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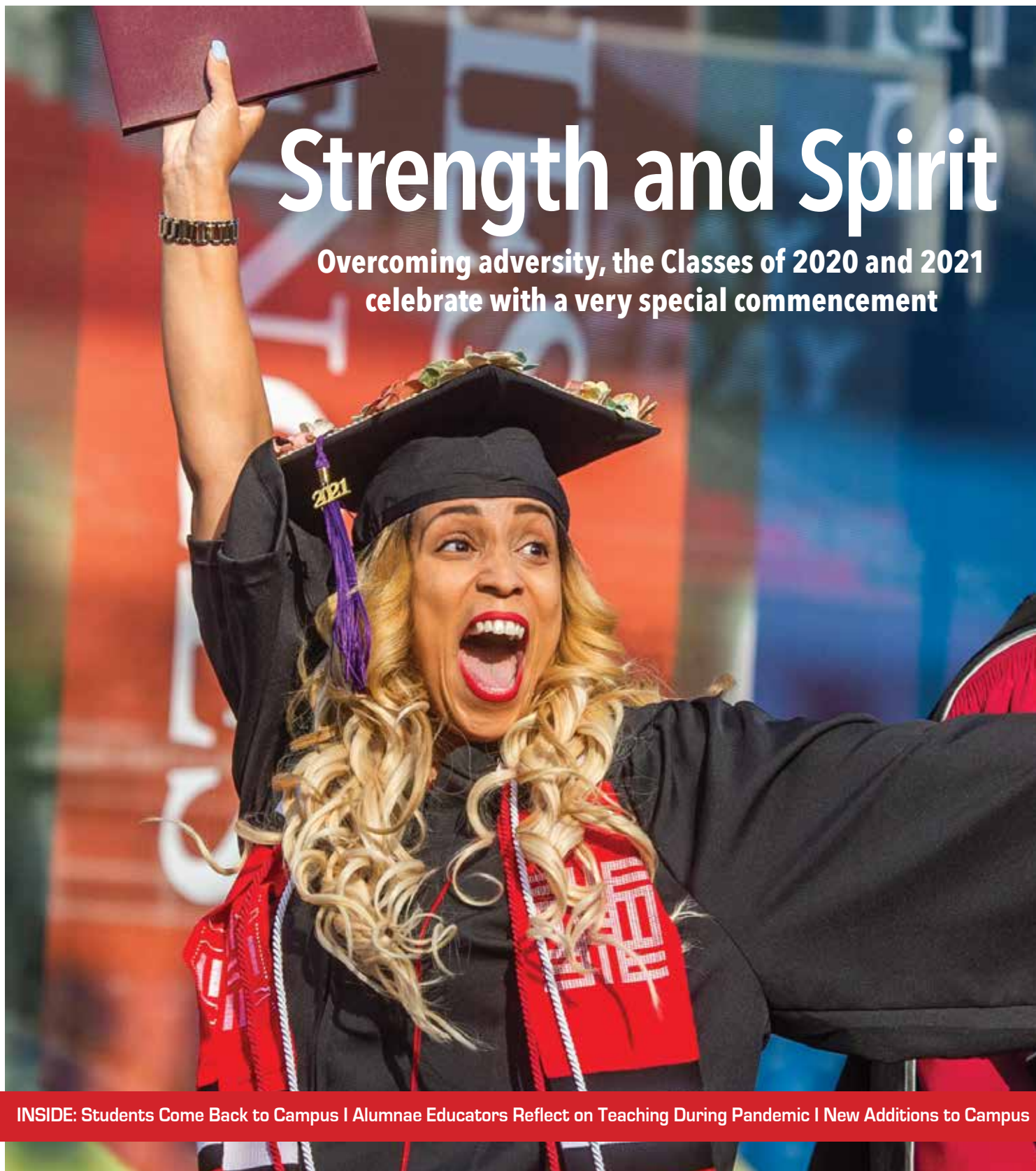
Bridgewater

FALL 2021

STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Strength and Spirit

Overcoming adversity, the Classes of 2020 and 2021
celebrate with a very special commencement



INSIDE: Students Come Back to Campus | Alumnae Educators Reflect on Teaching During Pandemic | New Additions to Campus

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

JASMINE WON, '24, is spending the academic year not only studying to become a teacher, but also helping others.

The Tewksbury native was honored with a Newman Civic Fellowship. (Courtney Crowley, '22, was selected as a fellow last year.) An elementary education and Spanish major, Jasmine is also enrolled in BSU's extended master's degree program and is a social justice fellow with BSU's Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice.

The Newman Civic Fellowship is a program that unites students from across the country motivated to solve problems and spark change. The fellows attend trainings and work with mentors to devise strategies to improve their communities. Jasmine's service is done on campus. She is mentored by Laura Mulvey, G'18, community programs manager at the Martin Richard Institute.

Jasmine's stated goal is to make the country a better and more equitable place. She's already made a believer of one person.

"Jasmine reflects the very best of BSU, and she embodies the hope, motivation and drive needed to be a successful changemaker," said President Clark, who nominated her for the fellowship.

Recently we sat down with her to talk about her work as a fellow.

What is the focus of your service these days?

As a Civic Fellow at BSU, I worked mostly on civic-related rights, including voting rights, but now I'm focusing on food insecurity and how to help BSU students become aware of the resources the university provides. I am also collaborating with other Newman fellows to combine resources and ideas to help food-insecure students at our respective institutions. That's something that impacts people in so many ways.

Where does this interest come from?

I was researching how big companies treat their workers and where their food comes from. I'm also a cashier, and I see a lot of people using food stamps and the WIC (Women, Infants and Children) program. It's interesting to see how race or gender affects food insecurity. Because food affects everything, this focus will allow me to branch out into all the other areas I'm interested in.

And the future?

I'm going to be an elementary school teacher focusing on teaching English to speakers of other languages. I think it's important to be well rounded in social justice issues and how social change affects the classroom. I'll be shaping young minds, and I want to bring them up to affect positive social change.

Interview by John Winters, G'11



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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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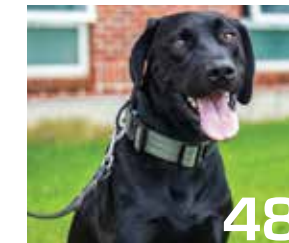
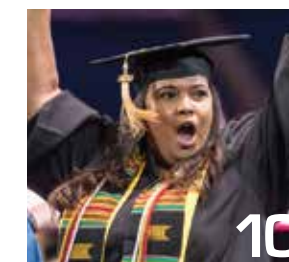


Bridgewater

FALL 2021

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STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



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They persevered and then they celebrated: The Classes of 2020 and 2021 take part in emotional commencement ceremonies at Gillette Stadium.

photo by Ashley McCabe



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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

Dear Friends,

Standing on the stage at Gillette Stadium during the four commencement ceremonies held in late July, I couldn't have been prouder of what I saw. The faces looking back at me expressed a mixture of happiness, pride and resiliency. In short, you, Bridgewater State University graduates of 2020 and 2021, resembled the champions that usually occupy that field. For you had persevered through one of the most daunting times in history and emerged on the other side to claim your hard-earned diplomas and to celebrate both times past and the bright futures that lay ahead of you.

And now to the entire BSU community, I say welcome back.

These words were meant to present an unequivocal declaration that the worst of the pandemic and its myriad impacts were behind us. Like so many around the world, we were hoping life would return fully to normal by the start of the academic year, and the pandemic that began in late 2019 would be relegated to the history books. For many reasons, primarily the emergence of the Delta variant of COVID-19, this turned out not to be the case.

However, thanks to the hard work, perseverance and determination of so many of you, BSU's students are back on campus safely enjoying their time together in classrooms, in residence halls, on the quad and in the countless nooks and crannies of our campus where we gather to share our collective humanity. That, to me, represents the best of what I like to call the Bridgewater way.

In these pages, you will see the fruits of our collaborative efforts, from a successful commencement season to this year's busy move-in days, to a snapshot of what's new on campus (to be sure, the pandemic was not going to stop BSU from continuing its constant push to do better). There are stories concerning the pursuit and achievement of excellence, how faculty and alumni have dealt with new teaching paradigms necessitated by the pandemic, groundbreaking research, and news and photos from recent events that brought us all together. I'd like to think this issue of *Bridgewater* stands as a testament to what we can accomplish when we work together, care for each other, and face off against a threat that was and remains all too real.

All this has allowed us to return to the semblance of normalcy that marked the beginning of this academic year. And while we are all weary of this battle, now is not the time to let our collective guard down. As I said in the early days of the pandemic, we've got this. And we still do.

When times are tough, I bear in mind that if not for our trials, history would be unable to take the measure of us. For when it does, I'm confident the verdict will be that the special people who comprise the Bridgewater State University family in 2021 were equal to the challenge.

With warmest regards,



President Frederick W. Clark Jr.



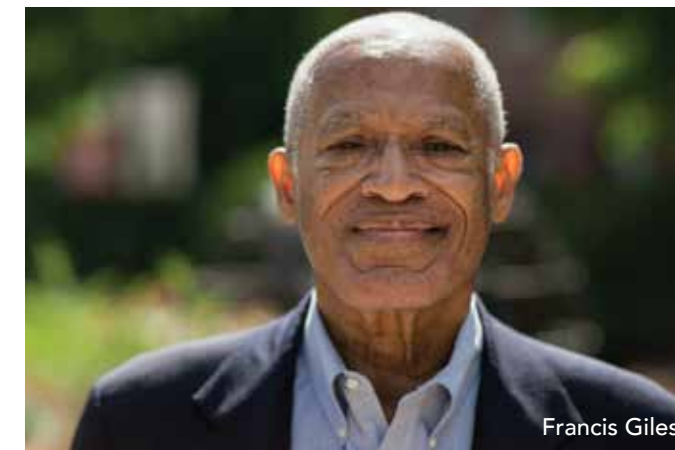
Meet BSU's New Trustees

Francis Giles and Walter Prince have been appointed to the university's Board of Trustees. A photojournalist and a lawyer, respectively, the pair bring to the board both experience and a passion for public higher education.

Mr. Giles was an Army paratrooper in the Dominican Republic and Vietnam in the 1960s. As a veteran photojournalist, he covered the 1973 Yom Kippur War in Israel, Syria and Egypt; wrote for *The Washington Post*; and served as editorial director for radio station WEEI. He was also the first Black reporter at the suburban *Chicago Tribune's Evanston Review* and has served as a trustee of Burlington College.

Mr. Prince is a partner in the Boston legal firm Prince Lobel Tye LLP. He studied history and education at Boston State College, which later merged with the University of Massachusetts Boston. He met inspiring professors who encouraged him to reach for his dreams. As a junior, he decided to attend law school and ultimately earned his Juris Doctor degree from Boston College.

Mr. Prince has more than three decades of experience in transportation, commercial law, and civil and white-collar criminal litigation. He's worked as a prosecutor and defense attorney, conducted internal investigations for Fortune 500 companies, served as the MBTA's general counsel, and participated in committees that recommended and reviewed candidates for judgeships.



Francis Giles



Walter Prince

Students Help Area Town Test Efficacy of COVID Measures

After collecting extensive data on COVID-19 testing, Hanover town officials faced a difficult question: What does it mean? For the answers, they turned to BSU seniors Abigail Adams and Andrew Disher.

The two math majors (statistics concentration) and computer science minors analyzed data about positive cases, testing methods and costs through a directed study and internship.

"During the pandemic, everyone felt powerless. I felt that, too," Andrew said. "I think we had something to do with helping people get back to normal."

They verified the cost effectiveness of pool testing, a process used in schools where samples are tested in groups with follow-up analysis performed if a group sample is positive. They also assessed the success of a combination of pool testing and more targeted testing of people with symptoms or who had been exposed to COVID-19. That analysis

helped justify reducing in-school distancing guidelines from six to three feet, said Hanover Fire Captain Fred Freeman.

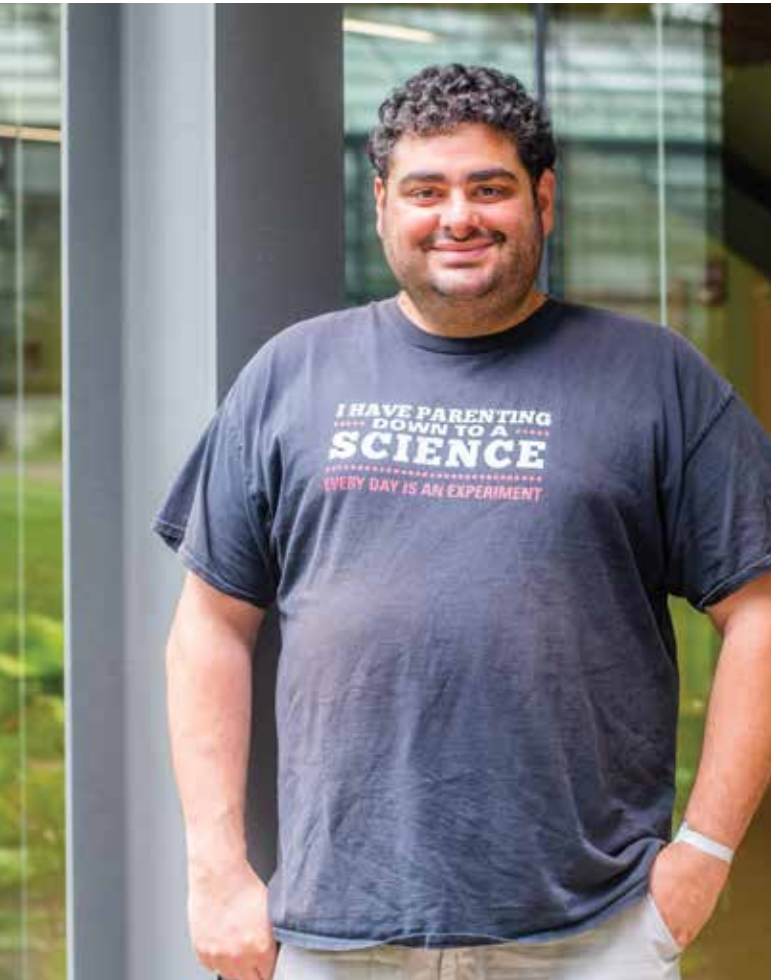
"I reached out (to BSU) because statistical analysis is not the forte of the fire department," Captain Freeman said. "Andrew and Abigail had a tough job. ... They had to figure out exactly how you would analyze a local COVID testing program and show its efficacy."

The students, who were guided through their project by faculty members Dr. Wanchunzi Yu and Dr. Kevin Rion, are grateful to have improved their skills while helping fight the pandemic. Hanover's testing program received state and national awards, and their analysis helped town officials secure funding.

"It took me a minute to step back and say, 'We actually did this,'" Abigail said. "It was rewarding, especially in a time when nothing really feels rewarding."

FACULTY FOCUS

DR. JOSEPH SEGGIO / BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



Across campus, students from all disciplines are working on research projects in close collaboration with faculty mentors. That's not unusual.

Less frequent is when a paper co-authored by students and a faculty mentor gets published in a peer-reviewed journal. Dr. Joseph Seggio has had that happen more than 20 times during his dozen years as a biology professor at BSU. However, when a recent paper was not only published but also selected as an editor's pick, it was, he said, a rare accomplishment.

The article, "Male C57BL6/N and C57BL6/J Mice Respond Differently to Constant Light and Running-Wheel Access," was co-authored by Dr. Seggio, along with Marissa Maroni, '19; Kimberly Capri, '19; Holly DeCoursey, '20; Hannah Deane, '21;

Holly A. Concepcion, '21; and Dr. Ryan W. Logan, associate professor, Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Boston University School of Medicine. It was published in *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience* and selected as one of the top articles submitted to the journal in recent years.

Throughout his time at BSU, Dr. Seggio has prided himself on employing an undergraduate research model that has helped students earn acceptance to master's and doctoral programs at top research institutions, including the Scripps Research Institute, the University of North Carolina and the University of Pennsylvania.

"One of the things I'm passionate about is working with students in small groups," Dr. Seggio said. "They go off and do bigger and better things on their own, and they point back to our work here at Bridgewater as a formative experience."

The emphasis on working closely with undergraduates on original research is something Dr. Seggio learned about at Skidmore College, where he received his bachelor's degree. Earning his doctoral degree in biology and neuroscience at the University of Maine in Orono, he also got a chance to teach. These experiences sealed his fate; he graduated with a desire to work in both the classroom and the lab.

"It's the best of both worlds where I get to be a scientist and a teacher at the same time," he said.

Dr. Seggio's areas of focus are Type 2 diabetes, circadian rhythms neuroscience and alcohol biology. Often, these specialties overlap, creating myriad opportunities for him and his students to engage in original research.

The published research paper by Dr. Seggio and the student-researchers looked at sleep disruptions in mice and the effects they have on the mice's overall health and behavior. The key finding was that the same breed of mice commonly used in global biomedical research can be slightly different when bred in different labs. This small difference can affect the resulting data.

This kind of research not only excites students, but also pays dividends once they graduate.

"I was able to get so much out of my undergraduate research experience," said Ms. Capri, who currently works as a graduate program administrator in the mathematics and statistics department at Boston University, while also pursuing a master's degree in higher education there. "I was able to grow as a researcher and a professional. I gained a lot of confidence and experience that helped me transition from my undergraduate career to a working professional."

Dr. Seggio works with about a half dozen student-researchers at a time. With these numbers, he can closely deliver to them the kinds of opportunities he himself had as a student.

"Bridgewater was one of my top choices to work at because of my own experiences of being mentored in a very hands-on and small environment," he said. "And now I'm just paying it forward."

Research in any discipline helps students sharpen critical-thinking skills, as they learn firsthand about the scientific method and how to think in the abstract.

"There is a universal skill set that only doing research can provide, because you are addressing questions that don't have an answer yet," Dr. Seggio said. Sometimes, the questions themselves haven't even been thought of yet, he added.

As of mid-September, nearly 5,200 people had accessed the online version of the paper published in *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*. This represents a wide readership, Dr. Seggio said. The credit for all this attention, he reminds his students, is shared. "I tell them it's our success, collectively," he said.

For the student-researchers, just as important as bylines is the opportunity to have actually done the work and gain the kind of high-level experience usually reserved for graduate and doctoral students.

"It's the idea that they learn how to go through the process," Dr. Seggio said. "It's not something you usually get in an undergraduate education."

To read the article featured in *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*, log on to tinyurl.com/5dbkm2xt.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS



The family of Martin Richard came to campus in September 2015 for the unveiling of a statue honoring Martin. From left are Henry and Bill Richard, '93, President Clark, and Jane and Denise Richard, '93.

Scholarship Created to Honor Boston Marathon Bombing Victim Martin Richard

Reflecting their strong and continuing dedication to the institute that bears their son's name, Bridgewater State alumni Bill and Denise Richard, both of the Class of 1993, and the Martin Richard Charitable Foundation have established the Martin Richard Fellow Scholarship at BSU.

The four-year, \$100,000 scholarship will be awarded to a graduate of the Neighborhood House Charter School in Dorchester who attends BSU full time. Martin and his siblings attended the Neighborhood House Charter School, and their mother worked there as a librarian.

The scholarship will be awarded beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year, and there will be an opportunity for three additional students over three consecutive years to receive the scholarship. The intent is for students to graduate debt-free.

Martin Richard fellows will be provided an annual stipend to work at the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice and be mentored by a faculty member in undertaking a capstone project.

President Clark said the new scholarship "builds on the excellent work of the institute in engaging and providing opportunities for our students to deepen their knowledge and commitment to civics and social justice."

CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

Awards and Accolades

Student Wins Spot on Hometown School Committee



When Ezekiel Lewis, '22, believed his country was in trouble, he stepped up.

While watching rioters attack the United States Capitol building on January 6, 2021, at first he felt frustrated with what he was seeing. Then he became inspired.

"Watching it all happen, I realized I have to be the one to make a difference, and I became determined to get into politics," he said. That's why at just 22 years old, the Middleboro native ran for and won a three-year term on his hometown's school committee.

The ambitious BSU music major was uncertain at first how to combine music and politics, but he's learning to make it work. "My two interests don't necessarily correlate, but I'm finding ways to use my music major to influence decisions I make as a politician," Ezekiel said.

Since being elected in April, he's found working as a public servant to be rewarding and looks to use the experience to possibly launch a political career. "It's incredible to see the impact you can have," he said. "As I'm still a student myself, I feel I have a good understanding of what students need."

Orientation Program Receives Regional Awards

When incoming college students arrive on campus, they are looking for a friendly face and perhaps someone to show them all BSU has to offer. But when you can't meet others in person how do you make connections?



The orientation program faced that dilemma last year during the pandemic, but the dedicated staff was able to adapt and created a program that helped new students make those connections. Their efforts were recognized at the annual NODA-Association for Orientation, Transition, and Retention in Higher Education Region IX Conference where they received three awards: Innovative Program Award; the Outstanding Undergraduate Student Leadership Award, earned by Jake Dee-Hastings, '21; and the Outstanding Graduate Student Leadership Award, earned by Erin Wentzel, '21, G'22. (Erin and Jake are pictured above.)

The team built and executed an entirely new orientation program for incoming students called the Crimson and White Experience. It included personal touches by orientation leaders who made welcome phone calls and sent handwritten letters to all new students. Pre-advising workshops, individual advising appointments and asynchronous online programming were also offered.



'Cyber Bears' Earn Third Place at Cybersecurity Competition

A team of students in BSU's cybercriminology and cybersecurity program placed third out of nine groups of students and professionals at the White Hat Conference, a cybersecurity event hosted by Boston University and supported by the U.S. Department of Justice. The contest challenged competitors to use computer forensics to analyze electronic devices as part of mock investigations into auto theft and an illegal weapons incident.

The team, known as the Cyber Bears, used industry-standard software and followed processes that mirror steps investigators take in real situations. The team members even confronted encrypted files.

"I had never really done anything like that before," said Joshua Carter (above, center, with fellow Cyber Bears Linda Burt, left, and Nancy Entwistle), who has worked as an emergency dispatcher and is now pursuing a graduate certificate at BSU. "Being on the forensic side is eye opening."

Grant Will Help Area Businesswomen Recover From Pandemic

The year 2020 was certainly difficult for everyone, but it also highlighted often-neglected segments of American society, in particular, women entrepreneurs. To help, BSU secured grant money through the state's Regional Pilot Project Grant Program, established to support recovery solutions based on the specific economic needs of individual regions of the commonwealth.

Dr. Jeanean Davis-Street, dean of the Louis M. Ricciardi College of Business, successfully applied for a \$110,000 grant to develop a "Bear's Den" business plan competition to support women, minoritized communities and persons for whom English is a second language, to help them build their own small businesses.

The BSU Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE) has partnered with the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, Center for Women and Enterprise, and SCORE of Southeastern Massachusetts to run the competition. Together they reviewed 50 applicants and chose 20 contestants. Those ultimately selected will receive resources to build business models and establish or re-establish businesses in the Brockton-Bridgewater area.

Winners will be awarded three prizes: a five-week course run by the CFE, mentorship from retired executives and technology training that will include BSU faculty-led webinars.



University Earns Solar Grant

BSU was one of three state agencies awarded state grants totaling \$800,000 for solar canopies. The university received \$261,000 for a 367 kilowatt solar canopy in the Swenson Lot estimated to generate 400,000 kilowatt hours of clean electricity annually.

The result will be \$850,000 in savings over 20 years through reduced electricity costs as part of a power purchase agreement with a third-party solar developer. BSU is also installing several rooftop solar arrays across campus along with a new dual-port electric vehicle charging station.

Financial Report Heralded Again

For the 13th consecutive year, BSU earned a Certificate of Achievement for its annual comprehensive financial report.

Faculty Bookshelf

5 Kinds of Nonfiction: Enriching Reading and Writing Instruction with Children's Books

Dr. Marlene Correia
Elementary and
Early Childhood Education

Co-written with Melissa Stewart

The authors present a new way to sort nonfiction into five major categories and show how doing so can help teachers and librarians build stronger readers and writers.



Leadership Through Mentoring: The Key to Improving the Confidence and Skill of Principals

Dr. Phyllis Gimbel
Secondary Education and
Educational Leadership

Co-written with Peter Gow
and Samson Goldstein, EdS, '21

The authors lay out the case for the development of robust mentorship programs to support new school leaders. With the turnover of principals at an all-time high, it is urgent that schools and districts find ways to help newly appointed leaders grow into effective supervisors.



CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

"The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management," said Michele Mark Levine, the director of technical services for the Government Finance Officers Association. The association began awarding certificates in 1945 to encourage governments to develop reports that exceed minimum accounting standards and promote transparency.

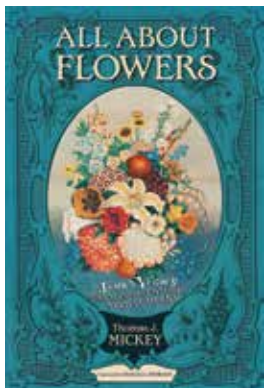
The most recent recognition is for the report for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2020. BSU is the only higher education institution in Massachusetts to receive the award for that fiscal year and is among approximately two-dozen Bay State municipalities and agencies earning a certificate.

*Awards and Accolades by Brian Benson and Heather Harris Michonski.
The full stories may be found at www.bridgew.edu/about-us/news-events.*

All About Flowers: James Vick's Nineteenth Century Seed Company

Thomas J. Mickey
Professor Emeritus
Communication Studies

This book focuses on James Vick and his 19th century seed company and how he used innovative mass marketing and regular customer correspondence to build one of the largest, most respected seed companies in the United States.



Dance Legacies of Scotland: The True Glen Orchy Kick

Jennifer Schoonover
Health and Kinesiology

Co-written with Mats Melin

This book compiles a collage of references portraying percussive Scottish dancing and explains what influenced a wide disappearance of hard-shoe steps from contemporary Scottish practices.



CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

Students Unearth Native American Artifacts

This summer, BSU students taking a course with Dr. Michael Zimmerman enhanced their archaeological skills in a Kingston neighborhood while uncovering about 300 artifacts. The area had been home to a Native American seasonal hunting camp before the arrival of Europeans. Isaac Allerton, a Pilgrim who came to North America on the Mayflower, also lived there.

BSU faculty and students worked at the site in July and August under a permit from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. As part of the project, faculty also engaged with descendant communities, including the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

“Students are learning about proper archaeological procedures in research,” said Dr. Zimmerman, of the Department of Anthropology. “They’re doing actual research in the field and, really importantly, documenting archaeological contacts as they occur because excavation is destruction.”

Students also learned to use a thermal imaging camera and ground penetrating radar to see what is underground before digging. They dug square holes and used a screen to separate possible artifacts from the removed soil. Geologic clues, such as the color of soil, as well as the finds themselves, help form a picture of life in prior centuries.

Working in the field and in a campus lab, students excavated, recorded, cleaned and studied artifacts such as stone tools



from the hunting camp used for scraping hides and splitting open bones. They also found fragments of 17th century pipes and ceramics from shortly after the arrival of Europeans.

Anthropology major CJ Crotteau, '23, who found signs of a cow milking operation, said of the experience, “A lot of what excites me is the unknown. I’m learning about past people and what they did and how they behaved.”



Alumna Named to New Athletics Role

Chanelle Melton, '18, G'20, has been hired as the Bears' Manager of Diversity, Inclusion and Compliance.

This new position is funded through the NCAA's Strategic Alliance and Matching Grant program, which is aimed at creating new full-time athletic administrative positions for women and ethnic minority candidates.

Ms. Melton, who hails from Brockton, will implement programming, services, and activity options for both student-athletes and staff to create and ensure a welcoming and inclusive environment. She will also manage and implement intercollegiate compliance and certification efforts for all student-athletes mandated by the NCAA, the university and the athletic conferences.

“We are so excited to have Chanelle in this new role for our department and the university,” said Dr. Marybeth Lamb, director of athletics and recreation. “Her expertise, both in developing programming and educational initiatives for our student-athletes and staff surrounding diversity and inclusion issues, is needed and welcomed.”

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

BY MAYA ELYSSE, '22



Growing up immersed in Haitian culture, I was exposed at an early age to the political debates that my uncles had. This encouraged me to become a political science major.

I remember sitting on my dad's lap surrounded by five of my uncles while they spoke about the ongoing governmental corruption in Haiti. I recall them often saying, “Ayiti pa bon, pa plis,” meaning “Haiti is not good anymore.”

As a child born and raised in Boston, I took trips to visit my mom and dad who were living in Haiti. Even as a young child, I observed Haiti's poverty. Staring from the back seat of my dad's car, my heart was saddened to see the lack of resources the Haitian people had to deal with. I could see that my uncles were right, but I did not want it to be true. My dedication to helping Haiti grew each time I visited.

As Haiti struggled with poverty and government corruption, the country was hit by a catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake in 2010. It is estimated that between 250,000 and 370,000 people died in the aftermath. People who survived had to live in tents given to them by international non-governmental organizations (INGOs). More than one million people in Haiti are still – 11 years after the earthquake – living without homes or on the street.

I fell in love with Haiti as a child, and as a person of Haitian descent, I have felt a responsibility and desire to help those who live there to recover. I have often asked, “What is limiting the growth of Haiti?” When Haiti is mentioned, it is always negative.

As a political science major with a concentration in international relations, I hope to learn more about what has gone wrong in Haiti, starting with INGOs. My summer research has resulted in an academic white paper that seeks to help others understand how some of these organizations are not supporting developing countries that have experienced devastation. When I apply to law school next year, I will have an example of the work I have done, work that I am passionate about.

One day I want to work in the United Nations to improve countries like Haiti by using my education and my voice to support people in the world who do not have the resources of those of us lucky enough to live in developed countries.

Maya Elysse, '22, spent her summer researching her parents' native Haiti, thanks to a grant from Bridgewater State University's Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research. The political science major and computer science minor studied the dire economic challenges the island nation faces. Her project became more complicated over the summer as the troubles of Haiti and its people have continued, with the July assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, another large earthquake striking in August and the arrival in Texas of thousands of mainly Haitian refugees. Meanwhile, The New York Times has reported the country is ruled by warring gangs.

Crossing the Goal Line

Gillette Stadium becomes literal field of dreams for thousands of Bears



UNDERGRADUATE CLASS OF 2020

THE PANDEMIC PUT ON HOLD graduation ceremonies for the members of the Class of 2020, but in July they finally collected their diplomas, along with the Class of 2021.

And they did so on a large stage that stretched across the field at Gillette Stadium.

Thursday, July 29, saw candidates from the College of Graduate Studies from both 2020 and 2021 honored, followed by the members of the undergraduate Class of 2020 on Friday. The undergraduate Class of 2021 capped off the four ceremonies on Saturday.

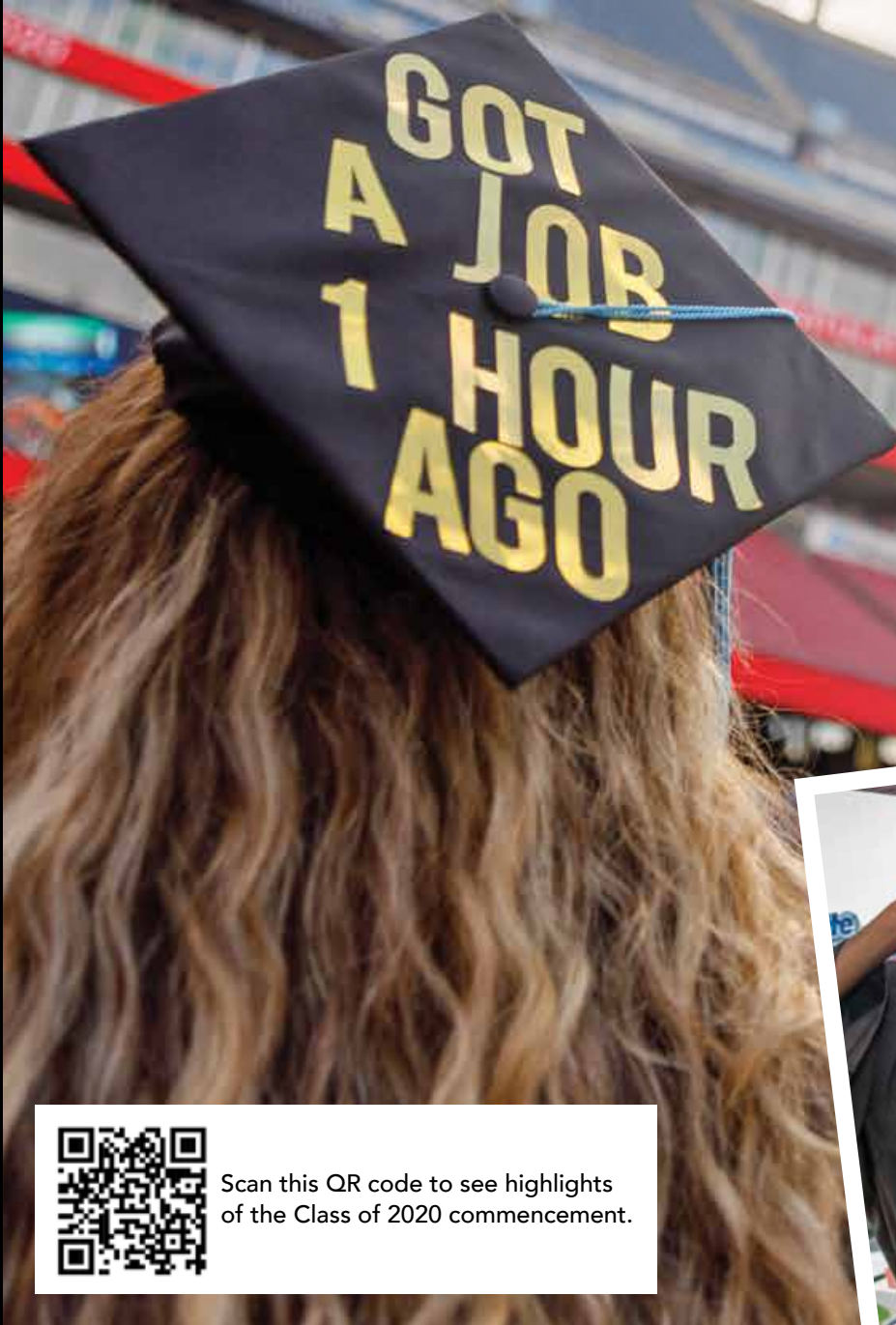
"It has been worth the wait to do it at Gillette," said Cameron Ramos, '17, G'20. "To have my name called out in the same place Tom Brady had his name called out so many times, it's pretty special."

President Clark tipped his hat to the students who had to persevere through more than a year of the pandemic in order to graduate. "Here we are, champions, sitting in a home built for champions," he said. "Through individual and heroic action, we have arrived at this place to celebrate this moment ... we have pushed back against the storm and remembered life goes on. We persisted."

Similar messages were offered by guest speakers Therese Murray, former Massachusetts Senate president; U.S. Congressman Stephen F. Lynch; and Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria, president emeritus of BSU. Each was awarded an honorary degree.

Abigail Soares, '21, the student speaker for the Colleges of Education and Health Sciences, Business, and Science and Mathematics, encouraged her classmates to never stop following their dreams. "We demonstrated an unprecedented ability to adapt and change, and that is what sets us apart," the English and elementary education major said. "The only way to survive was to adapt, so we did, against all odds. But we didn't do it alone. We did it through the help and support system of professors, staff, friends, family and peers, and everyone behind the scenes who turned dreamers into achievers."◆

(Coverage of commencement weekend was by Brian Benson and Heather Harris Michonski. Read their full stories at bridgew.edu/commencement)



Scan this QR code to see highlights of the Class of 2020 commencement.

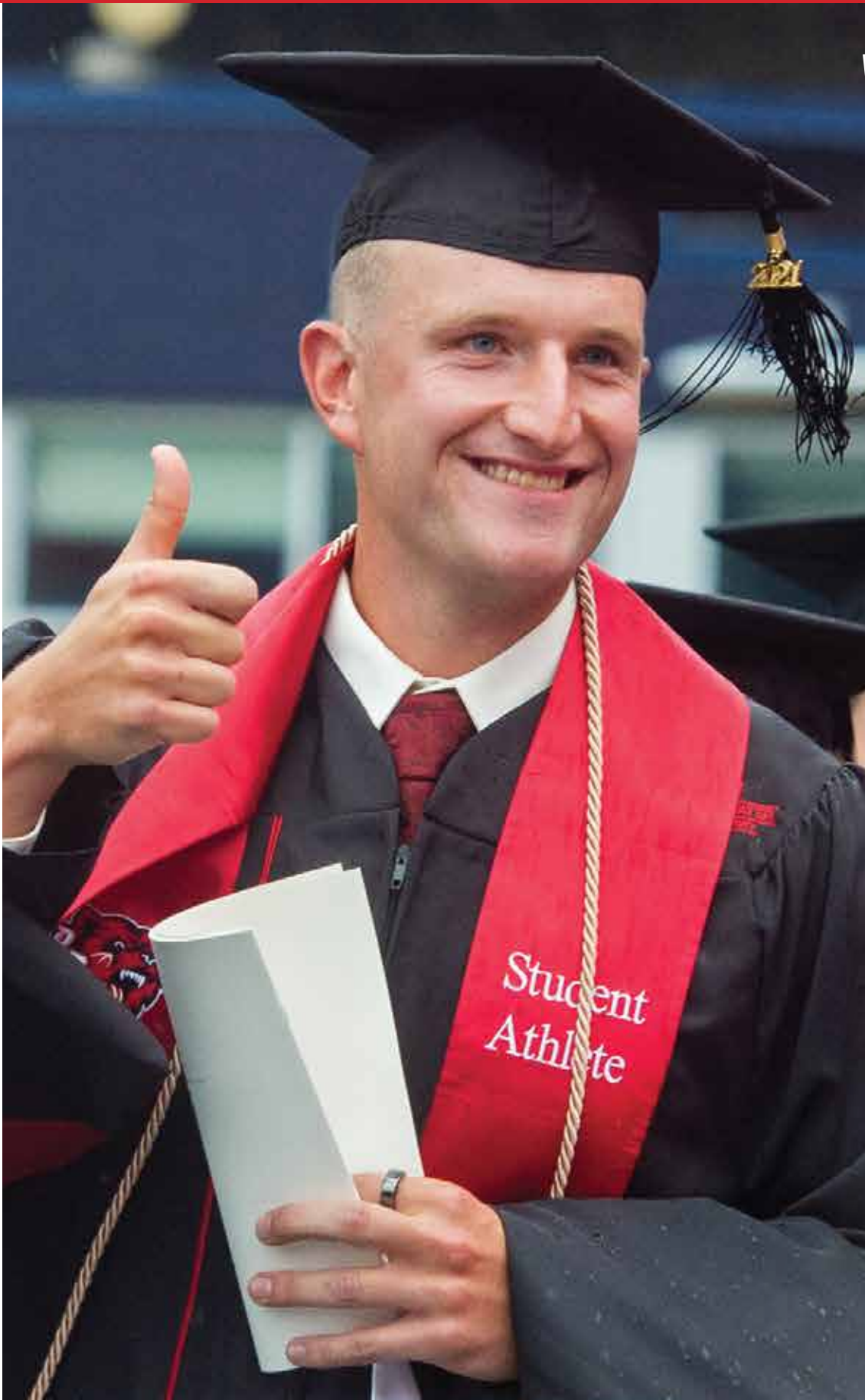


UNDERGRADUATE CLASS OF 2021



Scan this QR code to see highlights of the Class of 2021 commencement.

GRADUATE STUDIES CLASSES OF 2020 AND 2021



Scan this QR code to see highlights of the Graduate Studies Classes of 2020 and 2021 commencement.

Safe Return

Students celebrated a sense of normalcy as the new academic year began

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11, AND HEATHER HARRIS MICHONSKI

IT APPEARED TO BE just another move-in day.

But it wasn't.

After the COVID-19 pandemic made the campus seem like a virtual ghost town last year with few students living in the residence halls, the last weekend in August marked a welcome return to normal.

Well, near normal.

With the Delta variant of COVID-19 causing a surge of new cases across the country, the beginning of the 2021-2022 academic year wasn't the completely post-pandemic return the BSU community hoped for. But, it sure was great to see lines of cars pulling up to residence halls, and students and parents hauling in baskets of clothes, boxes of belongings, computers, Ramen Noodles, pillows and PlayStations.



“Not being able to interact with people last year, not being able to see your friends inside of the buildings, it was tough,” said Chonlee Cine, '23. “I’m trying to slow things down and enjoy college, to make it fun again.”



“This is awesome,” said Gary Munroe of Holbrook who was helping his daughter Bailey move into Weygand Hall. “It’s great to see students getting out of their homes and back to school where they can enjoy their college experience.”

Opening Day on Tuesday, August 31, was also reminiscent of pre-pandemic years, with the annual campus-wide barbecue held on the quadrangle. The next day, the campus was as busy as it ever was with students once again heading off to classrooms, labs, rehearsals and practices. The celebratory mood continued later that week with a cookout sponsored by the university’s African American Society.

“It feels great to have everyone back,” said President Clark. “We’re not totally out of the woods yet, but I can tell you there are a lot of smiling faces everywhere you look.”

While face-to-face classes are once again de rigueur on campus, deviations from the norm remain: Mandatory vaccination requirements are in place, as are many of the pandemic-related safety protocols from the last academic year.

All the same, members of the BSU community seem to be thrilled that some semblance of normalcy has taken hold.

Chonlee Cine, a junior education major from Everett, lived on campus last year. He’s looking forward to having lots of company this time around.

“Not being able to interact with people last year, not being able to see your friends inside of the buildings, it was tough,” he said. “The past two years have honestly felt like a blur. I’m trying to slow things down and enjoy college, to make it fun again.” ♦



Healing Hands

How Dr. Christopher Frazer, his staff and volunteers rose to the COVID challenge

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11



JUST BEFORE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC shut down most of the country in March 2020, including in-person teaching at BSU, Dr. Christopher Frazer had just finished a professional development exercise involving contagious outbreaks.

However, even that couldn't have prepared him for what was on the horizon.

"Like most people, I thought the virus sounded concerning, but frankly it didn't sound as concerning as a measles outbreak on campus," said the executive director of BSU's Wellness Center.

It soon became apparent that COVID was something altogether different. Very quickly, Dr. Frazer and his staff, along with a group of volunteers that grew in number as the pandemic stretched from months into more than a year, ramped up what became a successful response to the health crisis.

"At first, we thought, how are we going to do this?" he said. Not only did the Wellness Center staff and BSU administrators have to find a way to keep students, employees, librarians and faculty safe, study tours were also in progress, and those students had to be safely brought home. While the campus transitioned almost

immediately to remote learning, Dr. Frazer and his staff put together a plan.

The plan included training for his staff, an intense program of testing and contact-tracing, educating members of the BSU community about hygiene and the importance of wearing a face mask, recruiting and training volunteers, and, ultimately, the opening of a regional vaccination center on campus. Weekly meetings with the president and the cabinet were also instituted for the purposes of planning and to facilitate communication.

For Dr. Frazer and his staff of 11, along with volunteers from across campus, there were many long days. For instance, if in the early morning hours test results arrived showing that someone tested positive for the virus, Dr. Frazer and his team had just a few hours to notify everyone who'd been in contact with that individual and get them to quarantine.

"It became kind of an around-the-clock operation," he said. Dr. Frazer figured that Kelsey Gauthier, assistant director of events management, made up to 1,500 calls last year in an effort to notify students about test results and, at times, the need to quarantine.

The six-day work weeks and 12-plus-hour work days paid off. In the end, the campus experienced a positive test rate of less than 1 percent. Only one student ended up hospitalized, and that may have been for a non-COVID reason.

"By and large, our students recovered very well and were able to convalesce in a manner that didn't perpetuate the spread of the illness," Dr. Frazer said. "We had a good system, but my mind keeps returning to the great people here who were willing to make this work."

Those volunteers who went above and beyond, he added, were:

Testing: Greg DeMelo, G'11; Kathie Manning; Nick Burns, '15; Kyle Bueno, '18; Cathleen DeSimone; Eva Gaffney, G'01; and Jeanne O'Brien.

Tracing: Kelsey Gauthier, Jacklyn Walsh, Denise Diliddo and Shirelle Gurley.

Wellness: Cindy Calderon, Beth Archambault, Sara LaPlume and Lynn Grabau. ♦



Dr. Frazer supervises the swab collection during testing for COVID-19 on campus in spring 2021.

Brand New Lessons

Three alumnae reflect on teaching during the pandemic,
the challenges and triumphs

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

WHEN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC emptied Lori Duhaime's first-grade classroom at the Edmund Hatch Bennett Elementary School in Taunton, she felt like she'd entered a strange new world.

"Every minute of the day I was re-inventing the way I worked," said the 1993 graduate and veteran teacher of 28 years. "It was overwhelming. But once we got into the swing of things, it worked out well."

Educators at all levels were forced by the pandemic in March 2020 to abandon face-to-face teaching. Immediately, they had to deal with the logistics of changing the way they did things.

"At first we had no technology in place, so we were calling kids," Ms. Duhaime said. "We wanted to check on the well-being of the families."

Eventually, new technologies and educational platforms were put in place, Zoom and Skype calls became the norm for meetings and other purposes, and apps were used to stay in touch with students and parents. Some schools issued tablets, webcams and whiteboards to help students and teachers stay connected, and novel uses for older programs and websites like PowerPoint and YouTube were invented.

"Every minute of the day I was re-inventing the way I worked. ... At times I had to live-teach to kids in the class and also had some learning from home. Now you're trying to keep everyone in class six feet apart and also watch what the kids on the computer were doing..."

LORI DUHAIME, '93, first-grade teacher, Edmund Hatch Bennett Elementary School, Taunton



“Not being able to be there for the children was the toughest. Not being able to hug your kids and having to put six feet between you and them. They’re like family. I get very vested in my kids, and for me to tell them we can’t get close to each other, that was really hard. Kids need that connection.”

SANDI TELLESS, '02, kindergarten teacher, Central Elementary School, East Bridgewater

Beyond the technical aspects of this brave new world were other challenges.

“Not being able to be there for the children was the toughest,” said Sandi Telless, '02, a kindergarten teacher at Central Elementary School in East Bridgewater. “Not being able to hug your kids and having to put six feet between you and them. They’re like family. I get very vested in my kids, and for me to tell them we can’t get close to each other, that was really hard. Kids need that connection.”

Joanly Ayala, '20, now teaches fifth grade in Ashland but had to perform her student teaching in Brockton remotely during the pandemic.

Distance teaching has its highs and lows, she said.

“It was nice logging in every day and seeing students who wanted to learn with me,” Ms. Ayala said. “It was difficult to try to figure out lessons and how to match them with the requirements of my student teaching. It was a difficult time, but I still loved doing it and never thought during all that time that I wanted to be anything other than a teacher.”

Educators also had to deal with shifting schedules and situations as the pandemic’s impact waxed and waned. Hybrid models mixed remote learning with face-to-face classes, and, at one point, students were allowed to come back full time, but some exercised their option to continue learning online.

“At times I had to live-teach to kids in the class and also had some learning from home,” said Ms. Duhaime. “Now you’re trying to keep everyone in class six feet apart and also watch what the kids on the computer were doing...”

Often at her school, Ms. Telless is put in charge of the fun stuff. “It’s important for young students to keep them engaged,” she said.

During the pandemic she dressed up as a chicken to illustrate a lesson on farming and the life cycle – which also included counting eggs as part of a math exercise. She spent time in the woods portraying a praying mantis, had the students engage in scavenger hunts in their own yards where they had to count off their steps (more math skills), joined her colleagues in making weekly videos for their students, and much more.

“We had 12 weeks of school left when we shut down that March, and we asked ourselves what we could cover and have a little fun,” Ms. Telless said.

It was hoped that the new vaccines would usher in a return to normalcy in schools by the start of this academic year. However, the Delta variant and the millions around the country who remained unvaccinated as of late summer meant the new ways of teaching had to remain in place for the immediate future. Masks are mandated, some districts require social distancing and proof of vaccination (mostly at the college level), and



assigned seats in the cafeteria. Group learning is allowed in some communities.

Confronted by the demands brought on by the pandemic, educators around the country have generally received high marks for their adaptability and professionalism. The rules and methods of teaching have varied and still do, but for the most part, America’s teachers have been applauded for finding a way to get the job done.

One other thing is clear, said Ms. Ayala, whose first day as a full-fledged teacher was August 31. “So far, it’s been heartwarming to see so many students back and together again,” she said. “Some of them haven’t been in the classroom since March 2020. I can tell they truly want to be there. They want to socialize and play, and we give them the opportunity to do so.”

“It was difficult to try to figure out lessons and how to match them with the requirements of my student teaching. It was a difficult time, but I still loved doing it and never thought during all that time that I wanted to be anything other than a teacher.”

JOANLY AYALA, '20
Fifth-grade teacher
Ashland



For better or worse, today’s students are accustomed to the changes wrought by COVID-19 protocols. “Kids don’t know anything different,” Ms. Duhaime said. “This is their way of life now. It’s become normal for them, and they just go with the flow.”

Some school districts have used federal funding to establish programs to try to make up for some of what was lost by students due to the inherent limitations of remote learning. However, that may not be enough.

Ms. Telless is less sanguine about the longer-term impact on young people that the challenges of the pandemic have presented. “For me it was about getting them back into the routine once the school year started,” she said. “These students have been at home for a full year-plus, that’s where we are going to see the social and emotional impact.” ♦

An Unforgettable Start

Beginning my BSU career during a year unlike any other

BY DR. MATTHEW PATEY

Assistant Professor, Department of Health and Kinesiology



I AM AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR in the Department of Health and Kinesiology and was what is known as a “newly minted PhD” when I joined the BSU family. Meaning, I only just completed my degree months before my start date. In my case, for the fall 2020 term. Yes, *that* fall 2020...

Let’s back up a wee bit to unpack the months leading into my first day here at BSU. The world virtually shut down in March 2020. For me, that meant I had to complete my PhD dissertation remotely and defend through an online means. A very foreign process and platform for me.

After successfully defending my dissertation, fast-forward a couple of months. My wife, Hope, and I traveled up the eastern seaboard with half our life, flew home to Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, quarantined for two weeks, then drove down the eastern seaboard with the other half of our life – to our new home in Bridgewater.

After attending a small, socially distant get-together with my department, the next thing I knew, the term was upon us. I was afforded the opportunity to teach an overload (five courses) my first and second term. Prior to fall 2020, my only online teaching experience was in spring 2020 when everything flipped to online format due to the pandemic.

I was planning, grading, attending meetings, lecturing, eating, relaxing, sleeping and showering all within a 20-foot radius, inside my apartment. This was a challenge that neither my PhD program nor any other life events had prepared

me for. I couldn’t rely on prior learning or situations akin to this to help inform me about how I would approach this new context. This was another foreign experience.

I found myself working long hours outside of my lectures trying different types of technology and activities in an effort to mindfully integrate these into my lectures to encourage students to want to keep their cameras on and to actively participate. The reality was, many lectures fell flat, and my actions seemed largely futile. However, the lectures, which did seem to captivate and cultivate deep learning experiences, made all the effort worthwhile. This, and leaning on my new faculty family for support, ideas and answers to my small (and sometimes mundane) questions, which were usually resolved with a quick shout or a dart across the hall to each other’s offices, all made my first year at BSU not only successful but also unforgettable. It was an experience I will always hold close to my heart. I know other faculty in other institutions across America with similar experiences as myself would not share that same sentiment. Thank you to my department and to my students.

I would be remiss if I didn’t note the upside of working from home last year. Being able to complete my work commute in under a minute, I was able to avail myself of (what I coined as) Zoom casual dress code – dress shirt with jogging pants and slippers – as well as coffee breaks with my wonderful wife. ♦

Those Who (Also) Served

*Student's project
shines a light on
the service of
female veterans*

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11



IT'S SOMETHING THAT OFTEN HAPPENS to Micaila "Mickey" Britto-Patten. She's standing with other United States veterans, and she watches as people come up and thank the men in the group for their service, moving right past her as if she were invisible.

The Taunton native retired as a corporal from the Marine Corps in 1994 due to service injuries after serving her country for more than seven years stateside and in Japan. After her tour of duty, she said she felt like she came home and simply "melted" back into society.

Melted, as in disappeared.

"This has been something that's stuck in my head for a long time," the art major said.

She adds that female service members have done their part in every war from the American Revolution on, but have not always been given the credit and respect for their sacrifices.

Her summer project, carried out as part of the Adrian Tinsley Program (ATP) for Undergraduate Research, was a comprehensive photo essay featuring female veterans from the Vietnam era through today. The images, some of which are shown on the next two pages, were printed as 11 x 14 portraits and displayed at the ATP symposium at summer's end.

Amy Lovera, assistant professor in the Department of Art and Art History, is her research mentor.

Micaila works full time as director of Veterans Services of Fall River and studies at BSU part time. She plans to graduate in a few years with a concentration in photography. In June, she was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Women Veterans Network. She hopes her story, continued advocacy and photos (through local exhibitions and other means) will help female veterans get the attention and respect they deserve.

"Women are now the fastest growing demographic in the military and as veterans," she said. "It's a matter of fact that women can serve, are serving and will continue to serve." ♦



"I am grateful I have been able to work with veterans on a daily basis, letting them know what their benefits are and how to access programs which will enhance their lives."

"The Bridgewater State University Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research grant has allowed me to use not only my voice, but the voices of all women veterans. Allowing me to create this work of photography has been so fulfilling. And for this I am grateful beyond words. Thank you BSU!"

—Micaila Britto-Patten, left, in a self-portrait, and, above, with her service dog, Rabbit



F. MARTHA GREEN
U.S. Army, Captain
Nurse, 312th Evacuation Hospital, Chu Lai, Vietnam
1967-1970



ROSEANN TRIONFI-MAZZUCHELLI
U.S. Army, E-6 Staff Sergeant
Army Criminal Investigation Division Special Agent
1979-2000



KIRSTEN DAVIS
U.S. Air Force, E-4 Senior Airmen
Aircraft Guidance and Control Systems Technicians
1994-1998



KRISTI WILLIAMS
U.S. Army, Captain
66C Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse
2011-2016 (active duty)
2016-present (Army Reserves)



TORRIE OSTERHOLM
U.S. Air Force, E-4 Senior Airmen
90310-Nutritional Medicine-Medic
1987-1991

An architectural rendering of the Burnell Hall renovation at Bridgewater State University. The building is a two-story structure with a red brick exterior and large glass windows. A sign above the entrance reads "BURNELL HALL" and another sign above the large glass facade reads "COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH SCIENCES". In front of the building is a paved plaza with a low stone wall. Behind the wall is an outdoor seating area with several round tables, white chairs, and red umbrellas. A few people are walking on the plaza and sitting on the stone wall. To the right of the building is a grassy area with trees and a bicycle rack. The sky is blue with some clouds.

BURNELL HALL

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH SCIENCES

While You Were Away

See what's new on campus

THE PANDEMIC MAY HAVE BROUGHT MUCH OF LIFE TO A HALT on and off campus, but Bridgewater State University moved forward on several fronts.

Funding was secured for an extensive renovation of Burnell Hall, which will be the new home for the College of Education and Health Sciences. Construction of a new athletic facility, the Bear Paw Pavilion, was completed in time for the fall 2021 sports season. Also ready for the fall semester is a cutting-edge photonics lab housed in the Dana Mohler-Faria Science and Mathematics Center, where students will be prepared for work with industry leaders and other top universities around the world. A new bear sculpture sits outside the Park Street entrance of the renamed Rondileau Campus Center, now known as the Rondileau Student Union. And, spanning the space between the student union and Maxwell Library is the Greg and Fay Wyatt Sculpture Garden, which enhances the beauty of the campus and provides a place for quiet contemplation and aesthetic appreciation.

Check out the new additions to campus on the following pages.

-Reported by Brian Benson and Heather Harris Michonski

BURNELL HALL



The state is investing \$25 million, and BSU is adding \$14.1 million from its own coffers, to renovate Burnell Hall, after which it will become the home to the College of Education and Health Sciences.

This summer, Governor Charlie Baker visited campus to make the announcement.

Currently, the seven departments of the College of Education and Health Sciences are scattered across campus. The renovated Burnell Hall will finally bring them together in one building.

"The renovation of Burnell Hall represents one of the most significant building projects in the last 50 years," President Clark said of the work, which is expected to be completed over the next four years.

Burnell Hall was built as an elementary school in 1979. The renovation will create new laboratories, classrooms, offices and collaborative spaces, and will expand the building's capacity, allowing enrollment in the college to increase by nearly 10 percent.



"In the academic programs that will be housed in this updated facility, students will be able to work toward in-demand degrees and licenses in fields like occupational and physical therapy and public health," the governor said when announcing the grant. "We're excited to see this project come together and look forward to seeing the many benefits it will ... deliver for Bridgewater State University and the region."

An architectural rendering (top image) depicts the main entrance to Burnell Hall after renovation.

On campus to announce state funding of Burnell Hall, Governor Charlie Baker and Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito (third from left) also spent time meeting with BSU students.

BEAR PAW PAVILION

The Bear Paw Pavilion, located at the far end of Swenson Field, was opened in time for the fall semester. The new \$2.2 million building was made possible through fundraising and a budget surplus. It includes a center hub with 100 top-of-the-line wooden lockers (below) and a dividable room that can create two distinct spaces for different teams to use simultaneously. A satellite athletic training space and mechanical/equipment room is housed in the building as well. Fans and athletes agree the new space is a win-win.

To learn more about sponsorships or naming opportunities, email development@bridgew.edu.



PHOTONICS LAB



A new lab inside the Dana Mohler-Faria Science and Mathematics Center comprises three spaces, where experiments can be conducted in everything from fiber optics to quantum photonic applications.

Dr. Samuel Serna Otalvaro of the Department of Physics, Photonics and Optical Engineering (left, and below, right, with Fernando Matos, '25) said that thanks to the new lab, students now have access to state-of-the-art equipment for learning and training, as well as participating in projects with industry leaders and students and faculty at leading universities. The lab will give BSU students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with light-based technologies of today and tomorrow.

With the new lab opening this fall, BSU welcomed its first class of photonics and optical engineering students. It is the first such program in the state's public higher education system.

The official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the photonics lab has been set for spring 2022.



RONDILEAU STUDENT UNION



Soon after the decision was made to rename the campus center the Rondileau Student Union, a student visited President Clark to suggest creating a space on campus where members of the BSU community could gather to reflect. Soon, a plan was initiated to designate the front of the student union as just such a place, and to earmark it with a new bear statue.

Sculptor Chris Williams, who'd created the bronze bear that sits in front of the Adrian Tinsley Center, as well as the bear sculpture installed in September in front of the new Bear Paw Pavilion (see page 37), was commissioned to create the statue. Using private funds, the new bear – 800 pounds, six-feet high and eight-feet long – was created and set upon three large rocks in front of the student union.

"We have worked hard to build BSU spirit during my time as president, and symbols matter," said President Clark. "The BSU bear is a symbol of our students, alumni and the folks who have dedicated their careers to this great university. Our students are determined to overcome challenges, move forward, and reach higher with courage and resilience. These qualities are exhibited by the new bear and reflect the spirit of our students beautifully."

THE GREG AND FAY WYATT SCULPTURE GARDEN

The Greg and Fay Wyatt Sculpture Garden, located on the eastern side of Maxwell Library, is nearly complete.

A dozen new sculptures by Mr. Wyatt, an internationally renowned artist, have been added, courtesy of the Newington-Cropsey Foundation. They surround a large sculpture of ballet legend and actor Mikhail Baryshnikov (far right) created by Mr. Wyatt and installed in 2017. It was also donated to BSU by the foundation. Plans call for the installation of five more pieces by Mr. Wyatt in the coming years to complete the project.

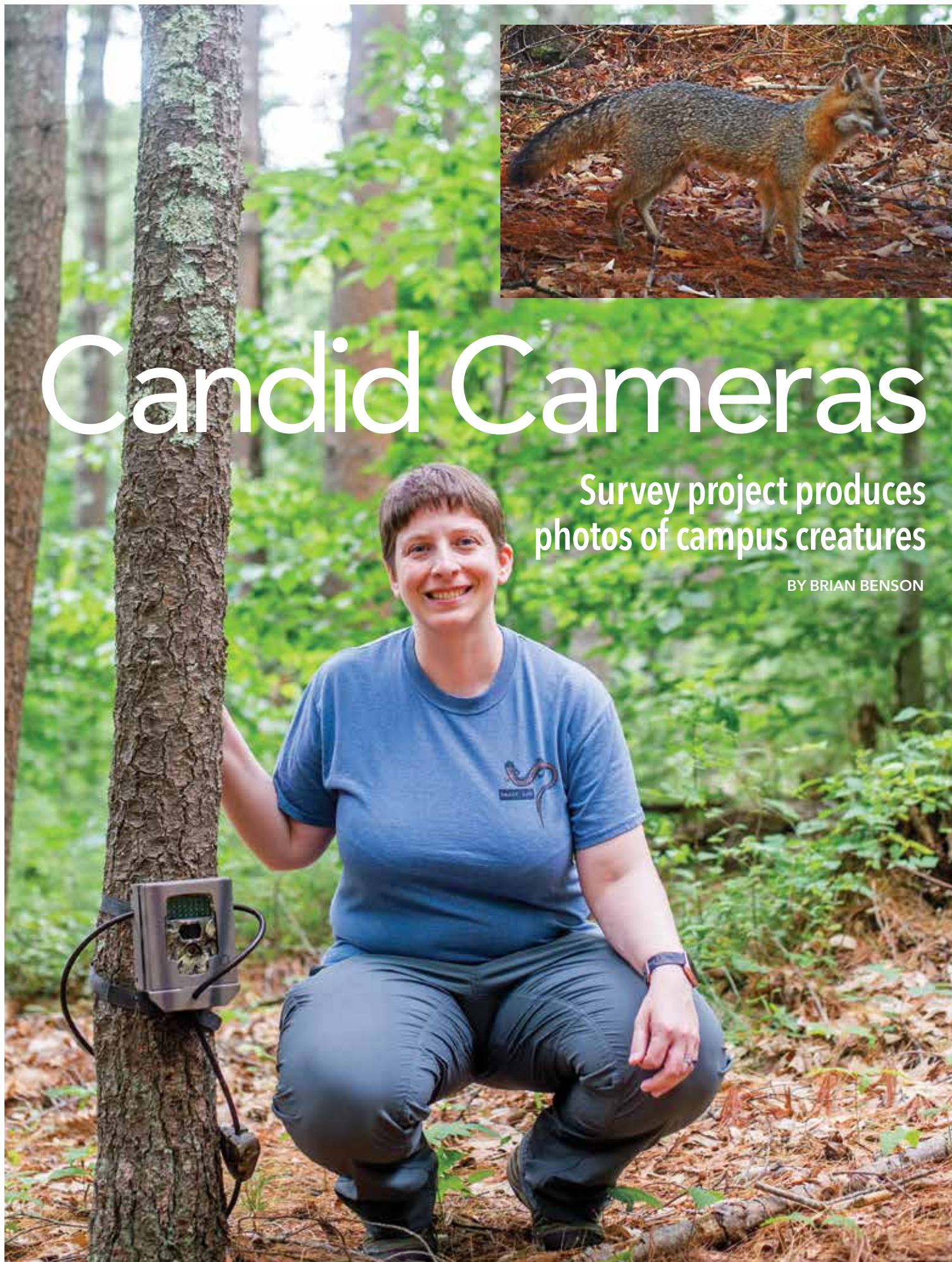
Three species of trees, River Birch, Moonglow Magnolia and American Yellowwood, have been planted in the garden, each selected for its texture and, in some cases, close affiliation to what is depicted in Mr. Wyatt's sculptures. With its mix of art, literature and nature, the garden provides a thoughtful oasis at the heart of campus.



Candid Cameras

Survey project produces
photos of campus creatures

BY BRIAN BENSON



Among the wildlife captured by motion-activated cameras in the Great Hill woods are (clockwise, from top left) a grey fox, fisher, doe, hawk and coyote. The color images were taken during daylight hours. The black and white photos are illuminated via invisible infrared flash, which minimizes disturbance to the animals, as most cannot see into the infrared spectrum. On the facing page, Dr. Caitlin Fisher-Reid shows one of the cameras used to shoot the photos above.

WE KNOW BEARS POPULATE RESIDENCE HALLS and classrooms, but what else calls BSU home? That's the question Dr. Caitlin Fisher-Reid and her students sought to answer as part of the first nationwide mammal survey.

The associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and the students placed motion-activated cameras in the woods on Great Hill as part of the groundbreaking Snapshot USA study.

"It was such an amazing experience to be a part of something so big," said Alex Bebko, '20. "I feel incredibly grateful Bridgewater gave me this opportunity."

Snapshot USA is a collaboration of more than 150 scientists who placed 1,509 cameras at 110 sites across all 50 states. The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences organized the project, whose fall 2019 results were recently published in the journal *Ecology*.

For the BSU contingent, studying and cataloging the images resembled a treasure hunt as they never knew what they'd see in the next photo. The students were surprised by the variety of wildlife on campus, including

coyotes, foxes and fishers, and because many of the creatures are nocturnal and shy away from humans, the cameras provided them with a unique peek into nature.

"One image that really sticks out is of a coyote hunting something," said Sean King, '21. "We don't know what it was hunting, but it was clearly in that stance."

They cannot yet make multi-year conclusions about species and the forest, but Dr. Fisher-Reid plans to maintain the cameras to gather additional data and continue giving undergraduates valuable research experience.

She appreciates the wooded areas on BSU's campus, which eliminate logistical challenges of conducting off-campus fieldwork. "The forest is one of the reasons I came to Bridgewater," she said. "It's big enough that we have a lot of things in there. What was most revealing was how many mammals there are. It's amazing. It's just this patch of woods in the middle of suburbia."

In addition to the thrill of discovery, students benefitted from hands-on research. Some say that working on Snapshot USA paved the way for future endeavors. ♦

ALUMNI UPDATE

CLASS NOTES

STAY CONNECTED.

Send your news to the
Office of Alumni and Development
via email to alumni@bridgew.edu
or mail to
Jones Alumni House
26 Summer St.
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.

1959

Judith Ryan was inducted into the Marshfield High School Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017.

1970

Middleton McGoodwin, G'76, G'86, recently retired, concluding a 48-year career in public education, serving in Massachusetts from 1970-2011 and in New Hampshire from 2011-2018. He is very grateful to the Massachusetts State University system for providing him with several opportunities that greatly assisted him with his work in two Massachusetts school systems over 41 consecutive years.

1971

Jean Ciborowski Fahey recently released a children's book, *I'll Build You a Bookcase*,

through Lee and Low Publishing. With support from the William Penn Foundation, 25,000 copies will be distributed for free to Philadelphia families with young children through Reach Out and Read and other family organizations. The book is available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Arabic and Vietnamese.

David Keefe was appointed executive chairman and board member of i3 Broadband LLC. He was the co-founder and CEO of Atlantic Broadband, the 11th largest broadband operator in the country. Mr. Keefe is also an advisory board member of Dragonfly Bioscience UK.

1972

Frederick E. Rugg, G'72, released the 35th edition of his college guidebook, *Rugg's Recommendations on the Colleges*.

1981

Dr. Catherine Belleville Holbrook, G'81, retired after a 40-year career in higher education, including 23 years at Bridgewater State, and for the last six years, as vice president for student affairs at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Ms. Holbrook was Bridgewater State's 2006 recipient of the Martha D. Jones Award for Outstanding Dedication to Students.

1986

Phil MacDougall is the new executive director of the National Automobile Museum in Reno, Nevada. He had been executive director at the Reno-based business networking organization Western Industrial Nevada.



© Merrill Cassidy - USA TODAY NETWORK

WHEN THE PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION was permanently closed at the end of May 2019, Diane Turco thought she could finally relax. The Harwich resident was a founding member and executive director of the citizens group Cape Downwinders, and since 1980 had been working on multiple fronts to have the nuclear power plant shuttered.

However, the closing of the 680-megawatt reactor after more than 46 years of operation turned out to be merely the end of the first chapter. As predicted by experts as far back as 1971, ensuring the safe disposal of the spent nuclear rods – nuclear waste – is a formidable problem on its own.

These days Ms. Turco and her group continue working to bring attention to this issue.

"We're just trying to say to the state we're at risk until the waste is taken care of," she said. "But nobody knows what to do with this stuff, and it's dangerous and can remain so for tens of thousands of years."

ALUMNI PROFILE

DIANE COLYER TURCO, '76

The nuclear waste at the Pilgrim site is stored in canisters, and threats from leakage to terrorist attacks are very real, Ms. Turco said.

Roughly 100 decommissioned nuclear plants exist around the world, each having its own potential for catastrophe.

Over the decades, Ms. Turco has taken part in countless meetings, protests and media interviews, as well as writing letters, calling lawmakers, networking and much more. She has been arrested four times, all for a cause to which she has dedicated more than half her life.

Ms. Turco and her fellow activists are asking for responsible storage of the waste and improved safety plans for residents who live within 50 miles of the Pilgrim waste dump in case of a radiological release.

Her professional life was spent in special education working with severely disabled children at the Paul A. Dever School in Taunton, after gaining her initiation in the field working in Bridgewater State's Children's Physical Developmental Clinic. She also earned a graduate degree from Northeastern University.

Supporting Ms. Turco's work is husband Tom, '76, who worked as an adaptive physical education teacher and garnered national recognition for his role as Barnstable girls volleyball coach. The couple has two children.

It was on the job where her life of activism began. Ms. Turco worked on important issues such as inclusion, civil rights, education for all and community acceptance for children with multiple disabling conditions. She retired in 2012 after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, when it became clear that the same thing could happen in her own backyard.

"I keep thinking we're going to have to apologize to the next generation that we didn't get this taken care of," Ms. Turco said. "But we cannot give up."

To learn more about Ms. Turco's work, feel free to contact her at tturco@comcast.net. ♦

ALUMNI SERVICES

For more information about the services below, visit www.bridgew.edu/alumni

WEBSITE

Visit the BSU alumni website, www.bridgew.edu/alumni, to learn more about events, services and the activities of alumni affinity groups.

FACEBOOK

Follow us on Facebook (@BSUAlum) or search "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.

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

HANDSHAKE

Handshake is BSU’s recruiting database connecting students and alumni to employers across the country looking to fill jobs and internships. Alumni are welcome to create an account to access position postings, networking opportunities and career event information.

CAREER FAIRS

Career Services hosts several virtual and in-person career fairs each year that alumni are welcome to attend to search for positions or to register as an employer looking to hire BSU students.

EMPLOYER-IN-RESIDENCE

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

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.

CAMPUS ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Many opportunities are available for alumni to engage with BSU students throughout the academic year. Career Services coordinates a number of programs, including career panels, information sessions, networking events and career fairs where alumni get the chance to represent their employers and interact with students.

For more information, visit www.bridgew.edu/office/career-services or contact the Office of Career Services at 508.531.1328 or careerservices@bridgew.edu

Paul Putnam became a kidney donor in March 2020 and reports that both he and the recipient of his kidney are doing great. He would like to challenge his classmates to become donors. Learn more at www.bethegifttoday.org.

1991

John “Sean” Ryan is the program director of the OSHA Training Institute Education Center, Region 1, in Manchester, New Hampshire.

1995

Nicholas M. Garofolo played the lead role in the film *Twenty Twenty*, which won Best Psychedelic Fantasy Short Film at the Retro Avant Garde Film Festival and will be picked up by Troma Entertainment. He held a supporting role in *Bobo Touch Helpline*:

The Kisser, which screened at the Manhattan Film Festival, Festival of Cinema NYC in August 2019 and Coney Island Film Festival September 2019. He wrote *Raw Sewage*, which screened at the New York Underground Comedy Festival in May 2020 and the Couch Film Festival in February 2021.

Siobhan Lomba was promoted from head of support services to vice president of technology at WithHealth, Inc., a precision concierge telehealth company for employers and their employees.

1997

Dawn C. Anderson became the first woman elected to serve as the town moderator for Grafton on May 22.

1999

Richard MacLean was promoted to lieutenant in the Amherst Police Department.

2000

Michael Child earned a master’s degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College on July 23 after completing a two-year distance education program. He will be taking command of the 206th Digital Liaison Detachment at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

2001

Jessie Bender Beerman, MEd, is a Montessori Mentor with Higher Ground Education, working to modernize and mainstream Montessori Education through coaching, mentorship and consulting.

2002

Margo MacPhail LaPointe co-founded a K-8 private school, Seaview Learning, which serves both full-time private school students and part-time hybrid / remote / homeschooling students.

2009

Malachi Charbonneau is general manager of MedAptus.

2016

Kelsey Johnson is the graduate manager for the 2021-2022 season of the Ole Miss women’s basketball team.

ALUMNI UPDATE

NOTA BENE

MARRIAGES

The university celebrates the weddings of the following alumni:

Alexis McCauley, ‘17, to **Thomas P. Ferris**, ‘18, on July 4, 2021

IN MEMORIAM

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

Juliet Noel Carlson, ‘42, on June 25, 2021
Ester Boyden Ernst, ‘42, on May 24, 2021
Ruth Sinclair Green, ‘43, on March 14, 2021
Anna Gloster McGovern, ‘48, on March 8, 2021
Ann Dutton, ‘49, on March 1, 2021
Merelyn Tobey Walent, ‘49, on June 2, 2021
John S. Hughes, ‘50, on May 11, 2021
Marilyn Kline Oxman, ‘50, on April 21, 2021
Marie Reilly Grzywacz, ‘52, on August 9, 2021
Irene Fiola Doherty, ‘53, on March 30, 2019
Robert E. Richards, ‘53, on May 16, 2021
Doris Pinel Scheidegger, ‘54, on March 24, 2021
William J. Gauthier, ‘55, on July 6, 2021
John D. Mulhern, G’55, on June 4, 2021
Nancy Pellegrini Butterfield, ‘56, on August 15, 2021
Anne Mason Walsh, ‘56, on April 22, 2021
Richard Bergeron, G’58, on July 6, 2021
Ruth Kearney Farley, ‘58, on March 17, 2021
Annette Fiola Landry, ‘59, on June 20, 2017
Jean Anderssen Seaman, G’59, on July 24, 2021
Ann Marie Guidoboni Tosi, ‘59, on March 15, 2021
Virginia M. Wessing, G’59, on February 25, 2021
Chester Peirce, G’60, on May 25, 2021
Talsop Lee, G’61, on July 6, 2021
Conrad T. Thibeault, ‘62, G’67, on June 3, 2021
Gilbert R. Cavaco, G’63, on March 20, 2021
William J. Dugan, ‘63, on May 6, 2021
Alice Pfeninger, G’63, on May 19, 2021
Beverly Verros Yankopoulos, ‘62, G’67, on June 26, 2021
Richard A. Bridgwood, ‘65, G’70, on February 5, 2021
Florence Mehegan Ely, ‘65, G’82, on July 12, 2021
Honor R. Jutila, ‘65, on July 11, 2021
Robert J. Martin, ‘65, on January 18, 2021
John D. MacBain Jr., G’66, on March 28, 2021
Fontaine J. Metta, G’66, on April 26, 2021
Alison Hood O’Rourke, ‘66, on March 26, 2021
Eric K. Wormstead, ‘66, on February 11, 2021
Thomas Dorsey, G’67, on March 3, 2021
Michael G. Gauthier, ‘67, on May 14, 2021
Robert Correia, G’68, on July 2, 2021
H. June Liberman, ‘68, on March 17, 2021
Eileen Iacaponi Silva, ‘68, on June 24, 2021
Brian L. Walsh, G’68, on May 29, 2021
Mary Ann Habel Moore, ‘69, on March 31, 2021
Patricia Sullwold McMahon, ‘70, on May 9, 2021
Nina W. Regis, G’71, on September 30, 2020
Paul A. Cavanagh, ‘72, on August 2, 2021
Thomas C. Crook, ‘72, on February 2, 2020
Thomas M. Long, G’73, on May 25, 2021

Louis C. Taveira, ‘73, on March 18, 2021
Lynn Paille Kulesza, G’74, on October 2, 2019
Gary W. Pratt, ‘74, on June 5, 2021
Catherine A. Walton, ‘74, on May 30, 2021
Lester W. Cory, G’75, on April 24, 2020
Stephen K. Hall, ‘75, on July 17, 2020
Jean A. Cox, G’76, on July 8, 2019
Lee C. Davis, G’76, on October 20, 2019
Ellen Heffernan-Dugan, ‘76, on May 22, 2021
Attorney Joseph Wadland, ‘76, on April 17, 2020
Eleanor S. Cleveland, ‘77, on October 12, 2020
David B. Greene, ‘77, on April 1, 2021
Julie D. McNabb, G’77, G’82, on February 6, 2021
Deborah Powers, ‘77, on October 25, 2019
Sallee Blanchard, ‘78, on July 20, 2020
Chris H. Christopher, G’78, on June 18, 2021
Timothy J. Corkery, G’78, on January 1, 2021
Wayne Griffiths, ‘78, on September 10, 2019
Susan D. Hocking, ‘78, on March 29, 2021
Frederick Ruehrwein, G’78, on March 1, 2020
Cynthia Gaspar Connor, ‘80, on March 22, 2021
Rose E. Buck, ‘81, on April 30, 2021
Carol Ann Martin Baldwin, ‘82, on May 31, 2021
Mary C. Swidey, G’82, on March 25, 2021
Elizabeth Heslin, G’83, on May 11, 2020
Maureen Morse, ‘83, on July 17, 2019
Mary McCabe, G’84, on November 5, 2020
Margaret Dillon Parmelee, G’85, on March 26, 2021
Mark N. Mora, ‘86, in April 2021
Michaelene Banville, ‘87, on March 20, 2020
Christine Cotter, ‘88, on December 26, 2019
Eileen F. Benson, ‘90, on May 22, 2021
Martine Meijering, ‘90, on December 4, 2019
William E. Bell, G’91, on April 3, 2021
Susan Payne Morin, ‘91, on June 29, 2021
Earlene Wheeler, G’91, on December 2, 2020
Scott Moulton, ‘92, on December 20, 2020
Kristina L. Sletner, ‘92, on July 6, 2020
Sean Murphy, ‘94, on April 23, 2021
Debra A. Norwood, ‘96, on March 28, 2021
Robert O’Brien, ‘97, on June 4, 2019
Julie Enzian, ‘98, on April 4, 2021
Kenneth T. Jenks, G’00, on March 12, 2021
Michael T. Walsh, ‘00, on July 29, 2020
Sarah Sheppard, G’03, on September 3, 2020
Sandra Knight, ‘09, on May 15, 2021
Peter G. Lucey, G’09, on May 19, 2020
April K. Haffner, G’12, on March 23, 2021

BSU pays its respects to the following members of the campus community who recently passed away:

Dr. Sandra L. Briggs, professor emerita, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, on April 2, 2021
Dr. Dennis L. Lythgoe, professor emeritus, Department of History, on May 2, 2021
Judith Ann Pauley, part-time faculty, Department of Secondary Education and Professional Programs, on March 30, 2021

PARTING SHOT



He may look cute, but that's not this pup's main job. The 18-month-old black Labrador retriever, named Zach, is the newest member of the BSU Police Department. Partnered with Captain Ryan Tepper, Zach has helped the BSU police become the first among the state universities to institute a K-9 outreach program. Over the summer, Zach and Captain Tepper completed a 12-week explosive detective training class with the Massachusetts State Police where the duo received perfect scores.

REPORTED BY HEATHER HARRIS MICHONSKI, PHOTO BY LUIS PIRES, '23

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While many aspects of how we educate and engage students are continually evolving, one thing remains the same: the impact friends like you have on the future of our students.

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Learn how to take care of yourself and loved ones while also making a gift to Bridgewater in your will or through a gift that pays you income.

Our Future LOOKS BRIGHT

Thanks to **YOU**

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Fight songs evoke school pride and can even spur athletes to victory. But Adalynne Lovins, '24, has an extra reason to be proud of BSU's new gameday anthem: She helped write it.

"I hope they're pumped up and excited and ready to be representing the school," said Adalynne, a music education major from Rochester, New Hampshire. "It's pretty cool to have people listening to something you helped make."

Adalynne and recent graduates Chinedu Ibiam, Lauren Schuberth and Michaela Chan developed lyrics to the tune of "Golden Bear," composed in 1948 by bandleader J.J. Richards, who performed in circus bands.

"This march is an excellent example of a typical circus march of the time," said Dr. Spencer Aston, a part-time music professor who adapted the piece to fit the instrumentation of BSU's Bear Band. "The title drew me in and, after playing it at a few games on a trial basis, it stuck."

The new tune should provide apt accompaniment to basketball players' acrobatic slam dunks and football players' tightrope-like sprints down the sideline.

Read more about the fight song, including the lyrics, at tinyurl.com/ydcy49fc

—Brian Benson

Sounds Like Team Spirit

Student and alumni pen new athletics fight song

