

# Developing Applications for iOS



## Lab 1: HelloWorld App

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# Task 1

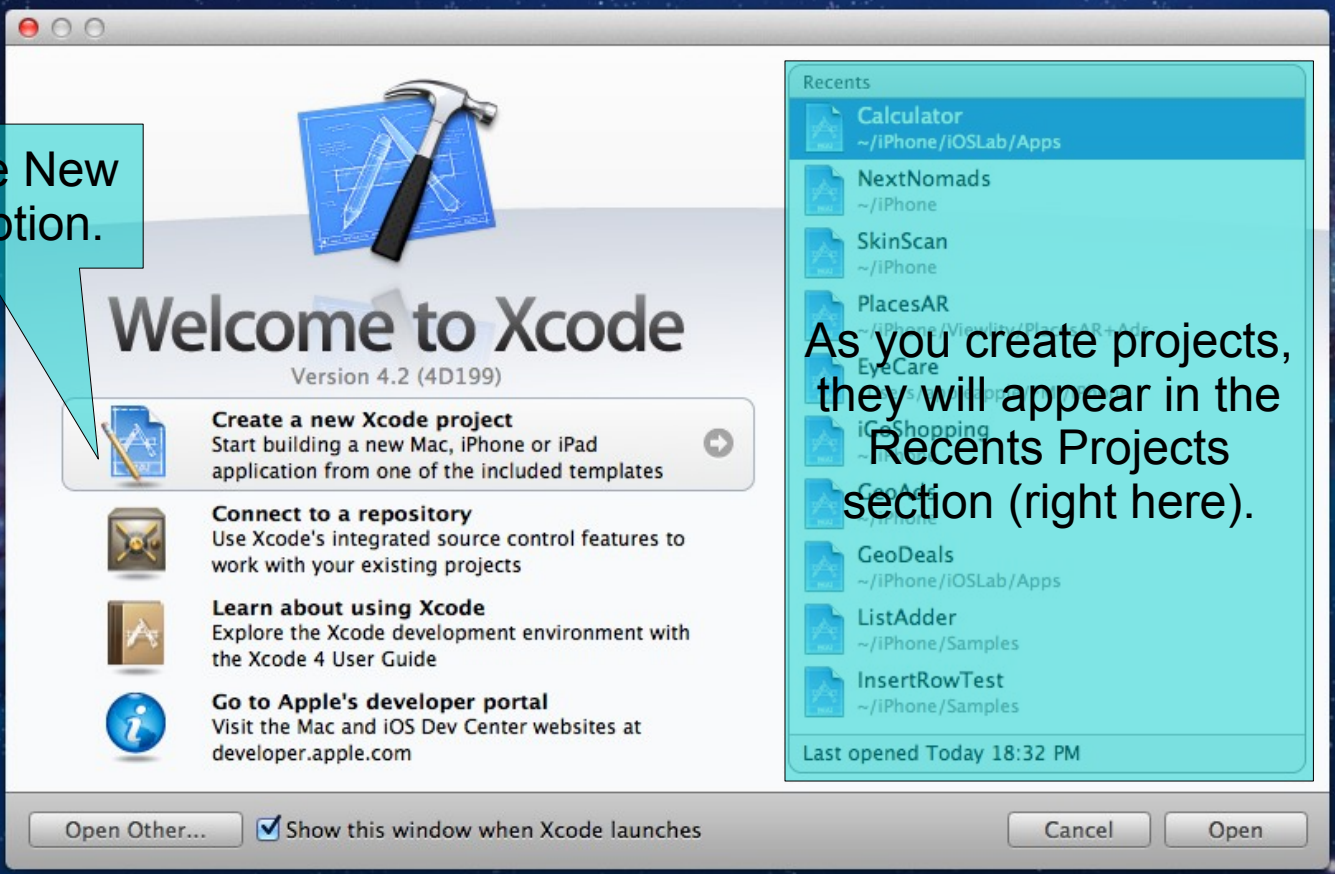
**Task:** Create a new application in Xcode called “HelloWorld”.

1. Launch Xcode and take a look at the splash window. On the left side you will find a few options: Create a new Xcode project, Connect to a repository, etc. Recent projects show up on the right side of this window.



Here is the Xcode menu. Like every Mac OSX application, Xcode displays it's menu on the upper side of the screen.

The Create New Project option.



The image shows the Xcode 'Welcome to Xcode' window. The main content area features a hammer icon on a blueprint and the text 'Welcome to Xcode Version 4.2 (4D199)'. Below this are four main options: 'Create a new Xcode project', 'Connect to a repository', 'Learn about using Xcode', and 'Go to Apple's developer portal'. The 'Create a new Xcode project' option is highlighted with a light blue background and a right-pointing arrow. To the right of the main content is a 'Recents' sidebar, which is also highlighted with a light blue background. This sidebar lists several projects: Calculator, NextNomads, SkinScan, PlacesAR, EyeCare, iGShopping, GeoApp, GeoDeals, ListAdder, and InsertRowTest. At the bottom of the sidebar, it says 'Last opened Today 18:32 PM'. At the bottom of the main window, there are buttons for 'Open Other...', 'Show this window when Xcode launches' (checked), 'Cancel', and 'Open'.

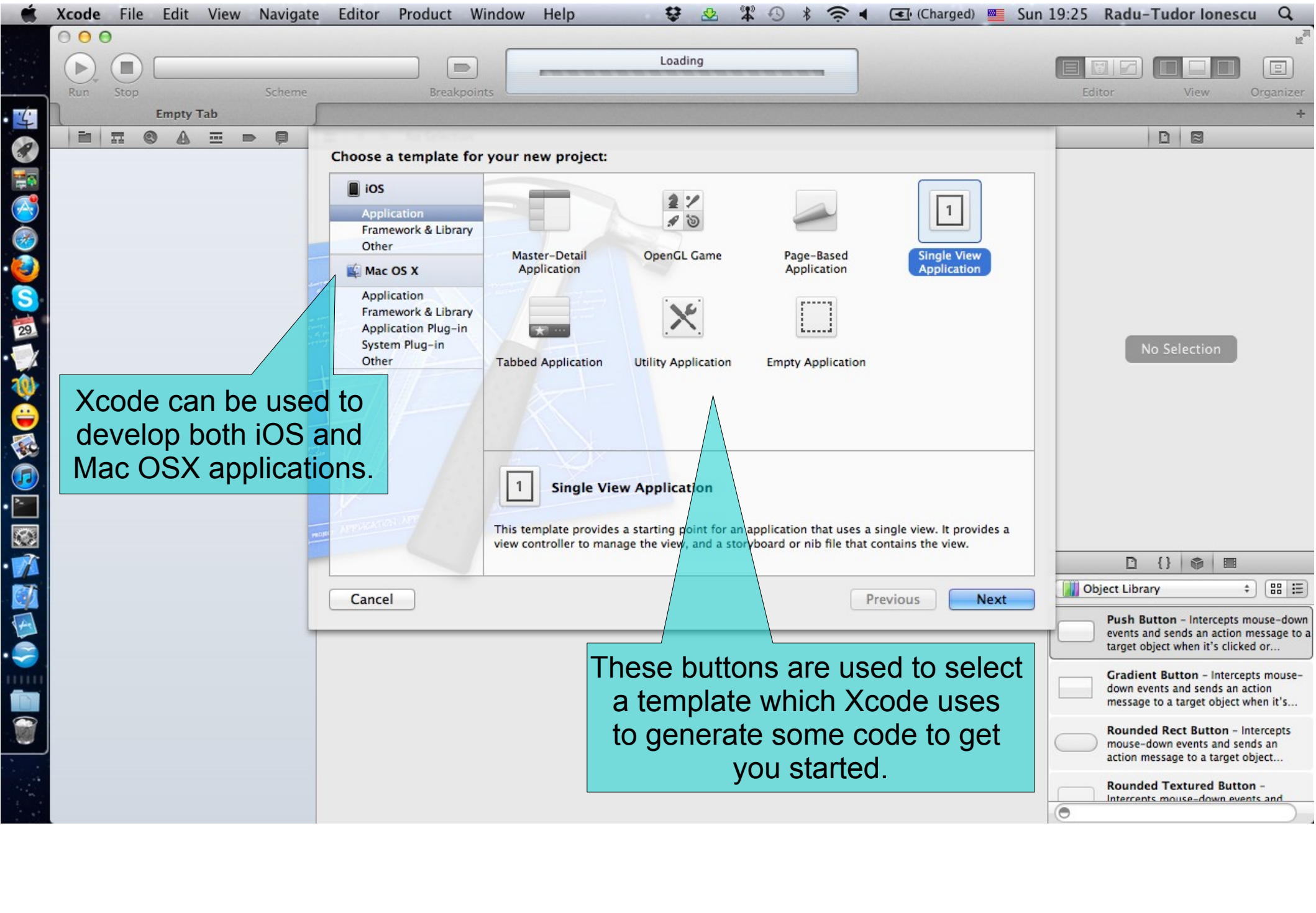
As you create projects, they will appear in the Recents Projects section (right here).

# Task 1

**Task:** Create a new application in Xcode called “HelloWorld”.

2. Click on the Create a new Xcode project option. If you don't see the splash window, you should go to “File > New > New Project...” in Xcode menu.





Choose a template for your new project:

**iOS**  
Application  
Framework & Library  
Other

**Mac OS X**  
Application  
Framework & Library  
Application Plug-in  
System Plug-in  
Other

Master-Detail Application

OpenGL Game

Page-Based Application

Single View Application

Tabbed Application

Utility Application

Empty Application

**1** **Single View Application**

This template provides a starting point for an application that uses a single view. It provides a view controller to manage the view, and a storyboard or nib file that contains the view.

Xcode can be used to develop both iOS and Mac OSX applications.

These buttons are used to select a template which Xcode uses to generate some code to get you started.

No Selection

Object Library

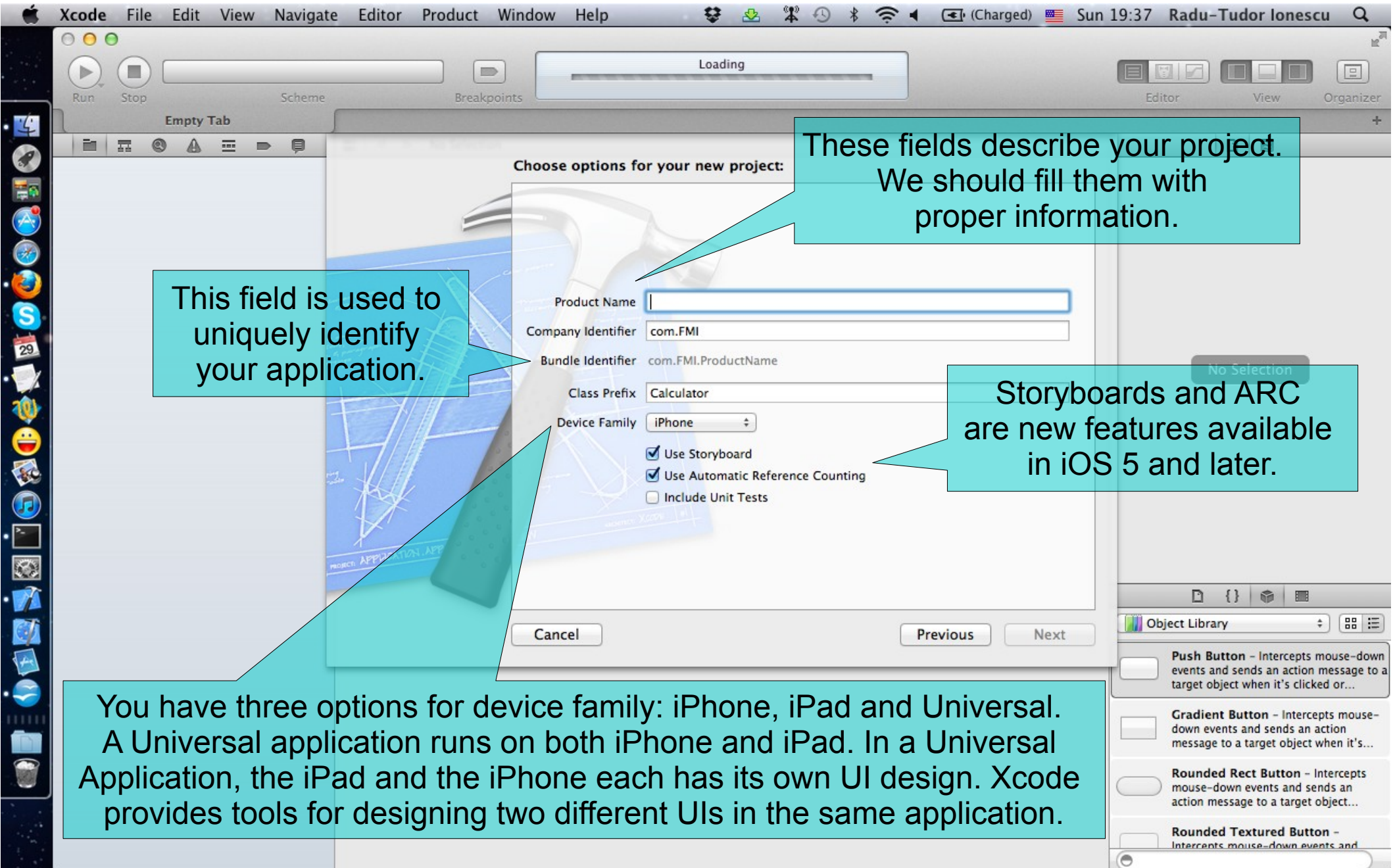
- Push Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and sends an action message to a target object when it's clicked or...
- Gradient Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and sends an action message to a target object when it's...
- Rounded Rect Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and sends an action message to a target object...
- Rounded Textured Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and...

# Task 1

Task: Create a new application in Xcode called “HelloWorld”.

3. Select the Single View Application template and click Next.





These fields describe your project. We should fill them with proper information.

This field is used to uniquely identify your application.

Storyboards and ARC are new features available in iOS 5 and later.

You have three options for device family: iPhone, iPad and Universal. A Universal application runs on both iPhone and iPad. In a Universal Application, the iPad and the iPhone each has its own UI design. Xcode provides tools for designing two different UIs in the same application.

# Task 1

**Task:** Create a new application in Xcode called “HelloWorld”.

4. Type in “HelloWorld” for the Product Name.
5. Type in “com.FMI.FirstName.LastName” for the Company Identifier. Notice how Bundle Identifier changes as you type. You should obtain something like “com.FMI.Radu.Ionescu.HelloWorld” as your bundle identifier. Using an entity's reverse DNS lookup string is a pretty good way to get a unique identifier.
6. Type in “HelloWorld” for Class Prefix. We don't want the names of the classes generated by the template to be too generic. That's why we specify this prefix. Usually we use the name of the application for this prefix. In fact, older versions of Xcode would automatically do this whether we wanted it or not.
7. Select “iPhone” for Device Family. Our first application is going to be for the iPhone (not iPad).



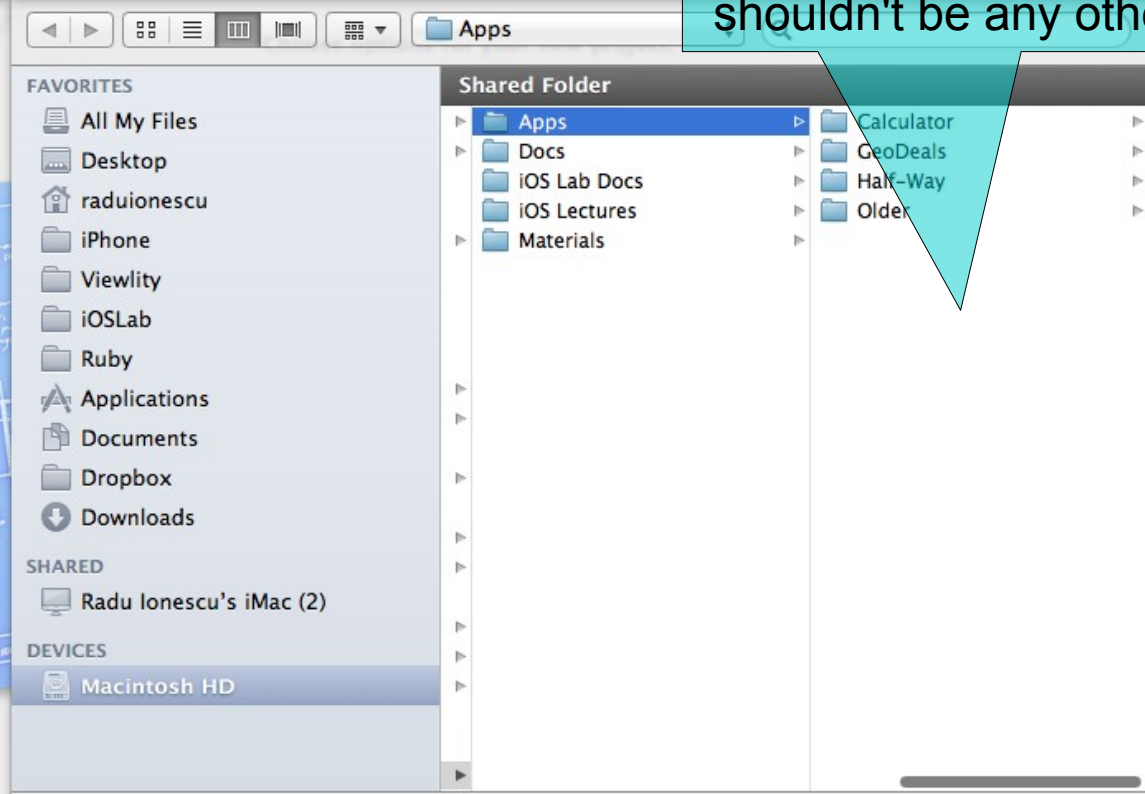
# Task 1

**Task:** Create a new application in Xcode called “HelloWorld”.

8. Check “Use Storyboard”. Storyboards are a new (iOS 5) way to organize your MVC's Views. We are going to use them.
9. Check “Use Automatic Reference Counting”. ARC is a fantastic upgrade to the compiler (in iOS 5) which causes it to generate all the code necessary to manage the memory allocation of objects. We definitely want ARC to be on!
10. We won't be creating Unit Tests for our first application so we are going to leave the “Include Unit Tests” option unchecked.
11. Click Next.

Xcode wants to know where to store this project's directory.

“~/Developer/Apps” folder inside the home directory. There shouldn't be any other projects in it.



Source Control:  Create local git repository for this project  
Xcode will place your project under version control

New Folder

Cancel

Create

We will definitely be covering source control in this course. But not for this first project, so leave this switch turned off.



# Task 1

**Task:** Create a new application in Xcode called “HelloWorld”.

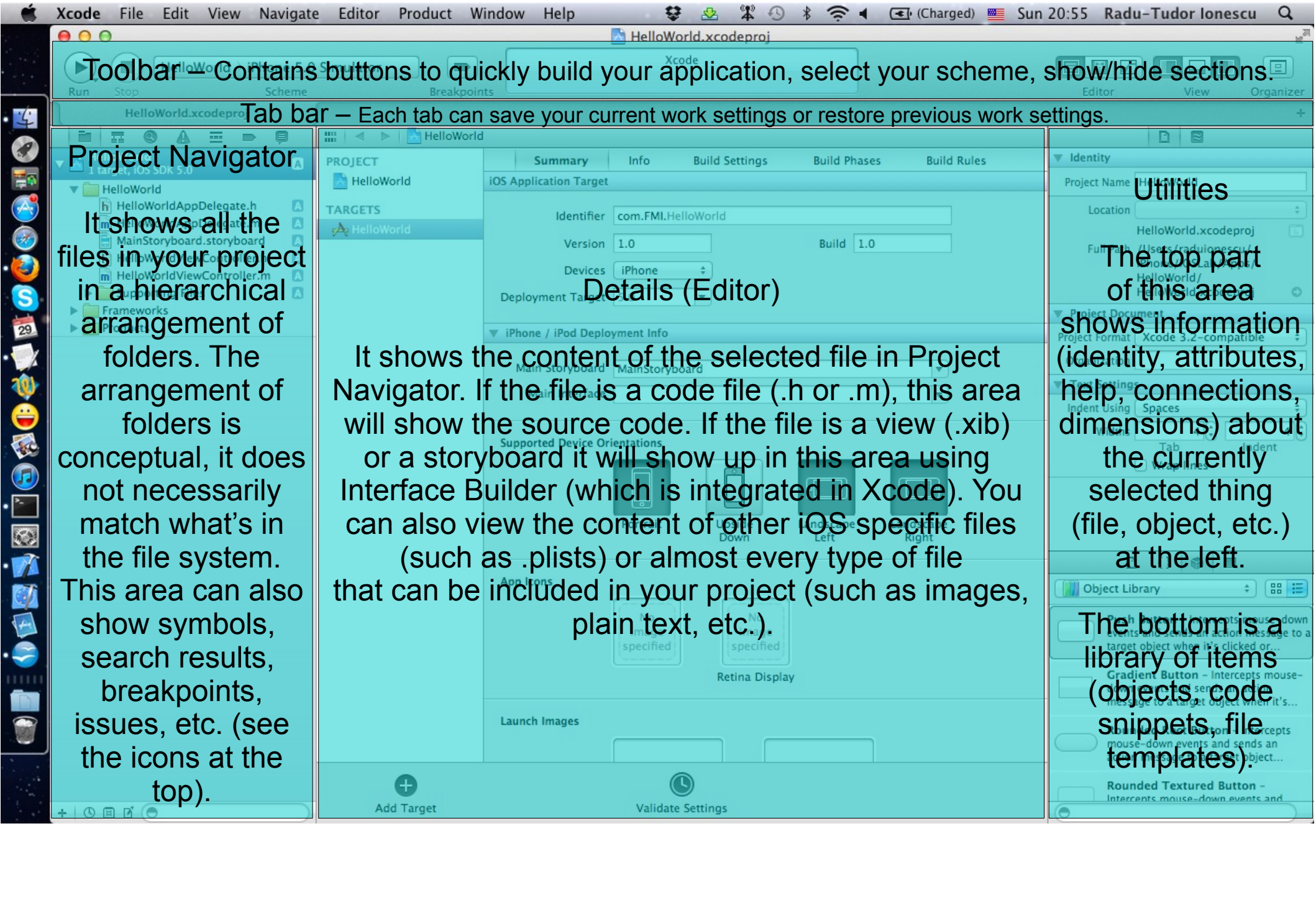
12. Navigate to “~/Developer/Apps” folder inside the home directory. There shouldn't be any other projects in it.
13. Click Create to create your project directory inside the “~/Developer/Apps” folder.

# Task 2

**Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.**

1. Check out the general structure of the project window and identify the important sections: the Toolbar, the Tab bar, the Project Navigator, the Details Editor and the Utilities Area.





**Toolbar** – Contains buttons to quickly build your application, select your scheme, show/hide sections.

**Tab bar** – Each tab can save your current work settings or restore previous work settings.

### Project Navigator

It shows all the files in your project in a hierarchical arrangement of folders. The arrangement of folders is conceptual, it does not necessarily match what's in the file system. This area can also show symbols, search results, breakpoints, issues, etc. (see the icons at the top).

### Details (Editor)

It shows the content of the selected file in Project Navigator. If the file is a code file (.h or .m), this area will show the source code. If the file is a view (.xib) or a storyboard it will show up in this area using Interface Builder (which is integrated in Xcode). You can also view the content of other iOS specific files (such as .plist) or almost every type of file that can be included in your project (such as images, plain text, etc.).

### Utilities

The top part of this area shows information (identity, attributes, help, connections, dimensions) about the currently selected thing (file, object, etc.) at the left.

The bottom is a library of items (objects, code snippets, file templates).

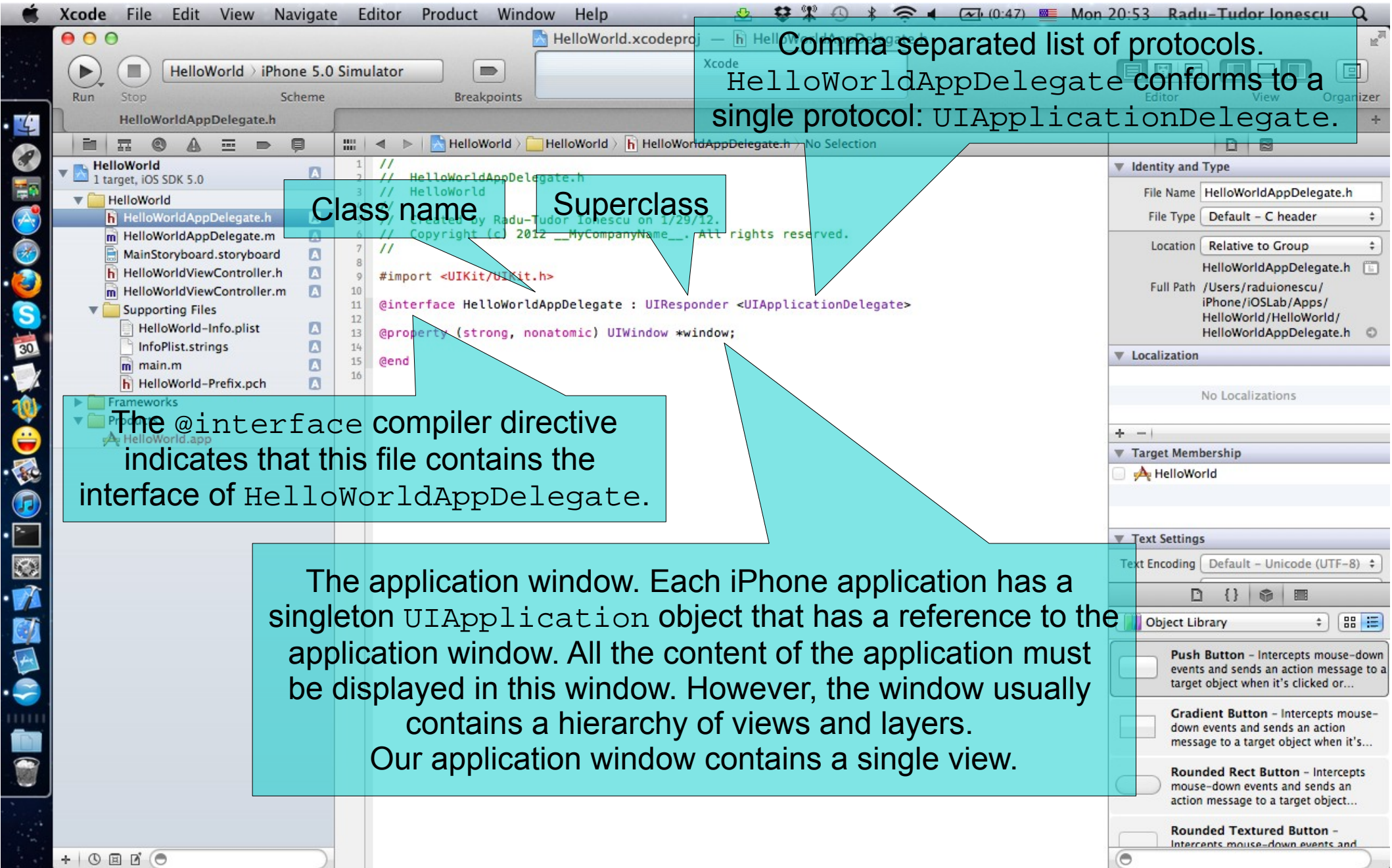
# Task 2

Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.

2. View the content of the “HelloWorldAppDelegate.h” file. This file contains the declaration of instance variables, public properties and public methods of the `HelloWorldAppDelegate` class. In Objective-C we call this part the class **interface**.

Notice the class conforms to the `UIApplicationDelegate` protocol. This protocol declares methods that are implemented by the delegate of the singleton `UIApplication` object. These methods provide you with information about key events in an application’s execution such as when it finished launching, when it is about to be terminated, when memory is low, and when important changes occur. Implementing these methods gives you a chance to respond to these system events and respond appropriately.





Comma separated list of protocols.  
HelloWorldAppDelegate conforms to a single protocol: UIApplicationDelegate.

Class name

Superclass

The @interface compiler directive indicates that this file contains the interface of HelloWorldAppDelegate.

The application window. Each iPhone application has a singleton UIApplication object that has a reference to the application window. All the content of the application must be displayed in this window. However, the window usually contains a hierarchy of views and layers. Our application window contains a single view.

**Identity and Type**

File Name: HelloWorldAppDelegate.h  
File Type: Default - C header  
Location: Relative to Group  
Full Path: /Users/raduionescu/ iPhone/iOSLab/Apps/ HelloWorld/HelloWorld/ HelloWorldAppDelegate.h

**Localization**

No Localizations

**Target Membership**

HelloWorld

**Text Settings**

Text Encoding: Default - Unicode (UTF-8)

**Object Library**

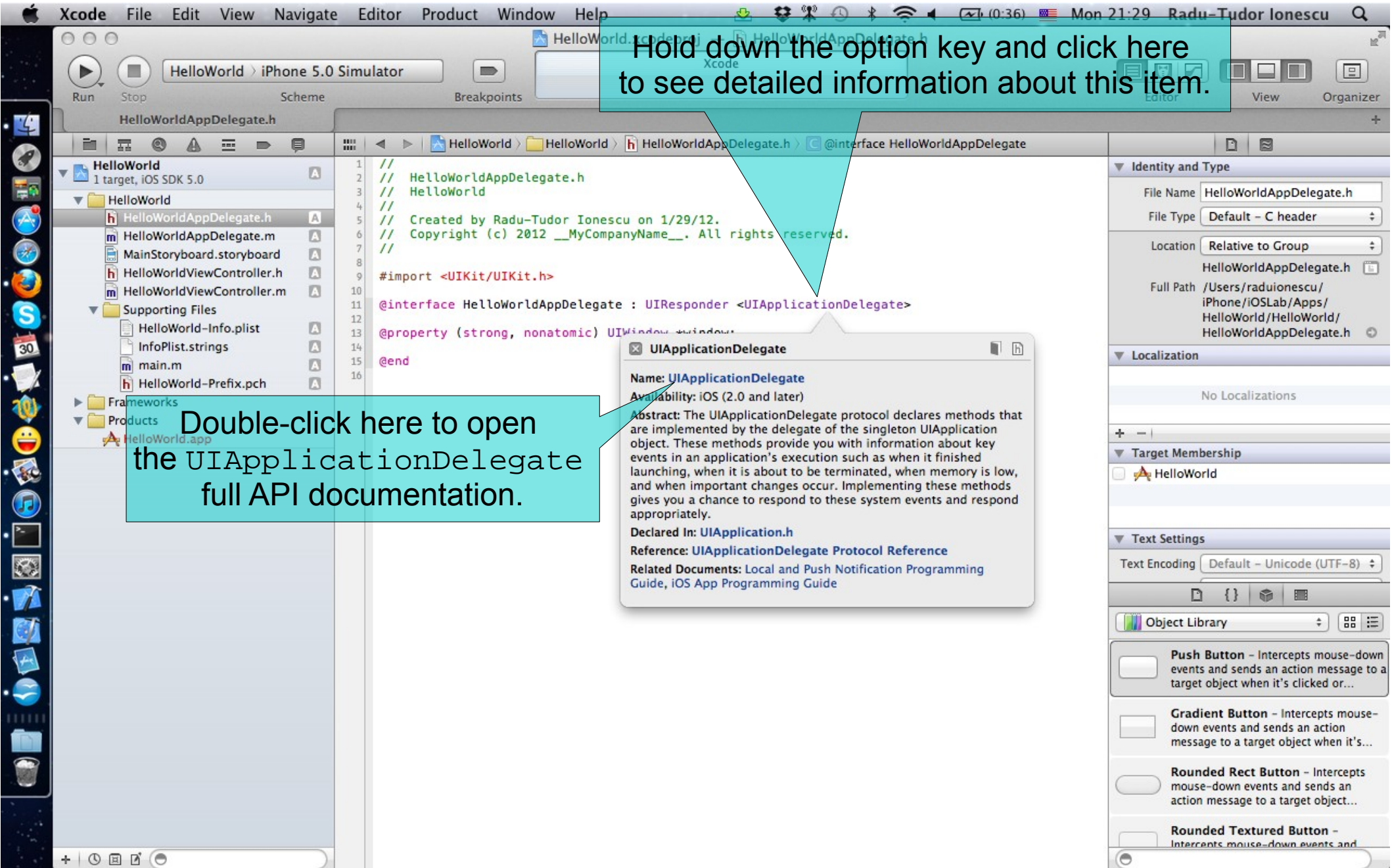
- Push Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and sends an action message to a target object when it's clicked or...
- Gradient Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and sends an action message to a target object when it's...
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- Rounded Textured Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and...

## Task 2

Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.

3. To read more about the `UIApplicationDelegate` protocol hold down the option key and click on the `UIApplicationDelegate`. A pop-up window with detailed information should appear on the screen.





Hold down the option key and click here to see detailed information about this item.

Double-click here to open the UIApplicationDelegate full API documentation.

**UIApplicationDelegate**

Name: UIApplicationDelegate  
Availability: iOS (2.0 and later)

Abstract: The UIApplicationDelegate protocol declares methods that are implemented by the delegate of the singleton UIApplication object. These methods provide you with information about key events in an application's execution such as when it finished launching, when it is about to be terminated, when memory is low, and when important changes occur. Implementing these methods gives you a chance to respond to these system events and respond appropriately.

Declared In: UIApplication.h  
Reference: UIApplicationDelegate Protocol Reference  
Related Documents: Local and Push Notification Programming Guide, iOS App Programming Guide

## Task 2

Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.

4. To open the `UIApplicationDelegate` API reference in Organizer double-click on the link displayed on the pop-up window. Read the full documentation of the `UIApplicationDelegate`.



Make sure you are reading the right version (iOS 5.0).

This is the Organizer window.

You are on the Documentation tab.

Notice that Organizer can also give you information about the connected devices (installed certificates, log information, installed apps, etc.), repositories (integrated git control), projects (create and manage snapshots) and archives (manage and share ad-hoc builds or submit AppStore builds).

There are two versions of each class: one for iOS 5.0 and one for iOS 4.3.

Scroll down and read all the information here.

The screenshot shows the Xcode Organizer window with the Documentation tab selected. The breadcrumb path is: iOS 5.0 Library > Data Management > Event Handling > UIApplicationDelegate Protocol Reference. The main content area displays the 'UIApplicationDelegate Protocol Reference' with a table of metadata:

Conforms to	<a href="#">NSObject</a>
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/UIKit.framework
Availability	Available in iOS 2.0 and later.
Declared in	UIApplication.h
Companion guides	<a href="#">iOS App Programming Guide</a> <a href="#">Local and Push Notifications Programming Guide</a>

Below the table is an 'Overview' section with the following text:

The `UIApplicationDelegate` protocol declares methods that are implemented by the delegate of the singleton `UIApplication` object. These methods provide you with information about key events in an application's execution such as when it finished launching, when it is about to be terminated, when memory is low, and when important changes occur. Implementing these methods gives you a chance to respond to these system events and respond appropriately.

One of the main jobs of the application delegate is to track the state transitions the application goes through while it is running. Prior to iOS 4.0, applications were either active, inactive, or not running. In iOS 4.0 and later, applications can also be running in the background or suspended. All of these transitions require a response from your application to ensure that it is doing the right thing. For example, a background application would need to stop updating its user interface. You provide the response to these transitions using the methods of the application delegate.

Launch time is also a particularly important point in an application's life cycle. In addition to the user launching an application by tapping its icon, an application can be launched in order to respond to a specific type of event. For example, it could be launched in response to an incoming push notification, it could be asked to open a file, or it could be launched to handle some background event that it had requested. In all of these cases, the options dictionary passed to the `application:didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:` method provides information about the reason for the launch.

In situations where the application is already running, the methods of the application delegate are called in response to key changes. Although the methods of this protocol are optional, most or all of them should be implemented.

The left sidebar shows search results for 'UIApplication' and 'System Guides', with 'UIApplicationDelegate' highlighted. The top toolbar includes icons for Devices, Repositories, Projects, Archives, and Documentation.

## Task 2

Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.

5. View the content of the “HelloWorldAppDelegate.m” file. This is the implementation of HelloWorldAppDelegate. Notice the superclass declaration is missing. Check if the methods declared by the UIApplicationDelegate are implemented there.



The @implementation compiler directive indicates that this file contains the implementation of HelloWorldAppDelegate.

Superclass declaration missing.

The screenshot shows the Xcode IDE with the following components:

- Project Navigator (Left):** Shows the project structure for 'HelloWorld' (target: iOS SDK 5.0). Files include HelloWorldAppDelegate.h, HelloWorldAppDelegate.m, MainStoryboard.storyboard, HelloWorldViewController.h, HelloWorldViewController.m, Supporting Files (HelloWorld-Info.plist, InfoPlist.strings, main.m, HelloWorld-Prefix.pch), Frameworks, and Products (HelloWorld.app).
- Editor (Center):** Displays the implementation of HelloWorldAppDelegate.m. The code includes:

```
#import "HelloWorldAppDelegate.h"
@implementation HelloWorldAppDelegate
@synthesize window = _window;

- (BOOL)application:(UIApplication *)application didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:(NSDictionary *)launchOptions
{
    // Override point for customization after application launch.
    return YES;
}

- (void)applicationWillResignActive:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Sent when the application is about to move from active to inactive state. This can occur for
     example when the application is being moved to the background. Use this method to pause ongoing
     tasks, disable timers, and throttle down OpenGL ES frame rates.
     */
}

- (void)applicationDidEnterBackground:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Use this method to release shared resources, save user data, invalidate timers, and store
     any application state. If your application supports background execution, this method is called
     instead of applicationWillResignActive:.
     */
}

- (void)applicationWillEnterForeground:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Called as part of the transition from the background to the inactive state; here you can
     restore any resources that were paused prior to the .DidEnterBackground call.
     */
}

- (void)applicationDidBecomeActive:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Restart any tasks that were paused (or not yet started) while the application was inactive.
     For example, if you paused a timer that you've now got to restart, or if you had to
     increment a counter while the application was inactive.
     */
}

- (void)applicationWillTerminate:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Called when the application is about to terminate. Save data if appropriate. See also
     applicationDidEnterBackground:.
     */
}
```
- Inspector (Right):** Shows the 'Identity and Type' panel for HelloWorldAppDelegate.m, including File Name, File Type (Default - Objective-C source code), Location (Relative to Group), Full Path, and Target Membership (checked for HelloWorld). Below it are 'Text Settings' (Text Encoding: Default - Unicode (UTF-8)) and an 'Object Library' with various button types like Push Button, Gradient Button, Rounded Rect Button, and Rounded Textured Button.

## Task 2

Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.

6. Inspect the Toolbar items. Run the application in iPhone Simulator.



Run the application from here.

When you run the application in debug mode, you can set breakpoints. You can enable/disable all breakpoints from here.

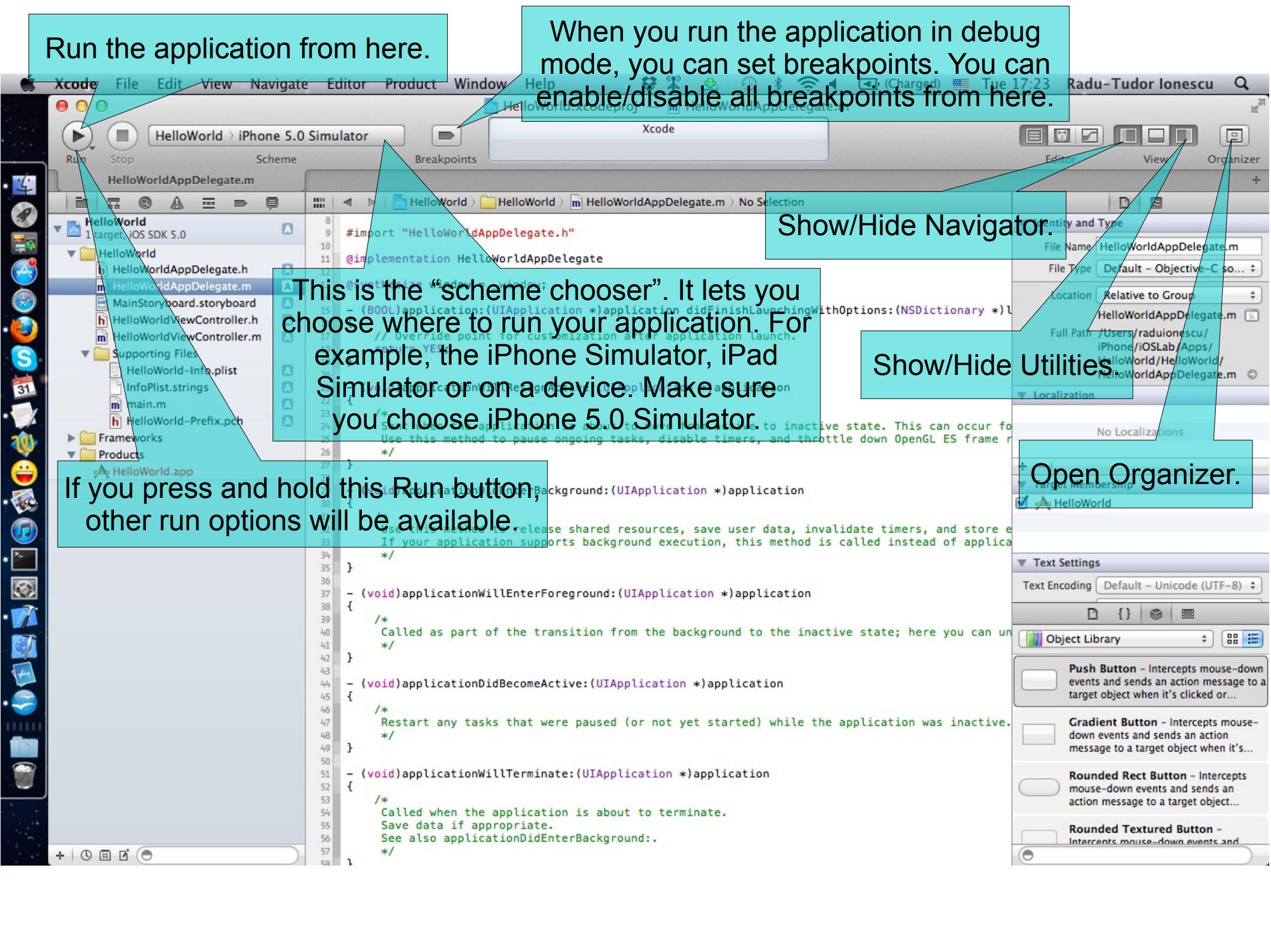
Show/Hide Navigator.

Show/Hide Utilities.

Open Organizer.

This is the "scheme chooser". It lets you choose where to run your application. For example, the iPhone Simulator, iPad Simulator or on a device. Make sure you choose iPhone 5.0 Simulator.

If you press and hold this Run button, other run options will be available.





When it starts building the application, the Stop button becomes active.

This area provides information about the project status. It lets know that Xcode is building the application.

The Details Editor can be adjusted to display content in 3 modes: Standard (selected right now), Assistant (we'll cover it in a few moments) and Version (to view more versions of the same file).

Xcode File Edit View Navigate Editor Product Window Help

Running: Tue 18:03 Radu-Tudor Ionescu

Building HelloWorld: HelloWorld

Run Stop Scheme Breakpoints

HelloWorldAppDelegate.m

HelloWorldAppDelegate.m

```
// Copyright (c) 2012 MyCompanyName. All rights reserved.
//
#import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
#import "HelloWorldAppDelegate.h"

@implementation HelloWorldAppDelegate
- (BOOL)application:(UIApplication *)application didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:(NSDictionary *)launchOptions
{
    // Override point for customization after application launch.
    return YES;
}
- (void)applicationWillResignActive:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Sent when the application is about to move from active to inactive state. This can occur for
     example when the application goes to the background. You should prepare to be inactive at
     this point. Use this method to pause ongoing tasks, disable timers, and throttle UI updates
     for the background state.
     */
}
- (void)applicationDidEnterBackground:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Use this method to release shared resources, save user data, invalidate timers, and store
     any application state. If your application supports background execution, this method is
     called instead of applicationWillResignActive:.
     */
}
- (void)applicationWillEnterForeground:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Called as part of the transition from the background to the inactive state; here you can
     restore any resources that were paused prior to the .DidEnterBackground method.
     */
}
- (void)applicationDidBecomeActive:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Restart any tasks that were paused (or not yet started) while the application was
     inactive.
     */
}
- (void)applicationWillTerminate:(UIApplication *)application
{
    /*
     Called when the application is about to terminate.
     Save data if appropriate.
     See also applicationWillResignActive:.
     */
}
```

Identity and Type

File Name HelloWorldAppDelegate.m

File Type Default - Objective-C so...

Location Relative to Group

Full Path /Users/raduionescu/HelloWorldAppDelegate.m

Text Settings

Text Encoding Default - Unicode (UTF-8)

Object Library

- Push Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and sends an action message to a target object when it's clicked or...
- Gradient Button - Intercepts mouse-down events and sends an action message to a target object when it's...
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## Task 2

Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.

7. Open the debugger/console.

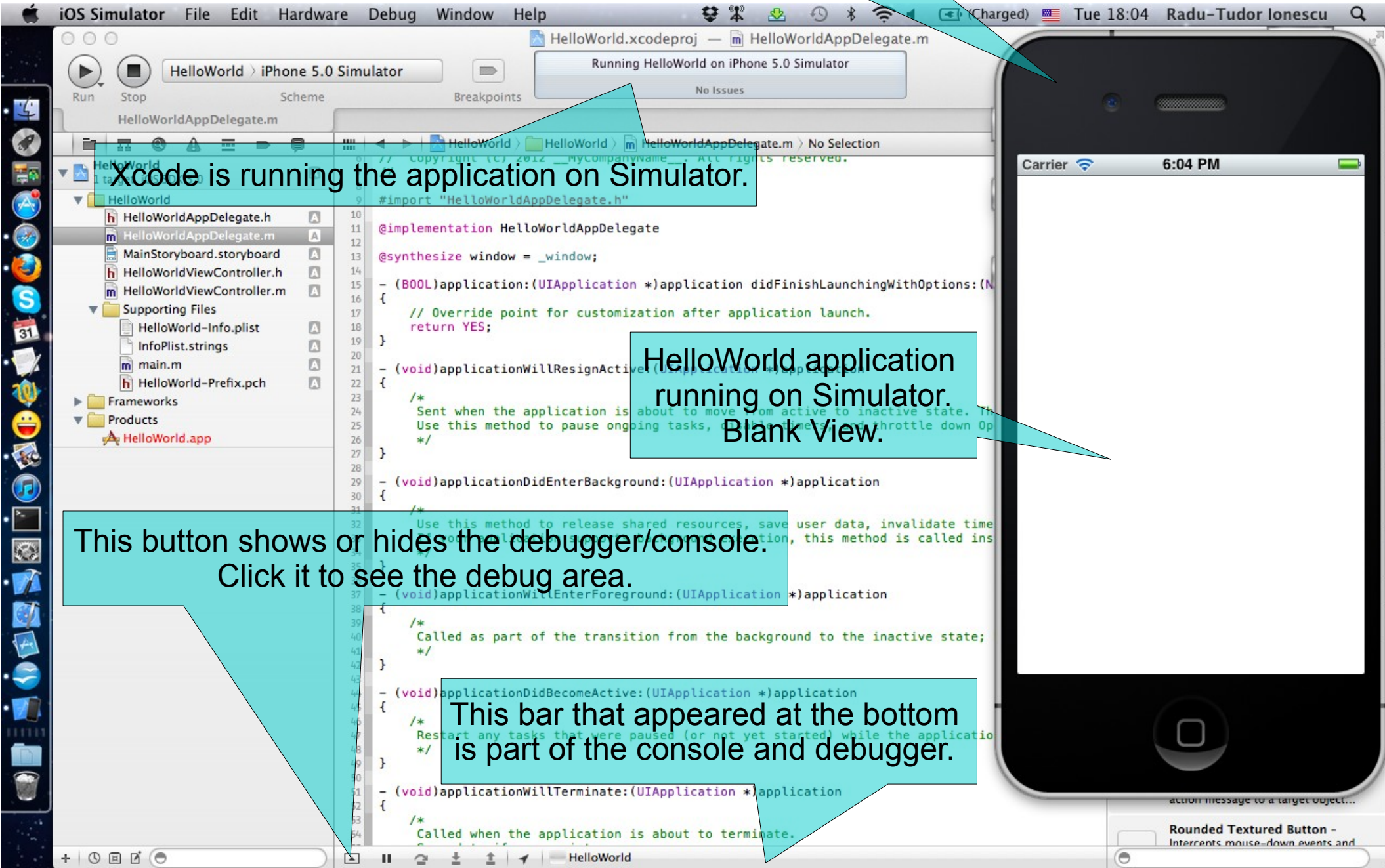
iOS iPhone Simulator.

Xcode is running the application on Simulator.

HelloWorld application running on Simulator. Blank View.

This button shows or hides the debugger/console. Click it to see the debug area.

This bar that appeared at the bottom is part of the console and debugger.





## Task 2

Task: Run the application in iPhone Simulator.

8. Stop running the application. Notice that the debug area automatically disappears when you stop running.

You can also show/hide the debugger from here.

Stop running the application from here.

Debugger Control: Step In/Out

View variables only.

Split view.

Debugger Control: Pause

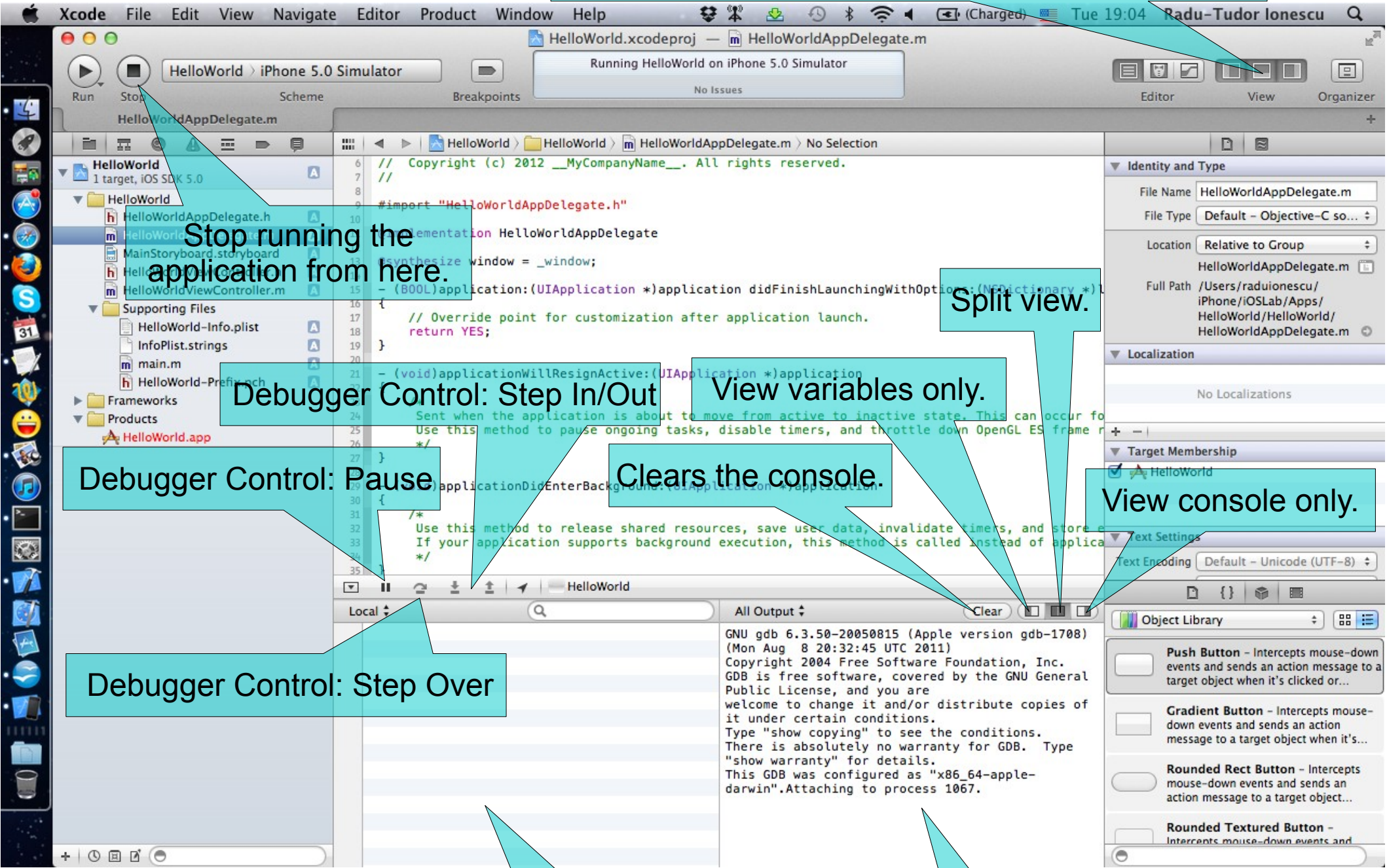
Clears the console.

View console only.

Debugger Control: Step Over

Variables View

Console





# Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

1. Open the MainStoryboard.storyboard file.

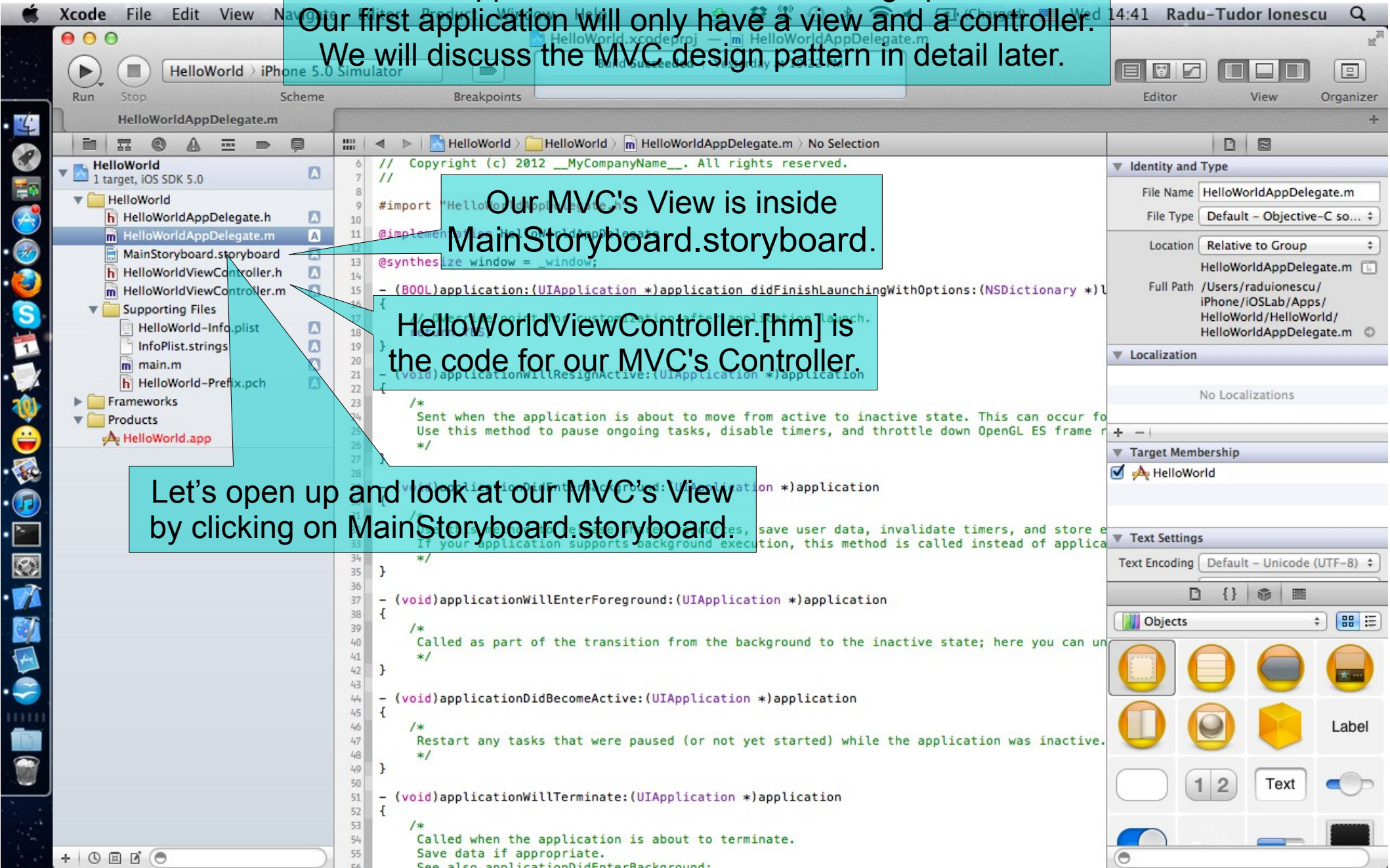
All iOS applications use the MVC design pattern.

Our first application will only have a view and a controller.  
We will discuss the MVC design pattern in detail later.

Our MVC's View is inside  
MainStoryboard.storyboard.

HelloWorldViewController.[hm] is  
the code for our MVC's Controller.

Let's open up and look at our MVC's View  
by clicking on MainStoryboard storyboard

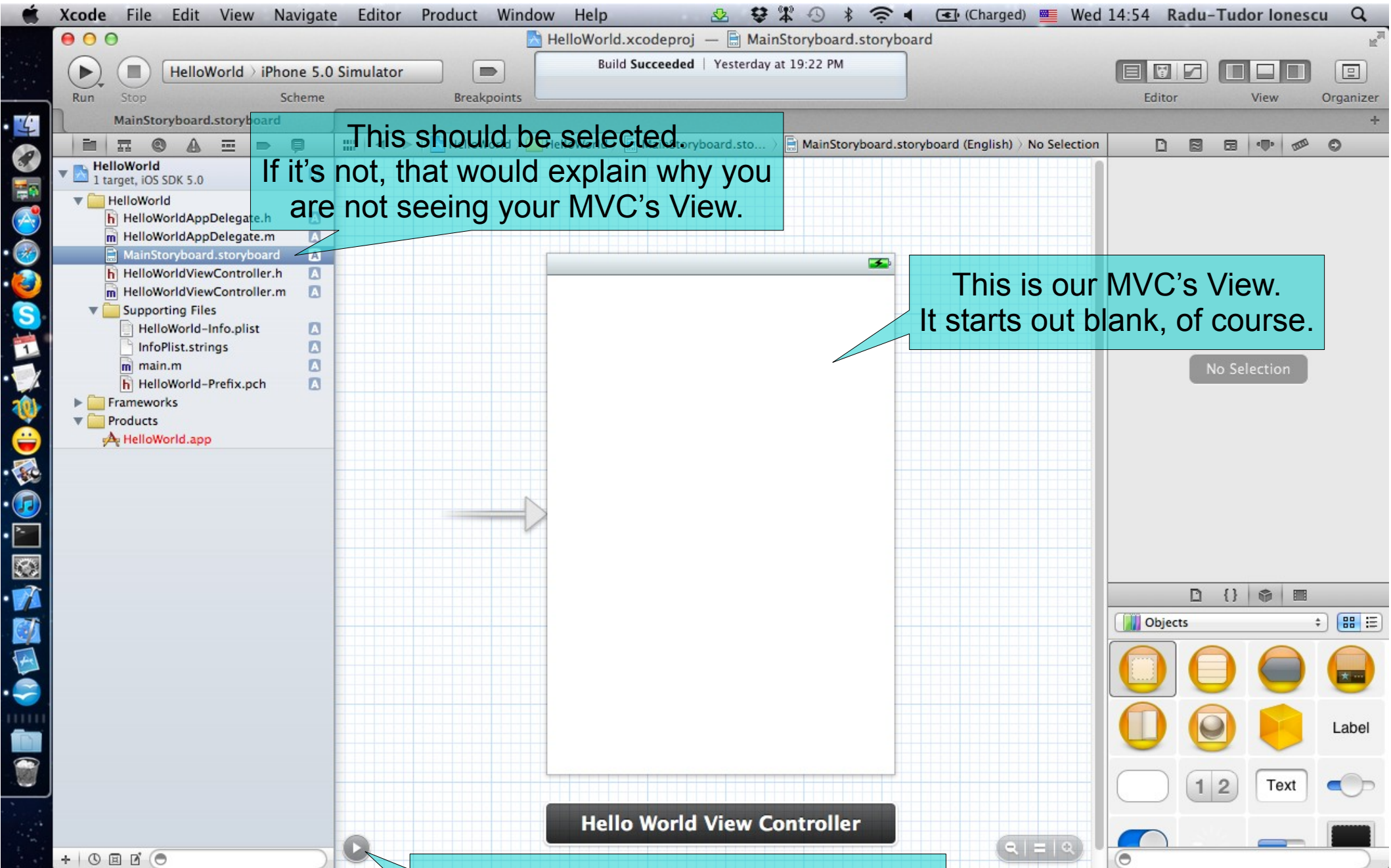




## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

2. Open the Document Outline.



This should be selected.  
If it's not, that would explain why you are not seeing your MVC's View.

This is our MVC's View.  
It starts out blank, of course.

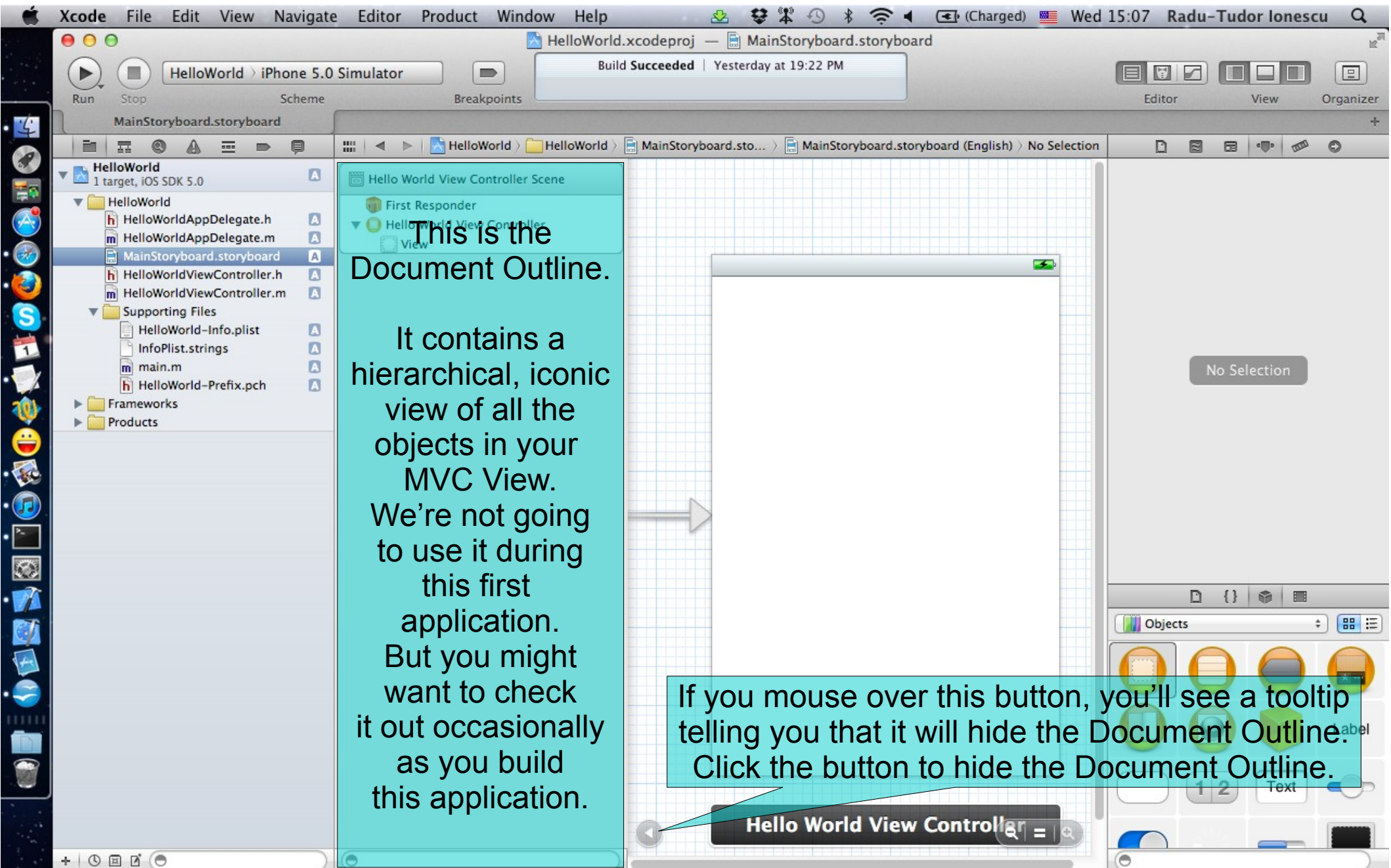
You can view the Document Outline  
by clicking this button.



# Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

3. Hide back the Document Outline.



This is the Document Outline.

It contains a hierarchical, iconic view of all the objects in your MVC View. We're not going to use it during this first application. But you might want to check it out occasionally as you build this application.

If you mouse over this button, you'll see a tooltip telling you that it will hide the Document Outline. Click the button to hide the Document Outline.

Hello World View Controller



## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

4. Open the Assistant Editor.

We need to see our MVC Controller now. But we still want our MVC View on screen at the same time. The way to have two things on the screen at once is to use the Assistant Editor. It is shown/hidden using the “butler” icon from the toolbar.

5. Check out the Navigator's bar items.

**Project Navigator**  
View files and libraries included in your project.

**Logs**  
Every time you build/run, a log of it is saved. Access old ones here.

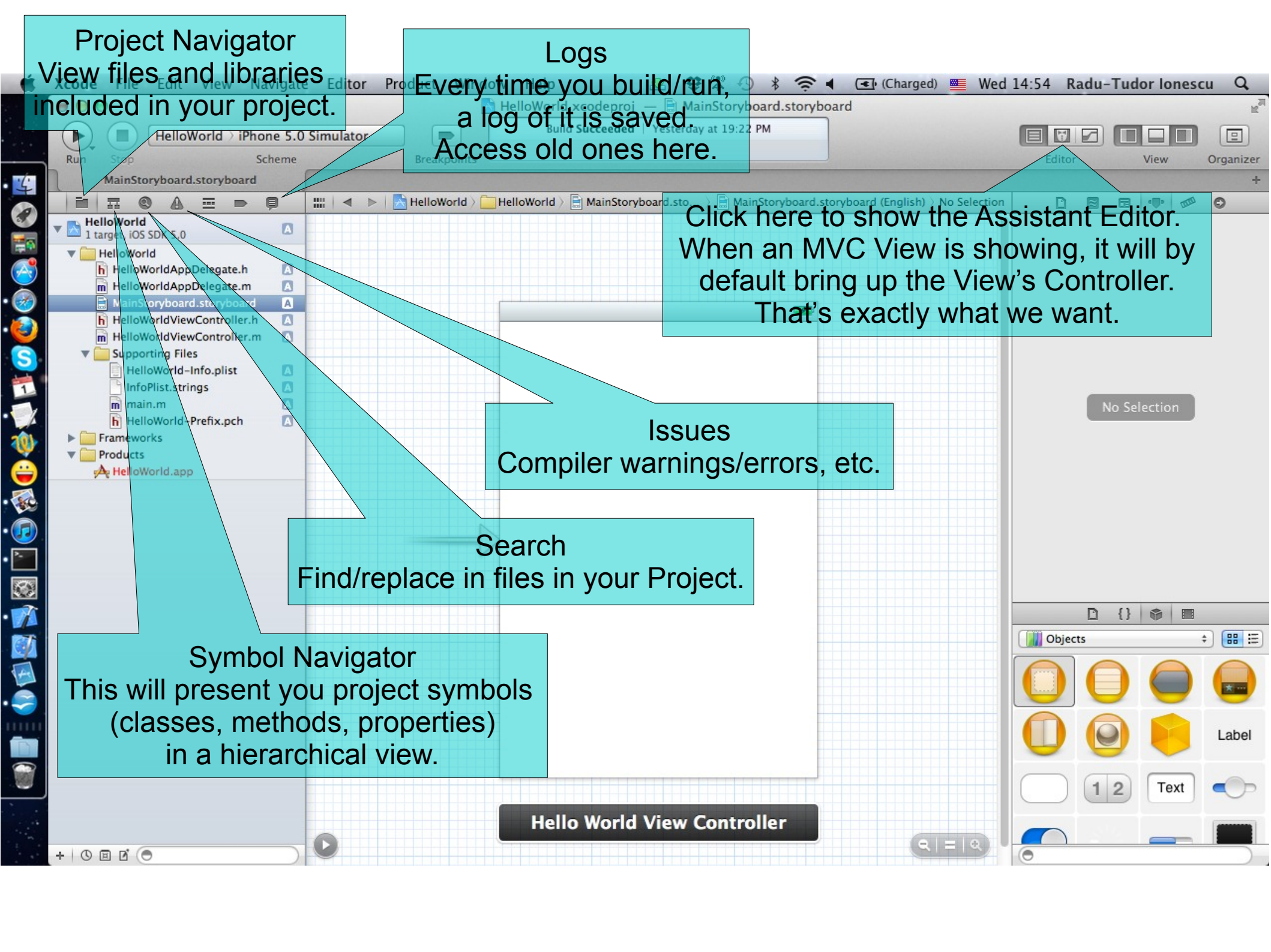
Click here to show the Assistant Editor. When an MVC View is showing, it will by default bring up the View's Controller. That's exactly what we want.

**Issues**  
Compiler warnings/errors, etc.

**Search**  
Find/replace in files in your Project.

**Symbol Navigator**  
This will present you project symbols (classes, methods, properties) in a hierarchical view.

Hello World View Controller

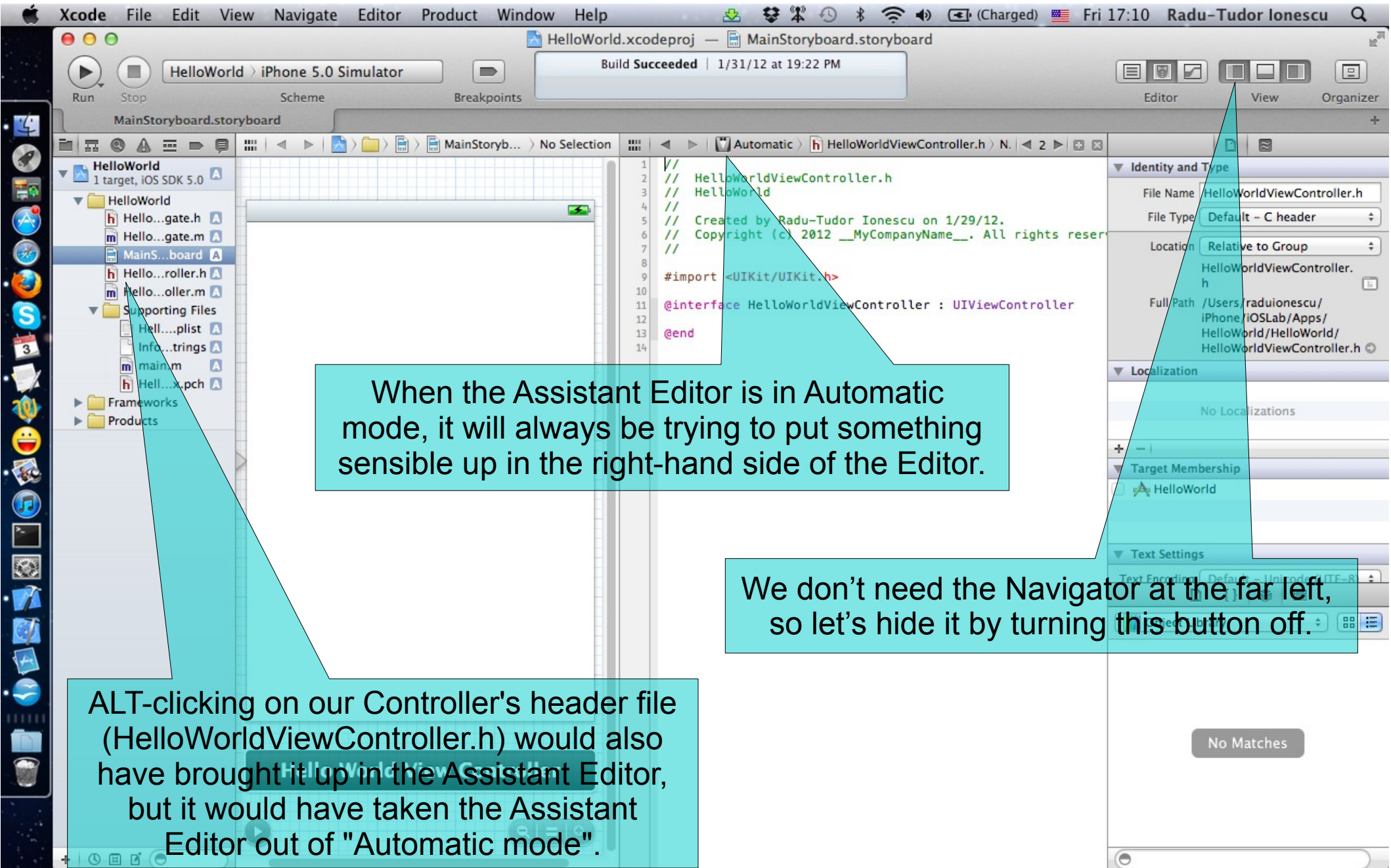




## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

6. Hide the Project Navigator.





## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

7. Study the header file of the HelloWorldViewController class.

Let's make even more room for our code on the right by dragging this center bar to the left.

UIKit.h imports all the iOS user-interface classes. #import is like #include, but better.

Notice the @interface - @end syntax.

Here is the header (.h) file for our MVC Controller. It contains its public methods and properties and also defines its superclass public methods and properties (all Controllers in iOS inherit from UIViewController).

The image shows a screenshot of the Xcode IDE. On the left, there is a storyboard for an iPhone 5.0 Simulator, with a button labeled "Hello World View Controller". The main area is split into two panes. The left pane shows the code editor for `HelloWorldViewController.h`, which contains the following code:

```
1 // HelloWorldViewController.h
2 // HelloWorld
3 //
4 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
5 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
6 //
7
8
9 #import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
10
11 @interface HelloWorldViewController : UIViewController
12
13 @end
```

The right pane shows the Properties Inspector for the selected view controller, displaying details like "Location: Relative to Group", "Full Path", and "Target Membership".



## Task 3

**Task:** Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

8. Click on the header file. Study the items in the Utilities area.
9. Select the Object Library in Utilities area. We're going to start building the user-interface in our MVC View. To do that, we'll need a text label, a text field and a button. We get those from the Object Library.

The top bar will be darker gray if the selected item is in this half of the Assistant Editor.

Quick Help  
If the selected item at the left has some documentation reference, this shows a "summary" version of it.

File Inspector  
Shows information about the file containing the selected item.

Media Library  
Images, sounds, etc.

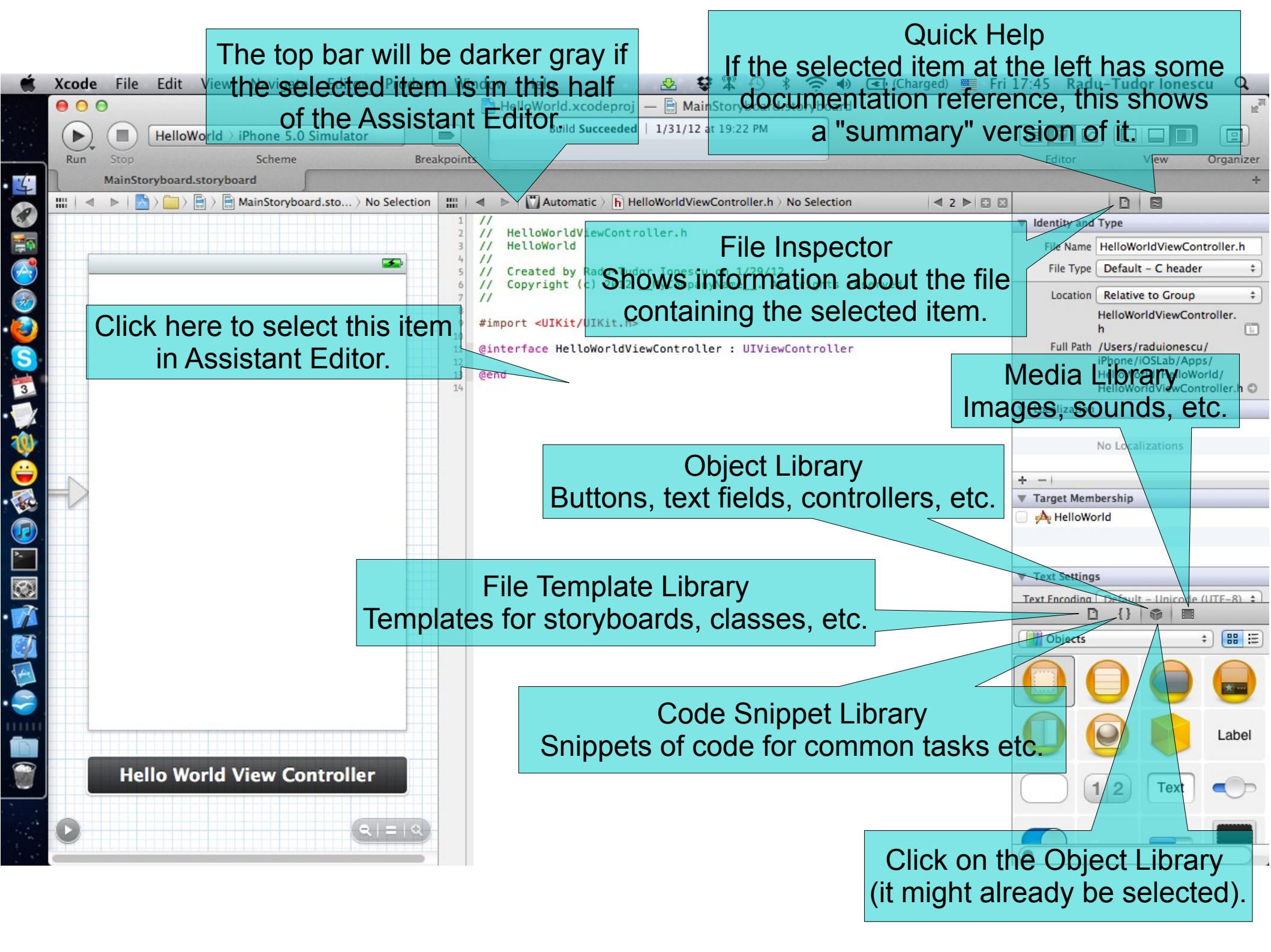
Object Library  
Buttons, text fields, controllers, etc.

File Template Library  
Templates for storyboards, classes, etc.

Code Snippet Library  
Snippets of code for common tasks etc.

Click on the Object Library (it might already be selected).

Click here to select this item in Assistant Editor.





## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

10. Select the View on the left. Notice the items in the Utilities area change. Study these items.

Note that the top bar is darker gray when the View is selected.

Connections Inspector  
Connections between your View and Controller.

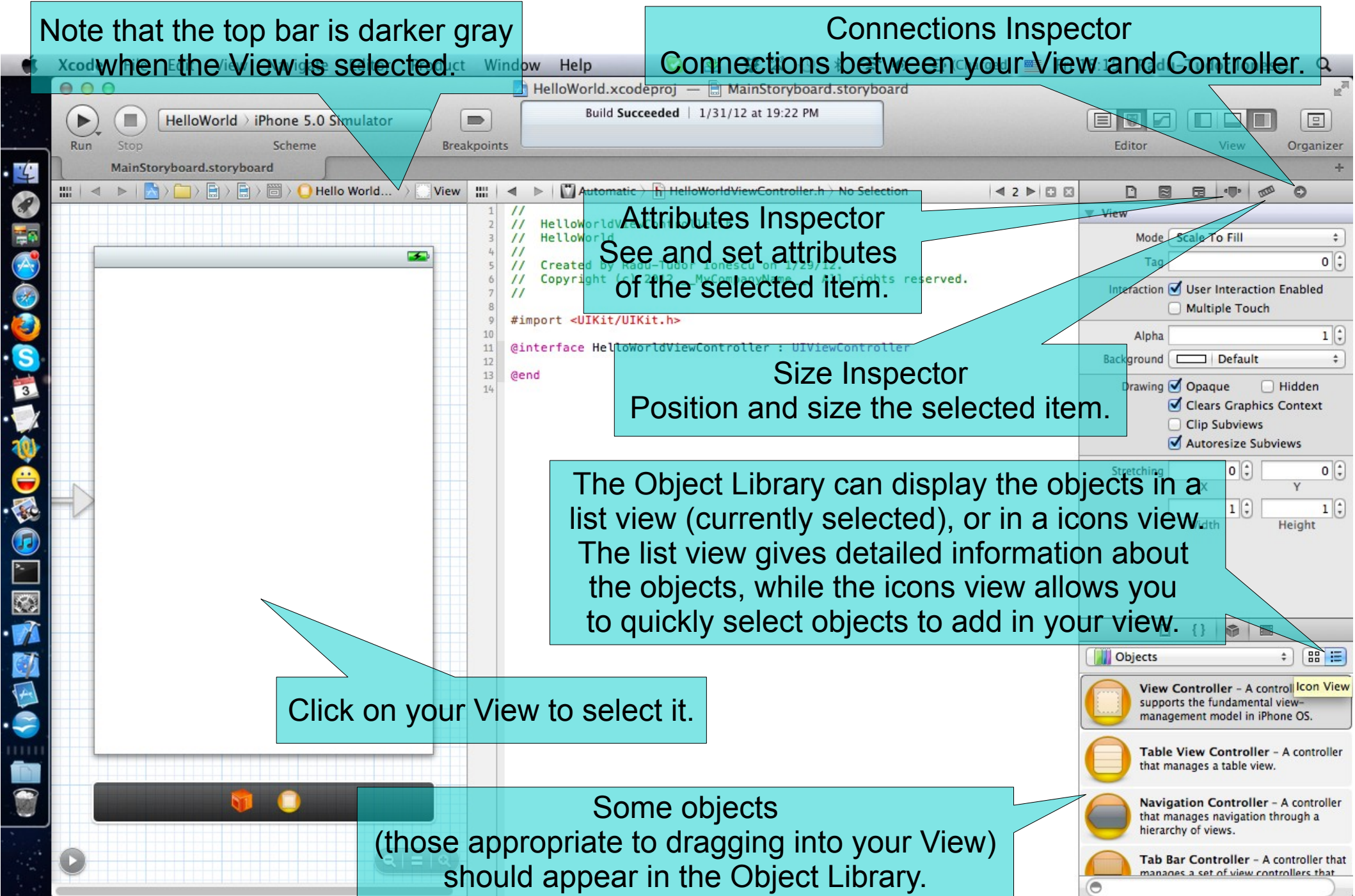
Attributes Inspector  
See and set attributes of the selected item.

Size Inspector  
Position and size the selected item.

The Object Library can display the objects in a list view (currently selected), or in a icons view. The list view gives detailed information about the objects, while the icons view allows you to quickly select objects to add in your view.

Click on your View to select it.

Some objects (those appropriate to dragging into your View) should appear in the Object Library.



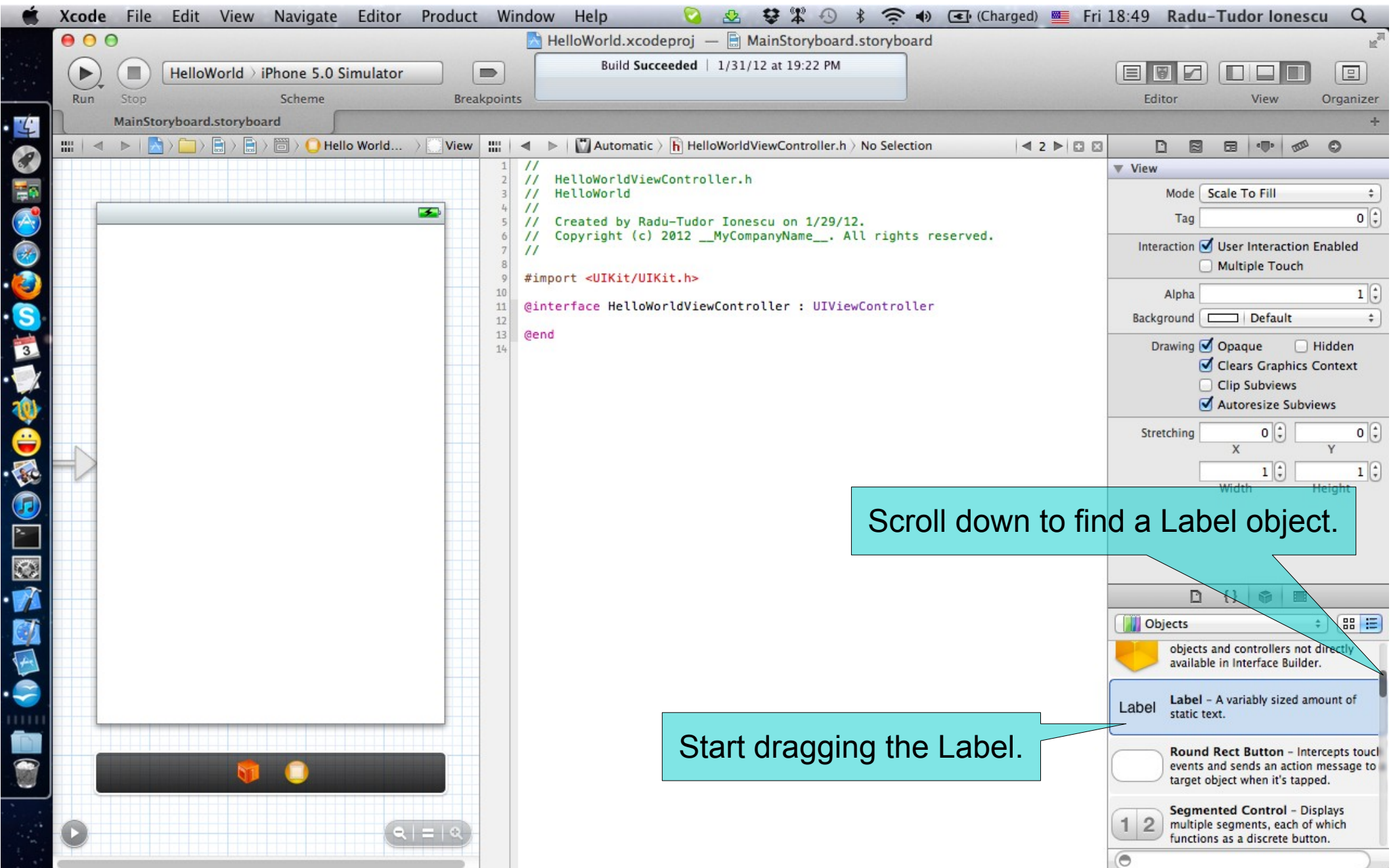


# Task 3

**Task:** Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

11. Drag an `UILabel` from the Object Library to your View.

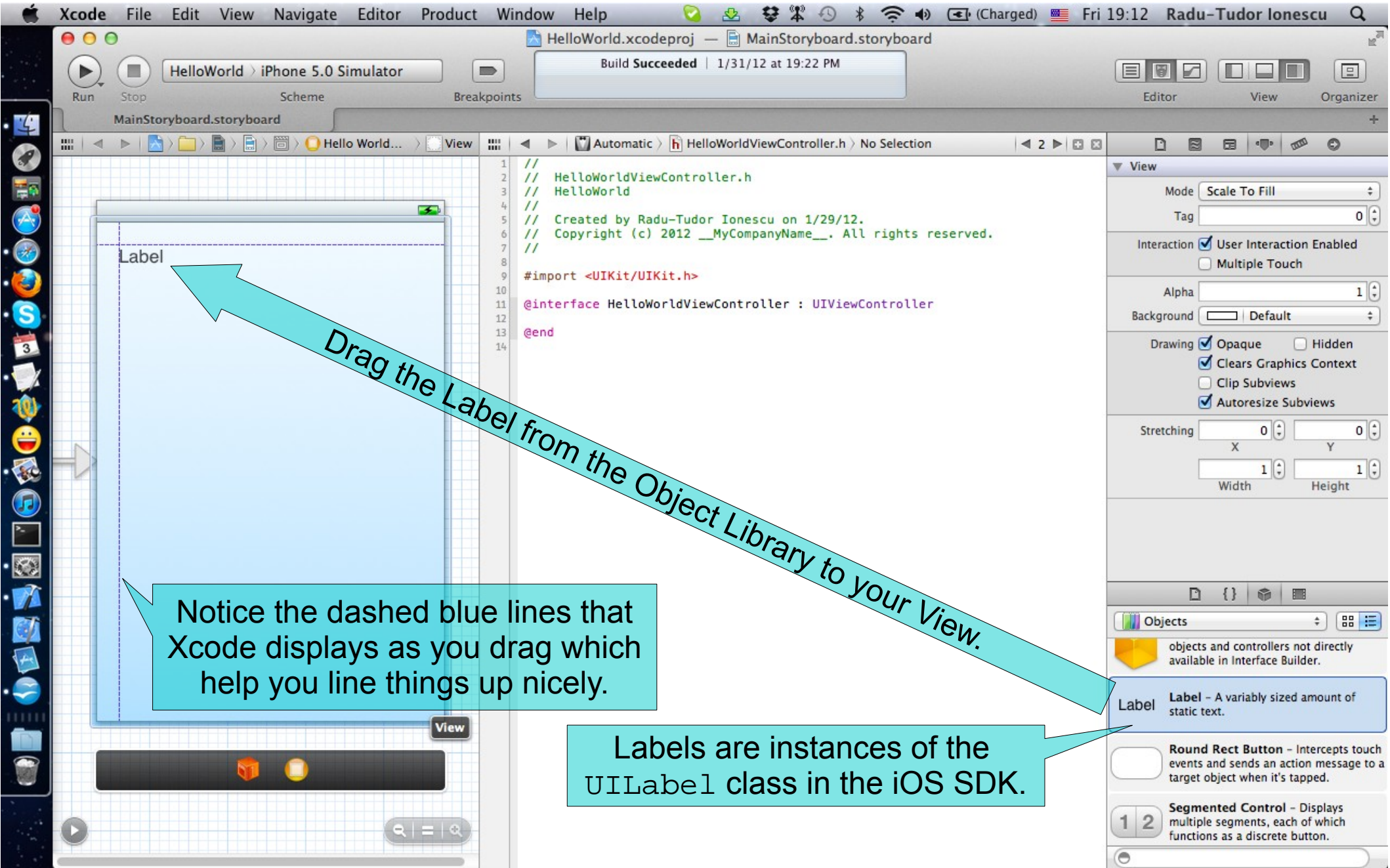
The `UILabel` class implements a read-only text view. In general, you can use this class to draw one or multiple lines of static text, such as those you might use to identify other parts of your user interface. The base `UILabel` class provides control over the appearance of your text, including whether it uses a shadow or draws with a highlight.



Scroll down to find a Label object.

Start dragging the Label.





Drag the Label from the Object Library to your View.

Notice the dashed blue lines that Xcode displays as you drag which help you line things up nicely.

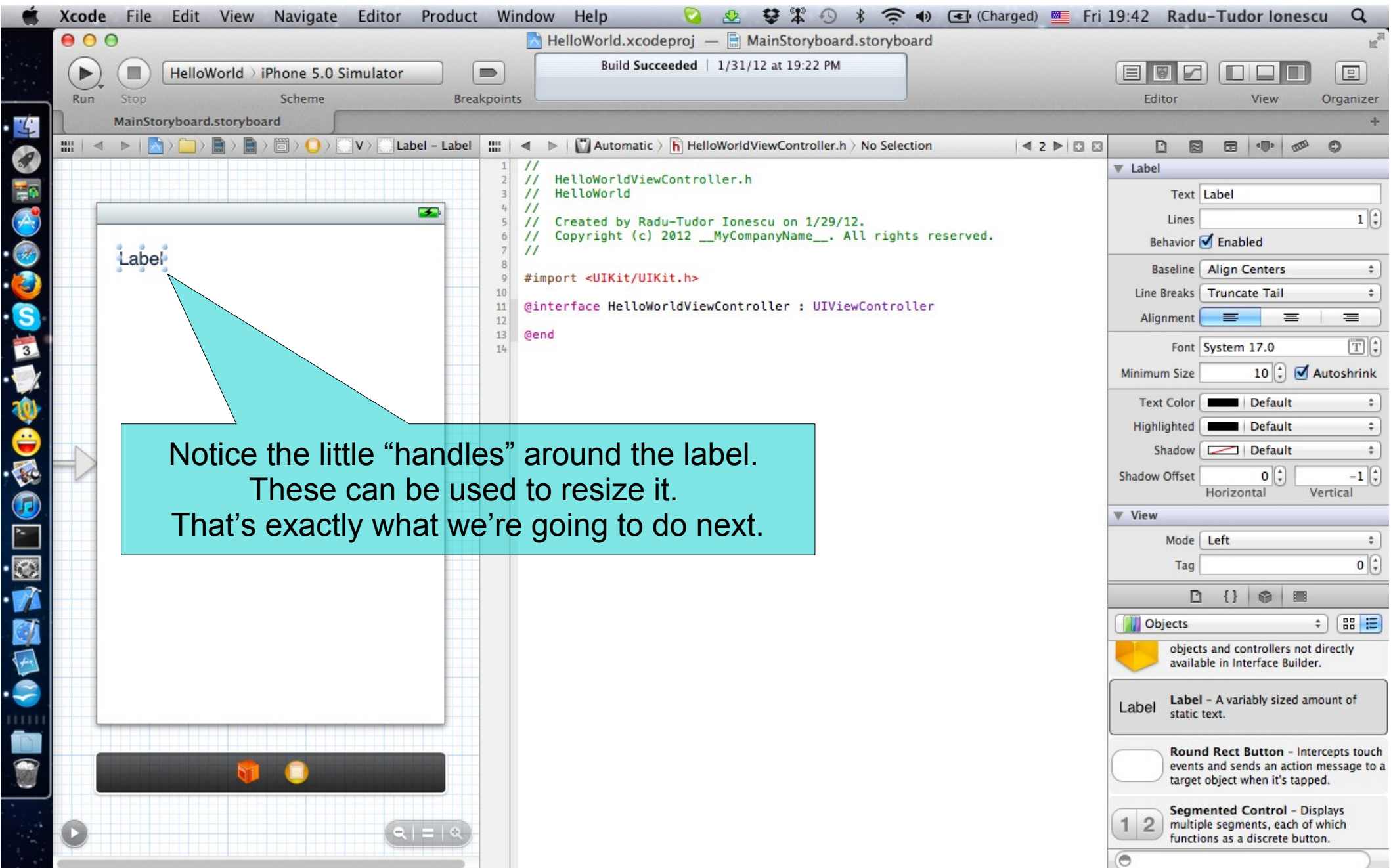
Labels are instances of the UILabel class in the iOS SDK.

## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

12. Resize the label to 280 width x 36 height pixels.
13. Open the Attributes Inspector.





Notice the little “handles” around the label.  
These can be used to resize it.  
That’s exactly what we’re going to do next.

Click on the Attributes Inspector. You should see attributes of the Label you just created.

The screenshot shows the Xcode IDE with three main panels. On the left is the Storyboard, showing a white rectangular label on a grid. A small box in the top-left corner of the label displays its dimensions: 'W: 280.0' and 'H: 36.0'. Dashed blue lines extend from the corners of the label, serving as guidelines. A light blue callout box points to the bottom-right corner of the label, indicating the 'handle' used for resizing. In the center is the code editor, displaying the header file 'HelloWorldViewController.h' with Objective-C code. On the right is the Attributes Inspector, which shows the selected 'Label' object with various configuration options such as 'Text', 'Lines', 'Behavior', 'Baseline', 'Line Breaks', 'Alignment', 'Font', 'Minimum Size', 'Text Color', 'Highlighted', 'Shadow', and 'Shadow Offset'. Below the Attributes Inspector is the 'Objects' panel, which lists available UI components like 'Label', 'Round Rect Button', and 'Segmented Control'.

```
1 //
2 // HelloWorldViewController.h
3 // HelloWorld
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
10
11 @interface HelloWorldViewController : UIViewController
12
13 @end
14
```

W: 280.0  
H: 36.0

Label

Grab the lower right "handle" on the label and resize it. Use the dashed blue guidelines to pick a good size.

This little indicator will show you the exact size you're resizing to.

Label

Text Label  
Lines 1  
Behavior  Enabled  
Baseline Align Centers  
Line Breaks Truncate Tail  
Alignment [Left] [Center] [Right]  
Font System 17.0  
Minimum Size 10  Autoshrink  
Text Color [Black] Default  
Highlighted [Black] Default  
Shadow [None] Default  
Shadow Offset 0 -1  
Horizontal Vertical  
Mode Left  
Tag 0

Objects

Label Label - A variably sized amount of static text.

Round Rect Button - Intercepts touch events and sends an action message to a target object when it's tapped.

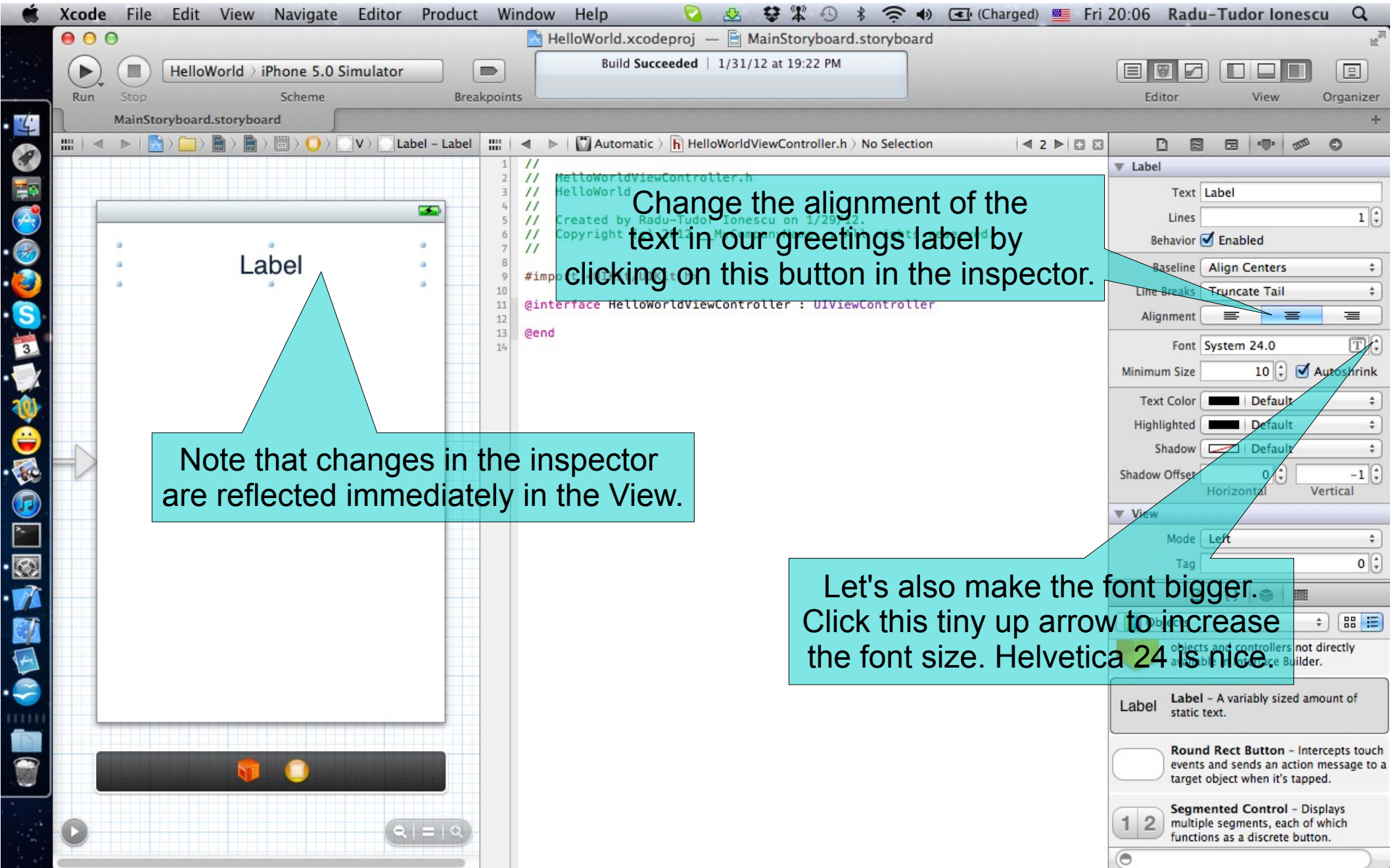
Segmented Control - Displays multiple segments, each of which functions as a discrete button.



## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

14. Change the alignment of the text in our greeting label to be centered.
15. Set the font size to 24 (Helvetica).

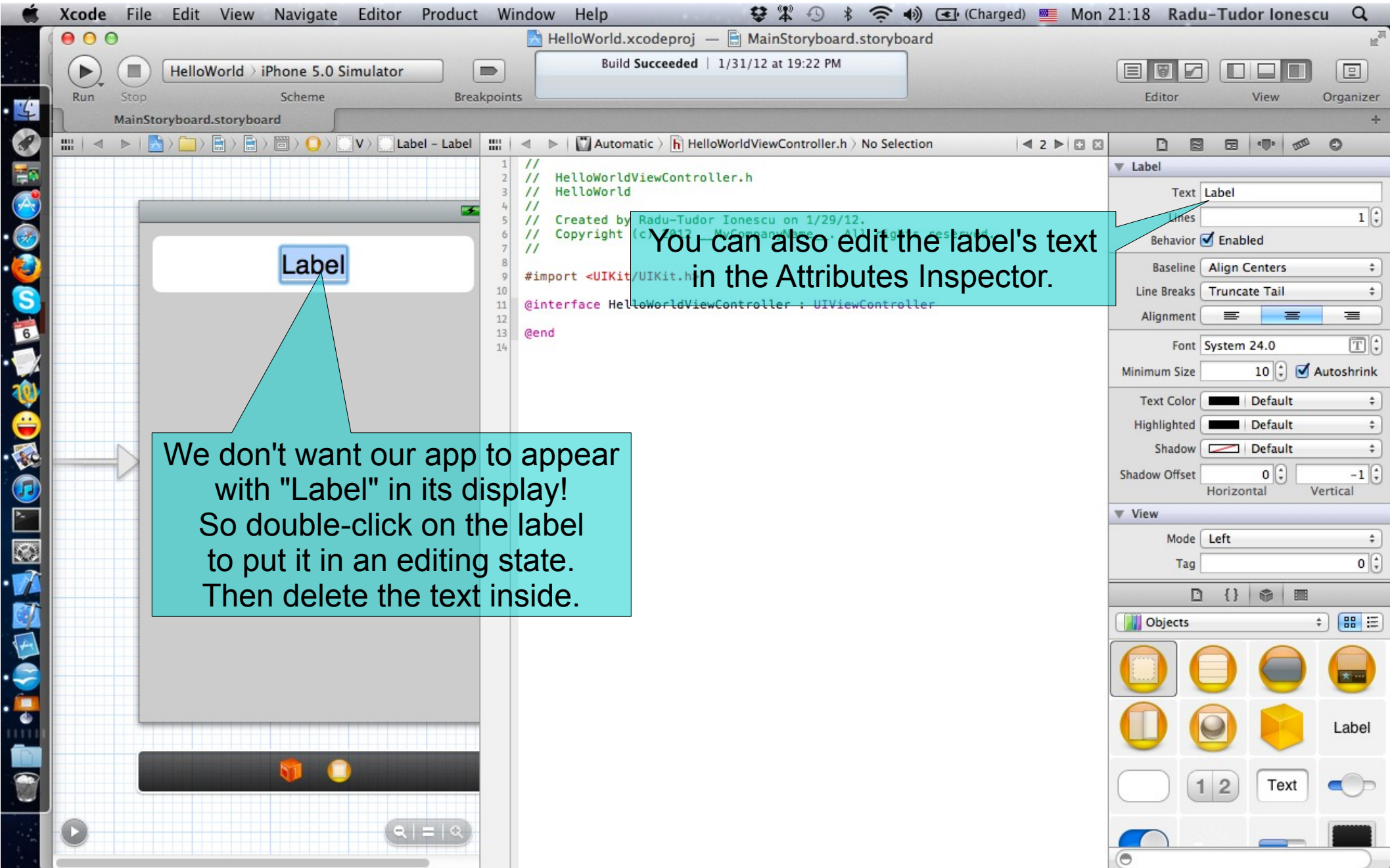




## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

16. Edit the label's text and leave it blank.



We don't want our app to appear with "Label" in its display! So double-click on the label to put it in an editing state. Then delete the text inside.

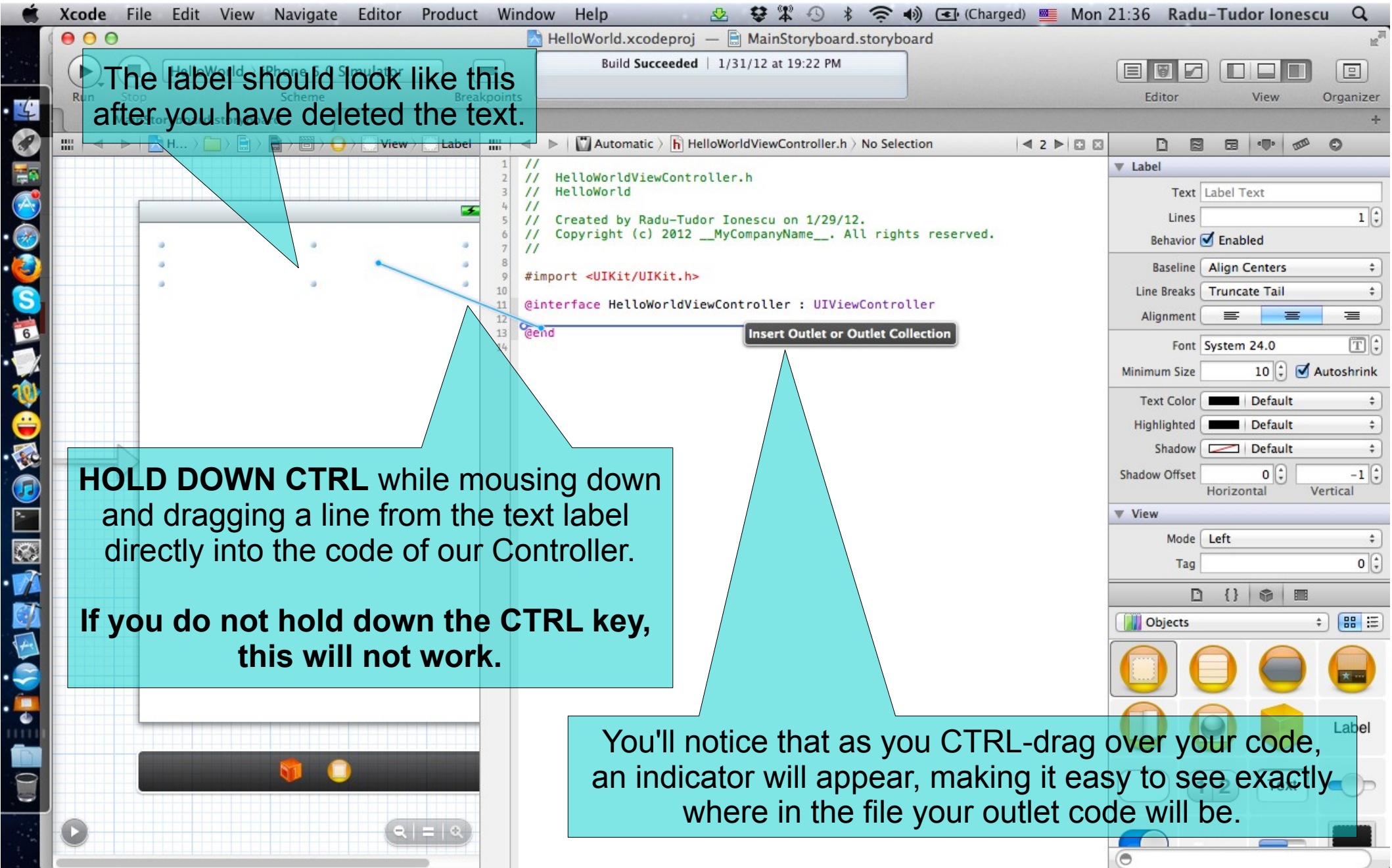
You can also edit the label's text in the Attributes Inspector.



## Task 3

**Task:** Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

17. Declare a property in the Controller for the newly added label. Our Controller needs to be able to talk to its View. For example, in this case, we need to be able to update the greeting label as the “Say Hello” button (that we are going to add it in a few slides) is pressed. We can make this connection between Controller and View directly with the mouse.



The label should look like this after you have deleted the text.

**HOLD DOWN CTRL** while mousing down and dragging a line from the text label directly into the code of our Controller.

**If you do not hold down the CTRL key, this will not work.**

You'll notice that as you CTRL-drag over your code, an indicator will appear, making it easy to see exactly where in the file your outlet code will be.



Xcode now wants to know what kind of connection we want to make between the Controller and this object in the View. In this case, it has correctly guessed that we want an **outlet**. An **outlet** is just a **property** of our Controller through which we can talk to an element in our View.

```
1 // HelloWorldViewController.h
2 // HelloWorld
3
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
```

```
10 @interface HelloWorldViewController : UIViewController
11 @end
```

The destination of this connection is our Controller since that's where we CTRL-dragged to.

Connection: Outlet  
Object: Hello World View C...  
Name:   
Type: UILabel  
Storage: Weak  
Buttons: Cancel, Connect

Inspector for a UILabel object:

- Text: Label Text
- Lines: 1
- Behavior:  Enabled
- Baseline: Align Centers
- Line Breaks: Truncate Tail
- Font: System 24.0
- Text Color: Default
- Highlighted: Default
- Shadow: Default
- Shadow Offset: 0 (Horizontal), -1 (Vertical)
- View Mode: Left
- Tag: 0

Objects palette showing various UI elements like UIButton, UILabel, UITextField, etc.

## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

18. Name the property “greetingLabel”.

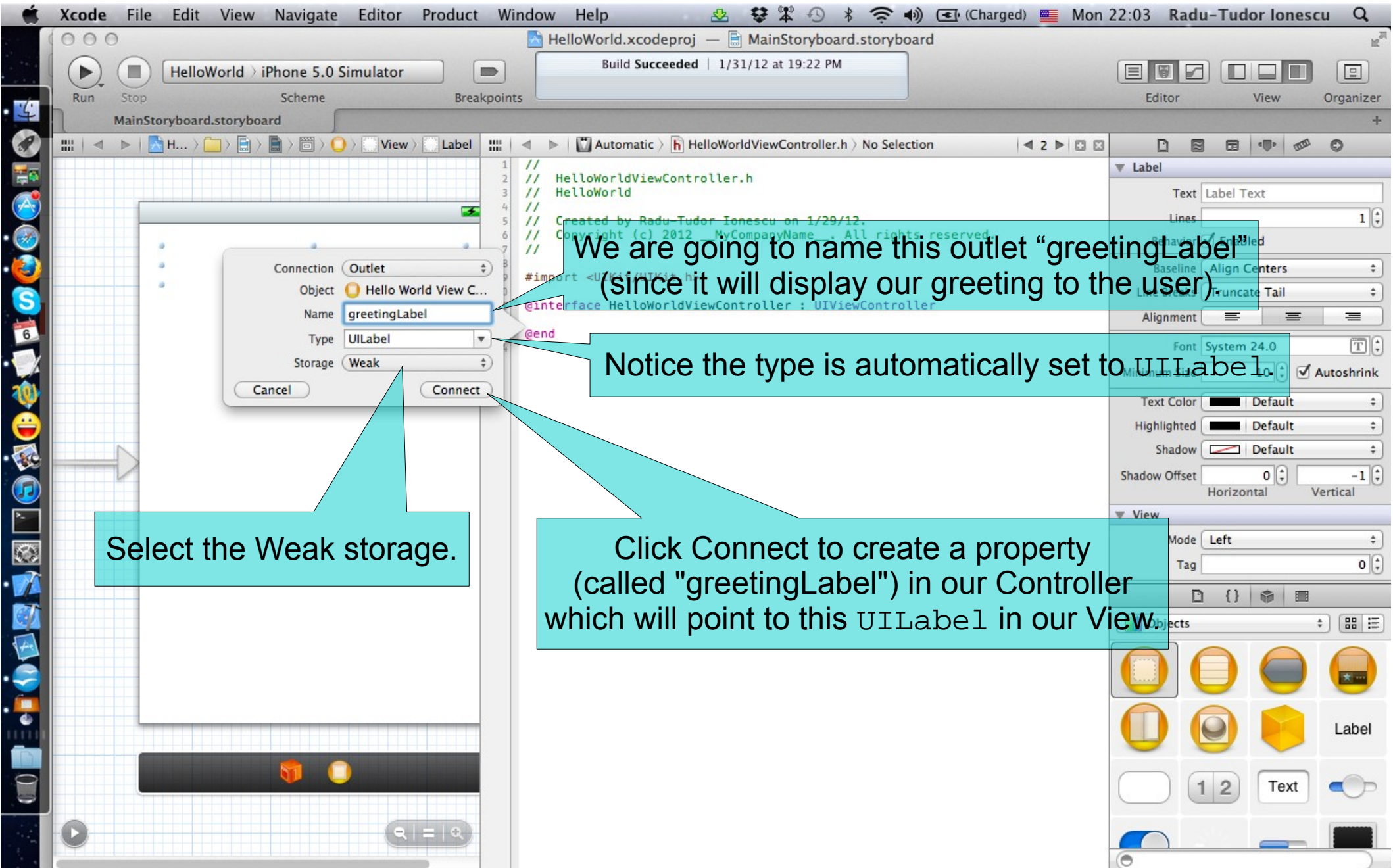
19. Declare it as a **weak** pointer. An **outlet** is a pointer to an object (a `UILabel` in this case).

A **strong** pointer means the `UILabel` will stick around until we are done using the `UILabel`.

A **weak** pointer means the `UILabel` will only stick around as long as somebody else has a strong pointer to it.

As soon as no one else has a strong pointer to an object that we have a weak pointer to, that object will go away and our pointer to it will be cleared and we won't be able to talk to it (because it will be gone). Since this window already has a strong pointer to this `UILabel`, weak is a good choice here.





Whenever our Controller sends messages to the `greetingLabel @property`, it will be talking to this `UILabel` instance.

Xcode has added a `@property` to our MVC Controller which is a pointer to a `UILabel` object. It has also hooked this `@property` up to the text label we dragged out into our MVC View.

```
1 // HelloWorldViewController.h
2 // HelloWorld
3
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import <UIKit/UIKit.h>
10
11 @interface HelloWorldViewController : UIViewController
12
13 @property (weak, nonatomic) IBOutlet UILabel *greetingLabel;
14 @end
15
```

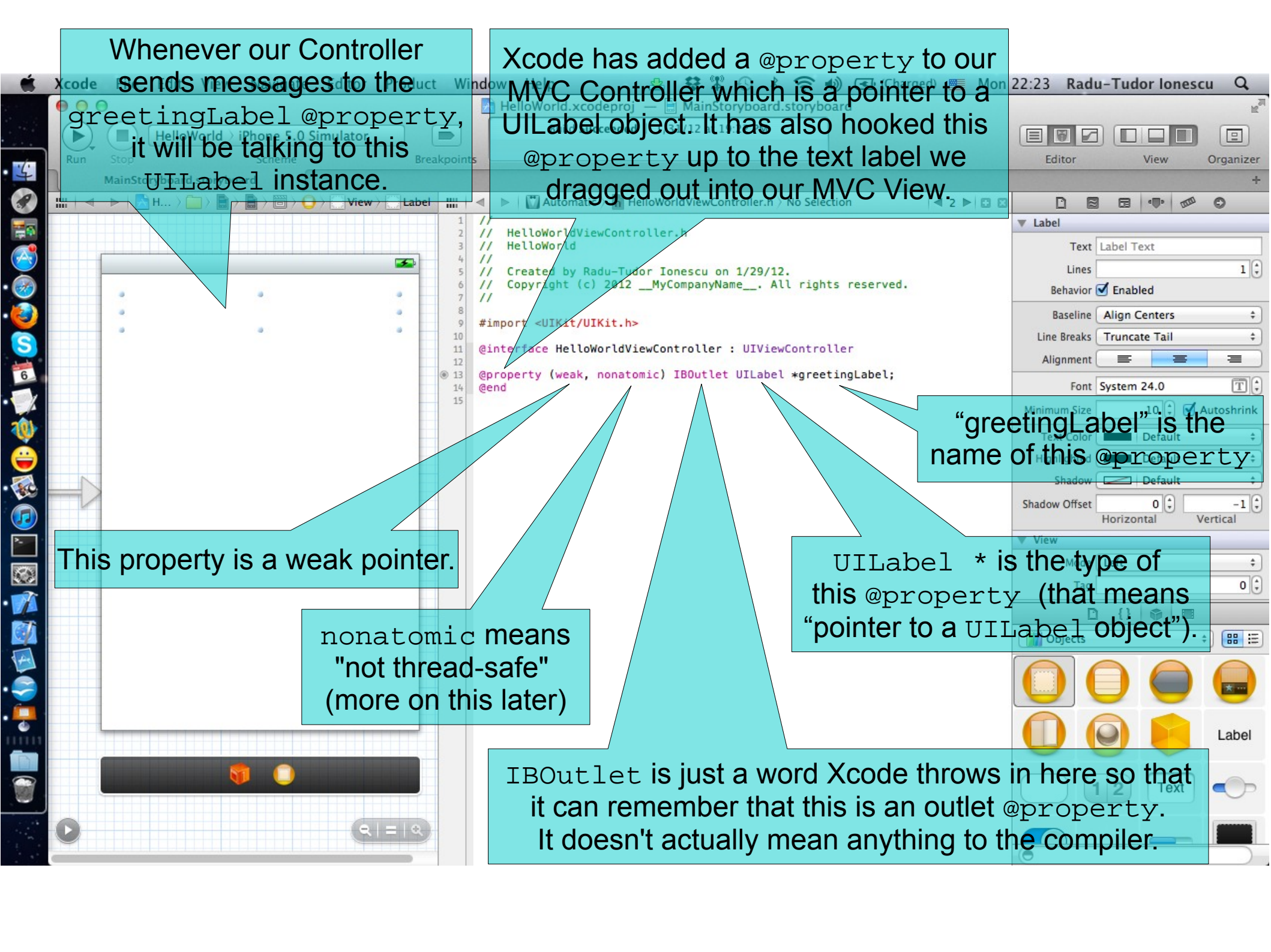
"greetingLabel" is the name of this @property

This property is a weak pointer.

nonatomic means "not thread-safe" (more on this later)

UILabel \* is the type of this @property (that means "pointer to a UILabel object").

IBOutlet is just a word Xcode throws in here so that it can remember that this is an outlet @property. It doesn't actually mean anything to the compiler.

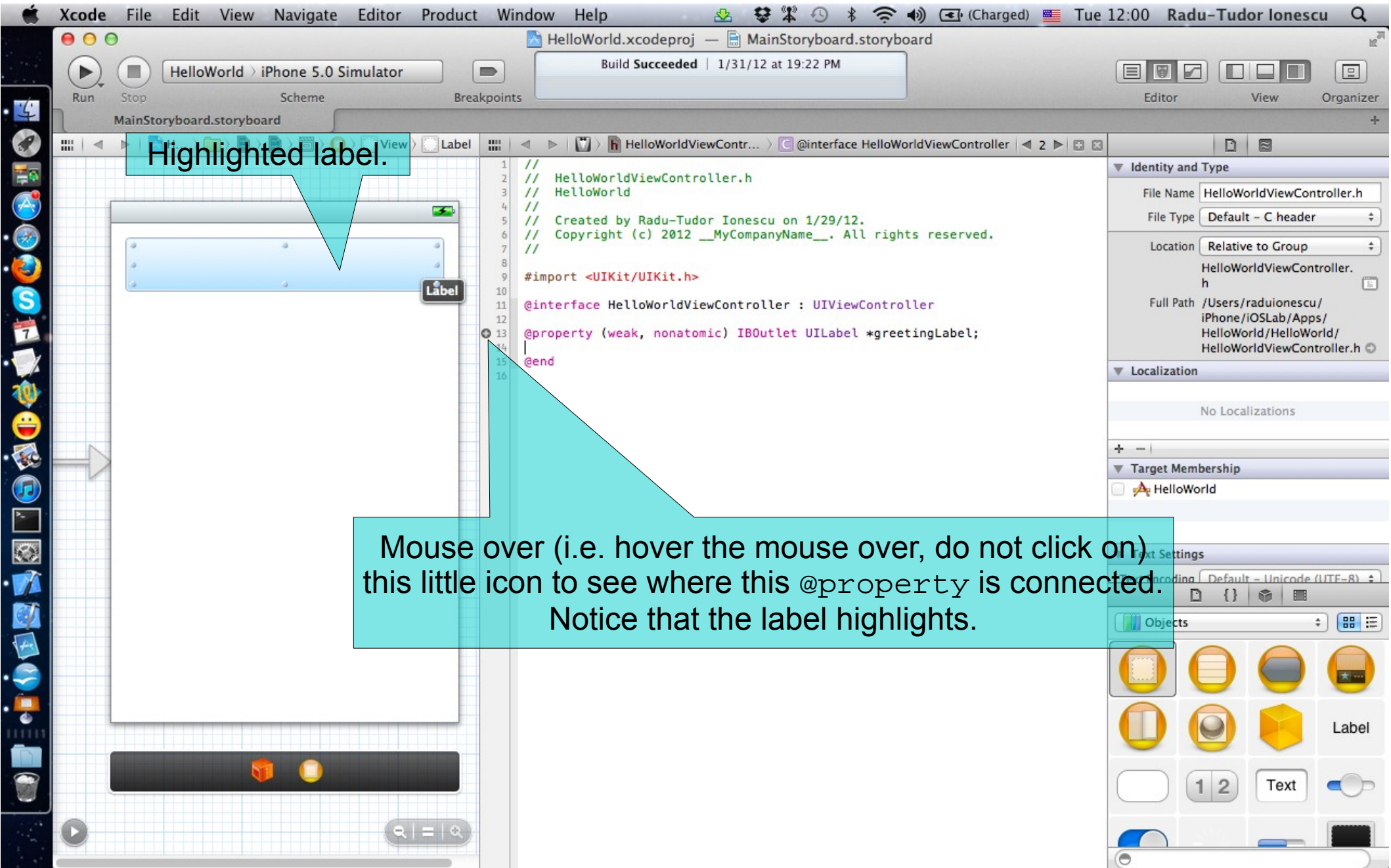




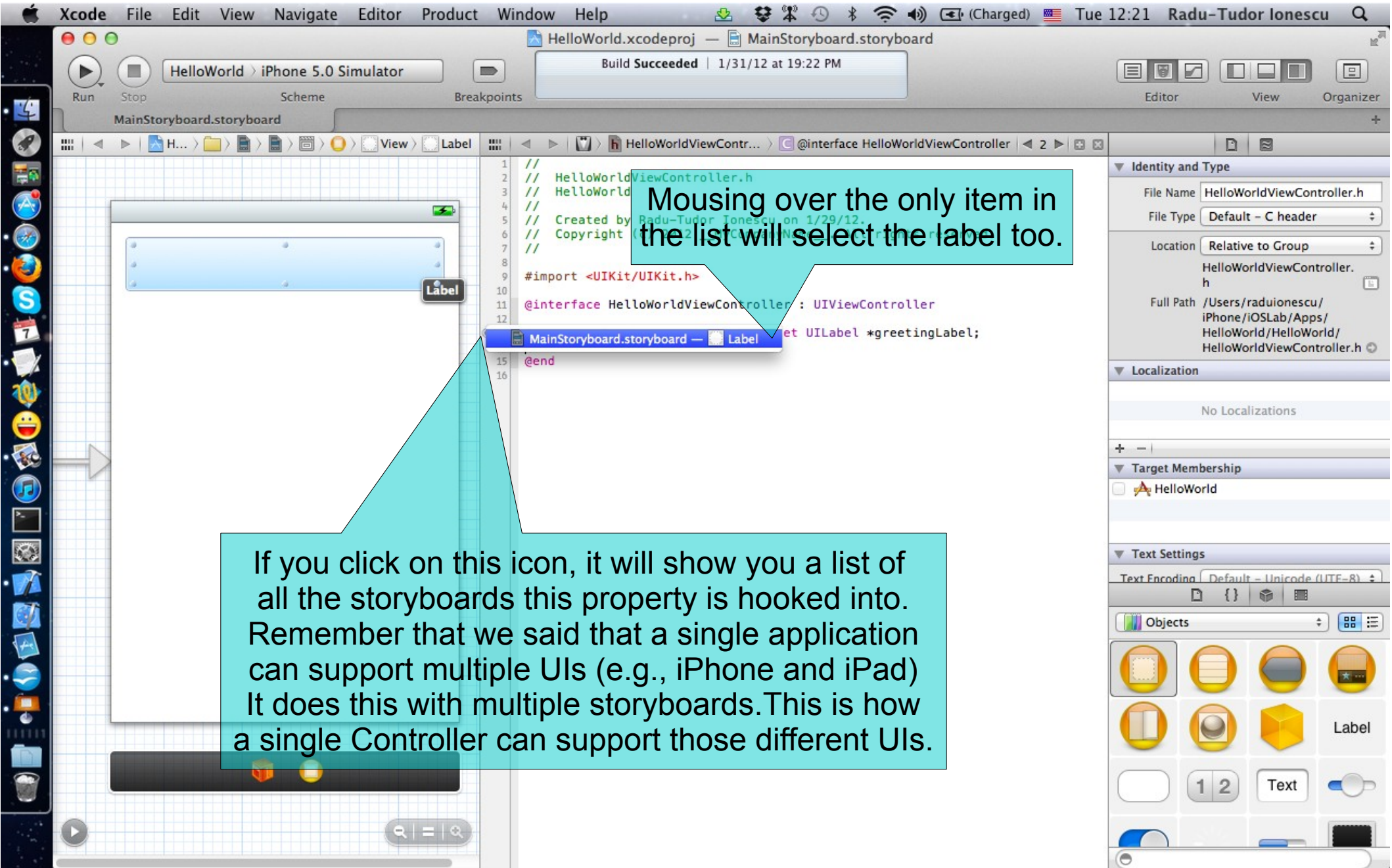
## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

20. Highlight the label to check if the connection is done right.





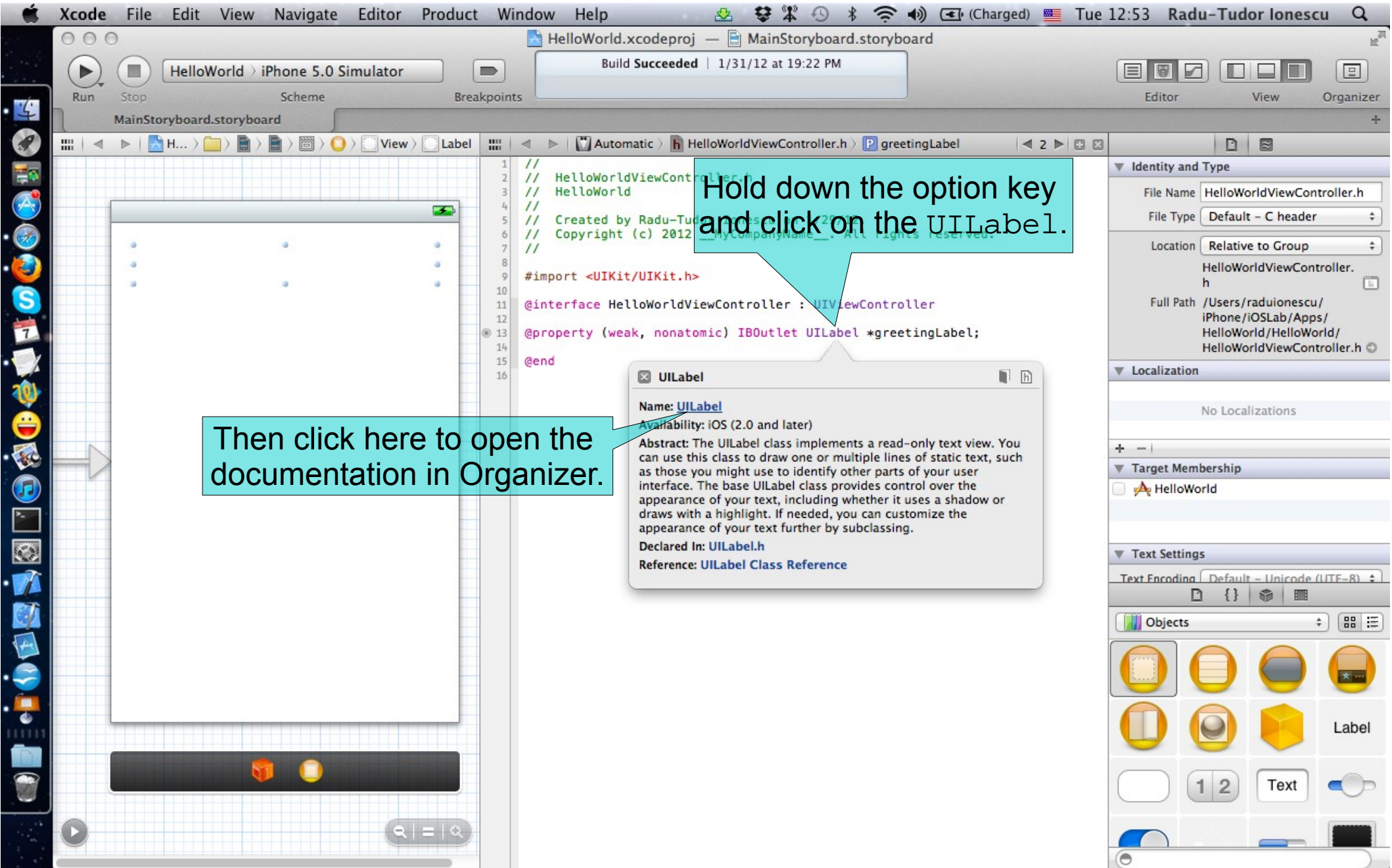


## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

20. Read the documentation of the `UILabel` class. Notice the superclass is `UIView` (all `UIKit` objects inherit from this class).





Then click here to open the documentation in Organizer.

Hold down the option key and click on the UILabel.

## Task 3

Task: Add a label to display our greeting message to the user.

21. Learn what are the properties of an `UILabel` object. Read the details about the `text` property. We are going to use it later when we will present the greetings on the display.



The superclass of UILabel is UIView.

Devices Repositories Projects Archives Documentation

IOS 5.0 Library > User Experience > Windows & Views > UILabel Class Reference

## UILabel Class Reference

Inherits from	<a href="#">UIView</a> : <a href="#">UIResponder</a> : <a href="#">NSObject</a>
Conforms to	<a href="#">NSCoding</a> <a href="#">NSCoding (UIView)</a> <a href="#">UIAppearance (UIView)</a> <a href="#">UIAppearanceContainer (UIView)</a> <a href="#">NSObject (NSObject)</a>
Framework	<a href="#">/System/Library/Frameworks/UIKit.framework</a>
Availability	Available in iOS 2.0 and later.
Declared in	<a href="#">UILabel.h</a>
Related sample code	<a href="#">iPhoneCoreDataRecipes</a> <a href="#">SimpleFTPSample</a> <a href="#">SimpleNetworkStreams</a> <a href="#">Teslameter</a> <a href="#">URLCache</a>

### Overview

The `UILabel` class implements a read-only text view. You can use this class to draw one or multiple lines of static text, such as those you might use to identify other parts of your user interface. The base `UILabel` class provides control over the appearance of your text, including whether it uses a shadow or draws with a highlight. If needed, you can customize the appearance of your text further by subclassing.

The default content mode of the `UILabel` class is `UIViewContentModeRedraw`. This mode causes the view to redraw its contents every time its bounding rectangle changes. You can change this mode by modifying the inherited `contentMode` property of the class.

New label objects are configured to disregard user events by default. If you want to handle events in a custom subclass of `UILabel`, you must explicitly change the value of the `userInteractionEnabled` property to `YES` after initializing the object.

### Tasks

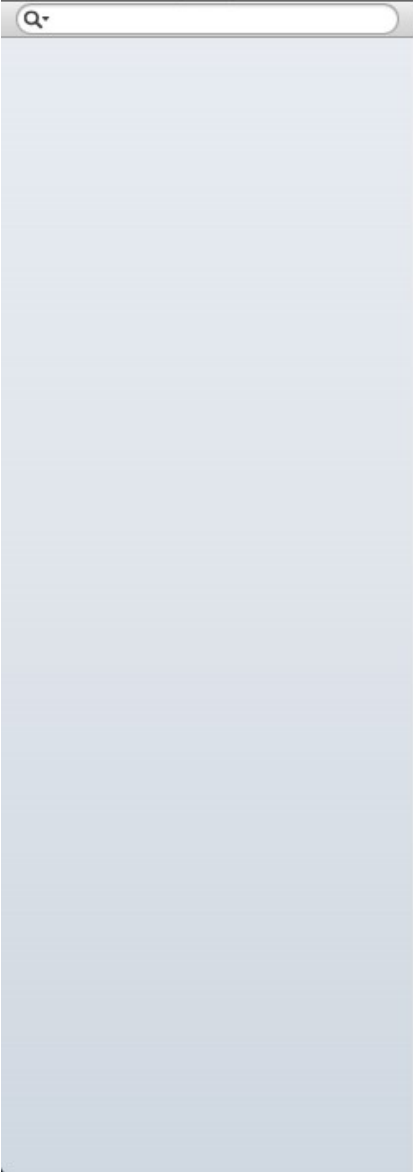
#### Accessing the Text Attributes

- [text](#) property
- [font](#) property
- [textColor](#) property
- [textAlignment](#) property
- [lineBreakMode](#) property
- [enabled](#) property

#### Sizing the Label's Text

This is the `text` property. Click here to see details about this property.

Scroll down to see all the properties.



See Also

[@property shadowColor](#)

**Declared In**  
UILabel.h

**text**

The text displayed by the label.

```
@property(nonatomic, copy) NSString *text
```

**Discussion**

This string is nil by default.

**Availability**

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

**Related Sample Code**

- [BatteryStatus](#)
- [iPhoneCoreDataRecipes](#)
- [LocateMe](#)
- [URLCache](#)
- [XMLPerformance](#)

**Declared In**  
UILabel.h

**textAlignment**

The technique to use for aligning the text.

```
@property(nonatomic) NSTextAlignment textAlignment
```

**Discussion**

This property applies to the entire text string. The default value of this property is `UITextAlignmentLeft`.

**Availability**

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

**Related Sample Code**

- [BatteryStatus](#)
- [BubbleLevel](#)
- [iPhoneCoreDataRecipes](#)
- [QuickContacts](#)
- [TableViewSuite](#)

**Declared In**  
UILabel.h

**textColor**

The color of the text.

```
@property(nonatomic, retain) UIColor *textColor
```

A brief description of the property.

How is this property declared in the UILabel interface.

Since when is this property available.

It also gives you related sample code.

These are Xcode projects that you can download and look into.

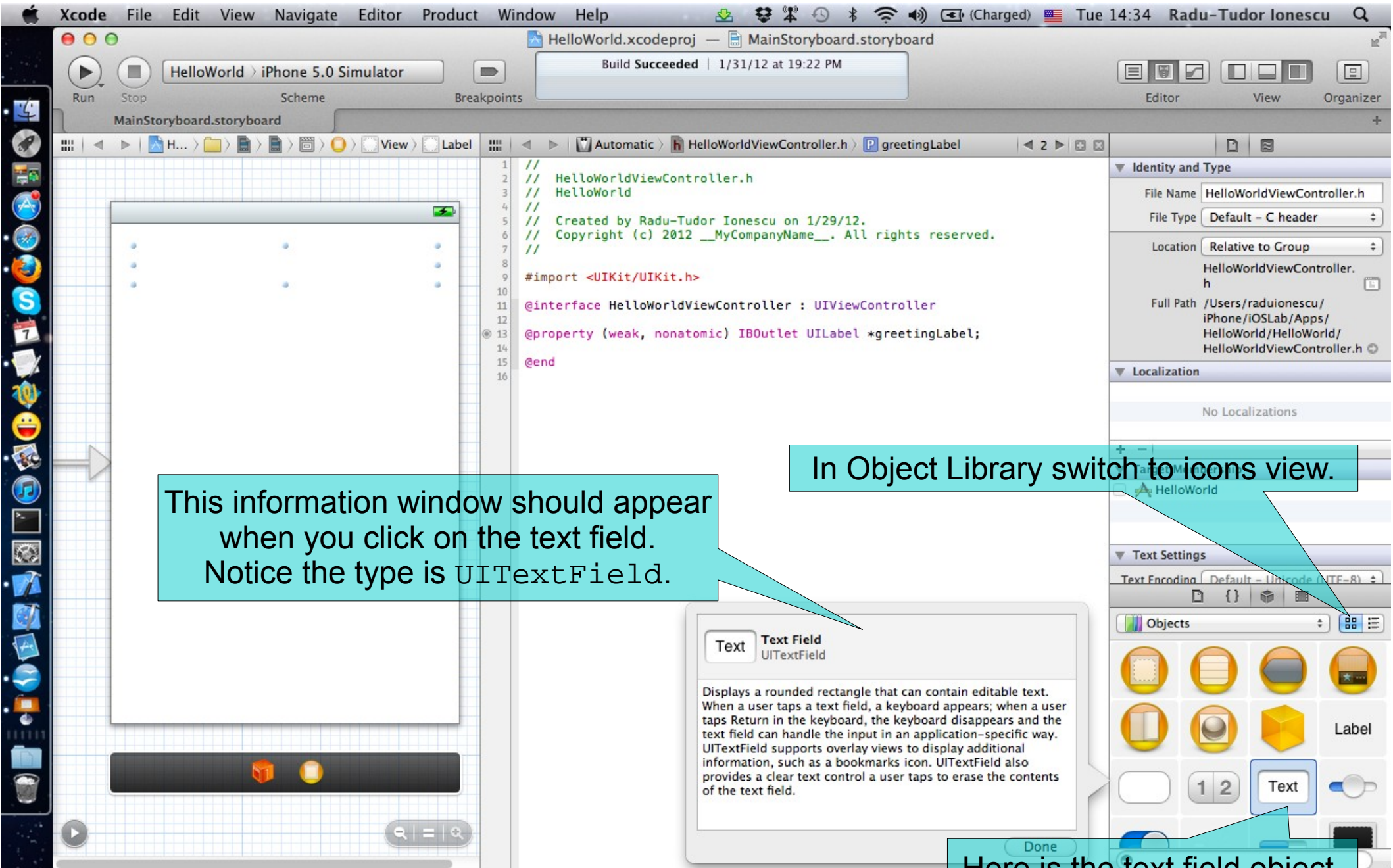
Scroll up to top to have a look at the entire organization of this documentation page.



# Task 4

Task: Add a text field for the user's name. We are going to let the user enter his name in this text field.

1. Look for a text field in the Object Library.



This information window should appear when you click on the text field. Notice the type is UITextField.

In Object Library switch to icons view.

Here is the text field object. Click on it.

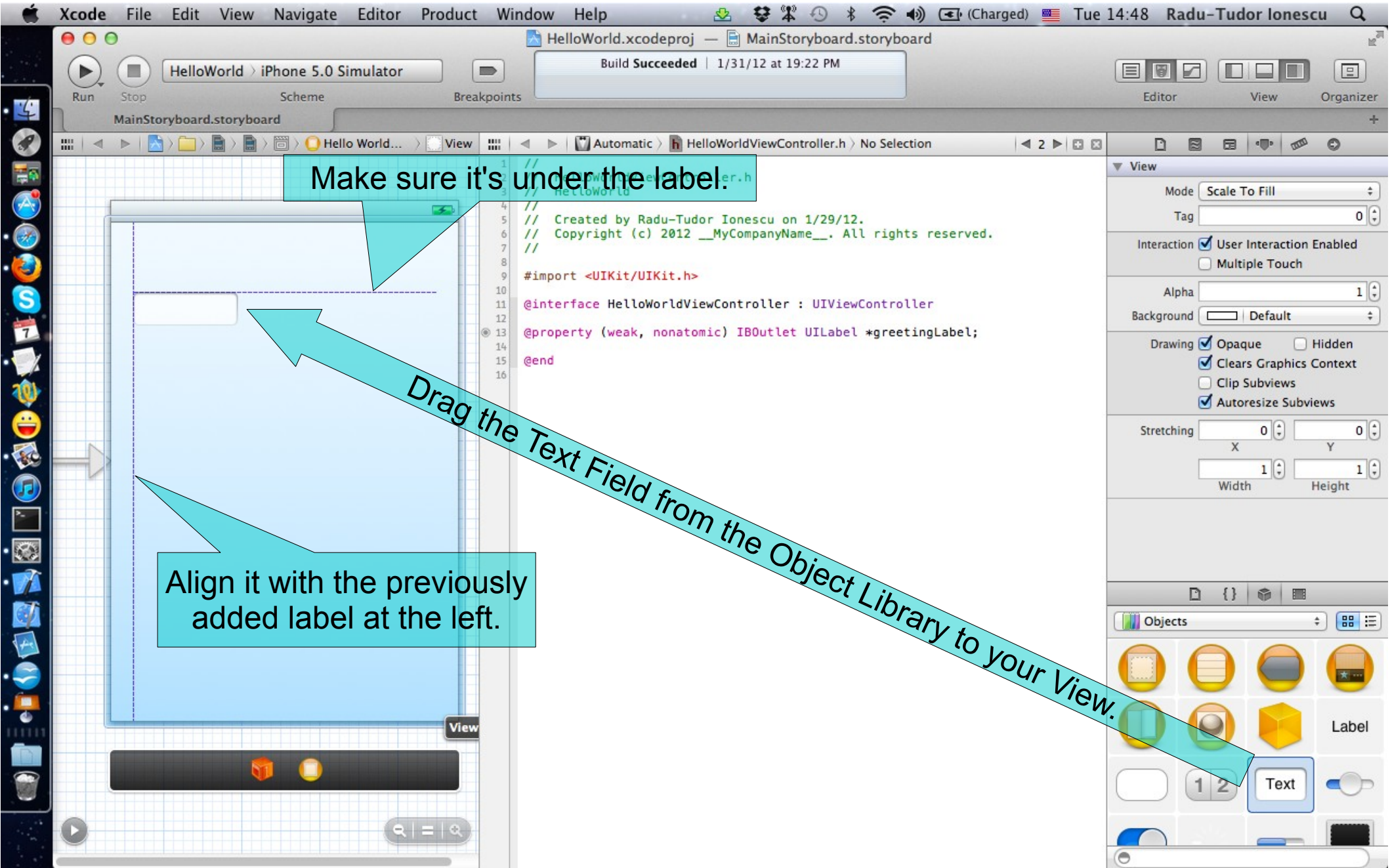


# Task 4

Task: Add a text field for the user's name. We are going to let the user enter his name in this text field.

2. Drag an `UITextField` from the Object Library to your View.

A `UITextField` object is a control that displays editable text and sends an action message to a target object when the user presses the return button. You typically use this class to gather small amounts of text from the user and perform some immediate action, such as a search operation, based on that text.



Make sure it's under the label.

Align it with the previously added label at the left.

Drag the Text Field from the Object Library to your View.



# Task 4

**Task:** Add a text field for the user's name. We are going to let the user enter his name in this text field.

3. Resize the text field width to 280 pixels.
4. Select the Attributes Inspector in Utilities area.

Make sure Attributes Inspector is selected.

The screenshot displays the Xcode IDE interface. On the left, the Storyboard Editor shows a white text field on a grid. A tooltip indicates its dimensions: W: 280.0, H: 31.0. A callout points to the right handle of the text field with the text: "Grab this right handle and adjust the width to 280 pixels." The center pane shows the code for `HelloWorldViewController.h`:

```
1 //  
2 // HelloWorldViewController.h  
3 // HelloWorld  
4 //  
5 // Created by Radu Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.  
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 MyCompanyName. All rights reserved.  
7 //  
8  
9 #import <UIKit/UIKit.h>  
10  
11 @interface HelloWorldViewController : UIViewController  
12  
13 @property (weak, nonatomic) IBOutlet UILabel *greetingLabel;  
14  
15 @end  
16
```

The right pane shows the Attributes Inspector for the selected Text Field. The settings are as follows:

- Text: Text
- Placeholder: Placeholder Text
- Background: Background Image
- Disabled: Disabled Background Image
- Alignment: Left
- Border Style: Recessed
- Clear Button: Never appears
- Clear when editing begins:
- Text Color: Default
- Font: System 14.0
- Min Font Size: 17
- Adjust to Fit:
- Capitalization: None
- Correction: Default
- Keyboard: Default
- Appearance: Default

The Objects panel at the bottom right shows a grid of UI elements, with the Text field selected.



# Task 4

Task: Add a text field for the user's name. We are going to let the user enter his name in this text field.

5. Set the placeholder text to “type in your name” to let the user know we would like to know his name.
6. Set the text alignment to center.
7. Set the text field correction to “No” so that it will not try to correct the user's input.
8. Change the keyboard return key type to “Done”.

Notice the text field has a text property. We are going to use this property to get the user's input (that is his name).

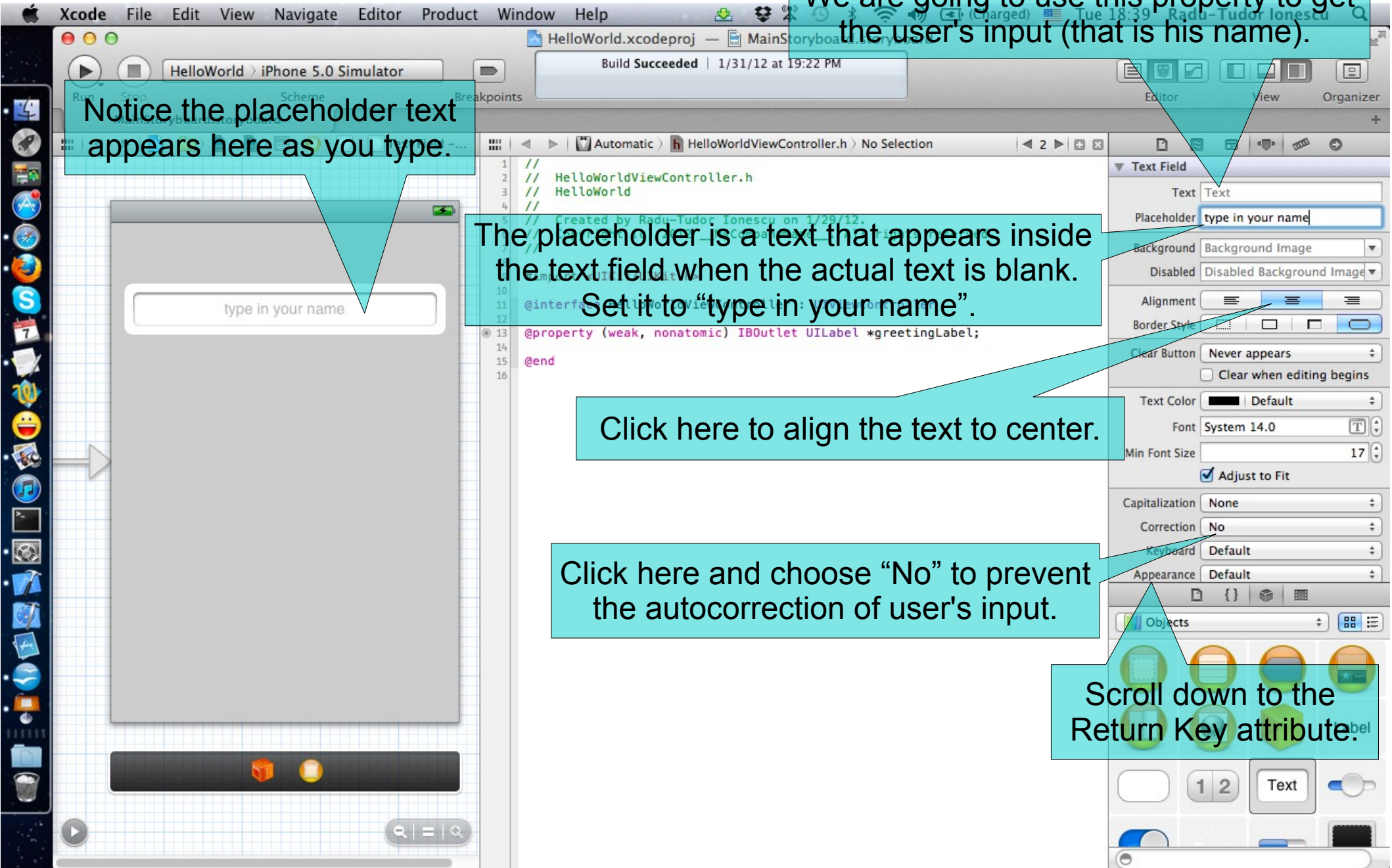
Notice the placeholder text appears here as you type.

The placeholder is a text that appears inside the text field when the actual text is blank. Set it to "type in your name".

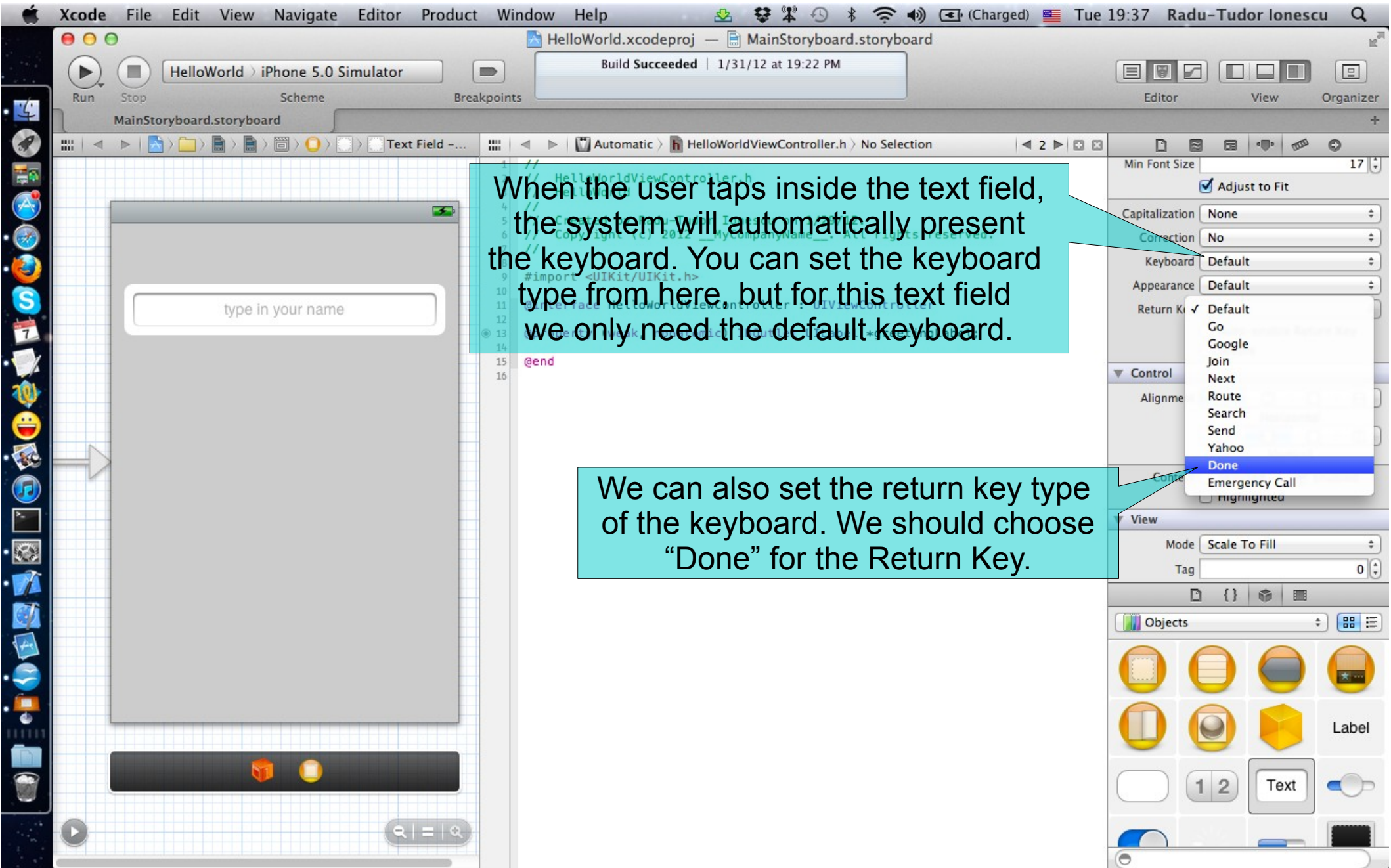
Click here to align the text to center.

Click here and choose "No" to prevent the autocorrection of user's input.

Scroll down to the Return Key attribute.







When the user taps inside the text field, the system will automatically present the keyboard. You can set the keyboard type from here, but for this text field we only need the default keyboard.

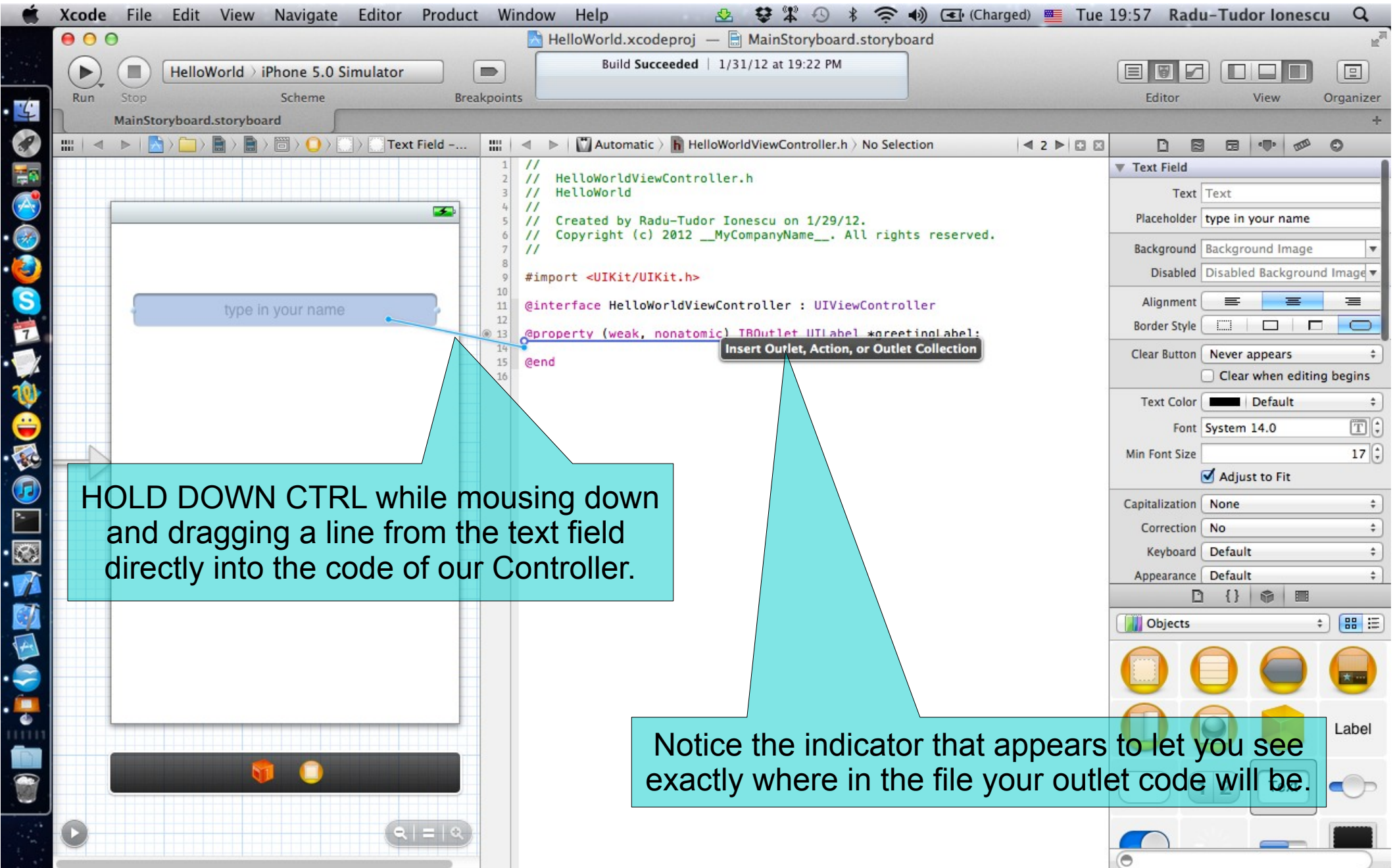
We can also set the return key type of the keyboard. We should choose "Done" for the Return Key.

# Task 4

Task: Add a text field for the user's name. We are going to let the user enter his name in this text field.

9. Declare a property in the Controller for the added text field. We need to be able to get the user's name from the text field and build the greetings message with his name (e.g. "Hello Steve!"). Make this connection between Controller and View directly with the mouse using CTRL-dragging.





HOLD DOWN CTRL while mousing down and dragging a line from the text field directly into the code of our Controller.

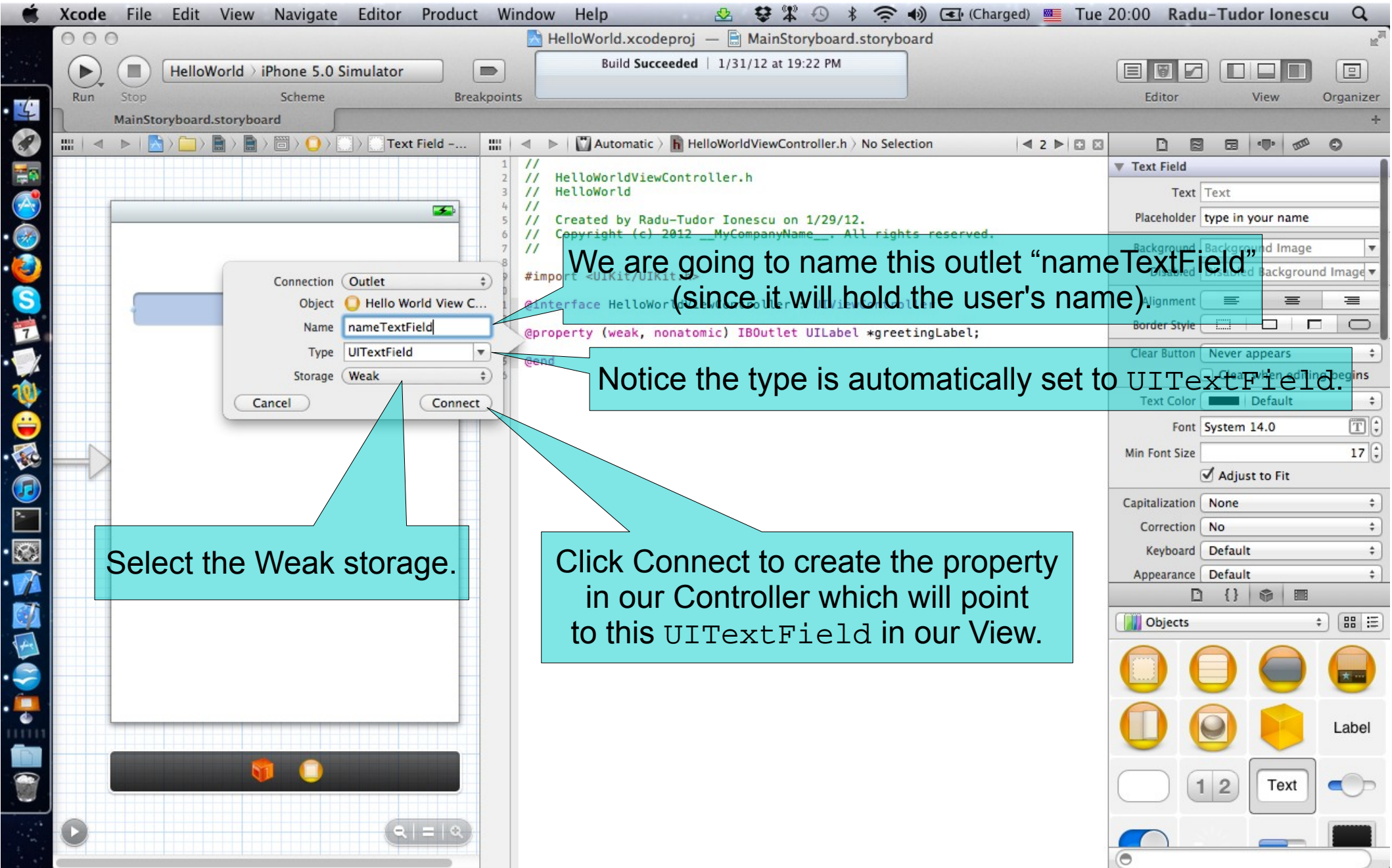
Notice the indicator that appears to let you see exactly where in the file your outlet code will be.

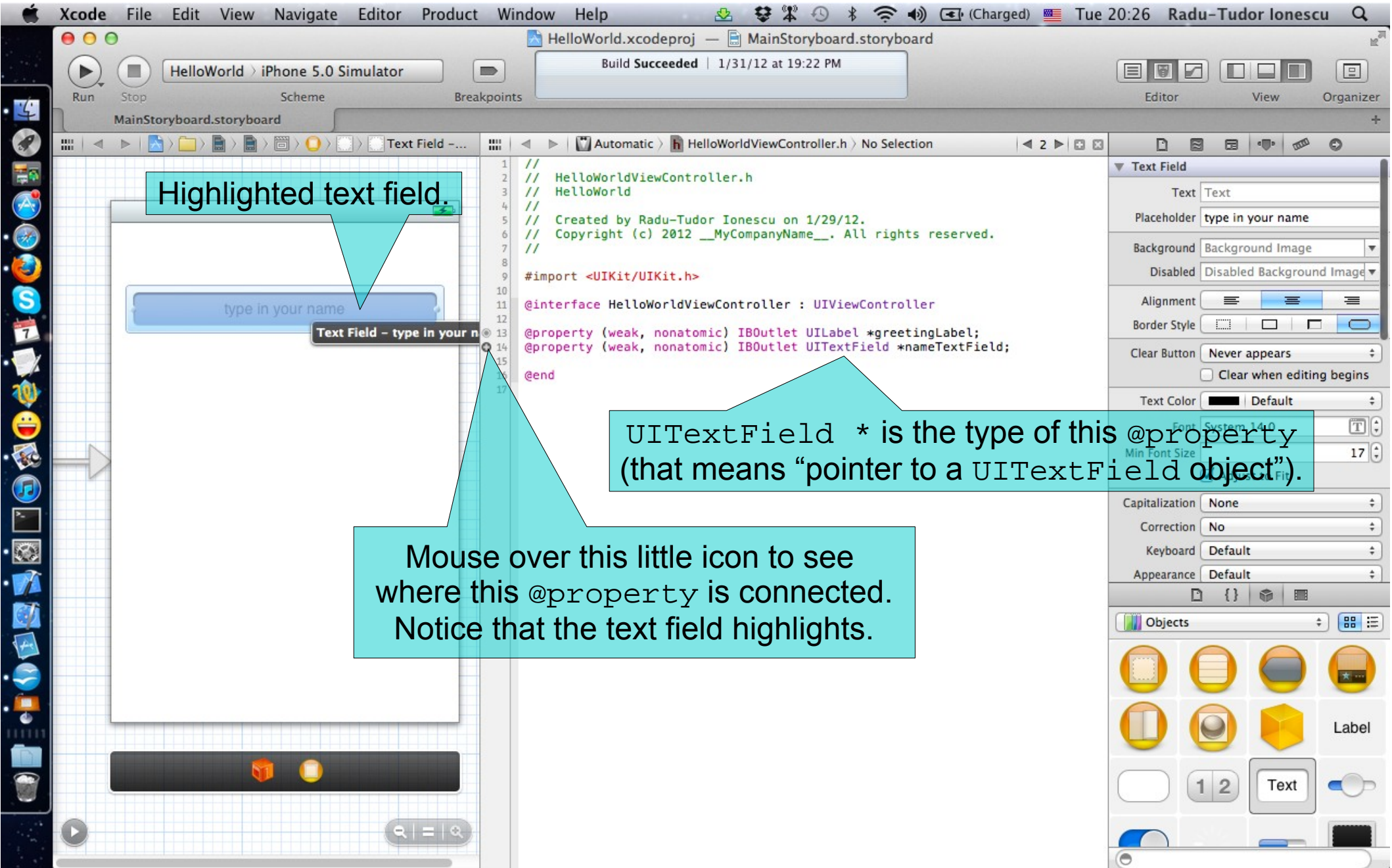
## Task 4

Task: Add a text field for the user's name. We are going to let the user enter his name in this text field.

10. Name the property “nameTextField”.
11. Declare it as a **weak** pointer.





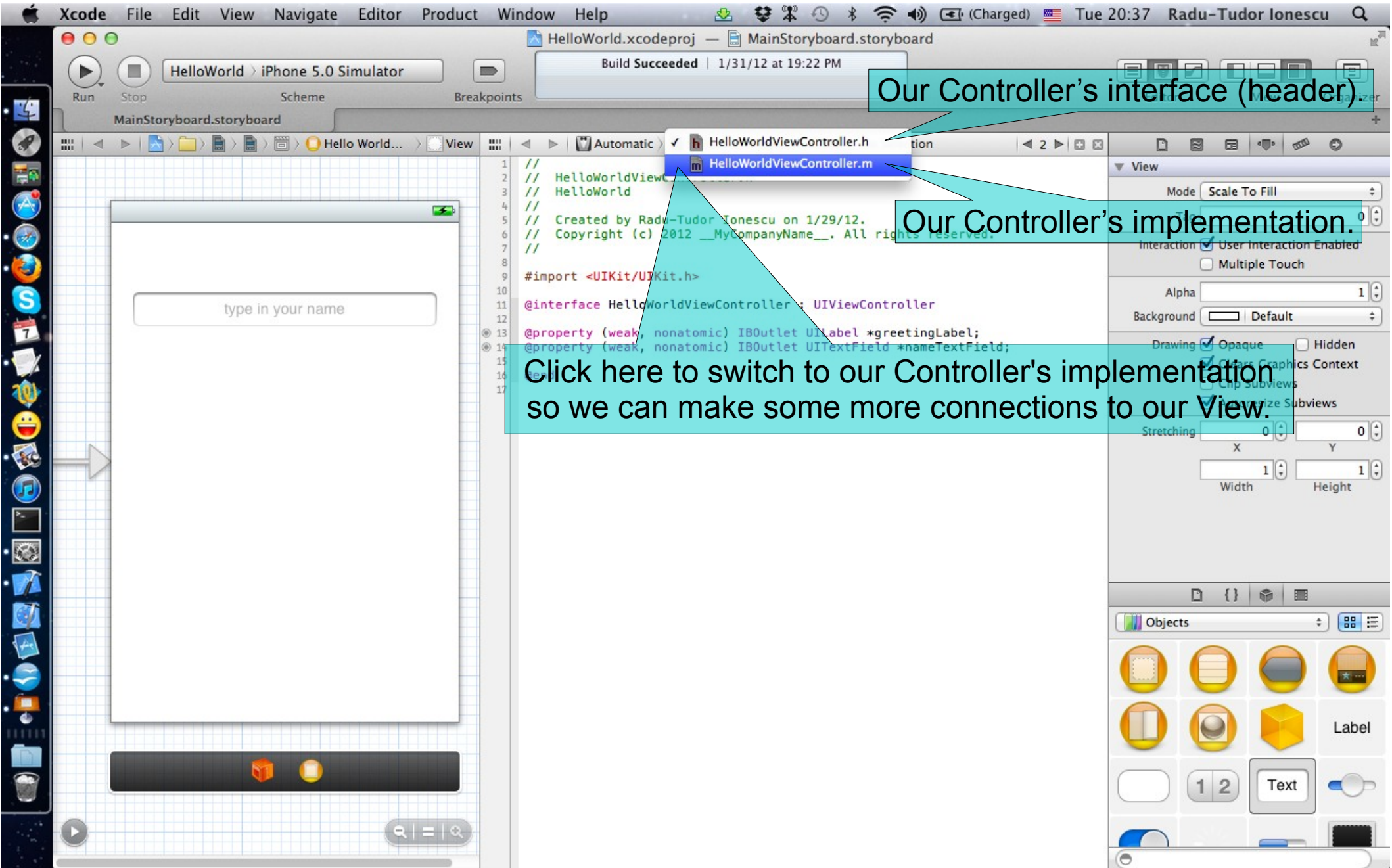




# Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

1. Switch to the Controller's implementation.



Our Controller's interface (header)

Our Controller's implementation.

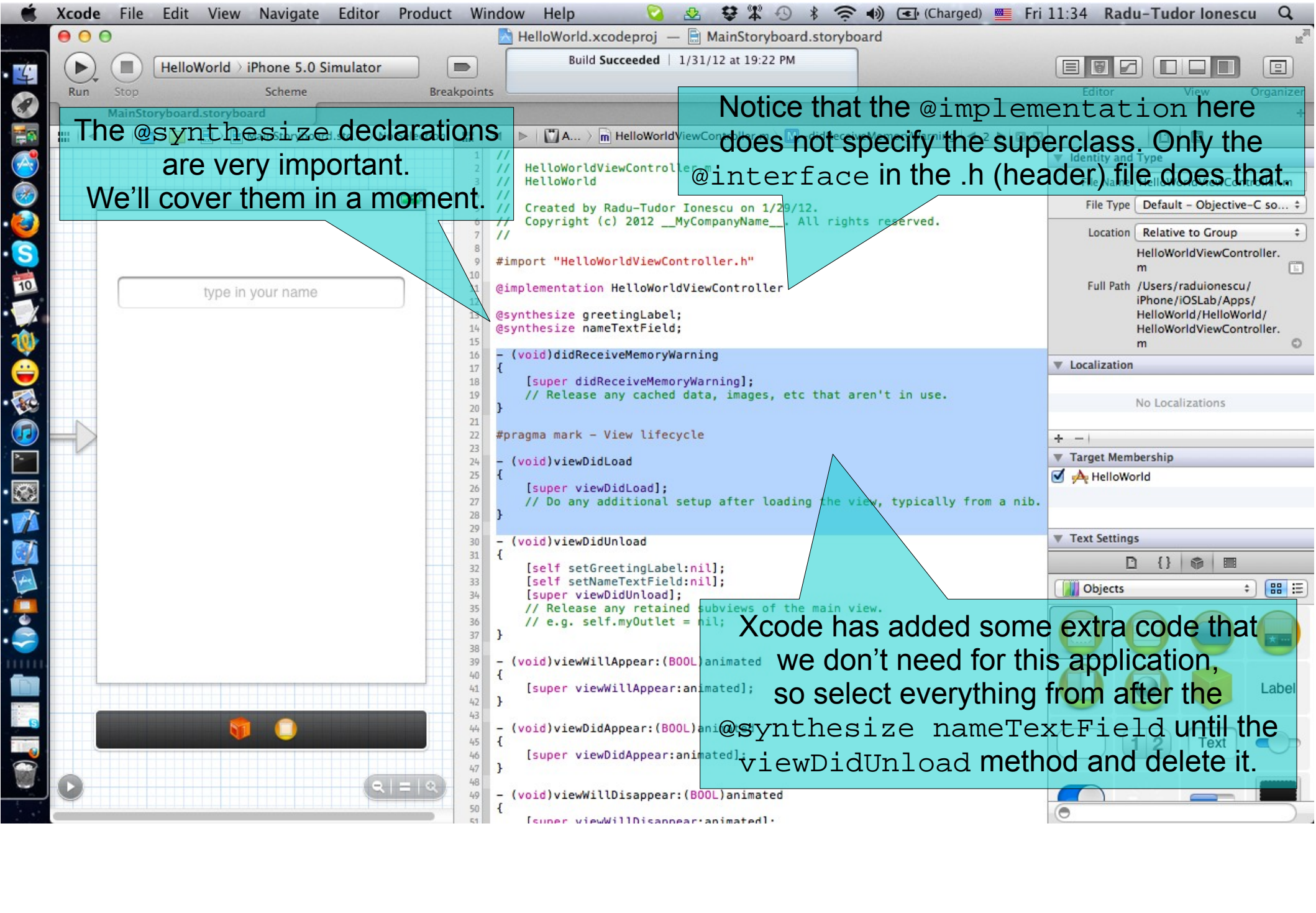
Click here to switch to our Controller's implementation so we can make some more connections to our View.



# Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

2. Delete the code that we don't need which was automatically added by Xcode. Make sure **NOT** to remove the `@synthesize` declarations and the implementation of the `viewDidLoad` method.



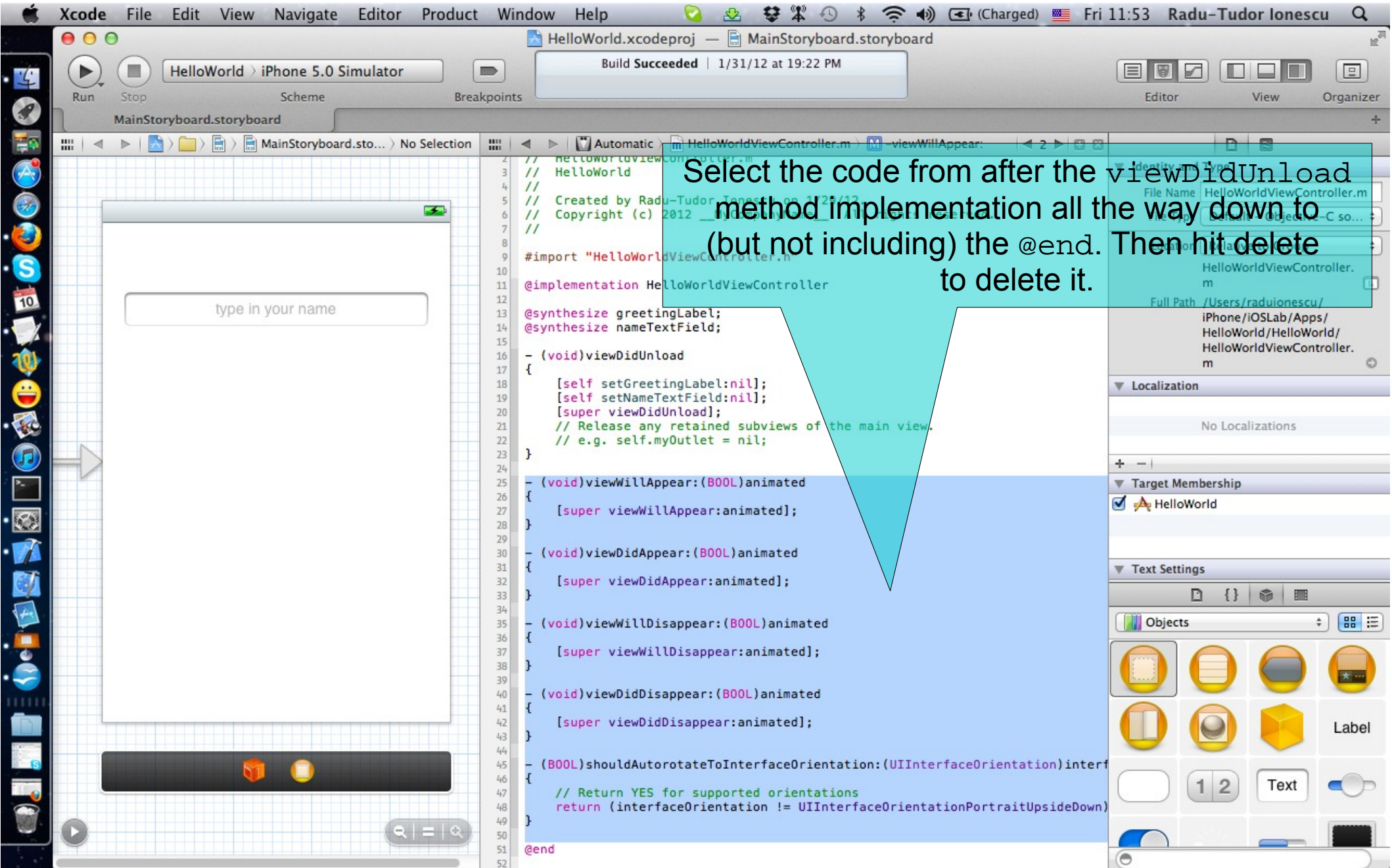
The @synthesize declarations are very important. We'll cover them in a moment.

Notice that the @implementation here does not specify the superclass. Only the @interface in the .h (header) file does that.

```
1 //
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m
3 //
4 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
5 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
6 //
7
8 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
9
10 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
11
12 @synthesize greetingLabel;
13 @synthesize nameTextField;
14
15 - (void)didReceiveMemoryWarning
16 {
17     [super didReceiveMemoryWarning];
18     // Release any cached data, images, etc that aren't in use.
19 }
20
21 #pragma mark - View lifecycle
22
23 - (void)viewDidLoad
24 {
25     [super viewDidLoad];
26     // Do any additional setup after loading the view, typically from a nib.
27 }
28
29 - (void)viewDidUnload
30 {
31     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
32     [self setNameTextField:nil];
33     [super viewDidUnload];
34     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
35     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
36 }
37
38 - (void)viewWillAppear:(BOOL)animated
39 {
40     [super viewWillAppear:animated];
41 }
42
43 - (void)viewDidAppear:(BOOL)animated
44 {
45     [super viewDidAppear:animated];
46 }
47
48 - (void)viewWillDisappear:(BOOL)animated
49 {
50     [super viewWillDisappear:animated];
51 }
```

Xcode has added some extra code that we don't need for this application, so select everything from after the @synthesize nameTextField until the viewDidUnload method and delete it.





Select the code from after the viewDidLoad method implementation all the way down to (but not including) the @end. Then hit delete to delete it.

```
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m
3 // HelloWorld
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 12/21/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 Radu-Tudor Ionescu. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
10
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
12
13 @synthesize greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField;
15
16 - (void)viewDidLoad
17 {
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];
20     [super viewDidLoad];
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
23 }
24
25 - (void)viewWillAppear:(BOOL)animated
26 {
27     [super viewWillAppear:animated];
28 }
29
30 - (void)viewDidAppear:(BOOL)animated
31 {
32     [super viewDidAppear:animated];
33 }
34
35 - (void)viewWillDisappear:(BOOL)animated
36 {
37     [super viewWillDisappear:animated];
38 }
39
40 - (void)viewDidDisappear:(BOOL)animated
41 {
42     [super viewDidDisappear:animated];
43 }
44
45 - (BOOL)shouldAutorotateToInterfaceOrientation:(UIInterfaceOrientation)interf
46 {
47     // Return YES for supported orientations
48     return (interfaceOrientation != UIInterfaceOrientationPortraitUpsideDown);
49 }
50
51 @end
52
```

# Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

3. Study the `@synthesize` declarations and the `viewDidUnload` method implementation.

The `@synthesize` declarations were added by Xcode when we created the `greetingLabel` and `nameTextField` properties. The `@synthesize` declaration is used to generate accessor methods (setter and getter) for a certain property.

When a low-memory condition occurs and the current view controller's views are not needed, the system may opt to remove those views from memory. The `viewDidUnload` method is called after the view controller's view has been released and is your chance to perform any final cleanup. If your view controller stores references to the view or its subviews, you should use this method to release those references and set those references to `nil`.



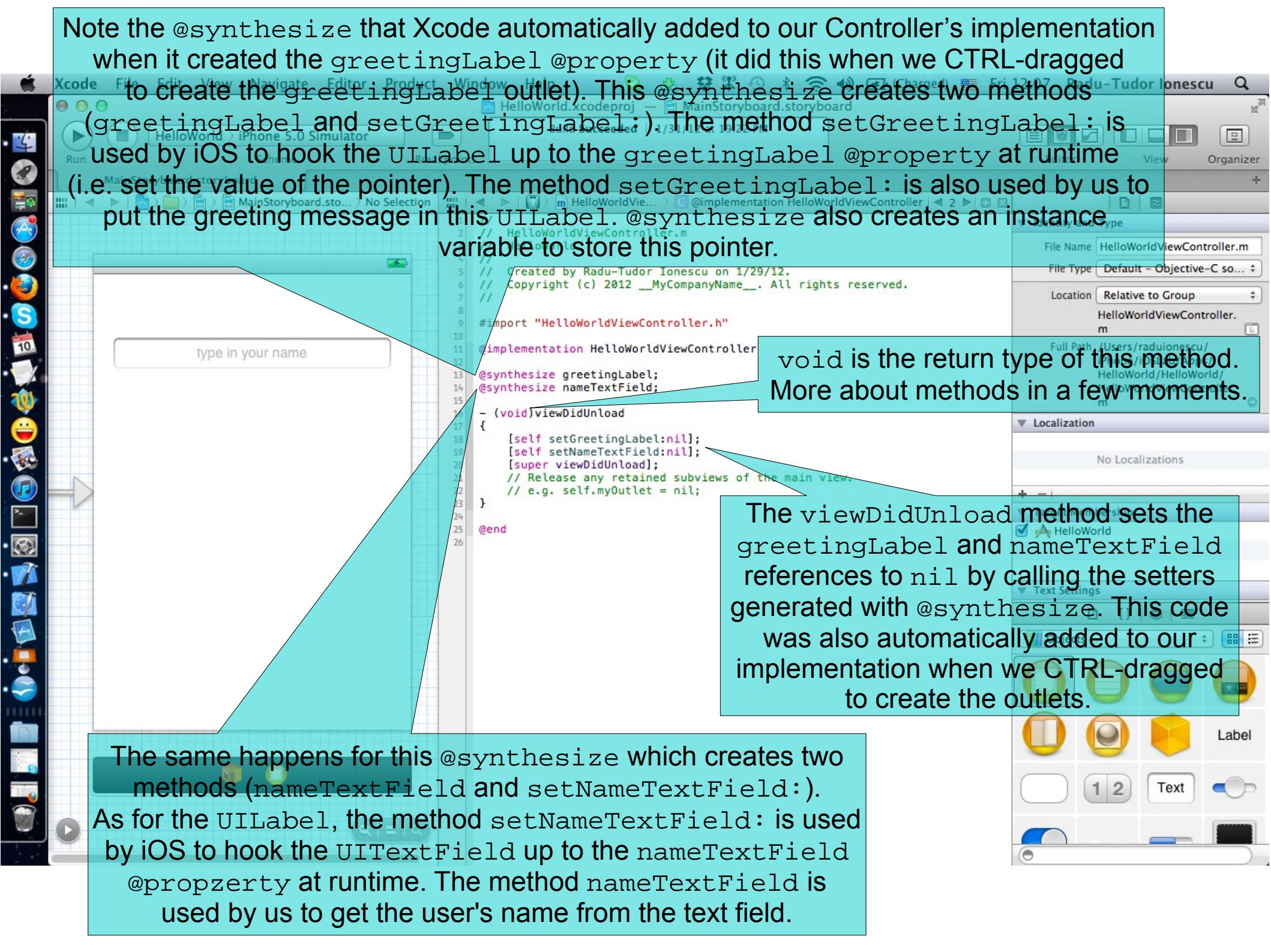
Note the `@synthesize` that Xcode automatically added to our Controller's implementation when it created the `greetingLabel @property` (it did this when we CTRL-dragged to create the `greetingLabel outlet`). This `@synthesize` creates two methods (`greetingLabel` and `setGreetingLabel:`). The method `setGreetingLabel:` is used by iOS to hook the `UILabel` up to the `greetingLabel @property` at runtime (i.e. set the value of the pointer). The method `setGreetingLabel:` is also used by us to put the greeting message in this `UILabel`. `@synthesize` also creates an instance variable to store this pointer.

variable to store this pointer.

`void` is the return type of this method. More about methods in a few moments.

The `viewDidLoad` method sets the `greetingLabel` and `nameTextField` references to `nil` by calling the setters generated with `@synthesize`. This code was also automatically added to our implementation when we CTRL-dragged to create the outlets.

The same happens for this `@synthesize` which creates two methods (`nameTextField` and `setNameTextField:`). As for the `UILabel`, the method `setNameTextField:` is used by iOS to hook the `UITextField` up to the `nameTextField @property` at runtime. The method `nameTextField` is used by us to get the user's name from the text field.



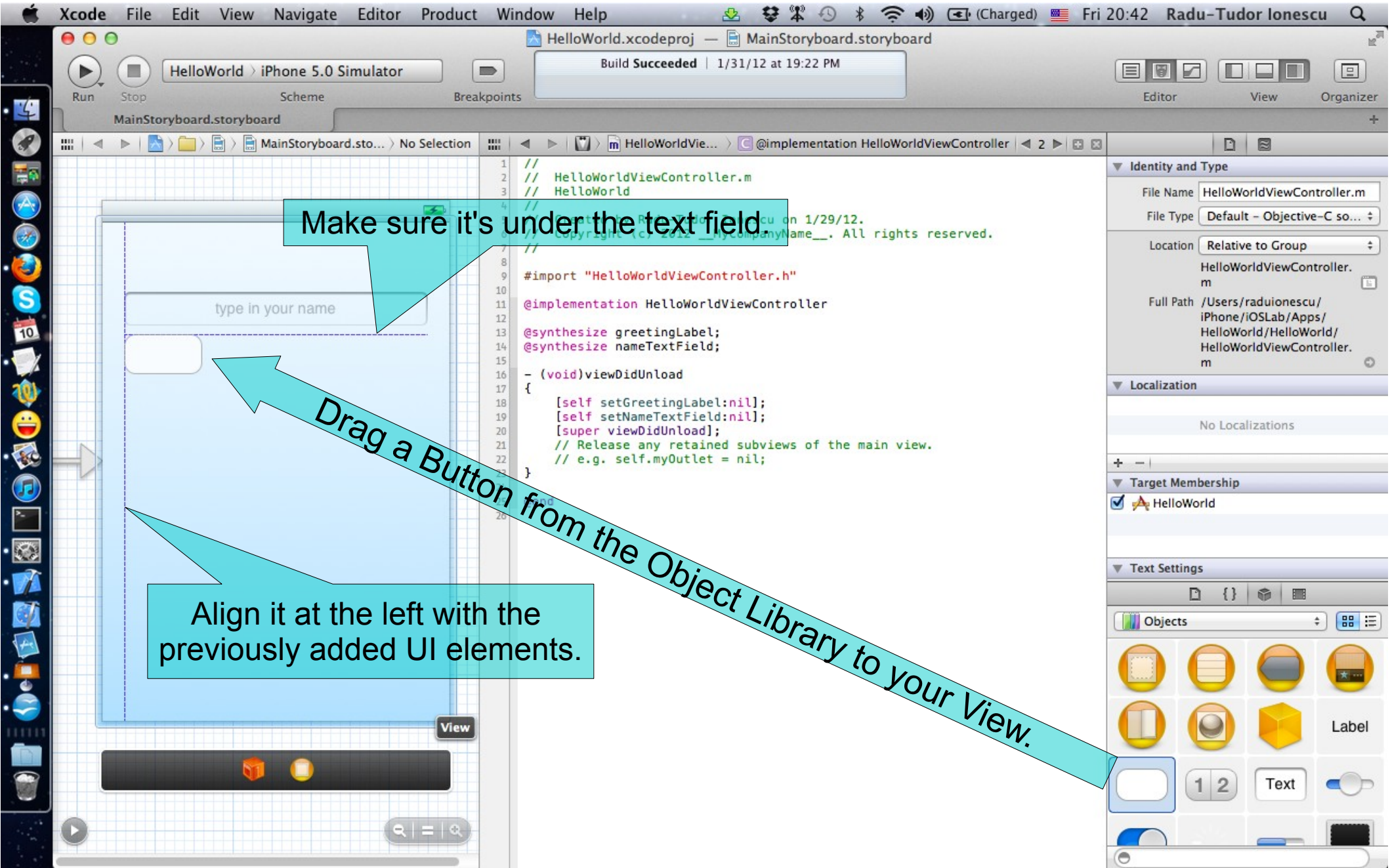
# Task 5

**Task:** Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

4. Drag a Round Rect Button from the Object Library to your View.

An instance of the `UIButton` class implements a button on the touch screen. A button intercepts touch events and sends an action message to a target object when tapped. This class provides methods for setting the title, image, and other appearance properties of a button. By using these accessors, you can specify a different appearance for each button state.





Make sure it's under the text field.

Align it at the left with the previously added UI elements.

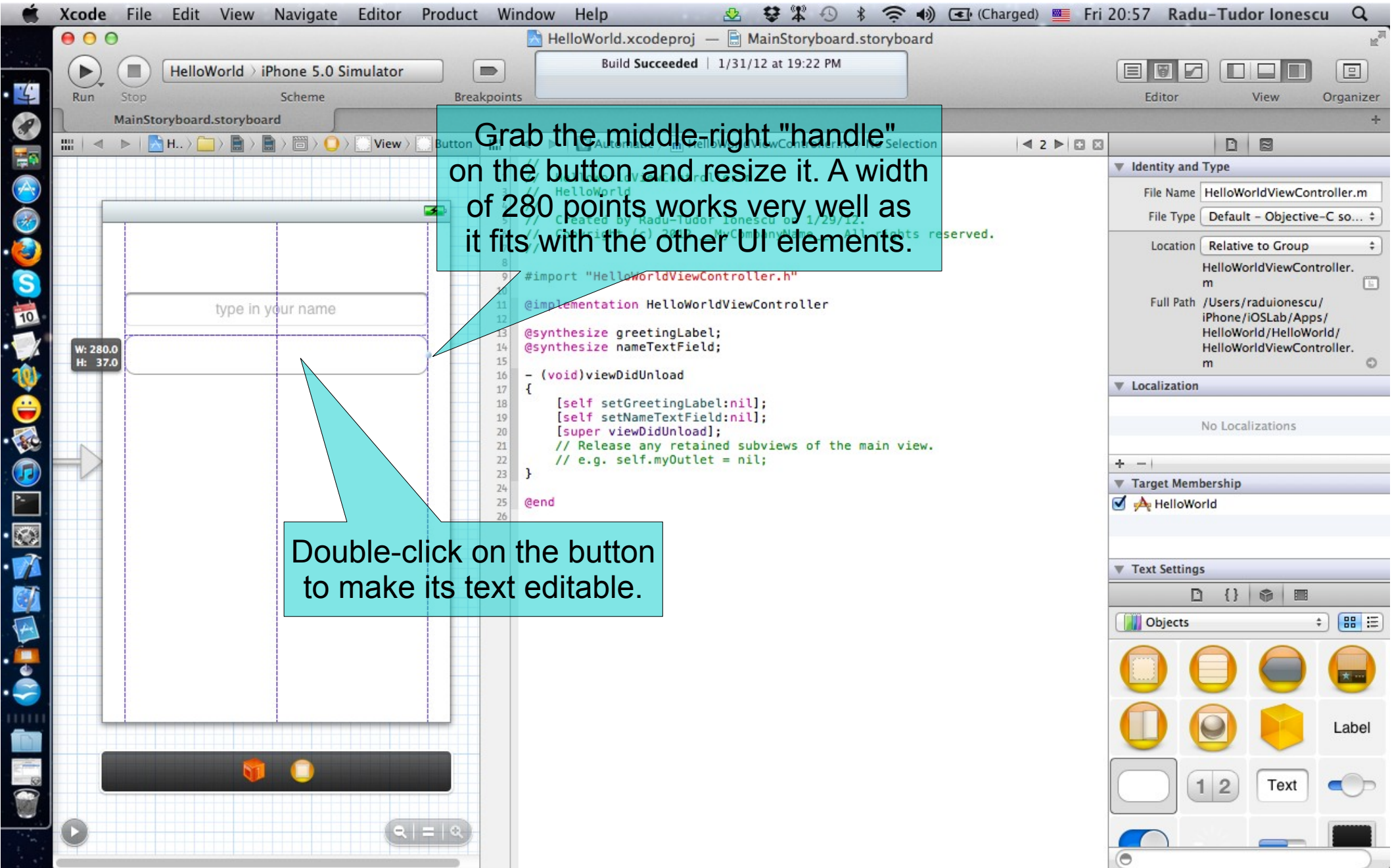
Drag a Button from the Object Library to your View.

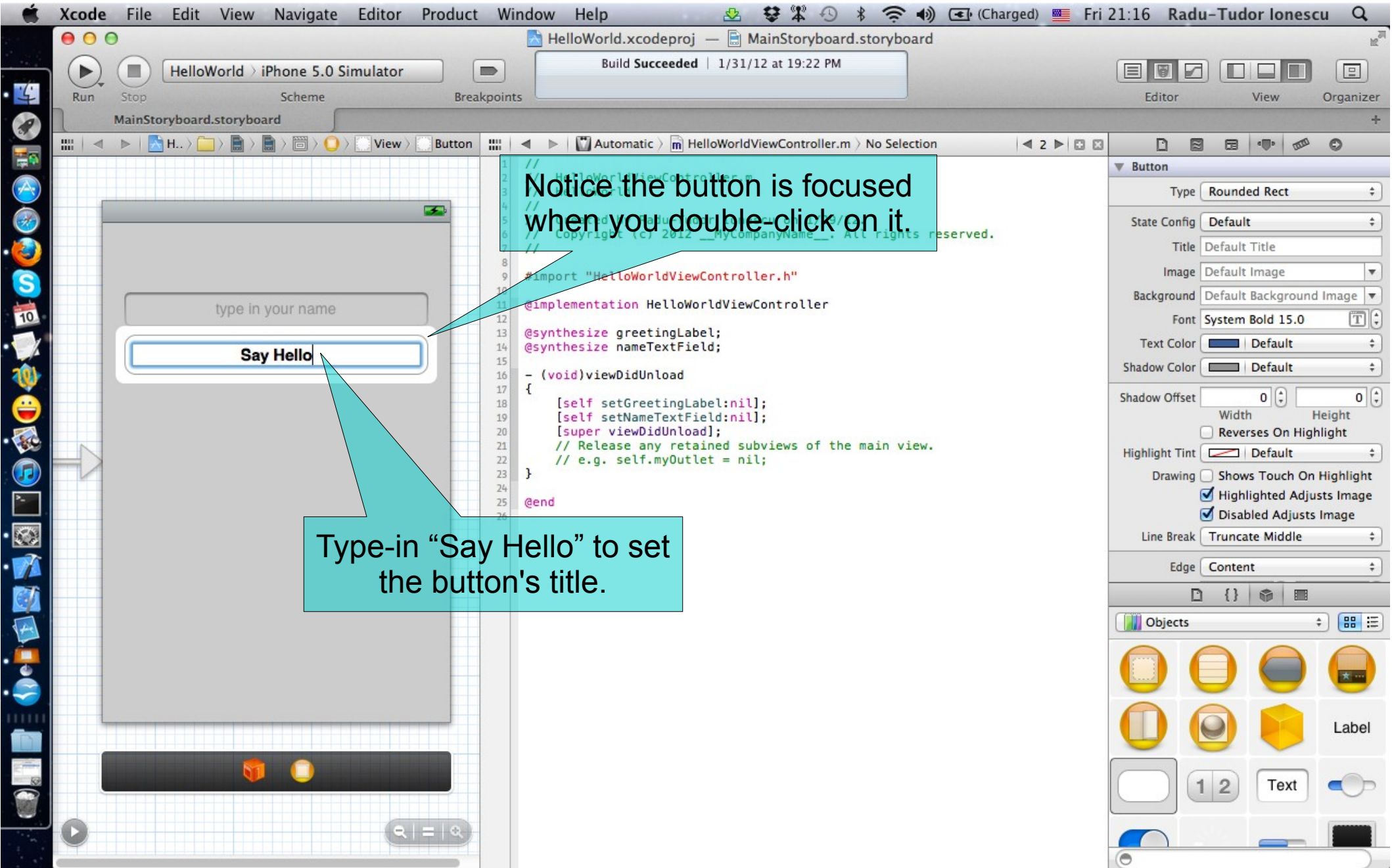
## Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

5. Adjust the button width to 280 pixels.
6. Change the button's title to "Say Hello".









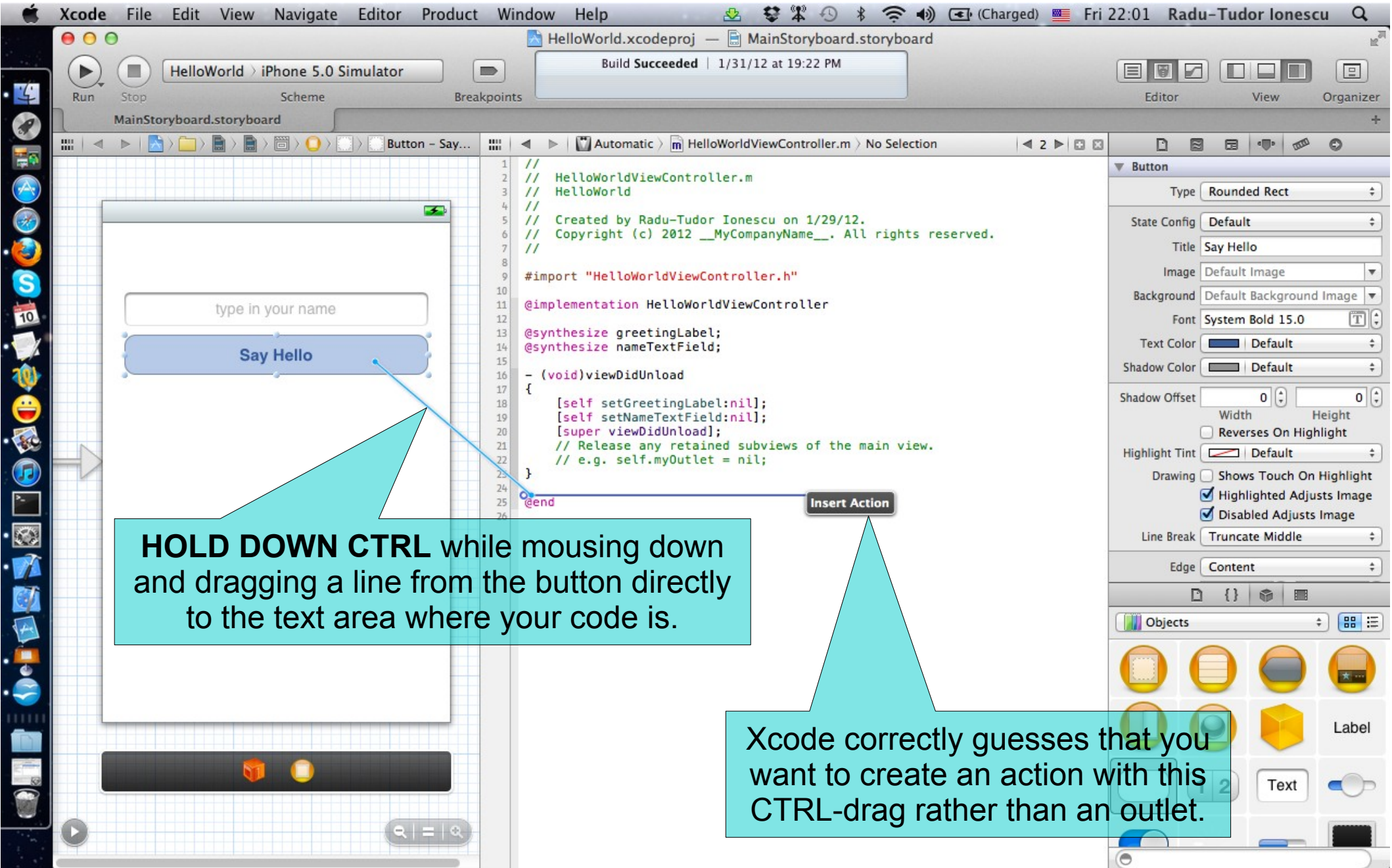
# Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

7. Specify the action that our `UIButton` is going to send to our Controller when the user touches it.

Remember that the term **outlet** refers to a `@property` through which we send messages to something in our View from our Controller (for example, `greetingLabel` is an outlet).

We use the term **action** to mean a method that is going to be sent from an object in our View to our Controller when something interesting happens in the user-interface.



**HOLD DOWN CTRL** while mousing down and dragging a line from the button directly to the text area where your code is.

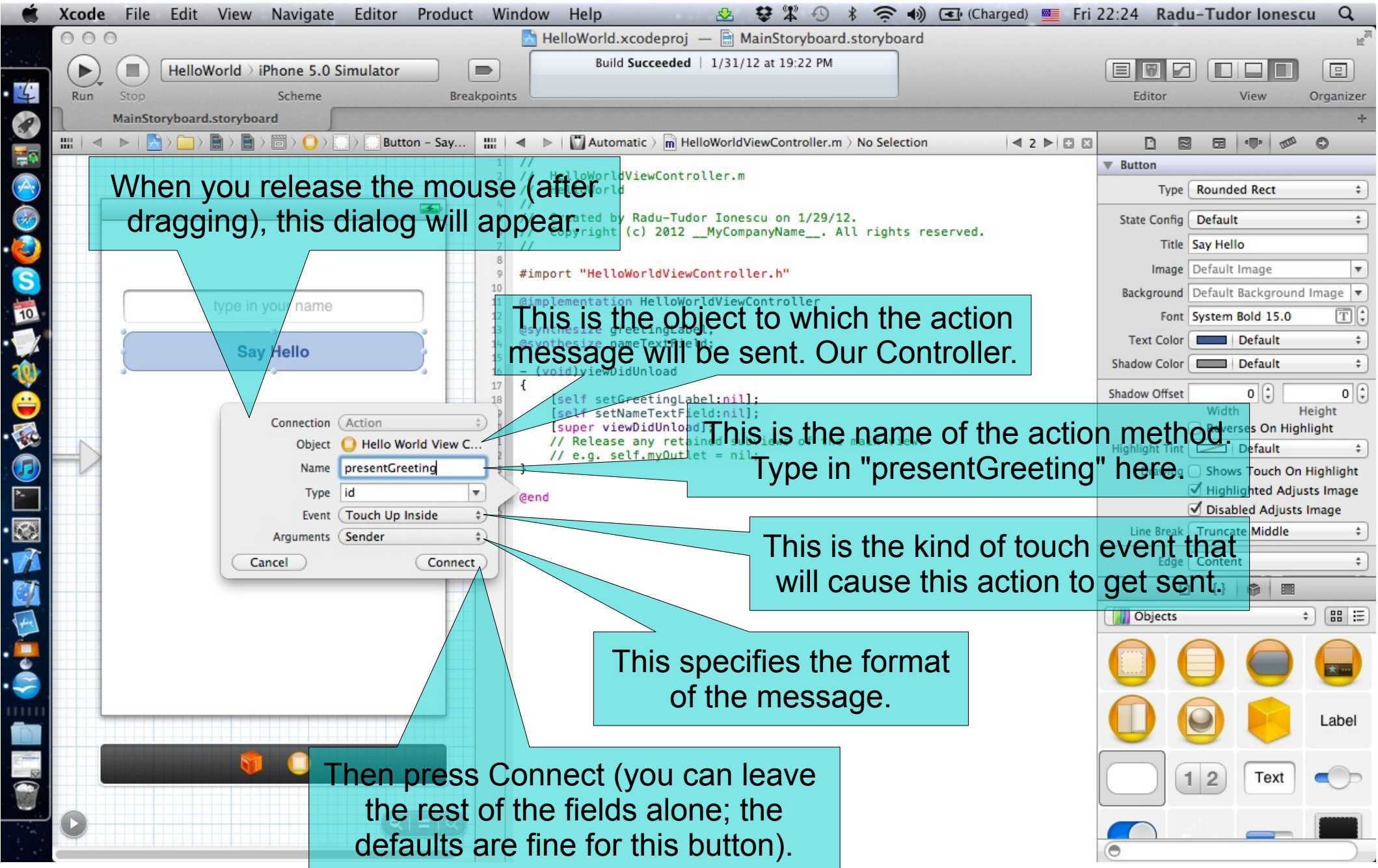
Xcode correctly guesses that you want to create an action with this CTRL-drag rather than an outlet.



## Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

8. Enter “presentGreeting” as the name of the action message (which makes sense since this button is going to be the button that triggers the presentation of the greetings message).



When you release the mouse (after dragging), this dialog will appear.

This is the object to which the action message will be sent. Our Controller.

This is the name of the action method. Type in "presentGreeting" here.

This is the kind of touch event that will cause this action to get sent.

This specifies the format of the message.

Then press Connect (you can leave the rest of the fields alone; the defaults are fine for this button).

```
1 // HelloWorldViewController.m
2 //
3 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
4 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
5
6
7
8
9
10 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
11
12 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
13 @synthesize greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField;
15
16 - (void)viewDidLoad
17 {
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];
20     [super viewDidLoad];
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
23 }
24 @end
```

Inspector and Object Library panels. The Inspector shows properties for a Button: Type: Rounded Rect, State Config: Default, Title: Say Hello, Image: Default Image, Background: Default Background Image, Font: System Bold 15.0, Text Color: Default, Shadow Color: Default, Shadow Offset: 0,0, Width: 100, Height: 30, Reverses On Highlight: unchecked, Shows Touch On Highlight: unchecked, Highlighted Adjusts Image: checked, Disabled Adjusts Image: checked, Line Break: Truncate Middle, Edge: Content. The Object Library shows various UI components like buttons, labels, and text fields.



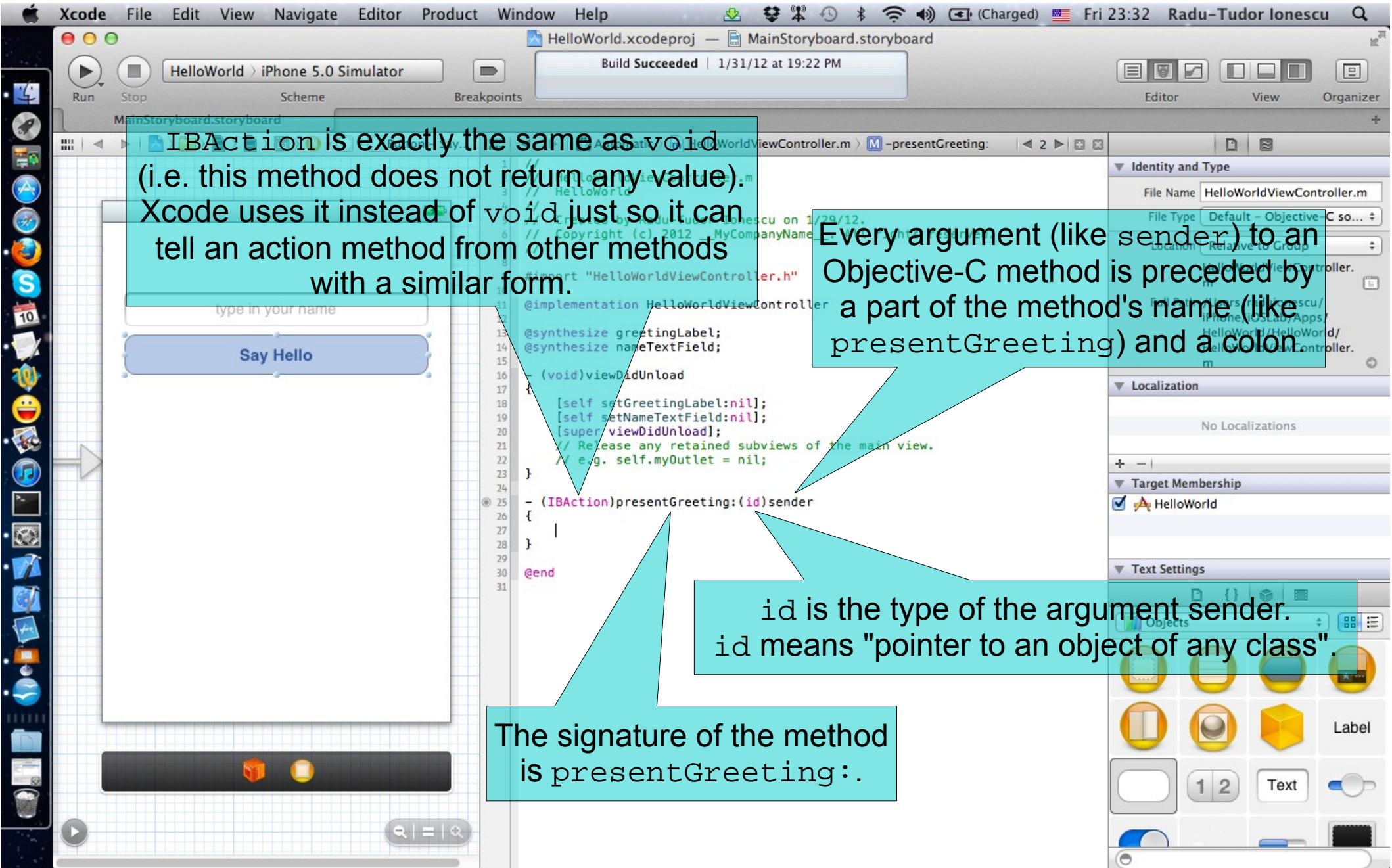
## Task 5

**Task:** Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

9. Study the `presentGreeting:` method added by CTRL-dragging to the Controller.

Notice the method has a parameter (called `sender`) with `id` type. You might be surprised that this does not read `id *`. But that would make no sense because the type `id` is already a pointer so `id *` would be a pointer to a pointer. The type `id` does not mean "object of any class", it means "pointer to an object of any class". Every time the "Say Hello" button is touched, `presentGreeting:` is going to be sent to our Controller with the `UIButton` itself as the message's `sender` argument.

In general, we want to use the type `id` because either we want to allow any class of object to be passed into a method (uncommon) or because the class of the object is "opaque" (it's like a "cookie").



IBAction is exactly the same as void (i.e. this method does not return any value). Xcode uses it instead of void just so it can tell an action method from other methods with a similar form.

Every argument (like sender) to an Objective-C method is preceded by a part of the method's name (like presentGreeting) and a colon.

id is the type of the argument sender. id means "pointer to an object of any class".

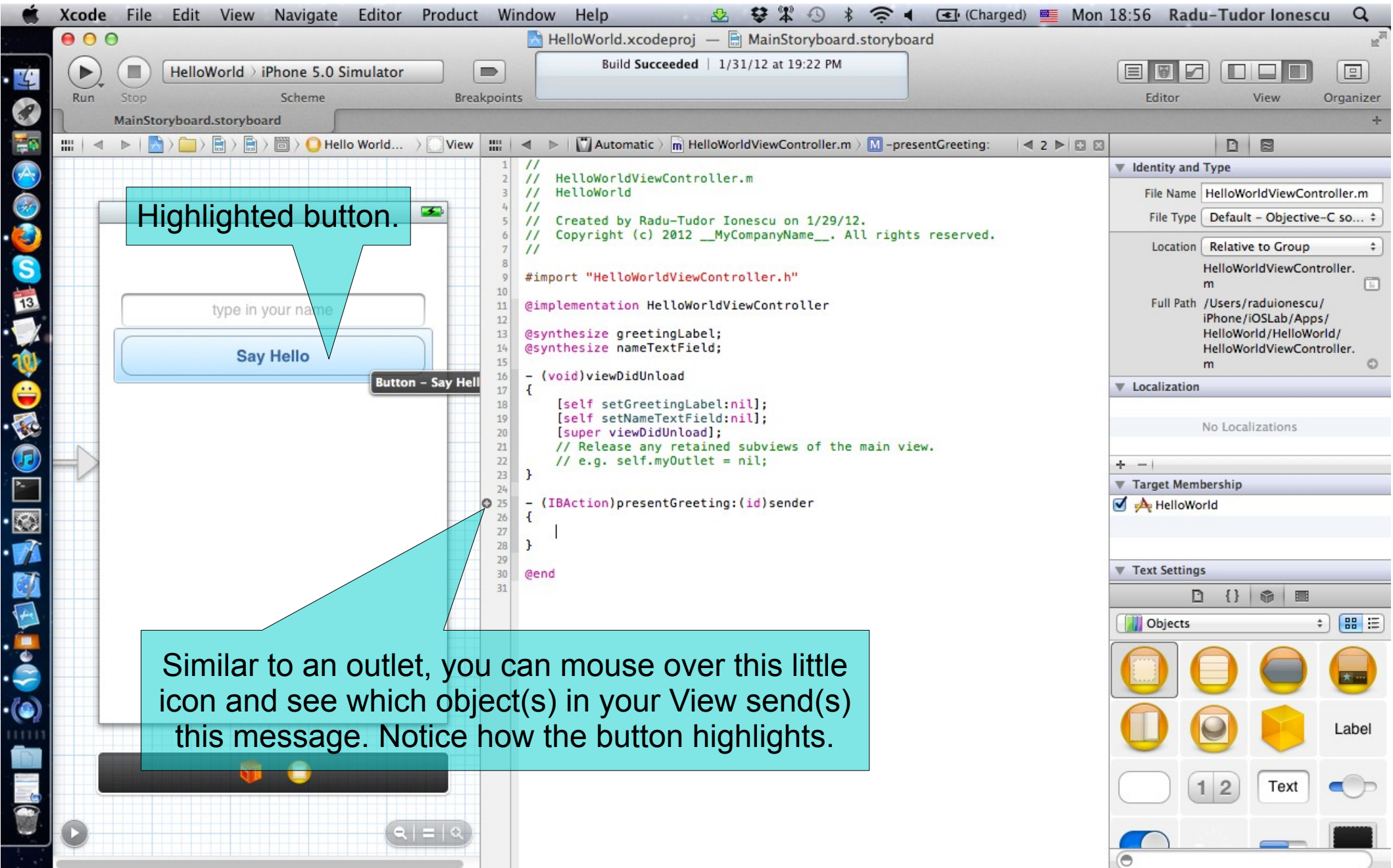
The signature of the method is presentGreeting:.



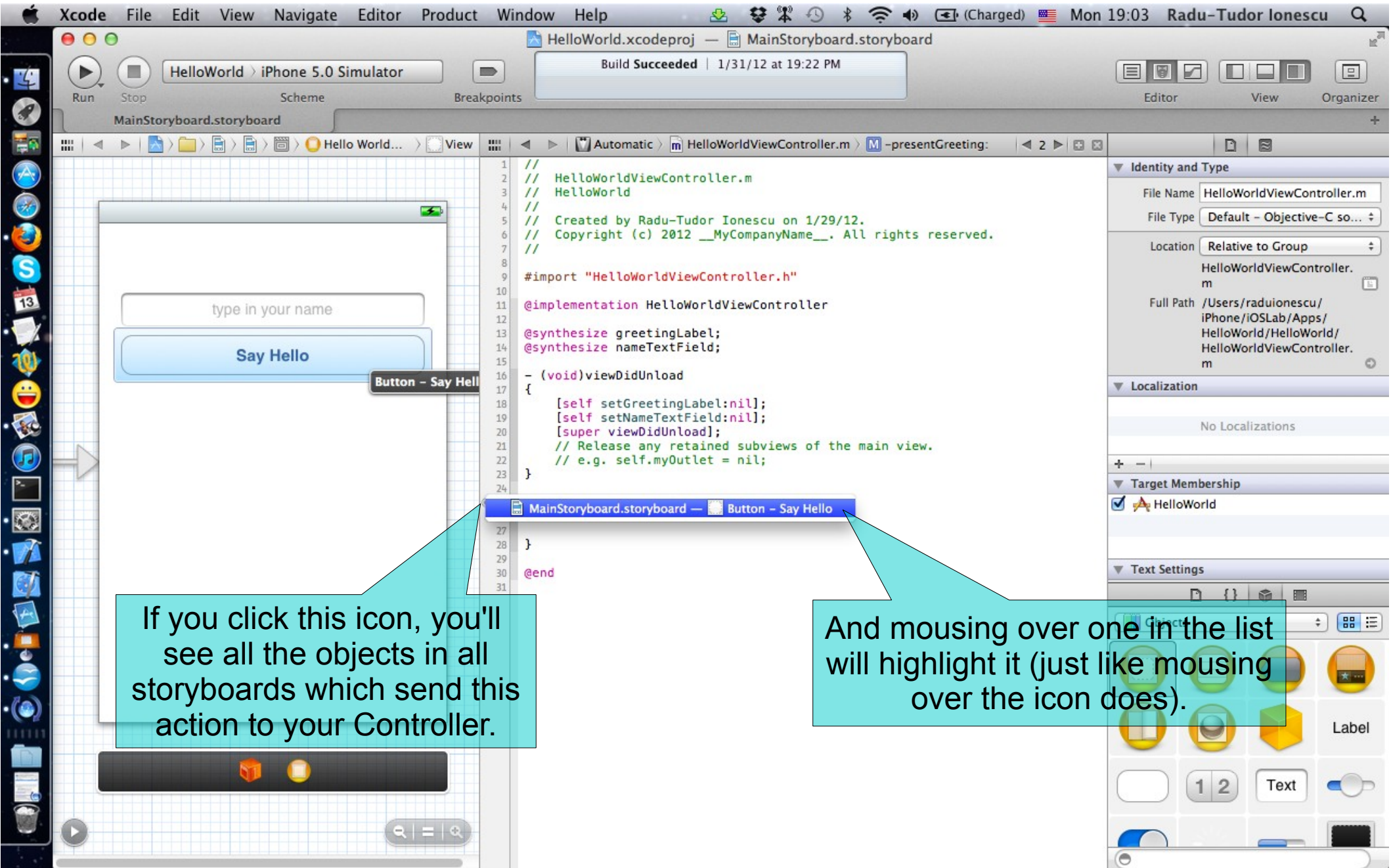
# Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

10. Highlight the button in Interface Builder.





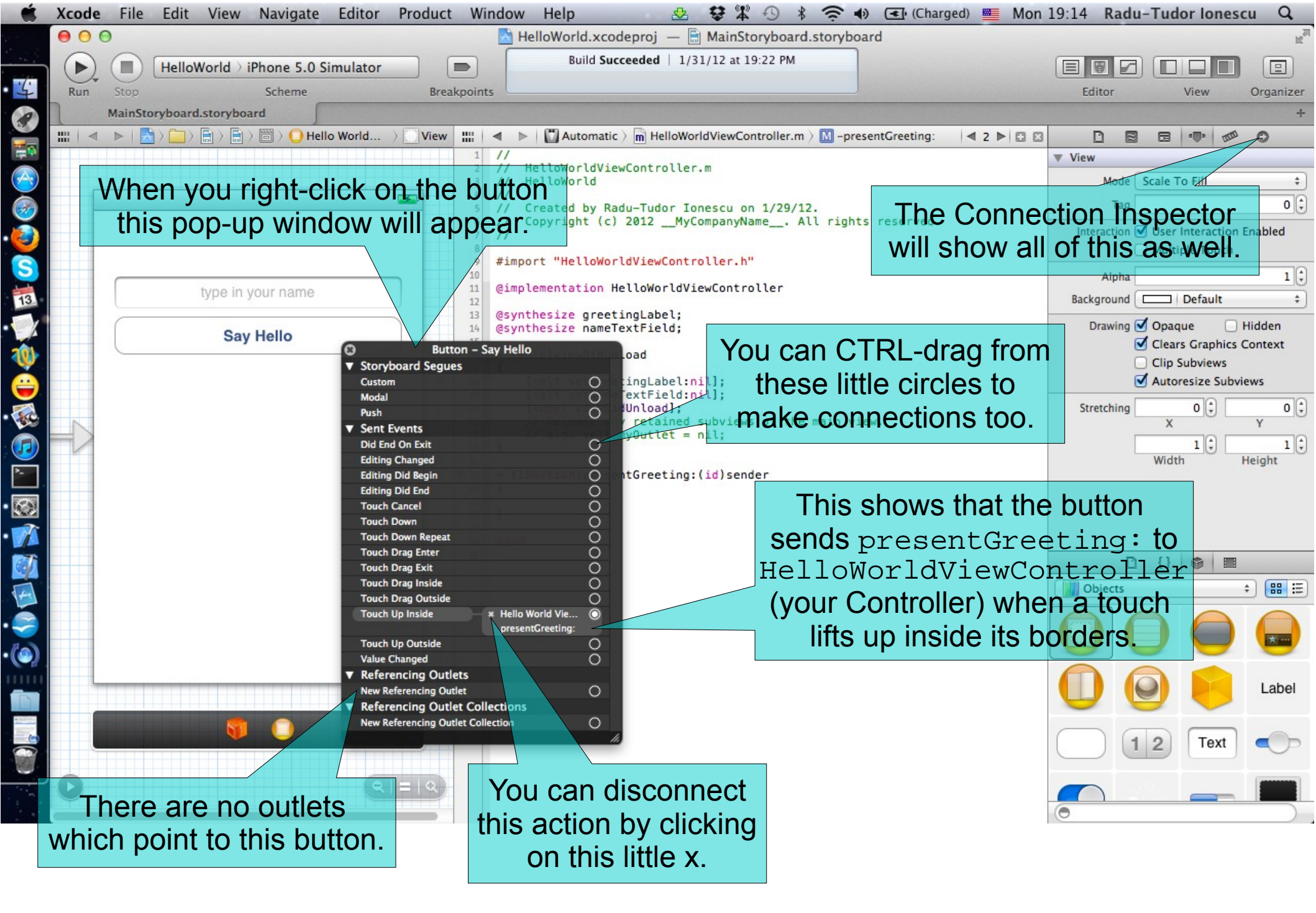


## Task 5

**Task:** Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

10. Right-click on the button to see its connection. When you start building more complicated user-interfaces, it will be very important to be able to see your outlet and action connections. You can do this by right-clicking on any object in your MVC's View.





When you right-click on the button this pop-up window will appear.

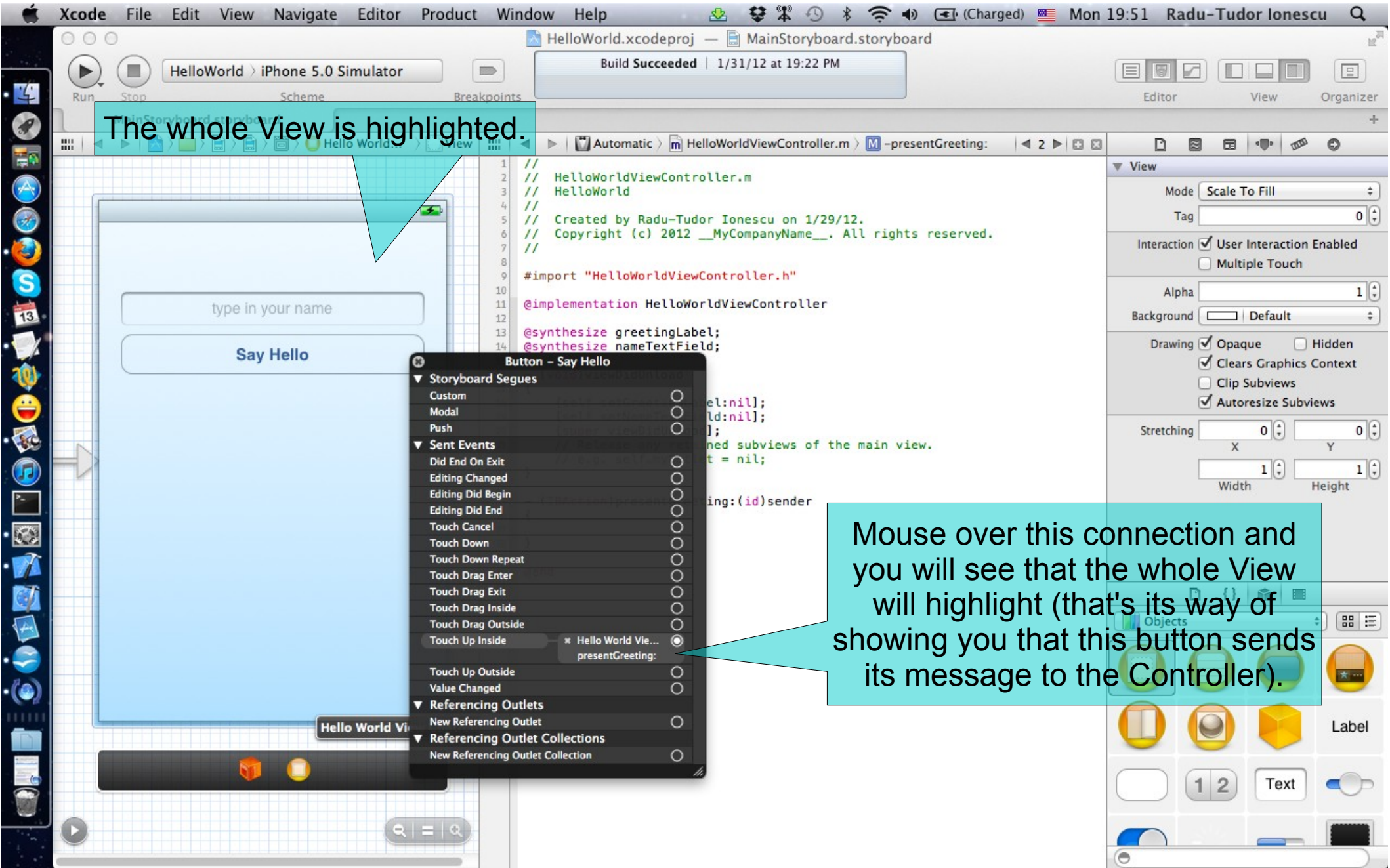
The Connection Inspector will show all of this as well.

You can CTRL-drag from these little circles to make connections too.

This shows that the button sends presentGreeting: to HelloWorldViewController (your Controller) when a touch lifts up inside its borders.

There are no outlets which point to this button.

You can disconnect this action by clicking on this little x.



The whole View is highlighted.

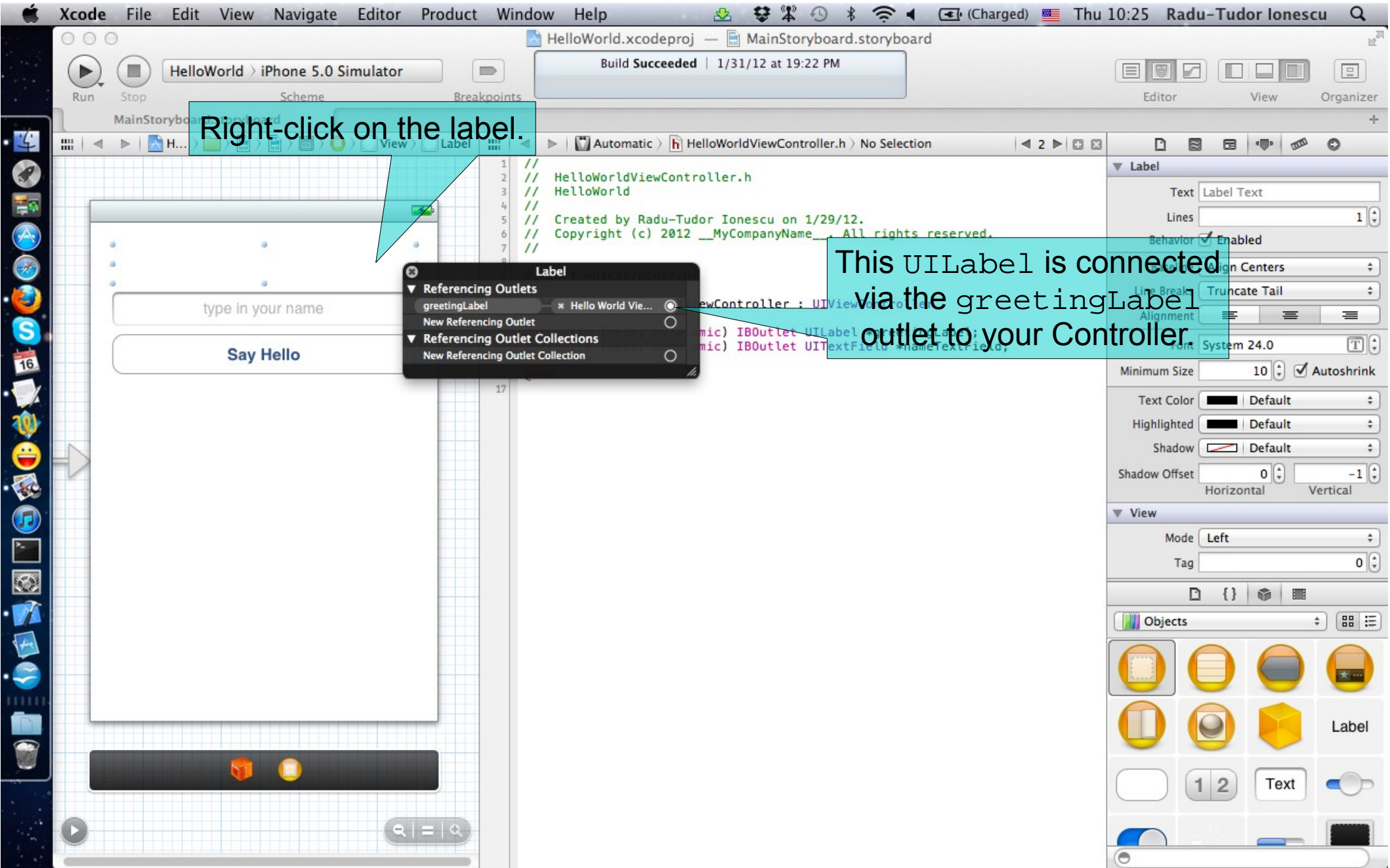
Mouse over this connection and you will see that the whole View will highlight (that's its way of showing you that this button sends its message to the Controller).



## Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

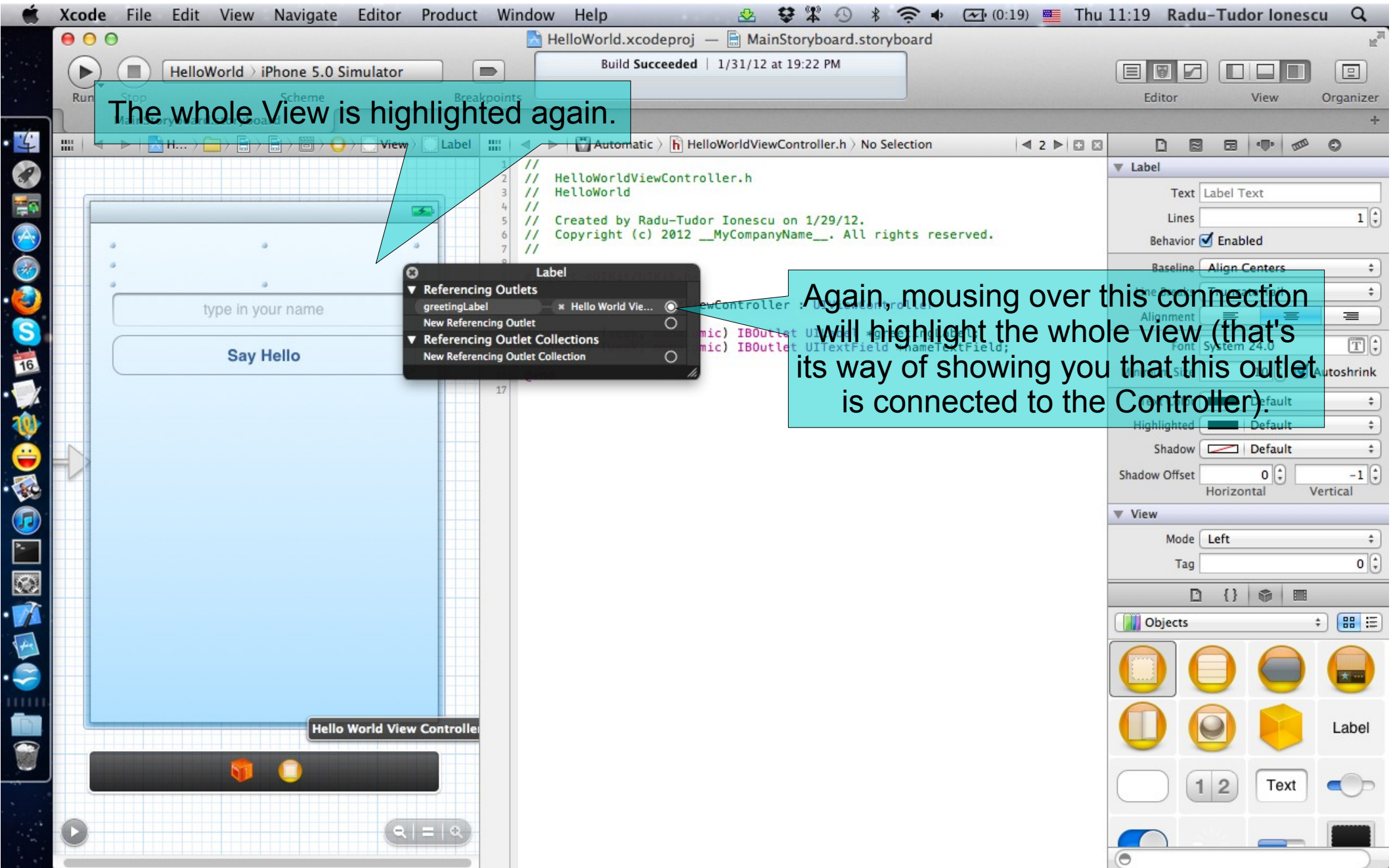
11. Right-click on the `greetingLabel` to see its connection.



Right-click on the label.

This UILabel is connected via the greetingLabel outlet to your Controller



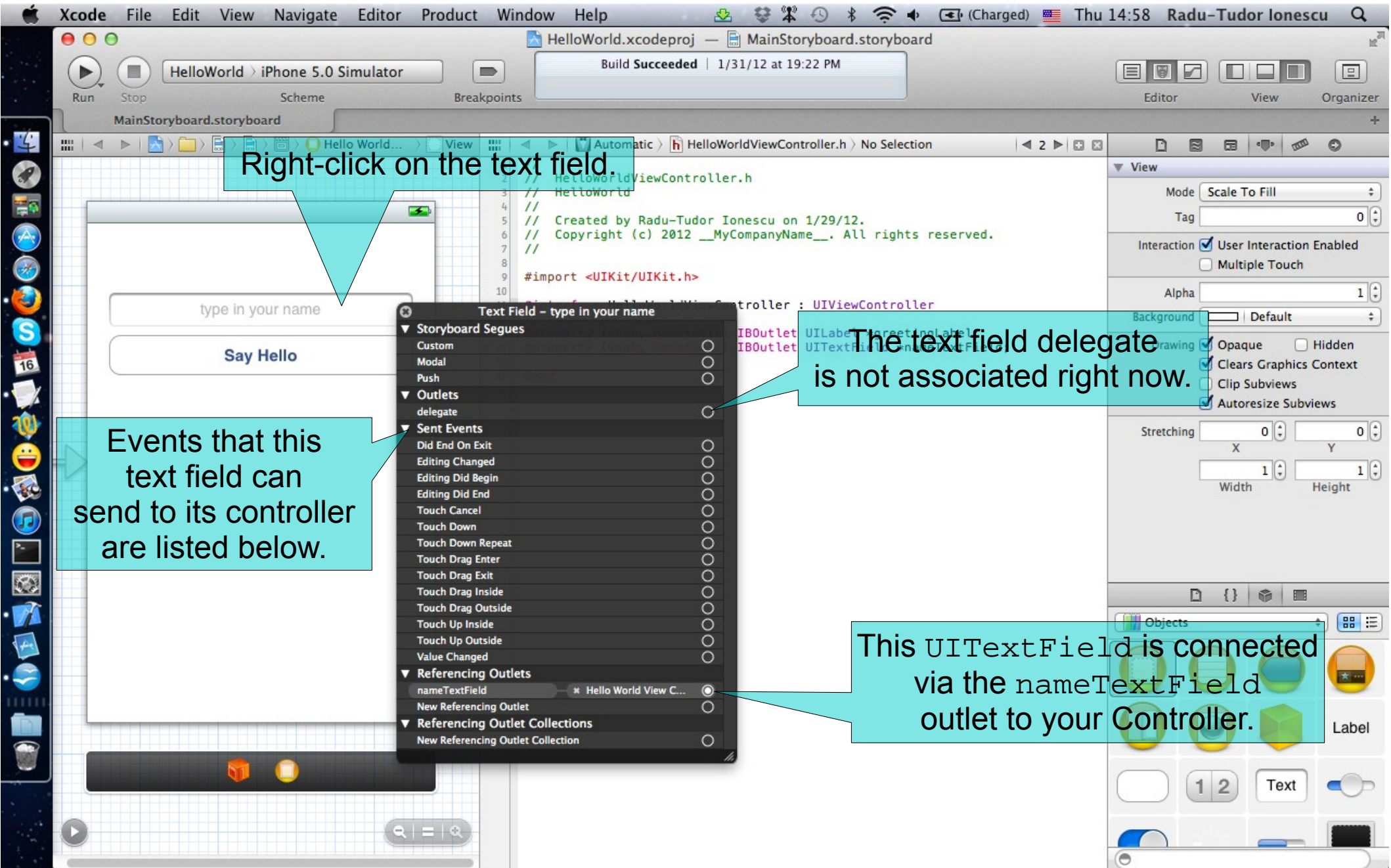


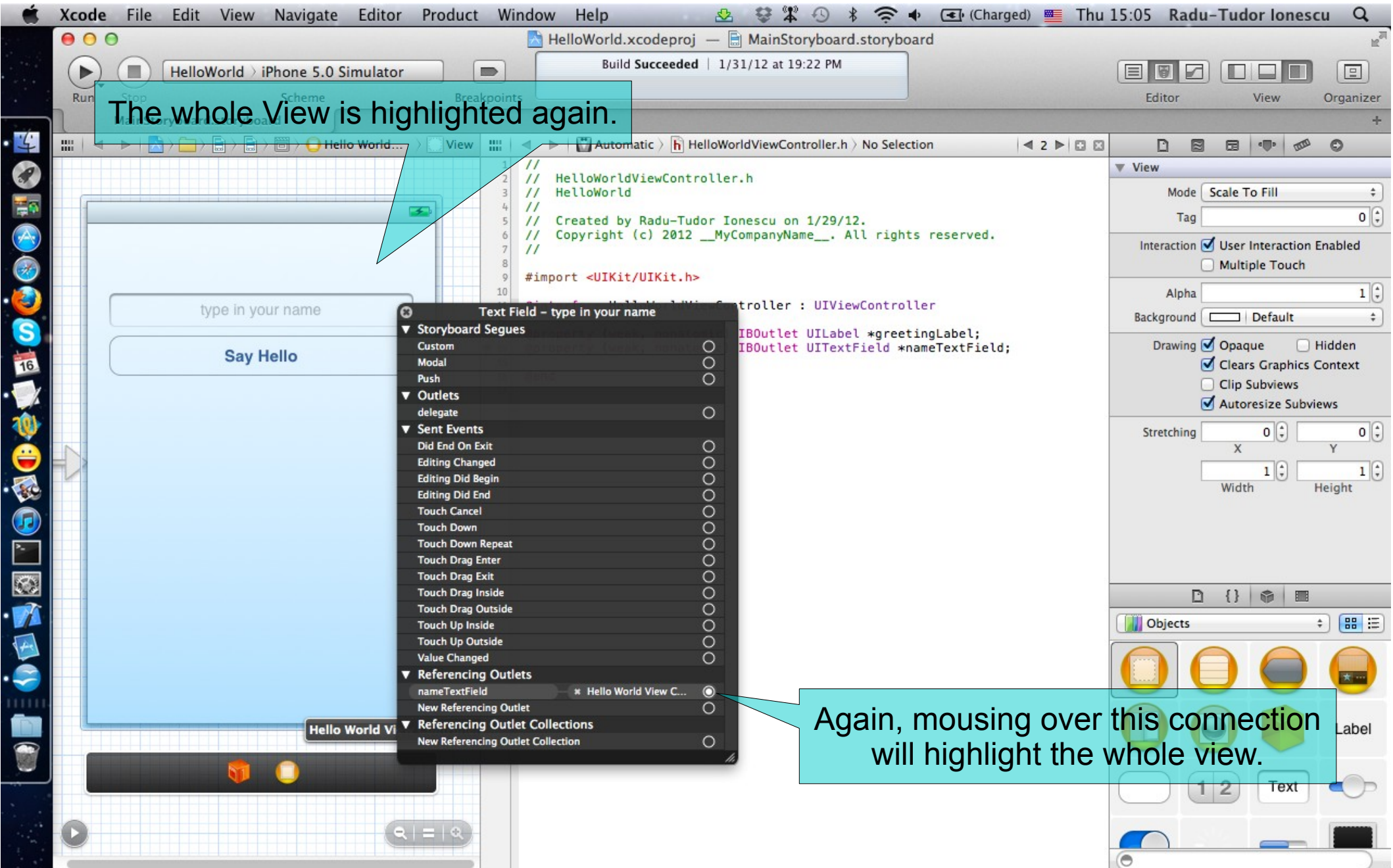
## Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

12. Right-click on the `nameTextField` to see its connection.
13. Notice the **delegate** outlet. A text field delegate responds to editing-related messages from the text field. You can use the delegate to respond to the text entered by the user and to some special commands, such as when the return button is pressed.





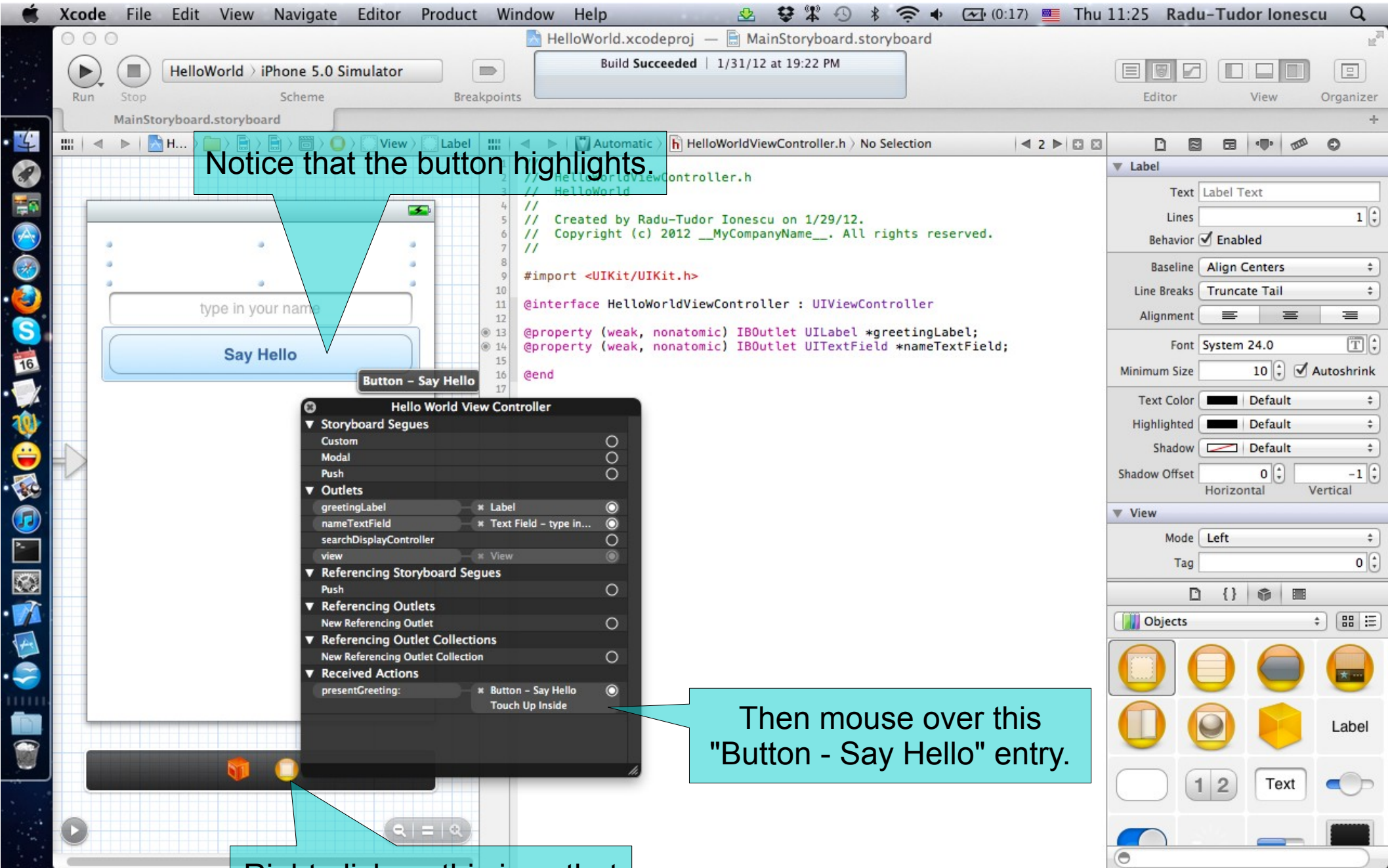




## Task 5

Task: Add a button that will trigger the greeting message.

14. Right-click on the icon that represents the Controller to see its connection.
15. Mouse over the “Say Hello” button entry in the pop-up window.
16. Mouse over the `greetingLabel` outlet in the pop-up window.



Notice that the button highlights.

Hello World View Controller

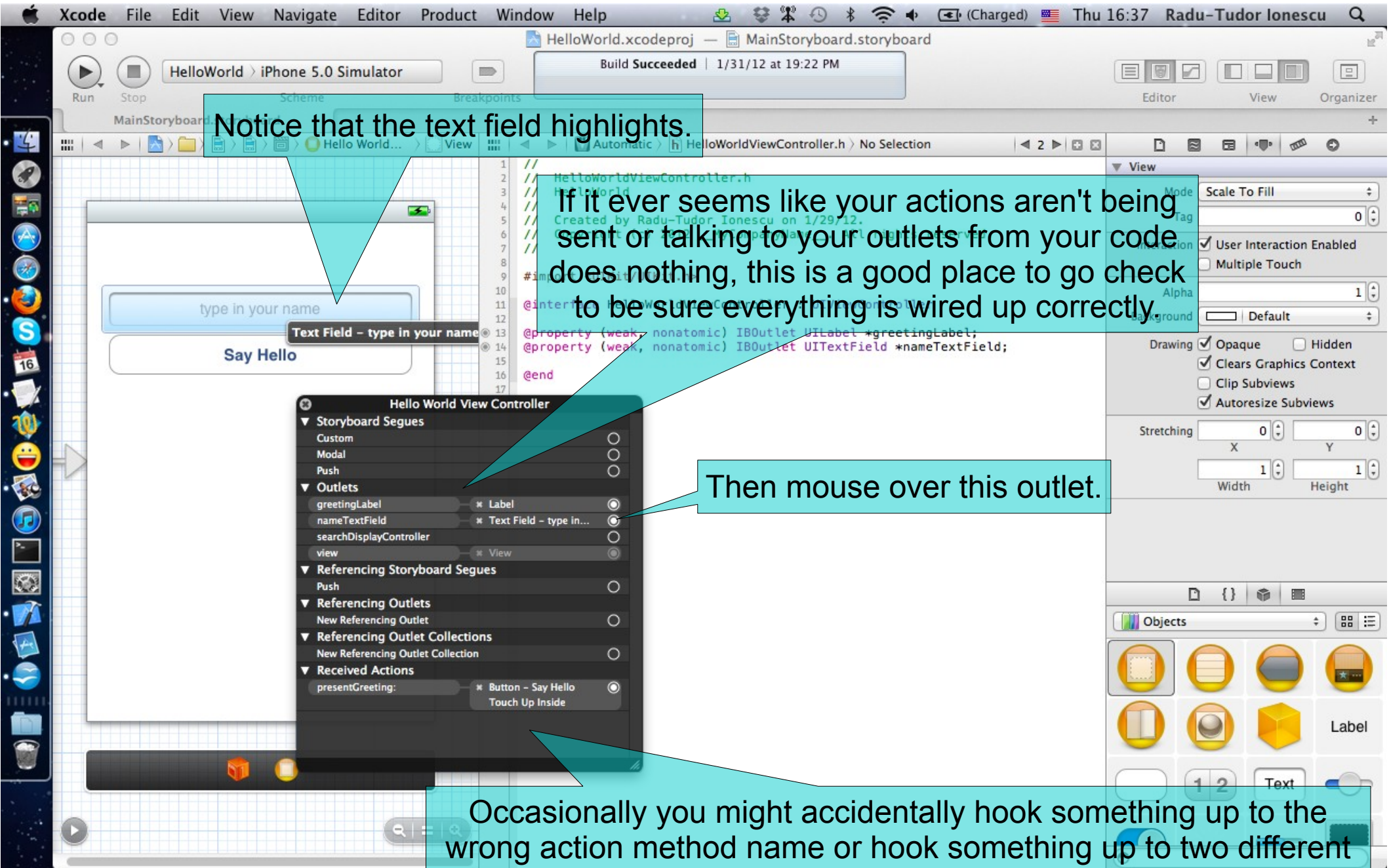
- ▼ Storyboard Segues
  - Custom
  - Modal
  - Push
- ▼ Outlets
  - greetingLabel \* Label
  - nameTextField \* Text Field - type in...
  - searchDisplayController
  - view \* View
- ▼ Referencing Storyboard Segues
  - Push
- ▼ Referencing Outlets
  - New Referencing Outlet
- ▼ Referencing Outlet Collections
  - New Referencing Outlet Collection
- ▼ Received Actions
  - presentGreeting: \* Button - Say Hello
  - Touch Up Inside

Then mouse over this "Button - Say Hello" entry.

Right-click on this icon that represents your Controller.







Notice that the text field highlights.

If it ever seems like your actions aren't being sent or talking to your outlets from your code does nothing, this is a good place to go check to be sure everything is wired up correctly.

Then mouse over this outlet.

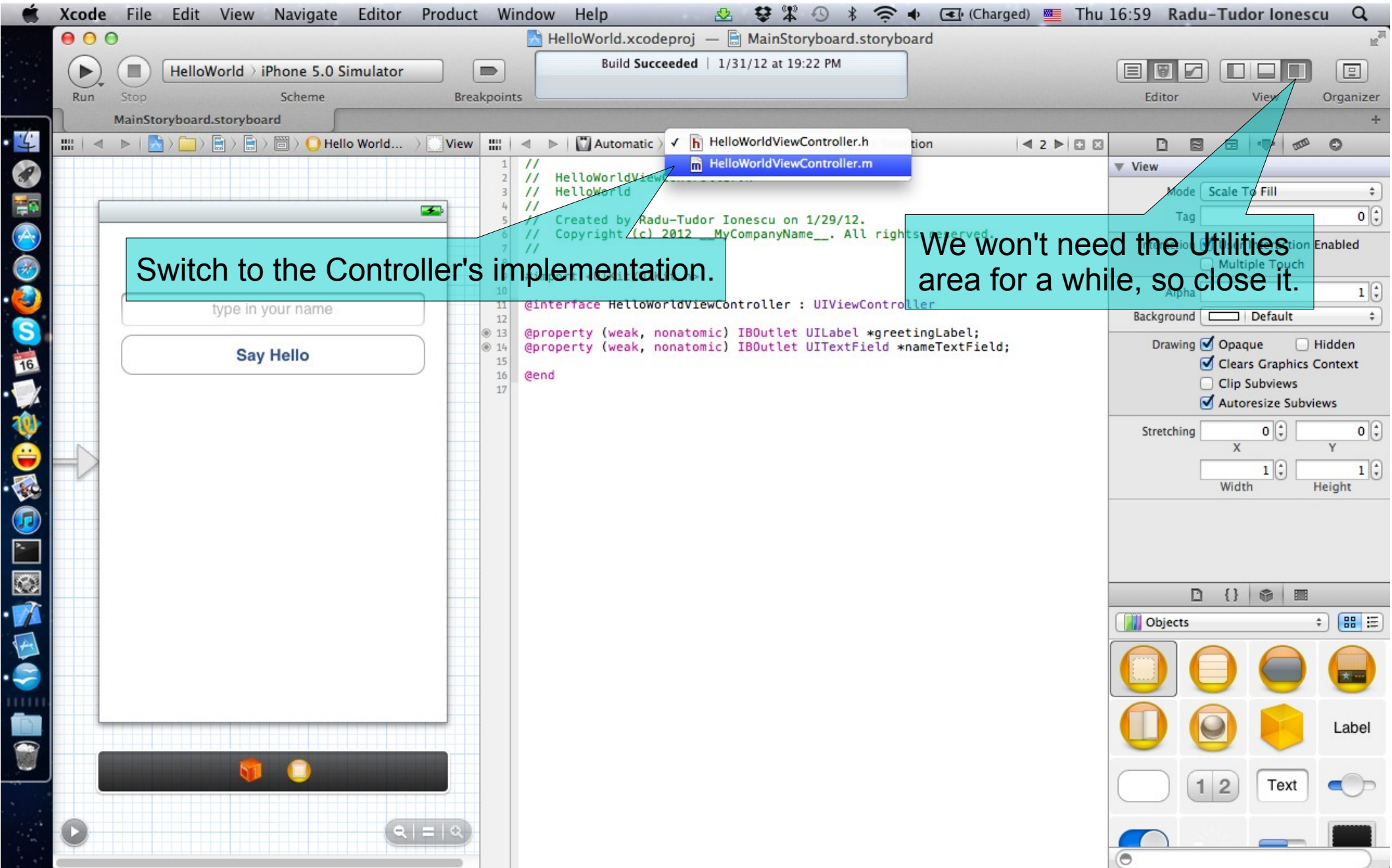
Occasionally you might accidentally hook something up to the wrong action method name or hook something up to two different actions at the same time, so check here if things seem to be acting sort of messed up when it comes to outlets and actions.



## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

1. Switch back to HelloWorldViewController.m in Assitant Editor.
2. Hide the Utilities area.



Switch to the Controller's implementation.

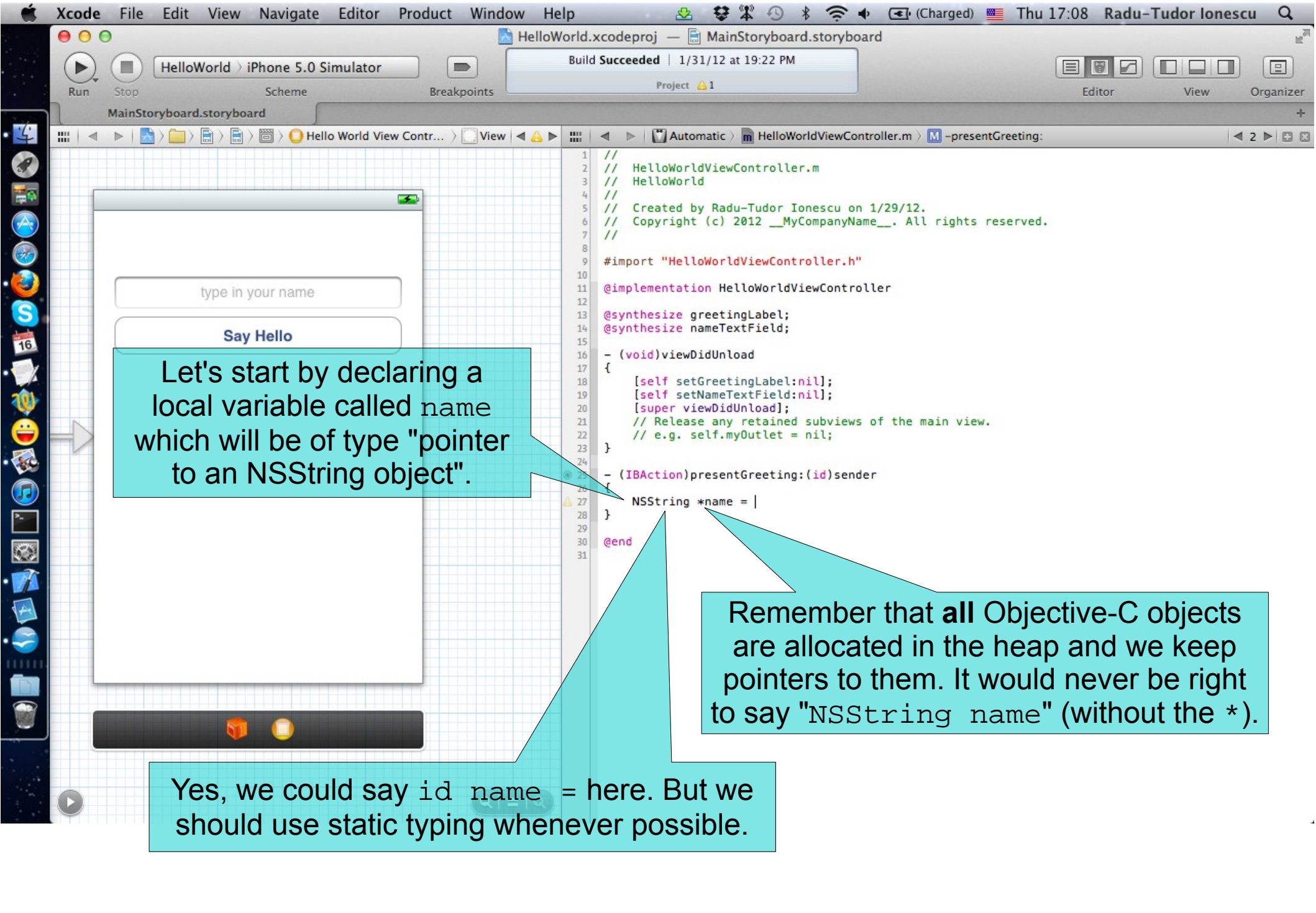
We won't need the Utilities area for a while, so close it.



## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

3. It is time to write the code inside `presentGreeting:` that will get executed whenever the "Say Hello" button gets touched. Let's start by declaring a local variable that will store the user's name.



Let's start by declaring a local variable called name which will be of type "pointer to an NSString object".

```
1 //  
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m  
3 // HelloWorld  
4 //  
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.  
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.  
7 //  
8  
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"  
10  
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController  
12  
13 @synthesize greetingLabel;  
14 @synthesize nameTextField;  
15  
16 - (void)viewDidLoad  
17 {  
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];  
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];  
20     [super viewDidLoad];  
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.  
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;  
23 }  
24  
25 - (IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender  
26 {  
27     NSString *name = |  
28 }  
29  
30 @end  
31
```

Remember that **all** Objective-C objects are allocated in the heap and we keep pointers to them. It would never be right to say "NSString name" (without the \*).

Yes, we could say id name = here. But we should use static typing whenever possible.

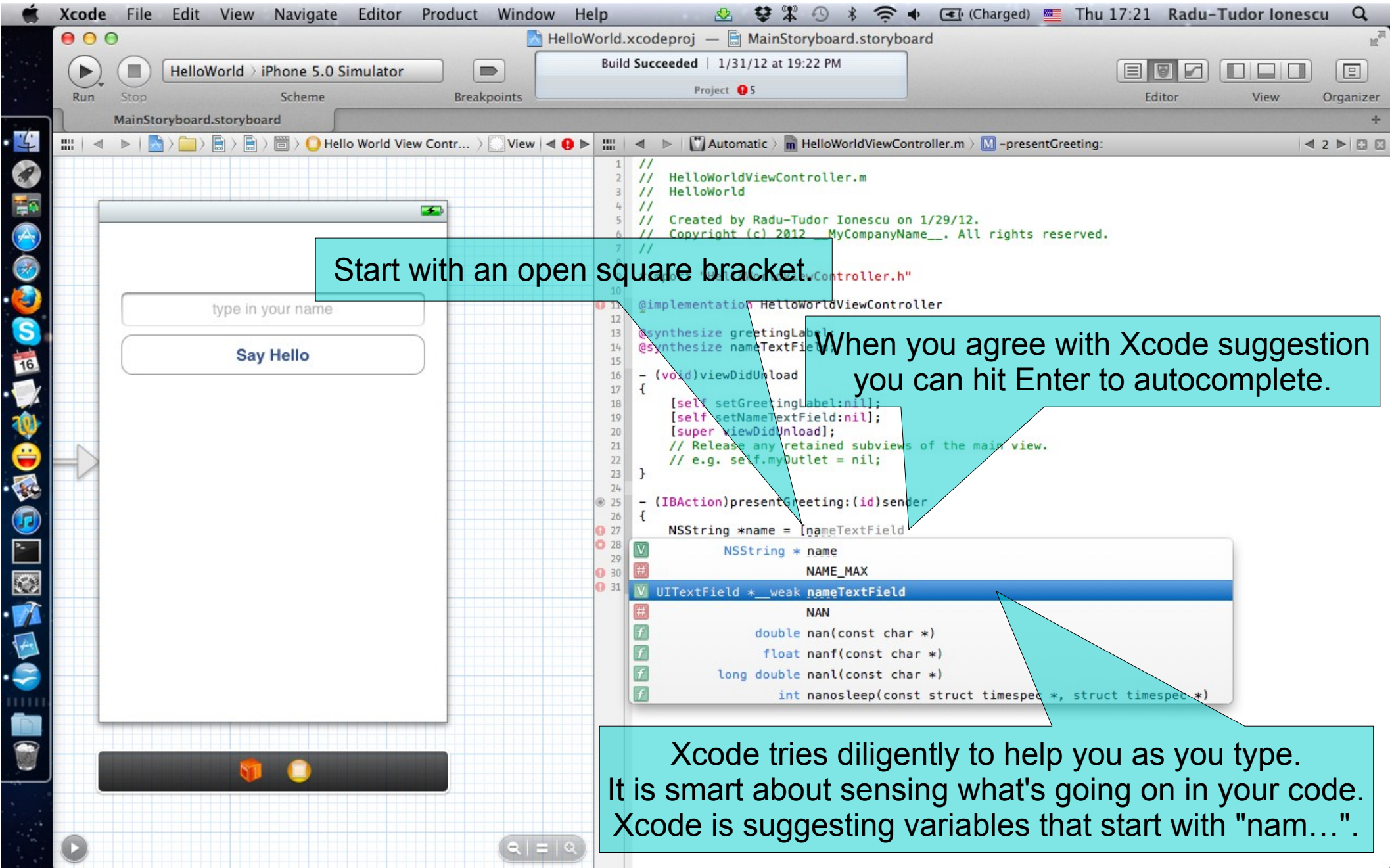


## Task 6

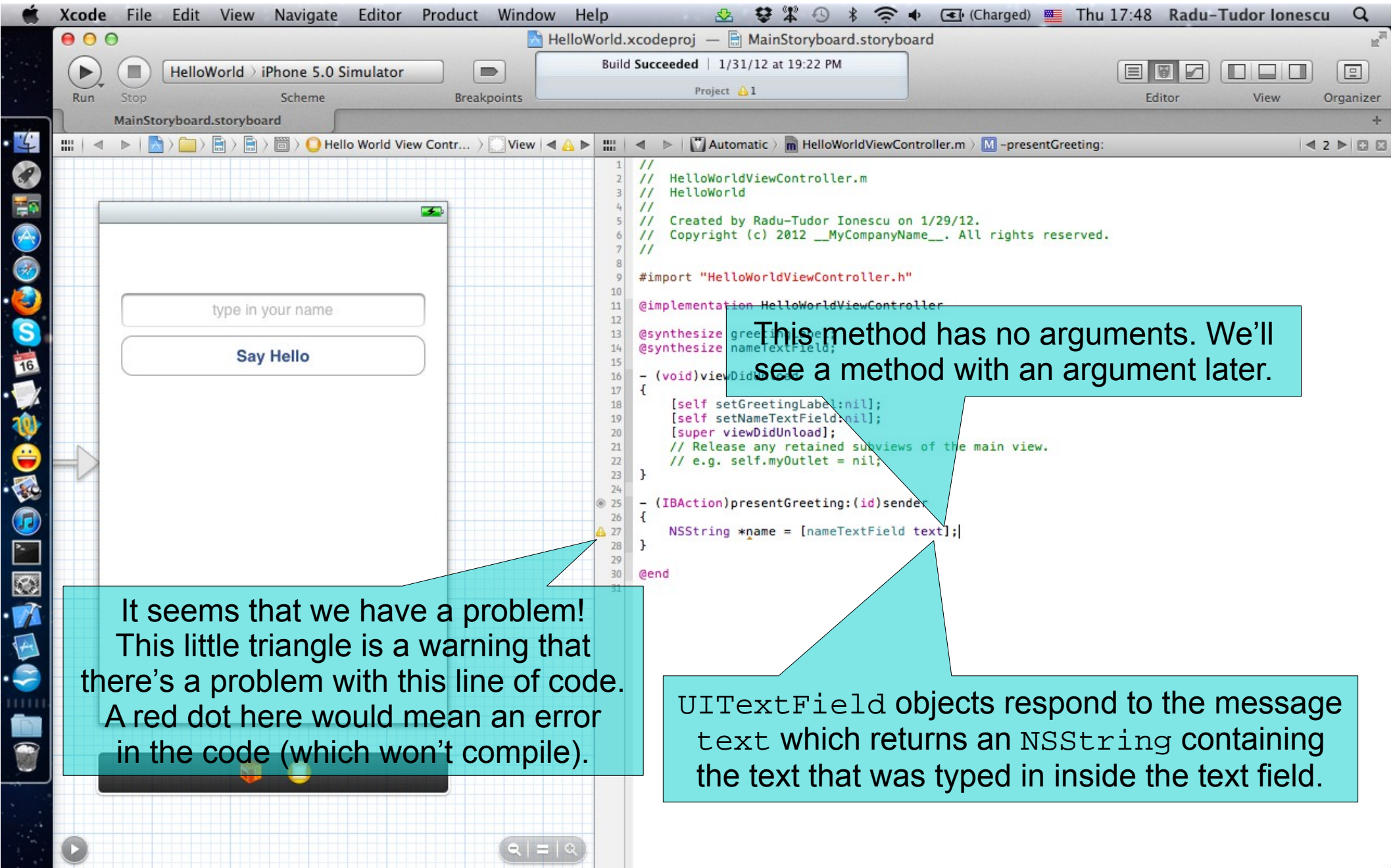
Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

4. To store the user's name in the local variable you need to get the text inside the text field.

To send a message to an Objective-C object we use a syntax that starts with an open square bracket `[`, then a pointer to the object we want to send the message to (`nameTextField`) then a space, then the name of the message to send (`text`). The message sending syntax ends with a `]` to match the `[` it started with.





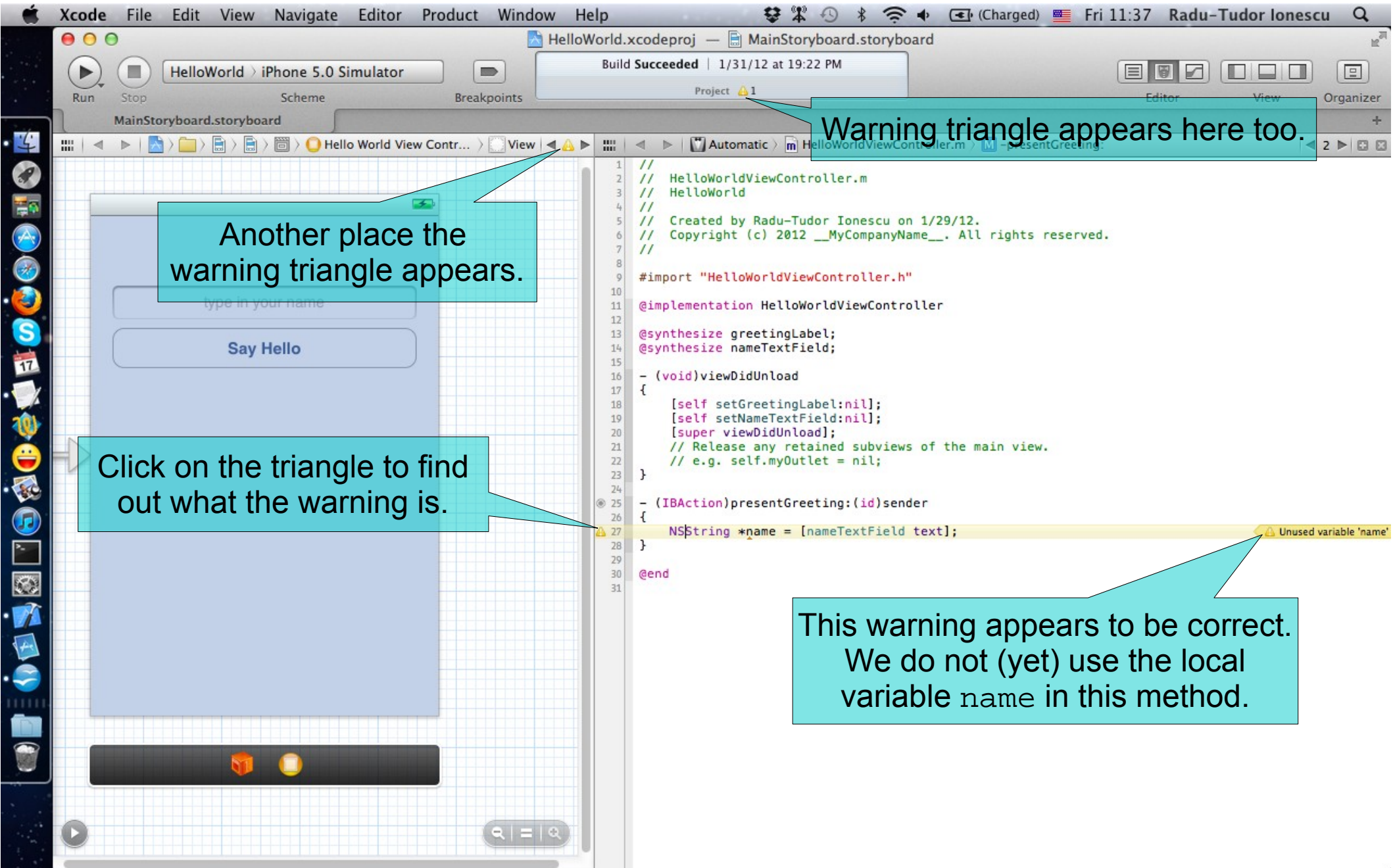


## Task 6

**Task:** Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

5. Click on the triangle to find out what warning is generated by our line of code. Warnings and errors show up in Xcode as you write your code. Although Xcode projects can compile even with warnings, it is recommended to eliminate all warnings from your project.



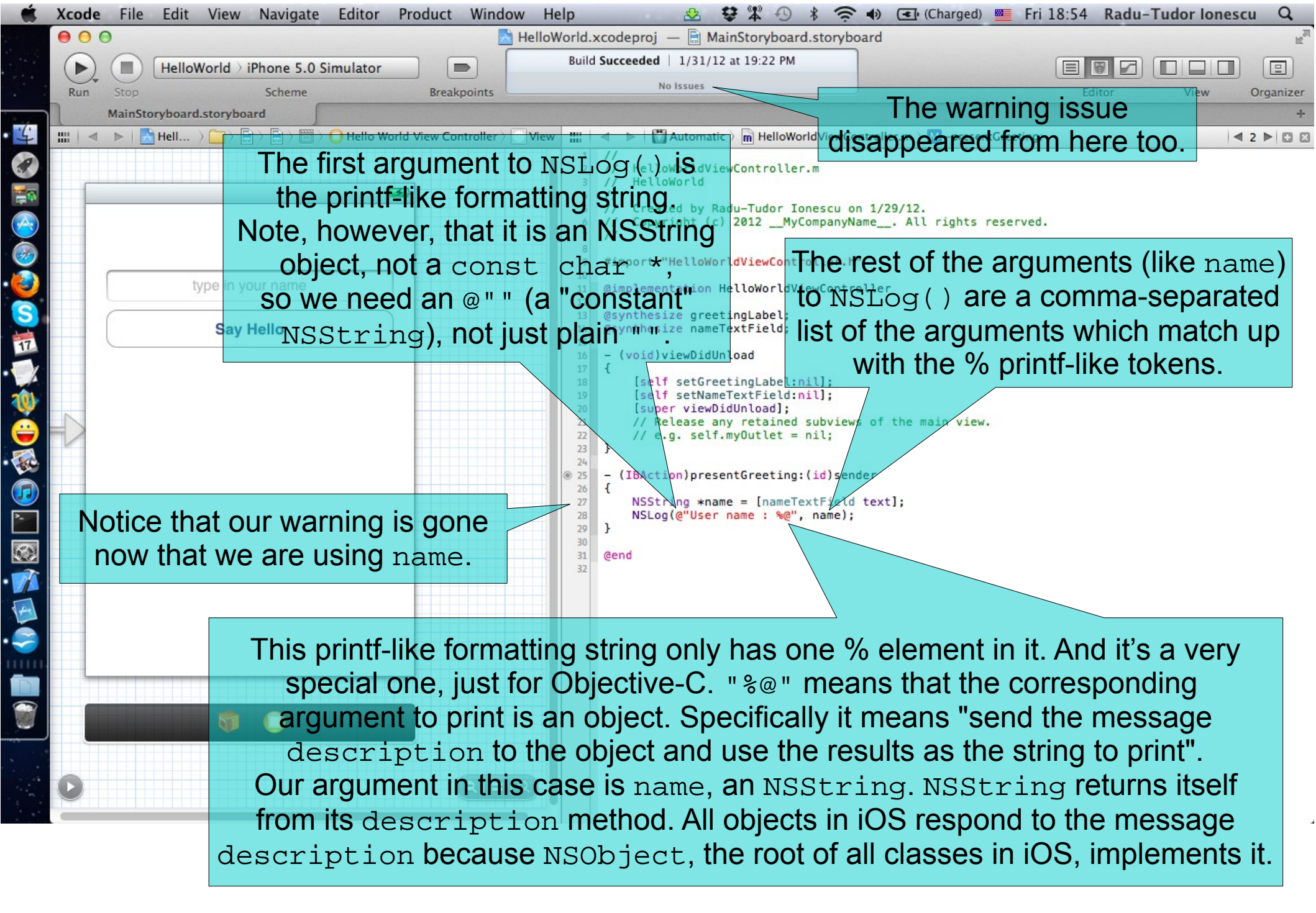


## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

6. Add an `NSLog()` to print the name typed in by the user. A very simple debugging technique is to log information to the console. This is very easy to do in Xcode. There is a printf-like function whose output goes to the console called `NSLog()`.





The warning issue disappeared from here too.

The first argument to NSLog() is the printf-like formatting string. Note, however, that it is an NSString object, not a const char \*, so we need an "@" (a "constant" NSString), not just plain " ".

The rest of the arguments (like name) to NSLog() are a comma-separated list of the arguments which match up with the % printf-like tokens.

Notice that our warning is gone now that we are using name.

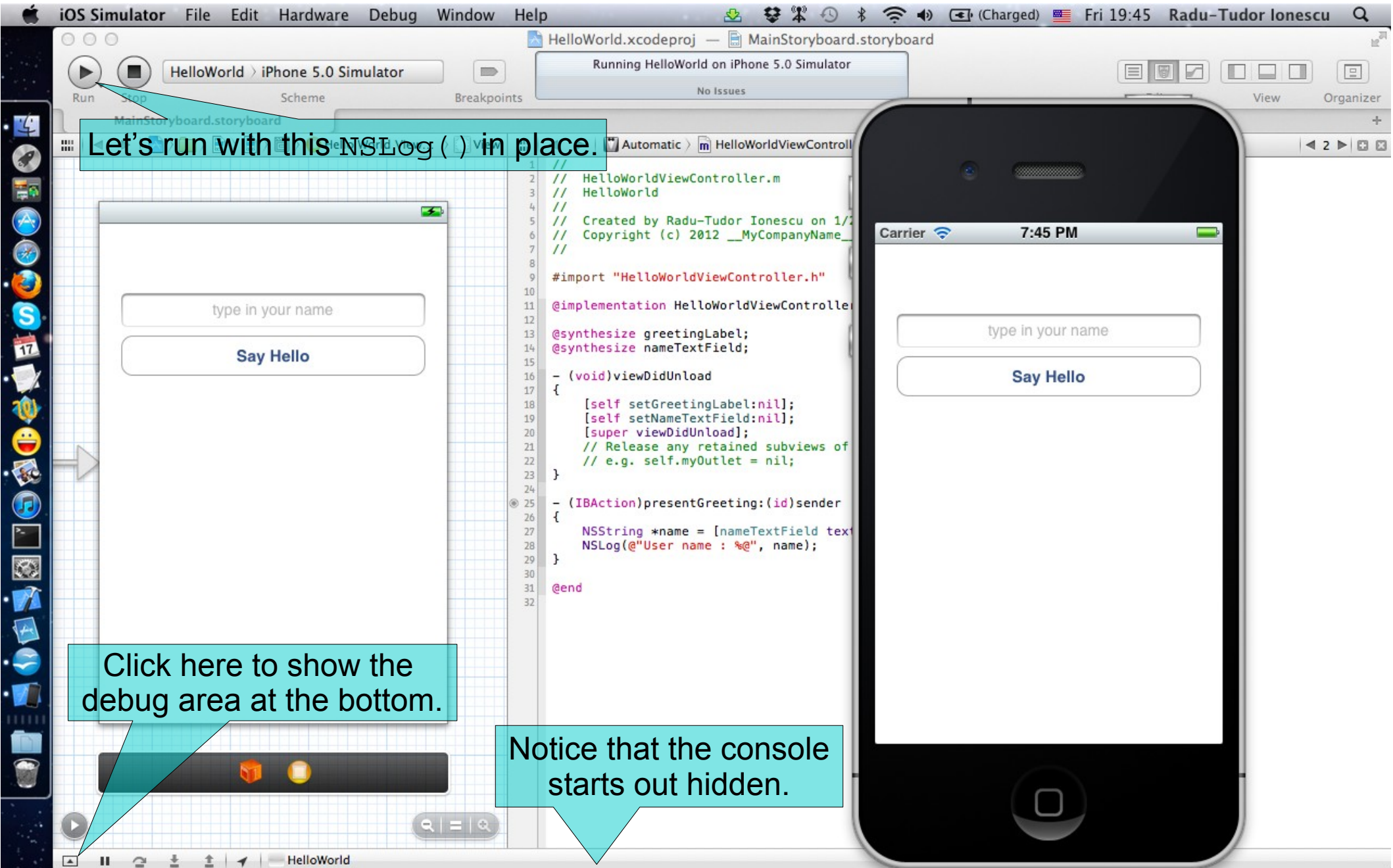
This printf-like formatting string only has one % element in it. And it's a very special one, just for Objective-C. "%@" means that the corresponding argument to print is an object. Specifically it means "send the message description to the object and use the results as the string to print". Our argument in this case is name, an NSString. NSString returns itself from its description method. All objects in iOS respond to the message description because NSObject, the root of all classes in iOS, implements it.

## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

7. Run the application in the Simulator with `NSLog( )` in place.
8. Show up the debug area.



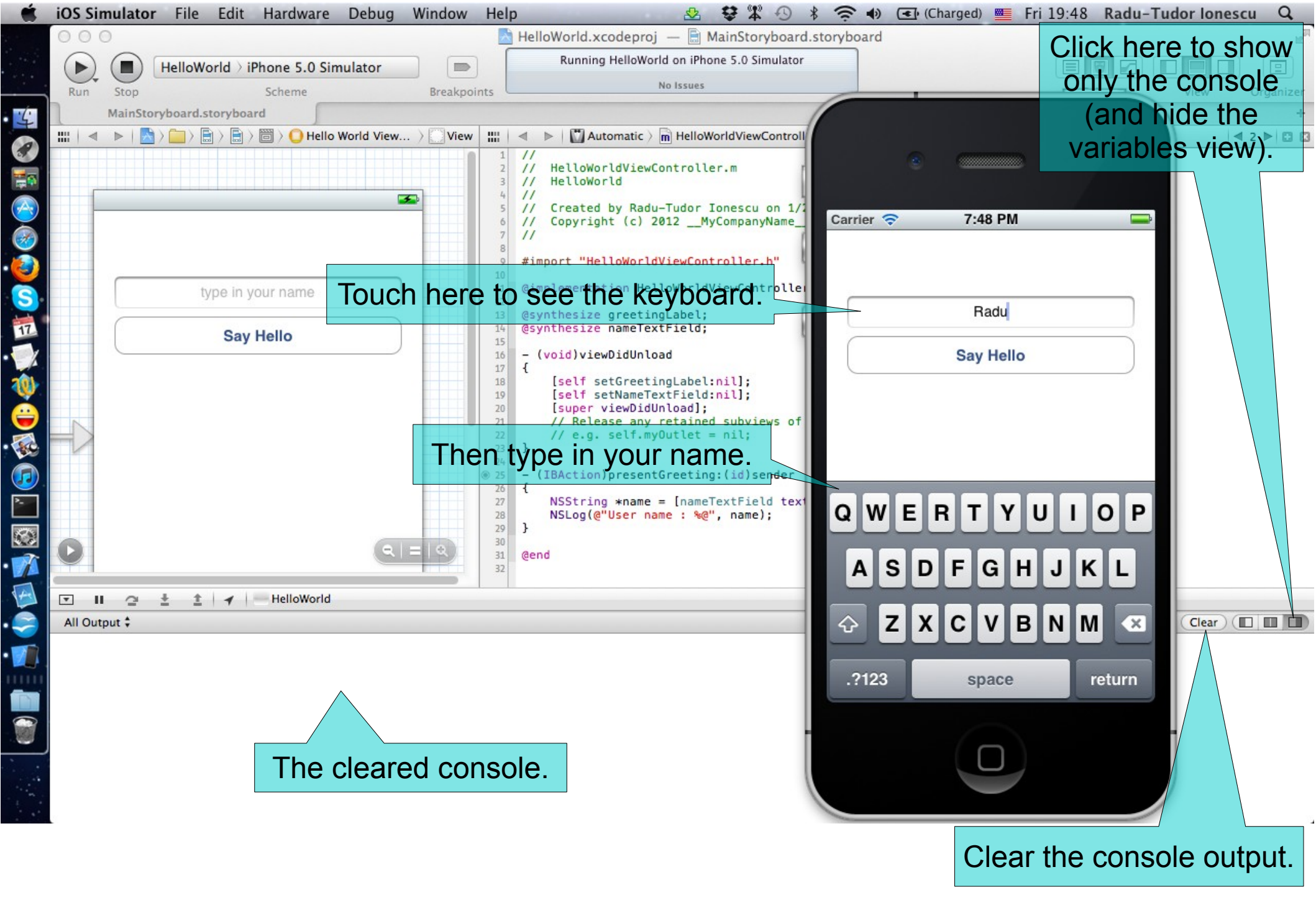


# Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

9. Hide the variables view in the debug area.
10. Clear the console.
11. Type in your name in the text field.





Click here to show only the console (and hide the variables view).

Touch here to see the keyboard.

Then type in your name.

The cleared console.

Clear the console output.

HelloWorld.xcodeproj — MainStoryboard.storyboard

Running HelloWorld on iPhone 5.0 Simulator

Run Stop Scheme Breakpoints

MainStoryboard.storyboard

Hello World View...

Automatic HelloWorldViewController

```
1 //  
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m  
3 // HelloWorld  
4 //  
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/2  
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName_  
7 //  
8 //  
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"  
10 @implementation HelloWorldViewController  
11 @synthesize greetingLabel;  
12 @synthesize nameTextField;  
13  
14  
15  
16 - (void)viewDidLoad  
17 {  
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];  
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];  
20     [super viewDidLoad];  
21     // Release any retained subviews of  
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;  
23 }  
24 - (IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender  
25 {  
26     NSString *name = [nameTextField text];  
27     NSLog(@"User name : %@", name);  
28 }  
29 }  
30  
31 @end  
32
```

HelloWorld

All Output

Carrier 7:48 PM

Radu

Say Hello

Q W E R T Y U I O P  
A S D F G H J K L  
Z X C V B N M  
. ? 1 2 3 space return

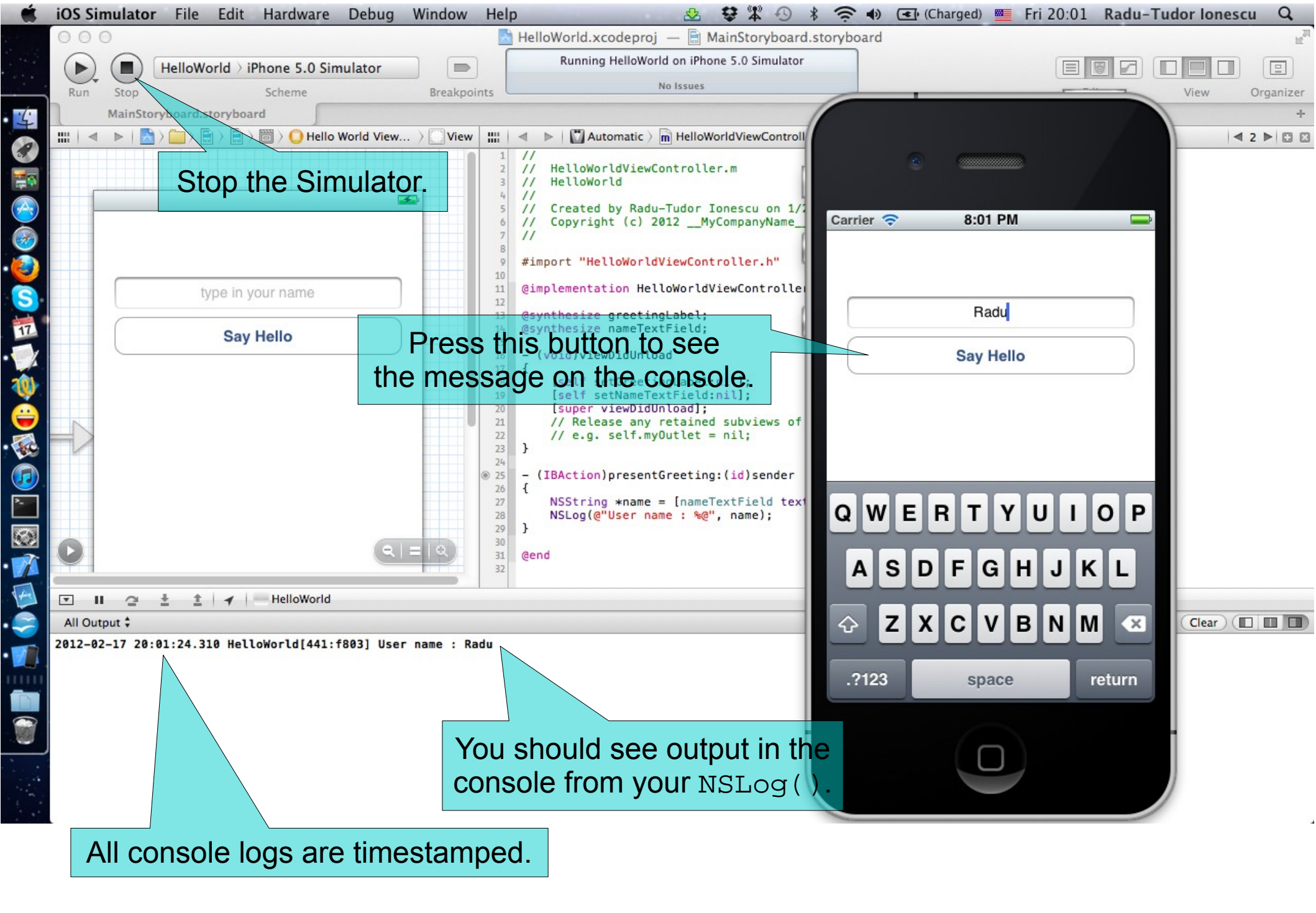
Clear

## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

12. Press the “Say Hello” button. Notice the console output.
13. Stop the simulator.





Stop the Simulator.

Press this button to see the message on the console.

You should see output in the console from your NSLog().

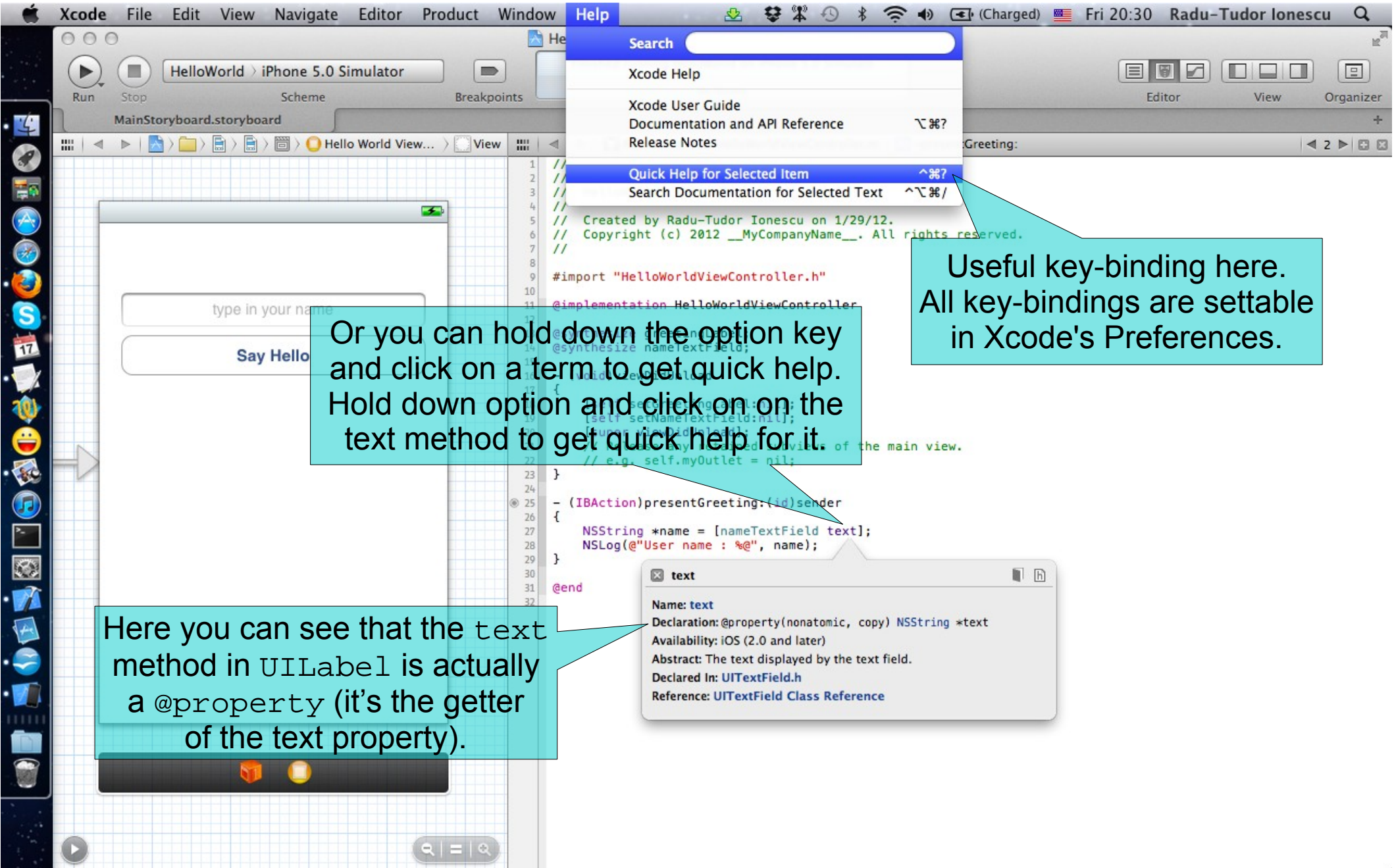
All console logs are timestamped.

## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

14. Get quick help for the `text` method of the `UITextField`. Xcode contains extensive reference documentation for all methods/classes. A quick lookup can be done simply by selecting a method or class name and choosing "Quick Help for Selected Item" from the Help menu.





Help

Search

Xcode Help

Xcode User Guide

Documentation and API Reference

Release Notes

Quick Help for Selected Item

Search Documentation for Selected Text

Useful key-binding here. All key-bindings are settable in Xcode's Preferences.

Or you can hold down the option key and click on a term to get quick help. Hold down option and click on on the text method to get quick help for it.

Here you can see that the text method in UILabel is actually a @property (it's the getter of the text property).

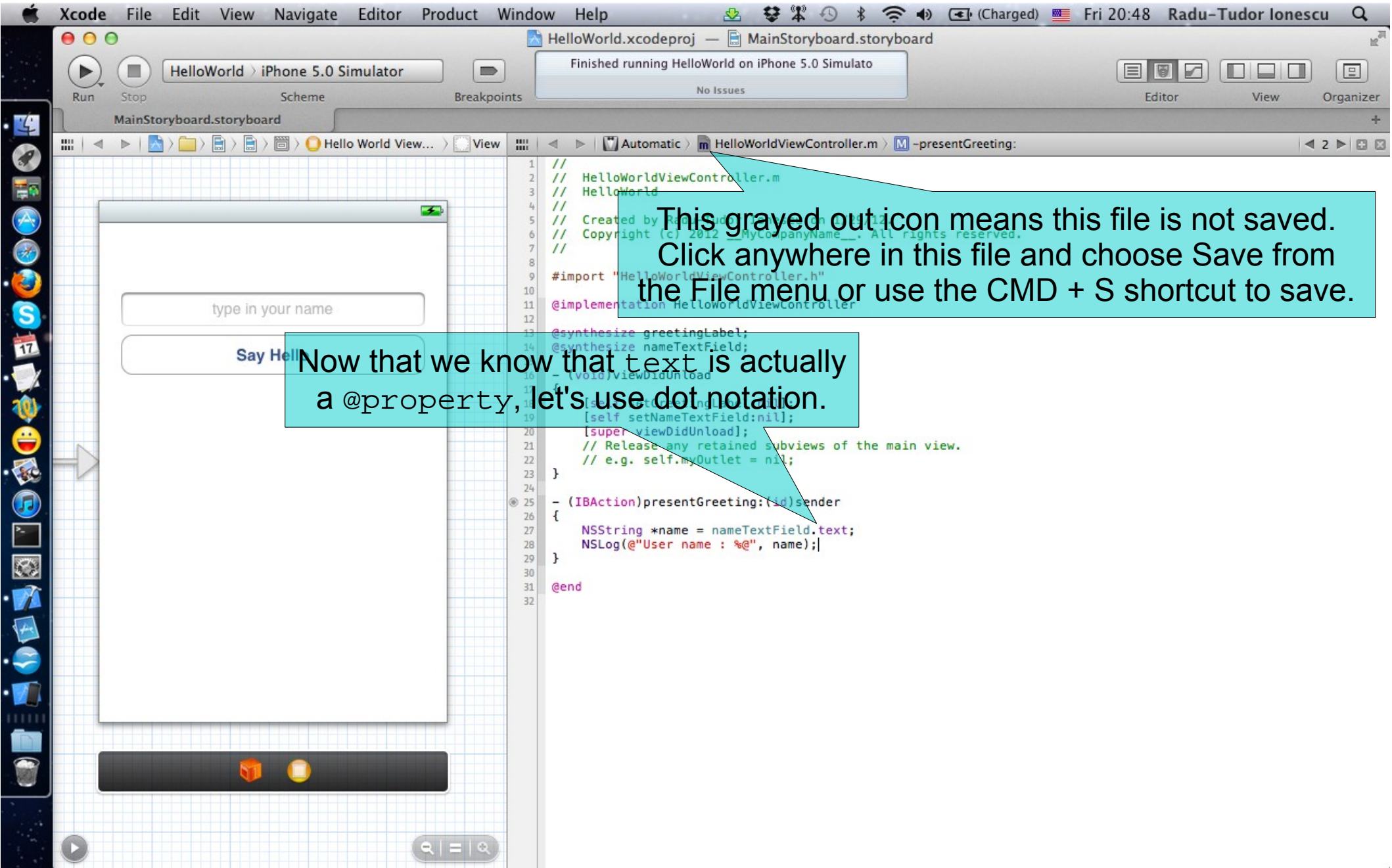
**text**  
Name: text  
Declaration: @property(n nonatomic, copy) NSString \*text  
Availability: iOS (2.0 and later)  
Abstract: The text displayed by the text field.  
Declared In: UITextField.h  
Reference: UITextField Class Reference

## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

15. Use dot notation for the text `@property`. It turns out that `@property`s are so important that there is a special Objective-C syntax just for `@property` setters and getters. It's called "dot notation". We can express calling the getter of our `@property` using dot notation instead. These are two syntactically different expressions of **exactly** the same thing.
16. It's a good time to save the implementation file.



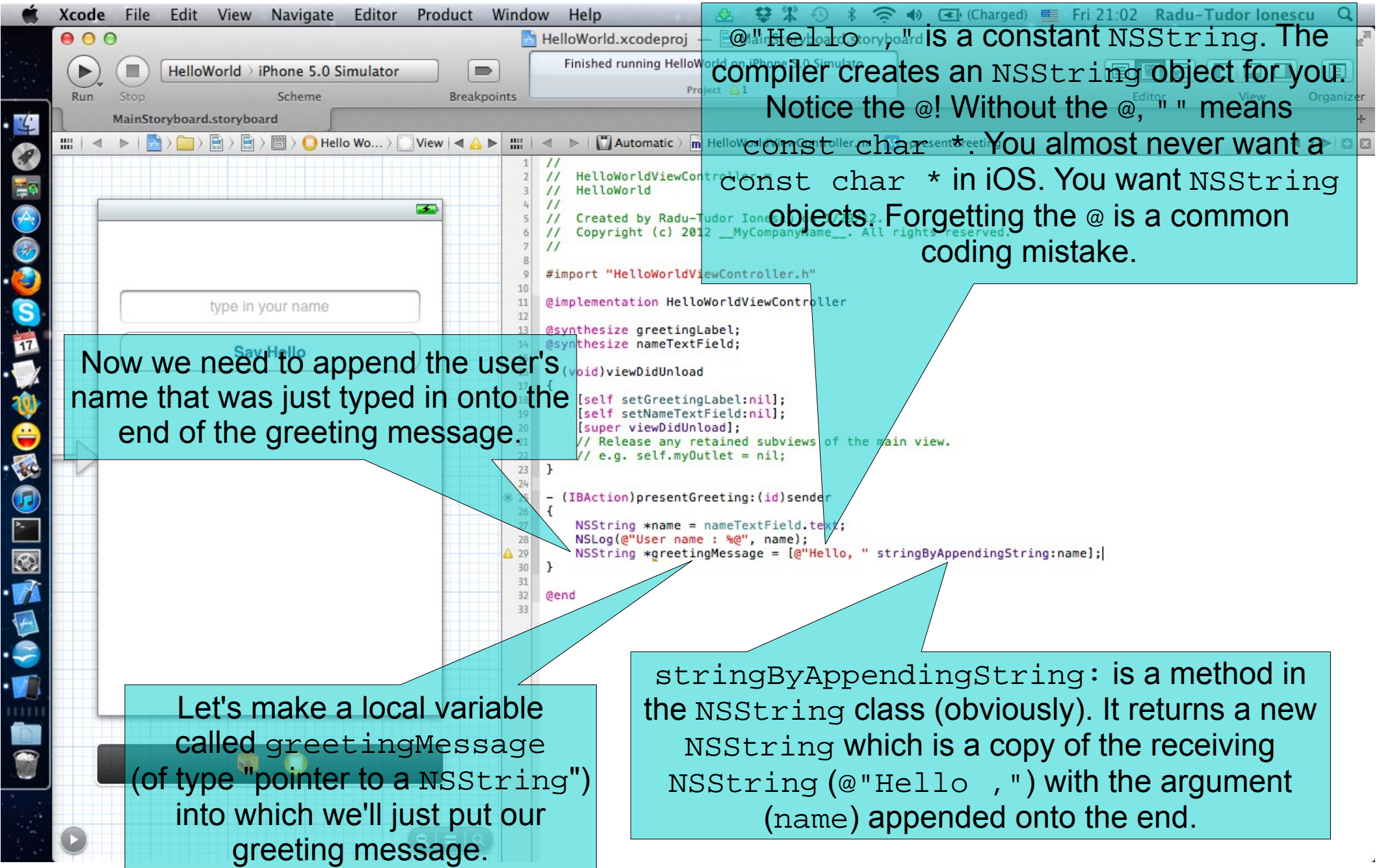


## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

17. Build a local `NSString` variable with the greeting message. Now that we have the user's name, we need to update our display with the greeting message. This actually only takes one line of code, but we'll break it down into steps. The first step is to append the user's name to the greeting message.





@`"Hello, "` is a constant NSString. The compiler creates an NSString object for you. Notice the @! Without the @, `" "` means `const char *`. You almost never want a `const char *` in iOS. You want NSString objects. Forgetting the @ is a common coding mistake.

Now we need to append the user's name that was just typed in onto the end of the greeting message.

Let's make a local variable called `greetingMessage` (of type "pointer to a NSString") into which we'll just put our greeting message.

`stringByAppendingString:` is a method in the NSString class (obviously). It returns a new NSString which is a copy of the receiving NSString (`@"Hello, "`) with the argument (name) appended onto the end.

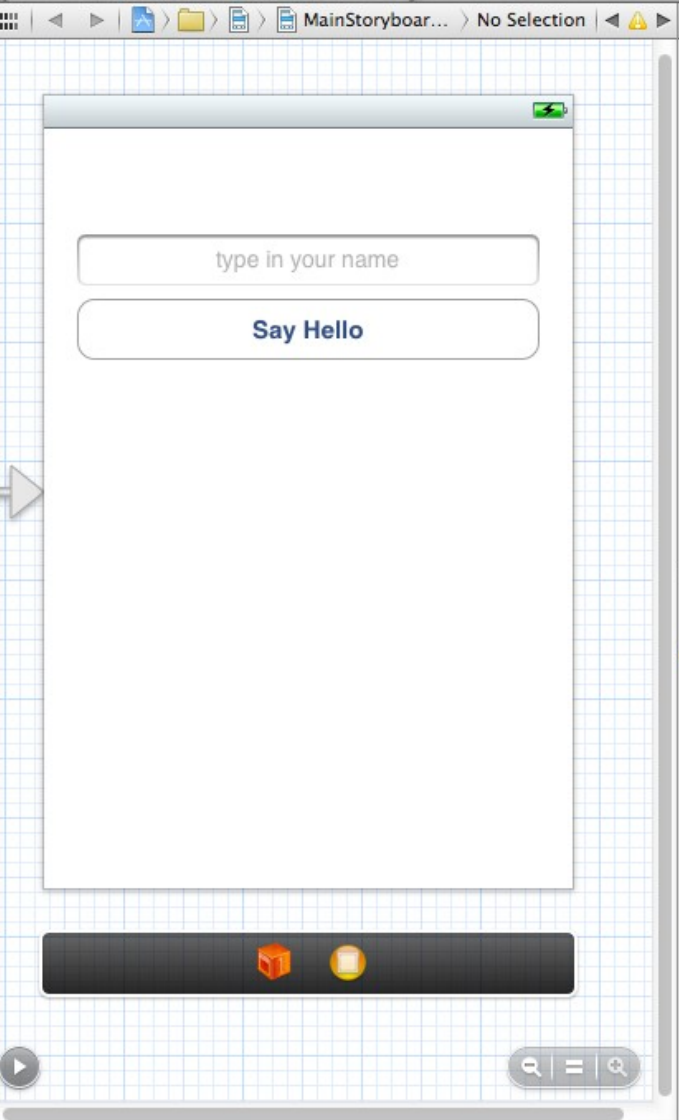
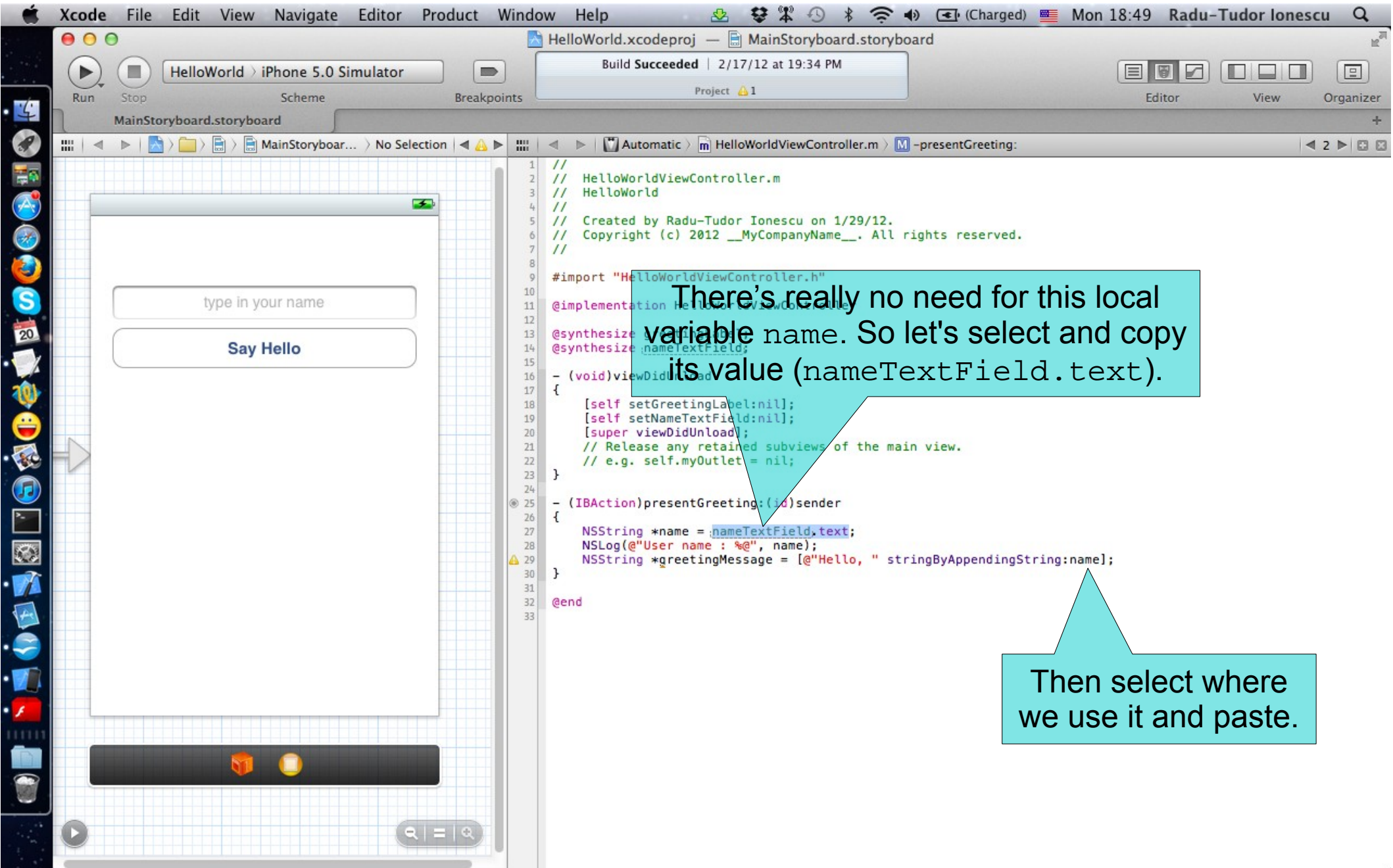
```
1 //
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m
3 // HelloWorld
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 11/22/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
10
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
12
13 @synthesize greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField;
15
16 -(void)viewDidLoad
17 {
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];
20     [super viewDidLoad];
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
23 }
24
25 -(IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender
26 {
27     NSString *name = nameTextField.text;
28     NSLog(@"User name : %@", name);
29     NSString *greetingMessage = [@"Hello, " stringByAppendingString:name];
30 }
31
32 @end
33
```

## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

18. Build the greeting message without using the local variable `name` (note that we actually don't need it).
19. Delete the first two lines of code in `presentGreeting` method.

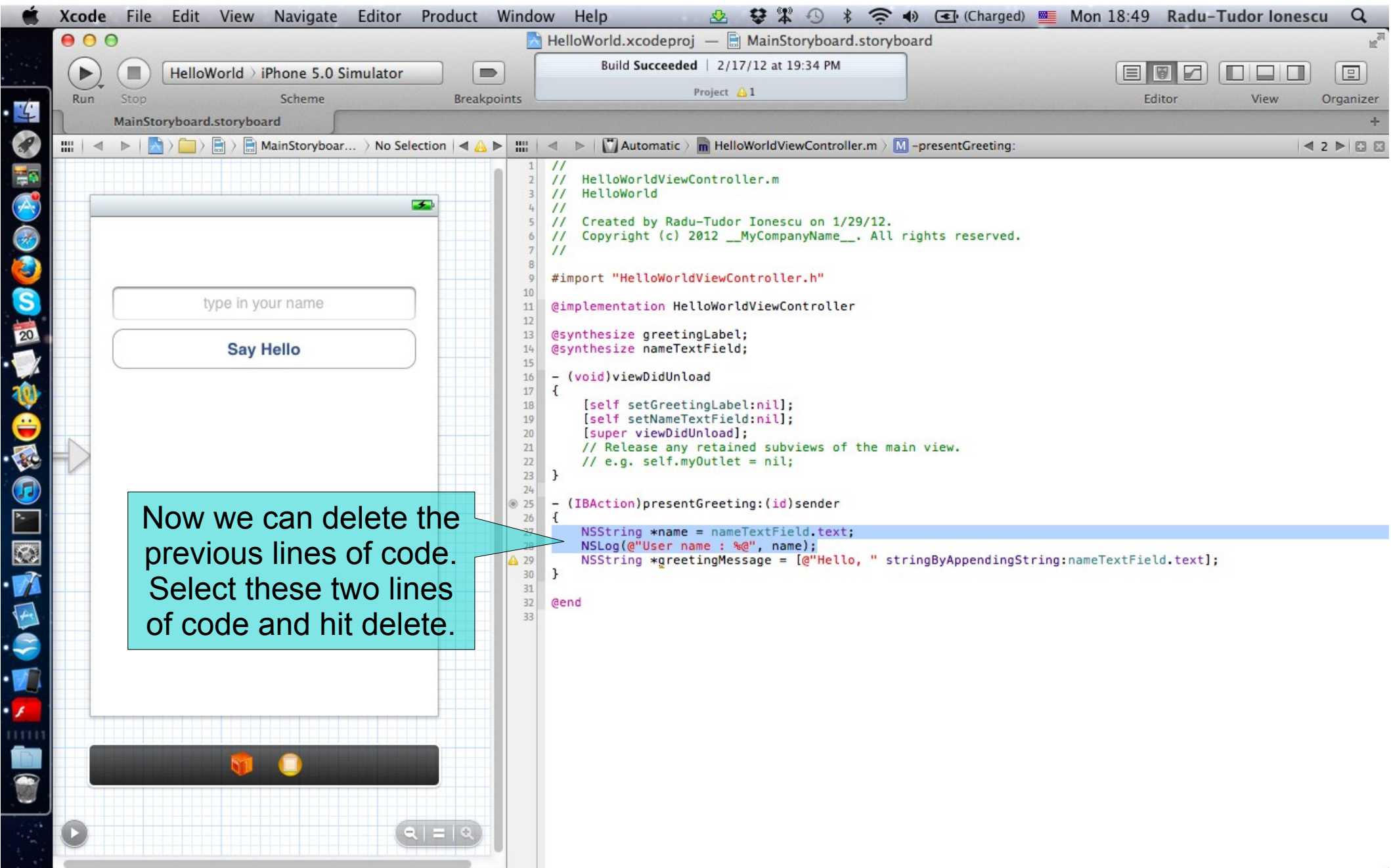




```
1 //
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m
3 // HelloWorld
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
10
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
12
13 @synthesize greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField;
15
16 - (void)viewDidLoad {
17     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
18     [self setNameTextField:nil];
19     [super viewDidLoad];
20     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
21     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
22 }
23
24
25 - (IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender
26 {
27     NSString *name = [nameTextField.text];
28     NSLog(@"User name : %@", name);
29     NSString *greetingMessage = [@"Hello, " stringByAppendingString:name];
30 }
31
32 @end
33
```

There's really no need for this local variable name. So let's select and copy its value (nameTextField.text).

Then select where we use it and paste.



Now we can delete the previous lines of code. Select these two lines of code and hit delete.

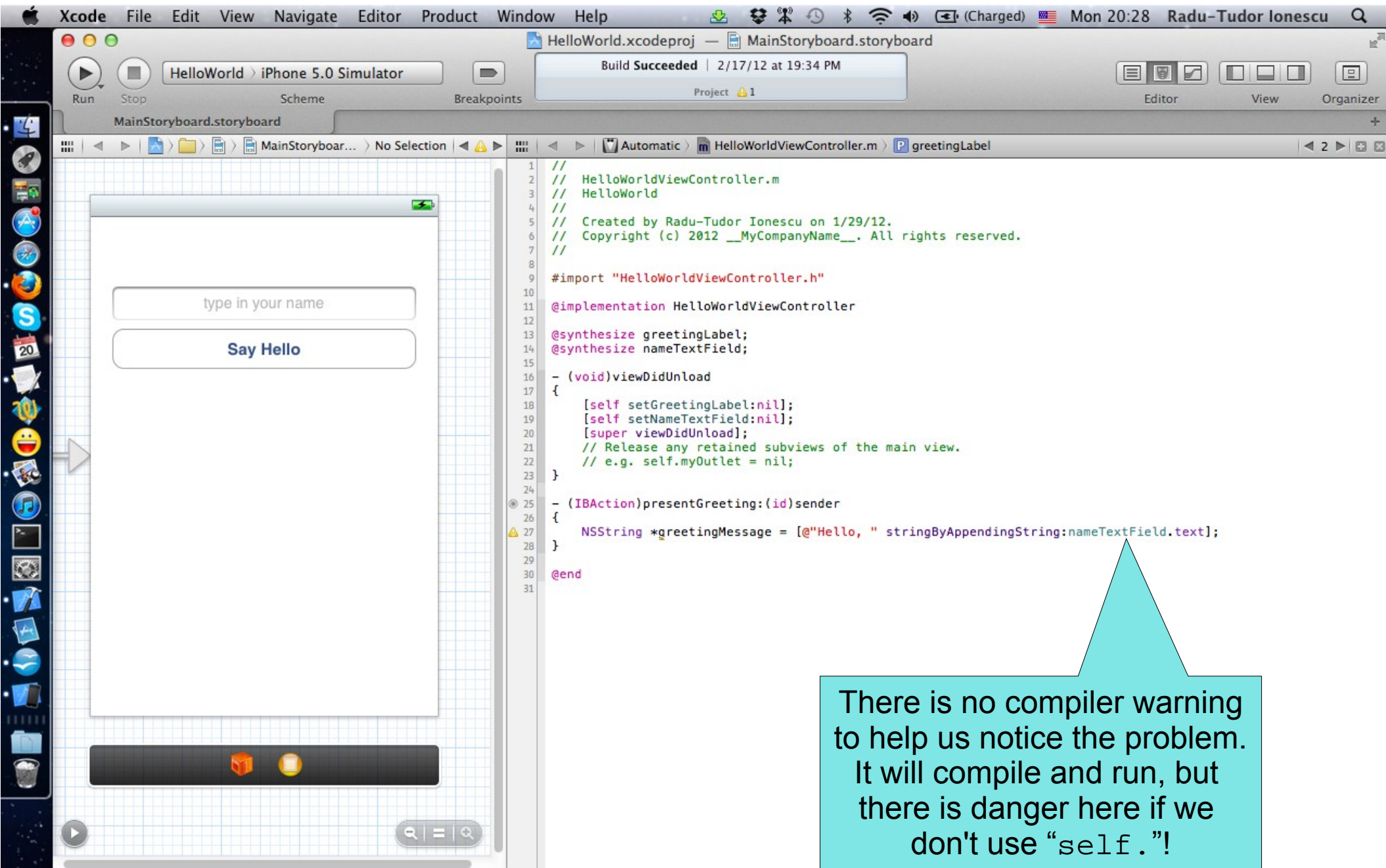
```
1 //
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m
3 // HelloWorld
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
10
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
12
13 @synthesize greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField;
15
16 - (void)viewDidLoad
17 {
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];
20     [super viewDidLoad];
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
23 }
24
25 - (IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender
26 {
27     NSString *name = nameTextField.text;
28     NSLog(@"User name : %@", name);
29     NSString *greetingMessage = [@"Hello, " stringByAppendingString:nameTextField.text];
30 }
31
32 @end
33
```



## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

20. Rename the instance variable of the `nameTextField` `@property` by adding an underscore. Accessing the synthesized instance variable directly (and thus not calling the getter) is bad. There is no compiler warning to help us notice that, but changing the name used by `@synthesize` to create its instance variable will make it very clear when we accidentally forget to use the getter.
21. Also rename the instance variable of the `greetingLabel` `@property`.



There is no compiler warning to help us notice the problem. It will compile and run, but there is danger here if we don't use "self."!



We can avoid this potential accident by having @synthesize use a different name for its instance variable than the name of the property. We do that using this equals-sign syntax.

Click here to see the error details.

Notice that there are errors now when we access the instance variable directly.

Prefixing the property name with an underscore is the most common naming convention for an instance variable created by @synthesize.

```
1 //
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m
3 // HelloWorld
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
10
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
12
13 @synthesize greetingLabel = _greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField = _nameTextField;
15
16 -(void)viewDidUnload
17 {
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];
20     [super viewDidUnload];
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
23 }
24
25 -(IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender
26 {
27     NSString *greetingMessage = [@"Hello, " stringByAppendingString:nameTextField.text];
28 }
29
30 @end
```

Xcode has a suggestion to replace `nameTextField` with `_nameTextField` which will cause the error to disappear, but it will not solve the problem. **Only** setters and getters should access the instance variable directly! There are rare exceptions, but for now, stick to this rule. So we actually want to use the getter instead.

The `nameTextField` instance variable is not recognized anymore.

```
10
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
12
13 @synthesize greetingLabel = _greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField = _nameTextField;
15
16 - (void)viewDidUnload
17 {
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];
20     [super viewDidUnload];
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
23 }
24
25 - (IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender
26 {
27     NSString *greetingMessage = [@"Hello, " stringByAppendingString:_nameTextField.text];
28 }
29
30 @end
31
```

Issue Use of undeclared identifier 'nameTextField'; did you mean '\_nameTextField'?  
Fix-it Replace "nameTextField" with "\_nameTextField"

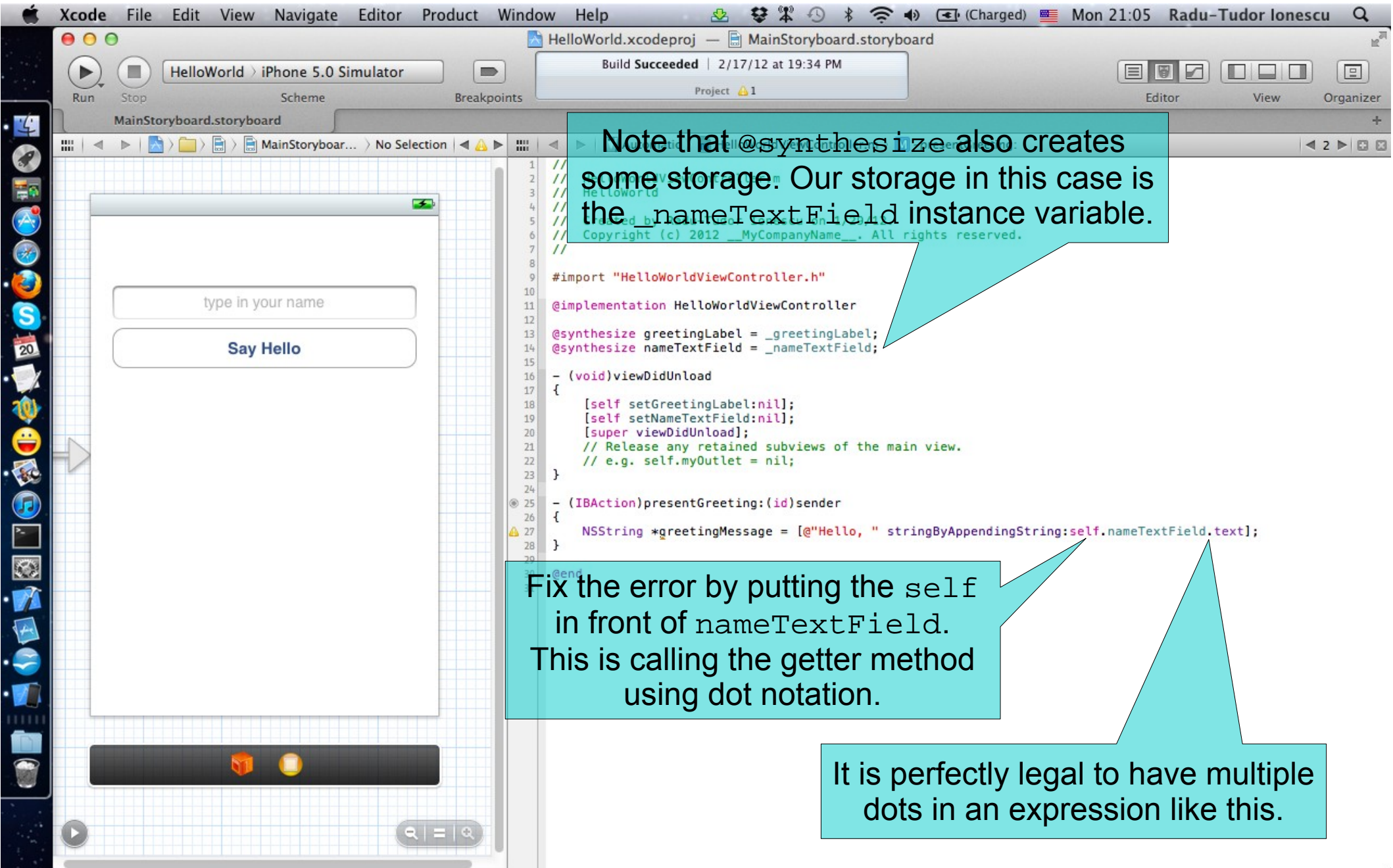
Use of undeclared identifier 'nameTextField'; did you mean '\_nameTextField'?



## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

22. Fix the error by using the getter to access the `nameTextField` `@property`. A `@property` is nothing more than a setter method and a getter method. The setter method will be called by the system at run-time to wire this outlet up.



Note that `@synthesize` also creates some storage. Our storage in this case is the `nameTextField` instance variable.

Fix the error by putting the `self` in front of `nameTextField`. This is calling the getter method using dot notation.

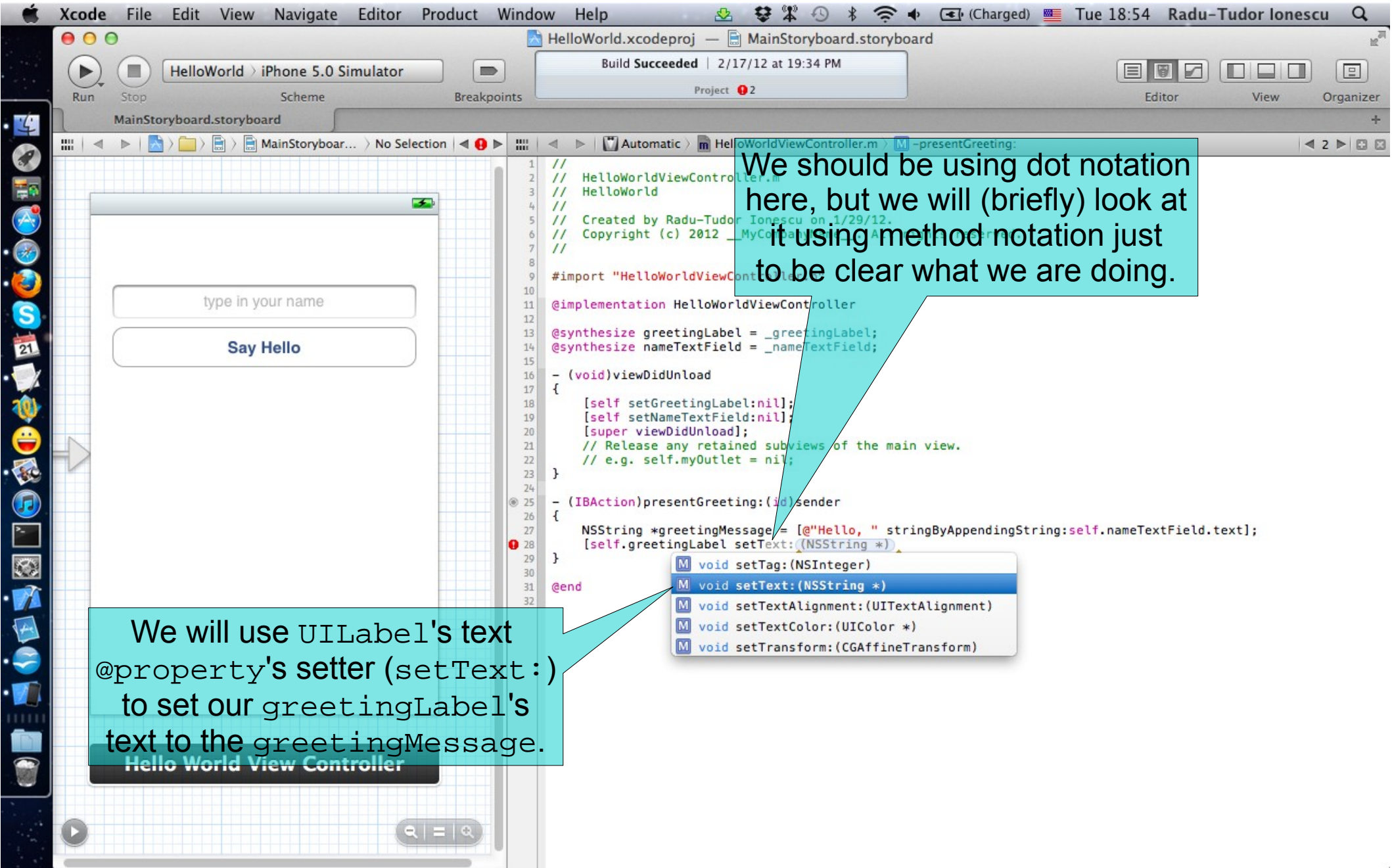
It is perfectly legal to have multiple dots in an expression like this.



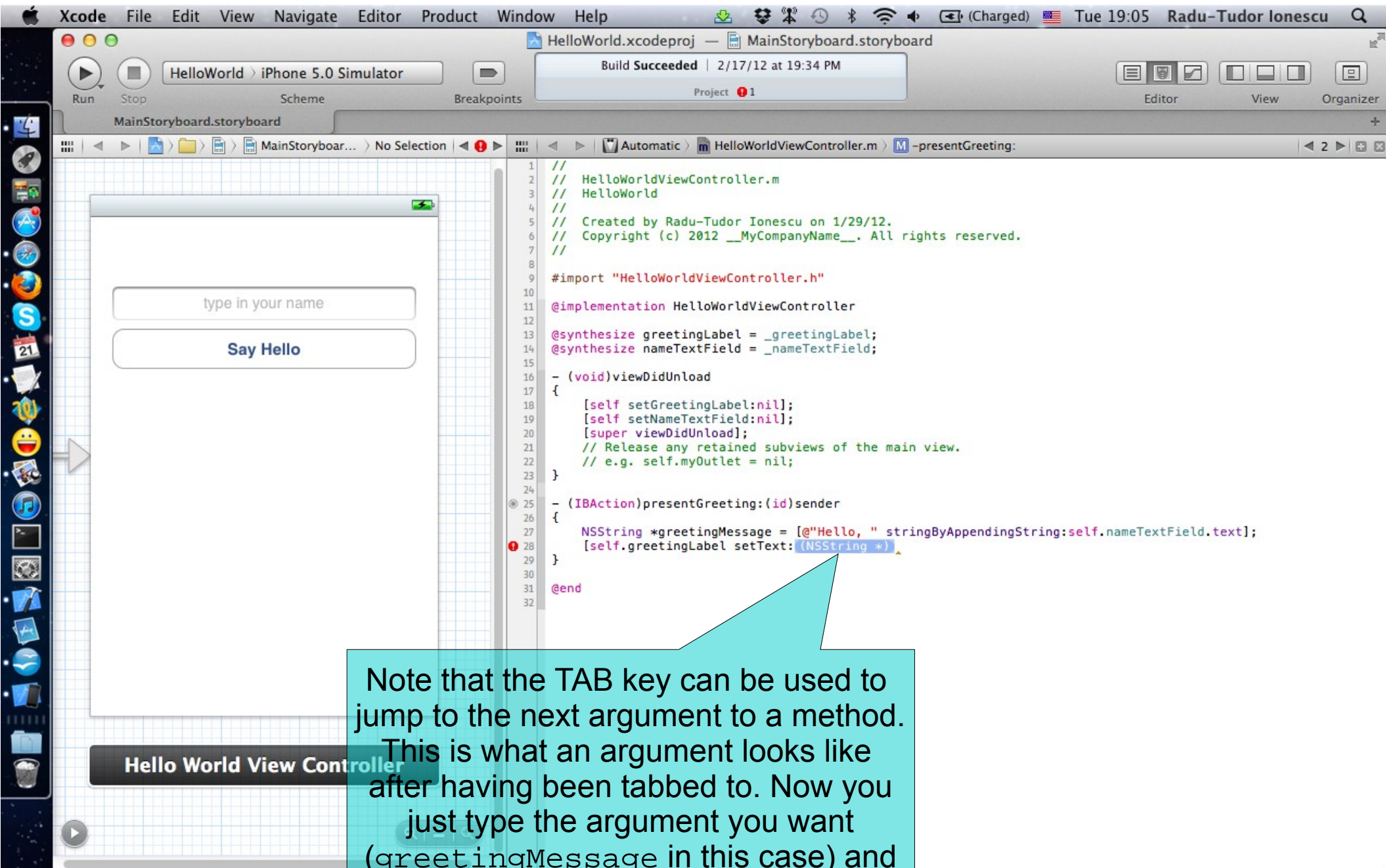
## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

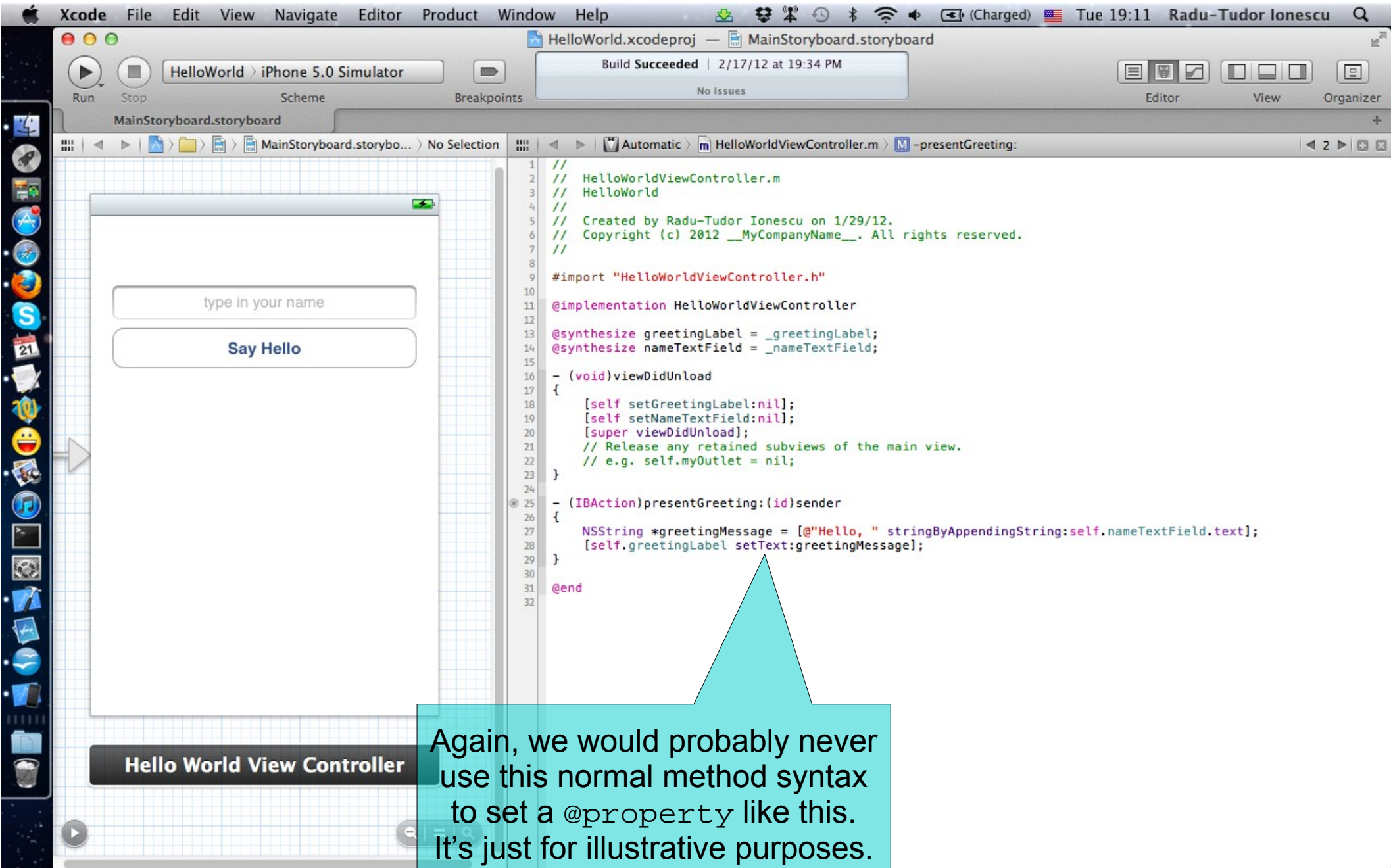
23. Set the greeting message as the label's text using normal method notation.







Note that the TAB key can be used to jump to the next argument to a method. This is what an argument looks like after having been tabbed to. Now you just type the argument you want (greetingMessage in this case) and it will replace the (NSString \*).



Again, we would probably never use this normal method syntax to set a @property like this. It's just for illustrative purposes.



## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

24. Switch to using dot notation to set the `UILabel`'s text @property.

Xcode File Edit View Navigate Editor Product Window Help

HelloWorld.xcodeproj — MainStoryboard.storyboard

Build Succeeded | 2/17/12 at 19:34 PM

No Issues

Run Stop Scheme Breakpoints Editor View Organizer

MainStoryboard.storyboard

MainStoryboard.storybo... No Selection

Automatic HelloWorldViewController.m -presentGreeting:

```
1 //
2 // HelloWorldViewController.m
3 // HelloWorld
4 //
5 // Created by Radu-Tudor Ionescu on 1/29/12.
6 // Copyright (c) 2012 __MyCompanyName__. All rights reserved.
7 //
8
9 #import "HelloWorldViewController.h"
10
11 @implementation HelloWorldViewController
12
13 @synthesize greetingLabel = _greetingLabel;
14 @synthesize nameTextField = _nameTextField;
15
16 - (void)viewDidUnload
17 {
18     [self setGreetingLabel:nil];
19     [self setNameTextField:nil];
20     [super viewDidUnload];
21     // Release any retained subviews of the main view.
22     // e.g. self.myOutlet = nil;
23 }
24
25 - (IBAction)presentGreeting:(id)sender
26 {
27     NSString *greetingMessage = [@"Hello, " stringByAppendingString:self.nameTextField.text];
28     self.greetingLabel.text = greetingMessage; // [self.greetingLabel setText:greetingMessage];
29 }
30
31 @end
32
```

type in your name

Say Hello

Hello World View Controller

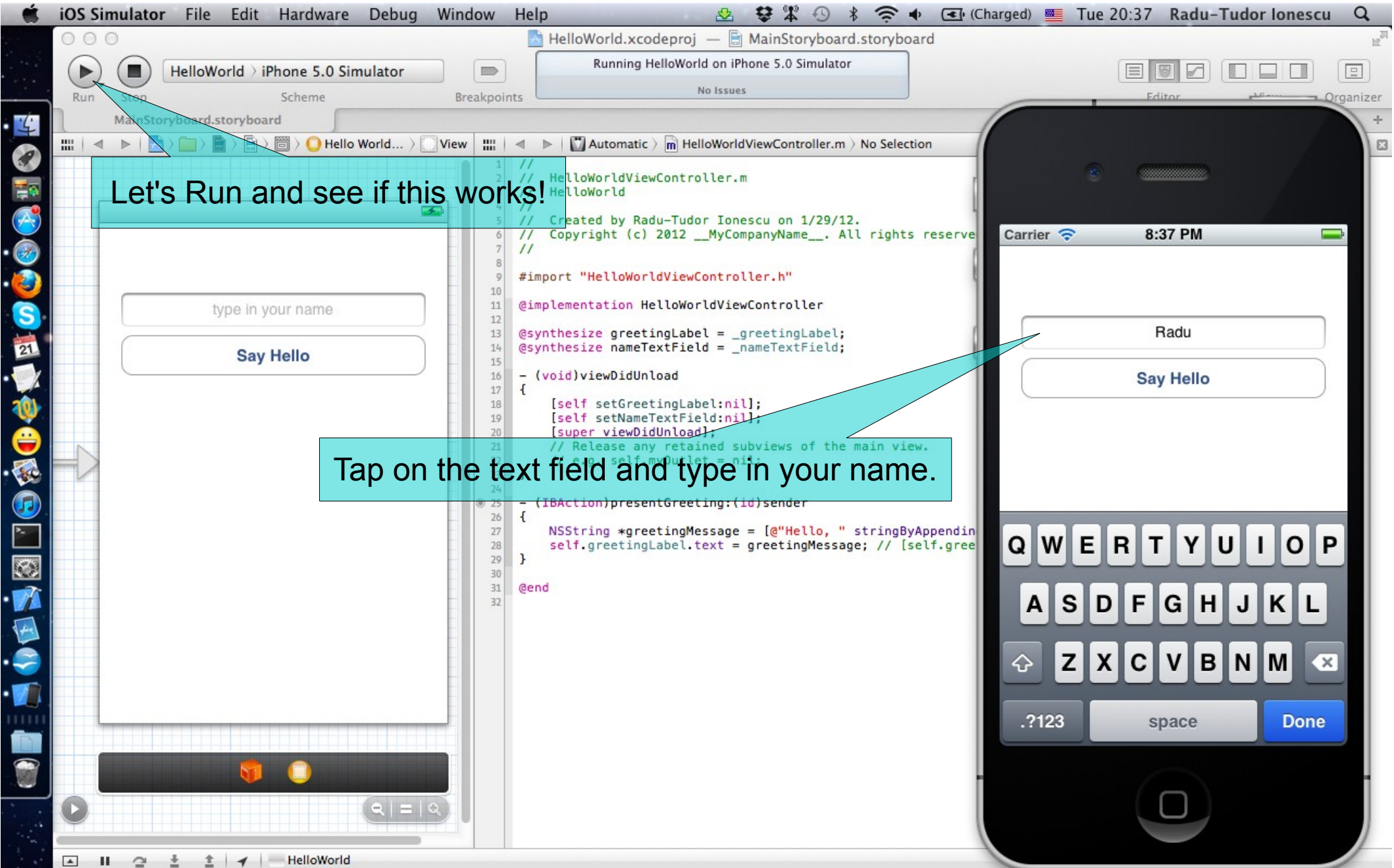
Dot notation for setters is exactly the same as dot notation for getters, it's just that they appear on the left-hand side of equals signs rather than the right-hand side.



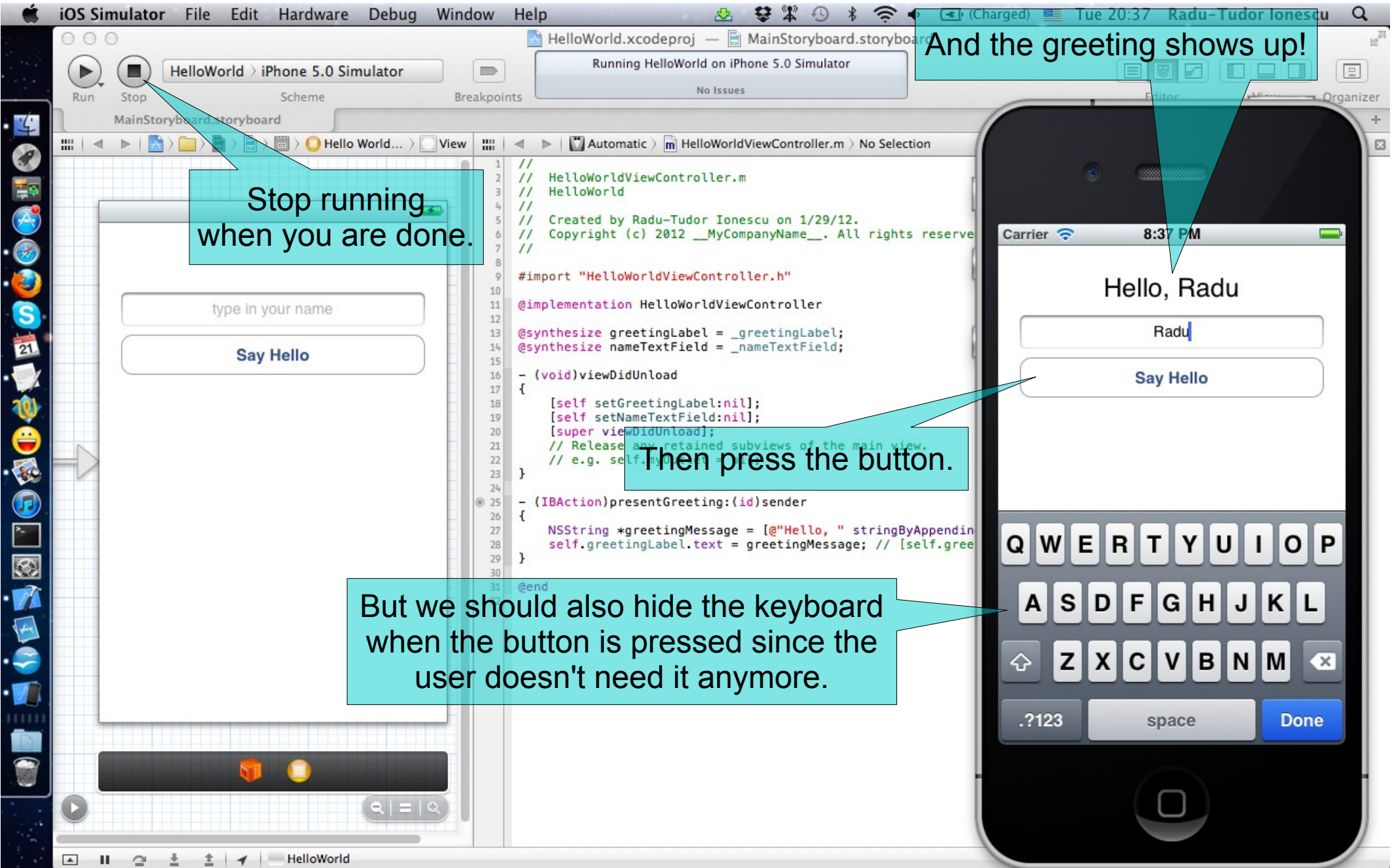
## Task 6

Task: Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

25. Run the application in iOS Simulator to test it.







Stop running when you are done.

Then press the button.

But we should also hide the keyboard when the button is pressed since the user doesn't need it anymore.

And the greeting shows up!

## Task 6

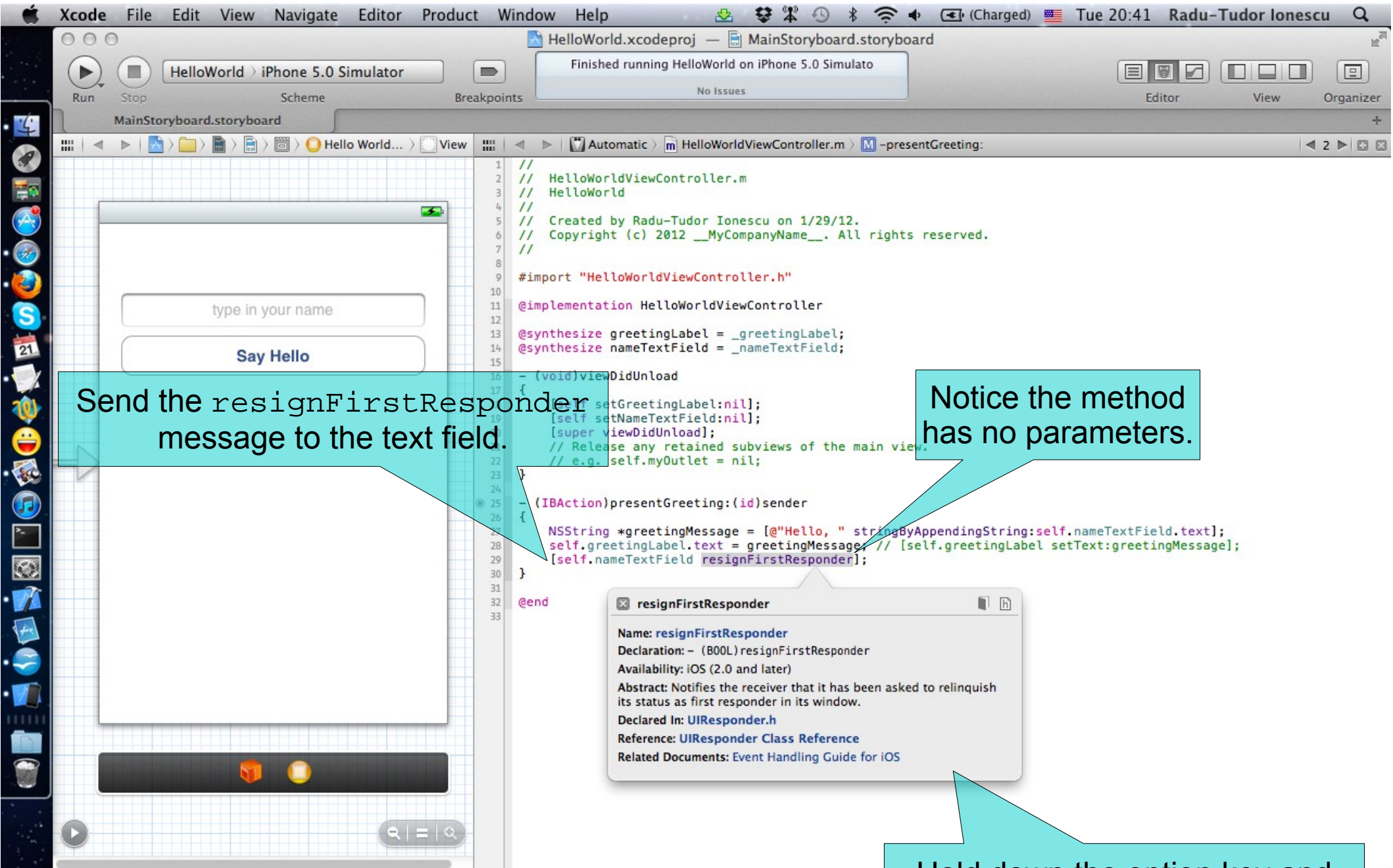
**Task:** Implement the button action so that our application displays the greeting message on the screen.

25. Dismiss the keyboard when the button is pressed. When the user taps in a text field, that text field becomes the first responder and automatically asks the system to display the associated keyboard. It is your application's responsibility to dismiss the keyboard at the time of your choosing.

In general, you might dismiss the keyboard in response to a specific user action, such as the user tapping a particular button in your user interface. You might also configure your text field delegate to dismiss the keyboard when the user presses the "return" key on the keyboard itself. To dismiss the keyboard, you must send the `resignFirstResponder` message to the text field that is currently the first responder. Doing so causes the text field object to end the current editing session and hide the keyboard.

26. Test if the keyboard hides when the button is pressed.





Send the resignFirstResponder message to the text field.

Notice the method has no parameters.

**resignFirstResponder**

**Name:** resignFirstResponder

**Declaration:** - (BOOL)resignFirstResponder

**Availability:** iOS (2.0 and later)

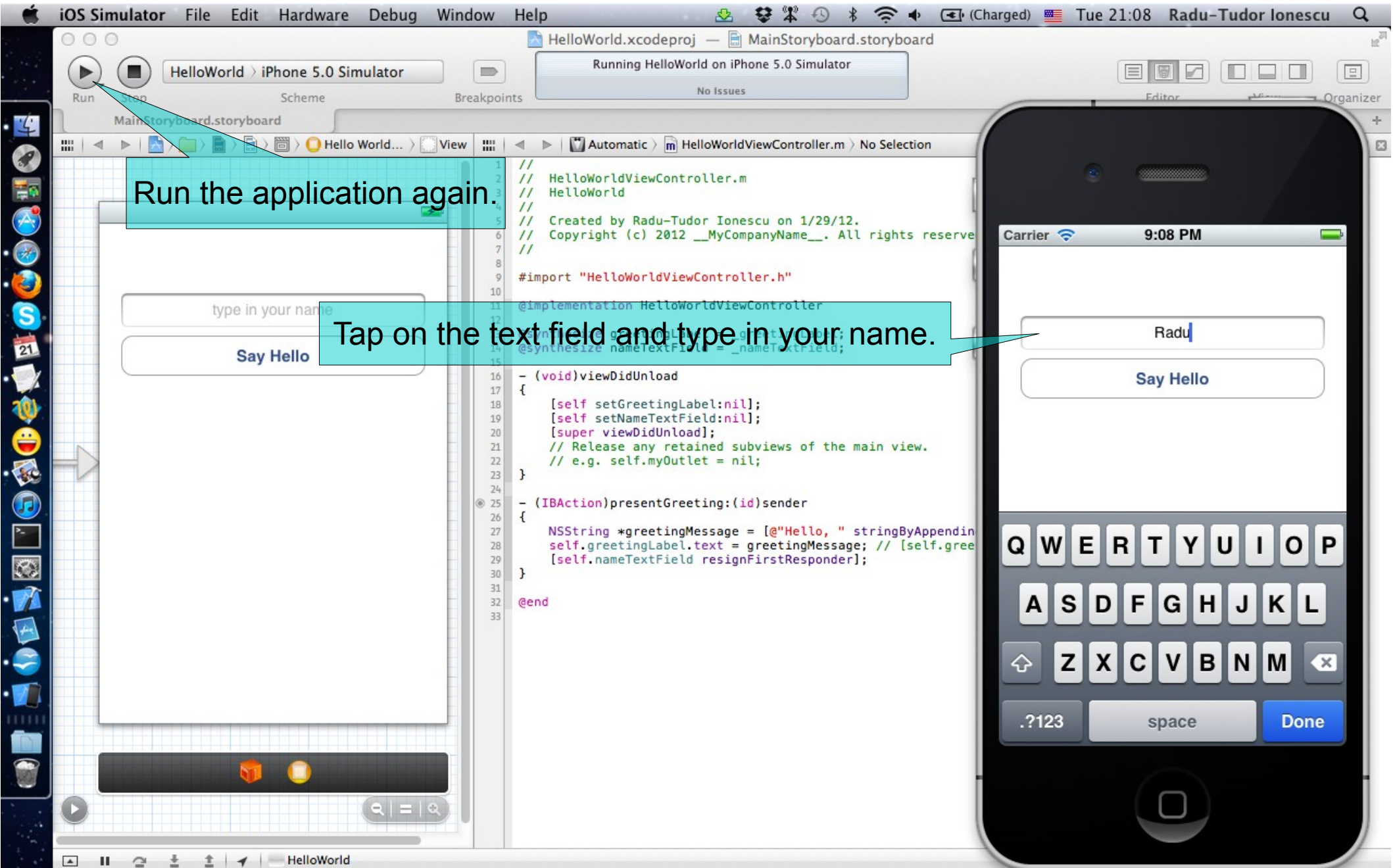
**Abstract:** Notifies the receiver that it has been asked to relinquish its status as first responder in its window.

**Declared In:** UIResponder.h

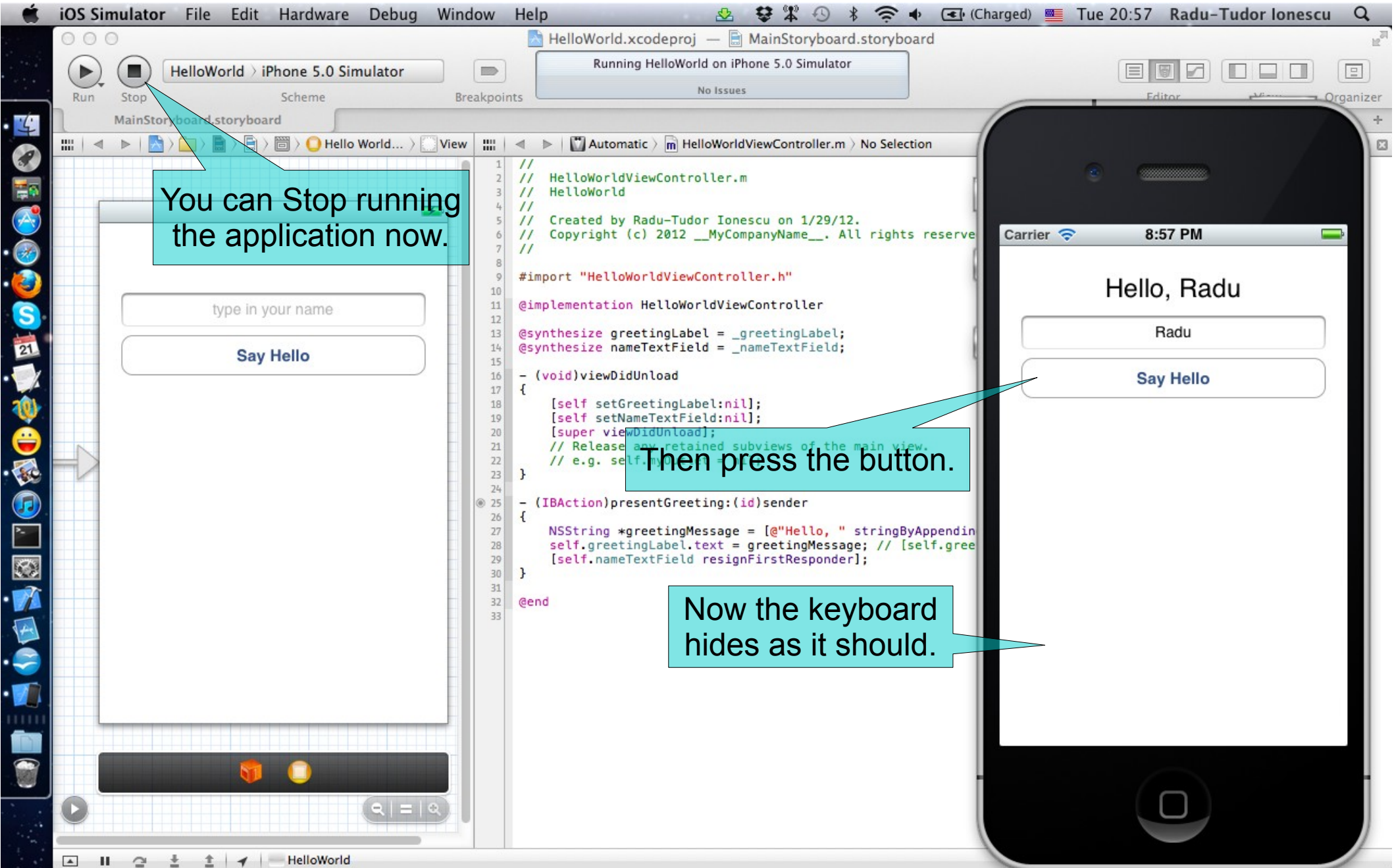
**Reference:** UIResponder Class Reference

**Related Documents:** Event Handling Guide for iOS

Hold down the option key and click on the method to get details.







You can Stop running the application now.

Then press the button.

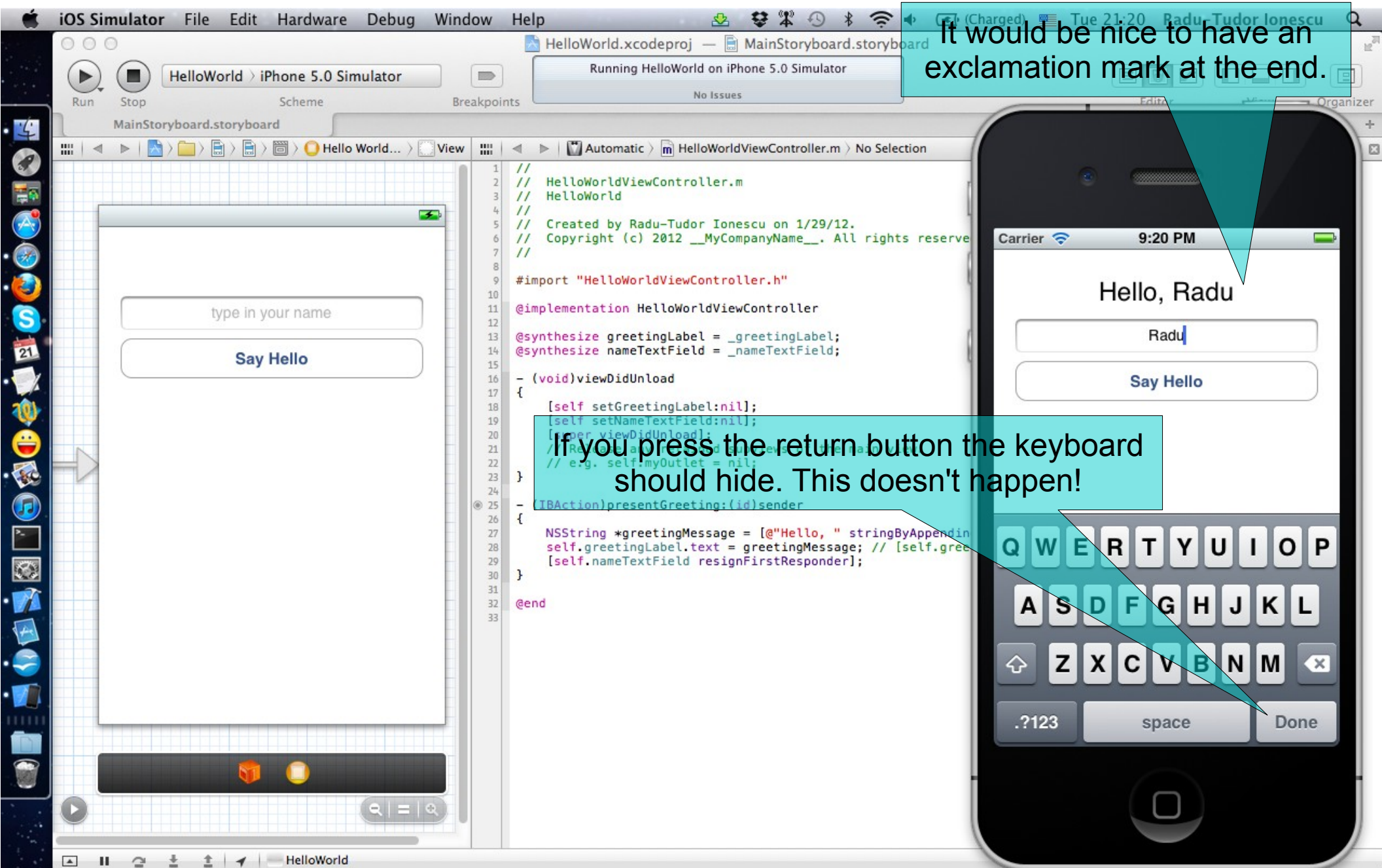
Now the keyboard hides as it should.

# Task 7

Task: Find out if the application has any problems that should be fixed.

1. Notice we can't dismiss (hide back) the keyboard when the return key (“Done”) is pressed. The normal behavior is to dismiss the keyboard when the return button is pressed.
2. The greeting message would look nice with an exclamation mark at the end. At this moment the application doesn't look finished.



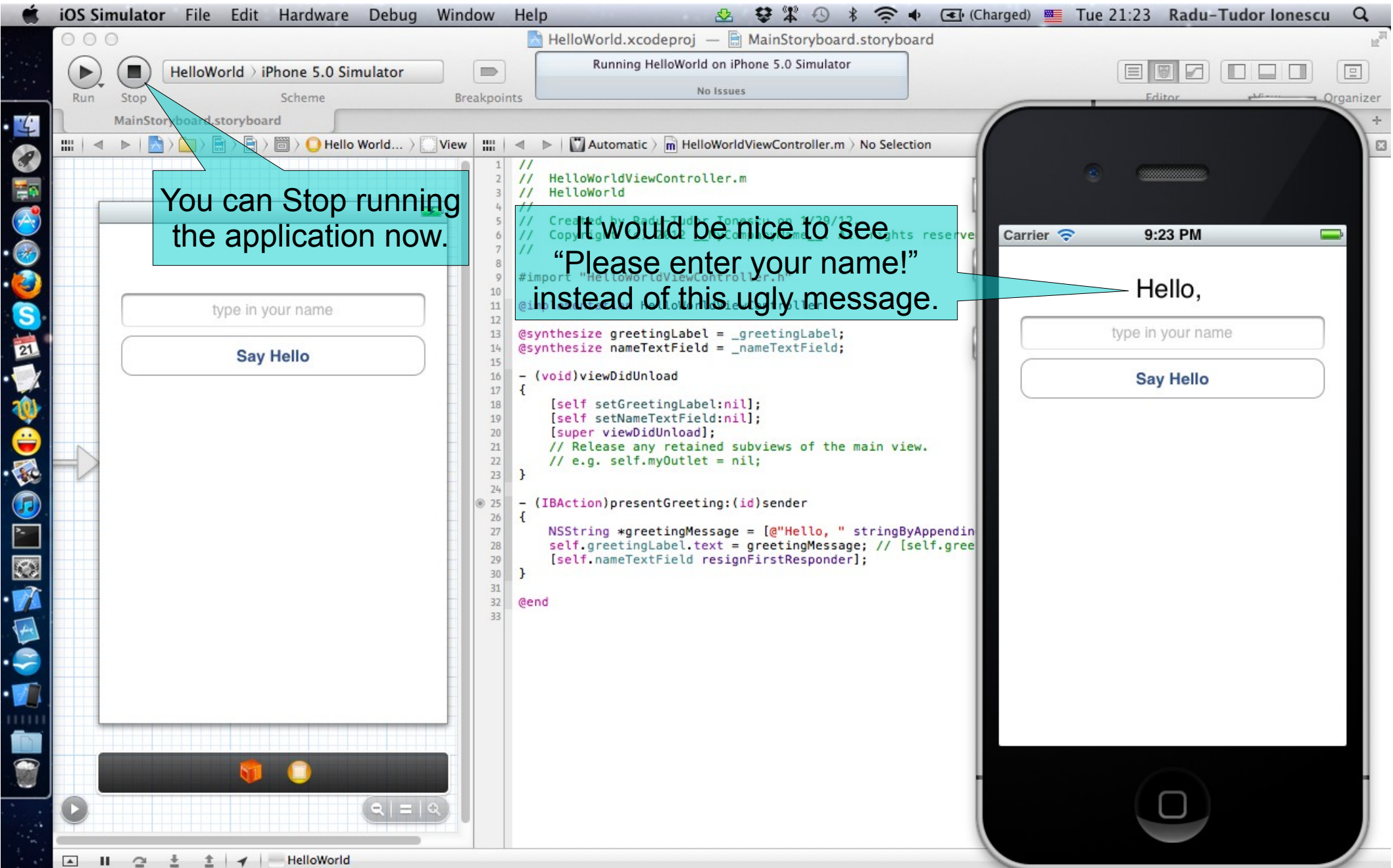


# Task 7

**Task:** Find out if the application has any problems that should be fixed.

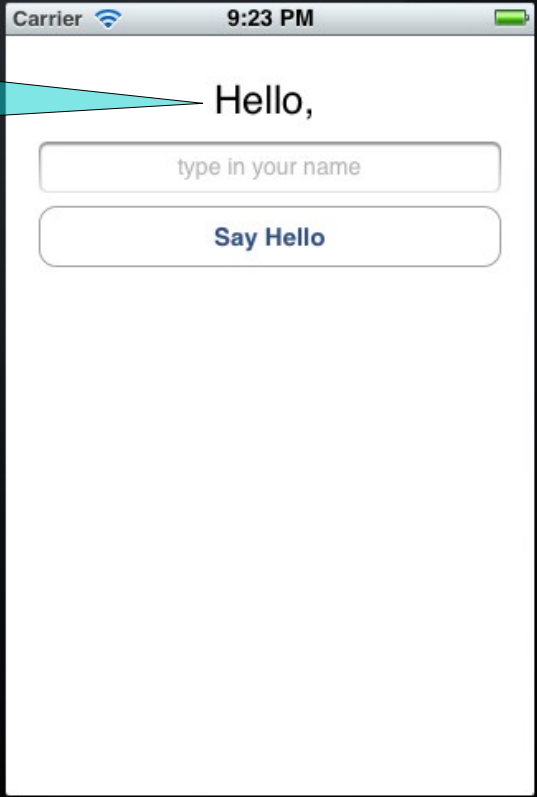
3. If the user chooses not to type in his name, the application will display an ugly message “Hello, “. In this case we should display a friendly message (“Please enter your name!”) to ask the user for his name.





You can Stop running the application now.

It would be nice to see "Please enter your name!" instead of this ugly message.



# Assignment 1

**Assignment:** Change the application behavior to hide the keyboard when the return button is pressed.

**Hint:** Search for the “Did End On Exit” event of the `nameTextField` (right click on the text field in Interface Builder). Set the `presentGreeting:` action to this event. Note that you can set the same action for two or more events (generated by different UI elements).



# Assignment 2

Assignment: Add the exclamation mark at the end of the greeting message.

Hint: There are at least two possible solutions. You can either use the `stringByAppendingString:` method twice or you can use the `NSString`'s `stringWithFormat:` class method. Check the `NSString` documentation and look for `stringWithFormat:`.

Here is an example of how to use it:

```
NSString *aString = [NSString stringWithFormat:
    @"A string-%@. A float-%.2f",
    @"abc", 3.14159265];

// aString is "A string-abc. A float: 3.14"
```

# Assignment 3

Assignment: Check if the user name is blank and put the “Please enter your name!” message in this case.

Hint: Use the `isEqualToString:` method (for `NSString` objects) to test if the `nameTextField`'s text is equal to `@""` (a blank string). Look up this method in the `NSString` class documentation. Set the label's text to `@“Please enter your name!”` if the name is blank.



**Congratulations!**