

Robert F. Graboyes | 2007 Dennis Pointer Award

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The Dennis Pointer Award

Awarded by the Virginia Commonwealth University
Master of Science in Health Administration Class of 2007

Good evening. The Dennis Pointer award is given by the graduating MSHA class:

In recognition of an outstanding educator who, through example in the classroom and online, has demonstrated exceptional dedication and genuine concern for the development of critical thinking and learning skills of the MSHA students.

This year, the award goes to a professor who meets and exceeds that standard. At no time did we know his opinion on any issue he posted for discussion; no matter how we addressed the problem, he challenged our position. He is the Dean of Unanticipated Consequences. The highest honor was to debate him to a draw, and you knew that had occurred when he posted simply, "good point." In addition, the economic concepts he taught were familiar friends when we met them again in every subsequent class. And, when, in a Blackboard discussion, we learned a classmate's child had been diagnosed with a speech disorder, this professor interrupted his teaching with a bibliography of resources for the student/parent, accompanied by a large dose of hope and compassion -- and then went seamlessly back to the boards, pushing our critical thinking skills. It is with great pleasure that the MSHA class of 2007 gives the Dennis Pointer award to Dr. Robert Graboyes.