

James R. Stellar

Professor of Psychology and former Dean of Arts and Sciences, Northeastern University

Jim Stellar did his Ph.D. and Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania in Behavioral Neuroscience. In 1978, he became an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Harvard University and in 1986 moved to Northeastern University where he is a Full Professor. From 1998-2008, he was Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Northeastern. Under his leadership, the College strengthened experiential education through enhanced programs of cooperative education, study abroad, undergraduate research, internships, service learning and community research. The college also began this institute, originally called the Martha's Vineyard Summer Institute, that continues today under the World Association of Cooperative Education. The Institute has helped, to date, 39 colleges and universities develop experiential education plans. More recently, as a professor, Stellar and a team have begun to write about experiential education, its management and the personal transformation it can achieve for students when combined with classical academic excellence.