2006 Romeo L. Moruzzi Young Faculty Award for Innovation in Undergraduate Education Recipient
Professor H. J. Manzari

WPI is pleased to present the 2006 Moruzzi Young Faculty Award for Innovation in Undergraduate Education to Professor H. J. Manzari of the Department of Humanities & Arts.

To promote communicative interaction among his students, H. J. Manzari creates in his courses student-oriented atmospheres that are characterized by small group work on contextualized projects. Building on work he completed through a WPI Teaching Technology Fellowship award, Professor Manzari developed multimedia projects and assignments to teach foreign languages and cultures. Through these projects, students not only learn about foreign languages and culture, but they learn and apply modern information technology to produce materials that then become part of an on-going resource for use by themselves and others.

Students in his current Caribbeanness course develop multimedia portfolios that showcase their mastery of cultural, historical, and literacy learning in language study through interactive and digital texts that tell stories and reflect thematic structures and tendencies 8in the Caribbean world. The scope of the experience extends beyond the product of the portfolio, though, to include group analysis of the theoretical and technical issues encountered during production. The scope of the project also extends beyond that of typical projects in the Humanities.

Today, WPI is pleased to recognize and reinforce this approach that pushed boundaries - in ways reminiscent of Romeo Moruzzi's own style – as we now present Professor H. J. Manzari with the 2006 Moruzzi Young Faculty Award for Innovation in Undergraduate Education.