Turnips or Bombs? Small talk with Professor Wand

If you run into Professor Mitchell Wand at a cocktail party, he might regale you with stories about a guy tucked away in “the bowels of the Pentagon,” writing a computer program.

“This guy’s job is to write a computer program,” Wand might say. “The job of that computer program is to take the images being sent back from drones over wherever it is we’re fighting at the present, to look at the images and to figure out whether that guy kneeling by the side of the road is planting turnips or planting a bomb.”

Dreams and Nightmares, New Zealand to Germany

Pick a word. Now, make a video game built around that word.

That was one of the assignments senior Martha Hamlin was tasked with in her Rapid Idea Prototyping course. Her word was “dream.” She built a game in which players had to complete a puzzle chain that involved switching between dream and nightmare states.

“You had to find a bunny and give it a carrot so you could pick it up,” Martha says. “Then you could bring it into the nightmare zone and it would become a little monster which you gave to a boy who wanted a pet. He would give you a doll and you’d bring that back and give it to a girl on the dream side who wanted a doll.”

Studying Information Assurance from Orlando

Students can earn Northeastern degrees from campuses in Boston, Seattle, Charlotte and Silicon Valley. They can also choose to bypass enrolling at a campus and take classes online. That’s what Mary Logvin, who lives in Orlando, chose to do when she registered in the Information Assurance graduate program.

“I was lucky enough to work for a company that would reimburse us for furthering our technical education from an ABET accredited program,” Mary, a software engineering manager at Lockheed Martin, says. “I looked at options and thought that Northeastern best met my needs. Being online was a plus. That’s why I chose it.”