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Spring 2020

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Bridgewater State University

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# Bridgewater

STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2020



## 'We've Got This'

Rising to the challenges of a worldwide pandemic

INSIDE: Nationally Recognized Undergraduate Research | Grammy-Winning Professor | International Partnerships, and more



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**Adam Jabak, '20**, was looking rested and refreshed following his January trip to San Diego, California, where he'd presented the findings of his undergraduate research. The physics major has already spent a lot of time showcasing his work, which has to do with testing individual DNA molecules with potential anticancer drugs in search of new treatments.

He had also earned the Best Presentation Award in the physical science category at the 2019 National Collegiate Research Conference, held at Harvard University and billed as the largest event of its kind in the United States. It attracts more than 200 top students from 81 universities.

His research at BSU was funded by the Bartlett Internship Award, Bartlett Scholarship and the Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research.

The work has paid off. Adam was accepted into six PhD programs with full funding, ultimately electing to enter the molecular biophysics program at the University of Pennsylvania.

Adam was born in Boston, but as a teenager moved with his family to Lebanon, his parents' homeland, where he attended high school and a year of college. Knowing good jobs were hard to find there, Adam and his brother Rami (also a BSU student) returned to the States. He now lives in Bridgewater.

Dr. Thayaparan "Thaya" Paramanathan, assistant professor of physics, is Adam's mentor. After earning his PhD, Adam hopes to work in a research-based industry.

Recently we caught up with this burgeoning scientist.

### What drew you to physics?

I initially started at BSU as a chemistry major, but during my first semester I took Physics I with Thaya, and he asked me if I'd be interested in joining his biophysics lab. After doing so for two semesters, I changed my major.

### Can you tell us about your research?

I use optical tweezers to trap single DNA molecules and test them with potential cancer drugs. We were trying to characterize how these molecules interact with DNA and to see if that could help people by creating better drugs or enhanced treatments. The research was done in collaboration with Northeastern University and Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden.

### How did it feel to present at Harvard and earn a top award?

I was shocked, but it really encouraged me to stay in the field and further pursue my studies.

### What have you gained through undergraduate research at BSU?

It taught me to be persistent, and it also gave me the skills necessary for post-graduate research. Also, another impact was we were able to go to these major scientific conferences, including one in Lima, Peru. It was a small conference with leaders in the field, which gave me the chance to display the quality of the research we do here at BSU and network with a Columbia University professor who encouraged me to apply there.

### Would you advise other students to get involved in undergraduate research?

I recommend to everyone to take advantage of these great opportunities. If you look hard enough, there are unlimited opportunities for students to grow and go wherever they want. It's how I got to work with an amazing mentor like Thaya. He's been more like a father to me than just a mentor.

*Interview by John Winters, G'11*

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Karen Callan

*Bridgewater keeps alumni, faculty, students and their families, staff and friends of Bridgewater State University informed about the university community and its impact on the region.*

This magazine is written, designed and edited by the Office of Creative Services and Publications with the needs of its varied audiences at heart and in mind.

For up-to-date university news, activities and events, and to view past issues of the magazine, visit <http://bridgew.edu/news-events>.

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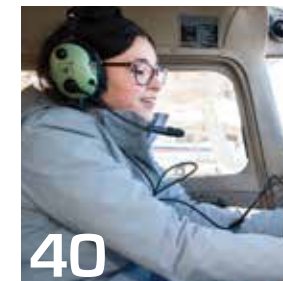
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# Bridgewater

SPRING 2020  
VOLUME 30 / NUMBER 1 BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



## FEATURES

### 8 'WE'VE GOT THIS'

Bears nation grapples with pandemic

### 14 IMPRESSIVE FINDINGS

Meet some of the participants in BSU's Undergraduate Research Program:

Camille Holts, '20

Riley McGrath, '20

Olivia Englehart, '20

Christelle Lauture, '20

Alyssa Jusseaume, '20

Ethan Child, '21

Emily Meehan, '18, G'19

Meet four faculty mentors:

Dr. Thomas Kling

Dr. Ann Brunjes

Dr. Elizabeth Spievak

Dr. Cielito "Tammy" D. King

### 34 CLOSING THE DISTANCE

Conversation Partners pairs international students with local residents

### 36 BASS HIT

Music instructor performs on Grammy-winning recording

### 38 HEROIC ADVENTURE

Professor's documentary shines a light on little-known WWII story

### 40 GATEWAY TO THE FUTURE

Aviation science program seeks to diversify industry

## DEPARTMENTS

### 2 PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

### 3 CAMPUS CONNECTION

BSU News, Student Perspective, Faculty Focus

### 42 ALUMNI UPDATE

Class Notes, Marriages, In Memoriam,

Alumni Services, Career Services, Alumni Profile

### 48 PARTING SHOT

#### ON THE COVER:

With the spring commencement ceremony postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Julia Nadeau and her family traveled to campus to capture the traditional graduation photo on the steps of Boyden Hall. Breaking with tradition, of course, is Julia's face mask, which she donned along with a borrowed cap and gown. (Read more about Julia on page 9.)

*photo by Karen Callan*





# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

PRESIDENT FREDERICK W. CLARK JR., ESQ., '83

Dear Friends,

It's been an extraordinary few months in the United States and around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic has killed more than 100,000 Americans, millions have been subjected to stay-at-home orders, unemployment has skyrocketed, and the economy has been shaken in ways unseen since the Great Depression.

While no one can predict the long-term effects of the pandemic, it's clear that at least temporarily, it has reshaped life as we know it.

We can *all* be proud of BSU's response to the crisis, which included converting all classes to online, while continuing to provide outstanding academic, health and financial support for our students, including the creation of a special COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund (see inside back cover for details). We have also shifted most of our workforce to telecommuting.

Meanwhile, everyone from maintainers to BSU police officers have committed to keeping the campus clean and safe, and we continued to care for more than 100 students in our residence halls for whom moving out would have created hardships. We had to postpone commencement but with a promise that we will hold an on-campus commencement ceremony when safety permits. Throughout, our rallying cry has been "We've got this." I have stated this with confidence because of the extraordinary people who are Bridgewater State University. I am grateful for their efforts.

Throughout, the trustees, Foundation members and the cabinet have managed with aplomb the enormous financial challenges brought on by the pandemic.

This issue of *Bridgewater* magazine was well underway when COVID-19 overtook the nation's headlines. Inside you will find several stories related to the pandemic and how the university and members of the BSU community have responded. This issue also spotlights BSU's nationally honored undergraduate research program. You'll read about the impressive work being done by students in laboratories, libraries, archives, classrooms and out in the field. Behind every story of student research success, of course, is a faculty mentor. These tireless educators, some of whom are featured in these pages, provide the kind of support and instruction that transform lives.

The spirit of inquiry that drives the students and faculty mentors is crucially necessary in these times, as the world grapples to move beyond this current crisis and prepare for those that no doubt loom ahead.

The keys to a better future, now as always, will be knowledge, experience, forward-thinking and the drive to see what lies over the horizon. These are hallmarks of a Bridgewater State University education. Just as important during these troubled times are empathy, kindness and a generosity of spirit – characteristics that define the BSU community.

Together we are a potent force. Let us draw strength from each other as we build a bridge to a better and healthier future.

With warmest regards,



President Frederick W. Clark Jr.



## Peter Koutoujian, '83, Tapped to Lead National Organization

Peter Koutoujian, who has served as Middlesex County sheriff for nine years, was named president of the Major County Sheriffs of America, an association whose members serve the most populous counties in the United States.

Sheriff Koutoujian began his studies at Bridgewater State as a political science major but changed to psychology.

It was a fortuitous decision as he finds his psychology background useful in overseeing the Middlesex County Jail and House of Corrections, which is also the largest mental health provider in the county.

Sheriff Koutoujian has led the Middlesex County office to national recognition for initiatives such as offering medication-assisted treatment for inmates battling drug addiction and opening a specialized housing unit for young adult offenders.



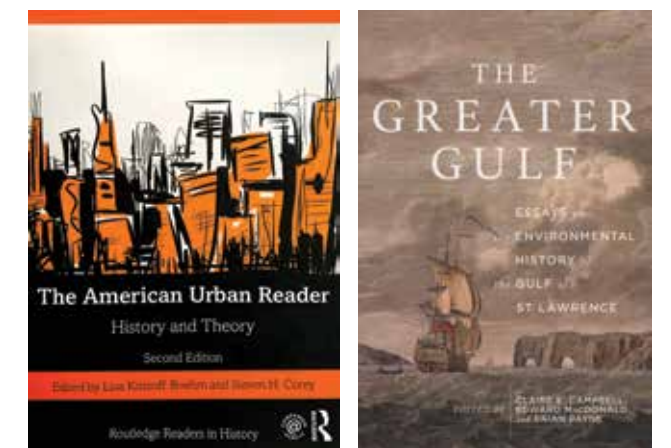
Peter Koutoujian, '83, is sworn in as president of the Major County Sheriffs of America by outgoing President Grady Judd.

Sheriff Koutoujian thanks his alma mater for preparing him well for his career in public service. "Bridgewater can lead you anywhere and everywhere," he said.

## Two for the Bookshelf

Dean Lisa Krissoff Boehm of the College of Graduate Studies is co-editor of the best-selling textbook for urban history courses. In February, the publisher, Routledge, issued the second edition of *The American Urban Reader: History and Theory*. The book's other editor is Steven H. Corey. The pair also collaborated on three essays featured in the book.

Also recently published is *The Greater Gulf: Essays on the Environmental History of the Gulf of St. Lawrence*. Dr. Brian Payne, professor of history and Canadian studies, is one of the editors. The book's publisher says it is the "first concerted exploration of the environmental history – marine and terrestrial – of the Gulf of St. Lawrence." The book's other editors are Claire E. Campbell and Edward MacDonald. It is available from McGill-Queen's University Press.





# CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

## Campus Community Mourns Two Longtime Educators

Two men who devoted their careers to the education of Bridgewater State students died in March.

Dr. Henry J. Fanning Jr., G'61, passed away on March 9 after a brief illness, at the age of 86. He spent 37 years at Bridgewater State, holding the positions of director of admissions, dean of continuing education and dean of academic administration. Dr. Fanning was also a professor of counseling in the graduate school.

Professor Henry J. Santos died on March 11 from Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease. He was 92. He taught in the Department of Music for more than 30 years.

President Clark praised the dedication of the two veteran educators. "These two multi-talented men each played a critical role in making Bridgewater the institution it is today," he said. "Generations of students were touched by their scholarship, generosity and devotion, and were the better for it. This is their legacy."

Professor Santos earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Boston University. His roommate at the university was none other than Martin Luther King Jr.

During his time at Bridgewater State, Professor Santos played a key role in developing the university's music major. In addition to his teaching duties on campus, he was a composer and musician of note, performing on radio, studio recordings and in concert in the United States, as well as internationally. As a scholar, he helped shine a light on classical musicians of the past who might have otherwise been lost to history.

A longtime resident of Middleboro, Professor Santos often attended campus events with his wife, Leola, '49, who passed away in 2011.

In 2004, the Henry Santos Scholarship was established and has been awarded annually to a BSU student.

Dr. Fanning was a South Dartmouth resident. He held a master's degree from Bridgewater State, as well as degrees from Boston College, Boston University and Clark University.

He served in the U.S. Army's 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division for two years as a specialist, and while stationed in Augsburg, Germany, he met his late wife, Julie.



Dr. Henry J. Fanning Jr., G'61



Professor Henry J. Santos

A native of New Bedford, Dr. Fanning was active with many local organizations, including as a library volunteer and a docent at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

Students remembered Dr. Fanning as a caring mentor and an engaging presence in the classroom, always mixing just the right amount of warmth and humor. Administrators who worked with him saw a dedicated professional who always put students first.

# STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

BY NATHANIEL REGO, '21

My name is Nathaniel Rego, and I am an individual with autism from Dartmouth. I have a great passion for writing, making videos and communications in general. I am majoring in mass communications. I have created written works, YouTube videos and podcasts throughout my life. Doing so builds my confidence and makes me feel a part of things.

Communication is very important to me because it enables me to interact with others. With the start of high school, I became fascinated with YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, just as I had with writing and creating podcasts.

Through my middle school years, I did not know how to communicate with new people I met. When I was introduced to YouTube by my parents, I began to make videos and connect with people who had channels and videos of their own. I commented on and liked some of their videos. I also was involved in online conversations with fellow YouTube users.

When I was at Bristol Community College, I had published some of my writing, including an article on the Titanic disaster and some film reviews. At the time, I was contributing to *The Hawk*, BCC's student newspaper. Also, I hosted my first radio show at BCC, a program I called *EW*, for Entertainment Weekly. I felt very proud, as the show enabled me to reach out to an audience. It taught me about responsibility, because I learned how important it is to be upfront with my radio audience when discussing various topics. I also listened to podcasts, which helped further inspire me as a DJ.

The success of my radio show at BCC gave me the confidence to sign on to host my own show on WBIM, Bridgewater's radio station. Not only does being on the air increasingly boost my confidence, it also allows me to



interact with a campus-wide audience and feel that I'm more a part of the university.

My WBIM show is called *The Review*, and its theme is all things Disney. I'm on Fridays during the semester from 1 to 2 p.m. I am a major Disney fan, and each week, prior to my show, I create an agenda, which includes my introduction, a selection of Disney songs to play, and news topics mainly concerning Disney theme parks and movies.

As an individual who has autism, I have difficulty with communication. However, the radio show has made it easier to reach out and connect with others. I'd like to assume I have an audience who listens to me every Friday, and I enjoy being part of the university. This experience helps me envision a future in the field of communications. What I have learned from being on the radio is that it allows you an opportunity to be heard.

That is precisely what I want in the future – to be heard.



# CAMPUS CONNECTION

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

### Double Alumna Awarded Fulbright



Jorgelina Uribe, '13, G'19, has been awarded an English Teaching Assistantship in Brazil and will spend the 2021 academic year there as a language-learning assistant at a teaching college.

She earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish and a master's in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

As someone who has experienced language learning as both a student and instructor,

Ms. Uribe is eager to share those experiences and best practices in language instruction in a Portuguese-language setting in Brazil.

Ms. Uribe immigrated to the United States from the Dominican Republic when she was 9 and was the only English language learner in her fourth-grade class. By middle school, she was fluent in English. In high school she studied Latin, and in college learned Portuguese and some Mandarin.

She ultimately plans to pursue a PhD in applied linguistics in order to research the differences among regional dialects of Portuguese and the ways in which various cultures and indigenous languages have shaped those dialects.

### Alumnus Earns NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

Nicholas Bryden, '17, who is pursuing a PhD at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was awarded a graduate research fellowship from the National Science Foundation. Many recipients of this honor have gone on to win a Nobel Prize.



Mr. Bryden is working to find a way to perform magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at ultra-low frequency. This would make the process more affordable and portable, and thus more accessible to both health care providers and future patients.

A physics major at BSU, Mr. Bryden, pictured (left) with his mentor, Dr. Thayaparan Paramanathan, was a highly honored researcher while still a student.

### Wages of Some Graduates Among Highest in the Country

A year after earning their degrees, alumni of the graduate accounting and social work programs and the undergraduate chemistry program earn average salaries that are among the highest in the nation (\$63,900, \$50,700 and \$43,300, respectively). The findings are based on an analysis by the website gradreports.com, which relies on U.S. Department of Higher Education data.

The study also revealed that BSU has the lowest tuition in each of the three degree programs.

### Biology Major is University's First Goldwater Award Winner



Hannah Deane, '21, has earned a Goldwater Scholarship Award. The Blackstone resident is the first BSU student to capture this prestigious honor.

The Goldwater Scholarship is awarded each year to approximately 200 sophomores and juniors at higher education institutions across the country. Created in 1986 in honor of late Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater,

it is considered one of the most prestigious scholarships available to undergraduate students studying natural science, engineering or mathematics.

Hannah will present her research on circadian disruptions and retinal degeneration in lab mice at the annual conference of the Society for Research on Biological Rhythms (to be held virtually this summer). Her work contributes to the ongoing study of light-signaling pathways to the brain and how they regulate metabolism.

She has also co-authored two papers with her mentor, Dr. Joseph Seggio of the Department of Biological Sciences.

### Campus Ranks High in Safety

Bridgewater State University is the fourth-safest higher education institution in the country and tops in New England, according to a new analysis of FBI and U.S. Department of Education data.

In compiling its 2020 ranking of institutions with at least 5,000 students, the organization YourLocalSecurity analyzed rates of violent, property and hate crimes, as well as Violence Against Women Act offenses. The organization praised BSU for increasing the number of blue light emergency telephones across campus and for using the Rave Guardian app. The app makes it easier for members of the university community to call for help and for officers to know where to respond.

Additionally, BSU was a pioneer in academia by making the opioid overdose reversal drug Narcan available on campus. Defibrillators are a common sight, and the university has added more cameras around campus.

This semester, BSU became the first higher education institution in Massachusetts – and second nationally – to unify all its emergency notification systems. The one-button approach more quickly alerts the campus community of an emergency.

# FACULTY FOCUS

## DR. TAYLOR HALL, '10 / SOCIAL WORK



In high school, Dr. Taylor Hall, '10, never imagined herself as a college professor. Back then, she didn't even want to be a college student. Now, she's teaching at her alma mater, Bridgewater State University.

Dr. Hall envisioned directly entering the workforce or the military, but her Norton High School guidance counselor encouraged her to at least apply to college. As her classmates solidified their college plans, Dr. Hall figured she should go too. She picked Bridgewater State because she could afford it.

Her decision to attend Bridgewater State changed her life.

"This place was the catalyst for all of it," said Dr. Hall, a first-generation student who majored in sociology and minored in social welfare. "It was people here pushing me and seeing my potential."

Dr. Hall is back on campus as an assistant professor in the School of Social Work. She finds it surreal to be a colleague of some of the professors who were once her mentors.

While initially studying elementary education and Spanish, Dr. Hall came to realize that teaching at the elementary school level was not for her. But she knew she wanted to help people. Her professors recommended sociology and social work and ultimately encouraged her to go on to graduate school. "I had so many influential professors who guided me in the right direction," said Dr. Hall, who earned a PhD from Boston University.

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Hall served as a social worker at the Suffolk County House of Correction. Many inmates battled addiction, a condition she argues needs to be treated medically. She realized she wanted to advocate for policy change and support organizations that provide inmates and others with the care they need.

It was during her doctoral studies that Dr. Hall discovered her love for teaching at the college level, and upon learning about a part-time opening at her alma mater, she knew she had to apply. She began teaching at BSU in 2017 and became full-time this year.

Dr. Hall relates to the struggles BSU students face as they juggle family and work responsibilities on their way to discovering their own passions and future careers. "I get the unique stressors of students who go to a state school. ... I think it's important for them to see themselves in people leading their classes," she said.

Dr. Hall views education as a two-way street. To that end, she sometimes has students lead discussions while she sits with the class and participates. You'd almost think she's back here as an undergraduate herself.

"This is a learning environment," she said. "Everyone is learning."



# 'We've Got This'

## *Bears nation grapples with pandemic*



Mackenzie Rubitschung, '21, proudly shows her BSU spirit with her homemade face mask.

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC has quickly brought about big changes in the way we live and the way we learn. As of this writing, more than 110,000 Americans have died from the virus. Nonessential places of business have been closed, face masks are nearly ubiquitous, and education from coast to coast has moved online.

As of early May, 29 students and four faculty/staff members had tested positive for COVID-19. All are reportedly doing well. Sadly, however, the virus did claim the life of an alumna's father.

As troubling as all this is, worse still is that no one can predict with any confidence what the future holds.

Bridgewater State University moved classes online beginning March 23. Spring events and sports seasons were cancelled. Commencement was postponed, but President Clark has vowed to hold an in-person ceremony when it is once again safe for large events to take place. Summer sessions will remain online, and on May 5, President Clark announced his aim for the next academic year: "Let me make this clear, we are planning to be on campus come this fall."

This will not be done without careful planning, the president added. He announced the formation of the Safe Return Task Force, which will coordinate the return to campus for faculty, librarians, staff and students. The guiding mantra will be "health and safety first." State and federal public health directives will be relied upon.

With the announcement, the president conceded that the ways of learning and living on campus that we have become accustomed to will necessarily change. "What next fall looks like will be different from last fall; it needs to be in order to ensure the safety of the BSU community."

President Clark tells the story of how a faculty member reacted to the changes brought about by COVID-19 with her resolute statement, "We've got this." It's become a catchphrase symbolizing our resilience.

This special section of *Bridgewater* magazine features content created primarily by the staff of University News and Video that demonstrates just a fraction of how members of the BSU community have responded to the worldwide health crisis that has touched us all. These stories illustrate President Clark's words, "We should all continue to be proud of what we have accomplished together. It is truly remarkable, and reflects the strong and courageous BSU spirit I love so much."

## Commencing Solo



Six days before the 2020 commencement ceremony would have been held, Julia Nadeau (pictured on the cover) and her family decided to take matters into their own hands. The official event was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The family traveled from Lowell so Julia, who'd graduated in December with a dual-degree in English and secondary education and was scheduled to participate in the May 16 ceremony, could mark this major rite of passage in some way.

"It would have been nice to have a last hurrah, but it still feels good," she said, as she posed on the steps of Boyden Hall on that windy Sunday afternoon holding her diploma and wearing a borrowed cap and gown. Accompanying her and decked out in BSU garb were her parents, Joe and Celeste Nadeau. Siblings Lydia and Sam were also present for the photo session. (Her boyfriend and fellow Bear, Connor Beaumont, '20, is in the National Guard and was called into service during the pandemic.)

Like most BSU seniors, Julia said she is looking forward to when the 2020 commencement ceremony is finally held.



# Shielding Others

An enterprising trio has been hard at work in BSU's Makerspace creating face shields for hospital and nursing home employees. Kevin Monteith, '20, (right); Andrew Define, '22; and Robert Monteith, an analytical instrumentation engineer at BSU, have thus far delivered more than 2,000 shields to 20 medical facilities.

The plastic shields are made using 3-D printers, with materials funded in part by donations to the BSU Foundation. The trio is seeking additional funding to assemble a new machine to make face masks using a fabric-like material common in surgical masks.

Makerspace offers a collaborative working environment, as well as access to and training on specialized equipment. The Monteith brothers and student staffers also use the 3-D printers to make inexpensive prosthetics.

These community-minded Bears, with support from the Bartlett College of Science and Mathematics and the Information Technology and Operations divisions, brought together 3-D printers from across campus and asked medical professionals what they needed. Then they got to work. Robert Monteith also joined staff in the Information Technology Division to provide COVID-19 researchers remote access to BSU computer processing power. "We have the capability to help, so I think it's our obligation to provide assistance if we can," he said. "We want to make sure our university as a whole is safe and make sure our community is as well."



## Safe and Secure

Face masks are in plentiful supply at the BSU Police Department, thanks to Rita Starkey, aka The Mask Sewer, who donated the custom-designed face masks donned above by (from left) Staff Sergeant David Cardella and Sergeant David Dean.

Ms. Starkey first began making masks for her daughter and friend, nurses who have been working 12-hour shifts. Now she's sewing masks for other nurses, as well as first responders. She follows all CDC guidelines in creating her reversible masks, which are washable and reusable.

## Peerless Advice

BSU's Peer Educators are used to coming together on campus to spread the word about health and wellness topics. But with COVID-19 requiring them to return home, they're now joining forces virtually to continue to share advice with their fellow students.

Taking part in this Instagram post, one of several they have compiled, are (clockwise, from top right) Angela Firicano, '21; Alex Molinari, '23; Savannah Daniels, '22; and Jessie, a 13-year-old Australian Shepherd, whose proud owner is peer educator Miranda Moscatelli, '20. BSU Peer Educators are undergraduate students who work in Outreach Education in the Wellness Center.



## Zooming In

Dr. Joseph A. Oravec, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, joined BSU orientation leaders during a recent Zoom training session. Summer orientation will be held online, and Dr. Oravec wanted to thank these students for their determination and innovation in coordinating this first-of-its-kind program for incoming students.

Online meetings have become the norm for most of the BSU campus community. Dr. Oravec said Zoom and similar platforms provide a mix of new and challenging opportunities for engagement, but ultimately offer a valuable human connection.

He added, however, that for him, online conversations are no substitute for face-to-face contact. "Not having students on campus is a very eerie feeling," he said. "I miss my daily interaction with them – in meetings, joining them for lunch or dinner in one of our dining halls, or attending one of their evening programs."



Francis Raboy, '20, knows the importance of wearing a face mask.

## Facing a New Normal

Face masks are nearly everywhere as members of the BSU community go about their daily lives.

Sheila Tunstall McKenna, '62, decked out in BSU attire from head to toe, gets ready to plant some flowers. She notes that her pigtails aren't a fashion statement, but instead a way of controlling her too-long hair, the result of the shutdown of hair salons in Massachusetts.



The pandemic didn't stop the April 4 wedding of Diane Nicol of the BSU Police Department and Scott Wolfe, pictured flanking Justice of the Peace Deborah Dami, who performed the ceremony at the couple's Mashpee home.



Madison Barboza, '21, (left) and Alexis Goncalves, '21, sport face masks as they fly home from their spring break trip to Switzerland and Portugal.

Christopher Sonnie, '20, gives a thumbs up after a jog around Franklin Park.



## Extended Stay

The campus was relatively empty during most of the spring semester in response to the COVID-19 health crisis. However, a small number of international students were among those who remained. Just 17 of the 86 international students at BSU were unable to return home due to travel restrictions, border closures and other obstacles. Suffice it to say, they didn't have a lot of company.

"It's definitely different being one of the few people who are still living on campus, but it's not as bad as it seems," said Nisay Heng, '20, of Cambodia. "It does get lonely, but I think everyone is feeling a little bit of that regardless of them being at home or living on campus."

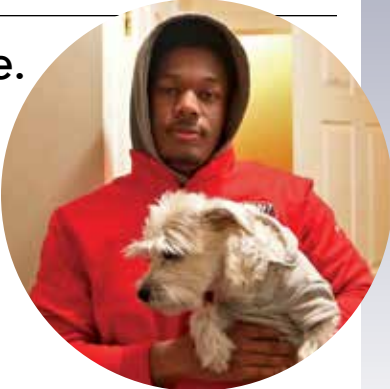
"Hopefully, as things improve globally, students will be able to leave at the end of the semester," said Jennifer Currie, G'17, associate director of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS). Housed in the Dr. Edward W. Minnock Institute for Global Engagement, ISSS is doing everything possible to support these international students, including moving them to private rooms in Crimson Hall where they could practice social distancing. ISSS also helped the students transition to online classes and secure dining services and health/counseling telehealth services.

Ukraine native Olena Bychkovska, G'20, (above), another student unable to return home, lives off campus and initially faced different challenges. "Without a car, I could not stock up (on supplies) like everyone else, so I was just hoping there was food left the next time I went to the store," she said.

Olena said of BSU's team of internationally focused administrators, "They have been very supportive. I know they worked with other departments at BSU to help the international students that can't leave the United States."

## Stay. Sit. Snuggle.

For Tajonn Nickelson, '21, staying safe at home and finishing his courses online has its upside. He gets to spend more time with his recently adopted four-legged friend Snowflake.





## Novel Method

Dr. Marlene Correia loves to read books. She also enjoys sharing them.

To ensure people have access to books during the pandemic, the assistant professor of literacy education in the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education established a Little Free Library outside her Freetown home. Her father built the tiny structure, which she filled with some of her many books and bookmarks. People are welcome to take or leave items. BSU students who live nearby can even pick up children's books to use for their class assignments.

"It's been a dream of mine that I really wanted to do. This seemed to be the perfect time," Dr. Correia said on a recent morning as she watched someone take a book from the library. "I'm so happy people are enjoying it." Reading, she added, can transport people to a new world, away from troubles they may be facing.

More than 100,000 Little Free Libraries have been installed around the world. Dr. Correia's Chipaway Road library is the first one in Freetown.



## Home Schooling

While BSU offers a wide range of online courses, shifting from teaching in-person to online mid-semester wasn't something faculty expected. Dr. Donna Dragon, associate professor of dance, and Dr. Jeanne Carey Ingle, assistant professor in the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, said the abrupt transition brought both challenges and rewards.

Teaching dance remotely brings a different set of issues than courses held in a typical classroom setting. Dr. Dragon (below) said, "I helped students to negotiate diverse home environment concerns, such as limited space and dancing on flooring such as carpets, paved driveways, balconies and tile that could cause injuries. We focused on movement that could be done in

four-foot square spaces." Technology issues in real-time meetings made moving together challenging, so she also asked her students to videotape themselves. "Collaboration is an essential skill in dance that we successfully addressed by moving, creating, and analyzing dance together and individually," she said.



Dr. Ingle said she's very impressed by her students' commitment. "This has been an impossible situation for many of them; some have lost their jobs, some are sick, have family members who are sick or have children at home they have to care for and teach. I've tried to keep that in mind as I've been teaching over the last few weeks," she said, adding that being available to her students is crucial. "I try to simply be there for them on Zoom, in virtual office hours, by text or email. It's important to me to use every opportunity to connect with my students."



## Special Deliveries

Carla Monteiro, '17, and her cousin Paulo DeBarros, '98, with the help of volunteers, have been delivering meals, groceries and toiletries to seniors in need in the Dorchester area during the pandemic. Funding for these necessities has come from a wide range of sponsors.

As of late April, more than 3,000 bags of goods had been delivered.

Ms. Monteiro is a social worker at Brigham and Women's Hospital and founder and president of the Cape Verdean Social Workers Association.

Mr. DeBarros is president of the Cape Verdean Association of Boston.

## On Location to Online

With businesses nationwide shuttered due to the pandemic, many people are working from home. So, too, are these BSU students whose spring internships have shifted from on location to online.

Reed Cullen, '21, an accounting-finance major, landed an internship as a seasonal real estate tax intern for PwC, a big four accounting firm. Originally slated for just the spring semester, his internship was recently extended through the summer.

Reed said he feels more productive working from home, but that it poses challenges as well. "You have to roll with the technical difficulties. There will be communication issues and technology setbacks, but maintaining a good sense of humor and a positive attitude is essential to putting your team at ease," he said.

Gabryella Serrano, '22, expected to spend her spring semester in Washington, D.C., as a full-time graphic design intern at Active Minds, a nonprofit whose goal is to change the conversation about mental health and aid in suicide prevention. But by mid-March she was back home completing her internship remotely. The art major and psychology minor was placed in her internship through The Washington Center.

Gabryella said she works at home from 9 AM to 5 PM creating graphics for Active Mind's social media, blog posts and campaigns, just as she did while in the D.C. office. "Having some type of a routine is so important at a time like this," she said. "You can create daily or weekly goals to motivate yourself."



## Essential

While most BSU students, faculty and staff last stepped on campus in mid-March, a small number of employees still report daily. BSU's essential workers, usually hard at work behind the scenes, are now in the forefront keeping the campus running, the grounds manicured and supporting students unable to return home. One of those employees, Campus Executive Chef Joseph Pina, has been helping perfect a new plant-based catering menu called Rustic Roots, scheduled to be introduced during the fall semester.

## A Different View

Xinxianglu Xie opted to stay in America when most international students who could travel home did so due to the emerging health crisis. The China native then recorded her thoughts for posterity as part of Professor Michele Meek's Multimedia and Storytelling class.

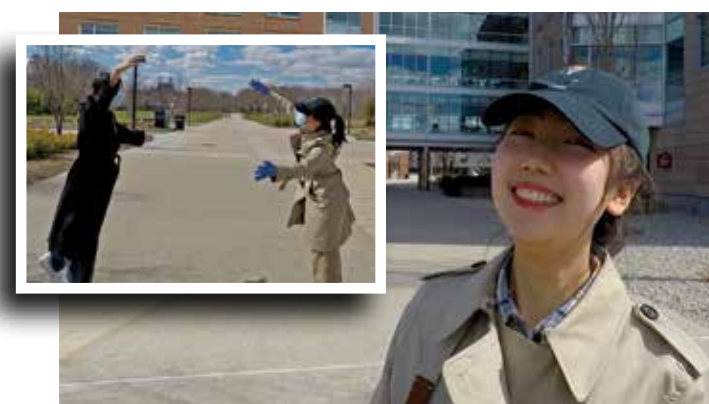
"I really wanted to make a micro-documentary to show the life of Chinese students in America during the crazy spreading of COVID-19," said Xinxianglu, pictured, right, and, inset, with fellow exchange student Yiwei Huang in stills from the video.

The 21-year-old hails from Jilin in the country's northeast. She's visiting BSU for a year as an exchange student and was scheduled to return home after the spring semester, expecting to graduate next year. She hopes her video will provide Americans with several takeaways.

"First, I hope viewers will feel some hope," Xinxianglu said. Indeed, the title of her video, *March Equinox*, alludes to the lengthening of days during this time of year. The extra hours of daylight represent that hope and a sense of rebirth.

Xinxianglu's video stresses the importance of self-protection through social distancing and the use of face masks, and it also demonstrates that a global pandemic demands a global response. "We need to fight this situation together for the future of the human race," she said.

The video can be viewed at [shorturl.at/dfMS9](https://shorturl.at/dfMS9).





# Impressive Findings

*Meet some of the participants in BSU's Undergraduate Research Program*

BY HEATHER HARRIS MICHONSKI  
(JOHN WINTERS, G'11, CONTRIBUTED TO THIS STORY)

WHILE IT WAS GREAT NEWS that in 2019 Bridgewater State University's Undergraduate Research Program was heralded as one of the best in the United States by the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), even more impressive are the program's results, as measured in student and alumni success.

In the following pages, you will meet students, mentors and an alumna who are emblematic of the program's far-reaching impact. Over the past two decades, thousands of students have gained highly valued experience and skills in critical thinking, problem solving, faculty collaboration and communication, making them outstanding candidates for competitive post-graduation opportunities.

BSU's Undergraduate Research Program has long been a model for other colleges and universities across the nation. So it was no surprise when it was honored by CUR with the 2019 Campus-Wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments.

President Clark, Provost Karim Ismaili, Assistant Provost Jenny Shanahan, Adrian Tinsley Program Coordinator Thayaparan Paramanathan and other members of the BSU community were on hand in January in Washington, D.C., to receive the award.

"Undergraduate research aligns with our core values of providing all students with access to high-impact practices," said President Clark.

Dr. Shanahan, who has overseen the program for the past 10 years, said the recognition from CUR provided incredible validation for all involved, and especially for the goal of inclusiveness.

That, she said, is why the Undergraduate Research Program has been so successful. "Because undergraduate

research at BSU was designed and led from its beginnings by faculty in the humanities as well as the sciences, it has developed over the years as a truly disciplinarily diverse program," Dr. Shanahan said. "It reflects and contributes to the vibrancy of scholarly work across the university and broader world."

BSU's Undergraduate Research Program provides resources for both course-based projects that take place during the semester and the more intensive Adrian Tinsley Program, which offers summer research experiences. The program also provides funding for student projects and travel to conferences. All told, approximately 1,800 BSU students each year are involved in undergraduate research, with grant funding, on average, for roughly 350 of these students.

Working with faculty mentors, who are critical to the program's success, students select a topic, design a project, and plan and execute their research. Their findings are then compiled and highlighted in papers, posters or oral presentations and featured in BSU's annual

*Undergraduate Review*. Some of the best student papers are published in peer-reviewed academic journals.

It's a lot of work, but it pays off. At prestigious showcases such as Posters on the Hill, where 60 students are selected each year from across the United States to present their work on Capitol Hill, BSU leads the nation with at least one student making the cut for nine consecutive years through 2019 (this year's event was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic). BSU undergraduate researchers have also earned other awards and present their findings at conferences around the world. Each semester, the Undergraduate Research Program holds symposia on campus, allowing students to share their work with their loved ones and members of the BSU community.

The roots of the program stretch back more than 20 years. That's when President Emerita Adrian Tinsley challenged five faculty members to create undergraduate research opportunities for students. Professors Kevin Curry, Edward Brush, Peter Saccocia, Ann Brunjes and former history Professor Andrew Harris took up the gauntlet.

**BSU leads the nation in representation at Posters on the Hill, one of the most prestigious scholarly events for undergraduate research, with at least one student chosen to participate the past nine years.**

According to Dr. Saccocia, many faculty members were already mentoring student researchers. They were excited when President Tinsley provided them with the resources

**In 2019, BSU was one of just three institutions nationwide honored by the Council on Undergraduate Research with the Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments.**

to develop the critical contours of the new program and the ways in which it would function.

As they brainstormed, these faculty members made sure to include the entire campus. "From the beginning we cast a wide net, inviting all faculty from all disciplines to participate in the creation and development of our program," Dr. Brunjes said.

As the program grew, in 2006, under President Emeritus Dana Mohler-Faria, the budget was increased significantly and the Office of Undergraduate Research was established. Dr. Lee Torda was appointed founding director.

"Undergraduate research was really moved forward by Lee. She was a tireless advocate for undergraduate research and instrumental in getting legs under the program," said Dr. Pamela Russell, associate provost for academic and faculty affairs.

National recognition notwithstanding, the work in undergraduate research at BSU continues to grow and expand. The institution will continue to seek out new ways to provide even more opportunities, said Dr. Shanahan.

It's a shining example of a high-impact practice that pays dividends year after year for all involved, Dr. Brunjes added. "I'm glad to see it continue on the trajectory we set out on 20 years ago," she said. "The BSU Undergraduate Research Program is a gem. I am thankful for having the opportunity to contribute to it over the last two decades and look forward to more involvement in the decades to come." ♦



## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Participants in BSU's Undergraduate Research Program discuss their projects, their passions and the impact they hope to make.

### CAMILLE HOLTS, '20

HOMETOWN: North Attleboro

MAJORS: Elementary Education, Spanish

PROJECT: Who is in Your Classroom Library?: An Exploration of Early Childhood Educators' Usage of Multicultural Literature in the Classroom

MENTOR: Dr. Jeanne Carey Ingle (Elementary and Early Childhood Education)

My project focused on how early childhood educators effectively use high-quality multicultural children's books in the classroom. During the summer of 2019, I conducted a research study at an early education and care facility in Southeastern Massachusetts. I led a training workshop to educate teachers on how to analyze multicultural books for accuracy and appropriateness, as well as ways to use them in the classroom. The teachers also participated in pre- and post-training surveys that assisted me in understanding their skills in analyzing and utilizing such literature in the classroom.

I am especially interested in this topic because I have a strong belief that students should be exposed to cultural narratives other than their own. To ensure this is done properly, educators must be trained. I took the initiative to educate teachers on how they can be sure that their students have access to multicultural children's books that are appropriate and accurate.

Books are the cornerstone of education. If teachers are going to use multicultural literature, then they need to do so appropriately. Also, teachers in early childhood education have a significant impact on the lives of many children. If teachers are unable to properly use or access high-quality multicultural children's literature, then they are doing a disservice to their students. My work is especially important because it not only educates teachers and, subsequently, students, but also validates narratives from varying cultures. ♦







## RILEY McGRATH, '20

HOMETOWN: Kingston

MAJOR: Psychology

MINORS: GLBT Studies, Women's and Gender Studies

PROJECT: Transgender Health: A Social Justice Education Project

MENTOR: Dr. Theresa Jackson (Psychology)

My project focuses on educating health care providers (doctors, nurses, receptionists, medical staff, EMTs and other medical personnel) about the needs of the transgender community. For this project, we created an educational pamphlet to help those working in the medical field become more knowledgeable about the differing needs of their transgender patients.

I have found through my own experiences of being openly transgender since October 2016 that it is very difficult to navigate the American health care system when health care providers are uneducated about the transgender community. This often causes discomfort, gender dysphoria and other complications for members of the transgender community, keeping them from accessing health care or addressing identity-specific health care needs. Because of this, I avoided the health care system for two years. This lack of knowledge along with the gaps between the needs of the transgender community and the knowledge of health care providers fueled my desire to advocate for my own community.

It often feels like members of the transgender community must constantly fight ignorance and prejudice as they try to protect their rights under the law. My project focuses generally on addressing ongoing issues for the transgender community and specifically on the lack of understanding from some in the medical community. This lack of education and understanding often creates barriers to a transgender person's health and well-being. The pamphlet I created is a resource that aims to suggest ways health care can be more inclusive and accessible for the transgender community. ♦



## OLIVIA ENGLEHART, '20

HOMETOWN: Rochester

MAJOR: Art History

PROJECT: Amamonzeki: The Artistic Practices of Aristocratic Buddhist Nuns in Premodern Japan

MENTOR: Dr. Sean McPherson (Art and Art History)

My study explores the lives and artistic works of aristocratic Zen nuns in Early Modern (1600-1868) Japan. Their artistic contributions were prayers for amassing karmic merit in the afterlife or were intended to assist temples in furthering the spread of Buddhism. Art was not only a form of piety for Buddhist nuns, but also sometimes involved sacrifice through ascetic practices. Traditions of self-mutilation carried out by religious women in premodern Japan were performed predominantly by those seeking to overcome their physical attachments and render themselves genderless when male priests hindered their pursuit of spiritual studies. The cultural breadth of the convents can be seen in various objects made from wood, clay, cloth, metal, paper and pigments, and some even attest to religious fervor by incorporating the hair, skin and blood of the nuns who created them. The visual brilliance of these objects convinces us that the imperial convents are extraordinary cultural repositories that deserve further scholarship.

During the summer of 2018, I was awarded a summer research grant through BSU during which I studied Zen Buddhist painting from the Kamakura period (1192-1333). It occurred to me that all my textual sources focused solely on arts created by men. I became increasingly curious about the women who devoted themselves to Buddhism from its introduction to Japan in the sixth century to the present. With my adviser's guidance and a few directed studies, I decided to focus on the arts created with the Imperial Convents (Amamonzeki) during Japan's Edo period (1603-1868).

There is very little scholarship on this topic. Buddhism has been practiced in Japan for well over a millennium, but I believe the religious, philosophical, social and aesthetic focus seems incredibly one-sided. There is another side – the contributions of females to Japan's religious history and identity that is missing. ♦



## CHRISTELLE LAUTURE, '20

HOMETOWN: Randolph

MAJORS: English, Graphic Design

PROJECT: Beyond Validation: The Vernacular Literary Tradition and African-American Vernacular English

MENTOR: Dr. Emily Field (English)

African-American Vernacular English (AAVE) is a dialect spoken by the African-American community. The research surrounding AAVE has validated it as indeed a dialect and not merely a lesser version of standard English. What's not yet clear is why AAVE developed into what it is today and how it is valuable in its own right. This is the question I try to answer through my research of AAVE in action and as recorded in the past.

I was drawn to this topic in my History of English class, where I learned the many different ways English became the language it is today. As a speaker of both standard English and AAVE, I wondered what interesting ways AAVE came into being. The answer, I found, was lacking. So, I endeavored to begin an exploration in hopes of answering this question.

This research is important because understanding why AAVE developed is key to understanding it as integral to American English, rather than derivative of the language. African-American peoples have spent their whole existence trying to validate themselves against "the standard." It is time that we begin to explore our intrinsic value, beyond mere validation. ♦



## ALYSSA JUSSEAUME, '20

HOMETOWN: Fall River

MAJOR: Social Work

PROJECT: Vaping: The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cigarette? What the Cigarette Smoking Generation Thinks of the Vaping Generation

MENTOR: Dr. Jing Tan (Social Work)

The purpose of this study was to investigate parents' attitudes toward the vaping being done by teens in grades 6-12 and to explore what factors impact their perception. Vaping has become an epidemic, similar to cigarette smoking in previous generations, and, until very recently, not much research has been done on the subject.

I thought that this topic would be interesting, as vaping has become a major issue in our society, with some states banning the practice (last year, Massachusetts passed a law banning flavored tobacco and vaping products, including menthol cigarettes.) Still, many people don't realize that the dangers of vaping are similar to the dangers of cigarette smoking. I thought raising awareness about these risks would be extremely important – for young people and parents alike – as many people have gotten sick from vaping.

As someone who has worked in the substance-use prevention field for six years, I think it is of critical importance to inform both youth and parents about the risks involved with using alcohol and other substances. The way I see it is that it is better to be informed of these issues in order to make an educated decision than to do something and regret it because you didn't know the consequences, or didn't think that anything harmful could happen to you. Now is the time to examine the deleterious effects of vaping.♦





## ETHAN CHILD, '21

HOMETOWN: East Bridgewater

MAJORS: English, Secondary Education

PROJECT: Forbidden Voices: Decoding Homoerotic Language in Whitman's "Song of Myself"

MENTOR: Dr. Ben Carson (English)

In my essay, I explore how Walt Whitman encodes a distinctly homosexual voice in his writing. Literary encoding occurs whenever a writer subtly or ambiguously incorporates a controversial theme in his or her writing in order to make it more socially acceptable. I hope to decode Whitman's language in his poem "Song of Myself" so that modern readers can more fully appreciate his themes regarding homosexual identity. I was invited to present this research at the Sigma Tau Delta International English Convention in Las Vegas, but it was cancelled due to concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic.

As I am pursuing a career in English education, I am always considering ways in which students might see some aspect of themselves reflected in literary texts. Educators and scholars often analyze how Whitman examines self-identity in his poetry, but they seldom bring sexuality or sexual orientation into this discussion. As many young people – especially those who identify as LGBTQ+ – grapple with sexuality as a central component of their own path toward self-identity, I believe it is both dishonest and detrimental to fail to acknowledge queerness in evidently queer texts. I want to elevate this aspect of Whitman's poetry that is too often ignored. I am less interested in speculation over his sexuality and more in how he textually addresses homosexuality in his poetry.

As literary scholars, it is important that we paint a full picture of the literature we study. Now, more than ever, it is important that we recognize how literature gives voice to those who are too often left unheard. ♦





## EMILY MEEHAN, '18, G'19

HOMETOWN: Worcester

MAJORS: Special Education, Teacher of Students with Severe Disabilities; Psychology

PROJECT: The BIG Transition: An Analysis of Factors Impacting the Transition Process for Students with Severe Special Needs

MENTOR: J. Edward Carter (Special Education)

CAREER: Special Education Teacher, David Prouty High School, Spencer

My project focused on the transition process from special education to adult life, which I believe is an integral part of building future successes for students with severe disabilities. The project explored factors related to the transition process through program observations and interviews with transition coordinators, administration and staff from five residential schools serving students with severe disabilities. The information obtained from the interviews contributed to the construction of my own transition model, highlighted by five essential factors of the transition process, all stemming from the concept of self-determination. The goal was to provide a realistic model for supporting future teachers of students with severe disabilities to help them navigate the complexities of the transition process.

When this research project was carried out in 2017, I was an undergraduate studying to become a teacher of special education for students with severe disabilities. Previously, I had experience working as an intern at the New England Center for Children in Southborough, where I worked with students, ages 15-22 with autism. My internship forced me to think critically about transition services and how the services and planning would directly affect the quality of life of students who are transitioning out of special education and into adult life. As an emerging educator, I wanted to create a way to streamline the transition process, in the form of a model, and use this model in my future classroom. Today, as a high school special education teacher, this research has helped me create curriculum and experiences that ensure that my students are developing the skills essential to successful adult life.

As for major takeaways from my research, I found there is no specific protocol for performing transition-planning procedures, rather it is a more individualized process tailored to a student's specific needs. By formulating a model that addresses the major factors related to transition, it is a way for educators like myself to ensure that we are doing everything in our power to support students appropriately in the transition process. ♦



TO PUT IT PLAINLY: Without faculty mentors, BSU wouldn't have an Undergraduate Research Program.

Hundreds of faculty members have mentored students over the 20-year history of the program. They work side-by-side with student researchers throughout the entire process. Mentors are often called upon to be not just advisers, but also friends and, ultimately, collaborators.

We'd like to feature all of BSU's faculty mentors, but space limitations mean we can highlight just a few. We hope their dedication and devotion to student success will stand in for the selfless work done on behalf of our students by all those faculty mentors who over the years have helped turn BSU's Undergraduate Research Program into one of the nation's best.

We asked four of BSU's busiest mentors how many students they've worked with, what it takes to be a good mentor, and what they get out of giving their time and effort on behalf of student research and scholarship.

## DR. THOMAS KLING Chairperson, Department of Physics

Regarding summer research and honors theses, over my 17 years at Bridgewater, I have mentored probably 12 to 15 students.

For me to be a good mentor, I need to be seriously engaged in the project myself and want to see it succeed. I work in a science collaboration model, so my students are working with me together on scientific questions that are part of my larger research program. I think the mentoring happens naturally as the student and I are deeply working together toward figuring out something new about the universe.

I love it. It's just fun to work with students and help them pursue their research at the same time.♦

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AT BSU



## DR. ANN BRUNJES Chairperson, Department of English (pictured above with mentee Janene Johnson, '18)

I've mentored several students in undergraduate research, as well as in departmental honors.

To guide student researchers you need the same qualities as those you need to be a good teacher: curiosity, love, patience and persistence.

Mentoring provides a lot of the same pleasure and satisfaction that I derive from classroom teaching, only intensified: There's so much joy in sharing knowledge and ideas that I love with a younger person new to the field. They keep me excited and interested in my own work. There's also tremendous pleasure in seeing someone learn and grow and discover their own intellectual gifts and talents – seeing them become more powerful and confident. I love seeing students come into their own – helping them become stronger writers and thinkers. I love my academic field, and it is so gratifying to bring new people into it, to really immerse them in the ideas and modes of thought in the discipline. For those who are going to become teachers, I can't tell you how much it means to me to know that we're sending people with real intellectual firepower into the teaching profession. And more personally, I've developed friendships and mentoring relationships that are deeper and longer-lasting than what one can develop when only engaging in the classroom. There is limitless satisfaction and joy in mentoring. It's been one of the greatest sources of enjoyment and pride in my career.♦







## DR. CIELITO "TAMMY" D. KING

Department of Chemical Sciences

(pictured below with mentee Christian Santos, '20, who is completing his honors thesis)

I have mentored too many students to remember.

Mentoring requires time and patience. It takes a lot of your time if you want to do it right. Students get the most out of doing research by having that one-on-one mentoring experience. This process also requires a lot of patience because students come to you with different academic backgrounds.

Aside from seeing my mentees develop research skills, what's most important for me is seeing them develop soft skills, including self-confidence and better communication skills that will help them be successful in their chosen careers.◆

## DR. ELIZABETH SPIEVAK

Department of Psychology

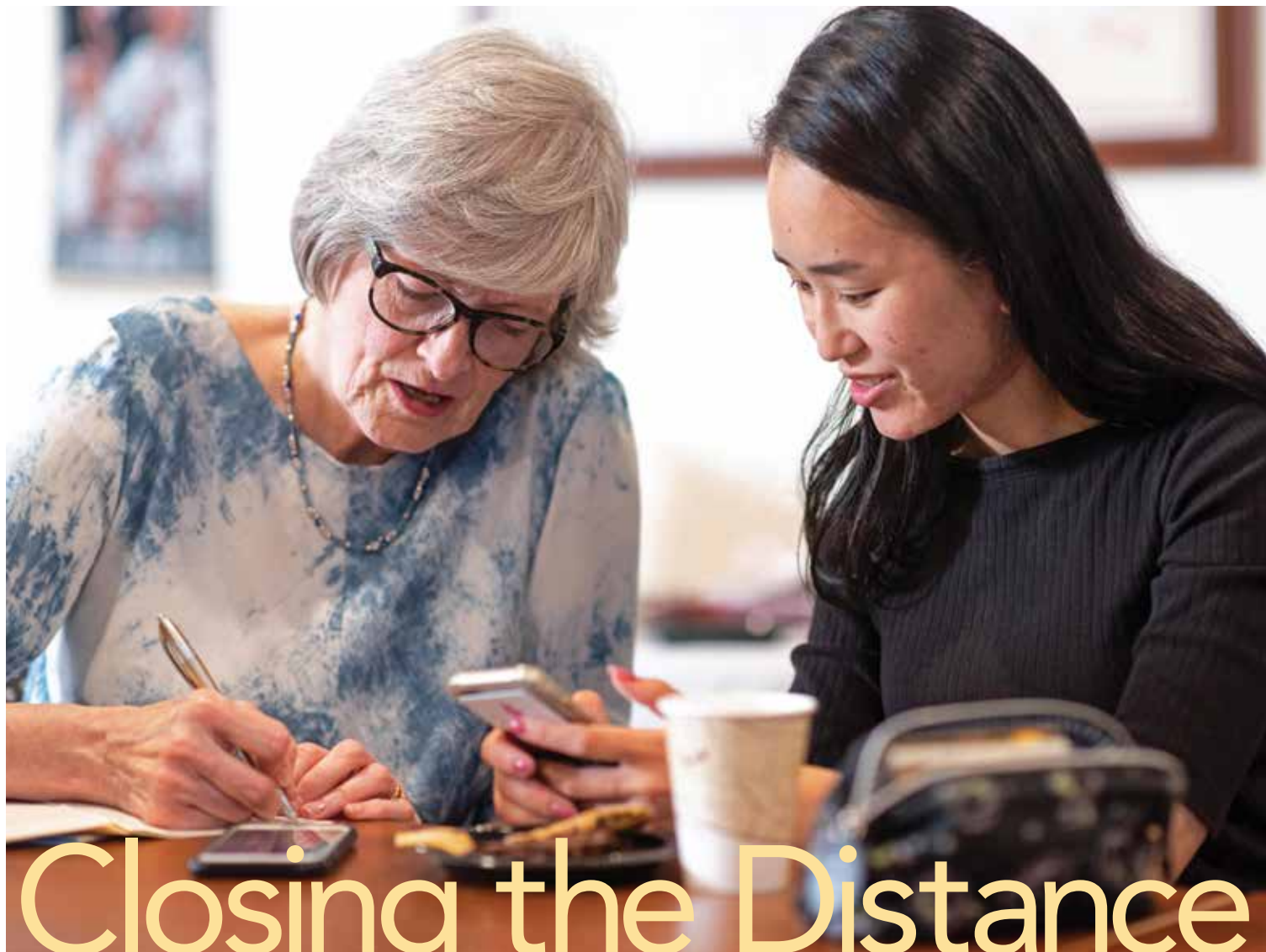
Over the years, I have worked with maybe 120 student researchers for some extended period of time.

Mentoring students calls for patience, honesty, and clearly articulated and enforced expectations and standards. You need to have respect for the work and respect for the educational nature of the process. Mentors must have a willingness to let go – to let go of control over the work and the process, and to let go of the student when it is time or appropriate to do so.

Mentoring has all of the elements of teaching that drew most of us to this profession. It keeps me excited about the students and the work. It gives me energy. It gives me hope. This is why I left another career to get a PhD and become a teacher.◆







# Closing the Distance

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

*Conversation Partners pairs international students with local residents*

HUIFANG ZHAO HAD A BUSY SEMESTER. On top of being a visiting international scholar at BSU, she taught a course on modern Chinese literature. Meanwhile, her husband and child were temporarily stranded stateside due to fears of COVID-19 in the family's native China.

Throughout it all, the 49-year-old from Huaibei was glad to have someone to talk to. Thanks to Conversation Partners, a three-year-old initiative of the Dr. Edward W. Minnock Institute for Global Engagement, Ms. Zhao had friends to lean on. "Through the program I met very kind people, and they help and support us in our studies," she said.

Conversation Partners pairs visiting international students and scholars with members of the area community. Local BSU students can also serve as partners. While pairs dominate the program, some trios have formed, as well.

Meeting on campus regularly throughout the school year, the participants share stories, ideas, practical information and, ultimately, friendship. The visitors also get to practice their English skills, while the locals discover much about their partner's homeland.

"I just wanted to give back and learn from others," said Jeanne Kling, '79, from Halifax, whose third Conversation Partner was Ms. Zhao. "I enjoy supporting people who are visiting our country and embracing them to make sure they have a good experience."

The early spring 2020 semester saw about 20 pairs taking part in the program, said Jennifer Currie, G'17, associate director of International Student and Scholar Services. These students and scholars generally attend BSU for either one or two semesters. Conversation Partners has provided a beneficial experience for all involved,

Jaime Reed (facing page, left) and international student Natsumi Koikie take part in a Conversation Partners session.

Ms. Currie added. "It's been great so far," she said. "The students are really happy, and the partners enjoy it. Everyone gets a lot out of it."

This proved to be the case during a February get-together in the living room of the Minnock Institute. During a break in the agenda, the partners on hand immediately broke out into animated conversation. Laughter and geniality marked much of the talk.

"I love the interaction with the students and the opportunity to learn about a different culture," said Shirley Krasinski of Bridgewater, a former faculty member in the Department of Movement Arts, Health Promotion and Leisure Studies who retired in the late 1990s.

She helps her student partner, Cassie Chen of Dongguan, China, an English major, learn about American politics,



Jennifer Currie, G'17, associate director of International Student and Scholar Services, leads a Conversation Partners session.



In conversation with international student Yi Wei Huang (right) are Steve Black and Barbara Black.



Visiting scholar Huifang Zhao (right) talks with Jeanne Kling, '79.

which is the focus of one of her BSU courses. But there were other benefits, too, Cassie said. "It really helps me with my English, and I have a chance to talk to a native speaker and learn about American culture."

Any visitor to the February gathering who saw the Conversation Partners in action would agree that the vibe was inclusive and friendly.

Or, as Ms. Zhao aptly put it, "I feel like I'm part of a big family." ♦





# Bass Hit

*Music instructor performs on Grammy-winning recording*

BY BRIAN BENSON

DR. JOHN SHIU has a place in Grammy history thanks to his double bass performance on a recent classical music recording.

Director of BSU's String Ensemble and part-time instructor in the Department of Music, Dr. Shiu is assistant principal double bassist with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. The ensemble recently won the Grammy for Best Opera Recording for its rendition of *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, which is based on a children's book of the same name by Roald Dahl.

"It's fantastic," said Dr. Shiu, who played his low-pitched double bass on the Grammy-winning recording. "It's really fabulous to get recognized."

The award is especially meaningful because the orchestra faced competition from stalwarts of the opera music scene, such as the Dutch National Opera and the United Kingdom's Orchestra of the Royal Opera House.

"It's like a story of David and Goliath," Dr. Shiu said. "It's amazing. We're ecstatic."

Dr. Shiu's instrumental journey began when he was a young child intrigued by the musical talents of his older siblings. He would sometimes play with his sister's violin, plucking the strings so hard they broke. However, the bass, with its heavier strings, better withstood his experimentation, prompting him to learn to play that instrument.

Dr. Shiu has been teaching in BSU's Department of Music for about five years. "I really enjoy teaching at Bridgewater State," he said. "It's the humble nature of the students. They're hard working – two jobs, going to school full time. They're really serious, and they really can be shaped and molded. ... They're passionate about music and eager to learn from people in the field."

Students, he said, will be successful if they put in the effort. He points to his own experience: It took Boston Modern Orchestra Project many tries to overcome the proverbial Goliath, but the ensemble finally earned a Grammy.

"As long as you stick with it, doing the work," he said, "it will happen." ♦





# Heroic Adventure

*Professor's documentary shines a light on little-known WWII story*

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

ARTISTS ARE OFTEN ASKED where their ideas come from. For Professor Christina Hodel, the answer regarding her latest project is as simple as it is unique. The impetus for *Freedom, Love, Gold* came from none other than her karate teacher.

The assistant professor of communication studies, who came to Bridgewater State University three years ago, is hard-core when it comes to the martial arts (a black belt looms in her future). It was during a karate class in the summer of 2017 in her native California, when a fellow student told of how she'd come to the United States and worked her way up from an illegal sweatshop to a real job and a Stanford University scholarship.

A good story. Her instructor, Fred Tarnay, said he also had a tale to tell. "My family saved Hungary's treasury from the Nazis during World War II," he said.

For Dr. Hodel, it was one of those "come-again?" moments.

It was true. Mr. Tarnay's parents, Frederick and Kati, and their three young sons, during the last days of the war played a pivotal role in helping save their homeland's treasury – including 32 tons of gold and national treasures,

such as the Crown of St. Stephen. The operation also involved hundreds of local residents associated with Hungary's national bank. A train carried the precious cargo over the border to safety in Austria. The operation held much danger: Dr. Hodel's research turned up letters from Mrs. Tarnay that spoke of the battle to survive in the face of starvation, freezing temperatures and Nazi attacks.

"As my teacher was telling me the story, I was thinking, 'This is already a film that I could see,'" Dr. Hodel said.

When she approached him about turning the story into a film, he told her he'd hoped all along she would. The summer after starting at BSU, with a grant in hand from the university's Center for Advancement of Research and Scholarship, Dr. Hodel began scripting the film. Principal photography took place during the summer of 2018; editing was completed earlier this year.

The World War II rescue mission represents a little-known event in history. *Freedom, Love, Gold* is told from the perspectives of the three Tarnay brothers, Fred, Steve and Matt. They were young children when the event occurred, and they rode the train with their mother while their father was back in Budapest in a secret underground bunker where he managed what was left of the bank. The movie is based on what little personal memory the sons have, oral stories they remember and found family documents.

The resulting 70-minute film has been accepted into several film festivals, including the Miami Independent Film Festival, Docs Without Borders Film Festival, Vesuvius International Film Festival, University Film and Video Association, and in the coming months will likely make the rounds of other festivals around the world.



Steve Tarnay visits Stiftskirche Mariä Himmelfahrt, a Catholic church in Austria.

An additional reason the story appealed to Dr. Hodel was the role played by Kati Tarnay. "Many of the films I've made have involved strong women," she said.

Dr. Hodel is an American/French Polynesian filmmaker, screenwriter, film and television scholar, and educator. She began acting at the age of 10, but never considered getting behind the camera until she enrolled at California State University-Long Beach, where she earned her bachelor's degree in film and electronic arts. She also holds a PhD in film and media studies from the University of Kansas, and a master's degree in individualized study (film/dance) from New York University.

With more than a dozen films to her credit, including some that have been shown at festivals around the



Fred Tarnay appears on a camera monitor during filming of *Freedom, Love, Gold*.

world, this represents her first full-length effort. In short, Dr. Hodel knows a good story when she hears one and has the skills to bring it to fruition. Still, she said she learned a lot during the production of *Freedom, Love, Gold*. In fact, making the film validated both her own educational experiences and the material she passes on to her students at BSU. "There were so many times when I went back to the skills I learned in school," she said. "And that's how the film got done."

One lesson she took to heart was the need to tune out the perfectionist inside. After shooting more than 23 hours of film on location in Hungary and Austria, Dr. Hodel had to put on her editor's hat and make the difficult choices necessary to turn a complex story into an engaging narrative. Agonizing over every possibility would have derailed the production, she said.

An additional point of pride for the filmmaker is that she's already been asked to return to her alma mater in Long Beach to screen the film and talk to students. "Now I'm going to be on that stage myself," she said. "That will be very special to me."

*Freedom, Love, Gold* offers several takeaways, Dr. Hodel said. "I hope people will learn something they didn't know before," she said. "I feel there's also a message about how resilient we humans are, and that if you want something, you need to fight for it."

Good advice for future filmmakers – and everyone else. ♦

Learn more about the documentary at [www.FreedomLoveGoldMovie.com](http://www.FreedomLoveGoldMovie.com)





BSU aviation instructor Brandon Magliozzi, '19, (left) shows a cockpit to Brockton High School students Mamadu Tchamo (center) and Sofiyat Bello.



Loren Herren, special assistant for aviation program diversity, speaks with the visiting students.



Brockton High student Emily Hartmann studies an instrument panel.



Brandon Magliozzi describes BSU's Redbird XWind trainer, which helps students learn to land an airplane in crosswinds.

# Gateway to the Future

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11 *Aviation science program seeks to diversify industry*

FOR A LONG TIME, Emily Hartmann's singular dream was to become a doctor.

Then she learned about flying.

The Brockton High School freshman was one of seven ninth- and tenth-graders who were part of the inaugural cohort of the Gateways to the Airways program, founded last year by the Department of Aviation Science. The students who enrolled in the free, seven-week program flew drones, sat behind the controls of a flight simulator, visited Logan International Airport in Boston and even took the controls of a BSU training aircraft in midflight.

"I thought it was a really good experience not a lot of students get to have," Emily said. "It changed my perspective."

That's the goal of the Gateways program: to reach out to area high school students, particularly those who are strong in the STEM fields but who ordinarily might not think about a career in aviation; specifically, women, people of color and LGBTQ individuals who are remarkably underrepresented in the profession. Further, those who are already working in the industry face obstacles to future advancement.

"This is a valuable program," said Dr. Jeanne Davis-Street, dean of the Louis M. Ricciardi College of Business. "And its key goal is to increase diversity in the industry."

Indeed, it's hard to imagine an industry less diverse than aviation.

## THE NUMBERS

The presentation is an eye opener. Sitting in BSU's satellite office at Brockton High School as part of the BSU@BHS initiative launched in fall 2019, Loren Herren described the demographics of those working in aviation today. Mr. Herren, who last summer was named special assistant for aviation program diversity, spends one day a week at the local school. During the presentation, he pointed to a particularly telling graphic. It indicated just how few women, people of color, and LGBTQ individuals currently work as pilots or airport and aviation administrators: Each group registers below five percent of the total.

Wait, there's more. Much more.

"People hear 'aviation,' and they think 'airplane' or 'pilot.' The industry is much broader than that," Mr. Herren said.

Commercial pilots represent just one of the many career opportunities in aviation. In fact, there are dozens of aviation jobs that don't require climbing into the cockpit, from air traffic controller to dispatcher to airport security. And they're good-paying jobs at that.

In his new position, Mr. Herren is charged with reaching out to the high schools and middle schools in the state, including nearby "gateway" cities – Taunton, New Bedford, Fall River and Brockton (so-designated by the Massachusetts

legislature due to their status as midsized urban centers that anchor regional economies). He's on the lookout for students with an interest in or are adept at STEM subjects who might never have given a thought to a career in aviation. "That's the message we want to get out, and we want to provide that information to folks, because STEM offers one of the best pathways to take advantage of these opportunities. So if we can get the kids interested, it's a win-win."

Mr. Herren, a pilot and flight instructor who previously served as BSU's chief flight instructor, is also working with organizations such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Girls Inc., as well as other area schools. He hopes 2020 will see an expansion of Gateways to the Airways. Funding for the program's launch was provided in partnership with the New England Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. and Empower Yourself LTD. Most of the program's sessions are held at BSU's Flight Training Center in New Bedford.

In December, a luncheon and graduation ceremony were held on campus to celebrate the students' successful navigation of the program. The members of the event's panel discussion and other speakers each sent the graduates a simple message: Yes, you can do this.

Kevin Scott, a Brockton High sophomore, took that message to heart. "There are a bunch of opportunities in aviation," he said. "If you push yourself and learn all about it you can, you can become whatever you want."

As for actually flying a plane?

"It was fun," he said. ♦



# ALUMNI UPDATE

## CLASS NOTES

**STAY CONNECTED.** Send your news to the Office of Alumni Relations via email to [alumni@bridgew.edu](mailto:alumni@bridgew.edu) or mail to Jones Alumni House, 26 Summer St., Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, MA 02325.

The class notes editor reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity and brevity. Submitted photos must be either high-resolution digital images or original prints from film. Photos generated on home printers are not of publication quality.

### 1961

**Roland Boulay, G'63**, moved into a new home in North Fort Myers, Florida.

### 1965

**Priscilla Hurd** has published her second novel, *The Secret of the Scrolls*, a sequel to her novel *The 13<sup>th</sup> Goddess – A Tale of Atlantis*. Classified as historical fiction, both books are available on Amazon.

### 1967

**Linda Blount** volunteers with the Pasco County, Florida, sheriff's office.

### 1969

**James Pappas'** first poetry book, *Scream Wounds: How to Kill Your First Man in War*, based on stories from veterans of Vietnam and other wars, was published by A15 Publishing. Mr. Pappas is the vice president of the Poetry Society of New Hampshire.

**Kathleen Teahan** wrote and published *The Cookie Loved 'Round the World* in 2017. The book describes the creation of the chocolate chip cookie in Whitman during the Great Depression.

### 1971

**Dennis McNamara** was recognized as a Fellow by the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers.

**Peter Servis** moved into a new home at Village on the Isle in Venice, Florida.

### 1973

**Stella Citrano** was elected to BSU's Alumni Association Board of Directors.

### 1974

**Patricia (Smith-Blethen) Pellegrino, G'74**, lives in Concord, New Hampshire, and works part time at the Concord Home Depot. She enjoys watching her twin sons race for RST Performance Racing in Sports Car Club of America road racing.

### 1975

**Elaine Clement-Holbrook, G'81**, girls basketball coach for Oliver Ames High School in Easton, became the first girls basketball coach in state history to win 700 games.

### 1977

**Carroll Brown** received the Bristol, New Hampshire, 2019 Community Spirit Award for his dedication and commitment to the town.

### 1983

**Tim Hassett-Salley, G'83, G'86**, a former psychotherapist based in Plymouth, published his first novel, *Strike Two, You're Out*. The story follows the main character, Joe Davis, from his teen years in Vietnam through adulthood in South-eastern Massachusetts. The

book, which is available on Amazon, is filled with conflict including relationships, religion, psychology and racism.

**Peter Koutoujian** was named president of the law enforcement association Major County Sheriffs of America. (See story on page 3.)

### 1984

**Stephens Ijams** completed his first 100-mile bicycle race, the El Tour of Tucson, in November 2019, with a time one-hour faster than his previous best. He finished 1,305 among 2,500 riders.

### 1985

**Andrew Maylor** has joined Merrimack College in North Andover as vice president and chief business officer.

### 1989

**Lieutenant Colonel William Salvaggio** retired from the U.S. Air Force/Air National Guard after 35 years of service as a KC135 and LC130 navigator. He is now a 737-800 first officer for American Airlines in Boston. He learned to fly as a Bridgewater State student.

### 1990

**Jeffrey Zaveloff** moved to a new home in Ashland in December 2019.

### 1992

**Thomas Hoye**, former mayor of Taunton, was appointed Bristol County Register of Probate by Governor Charlie Baker. He served as mayor for eight years.

### 1995

**Troy Currence** has been his tribe's traditional leader as medicine man to the Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe for 15 years. He is a member of the Wampanoag Advisory Committee for Plymouth 400, and had been vice chairman of the Wampanoag Language Reclamation Project.

**Richard Noonan** was promoted to deputy police chief by the Foxboro Police Department.

**Matthew Small** was appointed chief operating officer of Open Sky Community Services.

### 1996

**Adam Cupples** was named to the board of directors for South Shore Habitat for Humanity.

**Christopher Daley, G'96**, led a discussion at the Walpole Public Library about his book, *1620 – The First Year*. The talk examined the history of Plymouth Colony.

**Christopher Richards** was promoted from senior vice president of chief banking services officer to executive vice president of the Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank.

### 1997

**James Hapenney Jr.** was promoted to lieutenant with the Burlington Fire Department.

### 1998

**Jeffrey Parks** was inducted into the Chelmsford High School Hall of Fame.

**Mario J. Zocchi** was promoted from lieutenant colonel to colonel by the Air National Guard.

### 1999

**Melissa Oliver** earned a master's degree in international marketing from Southern New Hampshire University and is a doctoral candidate in strategy and innovation at Capella University, based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She received a leadership award from the National Society of Leadership and Success and is Division G director for all Rhode Island Toastmasters, District 31, and a marketing consultant.

### 2000

**Melissa Sansone** was promoted to director of social services at Westborough Behavioral Healthcare Hospital.

### 2001

**Robin Craver, G'01**, former Charlton town administrator, was chosen unanimously as Provincetown's town manager.

**Kimberly Miller** joined the sales team at Belsito & Associates Real Estate Company in Plymouth.

**Glavia Smith** is the METCO director for Wakefield Public Schools.

### 2002

**Jason DeFreitas** was inducted into the New Bedford High School Hall of Fame by the school's Gridiron Club.

### 2004

**Alissa Hall**, vice president/commercial lending with Bristol County Savings Bank, was named Banker of the Year by the South Eastern Economic Development Corp.

**Patricia Portanova, G'06**, received an Employee Recognition Award from Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill.

### 2005

**Christopher Pereira**, chairman of the Dartmouth Veterans Advisory Board, participated in the Honored Fallen Memorial dedication ceremony at Dartmouth Memorial Stadium in November 2019. The event recognized town residents who died in service to the United States.

### 2006

**Ashlee Kirkwood** was promoted to senior biologist at Smithers Viscient.

**Jillian Connor Ruppel** was promoted to chief financial officer at Father Bill's & MainSpring in Brockton.

### 2007

**Daniel Baker** is a full-time pastor at the First Congregational Church UCC of Haverhill, New Hampshire.

**Irene McNulty, G'11**, became a board certified behavior analyst and bought her first home in Stoughton in December.

**Anthony Palladino** was named the athletic director at Joseph Case High School in Swansea.

### 2008

**Kelsey Collasius** signed a contract to play professional volleyball in Germany.

### 2009

**Ryan Gordy**, wellness coordinator for Canton Public Schools, was recognized by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association as 2019 Wellness Coordinator of the Year.

**Patrick Lech** was promoted to manager at Liberty Utilities.

**Jaime Sousa** joined Independence Financial Advisors in New Hampshire as vice president.



**Jeanne Oliver-Foster, '77**, and her husband, **James Foster**, hold a plaque from the American Federation of Teachers and the Boston Teachers Union, recognizing Ms. Oliver-Foster's 30-year career in education.

**Jeanne Oliver-Foster, '77**, retired from the Boston Public Schools in July 2019 after 30 years of service. She taught grades K-5 for most of her career, but in 2012 began teaching music exclusively.

Prior to her career with the Boston Public Schools, Ms. Oliver-Foster taught for 12 years in Brockton, including three years at the George S. Paine Elementary School, eight years at the Self-Help Child Development Center and one year as a traveling music instructor at area daycare centers.

In 1990, she co-founded the Bridgewater State Afro-American Alumni Association, with Paul L. Gaines, Sr., '68, former minority affairs director, and, Dr. Philip Conroy Jr., '72, former director of development and executive director of the BSU Foundation.

Ms. Oliver-Foster was honored in 2003 by Brockton's Concerned Citizens About Education as Teacher of the Year, and in 2004 received the Bridgewater State Afro-American Alumni Outstanding Leadership Award. Ms. Oliver-Foster and her husband James Foster live in Taunton and have three daughters and four grandchildren. She frequently visits BSU to take part in alumni board meetings and events. ♦



# ALUMNI UPDATE

## CLASS NOTES

### 2010

**Thomas Couet** is the new boys soccer coach at Apponequet Regional High School in Lakeville.

**Ryan Hergt**, school resource officer for the Falmouth Public Schools, was named unsung hero for December.

**Adam Isbitsky** was ordained in December 2019 as a minister by the Pilgrim Association of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ.

### 2011

**Kimberly Nolen-Mott, G'11**, was hired as director of care coordination at AdCare Hospital in Worcester.

**Debora Coelho, G'19**, retired after serving for 14 years as councilor-at-large on the New Bedford City Council.

### 2013

**Kristen Peixinho** was hired as a banking center manager by the Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank.

**Lisa J. Perkins, G'15**, opened her private practice, Lisa J. Perkins Psychotherapy, in Yarmouthport.

### 2016

**Zachary J. Bullough**, a patrol officer with the Amherst Police Department, graduated from the Western Massachusetts Regional Police Academy in Springfield.

### 2017

**Carla Monteiro** was honored by the National Association of Social Workers-MA Chapter as a Future of Social Work Honoree, which recognizes the contributions of an exceptional student enrolled in a social work graduate program in Massachusetts.

**Elizabeth Ross** was accepted into the Doctor of Occupational Therapy program, Class of 2023, at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut.

**Michael Szczesny** was hired as a police officer in the Holbrook Police Department.

### 2018

**Jack Bulman** was named director of facilities by Jack Conway & Company for its Conway Properties division.

**Peter S. Wood** presented a lecture, "Engaging Kids & Teens with Local History," to address the needs of different age groups when working with local historical societies.

### 2019

**Ryan Fischer** was hired by HNTB Corporation in Washington, DC.

**Aaron Peckham, G'19**, is a school counselor at Nantucket Intermediate School.

**Lyndsey Littlefield** was a 2019 Miss America contestant.

**Derek Morrison** joined Jack Conway & Company as an agent at the Hanover office.

**Haley Nolan** is the swim and dive coach at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School.

# ALUMNI PROFILE

## NICK GOSSELIN, '18



LITTLE DID NICK GOSSELIN KNOW that his decision to attend a meeting to learn more about the Bridgewater State University flight team would lead to his one day soaring through the Alaskan skies.

Mr. Gosselin arrived at BSU from Newtown, Connecticut, to study aviation management. To immerse himself in campus life, he went to that meeting and learned about a summer work program in Alaska. "I almost didn't go; I remember thinking I had something better to do," the 2018 graduate joked.

But, as it is often in life, a seemingly innocuous choice led to success. He ended up taking part in the program and for three summers worked for PenAir in King Salmon, Alaska, as an operations and ramp agent.

While on campus, Mr. Gosselin continued to build his résumé by towing aerial banners for a Cape Cod company. He also began leading piloted skydiving expeditions.

Those experiences led him to his current position as a pilot for Grant Aviation in Bethel, Alaska. His job entails flying a small-engine plane to remote villages in the state's back country. "The only way to access them is by air," Mr. Gosselin said.

He not only transports people, but also groceries and supplies. "We transport everything, even the kitchen sink," he said.

Working in Alaska, sometimes referred to as the crossroads of the world, is a dream come true for the young pilot. "Flying up here is something else," Mr. Gosselin said. "It's a beautiful state and a different world from back home, especially in the more rural parts."

Mr. Gosselin credits BSU for helping him earn his wings and encourages others to take advantage of the many opportunities his alma mater offers. "I didn't know anyone in the aviation industry. I can't think of any other way that door would have opened if I hadn't gone to Bridgewater State," he said.

As Mr. Gosselin discovered, moving beyond your comfort zone can sometimes yield amazing results.

"Dabble in everything, even if you don't like it, it might teach you something," he said. "You never know where you'll meet that friend or come upon a crazy experience like being able to work in Alaska." ♦

-BY HEATHER HARRIS MICHONSKI

## ALUMNI SERVICES

For more information about the services below, visit [www.alumni.bridgew.edu](http://www.alumni.bridgew.edu)

### STUDENT LOAN ASSISTANCE

Through American Student Assistance® (ASA), a nonprofit organization that financially empowers college students and alumni, BSU alumni have access to expert student loan counselors.

ASA can be reached at 877.523.9473 (toll-free) or [loanhelp@saltmoney.org](mailto:loanhelp@saltmoney.org).

For more information, visit [www.saltmoney.org/bridgew.edu](http://www.saltmoney.org/bridgew.edu)

### WEBSITE

Visit the Bridgewater Alumni Association website, [www.alumni.bridgew.edu](http://www.alumni.bridgew.edu), to learn more about events, services and the activities of alumni affinity groups.

### FACEBOOK

Follow us on Facebook at "Bridgewater State Alumni."

### LINKEDIN

The "Official Bridgewater State University Alumni" group on LinkedIn is more than 4,000 strong. Request to join the group today.

### TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter @BSU\_Alumni.

### INSTAGRAM

Follow us on Instagram @BSU\_Alumni.



# ALUMNI UPDATE

## NOTA BENE

### MARRIAGES

The university celebrates the weddings of the following alumni:

**Jamie R. O’Neil, ’04, G’11**, to Jose P. Raposo on May 4, 2019  
**Kristina Rodrigues, ’11**, to **Corey Wade, ’11**, on June 24, 2017

**Katelyn Mason, ’13**, to Steven Rollins on November 9, 2018  
**Michelle L. Paradiso, ’14**, to **Frank Theodat, ’15**, on September 2, 2018

### IN MEMORIAM

The university is saddened by the deaths of the following alumni and faculty and extends condolences to their loved ones:

Violet Kundiz Santamaria, ’38, on February 24, 2020  
Dorothy Sherwood Napoleone, ’42, on December 12, 2018  
Loretta Dupre Ring, ’42, G’66, on April 25, 2019  
Grace J. Tikosen, ’42, on September 2, 2018  
Ann Kabowska Winsor, ’42, on June 13, 2019  
Jean Francis Bergeron, ’44, on May 12, 2018  
Marguerite Plante Keinard, ’44, on December 15, 2018  
Barbara Scoble Peck, ’47, on November 17, 2019  
Barbara Reynolds Leslie, ’50, on March 12, 2019  
Barbara Gullich Sargent, ’50, on January 9, 2020  
Dodie (Dorothy) Szafer Dunn, ’51, on December 2, 2019  
Jean Sullivan Santos, ’51, on May 1, 2018  
Amelia E. Leconte, ’52, on November 29, 2019  
Henry L. Lague, G’53, on November 4, 2019  
Anne Middleton Walker, ’53, G’61, on November 17, 2019  
John V. DiTullio, ’55, on October 26, 2019  
Dorothy Timon Hallisey, G’55, on December 13, 2019  
Joanne Hart Uva, ’56, on January 19, 2020  
Barbara Ricard Boudreau, ’57, on January 18, 2020

William J. Pepe, ’57, on December 29, 2019  
David W. Shaw, ’57, on November 25, 2019  
Dorothy Mahoney McLaughlin, ’58, on October 14, 2019  
Diane Vadeboncoeur Tremblay, ’58, on December 28, 2019  
Allen W. Mann, ’59, G’64, on September 27, 2019  
Claudette Y. Desilets, ’60, on November 22, 2019  
Alice Ricci Dooley, ’60, G’68, on November 26, 2019  
Richard W. Hill, ’60, on February 2, 2020  
John B. Atwood, G’61, on January 10, 2020  
Joan Courant Geswell, ’61, on February 20, 2020  
Alexander K. Mitchelson, ’61, G’67, on November 3, 2019  
Mary Lou Clancy Barnes, ’62, on November 25, 2018  
Mary Scott Eppich, ’62, on February 26, 2020  
Jeanne Amerino Williams, ’62, on January 14, 2020  
Joseph P. Fingliss, G’63, on January 7, 2020  
Gordon P. Libbey, ’63, G’76, on September 30, 2019  
William P. Michaud Jr., G’63, on September 18, 2019  
Rosemary A. Tierney, G’63, on February 15, 2020  
Victoria Walmsley Boucher, ’64, on December 18, 2019

## CAREER SERVICES

Help lead Bridgewater State University students to success

### ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### BSU STUDENT AND ALUMNI NETWORKING GROUP

Join the Bridgewater State University Student and Alumni Networking Group on LinkedIn.com and connect with BSU students and other alumni.

Help members explore career options, learn about internships and jobs, and build networks on this popular professional social media site.

#### EMPLOYER-IN-RESIDENCE

Spend five-10 hours a month improving your company’s visibility on campus while offering students résumé and cover letter critiques, as well as workshops.

#### CAMPUS ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Many opportunities are available for alumni to engage with BSU students. Career Services is seeking alumni interested in taking part in career panels, virtual job shadows, company information sessions, career fairs and the Practice Interview Program.

# ALUMNI UPDATE

## NOTA BENE

John Catterall, G’79, on January 10, 2020  
Robert A. Fantasia, G’79, on March 8, 2020  
Lauren Chiminiello Mezzetti, ’79, on March 7, 2020  
Lois D. Redican, ’79, on December 4, 2019  
Richard P. Brita, ’80, on May 5, 2018  
Robert W. Whitaker III, ’80, on September 16, 2019  
John A. Ahokas, ’81, G’85, on August 4, 2018  
Mary Lou Boucher, G’81, on February 10, 2020  
Maureen Pierni Fleury, ’81, G’81, on March 3, 2020  
Carl A. McRae, ’81, on December 25, 2019  
Virginia A. Carey, ’83, on December 26, 2019  
Brian F. Clemmey, ’83, on January 7, 2020  
Michael S. Healy, ’84, on December 31, 2019  
Paul F. Padula, ’84, on November 17, 2019  
Tracy Devine Laliberte, ’85, on January 15, 2020  
Ida Rioux, G’86, on October 25, 2019  
Yoshitaka Ando, ’87, on December 3, 2019  
Sean P. Hurley, ’87, on March 1, 2020  
Susan Riskall Beckvold, ’88, on January 4, 2020  
Debra Golob, ’91, G’97, on March 23, 2018  
Ann McEnelly, ’91, G’01, on September 29, 2019  
Kevin F. Wilcoxen, ’91, on February 3, 2020  
Robert C. Arrighi, ’92, on December 3, 2019  
Rita Allen Henderson, ’92, on August 25, 2019  
Judith Leco, ’92, on November 30, 2019  
Ann C. Thomas, ’94, on September 23, 2019  
Sharon J. Stone, ’95, on February 22, 2020  
Eric S. Kushner, ’96, on September 17, 2019  
Susan Prevoir Thorn, ’96, on October 5, 2019  
Peter L. Swanson, ’99, on October 17, 2019  
Mary L. Johndrow, ’00, on December 13, 2019  
Jaime Carter McKenna, ’00, on November 11, 2019  
Julie Fay Smith, ’00, on February 18, 2020  
Dennis Asselin, G’01, on March 23, 2019  
Rosalie Kingston Barrett, G’01, on August 17, 2019  
Jaime Dominique Leandro, ’01, on March 8, 2020  
Barbara G. Hersee, ’02, on March 10, 2020  
Diana L. Herbig, ’05, on July 17, 2018  
Carla T. Aiello, G’08, on November 6, 2019  
Mary L. Segreve, ’09, on December 2, 2018  
Moirra O’Brien, ’12, on November 27, 2019

Marilyn Lamb Keohan, ’64, on January 6, 2020  
James W. Smith, ’64, on November 6, 2019  
Mary E. Stott, ’64, on June 1, 2019  
John J. Gibbons, G’65, on November 12, 2019  
Katharine Eggers Kingsley, ’65, on October 27, 2019  
Susan J. Wood, ’65, on December 28, 2019  
Helen T. Noyes, G’66, on February 13, 2020  
Giles B. Parker, ’66, on October 21, 2019  
Robert T. Kent, G’67, on November 25, 2019  
Thomas J. Kirby Jr., G’67, on March 7, 2020  
Michael P. Mack, ’67, on May 10, 2018  
Charles Monestere Jr., ’67, on November 4, 2019  
Patricia A. Peters, ’67, on December 14, 2019  
John W. Sheehy, G’67, on January 20, 2020  
Bernard F. Otterson, G’68, on September 9, 2019  
Rebecca D. Ridgway, ’68, on October 22, 2019  
Joseph V. Kane, ’69, G’72, on December 16, 2019  
Mary Bosworth, ’70, on October 4, 2019  
Judith Bistrek Christine, ’70, on September 11, 2019  
Marilyn Jackson Krajcik, ’70, on January 4, 2020  
Josephine A. Fay, G’71, on February 18, 2020  
Robert C. Lordan, ’71, G’79, on December 12, 2019  
Bonnie L. Prophet, ’71, G’80, on December 23, 2019  
Rosemarie T. Koska, ’72, on August 31, 2018  
Susan Geary Lessoff, ’72, G’76, on December 7, 2019  
Robert L. Schuman, G’72, on January 15, 2020  
Paul E. Vidal, ’72, G’81, on November 4, 2019  
Joanne Vedovelli Lineback, ’73, on June 10, 2019  
Alicia Paulson O’Brien, ’73, G’86, on March 7, 2020  
Joseph W. Sarrey Jr., ’73, on January 30, 2019  
Debra Mullan Bailey, ’74, on January 8, 2020  
Joseph F. Cirigliano, G’74, on February 26, 2020  
Nancy A. Hinkley, G’75, on February 27, 2020  
Helen A. Forsgard, G’76, on November 23, 2019  
Elizabeth Gregory, ’76, G’81, on July 23, 2018  
George F. Winters Jr., ’76, on October 2, 2019  
Dorna Litchfield Allen, ’77, on October 11, 2019  
Rita M. Howes, ’77, on October 17, 2019  
Deborah L. Jermyn, ’77, on October 13, 2019  
Lucia L. Traugott, G’77, on September 13, 2018  
Lillian Valois, ’78, on September 13, 2019

BSU pays its respects to the following faculty and administrators who recently passed away:

Dr. Henry J. Fanning Jr., G’61, former director of admissions, dean of continuing education and dean of academic administration, on March 9, 2020  
Dr. Carolyn Markuson, professor emerita, Department of Education, on January 17, 2020  
Henry J. Santos, professor emeritus, Department of Music, on March 11, 2020  
*(Read more about Dr. Fanning and Professor Santos on page 4.)*



## PARTING SHOT



Photo by Charlie Peters, G'20, University News and Video

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— Nikki, Class of 2020

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# CONGRATULATIONS

## *Class of 2020*

*“Not to be ministered unto, but to minister.”*

*Not to be taught, but to teach. Not to be served, but to serve.”*

*– Frederick W. Clark Jr., '83*

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