nationally and internationally, and honed its entrepreneurial and idealistic spirit to create exciting new opportunities for students.

MET was transformed from a predominately local and undergraduate evening college to a national model for adult learning—through on-campus, online, and on-site programs, now with a far greater emphasis on graduate and professional education. We elevated the student profile and public reputation of MET by emphasizing the academic value of our programs and serving the educational needs of highly motivated students far beyond the Boston metropolitan area. We developed a premier, nationally recognized distance learning operation, which now supports almost 10 percent of BU’s total student population—from every state and over thirty nations.

Over just a decade, nine new degree programs, twenty-nine new academic and professional certificates, and eleven more concentrations were added. We brought twelve master’s degrees and one undergraduate degree fully online. Globally, we developed partnerships and outreach opportunities with dozens of companies and academic institutions. Locally, MET deepened its commitment to multigenerational institutions. Locally, MET deepened its commitment to multigenerational institutions. Locally, MET deepened its commitment to multigenerational institutions. Locally, MET deepened its commitment to multigenerational institutions.

We grew the size, diversity, and caliber of our full-time faculty—placing a far greater emphasis on their scholarship, innovation, and service. MET’s faculty would often share with me how they have “the best gig in the world.” I have decided it is now time to join them. I want to participate more deeply in programs I helped to build. I will be assisting in the leadership transition and then moving to full-time faculty status: a plan and a dream that I have had for quite some time. I will be leaving the deanship of a college with a now-far-larger student population in a much richer array of programs, and joining a faculty deeply committed to innovative teaching.

Even though Metropolitan College has been in business for 47 years, more than a third of MET’s 26,000 alumni were students during my deanship. I have had the privilege of handiing you diplomas on the commencement stage, visiting your classes, meeting you at receptions, reading your course evaluations, and corresponding with you over the years. You taught me about your experiences and expectations, and shared your satisfactions and occasional criticisms. This served as the foundation for our aspirations over the course of the decade.

As I think about the many, many thanks I am a departing dean owes, my gratitude for those who gave us its confidence and commitment as students is, by far, the most profound. We could not have done what we did without you. I hope you are as proud of this enterprise as I am.

Best wishes always,

Jay A. Halfond
Dean
Introducing…

MET welcomes three new faculty members.

THIS PAST FALL, three new assistant professors joined the ranks of MET’s faculty: Canan Gunes Corlu (Administrative Sciences), Danielle Rousseau (Criminal Justice), and Guanglan Zhang (Computer Science).

“We were very fortunate in this year’s faculty searches,” notes Dean Tanya Zlateva. “Professors Corlu, Rousseau, and Zhang have outstanding research potential, and brings expertise in an area that is needed in their departments.”

Assistant Professor of Administrative Sciences

Canan Gunes Corlu is a native of Turkey, where she received her bachelor’s degree before venturing to the States to earn her master’s and doctorate in business from Carnegie Mellon University. A reviewer for the journals Annals of Operations Research and Mathematics of Operations Research, Dr. Corlu taught at Bilkent University in Ankara prior to joining the Administrative Sciences department at MET, where she now teaches two courses: Supply Chain Management (with Associate Professor Roger Warburton) and The Innovation Process: Developing New Products and Services.

“Inventory control is the starting point of every problem in our field,” says Corlu, whose area of expertise is business analytics and large-scale simulations. “Simulation allows us to model complex systems and imitate the behavior of these systems in a computer. The goal is to understand how much inventory an inventory manager should keep to maximize the satisfaction of customers.”

Corlu applies her knowledge of simulation models to her research in humanitarian logist— an area of study with major implications within the realm of nonprofit and disaster relief organizations. Humanitarian logistics ensures that supplies are acquired and delivered efficiently, and on schedule, while minimizing the operating costs absorbed by nonprofits. “My expertise in the design and analysis of stochastic simulations, coupled with my interest in humanitarian logistics, is a good addition to the department,” says Corlu. Using the Pittsburgh Food Bank as a model, Corlu formulated a logistical plan that saved 10 percent in overall operation costs, enabling the organization to allocate more money toward distributing food for those in need. “I looked at how we can design their vehicle schedules in a more efficient way, so they spend less money on that, and have more money to help more people in need.”

In the classroom, Corlu’s mission is to ensure that students are capable of seeing the big picture. “Generally, most of my classes are case-based. I expect students to express their ideas explicitly and effectively. It’s important for them to be able to analyze a particular situation clearly, organize their thoughts, and be able to present it to a manager in ten minutes. This is what the industry demands, and it is one of the most important skills we teach.”

According to Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Danielle Rousseau, “The most important thing for students to learn is to think critically, and not take what a book says—or what I say—for that matter—as fact. Whatever topic we’re working on, students need to apply their own reasoning skills and explore real-world applications for their research, policy implications, practice implications.”

Rousseau—who holds a master’s in clinical forensics psychology and a PhD in criminology and Justice policy and women’s studies—brings to her teaching and research activities a decade of experience, ranging from victim services in a police department, trauma and crisis response in a community agency, and as a therapist in both male and female correctional facilities—most recently at the women’s prison MCI–Framingham.

“After spending years in the prison setting and working with law enforcement, I can share that hands-on experience in the classroom. I also have access to guest lecturers from the field—colleagues who are actually in the practice,” says Rousseau, who teaches the graduate courses in Gender and Justice and Research Methods, as well as the undergraduate course in Crime and Delinquency.

Rousseau’s transition from practitioner to teacher stemmed from a desire to share her on-the-job experience and research with students, and to unite research and practice. “Unfortunately, good research doesn’t always inform the practices we see in the system,” explains Rousseau. “Developing programming that is proven effective through research will benefit the criminal justice field—and society generally—by being more cost effective and less punitive.”

Rousseau also brings to the Applied Social Sciences department an interest in race and gender in the justice system—specifically, research on trauma and its effects on women. “Recently, I’ve been doing work with a program called yogaHOPE, a trauma-informed gender response program based entirely on well-founded research. The pilot program in the women’s prison was a great success,” explains Rousseau, whose efforts with yogaHOPe and other prisoner programs were recognized by three awards from the Massachusetts Department of Correction. Recently, Rousseau used her experience with yogaHOPE to partner with AMURT-Haiti (the Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team), establishing a Trauma-Informed Mind-Body (TIMBo) program for survivors of the 10/11 earthquake.

“There is a really strong international community here, so I would say to students, learn from each other. Share your perspectives on a problem. Use this opportunity to collaborate.”

—Canan Gunes Corlu

“Students are going to be out in the field, so I want them to consider how theories we study translate into real-world practice.”

—Danielle Rousseau

“I want students to learn how to do research, so if they are interested in a certain topic, they can find the relevant information to educate themselves.”

—Guanglan Zhang

For her students, Rousseau’s advice is straightforward: “Be engaged. Find your passion, and throw yourself into it. There are great resources at MET: seek out your faculty and explore the interests that you share, or discover new interests.”

“Find an idea that you are really interested in, and then be persistent,” agrees Assistant Professor of Computer Science Guanglan Zhang. “For students who wish to pursue health informatics, I congratulate them. It’s a relatively new field, and there are very good career prospects for the future.”

Zhang, who is from Luoyang, China, has been teaching health informatics courses at MET part-time since 2009. Holding undergraduate and graduate degrees in electronic engineering, and a doctorate in computer engineering, Zhang has authored more than thirty journal publications, developed more than twenty online computational systems, and filed two patents as co-inventor. Through the development of advanced computational solutions, she contributes to the rapid progress of basic and applied biology and biomedicine.

Previously senior bioinformatics engineer at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Zhang decided to focus on teaching full-time, bringing to MET’s Department of Computer Science specialized knowledge of health informatics—the application of information technology to the health care field, specifically related to Electronic Health Records (EHR). “Beginning in 2015, physicians failing to demonstrate meaningful use of an EHR will face financial penalties,” says Zhang, who teaches Health Informatics on-campus and online formats.

“With today’s super high technology, we have more and more data,” says Zhang. “But, how do we figure out what that data means? We have to use machine learning, data mining, and knowledge management to discover patterns and meaning in big amounts of data. These are the most important topics in managing health data.”

As a key player in the evolution of MET’s graduate programs in Health Informatics, Zhang brings new content and direction to the department. “I come from a hard-core medical environment. It helps that I have worked in the biomedical field and interacted with doctors. I know how they think, and I have real-world research problems to use as examples in class.”

“Once again,” says Dean Hallford, “MET has attracted three exciting scholars to join our faculty in cutting-edge fields, where we can show our preeminence and relevance.”

Find out more about MET’s full-time faculty and their achievements at bu.edu/met/faculty/full-time.
In September 2012, aspiring project managers in the Boston area received some welcome news: MET’s acclaimed Master of Science in Project Management (MSPM) program is now available on the Charles River Campus for the first time. With its specialized curriculum that prepares students to manage projects ranging from large to small, physical to virtual—in a variety of multinational industries, the MSPM program offers a tangible alternative to the standard MBA credential.

Starting with its fully online MSPM in 2005, as well as graduate certificates in Project Management and IT Project Management, the College was one of the first academic programs in project management in the burgeoning field of project management—and among the first to be recognized and accredited by the Project Management Institute’s Global Accreditation Center (PMI® GAC). With recent accreditation by the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) Program Accreditation System (EPAS), and AACSB International—the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, MET can now boast that its project management degree is the first, and so far only, such program to be accredited by these three prestigious organizations.

The on-campus MSPM degree shares the same curriculum and renowned faculty as the online program. Students are able to conduct research under the direct supervision of professors. Small classes, close attention from members of the faculty, and support from peers with strong industry connections can help students get that coveted project management job.

According to Dean Halfond, “The on-campus degree also means that students can benefit from personal, in-class interaction with our full-time professors. Small classes, close attention from members of the faculty, and support from peers with strong industry connections can help students get that coveted project management job.”

In addition to the traditional MSPM degree, the College also offers graduate certificates in IT Project Management and Project Management.

The on-campus MSPM degree is the first, and so far only, such program to be accredited by these three prestigious organizations.
Above, left to right: Associate Professor of Computer Science Robert Schudy, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Gastronomy Rachel Black, Assistant Professor of Administrative Sciences Irena Vodenska (UNI’09), and IT Architect Leo Burstein.

Minds at Work—
Technological Innovation in the Classroom

IT’S AN OCTOBER afternoon, and Lab 266 at 808 Commonwealth Avenue—one of five state-of-the-art classrooms belonging to the Boston University College of Arts and Sciences—is being fine-tuned for optimal audio. The question of the moment is how to capture the voices of the instructor and students, but not the omnipresent hum of the central air or the busy tapping of dozens of keyboards.

These high-tech labs represent the cutting edge of MET’s ongoing explorations in the realm of technology and pedagogy. Fitted with cameras, projectors, whiteboards, and numerous microphones—as well as an array of computer workstations—the rooms serve as ground-zero for the multimedia presentations of instructors who simultaneously lead class, record their lectures, address the queries of those attending remotely, and contribute to an archive of learning tools available to students.

Essentially, the labs enable faculty to create a virtual learning environment while hosting a live class, and serve as a central resource for the College’s blended courses—which are offered primarily online with a set of on-campus plenary meetings. Most importantly, the technology supports innovation in the classroom, enhancing faculty creativity and student learning experience.

“We have what I think are the best classrooms in the University,” asserts Associate Professor of Computer Science Robert Schudy, who teaches courses on campus, online, and in the blended format. “They offer quality video and audio recording of whatever happens in the classroom.”

This is critical, because Schudy’s classroom—like many at MET—is populated by students with a host of learning styles, among them those who want weekly evening classes on campus, and those who want a blended experience combining some campus time with the added flexibility of learning online from wherever they may be. In some cases, students in blended courses are able to attend classes remotely, via webcam—which allows for additional flexibility with busy schedules.

Schudy has fully embraced the use of technology in his classes. “More and more, I’m starting to use ‘flipped classrooms,’ where traditional lecture content is actually handled online,” says Schudy. This allows classroom time to be devoted to topical discussions and problem-solving. Students in Schudy’s on-campus course, Advanced Database Management, also have access to a fully developed online course website, complete with all the lectures, multimedia content, interactive animations, and other features designed to optimize the student distance learning experience.

By providing this content to participants in his on-campus course, Schudy ensures that students have continuous access to the lectures, research, and examples they need to excel. Conversely, by incorporating the recordings made for his on-campus class into the online classes, he is able to meet students’ various approaches to learning. “It’s given me a better appreciation for how differently different people learn,” says Schudy. “There are extraordinary advantages to meeting students’ learning needs through the technology available to us here at MET!”

“Professor Schudy has adopted the blended format from the point of view of sound modality—

that is, this is the way education will happen in the future,” says Leo Burstein, IT architect in MET’s Educational Technology Research office, who is charged with researching and identifying viable educational technologies. “Students get the best of both worlds, on campus and online, and it has enabled us to create a more enriching educational experience.”

While today’s learners—especially MET students, who typically balance a profession, a home life, and academic studies—may be more adept at multitasking with multimedia technologies and devices, Burstein says one of the College’s goals is to make the technology more accessible and useful to users.

“Once the Educational Technology Research team decides on a specific educational technology, MET’s IT office works closely with them—from piloting through implementation to developing support services to ensure that the technology can be used by faculty and students effectively,” explains Julia Burstein (MET’10), who manages information systems and services for MET.

“The technological support is extraordinary,” affirms Assistant Professor of Educational Sciences Irena Vodenska (UNI’09), who has not only been supported by the educational technology staff, but also encouraged to use technology in developing multimedia representations of lecture material. “I was taught to be self-sufficient, to record audio and video sessions by myself, to set up and use the cameras and the tablet, and to record in my office whenever it’s most convenient for me. Educational technology at MET has been a goldmine for me to continuously explore and introduce enhanced methods of delivering material to students.”

Vodenska stresses that MET’s educational technology has done more than inspire faculty. It has helped students grasp complex concepts. “Instead of listening to a lecture once and reading the book, they have the opportunity to see and hear the same concepts in different formats. They can analyze these ideas from different angles, greatly improving the overall learning experience and knowledge retention.”

Educational technology has applications beyond computer science and business courses. According to Rachel Black, assistant professor and coordinator of gastronomy, “We have very well-known faculty who are not based in Boston. In their blended courses, they work with Leo Burstein to record lectures, and then they fly out to Boston twice during the semester for live classes. These are people who are the very best in the field, and we can bring them here to Boston virtually, and in person, throughout the semester.”

In Black’s blended travel course, Cuisine and Cuisine: Quebec, students may attend on campus or entirely online, but all travel to Canada for the on-site component. “The technology makes the online experience much more dynamic: I give real-time lectures, but also have seminar sessions with the students where they can ask questions and present materials online. And, I record all those sessions for students who can’t log in synchronously.”

Dean Tanya Zlateva considers MET one of the early adopters of educational technology. “Technology has the potential to transform education,” she says. “The virtual world offers unprecedented multi-modal experiences—video, voice, animation, simulations, asynchronous and synchronous chats, threaded discussions, discussion boards, a variety of collaboration tools, real-time video with application sharing for live team meetings, presentations, and conferences. Our mission is to integrate the multimedia tools in a balanced and thoughtful way, and create an environment that promotes learning—while bridging the distance between student and teacher.”

“It took millennia to go from the spoken word and illuminated book,” Zlateva concludes. “It took about a century to go from a live theater performance to an asynchronous learning experience. In modern education we are trying to integrate all of the above, to keep the student engaged, and, as a result, achieve measurable transfer of knowledge.”

Dean’s List Reception

On Friday, October 26, MET honored the most recent Dean’s List students, academic scholarship recipients, and Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society inductees at a reception at BU’s George Sherman Union.

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Join us

8th Annual MET Night Friday, March 1, 2013

Represent MET as BU’s Territorial take to the ice against the University of Vermont Catamounts. Details at: bu.edu/met/Agganis

Watch a video about technological innovation in the classroom at MET. Visit bu.edu/met/mag/innovation

Doings Business in India

MET has benefited from a unique collaboration with Infosys Technologies Limited, which is located in India. Each January since 2010, graduate students in the Administrative Sciences course Doing Business in India attend classes on the Infosys campuses in Bangalore and Mysore. Cofounded by S. D. Shibulal (MET’88), who is also CEO, Infosys is a $7 billion company with 66 offices and 69 development centers around the world. Overall, Infosys employs over one hundred-fifty thousand employees.

Read a Q&A with course instructor Tareq Rahman (MET’90), and view photo galleries, bu.edu/met/mag/india

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Jamie Hillman (CFA’13), professor of music André de Quadros, and Emily Howe (STH’11) are inspirations, true citizen artists, who hold a joint faculty appointment in MET’s Prison Education Program. College of Fine Arts Dean Benjamin Juárez, who holds a joint faculty appointment in MET’s Arts Administration program, noted that “Jamie and Emily’s commitment and fervor to music education in the prison system is a testament to their ability to teach, and to the power of the arts. Jamie and Emily are inspirations, true citizen artists, and it is an honor to name them the First Prison Arts Scholars.”

Established in 1972, MET’s Prison Education Program offers a course of study leading to a Bachelor of Liberal Studies in Interdisciplinary Studies at three correctional facilities: MCI–Norfolk, a men’s prison; MCI–Framingham, a women’s prison; and the Bay State Correctional Center. In August 2011, criminal justice alumna Karin Addison-Jack (MET’08) established the Addison Female Prisoner Education Fund at Boston University with an endowment gift of $1.5 million.

Hillman and BU Professor of Music André de Quadros first brought Music Appreciation to the men at Norfolk in the spring of 2012. This past fall, Special Topics in Music History and Theory was added to the roster at Norfolk, while Music Appreciation arrived at MCI–Framingham for the first time, taught by Howe and Professor de Quadros.

“Jamie Hillman and Emily Howe represent a remarkable combination of musical excellence, leadership, creative work, and humanity,” says de Quadros. “They are truly breaking new ground by working on prison programs that are unique in content and process. Through this, they are transforming lives and demonstrating the power of music.”

Despite its constraints, “music appreciation” is not simply about sitting and listening to music; rather, it demands participation. As Howe explains, “The Music Appreciation class is extremely interactive. I assign some listening tasks, but the students experience most of the music firsthand by singing it themselves. We sing songs from different musical periods and genres, we discuss basic musicological and theoretical terminology as it pertains to this music, and we keep a journal about our musical experiences.”

“We’re trying to explore music theory and music history by practical means,” says Hillman, who teaches the Special Topics course: “Prisoners can’t have instruments in the prison classrooms, so we are using our voices, our bodies, our minds—all three together to explore the history and theory of music.”

“The most meaningful thing we can do for these students—for any student, in fact—is to empower them to trust in their own voices,” affirms Howe. “By encouraging our students to sing, we are teaching them to honor and respect their own voices and the voices of others. We are teaching them to lead, to listen, to support one another, and work together as a team. We are giving our students the tools they need to create something beautiful as a community. The medium we explore happens to be music, but I hope that the skills our students absorb in this course will make them better citizens, better friends, better mothers, better sisters, and more self-assured people.”

“Dr. Jenifer Drew (GRS’78, GRS’84), director of the Prison Education Program and associate professor of justice studies and sociology at Lesley College, acknowledges that the program has an important connection with the “arts-in-prison” approach, pairing academic exploration of music appreciation with hands-on engagement in music. “Other faculty in the Prison Education Program do similar work with Shakespeare and contemporary theatre, and an experiential approach to Art Appreciation is also in the works. I am so pleased to have such dedicated members of the CFA as André de Quadros, Jamie Hillman, and Emily Howe serving as faculty of the Boston University Prison Education Program.”

Dean Halfond adds, “Since BU instructors and incarcerated students do not have the tools we now take for granted in teaching, this puts even greater emphasis on faculty creativity. This is a valuable experience for these future scholars and practitioners in music education and an important recognition that should serve them well in their careers.”

A few highlights of recent faculty and staff honors, grants, presentations, and publications.

Assistant Professor of Arts Administration Richard Maloney (MET’00) has been recruited to the editorial board of the refereed Journal of Art for Life, published by Florida State University. This past May, Maloney participated in “Case Studies on the Arts, Economy, and Social Policy,” a panel at the day-long symposium on “The Arts, New Growth Theory, and Economic Development,” organized by the National Endowment for the Arts and held at the Brookings Institution.

In June, Irena Vodenska (UNI’09), assistant professor of political science, presented a paper, “Cascading Failures in Bi-partite Graphs: Model for Systemic Risk Propagation,” at the International Conference on Net and Web Sciences 2012, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. In July, she presented a paper on the “Impact of Euro Adoption on Emerging European Countries,” at the International Euro Conference on Emerging Markets 2012, in Slovenia. Vodenska was also principal investigator for Boston University’s “Forecasting Financial Crisis,” a project sponsored by the European Commission to further understand and forecast systemic risk and global financial instabilities, and organized as a consortium of computer scientists, physicists, economists, and policy makers from twelve institutions in eight countries.

“Criminology on Trial,” a paper by Professor Daniel LeClair, chair of applied social sciences, was accepted for presentation at Eurocrim 2012, Bilbao, in September.

Assistant Professor of Gastronomy Rachel Black was awarded a grant from Radio Canada’s “Bien dans son assiette” program, discussing the success of her recent MET course Culture and Cuisine: Quebec, which was held on location in Montréal, Canada, this past October.

The Project Management Institute (PMI) awarded a grant of $10,000 to Associate Professor of Computer Science and Administrative Sciences Vijay Kanabar, for his proposal “Researching the Current State of Project Management Curriculum and Drafting a Model Curriculum.” The “findings of Kanabar and experts from twenty U.S. and Canadian colleges and universities will eventually lead to a curriculum standard that will be recommended and published by PMI.”

In December, the International Journal of Project, Risk and Innovation Economic published “On the Lambert W Function: Economic Order Quantity Applications and Pedagogical Considerations,” an article by Associate Professor of Administrative Sciences Roger Warburton and former visiting faculty member Stephen Disney.
TOM LYONS (MET’76), BS in Business CIO, New England Mobile Book Fair (nembookfair.com)

What is great about working in Boston? Boston has sports, culture, and history. It’s youthful and vibrant. I’ve lived in California and in New York City, but I always come back to Boston—it is home.

What activities do you enjoy the most? For sports, I like golf, swimming, and boating of all kinds. I enjoy the arts, and I am a writer: I wrote a western, and I am working on a mystery. And, of course, as a bookseller I love books. I usually have five or six that I am reading at the same time.

Has your BU degree helped you make connections locally? I have been a road warrior for thirty-plus years, and wasn’t in Boston for a lot of that time. But, recently, I connected with Dean Halfond and spoke with the editor of BU Today. It was certainly because I am an alumnus that these connections were made—and they are helping with my current endeavor at the New England Mobile Book Fair.

What’s the best advice you were ever given? “Do it. They’ll be your connection to new relationships you make with your classmates; to your professional life; to the workplace, the community, or whole industries.”

TIM SULLIVAN (MET’06), MSA in Advertising Director of Communications, Spaulding Rehabilitation Network

What is great about working in Boston? Working in what is truly one of the health care centers of the world means each day I get to collaborate with some of the best and brightest in medicine.

What activities do you enjoy the most? I’m surrounded by technology all day, so I try to get to simple, quiet places with my wife and two young children. We go camping, hiking, biking, kayaking, and, in the winter, snowshoeing. Whatever I’m doing with my kids is automatically the best part of any day.

Has your BU degree helped you make connections locally? I’ve been fortunate to stay connected to BU as an instructor and facilitator for MET’s online master’s in Health Communication program. I also collaborate professionally with many of my classmates from BU on advertising and marketing projects.

What’s the best advice you were ever given? More than advice, my professors and classmates at MET gave me confidence. They always made me feel that no challenge could be too big I still hold on to that every day.

Do you have any advice for MET students? Build and believe in yourself. If you have a goal in mind, just go for it. Also, cherish the relationships you make with your classmates; many times they’ll be your connection to new careers and adventures.

ANINA MARIE KOSTECKI (MET’13) MLA in Gastronomy Owner, Nonna Soup (facebook.com/NonnaSoup)

What is great about working in Boston? It’s wonderful to work in a city where you can fully experience the seasons at the local markets. For me, the surge in farmer’s markets, in and around the Boston area, is a wonderful part of the city’s food culture.

What activities do you enjoy the most? I really enjoy dismembering live crustaceans and drouning them in bourbon cream sauce.

Has your BU degree helped you make connections locally? My BU degree has helped me to launch a brand new career. The Gastronomy curriculum honed the skills I needed to become a small business owner, but the network of people I was introduced to, particularly in the Culinary Arts Program [led by Rebecca Alssid], has mentored me and continue to be my best cheerleaders. The relationships I’ve made in the Boston food and gastronomy industry are absolutely the most valuable part of my degree.

What’s the best advice you were ever given? Do what you love, the rest will follow.

Do you have any advice for MET students? No matter how scary or overwhelming it may seem, take that chance: it’s okay to not be sure, and it’s okay to make mistakes. It’s even okay to fail. But if you don’t try something because you’re afraid, all you will have are regrets. 


Making Connections

A look at some of the conferences sponsored by MET in the past year.

As part of its mission, Metropolitan College fosters the exchange of ideas and a spirit of innovation that reaches beyond the classroom to the workplace, the community, or whole industries. Over the years, the College has hosted a variety of conferences, drawing upon the scholarly research, hands-on experience, and industry connections of its faculty.

“MET has pioneered several academic fields. Conferences provide opportunities to showcase this talent and leadership,” observes Dean Halfond. “Our faculty and students benefit by these exchanges and opportunities to network with their colleagues across a broad spectrum.”

Last April, MET’s Arts Administration program graduated hosted the Association of Arts Administration Educators (AAAE) annual conference for the first time. The event—Educate, Innovate, Activate—brought together more than a hundred faculty members from over eighty arts administration programs from around the world, including Associate Professor and Director of Arts Administration Daniel Ranalli, Assistant Professor and Assistant Director Richard Makney (MET’08), and part-time faculty members Dan Hunter (GRS’99) and Lauren O’Neal.

That same month, MET’s Department of Computer Science joined BU’s Center for Reliable Information Systems & Cyber Security (RISCs) and Infragard Boston in co-sponsoring Mobile Devices, Security & the Cloud—a one-day professional development and lecture event exploring the many factors associated with mobility and security. Among presenters from Infragard Boston, Paraben, The Lorenzi Group, and BU’s College of Arts & Sciences were MET computer science professors Lou Chikhouria (ENG’96), and Tanya Zlaveva (respectively, associate director and co-director of RISCs), along with lecturer John Day

Following in May, the Project Management in Practice Conference—co-sponsored by MET and the Project Management Institute’s Mass Bay Chapter—focused on Agile Project Management. Held at Boston University’s Photonics Center, the conference welcomed 150 attendees (in addition to 250 virtual participants) and featured keynote speaker Jim Snyder, who— as a founder of the Project Management Institute, a fellow of the Institute, and a past volunteer executive director, president, and chairman of the board—is the major figure in the field. Other speakers included Stephen Anthony, president of Agile Infrastructure Works, along with MET’s Dean Halfond, Assistant Professor of Administrative Sciences Stephen Leybozar, and Dean Tanya Zlaveva, Vijay Kanabar, director of MET’s project management programs and associate professor of computer science and administrative sciences, served as panelist and conference co-chair with Associate Professor of Administrative Sciences Roger Warburton.

At the conference, the Annual Project Management Education Award was presented to the City of Boston, and accepted by Vivian Leonard, the city’s director of Human Resources.

Most recently, in September, the College’s Center for Professional Education (CPE)—which offers a Certificate in Professional Investigation—joined the World Association of Detectives (WAD) and the National Council of Investigation and Security Services (NCISS) to host the Boston 2012 International Investigation and Security Professionals Symposium. The event, which corresponded with the WAD 87th Annual Conference and the NCIBS 27th Annual Conference, was Continued on page 15>

International Investigation and Security Professionals Symposium Left to right: Arthur Murphy, member of WAD and NCIBS; Thomas Jackson, a regional director for NCIBS; Carolyn Wern, executive director of NCIBS; Thomas Shamshak, director of the CPE Professional Investigation program; Ruth Ann Murray (SED’94, GRS’98, GRS’12), MET assistant dean of business development and director of CPE; and Dean Halfond.

AAAE Conference Above, left to right, are Jennifer Simmons (MET’12), Claire Bietz, current MET student Julia Cuelar, and Arts Administration faculty members Dan Hunter (GRS’99) and Dean Benjamin Jarey (BU’s College of Fine Arts).
Boston University celebrated ten years of online programs with a tour of Chicago, the District of Columbia, and New York.

For more on this milestone, view the video Boston University—Celebrating a Decade of Distance Learning. Scan the code or visit bu.edu/met/mag/decade.

Chicago
Left to right: Michele Yeaton (MET’78, CGS’75) with Dean Haldonf and Nancy Coleman (CGS’07) with current student Kathryn Nassr.

Washington, D.C.
Left to right: Dean Haldonf with online Master of Criminal Justice student Robert Journey, a prospective student socializes with Elkan “Darnell” Sanders (MET’91) and his daughter, Sara.

Alumni Gatherings

Distance Education on the Road

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Christopher Batiulis (MET’10), who graduated from the online MS in Project Management program, joined Vermont Technical College as associate dean of administration.

Brett W. Brown (MET’09) earned his bachelor’s in Interdisciplinary Studies. He also attended MET in 1981, and was a Terriers basketball letter-winner. Brown was head coach of the Australian Men’s Basketball Team in the 2012 Summer Olympics. The team placed seventh. He is currently assistant coach for the NBA’s San Antonio Spurs.

Chicago
Left to right: Neil Taylor-Christy and Harold Christy (MET’04); Dean Haldonf; and Director of Distance Education Nancy Coleman (CGS’07).

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