Peirce College Announces Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Adrian Zappala will oversee graduate studies at Peirce College

PHILADELPHIA – Jan. 8, 2013 – Peirce College, Philadelphia’s leading private, non-profit, four-year accredited institution for working adult learners, welcomes Dr. Adrian Zappala as the new Dean of Graduate Studies. Dr. Zappala will lead the graduate studies division at Peirce, and will oversee the implementation of the College’s first ever master’s degree program in Organizational Leadership & Management.

“I’m very excited to hold this position at Peirce College, as my higher education portfolio has been focused on programs for adult learners. The College’s rich history of serving the needs of working adult students presents me with a wonderful opportunity to work with students in the community who have identified the value of graduate education and are hoping to advance their careers,” said Dr. Zappala.

Before accepting this role at Peirce, Dr. Zappala served as Assistant Dean of the Heavin School of Arts and Sciences at Thomas Edison State College for over three years. Altogether, Dr. Zappala has spent 16 years as an educator, nine of which were in higher education institutions serving adult learners. From his previous positions as faculty member, program coordinator, and assistant dean, Dr. Zappala has gained experience teaching, managing, and growing graduate programs, all related to nontraditional students.

Zappala continued, “My goal is to fully utilize my experiences to support the organization’s educational goals and their highly motivated and engaged student body. Given that the majority of Peirce students are nontraditional, their academic and career goals are different. Peirce’s initial graduate degree offering was developed with that in mind and will prepare them for leadership opportunities within their current organizations or elsewhere. I hope that in
conjunction with the graduate program faculty, we can be catalysts for that development in our students’ professional lives.”

As Dean of Graduate Studies, Dr. Zappala will build and support master’s degree programming at Peirce College which, in line with Peirce’s mission, will offer flexible classes that can be attended in a variety of ways including evening, on campus and online.

Dr. Zappala earned his Ph.D. in post-secondary and adult education at Capella University and graduated from the Management Development Program at Harvard University Graduate School of Education. He currently lives in Ocean County, N.J. with his wife and three daughters.

For more information about the master’s degree program, please contact the Peirce Graduate Studies Admissions Office at Masters@Peirce.edu or 215.670.9325.

About Peirce College
Peirce College offers bachelor’s and associate degree programs in the areas of Business, Healthcare, Information Technology, and Legal Studies, and in fall 2013, will offer a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership & Management. Located in the heart of Philadelphia, Peirce is a non-profit institution that specializes in serving the unique needs of working adults, many of whom work full time and are raising families. In response to the changing demands of the economy and the prospect for future jobs in the Philadelphia market, Peirce has introduced additional degree programs in Accounting, Criminal Justice, Health Information Administration, Health Information Technology, and Human Resource Management. Peirce College is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19104 (phone: 267-284-5000). The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs accredits the College’s Business Administration and Accounting programs and the Paralegal Studies program is approved by the American Bar Association.

For more information about Peirce College, call 888.467.3472, or visit www.peirce.edu.


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