Heather Porriello

Hometown: Higganum, CT
College: College of Social Sciences and Humanities
Major: Criminology, Criminal Justice, Human Services
Co-op Coordinator: Nancy Tavares

Thomas E. McMahon Award

The Thomas E. McMahon Award was established in 1991 to honor one senior for outstanding integrity and character combined with a high degree of devotion to serving the needs of others throughout his or her co-op experiences.

Dean Thomas E. McMahon received a Bachelor’s Degree in Industrial Engineering from Northeastern University in 1940, and during World War II he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He began his 27-year career in the Northeastern University Department of Cooperative Education in 1953. In 1968 he was appointed Associate Dean and Executive Officer of the Department. Dean McMahon, who retired from Northeastern in 1980, died at age 75 in 1991. He will be fondly remembered as a talented man who was a caring person who was always ready to lend a helping hand and an attentive ear to students, faculty and staff.

Co-op Experience:
Legal Advocacy and Resource Center - Boston, MA
Administrative Assistant

Italian Home for Children - Jamaica Plain, MA
Child Care Worker

MA Office for Victim Assistance - Boston, MA
Administrative Assistant

“. . . Heather’s greatest strength is her ability to maintain an open and nurturing yet professional demeanor with the clients. This came out most clearly in her problem solving abilities and the activities she planned for the children.”

- Anthony Johnson, Supervisor, Italian Home for Children