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Greeting from the President

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Dear Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 25th anniversary edition of The Bridgewater Review, and to offer my sincere congratulations to the hundreds of talented faculty writers, researchers, artists and commentators who have made it such a fine publication since its first printing in 1982.

While many colleges and universities across Massachusetts and New England support quality journals, very few are produced with an eye towards highlighting the adventures, insights and advances of faculty as captured in their own words and pictures. It is a wonderful testament to the commitment, energy and drive of Bridgewater’s faculty that The Bridgewater Review is celebrating its silver anniversary on such a high note.

More than 7,500 individuals and institutions receive the journal twice per year. This eclectic group includes alumni, legislators, business people, media representatives, parents, prospective students, guidance counselors and local libraries. Throughout my fifteen years at BSC, many readers have personally taken the time to thank the college for making such a fine publication available to so wide an audience. Needless to say, it is an endeavor we are proud to support.

Enthusiasts enjoy the scholarly articles, artwork, poetry; faculty profiles and socio-political perspectives contained within the journal. At the same time, many alumni have used it as a means to keep in touch with their alma mater, with its two colleges offering a broad range of professional, creative, scientific and literary pursuits.

As Editor of the Review over these 25 years I constantly marvel at the productivity of the faculty. Despite substantial instructional duties and the ever-growing opportunities to mentor students, the faculty continues to remain at the cutting edge of their academic disciplines. Each issue of the Review shows clearly the intellectual vitality that the faculty brings to the Bridgewater State College community.

A magazine like the Bridgewater Review could never last 25 years without the support of college presidents, provosts and deans. Fortunately the Review has been blessed with Presidents who believed in the magazine and its mission. Drs. Andrian Rondileau, Gerard Inelidato, Robert Dillman, Adrian Tinsley and now Dana Mohler-Faria have all been enormously supportive of the Review, not just in terms of budget allocations, but in taking pride in the magazine and recognizing its special place in public higher education in Massachusetts.

And of course the Review’s success over the years has also been the result of faculty colleagues who joined me as associate editors and regular contributors to the magazine. Dr. Don Johnson worked with me during the early years of the Review as Associate Editor. Don’s love of poetry, sports and the outdoors often provided the Review with insightful and thoughtful writing that elevated the quality of the Review. Don is now at East Tennessee State University but he once again is being published in the commemorative issue of the magazine. Don’s poetry remains beautiful and uplifting.

Barbara Apstein has been with the Review the longest as Associate Editor. Barbara recently retired, but she has left a long legacy of commentaries on teaching English, working with students and analyzing works of literature. Barbara has been the quality control expert on the Review lending her editing skills and her critical insights into each article that she has worked on. In this issue we are publishing what I think is one of her best articles, a discussion of racism in Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn.

Bill Levin of the Sociology Department has been the faculty of Bridgewater’s Political Science; Dr. P atricia Fanning’s (Sociology) observations of France; Dr. Patricia Fanning’s (Sociology) account of the charitable work of Boston’s Catholic women sailing from Laxenburg Square; and Dr. Charles Angell’s (English) review of American Vertigo.

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