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Portland State University Instructor Selected as PDK Emerging Leader

ARLINGTON, Va.—Rurik Nackerud, an instructor at Portland State University in Portland, Ore., has been named a PDK Emerging Leader for his work in educational technology and doing research on games as learning tools.

“Games have assessment so embedded in their design that it is intrinsic to the experience,” Nackerud said. “The challenges, structures, and goals are almost indecently clear.”

In addition to his work at Portland State University, Nackerud is also pursuing his doctorate in curriculum and instruction.

PDK International, the education association that has recognized Nackerud as an up-and-coming leader in the K-12 profession, will host Nackerud and 25 other education change agents at a weekend networking event this December. The PDK Emerging Leaders will gather in Washington, D.C., meet with federal education policymakers, and share best practices with each other.

“The Emerging Leaders program is our way of paying it forward in public education,” said William J. Bushaw, PDK International’s executive director. “We find people under 40 who are standouts in the profession and we bring them together for a weekend of networking and expertise-sharing in the nation’s capital. By investing in these young leaders, we are investing in the future.”

PDK International is an association that represents nearly 30,000 professionals in K-12 education across the country. Every year, it recognizes a new class of PDK Emerging Leaders. For more information on PDK’s 2013-2014 Class of Emerging Leaders, go to www.pdkemergingleaders.org. Information about PDK International is at www.pdkintl.org.

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