The "adultiest" adult in the room, Mr. Healy embodies respect, organization, and generosity, making him a beacon of inspiration for our team. Having mentored Quasics for over a decade, his exceptional coaching skills, derived from a boundless work ethic, extensive knowledge base, and deep understanding of people, set him apart as an exemplary mentor, offering a listening ear and heartfelt advice, tirelessly striving to assist in any way.

Besides actively helping in robotics community events, he has hosted a series of "Hour of Code" workshops in Pittsburgh Public Schools, encouraging more people to explore fields in STEM. On the professional side, not only does he constantly file bugs and their solutions, but he has also helped share our and other teams' journeys with his professional colleagues, inspiring more Google employees to get involved with FIRST teams. This Fall, he facilitated a Girls in STEM Workshop in partnership with FIRST and Google.org, hosted at Google's Pittsburgh office, and led by young women from local teams (including ours), inspiring around 75 girls. He has even arranged for our robot, Gladys, to be permanently displayed in the Google Pittsburgh Office!

However, it's Mr. Healy's mentorship style, honed from being a software developer at Google (our biggest sponsor) and previously a professor at RIT, which has made all students successful on this team. He fosters critical thinking through guiding questions and then flawlessly and concisely explains the underlying concepts, using analogies to make even the most intricate ideas accessible to everyone. This clarity in explanation seamlessly merges with his strong advocacy for methodical problem-solving. He encourages extensive brainstorming before embarking on solutions, and when we begin, he makes certain that we are doing so safely.

Beyond guidance, Mr. Healy's commitment to our growth is evident in his hands-on approach. He constantly experiments with new devices, crafts example programs, and builds small robots, ensuring our efforts are never in vain. He has also designed an online C++ course and countless wiki pages, which house most of our acquired knowledge. Over the summer, our team made the long-awaited switch to Java, and Mr. Healy began teaching our coders a whole new language. A month later, we were able to drive our robot at an offseason competition, fully coded in Java. Whatever it may be, Mr. Healy is willing to sacrifice his precious time so that we have all the necessary knowledge and skills to execute our tasks.

Overall, Mr. Healy's extraordinary mentorship has been the cornerstone of our success. Under his mentorship, each team member has improved their technical and communication skills while gaining a sense of responsibility and open-mindedness. His dedication, knowledge, and approach to teaching have profoundly shaped us, opening countless new pathways for us to explore. Mr. Healy truly epitomizes the ideal mentor and is beyond deserving of this award.