2019

Philanthropic Impact Report FY19

Office of Alumni and Development, Bridgewater State University

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EVERY STUDENT ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

Bridgewater State University
2018 - 2019 PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT REPORT
For a complete schedule of events and registration information visit bridgew.edu/homecomingfamilyday.
Dear Friends,

Creating access to opportunities for our students that also serve the needs of our region is at the heart of our motto, “not to be ministered unto, but to minister.”

Providing opportunities that are critical to the growth of our students as they prepare to enter a complex, competitive global economy means something very different today than it did even 10 or 15 years ago. Today, active learning opportunities, such as internships, study abroad and undergraduate research, are no longer nice “extras” but integral to the education we offer, and all students need, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, gender, religion or sexual orientation. In serving our students and preparing them for the world they face, we are serving the larger public good.

The proof of our quality is in the results: BSU is one of the leading producers of Fulbright Scholars in the nation, boasts one of the finest undergraduate research programs in the country (BSU has sent a record nine students consecutively to the Posters on the Hill undergraduate research conference in Washington, D.C.), and is a national leader in closing achievement gaps.

Our internship program is helping regional employers build the pipeline of workers they need. Our undergraduate research program, other hands-on learning opportunities (including our two $100,000 student-managed investment funds), Honors Program and expansive study abroad program are helping students secure employment with prestigious firms in finance and accounting, biotechnology, engineering and information technology, as we continue to be a leading producer of teachers, social workers and police officers.

The stories in the 2018-2019 Philanthropic Impact Report demonstrate this partnership among BSU, our students and the region we serve. They are a testament to the remarkable work our students are doing, but they are really a story of how you are making those opportunities possible through your generous support of our great university. Without you, the opportunities described in these pages would not be possible. Without you, these opportunities would be extras, not core parts of the educational experience of so many of our students.

So please continue to support Bridgewater State University. In so doing, you are helping every student, one student at a time, to reach for the sky while securing the future of this region, state, nation and indeed the world.

Frederick W. Clark Jr., Esq., ’83
President
Bridgewater State University

Brenda Molife, PhD
Vice President for University Advancement
Executive Director of the Bridgewater State University Foundation

Mr. Joseph St. Laurent, ’88
Chairman
Bridgewater State University Foundation
In fiscal year 2019 Bridgewater State University received approximately 21 percent of its revenue from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The remainder of its revenue is from local tuition and fees, government and private grants, contracts, gifts and auxiliary enterprises.
GIVING DAY 2019
EXCEEDS $75K GOAL
APRIL 24 & 25

$100,603 raised
in 1,840 minutes
41% increase from 2018

420 donors
26% increase from 2018

125,850 impressions
The number of times that a post was viewed on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.
A LITTLE
GOES A
LONG WAY

Genesis Galan, ‘19, recipient of the Class of ‘54 Undergraduate Research Fund
Class of ’54 Undergraduate Research Fund
All gifts – large and small – impact lives

When a group of like-minded individuals come together to support a common cause, good things happen. That certainly was the case when the Class of ’54 committed to raising funds to benefit generations of BSU students engaging in undergraduate research, a pursuit more commonly reserved for graduate students at other institutions. Bridgewater, however, promotes and supports undergraduate research, understanding only too well that these experiences give BSU graduates a competitive edge in the job market.

The Class of ’54’s fundraising journey began in earnest immediately following their 45th class reunion. It’s a long story that boils down to Joe Pauley, ’54, encouraging his classmates to join in raising funds for the class to present to BSU at their 50th reunion. What happened next is a testament to the simple truth that all gifts, large and small, have the power to effect positive change.

Mr. Pauley’s personal motivation to support BSU students dates to when he first applied for a government job after his honorable discharge from the United States Navy. The short story is that in the interview, he was told they wanted a graduate from say, Yale, in their eyes a more prestigious institution which, surely, must graduate students with greater abilities. In the end, after rejecting Mr. Pauley, the government acknowledged his skills and pursued him. He landed the job and worked as a U.S. consular officer for more than 30 years. Today, he and his wife, Dr. Judy Pauley, a chemistry and physics teacher for 42 years, run their own communications business. However, Mr. Pauley remembers his early career rebuff and is motivated to ensure today’s BSU students do not experience rejection simply because they did not attend an Ivy League school.

Genesis Galan, ’19, a double major in English and psychology, said that without support from the Class of ’54’s Undergraduate Research Fund, she would have had to decline the invitation to present her research at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR) in Atlanta, GA. Ms. Galan had conducted in-depth research focusing on African American male identity as represented in well-known literary characters vs. how identity formation is experienced by the men she interviewed for her study. This, in itself, is noteworthy. While undergraduate research has always been strong in the sciences, it is not as prevalent in the humanities. Bridgewater, however, excels in this area.

“It was only because of the generosity of the donors that I was able to attend NCUR,” she said. “It was such an incredible experience, and one I would have missed without their support … Attending the conference encouraged me to continue to move forward with my research. It was great validation for me.”

The Pauleys are proud and humbled by the growth and impact of the Class of ’54’s fund, which, over the years, has swelled to more than $90,000. They, and their classmates, fully understand that adequate funding is critical to the success of BSU’s Undergraduate Research program, requiring as it does intense engagement between a student and faculty mentor.

Indeed, the fact that BSU, given its size and mission class, has such a robust, well-financed program speaks to the generous support of donors like the Class of ’54.

Pictured left: Genesis Galan, ’19, English and psychology double major
Pictured above: Joe Pauley, ’54, and Judy Pauley shown here at the BSU Student Arts and Research Symposium (StARS).
TAKEING FLIGHT
Alexander Dupont, ’21, recipient of the Murray Randall Scholarship Fund
Giving back, or, “paying it forward” as philanthropy is often described, satisfies a basic human desire to make a difference, solve problems and fuel creativity. Which is why giving at any level is so powerful. How a person chooses a cause and what motivates her or him to act, however, is personal.

The Murray Randall Scholarship Fund for aviation majors was established at BSU by Mr. Randall’s life partner, Ms. Jean Harley. Mr. Randall, who passed recently, owned Myricks Airfield in Berkley, MA and founded the Myricks Airfield Foundation. Understanding that the high cost of flight training can be a barrier to those who aspire to an aviation career, his objective was to keep open access to general aviation regardless of financial wherewithal, an objective shared by BSU.

Ms. Harley’s personal motivation in establishing the scholarship is clear – to honor her life partner and carry on his work. Although neither Mr. Randall nor Ms. Harley are alumni of Bridgewater, her decision to establish the scholarship at BSU made perfect sense, given Mr. Randall’s interest in promoting flying and BSU’s robust aviation program, which offers a pipeline to exceptional career opportunities for pilots.

Indeed, BSU’s aviation program, together with funding support like the Murray Randall Scholarship Fund, is helping to fill the shortage of pilots for regional and national airlines.

“Murray had a very caring nature and appreciated young people and their interests,” said Ms. Harley. “He very much wanted to promote general aviation. He was very bright, a nuclear engineer by profession, and very passionate about flying.”

When aviation major Alexander Dupont, ’21, first heard about the Murray Randall Scholarship, he immediately submitted his application and was thrilled to become its first recipient. “Flight training is pretty expensive,” said Alex. “This scholarship was hugely helpful.”

As it happens, Alex grew up three houses down from Myricks Airfield and remembers, as a four-year-old, riding his dirt bike to the airfield and chatting with Mr. Randall, something he continued to do all through the years.

“Murray was very humble about everything,” said Alex. “Over the years, he gave me a lot of good advice. He was just one of those people, very knowledgeable, very generous. If you had a question, Murray had an answer.”

Thanks to Mr. Randall, aviation enthusiasts can store their planes in one of two large or one small hanger; tie downs for outdoor storage are also available – all free of charge as Mr. Randall wanted; aviation fuel is available at wholesale price.

For Mr. Randall, sharing the airfield, giving freely of his knowledge, generating interest in flying among diverse groups of people, and promoting general aviation to the public was his passion and his goal. The Murray Randall Scholarship Fund pays tribute to his legacy of generosity and inclusion.

### AT A GLANCE

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

- Number of scholarships offered at BSU: **173**
- Number of students earning scholarships: **347**
- Average award amount: **$1,971**
- Total dollars awarded through the BSU Foundation: **$683,850**
- More than one half of scholarship recipients are commuter students.

**NOTE:** scholarships are awarded to students based on financial need or academic merit; some scholarships take both criteria into consideration.

To learn more about how to contribute to an existing scholarship or how to create a scholarship in your name or in honor of a friend or family member, please contact University Advancement at 508.531.1290.

give.bridgew.edu

Pictured left and below: Alexander Dupont, ’21, recipient of the Murray Randall Scholarship Fund with Jean Harley at Myricks Airfield in Berkley, MA.
It’s simple — internships offer students the opportunity to apply classroom theory in professional settings. At the same time, businesses benefit with an infusion of fresh, innovative ideas and much needed additional help with ongoing projects. The result? A win-win for both the student and the business.

Ms. Sare’ Arnold, talent acquisition manager with Enterprise Holdings, put it this way: “Our internship program is our pipeline for talent for the future. To use a transportation industry analogy – the intern gets to ‘test drive’ the organization and the organization gets to ‘test drive’ the intern as a potential full-time employee. Ms. Alicia Hebert, ’19, is one example. Ms. Hebert graduated from Bridgewater this past May and is now a full-time management trainee with Enterprise.”

In the world of internships, some are paid, others unpaid. Because many BSU students work two and three jobs to finance their education they often must decline unpaid opportunities. The role of BSU’s Internship Office is to help students overcome their obstacles with the goal being 1,000 annual internships funded by BSU and through additional contributions to the university’s internship initiative.

Invaluable to BSU students interested in securing a paid internship position are the businesses that hire interns through their own internship initiatives. Enterprise is a prime example of how a business partners with the university to support its promise: every student, one student at a time.

Ms. Hebert said, “I would not have been able to afford my Enterprise internship if it was unpaid … Enterprise made it possible for me to get an experience that I couldn’t get in a classroom. You can attend lectures all day long, but if you don’t have that hands-on experience, it doesn’t mean anything.”

Ms. Susan Mulford, human resources manager with Citrin Cooperman, a public accounting firm, is yet another business that offers paid internships to students. “We treat interns like first-year staff members,” she said. “We assign entry level items that need to get done, but
also, we take them in the field to experience audits first-hand and give them special projects over the summer. Our goal is to give our interns a great experience.

“We have excellent success with students from Bridgewater. What sets them apart is, because so many need to finance their own education, they’re used to working hard. They have a good work ethic, and that’s really helpful.”

Ms. Arnold echoed that sentiment. “Bridgewater interns are extremely hard working and never complain. They are truly appreciative of this opportunity.”

Both companies are known for hiring BSU alumni. At last count, in the Greater Boston area, Enterprise reported 28 BSU alumni among full-time career employees. Currently, Citrin Cooperman employs 12 BSU graduates, several of whom participated in an internship prior to graduation.

“I think it’s so important for students to do internships,” said Ms. Hebert. “It really gives a preview of the real world and helps you decide if this is something you want to do or not. And, it’s very good to have on your resume for future jobs, to show employers you put yourself out there.”

### AT A GLANCE INTERNSHIPS

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**NOTE:** The funded/paid number of internships includes BSU Foundation, on campus employers and external employer-funded internships for our students. The number of internships include undergraduate, graduate, paid, unpaid, credit and noncredit documented in the Internship Program Office.

To learn more about how to support BSU’s internship initiative, please contact University Advancement at 508.531.1290.

give.bridgew.edu
ACHIEVING THE DREAM

Every student, one student at a time
BSU’s commitment to social change is powerful. Honoring that commitment is both a privilege and a responsibility – which is why BSU’s Achieving the Dream Fund is gaining such traction.

Endowed by Dr. Jean MacCormack, vice chairwoman of the BSU Board of Trustees and chancellor emerita of UMass Dartmouth, the fund dovetails nicely with the university’s strategic plan to improve retention, persistence and graduation rates through data-driven decision making.

“Student success is the key goal,” said Dr. MacCormack, of the university’s overarching mission and the Dream Fund’s goal. “What that means is – it’s not OK for us to accept qualified students and then not see them through to graduation and meaningful careers.

“Higher education makes assumptions as to why some students don’t succeed,” she said. “But what impressed me about Bridgewater – and why I decided to create this fund – is the university’s willingness to test the assumptions. I’m thrilled to be a small part of this important effort.”

The fact is some students do not academically progress at the same rate as their peers – often due to societal factors that place challenges in a student’s path; challenges like economic stress, racism, being first in the family to attend college.

To combat these challenges and help all students achieve their dreams, BSU uses institutional data to identify groups of students who are not performing as well as their peers, and then uses this data in its decision-making process. “We look at best practices occurring nationally,” said Dr. Sabrina Gentlewarrior, vice president for the Division of Student Success and Diversity.

“And we engage in campus conversations to ensure we employ the expertise of campus members. Then, the university creates and pilots an intervention to help those students.” The newly endowed Achieving the Dream Fund supports the scaling up of interventions that have been piloted and proven successful.

This intentional targeting of students experiencing achievement and/or opportunity gaps is only possible at an institution like BSU, which is already engaged in educational excellence for all students, has an infrastructure supportive of the imperative of equity and, importantly, recognizes that faculty and librarians are the bedrock of all student success.

“Bridgewater is leading the way,” said Dr. MacCormack, “doing the hard work and giving everyone a chance. And they’re willing to try to change themselves to make it happen.” Furthermore, Dr. MacCormack believes that BSU’s data-driven decision-making approach will become a model for other institutions struggling with similar issues.

Unquestionably, the key to the success of piloted initiatives is the targeted approach and BSU’s well-established focus on equity, which attracted long-time donors Mr. Don Smith, ’59, G’62, and his husband Mr. Andrew Winters, a graduate of Marywood University, to lend their support to the Achieving the Dream Fund.

Of their primary motivation, Mr. Smith said, “We wanted to do something for the university that would be long lasting and would guarantee to take care of the needs of future students regardless of the inevitable administration changes that happen through the years.”

Mr. Winters added: “BSU is light years ahead of other institutions when it comes to meeting the challenges to advocacy and diversity work. What we know is that these problems are here for our generation, and we know they’ll still be here for future generations. Don and I are pleased for the opportunity to contribute to this fund, so when the next generation faces their challenges, the necessary funding is in place to support them.”

The Achieving the Dream Fund resonates with donors for many different reasons, top among them is its data-driven, decision-making strategy. This ensures that BSU has the monies to create innovative programs to support any student experiencing difficulties in accessing all that the university has to offer.
AT A GLANCE
ACHIEVING THE DREAM FUND

BSU Bears Summer Scholars Program
• In 2018, students participating in the program retained (remained at BSU) fall to spring 94.7% (as compared to students overall 90.3%).

BSU Retention Grant Program
• Since 2016, the number of Retention Grants awarded: 267
• 85% of students receiving a Retention Grant to date have retained, persisted or graduated.

Come Home to BSU Program
• BSU reaches out via text, phone, letter and postcards to students in good academic standing enrolled for one semester but not enrolled in the next.
  • Number of students connected with in fall 2018: 335
  • Number of credits students registered for: 3,481.5

Proactive Outreach to First-time, Full-time Students of Color
• Letter writing outreach, followed by calls, texts and opportunities to meet bi-weekly with Student Success and Diversity staff.
  • Number of letters sent offering support and resources: 440
  • Number of students successfully contacted via phone: 146

To learn more about how to support BSU’s Achieving the Dream Fund visit alumni.bridgew.edu/achievingthedream or contact University Advancement at 508.531.1290.

give.bridgew.edu

Pictured above: Danielle Lopez, ’17, Retention Scholarship recipient.

Achieving the Dream Programs
BSU Summer Bears Scholars and BSU Retention Scholarship

Originally a pilot, BSU Summer Bears Scholars Program is now in its third year. As a lower high school GPA is strongly related to future academic difficulties, the program recruits incoming first-year students with high school GPAs between 2.0 and 3.0. The program provides a free three-credit course, taught by BSU faculty, as well as lunch programs at which staff highlight key retention-oriented opportunities at BSU. The program helps students make the transition between high school and becoming a BSU Bear.

After graduation from Sturgis West Charter School in Hyannis, Cassidy McNally, ’22, received an invitation to participate in the program. She lists getting to know the campus, meeting faculty and developing relationships with her peers as beneficial. But, she said that it was the confidence in her academic abilities that made the biggest impact. The data confirms: participants in the first two years of the program are retaining at some of the highest rates at BSU.

“I didn’t have the highest GPA in high school,” said Cassidy. “So, I developed the mindset of thinking that I couldn’t do any better in college. Then, I earned a 4.0 GPA in the Bears program, something I never thought possible.” Cassidy went on to say how she believes her success in this program paved the way for her future success at BSU.

BSU’s Retention Scholarship Program is yet another initiative established to support at-risk students. Students in good academic standing but with genuine financial need are offered a Retention Scholarship so they can continue their studies at BSU. Ms. Danielle Lopez, ’17, recipient of the scholarship, explained: “I was determined to graduate, even more determined to do so with a high GPA. The Retention Scholarship I received was instrumental in my ability to earn a degree. Without a degree, I wouldn’t have been able to earn a Fulbright Scholarship. But here I am, two years later, waking up every day in Malaysia as a Fulbright recipient. The impact of the Retention Scholarship has allowed me to make an impact.” Eighty-five percent of the students receiving a Retention Scholarship continue their studies at, or graduate from BSU.
HAVE YOU INCLUDED BRIDGEWATER IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST?

LET US THANK YOU!

We look forward to welcoming you into the 1840 Society, an honorary group of alumni and friends who have thoughtfully included Bridgewater in their will, trust or other estate plans.

Contact Mary Abbott
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PO Box 42
Bridgewater, MA 02324-9989
508.531.1288
mary.abbott@bridgew.edu

Interested in learning more?
bridgew.planmygift.org
Bridgewater State University is committed to “supporting the success of EVERY STUDENT, ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.”

- Frederick W. Clark Jr., Esq., ’83