

## Shirley Caruso UWW Alum



Shirley Caruso worked for many years in the construction industry as a project manager which included training and development of support staff. Shirley said “When my husband and I reached the point of having grown children, I decided it

was time to cross degree completion off my bucket list.”

She started following this dream through the UWW program in 2008, completing her undergraduate degree in 2010. While completing her BA degree, she gained formal exposure to already familiar concepts. This gave her a new found passion for the field of Human Resource Development. She quickly realized she was not going to be able to fully utilize all her additional skills and knowledge in her current work role. This realization gave her the motivation to start her own company, WISE Training & Development. Shirley also went on to pursue her Master’s Degree in Human Resource Development through the NEIU Graduate Program

In addition to pursuing Organizational Training and Development as an independent consultant, Shirley started teaching HRD undergraduate classes right here at NEIU! During this time she wrote and published over 200 papers. She created a “go to” place, her own YouTube channel with tools for HRD professionals. Her YouTube channel provides written articles in an audio/visual format

## NDP 1 credit hour courses

Did you know that the NDP program offers two courses that are each worth one credit hour? Students can earn two credit hours at the 300 level, while learning valuable skills. These two classes are: **Library Research** and

### **Time Management.**

These classes are a great way to explore the world of library research and time management in the 21st century. Both of these classes are for one credit hour only, so you will be finished with the class by the time you are halfway through the semester! If you are planning on continuing to a graduate program, both of these classes will greatly contribute to your future success.

so that anyone can access her materials. The tools she has created were designed to assist practitioners in the effective design and evaluation of training materials.

Shirley’s many awards and recognitions include: In 2009, she was a Deb Colky Workplace Learning and Performance Award finalist and received Outstanding Service to the Community, Outstanding Piece of Academic Work, and Overall Integration of Conceptual and Experiential Competencies Awards from NEIU. In 2010, Shirley received an Award of Merit in Recognition of Outstanding Research from NEIU’s 18th Annual Research & Creative Activities Symposium. She has also been recognized by NEIU for her valuable contributions to the Graduate College Seminar Series. Most recently, in January 2014, she was awarded an Ed.D scholarship from The Boyer Graduate School of Education at William Howard Taft University. She anticipates completion of her Doctor of Education with a concentration in Technology and Leadership in May 2016.

She suggests that all students get involved with professional groups and to read professional publications related to your field of study. Get on Linked In, build a professional network. Find diners and speakers related to your discipline.

Her parting words are “Don’t wish your life away...turn those wishes into goals. Overcome your fears—you will be glad you did. Dream big, let this be your start. Walk through every open door!”

## Scholarships for NDP

Each semester, the NDP program offers merit based scholarships to students who demonstrate academic excellence. If you need a scholarship application, please email : [NDP@neiu.edu](mailto:NDP@neiu.edu)

**Application deadline for Spring, 2015 scholarships is Nov. 3, 2014**

## Remote Printing Feature

All NEIU students are able to send documents created off sight to any of the copy machines located around campus. Once you send a document to the printing queue, it will be available to print for 24 hours. Here is the link for you to access this service: <https://print.neiu.edu/>

## NDP Honor Awards Spring 2014



The graduating class of 2014 was proud to boast many NDP graduates who earned honor awards in recognition of academic achievement.



*Pictured above with Kim Sanborn, Ph.D., Director of the Non-Traditional Degree Program are: (Counter-clockwise from the top) Mary Garrett, Erica Krueger, and Cathy Anderson with Audrey Whit.*

## BAIS Grad Andre Upchurch

Andre Upchurch credits his academic success to the BAIS program at NEIU. He stated that the flexibility of course offerings allowed him to pursue classes related to his professional endeavors and his personal interests. Andre was an active participant in his educational path and stated he could not have graduated without the guidance and support of the BAIS advisors and the NDP program. After earning his BAIS degree, Andre is once again an NEIU student, this time, in pursuit of a graduate degree in History. He is confident that the Nontraditional Degree Program will provide value to any students

## Get Credit Hours for Tests

One advantage of being an NDP student is the flexibility on obtaining the credit hours needed for satisfactory degree completion. NDP students have the option of testing out of over 40 subjects. These test subjects include CLEP exams as well as baccalaureate and upper level baccalaureate competency exams. If you think this might work for you, please check out the websites:

<http://clep.collegeboard.org/>

<http://getcollegecredit.com/>

## NDP Scholarship Winners Fall

Congratulations to the NDP students who have been awarded merit-based NDP tuition scholarships for the Fall 2014 semester:

Juan Pedro Alvarez  
Lynn Barone  
Patricia Behn-Wright  
Davisson Benson  
Stephanie Herrera  
Nancy Hirsch  
Connie Mendez  
Vitalii Mytnychuk  
Amber Zaman

Jacques Polk  
Natalie Roman  
Alexis Sanchez  
Rene Talbot  
Jesus Tapia  
Cassius Williams  
Kim Wimberly  
Barbara Wudarczyk

## BAIS Student Iveline Allen

The Nontraditional Degree Programs are fortunate in their ability to appeal to some of today's top-notch students. One such student is Iveline Allen. Iveline is a B.A.I.S. student, who has also chosen a minor in Child Advocacy. She anticipates graduating in Dec., 2014.

Iveline's story is inspirational just because of all she has on her plate. She is a mother of two children who are both attending college in Belize, where Iveline was born and raised. She currently works 50 hours per week as a nanny and is also a paralegal student at the College of Lake County. In spite of her hectic life, she maintains a 4.0 GPA and plans to pursue a graduate degree in Social Work when she completes her undergraduate studies.

Iveline admits it is challenging to juggle all the demands of work and school while maintaining a family life. As her example shows and she stated "Yes, it can be done!" She believes that setting an example for her children is her most important role. She is confident that by watching her successfully tackle her goals, they will live with the knowledge that they too, can achieve anything they set their sights on.

## Is a Prior Learning Assessment in Your Future?

It is possible to get credit for prior learning experiences which may have presented themselves in the course of your lifetime. Many of these opportunities arise in the workplace, but some may come from the pursuit of personal interests as well. If you are considering creating a prior learning portfolio, please read the statements below and check all that apply to you.

- I am currently enrolled in or planning to enroll in the B.A.I.S. Program
- I have professional background which includes exposure to a variety of learning opportunities and experiences
- I have received formal or informal training which will not qualify for transfer credit
- I have any military training or volunteer work that may be used for prior learning credit
- I hold professional certifications, licenses or awards which highlight my learning experience
- My knowledge and skills in this field are current
- My knowledge and skills can be measured
- My prior learning satisfies the requirements for an identifiable academic discipline

If you checked one or more of these statements, please make an appointment to talk with your advisor about whether or not a prior learning assessment is right for you.

### Career Counseling

Is your resume up to date? Are you having problems figuring out how to best add your new education and skills to your resume? Would you like some guidance on creating and building a professional network?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, please stop in to career services, located in Room B-119. They provide free resume critiques every Monday and Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 PM. If you can't make these times, please call 773.442.4680 and make an appointment to meet with a career counselor .

### NDP Office Staff Fall 2014

The NDP Office, B-147 has great people who are here to help you every day. Our staff is made up of people at all levels, from Directors to graduate students. Please stop in and get to know the team.

Dr. Kim Sanborn—Director  
 Dr. Shelley Bannister—Faculty Advisor UWW  
 Ms. Jennifer Blair—Program Specialist  
 Ms. Erica Krueger—Grad Assistant BAIS Program  
 Mr. Hamoon Forouzi—Grad Assistant UWW Program  
 Ms. Trease Sockol—Office Support Specialist  
 Mr. Gabe Manzo—Clerical Assistant

### Angelina Pedroso Center

The Angelina Pedroso Center for Diversity and Intercultural Affairs honors all differences, fosters leadership, and promotes diversity, intersectionality, and social justice in a student-centered environment. Room B-149

#### LGBTQA Resource Ctr. & Student Affairs

**Juan Guardia, Ph.D.** *Assistant Vice President for Diversity and Intercultural Affairs*  
[j-guardia@neiu.edu](mailto:j-guardia@neiu.edu)

#### African and African American Resource Center

Kimberly Everett *Director*  
[k-everett1@neiu.edu](mailto:k-everett1@neiu.edu)

#### Women's Resource Center

Joanna Snawder *Director and Deputy Title IX Coordinator*  
[j-snawder@neiu.edu](mailto:j-snawder@neiu.edu)

#### Latino Resource Center

Maria Genao-Homs *Director*  
[m-genao-homs@neiu.edu](mailto:m-genao-homs@neiu.edu)

#### Asian and Global Resource Center

Yasmin Ranney *Director*  
[y-ranney@neiu.edu](mailto:y-ranney@neiu.edu)

## Stage Center Theater

Are you a theater buff or someone who enjoys seeing live productions? If this is you, please take a closer look at NEIU's Stage Center Theater. This is a great artistic and cultural resource right here on the main campus! Students can get free tickets for any play. For the cost of a movie ticket, non-students can enjoy the experience of live theater, making this a great date night activity for students on a budget.

This semester the first production, "**bobrauschenbergamerica**", will be performed on Oct. 9-18. This is a story about an American visual artist. The play is made up of a series of short random scenes from the artist's life. It is considered to be an interdisciplinary play in that it uses one form of artistic expression to showcase a different artistic medium.

The second play is scheduled for Nov 20-22 and Dec. 4-6. The production, "**Why Torture is Wrong and the People Who Love Them**" is the tale of a young woman in crisis who begins to question the motives and intentions of those around her. *The New York Times* called this play a "hilarious and disturbing new comedy about all-American violence." Homing in on our private terrors both at home and abroad, Durang expertly navigates this trigger-happy paranoiac world, and shows us the absurd truth at its center.

Visit the theater for additional details and a preview of upcoming plays: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/stage-center-theatre/current>

## MLRC—what they have to offer

If you have yet to become familiar with the Multi-Media Learning Resource Center (MLRC), this semester might be the right time for you to get to know them. The center can be found on the 3rd floor of the Ronald Williams Library. You will need to show your student ID to get in, but once you do, a whole world of technology will be at your feet. There are computer terminals and printers for student use. In addition to these basic technologies, the lab can also accommodate any need to edit audio/visual creations.

New to the center is audio/visual equipment that can be used by all NEIU students. You will need to show your student ID to check out equipment, rental is free for up to 3 days. The center also boasts a soundproof room which can be used to record audio components for your projects.

## Health and Counseling Services

All students have access to mental health and counseling services. These services are offered at no charge each semester. For details on services available please see their webpage: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/student-health-and-counseling-services>

## Campus Recreation

If you are a fitness buff and enrolled at NEIU, please take a look at the P.E. Building and all it has to offer. For starters, the complex boasts 5 gymnasium court areas, a climbing wall, an elevated track, racquetball courts, a fitness center and an 8 lane 25ft. Long pool with a diving area. These facilities are available for use anytime the facility is open.

Do your kids want to learn to swim, do you? Each student is allowed to bring two immediate family members into the complex as guests, on Wednesdays from 3-10PM, Fridays from 3-7PM and Saturdays from 9 AM- 3PM. The recreation program offers swimming lessons for all ages from Preschool-Adult. Here is the link to the information about the swimming programs: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/crneiu>

Do you workout with a personal trainer? Campus Recreation offers student packages with discounted rates. Please contact Martha Montes, for more information: [m-montes1@neiu.edu](mailto:m-montes1@neiu.edu).

Are you interested in fitness classes such as Yoga, Zumba, Athletic Training or Body Conditioning? These are among the many structured fitness classes offered through Campus Recreation. Here is where you can find more information: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/campus-recreation/fitness>

## Tutoring Resources

Have you checked out the library recently? The Ronald Williams Library has many hidden treasures within its walls, and I am not just talking about books! On the 4th floor, you will find the the Learning Support Center, available to fulfill your tutoring needs. For a list off all services available, please visit their site: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/learning-support-center>

The Center for Academic Writing is dedicated to providing tutor support for students taking a WIP course. If you are unsure of your writing skills the Center is a great resource available during the semester you are in a WIP class. The Center hires only high performing WIP former students as peer tutors. Here is the link to their website: <http://www.neiu.edu/academics/center-academic-writing>