BSC Readies Students for Top Graduate Programs Near and Far

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For up-to-date information on college news, activities and events, please refer to Bridgewater State College’s Web site, www.bridgew.edu.
Dear Friends,

You’ve undoubtedly heard me say on numerous occasions that ours is an institution rocketing ahead and that Bridgewater State College’s people – faculty, students, employees, alumni and friends – are fueling our steady ascent. Together, we’ve invested heavily in enhancing the quality of the education we offer and in making the experience more dynamic, innovative and meaningful.

It’s one thing for a president to boast of his college’s success; it’s quite another for top institutions from around the nation to stop and recognize that success. As evidenced in the pages of this issue of Bridgewater, a growing number of our students are coming out on top when it comes to being awarded admission – often with generous financial support – to some of the country’s top graduate programs. Whether it’s art or biology, English or philosophy, our students are demonstrating time and time again that they have what it takes to not only survive, but also to thrive, with the very best of their peers from any institution.

Their successes, though, are predicated on an academic environment increasingly defined by invigorating and intensive faculty-student relationships. The strength of these relationships is forged through the college’s undergraduate research and honors programs, a diverse array of opportunities for international study and exchange, commitments to community service and service-learning, and a new core curriculum marked by small classes and ample opportunities for creative and analytical thinking.

All graduates of Bridgewater State College – and recent data reveal that ours is third among the state’s 29 public institutions of higher learning when it comes to awarding degrees – should be able to point to at least one faculty mentor who positively transformed their lives. Whether these transformations come about through the acts of guiding field work, offering hands-on skills coaching, or combing through countless drafts of research papers is immaterial. Essential to the growth and maturity of Bridgewater State College students is our faculty’s dedication to being an extraordinary group of teachers and role models for a new generation.

As they fan out to every corner of the United States, each of these promising graduate students, having worked hand-in-hand with faculty, take with them the essence of Bridgewater State College: using education to enrich the lives of others in the spirit of our institution’s guiding motto – not to be ministered unto, but to minister.

Sincerely,

Dana Mohler-Faria
President

Sincerely,

Dana Mohler-Faria
President
Higher Learning – More and More, BSC Students’ Next Step is Graduate School

“Having energetic professors is key. They help you push yourself, to make yourself better.”

By Maura King Scully

Harvard Medical School or California Institute of Technology? This was the choice Megan Dobro, ’07, faced this spring in deciding where to pursue a PhD in biology. “I’d like to study cancer cells, the great puzzle of today, but I’m keeping all my options open,” said the Northbridge native.

It’s not every day you get to choose between two of the top five biology programs in the country. Four years ago, when she arrived at BSC, Ms. Dobro said she never imagined going to graduate school. “I originally wanted to teach high school biology, but then ended up falling in love with biology itself,” she said. At the urging of Dr. Jeffery Bowen, associate professor of biological sciences, Ms. Dobro got involved in undergraduate research and found she “loved the hands-on work in the lab – asking a question and then finding the answer.” Continuing for a PhD became the next logical step.

In choosing graduate school, Ms. Dobro joins a growing number of Bridgewater State College students earning master’s and doctoral degrees at prestigious universities across the country. Graduates of the past two classes, for example, have gained admission to top-20 programs in the natural sciences, humanities and arts, as well as management, education and professional schools.

Dr. Edward Brush, associate professor and chairperson of the Department of Chemical Sciences, said in the eight years he’s taught at BSC, “graduate school is a much more talked-about option among students and faculty alike. The shift that’s occurred in a short period of time has been amazing. Our students, through our programs, their ability to work one-on-one with faculty and opportunities to do undergraduate research, have excellent preparation for graduate school. They have a better idea of possible career paths; they apply, and get into, some of the top graduate programs in the country, and they do well when they get there.”

Culture Change

A big part of this shift is due to the college’s increasing emphasis on undergraduate research. “Today, at Bridgewater State College, more faculty have doctorates, so more and more, we talk about research and about graduate school with our students,” says Dr. Lee Torda, director of the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR).

“institutionally, when job openings for new
Ms. Dobro got involved in undergraduate research and found she loved the hands-on work in the lab – asking a question and then finding the answer.

Dr. Jeffery Bowen, associate professor of biological sciences, worked with Megan Dobro on her undergraduate research.

Megan Dobro ’07, chose Cal Tech to pursue a PhD program in biology.

Dr. Jeffery Bowen, associate professor of biological sciences, worked with Megan Dobro on her undergraduate research.

Nicole Williams, ’07, will continue her studies in English at Ball State University.

“I started with an ATP semester grant and continued with an ATP summer grant, which turned into my honors thesis. It’s like doing a master’s thesis on a smaller level.”

“Having undergraduate students write research proposals for ATP grants is a great introduction to the kind of work done in graduate school, where you pose a research question, defend a research proposal and then go on to do the actual research.”

Nicole Williams, ’07, couldn’t agree more. An English major, Ms. Williams will pursue a master’s degree in English at Ball State University next year, thanks in large part to her experience with undergraduate research. “I did an extensive project on the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum, comparing museum theory with reader theory,” she said. “I started with an ATP semester grant and continued with an ATP summer grant, which turned into my honors thesis. Without ATP, this project would have gone nowhere. It’s absolutely the reason I’m going to graduate school. It’s like doing a master’s thesis on a smaller level.”

“Research is where you separate yourself from the pack,” said Brett Zografos, ’07, who will enter a molecular biology doctoral program at the University of Texas next year. “My grades are good and I have a decent GPA, but so does everyone else who’s applying to graduate school.” He credited his acceptance to research he conducted under the guidance of Dr. Patricia Mancini, assistant professor of biological sciences, studying the parasite that causes African sleeping sickness. “Our results continued on page 4

faculty are posted, it’s explicit that participation in undergraduate research is expected. Undergraduate research is also part of the college’s strategic plan.”

Key in this development is OUR, which opened in 2006 to coordinate on-campus funding sources for undergraduate research. Grants from the Adrian Tinsley Program (ATP), the Shea Scholar Program and the Norris Richards Undergraduate Program make mentored research and creative opportunities available to any student with the spark of interest in a project and the commitment to see it through, regardless of discipline or future career.

Dr. Torda said that funding for undergraduate research has existed since 2000; OUR streamlines the process to better advertise, encourage and support research grants. Even in OUR’s first year, it’s having an impact. “In 2006-2007, we funded 184 students, up from 119 two years ago,” she said. “In three years, I’d like to fund 300 students.” Although the goal is ambitious, it’s a drop in the bucket, said Dr. Torda. “I want every student at Bridgewater to have some kind of undergraduate research experience to at least understand what it is to engage in a scholarly pursuit,” she said.

“What we’re trying to instill is students thinking of research from the moment they walk in the door,” added Dr. Brush. “Having undergraduate students write

Summer 2007
BSC Graduate Programs – Top Choice for Many

A growing number of BSC students are pursuing graduate education at top-name colleges and universities – including Bridgewater State College. Because of the quality, affordability and variety of programs offered by the School of Graduate Studies – more than 40 graduate degree programs, seven certificate programs and licensure in 56 areas – more than 30 percent of the college’s graduate students hold BSC undergraduate degrees.

“Our undergraduates form a connection to the college,” said Dr. William Smith, newly appointed dean of the school. “When making decisions about graduate school, they return to Bridgewater because they appreciate the small class sizes, the opportunity to work closely with faculty, and the overall integrity and excellence of the programs we offer.”

While many students enroll in graduate programs after working for a number of years, there’s a growing trend of students moving directly from undergraduate studies into a master’s program. To meet this need, the School of Graduate Studies offers three combined undergraduate/graduate degrees: the Bachelor of Science/Master of Science in Management or Criminal Justice, and the Dual Licensure Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education/Master of Education in Special Education (Moderate Disabilities).

It’s a time of tremendous growth for the graduate school, and the advent of university status only means more opportunities in the future. “Our students share our excitement about this new development, and we’re seeing an increase in applicants from our undergraduates as a result,” Dr. Smith said. “We’re exploring additional options for online programs, and we’re looking at degree development in new disciplines. It’s an exciting time to be in graduate school at Bridgewater State College.”

continued from page 3

suggest new directions for drug development. I presented a paper on the project at the American Chemical Society Conference in the spring,” he said. “I’m very grateful to Bridgewater State College. Without these opportunities, I would not be going to graduate school.”

One on One

In addition to a strong undergraduate research program, one of the biggest advantages Bridgewater State College offers to students is small class sizes. “There are no 200-seat lecture halls for introductory courses,” said Dr. Brush. “In upper-level classes, students have the ability to work one-on-one with faculty mentors, which is a huge benefit.”

“I think students need that kind of close contact and encouragement to help them reach their full potential,” said Preston Saunders, assistant professor of art. “In working with my students, I want to pass on to them what my professors gave to me: a belief in myself and a strong work ethic.”

“Having energetic professors is key,” said Kristina Stafford, ‘06, who worked with Professor Saunders on several research projects. “They help you push yourself, to make yourself better.” Enrolled in the MFA program at Professor Saunders’ alma mater, the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) School of Craft, Ms. Stafford explained that while at BSC, she “wrote two research grants for supplies: one for gold shot for metal work, and one for porcelain clay for ceramics. I also built a kiln for a summer research project. I would have never thought of applying for research grants, but Preston encouraged me. ‘These are for you too,’ he said.” Such grants “helped me learn to present myself professionally. It really strengthened my application for graduate school,” said Ms. Stafford, who was one of only five ceramics candidates admitted to RIT last year.

Undergraduate research can also help students test whether or not they like to do research. “That’s invaluable,” said Dr. Brush. “Graduate school is a terrible place to discover you don’t like research.”

Beth Masten, ‘06, a chemistry PhD candidate at Carnegie Mellon University, said undergraduate research led her to her current path. “I thought about graduate school on and off, but wasn’t sure it was a good fit,” she said. “Dr. Brush was my mentor; he really encouraged me. ‘What do you want to do?’ he asked. ‘Teach? Work in industry? Whatever you decide to do, you really should get some research experience,’ he told me.” Ms. Masten did just that with ATP grants and then a Shea Scholarship in her senior year. “I ended up really liking research. That made up my mind,” she said.

Now looking back from graduate school, Ms. Masten said she’s appreciative of BSC’s hands-on research approach. “I see the undergraduate research program at Carnegie Mellon, where kids work with graduate students rather than professors. They’re not getting the experience I had at Bridgewater,” she said.

The ability to work side-by-side with faculty mentors often helps faculty as much as students. Take Magalay Ponce, a new media artist and assistant professor of art, for example. “New media is making art with computers, electronics – any kind of
technology to develop interactivity,” explained Professor Ponce. “When I came to Bridgewater in 2003, the college had no new media program.”

Enter Ryan Marchand, ’06, a computer science major who switched to art his sophomore year. “I felt like I was just copying programs and wanted to do something more creative,” he said. “I liked graphic design, but wanted to do even more with the computer.”

“Ryan was working really hard, but he didn’t have an objective,” said Professor Ponce. “I gave him a sense of future, the fact that art and computer science can coexist.” Under her tutelage, Mr. Marchand enrolled in a video gaming class for advanced computer science students.

For his senior study, Mr. Marchand worked on interface design, converting two-dimensional graphic files from student artists into three-dimensional images compatible in a game-engine environment. He is in the transmedia computer art master’s program at Syracuse University, Professor Ponce’s alma mater.

Professor Ponce credits Mr. Marchand for his willingness to break new ground, which, in turn, will benefit future BSC students. “I’ve now put together a proposal to develop a new media concentration,” she said.

**Beyond Research**

Even before starting formal undergraduate research, Bridgewater State College already had strong programs in place to help students with post-graduate planning, including internships, service-learning and pre-professional advising.

When Adam Page, ’06, came to BSC, he knew he wanted to become a veterinarian. “Vet school is more competitive than medical school,” he said. “There are only 23 vet schools in the U.S.; each receives around 1,000 applications annually for 80 to 100 slots. Right from the start, when I told my adviser and my professors what my goal was, the feedback was, ‘yes, you can go to vet school.’ I know I received a great education both in the classroom and in the research lab, and I knew I would get in.”

This fall, Mr. Page begins studies at the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine.

William Paquin, ’07, said he benefited from a semester-long internship in the Pentagon’s Division of Public Affairs, where he worked last fall as an Air Force aviation support assistant. “It was an incredible experience,” said the aviation major and accounting/finance minor. Next year, Mr. Paquin will continue on at BSC in the Master of Science in Technology.

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**FEATURE STORY**

Now looking back from graduate school, Ms. Masten said she’s appreciative of BSC’s hands-on research approach.

Beth Masten, ’06, is a chemistry PhD candidate at Carnegie Mellon University.

**Beyond Research**

Adam Page, ’06, will enter the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine in the fall.

“Vet school is more competitive than medical school. I know I received a great education both in the classroom and in the research lab, and I knew I would get in.”
LAUNCHING PAD
By Maura King Scully

Bridgewater State College is well known for training PreK-12 teachers and administrators. But did you know the college also counts a good number of college and university professors among alumni? You’ll find graduates teaching coast-to-coast, from right here at BSC to Washington State University.

Dr. Cynthia Berryman-Fink, ’74, is interim dean at the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Cincinnati (UC), a public institution in southwest Ohio where she’s taught for 29 years.

“When I was a senior at Bridgewater, Professor Susan Miskelly drove me from Bridgewater to Bowling Green, OH, to show me her alma mater, Bowling Green State University. She had one purpose in mind: to persuade me that graduate school was for me,” said Dr. Berryman-Fink.

Dr. Berryman-Fink went on to earn a doctorate from Bowling Green. Looking back, “Bridgewater did a wonderful job of preparing me for graduate school,” she said. “I learned how to be a critical thinker, writer and researcher. As a history major, I also did original research on the image of women in the Progressive Era. That research became a natural extension for my thesis.”

At UC, Dr. Berryman-Fink is joined by Dr. Francis Cullen, ’72, distinguished research professor in the Department of Criminal Justice. Before coming to Cincinnati in 1982, he taught sociology at Western Illinois University after earning master’s and PhD degrees in sociology and education from Columbia University.

“When I was a student, Bridgewater was still fairly small,” said Dr. Cullen. “All the psychology and sociology professors knew me personally. That kind of personal attention and mentoring can make a big difference in a student’s life. At a larger university, I would have been just a number.”

Dr. Cullen is not the only one in his family to hold a university professorship. His brother, Dr. John Cullen, ’69, is a professor of management in the College of Business at Washington State University. The senior Dr. Cullen has also held positions at the University of Rhode Island and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and has spent semesters teaching abroad in France and Japan.

“I didn’t come to Bridgewater with the intention of going to graduate school,” recalled the Dorchester native. “At that time, it was almost an entirely teacher-oriented school. The graduate students I knew went to get master’s degrees in education.”

On a Mission

By contrast, Dr. Josh Hamilton, ’80, arrived on campus with a goal: “I knew I wanted to get a doctorate in the sciences,” he said. Before enrolling, “I talked with a lot of people in the field, and they told me the best track was to go to a small school with a really good science program as an undergraduate and then to a big research university as a graduate student. That’s exactly what I did.”

Dr. Hamilton received a Master of Science in genetics degree and a PhD in molecular toxicology from Cornell University. He joined the Dartmouth Medical School faculty in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology in 1990 and is the founding director of the Center for Environmental Health Sciences at Dartmouth.

“Dartmouth has a strong emphasis on undergraduate teaching,” said Dr. Hamilton, who also teaches environmental chemistry to undergraduates. “That’s one thing that drew me here. In fact, when I began teaching, I modeled myself on my Bridgewater teachers – their lecturing style, their interest in students. They were the best teachers I ever had.”

“At Bridgewater, I learned from a great group of professors who really cared that we learned, and really wanted us to do well,” said Joseph Coombs, ’89, an assistant professor of management at Texas A&M’s Mays Business School. A management major as an undergraduate, Dr. Coombs earned an MBA from Suffolk University and a PhD from Temple University; today, his research interests center around entrepreneurship and corporate governance.

“Bridgewater was such a great environment,” he said, recalling “the accounting capstone and strategic management courses” he took as “particularly strong.”

Dr. Ann duCille, ’71, said she was inspired to teach at the college level by her BSC English professors, including Barbara Chellis, Joseph DeRocco and Joseph Yokelson.

“They were wonderful and encouraged my love of literature,” says Dr. duCille, who today chairs the English department at Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT. She holds two master’s degrees and a PhD from Brown
An Evolving Career

Paul Muller Jr., ’06, is a PhD candidate in the Department of Biological Sciences, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH.

What are you studying?
I’m an evolutionary ecologist, studying pollination biology and reproductive ecology. My dissertation proposal is “Selection on nectar traits through mutualistic and antagonistic species interactions.”

Why did you decide to pursue a graduate degree?
I thought I might like doing research and became involved with the Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research (ATP) to get a feel for designing and carrying out original research. I did like it and decided research would be my career choice. For that, you need a PhD.

Why did you choose Dartmouth College?
I was attracted by the work of Dr. Rebecca Irwin, an evolutionary ecologist who studies multispecies plant-animal interactions. Her research most paralleled my interests.

What do you enjoy about your work?
Evolutionary biology is literally the unifying aspect of all biology. To understand evolution, you need to understand the mechanisms underlying it, all of which are ecologically and molecularly related.

How did BSC prepare you?
Bridgewater State College was an excellent environment for me. I had a double major in biology and chemistry, both with environmental concentrations. Dr. Donald Padgett in biological sciences, who specializes in plant ecology, was my undergraduate research mentor. Also in biological sciences, I had a lot of help from Dr. Kevin Curry, who was always good to talk to about future career choices. I’m grateful to Dr. Ed Brush in chemical sciences, who introduced me to ATP and undergraduate research.
Master’s Touch
Jennifer, G’97, and Timothy, G’97, Jackson met while earning master’s degrees in English literature at BSC. “The professors I had at Bridgewater were instrumental in getting me to where I am now,” said Mr. Jackson, currently a PhD candidate at the Editorial Institute at Boston University. “Professors like Harold DeLisle and Robert Mogilnicki were terrific. They looked at every opportunity as one for education.”

Mrs. Jackson is completing a second master’s in theological studies at Weston Jesuit School of Theology and will go on to a PhD program at Regis University in Toronto. “I had a wonderful experience at Bridgewater,” said Mrs Jackson. “The classes were small and the professors were so concerned about our learning. It was a place where I was able to identify my strengths and interests, and then go pursue them.”

Melissa Quintal, ’08, is working as a permanent substitute in special education at Plymouth High School while enrolled in the five-year dual licensure program in Elementary Education and Special Education. “I knew I wanted to be a teacher, and I knew Bridgewater was great for teaching,” she explained. “But from the start, I was torn between elementary and special education. The more I heard about it, the better it sounded. The program will make me a more attractive candidate and more useful to a school system.”

And while Ms. Quintal finishes up the dual-degree licensure program at BSC (she has another year to go), Megan Dobro will head to the West Coast and enroll in the biology PhD program at Cal Tech. It’s a move wholeheartedly supported by her adviser, Dr. Bowen. “I encouraged Megan to experience another part of the country,” he explained. “The West Coast is very different from New England.” In fact, in California, he points out, “it would be no story that a state college is doing such a great job preparing students for graduate school.” After all, said Dr. Bowen, “preparing students well for the next level is what good state colleges do. That’s why I chose to come to Bridgewater in the first place.”

William Paquin, ’07, will continue his studies at BSC in the Master of Science in Technology Management program.

Earning a master’s degree is a way to become well-rounded and stand out in a very competitive job market.”
Christopher Smalley, ’89, Turns to His Creative Side

By John Winters

“I like a good comeback.”

Those were the words Christopher Smalley, ’89, spoke in his first national radio ad, taped last summer. The assignment was a comeback of sorts for the Halifax resident – call it a welcome back – to a long-held interest he is now, at the age of 39, in a better position to pursue.

“This is a field that takes time and a lot of patience,” he said.

Mr. Smalley has spent the past 14 years building a successful career in communications. He is director of communications for the Animal Rescue League of Boston and a freelance film/video producer.

Yet, there was a calling that still resonated from his younger days, and it involved communicating in a different, more creative way. So he has dedicated more time to following that muse.

These days, his already busy schedule – which includes teaching a night course here at BSC – is making room for more voiceover and film work. A short film he co-produced, called Just Your Average Arab, a comedy that shows the serious side of life for Arab Americans in a post-9/11 world, is being shown at colleges and film festivals.

This is the kind of stuff that gets Mr. Smalley’s juices flowing, he said. “My heart is with the creative side of life. I figured I owed it to myself to try.”

Mr. Smalley’s interest in self-expression is understandable. He is the son of BSC Professor Emeritus Stephen Smalley, who taught for many years in the Department of Art. His mother, Clelia, is a retired art teacher who worked in local schools.

When he arrived at BSC in the mid-1980s, Mr. Smalley embarked on an educational path that would open the door to his multifaceted professional life. He credits several BSC faculty members for teaching him how to think critically and giving him the tools he’s needed to be successful in life.

After graduation, Mr. Smalley took what he learned in the classroom and at BSC’s radio station, WBIM-FM, where he was station manager as well as on-air talent, and set his sights on a career in broadcasting. He landed an on-air job at WPXC-FM, a large Cape Cod radio station, and though he loved the work, the $6 an hour he was earning left something to be desired.

Thus, his career in corporate communications began. Mr. Smalley married and along the way earned his master’s degree from Emerson College. His professional career has landed him communications roles in the U.S. Senate, with leading academic medical centers and a biopharmaceutical company.

While working on a freelance video project a few years ago, Mr. Smalley met Framingham-based filmmaker Raouf Zaki. The two hit it off and began talking about collaborating. The result is Just Your Average Arab, which was screened at BSC last fall, and is making the rounds at film festivals and universities around the United States. The film has captured at least one festival award. It premiered in New York City at the Arab Comedy Festival and is screening in Los Angeles in June.

The experience of making a low-budget film (that features Hollywood-based actor Ahmed Ahmed), along with his other extracurricular projects, has been a satisfying one, Mr. Smalley said.

“I really enjoy creating something and standing back and being able to say, ‘I did that,’ and then moving on to the next project,” he said.

The national radio ad Mr. Smalley taped at the end of August promoted the Breeders’ Cup, one of thoroughbred racing’s biggest stages. With that added to his résumé, demand for his voiceover and radio work will likely increase. In fact, he landed a sizeable voiceover contract with a national college finance company.

His partnership with Mr. Zaki includes two other film projects in development – Santa Claus in Baghdad and Desert Story.

With his successful corporate communications career and a growing list of side projects, it all adds up to a fulfilling career, Mr. Smalley said.

“My goal is to make a living creatively,” he said.
Mary Volonino, ’99, Overcame Great Obstacles to Achieve Her Dream

By Clare Leschin-Hoar

Born hearing-impaired, Mary Volonino, ’99, grew up on the beaches of the seaside community of Hull, while her disability remained undetected. It was her fourth grade teacher who noticed something wasn’t quite right. Soon after, doctors confirmed that significant hearing loss had occurred in both ears.

“In those days, there wasn’t any special education. The only services available from the school were only offered during fifth and sixth grade,” said Ms. Volonino. “However, my mother made sure I received tutoring help, and I became proficient in lip reading.”

That experience was very likely the planted seed that gave root to Ms. Volonino’s dream of becoming a teacher. But, there remained an obstacle. She was unsure if her hearing impairment would quash her ability to teach in a classroom.

After nearly two decades of surviving on lip reading alone, Ms. Volonino was fitted with digital hearing aids, and said for the first time she began to think more seriously about the future.

Her desire to teach stayed strong. In May 1991, Ms. Volonino graduated with honors from Fisher College and went to work as a teacher at Children’s World Learning Centers in Marshfield, where she is a longtime resident.

Three years later, Ms. Volonino’s mentor, Patty Ferrell, began teaching Introduction to Early Childhood Education at Bridgewater State College. Ms. Volonino signed up for the evening BSC student.

In January 2005, Ms. Volonino needed brain surgery for an aneurysm behind her right eye. Her chances of survival were 50/50. Any chance of reaching her ultimate goal of establishing Oceanside Pre-Kindergarten. At the same time, she unexpectedly received a call from Quincy College in Plymouth. The college was in need of adjunct instructors, and Ms. Volonino was quickly hired to teach a course called Children with Special Needs.

“My education and experiences at Bridgewater impacted my life as an individual and as a teacher with a hearing impairment,” said Ms. Volonino. “I was blessed with people who touched my life and gave me even more confidence and determination. There’s almost nothing I cannot achieve without believing in myself, support and creative thinking.”

Mary Volonino, ’99

Jones worked with her and the board to allow a sign language class as a comparable substitute.

Yet that wasn’t Ms. Volonino’s only obstacle to conquer. In 1998, one year before she was set to graduate, the Massachusetts Teacher Test had become a state requirement.

“I was horrified when a friend told me about the audiotape portion of the test, where you had to listen to and write down every word that was being said. I immediately contacted the testing company and learned there was no accommodation for me. There was no way I could successfully pass the test,” she said.

Ms. Volonino rapidly became her own advocate. She wrote letters, made calls, contacted lawyers – but the controversy over the test itself left her empty-handed. No one wanted to step in on her behalf. It wasn’t until she contacted another BSC alumnus, television reporter David Robichaud, ’83, that her predicament began getting attention – some of it negative.

Ms. Volonino remembers Dr. John Silber, then head of the Massachusetts Board of Education, commenting, “If she can’t hear the audiotape, how is she going to hear the children?” She was outraged, and soon found herself standing in front of the Board of Education, fighting for an accommodation she knew was necessary for her to have any chance at passing the test. Her effort resulted in a standing ovation from those in the room, followed by more encouragement from those at the college.

“Support from the faculty and students at Bridgewater was overwhelming. It was astounding,” said Ms. Volonino.

In the end, she was able to take the audio portion of the test alone, in a room with a female speaker with no accent or dialect, and was allowed to read her lips and to use her hearing aids. She passed on her first try and graduated from BSC in 1999, certified to teach PreK to third grade. In 2001, she began studying for her master’s degree.

But more tribulation was to follow.

By Clare Leschin-Hoar of Mansfield writes for magazines and newspapers covering such topics as environmental issues, social enterprise, food, agriculture, health and business.
Future Teachers Visit BSC

By John Winters

Spending a day at Bridgewater State College and finding out what it’s like to attend classes and get the preparation necessary to become a professional educator was a real eye opener for Lidra Decoteau. It looked like hard work, but that didn’t phase the Brockton High School senior.

“It inspired me,” she said. “I still want to be a teacher, maybe even more so. I’m always up for a challenge.”

That sentiment was shared by many members of Brockton High School’s Tomorrow’s Teachers Club. The group spent a day on campus, where members got the feel of college life, sat in on some classes in the School of Education and Allied Studies, and got to chat with BSC students about careers in teaching.

“It was an excellent trip,” said Willie Wilson Jr., the Brockton High School teacher who serves as the club’s adviser. “They’re just impressed to be on a college campus. But what was really great is they got an opportunity to speak to college students, and they love that.”

Many high schools have clubs or groups for aspiring teachers. The Brockton club was formed last year, and Mr. Wilson thought a trip to a local college that has a strong focus on teacher training would be a good idea.

Mary Price, director of BSC’s Educator Resource and Enrichment Center, the office responsible for bringing the Brockton group to campus last year, said the visit provided the kind of exposure that can really light a spark for young people interested in going into teaching.

“I hope this encourages them to go into the field of education. It’s very rewarding, and you can see the results every day in the children you teach,” Ms. Price said. “Just to allow these students to get a feel for college life and teaching is important.”

Bringing high school students interested in teaching to the campus helps fulfill an important part of BSC’s mission as an institution of positive social change, she said.

Students visited education classes, including Dr. Mary Shorey’s, where they got to ask questions of the students and the professor. They also met other BSC faculty members, went on a campus tour, visited a residence hall, had lunch in East Campus Commons, checked out the bookstore and watched a video that described the teaching life.

Mr. Wilson said some of the Brockton students had never been on a college campus before. They also got some time alone with BSC students so they could ask anything they wanted.

“I like the idea that they got to chat without any supervision. That’s important,” he said.

One thing both Ms. Price and Mr. Wilson agreed on was the need to get more young men interested in teaching. That’s an excellent byproduct of having future teachers clubs visit BSC, Mr. Wilson said.

Three young men took part in last year’s tour. Among them was Doug Forrester, who said he walked away even more determined to become a teacher one day.

“It was nice to see students who were interested in helping children,” he said.

Giving the future teachers some exposure to the reality that may await them in their career choice was the best part of the BSC visit, Mr. Wilson said.

“They really get a feel of college life and what it’s like to be a teacher,” he said. “It’s important for them to have this experience.”

Mr. Willie Wilson Jr., adviser to Brockton High School’s Tomorrow’s Teachers Club, with club members.

Veronica Barbosa is a member of Brockton High School’s Tomorrow’s Teachers Club.
Biology Professor Awarded Prestigious NIH Grant for Cancer Research

For the first time, Bridgewater State College has been awarded a prestigious Academic Research Enhancement Award, also known as an AREA grant, of $150,000. The money will be used by a team of student researchers led by Dr. Merideth Krevosky, assistant professor of biological sciences, along with her colleague, Dr. Jeffery Bowen, to conduct research on a protein that may one day help doctors treat a type of eye tumor that typically affects children under age five.

MARC Director Interviewed by the Discovery Channel’s The Daily Planet

Dr. Elizabeth Englander, associate professor of psychology and director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (MARC) was interviewed by hosts of The Daily Planet, a news program airing on the Canadian Discovery Channel. Dr. Englander offered her insights and expertise on issues of violence and aggression in the wake of the tragic incident at Virginia Tech.

Dr. Thomas Turner’s Research Featured on National Geographic Channel

The National Geographic Channel premiered Indigo Film’s, The Hunt for Lincoln’s Assassin, a documentary about the flight of John Wilkes Booth from Washington, D.C. Included in the April program was commentary by Dr. Thomas Turner, professor of history and one of the nation’s leading Lincoln scholars. The program was taped last summer when Dr. Turner traveled to Cleydael Farm, one of the places where Booth stopped in Virginia while on the run from authorities.

Campus Center Takes on International Flavor

The foyer of the Rondileau Campus Center is adorned with the flags of 26 nations, representing the homes of the college’s approximately 120 international and exchange students. President Dana Mohler-Faria dedicated the space and thanked the four individuals who made the celebration possible: Dr. James Hayes-Bohanan, associate professor of geography; Ms. Kristy-Ann Eldridge, international student adviser; Dr. Julia Davis, director of international programs; and Ms. Susan McCombe, director of college and community partnerships.

Students, Employees Send Thoughts, Prayers to Counterparts at Virginia Tech

Hundreds of members of the BSC community have taken a few minutes out of their busy schedules to send their wishes and condolences to their peers at Virginia Tech. A large canvas card was available for signing in the campus center. The idea came from Ed Cabellon, associate director of the campus center, who is a personal friend of his counterpart at Virginia Tech.
Graduate School Appoints New Dean

Dr. William Smith can now drop the “acting” from his title. The long-serving Bridgewater State College faculty member, was named earlier this year as dean of the School of Graduate Studies.

He has served as interim dean since August 2005, after coming to the institution in 1986 as an assistant professor of English. A year later, he became a member of the graduate faculty, and in 1991, he became the graduate coordinator for the Department of English.

As acting dean, Dr. Smith oversaw some immediate changes. Now that he’s officially taken the helm, the transformation will continue, he said.

“This is a time of growth, and I am delighted to be part of the evolution of the graduate school,” he said.

On the horizon are many new initiatives and programs, including the fall introduction of BSC’s first completely online master’s degree program. And, with the possible advent of university status, the School of Graduate Studies is poised to grow and develop further, especially with the addition of select master’s and doctoral programs.

“These are very exciting prospects for the students in our region,” Dr. Smith said.

Dr. Smith was born and educated in North Carolina and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Appalachian State University, where he majored in English and minored in Latin. His love of English poetry, which began when he was a university freshman, drove him to pursue doctoral work at Duquesne University, where his dissertation explored Wordsworth’s theoretical influence on Gerard Manley Hopkins. He also studied English poetry at Exeter College, Oxford and the University of London.

Dr. Smith’s research interests have consistently focused on Romantic, Victorian, and modern English poetry. He has presented numerous papers at academic conferences and published in these areas.

His involvement with the Society of Phenomenology and Literature has been extensive, and he organized an international congress on phenomenology and literature in Oxford in August 2004, with more than 200 scholars from 25 countries.

He lives in Bridgewater with his wife, Jadwiga, herself a scholar and a longtime BSC faculty member.

New Director of Institutional Diversity Ready for the Challenge

Though William Lewis, the college’s first director of institutional diversity, has been on the job for a short time, BSC has already made a positive impression upon him. Mr. Lewis, who came to the college from Indiana University, is responsible for working with all members of the college community to coordinate diversity programming.

Bill Nye Dazzles Sellout Audience at BSC

An electric audience of 1,600 BSC students, faculty, local science teachers and members of the community (some from as far away as western Connecticut and northern New Hampshire) flocked to the Rondileau Campus Center Auditorium in April to experience the comedy of science advocate Bill Nye. His lecture was the spring installment of the BSC Distinguished Speaker Series and was co-sponsored by the college’s Center for the Advancement of Science Exploration (CASE). The legendary scientist, inventor and television personality also met with Brockton and Bridgewater middle school students participating in CASE’s CityLab program, had a roundtable-style discussion with K-12 science teachers, and met with BSC faculty and students.

Mr. William Lewis is the college’s director of institutional diversity.

Bill Nye spoke at BSC as part of the Distinguished Speaker Series.
Sarah A. Lewis, a native of Fall River, Class of 1869, may have been the first African-American to graduate from this college.

For more than 20 years, Bridgewater State College assumed Mary Hudson Onley, Class of 1912, was the first African-American to graduate from the institution.

Research done in 1987 had uncovered that significant link to Bridgewater State College's past . . . and subsequently each year since, the college’s Hall of Black Achievement has presented the Mary Hudson Onley Achievement Award and Mary Hudson Onley Medallion “to a living individual who best represents the mission of the Massachusetts Hall of Black Achievement and who has made a significant contribution to the quality of life, or whose personal or professional achievements merit special recognition.”

A discovery was made in October 2006 in the archives of the Maxwell Library, which has opened a whole new chapter in this story.

Dr. Thomas Turner of the Department of History, who has been commissioned by President Dana Mohler-Faria to research and write the definitive history of the college, was reviewing an album that contained photographs of the class that entered the college in February 1867.

“For most of the morning I had been doing research in the annals of the Board of Education in the 19th century, and I decided to take a momentary break from reading the lengthy reports of the board’s meetings and deliberations,” said Dr. Turner.

“There was an old album on a nearby table, and I started glancing casually through the pages. That’s when I came across the photograph of Sarah A. Lewis,” Dr. Turner said.

“I immediately alerted President Mohler-Faria that we had an African-American graduate 45 years earlier than Mary Hudson Onley. He reacted just as I did. Obviously, this changes a very important part of our understanding of Bridgewater State College’s history.”

Indeed, said President Mohler-Faria, “Dr. Turner’s discovery is clearly momentous. And it opens the question, was Sarah Lewis our first African-American graduate? The college was already approaching its 30th anniversary when she was admitted.
or one day in April, history came to life for more than 100 members of the Bridgewater State College community and local residents, who filled the Heritage Room of the Maxwell Library for a daylong look back at the institution’s history.

The symposium, titled “Bridgewater State College: Now and Then,” explored the evolution of the institution. Dr. Margaret Lowe, associate professor of history and 2006-2007 Presidential Fellow, organized the symposium, capped it off with a presentation of her own research. A narrated walking tour of campus completed the day.

The program included an eclectic over-the-shoulder glance at BSC’s past, as well as a look to the present and beyond. President Mohler-Faria – who himself once considered becoming a history professor – offered greetings to start the day.

“This institution has a deep, rich history that continues to unfold,” he said. “At every turn, I learn something new about Bridgewater.”

The president added that studying the college’s history is important in understanding who we are, but it also “gives us a sense of the possibilities, and tells us that the future holds even greater things for this institution.”

Dr. Lowe said the symposium was designed to be a “lively conversation,” that looked at the college’s “many histories.”

“It’s a complex web of overlapping stories,” she said. “Stories of people, books, buildings and land, yes, but also stories of the imagination of those who guided the institution with their deep convictions and visions; stories of students with sometimes barely whispered dreams, that they, perhaps the first in their family, could attend and graduate from college.”

Dr. Thomas Turner, BSC history professor, who is working on an official college history, delivered an address titled “Researching and Writing a New History of Bridgewater State College,” in which he discussed some of his recent findings. The college’s history as an international leader in education was highlighted by another BSC history professor, Dr. Wing-Kai To, with a talk titled, “The Legacy of International Education at Bridgewater Normal School.”

With the homespun charm of a true storyteller, another of the college’s historians, long-serving employee, David Wilson, ’71, presented a short film he’d made that featured a look at the college via old photographs and new video footage, called “As We Were, As We Are: Knowing and Documenting our History.”

The growth of the BSC campus can be encapsulated by the transformation of the Maxwell Library. The three-stage renovation will be completed this summer. Michael Somers, director of the Maxwell Library, not only discussed the impressive facelift to the facility, but his talk, “The Library Transformed: Buildings, Collections, and People,” traced the library’s history, through its different incarnations.

To give a glimpse of campus life through the decades of the previous century, three alumni – Dr. Theresa Corcoran, ’50; Jack Jones, ’62; and Otis McCorkle, ’48 – participated in a roundtable discussion that conjured both laughter and heartfelt memories.

Town-gown relations, past and present, were respectively summed up by the presentations of Dr. Benjamin Spence, ’59, professor emeritus of history, in “Civic Culture: Bridgewater Faculty and the Town of Bridgewater, 1900-1920”; and Susan McCombe, ’01, G’06, director of College and Community Partnerships, in her talk “Campus and Community Connections.”

Stepping way back in history was Dr. Curtiss Hoffman, professor of anthropology, whose presentation, “Before Bridgewater: Pre-European Occupations on the BSC Campus,” highlighted the archeological work on campus and the surrounding area that he and his students have done over the years.

Current students Leon Nowicki and Melanie Byam brought things up to date, presenting their research into how history has been treated in student publications, such as The Comment.

Dr. Lowe capped off the day’s presentations with some of her own research, which delves into stories about what a BSC education has meant to people over the past 167 years.

The timing for the symposium, though not intentional, coincided with the question over university status for the institution, proving that there’s more history to be written. In conclusion, Dr. Lowe said she was moved by the conversation with the past, present and future that highlighted the symposium, adding that she hopes it becomes an annual event.

“I think there’s plenty more for us to talk about,” she said.
Honors Week at BSC

As the spring 2007 semester came to a close at Bridgewater State College, students were honored by the college for their academic achievements and contributions to the life of the school. Below is a selection of award and scholarship recipients:

Mr. Kenneth Awasung, right, a senior chemistry major with a biochemistry concentration and a minor in mathematics, with his parents in this photograph, received the 2007 Dr. Henry Daley, ’58, and Rosemary Daley Chemistry Scholarship which is awarded annually to an upperclass chemistry major "making excellent progress toward an undergraduate degree and achieving the highest GPA in chemistry and its cognate courses." He was also recognized for his selection to the 2007 edition of Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Dr. George Weygand, ’53, G ’56, with Ms. Tara Minnette, ’08, who received the scholarship named after Dr. Weygand, which is awarded annually to a junior or senior majoring in physics, chemistry or earth science who has an excellent scholastic record and who plans to be a teacher of science. The award was presented as part of the School of Arts and Sciences honors and awards ceremony.

Ms. Minnette is a double major in chemistry and elementary education and is a member of the Commonwealth Honors Program. She plans to teach at the elementary level and hopes someday to be an elementary school principal.

Dr. Weygand was a member of the faculty and chair of the Department of Physics from 1958 to 1999. The award was established in 1999.

Ms. Catie Furtado, above, is the 2007 recipient of the Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year award, which was presented to her by Mr. John Harper, (left), director of athletics, and President Dana Mohler-Faria at the annual Athletic Awards Banquet. Ms. Furtado, captain of the women’s basketball team, was a dean’s list student every semester at BSC. An English major, she earned a 3.75 grade point average.

The Dr. Robert A. Daniel African-American Scholarship for 2007 was presented at the annual Division of Student Affairs awards and scholarship program, and Ms. Jae-Lyn Stringer, (second from left), and Ms. Libby Ealy, (far right), are this year’s recipients of the scholarships.

Dr. David Ostroth, vice president for student affairs, (left), and Dr. Daniel, who joined the BSC faculty in 1958 as the first African-American appointed to the full-time faculty, is third from left.

Ms. Stringer is a sophomore majoring in criminal justice, and she received a scholarship as the student of African-American descent "who has demonstrated the most significant improvement in academic performance over his or her freshman year." Ms. Ealy, a senior with a concentration in communication disorders, was awarded a scholarship given to the senior student of African-American descent "who has achieved the highest academic average during his or her years as an undergraduate student."
BSC Faculty Receive Honors

The fourth annual Awards for Academic Excellence program was held in April to recognize BSC faculty and librarians who distinguish themselves through their extraordinary commitment to teaching, scholarship, research, artistic expression and service to the community.

The following are the recipients for 2006-2007.

**Dr. Sabrina Gentlewarrior**, an assistant professor of social work, is the 2007 recipient of the Dr. Jordan D. Fiore Research Prize in World Justice. With this prize Dr. Gentlewarrior will explore more deeply the discrimination experiences of non-majority groups. Her research will ultimately offer social workers and allied practitioners better insight into issues that should be assessed and, if needed, addressed when working with members of these groups.

**Professor Walter Gleason**, a member of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science since 1965, received the Lifetime Faculty Achievement Award. He is among the most prolific of authors at the college today. He has written or contributed to no fewer than 14 textbooks and two booklets on mathematics and its applications. His books have transcended print media, going to Internet publishing before the trend was common.

**Dr. Ann Brunjes**, associate professor of English and acting department chair, was awarded the Dr. V. James DiNardo Award for Excellence in Teaching. The award recognizes her mastery of her subject area, enthusiastic teaching style and her personal attention to her students.

The 2007 recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Collaboration to Improve Teaching are **Dr. Wing-Kai To**, associate professor of history and coordinator of the Asian Studies program; **Ms. Kristy-Ann Eldridge**, international student adviser for the Center for Multicultural and International Affairs; **Dr. Walter Carroll**, professor of sociology; and **Professor Henry Shaffer**, assistant professor and chairperson in the Department of Theater and Dance.

Over the last 10 years, more than 200 students from Japan have studied at BSC following an agreement signed in 1993 with the National Collegiate Network of Japan. The award recipients, among other initiatives, developed new study tours to Japan, worked to enhance the Japanese language and cultural offerings, and established and successfully implemented exchange partnerships with Kansai University and Wakayama University.

**Dr. Thomas Kling**, assistant professor of physics, and **Dr. Uma Shama**, professor of mathematics, are the recipients of the Presidential Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Dr. Kling has created a positive learning environment that promotes students as learners and as teachers of themselves, and he encourages creativity in his students.

Dr. Shama’s focus on every student as an individual distinguishes her teaching. Her teaching philosophy clearly states her goals: to model her passion for mathematics and to involve every student in her class.

The Bridgewater State College Presidential Fellowship is a highly competitive annual award that affords two faculty members the opportunity to focus exclusively on their research for an entire academic year.

**Dr. Shaheen Mozaffar**, professor of political science, and **Dr. Ellyn Robinson**, associate professor of exercise science and strength and conditioning, will be provided this opportunity for the upcoming academic year.

For his Presidential Fellowship, Dr. Mozaffar will focus on the emergence of democracies in Africa and will undertake a systematic examination of the role of legislatures in strengthening democracy.

In almost all athletic training, the goal is to be bigger, faster and stronger, and nowhere is this truer than in Olympic weightlifting. Yet the quantification of power using Olympic style lifts, as well as the relationship between lifting technique and the production of power, are poorly understood. As a Presidential Fellow, Dr. Robinson will combine weight-room practice with scientific laboratory methods to study these relationships.
Dr. Catherine Comeau, who recently celebrated her 80th birthday, still lives in the house in Belmont where she was born and raised.

Fit, trim and active, Dr. Comeau regularly takes long walks around her neighborhood, travels frequently and spends part of every summer at her family’s ancestral home in Nova Scotia, which she has done since she was a child.

Between the time she left her home in Belmont to begin her college studies in the mid-1940s and her retirement from the college in 1984, she had become not only a legend among Bridgewater State College professors, but also a national figure in her chosen field of knowledge.

“We owe a lot to Dr. Catherine Comeau,” said Dr. Johanne Smith, professor emerita, who was a longtime BSC colleague and remains a close friend.

“She was a ‘pioneer’ and one of the architects of the new curriculum in health and physical education. In 1970, she had a vision, said Dr. Smith. Before many colleges and universities in the country, her leadership enabled us to move from a one-dimensional teacher education program for women to a men’s and women’s multidimensional curriculum consisting of a major in physical education with multiple concentrations and minors. Along with this change, however, she insisted on keeping the emphasis on a strong teacher education component.”

Dr. Smith served on the faculty from 1966 to 1991 and is a past recipient of the college’s highest teaching honor, the Dr. V. James DiNardo Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Heartfelt tributes such as this are what one hears whenever Kaye Comeau’s name is mentioned. Yet, when Dr. Comeau herself recalls the highlights of her remarkable career, she talks exclusively of the people who impressed her.

“I had so many wonderful friends at Bridgewater, starting with Dr. Mary Jo Moriarty, the chairman of the Department of Women’s Physical Education, who hired me in 1957,” said Dr. Comeau. “She was a superb teacher, an able administrator and a wonderful human being, adored by students, faculty and alumni alike.”

Dr. Comeau served on the faculty from 1952 to 1962, then left to become a faculty member at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. In 1970, she returned to BSC and remained until she retired in 1984.

She was the chair of the women’s physical education department, and then the combined men’s and women’s physical education department, for 12 years (1970-1982).

In 1997, she authored A Noble Legacy, an exhaustive history of the college’s physical education major from 1937 to 1987, and each year, the college’s alumni association presents the Dr. Catherine Comeau Award for Professional Achievement to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the field.

Her years of personal experience and extensive knowledge of the program—and the people who were instrumental in advancing it—make her a unique source of information. As a result, she speaks easily of the contributions made by individuals with names well-known to the BSC family, such as Ed Swenson, Harry Lehmann and Mary Lou Thornburg.

Dr. Joseph Huber, however, is among those faculty at BSC who are more than willing to talk about the impact of Dr. Comeau and her accomplishments.

“Kaye Comeau has a special place in my heart for all that she has accomplished for the students and faculty of BSC and the profession of physical education during her esteemed career, said Dr. Huber, a 34-year veteran of the faculty and is the 2006 recipient of the DiNardo Award for Excellence in Teaching.

“Kaye’s philosophy reflected a framework consistent with national trends and laws of the time, namely the greater inclusion of women and individuals with disabilities in American society.”

Dr. Joseph Huber

Kaye’s philosophy reflected a framework consistent with national trends and laws of the time, namely the greater inclusion of women and individuals with disabilities in American society.

Dr. Joseph Huber
Endowed Funds for Faculty Research

By Clare Leschin-Hoar

Scholarships aimed at assisting individual students at Bridgewater State College are as varied as those they serve — but students aren’t the only ones who benefit from endowed funds. Bridgewater State College has three endowed funds that recognize outstanding faculty and serve as a strong way to support faculty research — an important tool for importing cutting edge knowledge from the field into the classroom, and one that is growing in importance as BSC continues to seek state university status.

Dedicated endowed funds such as The Killam Professorship; The Jordan D. Fiore, ’40, Endowed Fund for Social Justice; and The Class of 1950 Distinguished Faculty Research Award can undoubtedly play a role in increasing the number of high quality professors recruited to the Bridgewater State College community — a goal recently emphasized by President Dana Mohler-Faria.

“One of the advantages of funding faculty research is that it allows donors to make a long-term investment in ensuring the academic reputation of BSC. The college community considers these to be very prestigious awards,” said Todd Audyatis, major gifts officer for BSC.

The newest and largest of the three faculty funds, the Killam Professorship in Canadian Studies, is the first endowed professorship established at a public state college in Massachusetts. The professorship is intended to attract visiting Canadian scholars who will spend up to one year teaching and researching at BSC.

Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Anthony Cicerone, professor of economics and director of the Canadian Studies program at BSC, more than $1 million was raised for the fund, primarily from the Constance Killam Trust and the Elizabeth Killam Rodgers Trust. (The two women resided in Marshfield, and were sisters of Izaak Walton Killam, a Canadian financier and philanthropist.)

BSC alumni have also recognized the importance of endowed faculty funds. The establishment of the Fiore Fund by alumni from the Classes of 1940 and 1962 is a strong example.

“We discussed a lot of endowment options,” said Stephen Almeida, ’62, G’66. “But we thought supporting a faculty member would better benefit the entire school and its students. The impact wouldn’t be limited to a single student scholarship recipient, because a professor can have a positive impact on many students in a given year. If they’re anything like Jordan Fiore, these professors can even influence an entire generation over the course of their careers at BSC.”

As a recipient of The Class of 1950 Distinguished Faculty Research Award, Dr. Michael Kryzanek, professor of political science, knows firsthand how important faculty funding can be. Author of a government textbook, Comparative Politics: A Policy Approach, Dr. Kryzanek said the opportunity to receive funding not only improved his ability to gather important research material, but also provided him with current teaching material.

“It certainly is gratifying to have these kinds of funding mechanisms to provide faculty the opportunity to do research. It enhanced my opportunities to gather information from places like the United Kingdom, South Africa, Japan, Mexico, China and others. I then was able to translate the findings to my own classroom,” said Dr. Kryzanek.

“I take pride in the work that it’s broad enough and applicable enough that the textbook is being used in other colleges as well,” he said.

Dr. Kryzanek’s experience aptly illustrates that funded research can be enriching for the student experience — rather than research being done for research’s sake alone.

“One of the advantages of funding faculty research is we want to provide support for the faculty to keep learning themselves, and to keep contributing to their field,” said Dr. Nancy Kleniewski, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

“Students often will have the opportunity to participate as research assistants as well, and that’s wonderful, but even more than that — when faculty themselves are good at research, they can help students learn to do their own independent research,” said Dr. Kleniewski.

Clare Leschin-Hoar of Mansfield writes for magazines and newspapers covering such topics as environmental issues, social enterprise, food, agriculture, health and business.
Why an Endowment?

Bridgewater State College can no longer depend exclusively on state support to meet the growing needs of our students and faculty. At the same time, there is mounting pressure to manage rising student costs while continuing to offer innovative academic programs. By making a gift to the BSC endowment, you can provide a reliable revenue source that will help sustain the college’s mission of providing accessible, high-quality public education.

Your gift to the BSC endowment has enduring value because the principal you provide is never spent. Instead, it’s invested so that a portion of the income generated can be spent annually – forever. Unlike an annual fund gift that is used in the fiscal year it is received, a gift to the endowment is invested and professionally managed by the Commonfund, an independent non-profit corporation. The amount to be spent annually out of endowment income is set by the BSC Foundation and the college. In recent years, a spending rate of around 4 percent has allowed additional investment income to continue to grow the endowment principal. As the principal grows, so does the income available to the college.

Today, the BSC endowment is valued at more than $17 million, generating more than $600,000 in annual revenue, and stands as the largest among public colleges in Massachusetts.

If you, your family, or a group of friends were to pledge $25,000 or more, you would be eligible to establish a named endowed fund with a designation of your choice.

This naming opportunity can be used as a meaningful legacy in your name or in recognition of someone you wish to honor. You may designate your fund to support any one of a number of philanthropic priorities ranging from scholarships and scientific equipment to support of student and faculty research.

Once established, named funds are literally separate, dedicated accounts, managed within the larger endowment, generating their own income and annual awards in perpetuity.

If you are interested in giving to the endowment or would like more information about establishing a named endowed fund, you can contact me at taudyatis@bridgew.edu or call 508.531.2286.

Todd Audyatis, major gifts officer, works with BSC alumni and friends interested in making current or planned gifts to the college.

Chairmen’s Dinner
May 11

More than 350 supporters of Bridgewater State College attended this year’s 14th annual Chairmen’s Dinner. This gala celebration pays tribute to the generosity of all who care deeply about the future prosperity of the college and the region.

Three 2007 graduates address guests at the Chairmen’s Dinner, thanking donors for their generous support. Students, (from left), are Christopher Norton, management science; Megan Dobro, biology; and Carolyn Burke, chemistry.

Mr. David Jenkins, (from left), former member of BSC’s Board of Trustees; Dr. Howard London, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Adrian Tinsley, president emerita; and Mr. Miguel Gomes, associate vice president for facilities management and planning, attend the evening’s reception.

Board of Trustee members, (from left), Matthew Keswick; Jennifer Nassour, Esq.; Terry Hart Cogan, ’51; and Mr. Louis Ricciardi, ’81.
Celebrating the past, present and future was the theme for the March dinner that highlighted the history of the founding of the Afro-American Society in 1970 and the Afro-American Alumni Association in 1990.

Founding members from both organizations shared their experiences and memories of life on campus during the 1970s with an audience that consisted of students, alumni and faculty from the past and present. Past presidents of the Afro-American Society and the Afro-American Alumni Association were recognized for their contributions to the organizations. They encouraged alumni to remain active, ensuring today’s students stay on track and meet with success during their college years.

Florida Receptions Held
The Florida alumni receptions in March were held in West Palm Beach, Naples and Bradenton. Dr. Catherine Morgan, dean of the School of Business, was the keynote speaker at the West Palm and Naples receptions. Dr. Nancy Kleniewski, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Ms. Molly Fannon Williams, vice president for institutional advancement, joined Dr. Morgan in addressing the alumni at the Bradenton Sunday brunch.

Dr. Morgan spoke about the School of Business, which was formerly known as the School of Management and Aviation Science, and the outstanding achievements of the faculty and students.

Dr. Kleniewski provided updates about the construction on campus, new curriculum and the possibility of Bridgewater State College becoming Bridgewater State University.

The attendance at these events continues to increase. If you have a Florida address for the month of March and do not receive notification of these events, please contact Michelle Slavick to update your address so you can reconnect with other BSC alumni and meet college representatives when they travel to Florida. Call Ms. Slavick at 508.531.2682 or e-mail her at mslavick@bridgew.edu.
Football Alumni Golf Tournament and Reunion Dinner

Former football players and seniors from this year’s team met at the Easton Country Club on April 27 for a day of golf followed by the annual reunion dinner. Mr. Jeffrey Hawkins, ’80, was the guest of honor. Mr. Hawkins is the assistant athletic director at the University of Oregon and a strong supporter of the BSC Bears football team.

Anthony Palladino, ’07, received the 2007 Tom Cook Award, which is presented to a BSC senior football player who has demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, fellowship, athletic ability and perseverance. The award is named in honor of Tom Cook who died while a student at BSC.

ALUMNI SERVICES

ALUMNI ONLINE COMMUNITY

ALUMNI CREDIT CARD PROGRAM

A new credit card program that provides many types of rewards is available. Bridgewater State College students benefit directly from every purchase made under this program. A percentage of the purchase is returned to the alumni association to assist students with scholarships and other academic opportunities that might otherwise be unavailable to them.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEB PAGE

Visit the alumni association’s Web site at www.bridgew.edu/alumni to learn more about alumni events and services.

DISCOUNTED CAR, HOME AND RECREATIONAL INSURANCE PROGRAM

The Bridgewater Alumni Association offers discounted car, home and recreational vehicle insurance.

For more information about the programs, contact Candace Maguire at cmaguire@bridgew.edu or visit www.bridgew.edu/Alumni/Alumnservices.cfm.

ALUMNI ONLINE COMMUNITY

WANT TO RECONNECT WITH CLASSMATES with whom you have lost touch? Then visit Bridgewater State College’s online community at alumni.bridgew.edu.

THERE IS SO MUCH WAITING FOR YOU, and there is no fee to join. Take the time to register and see what awaits you. To join, simply log in using the six-digit constituent identification number that appears above the name on the mailing label of this magazine.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, please feel free to contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 888.272.9555 and ask for Candace.

alumni.bridgew.edu
Shea Scholar Selection for 2007
Ms. Jean Cabral, ’09, was selected as the 2007 Shea Scholar recipient. Ms. Cabral is a music major, and her project will focus on the life and music of Clara Schumann. Dr. Deborah Nemko of the Department of Music is Ms. Cabral’s mentor, and they will work closely to prepare a one-woman performance in September for the college community.

Senior Ball
The Office of Alumni Relations and the Senior Ball Committee were instrumental in bringing back the tradition, lost many years ago, of a true senior ball. More than 300 students from the Class of 2007 attended the ball at Lantana in Randolph on April 20. It truly was a night to remember for those in attendance.

BSC Career Link
Career Services has launched its career management site, BSC Career Link. BSC Career Link is an easy-to-use and centralized system where you can:
- Search jobs
- Post jobs
- Become an alumni mentor
- Access the career advisory network

BSC Career Link is a free resource for alumni, students and regional employers. To access BSC Career Link, visit: www.bridgew.edu/CareerServices/careerlink.cfm
Contact the Office of Career Services at 508.531.1328 with any questions.
Upcoming Events

Sunday Brunch and Zeiterion Theatre Performance
July 29
New Bedford
Sunday brunch at the Wamsutta Club followed by a matinee performance of 42nd Street at New Bedford’s Zeiterion Theatre is scheduled for July 29. If you would like to reserve tickets, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 508.531.2695. A chartered bus will leave from BSC in the morning and will return immediately following the performance.

Met and Married Dinner Dance
Aug. 18
East Campus Commons
Many alumni asked for a repeat of this fun event. The Office of Alumni Relations is scheduling this dinner dance in August before many of our alumni head to warmer climates to escape the cold New England weather.

This was a wonderful event two years ago, despite a snowstorm. If you missed it in 2005, you now have a chance to experience a magical night in August. If you met your spouse at BSC, e-mail cmaguire@bridgew.edu with your information. We want to be sure to invite all alumni who “met and married” so they can take part in this memorable evening.

Athletic Hall of Fame and Homecoming
Oct. 26-27
Mark your calendars now for a great weekend in October. If you graduated in 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997 or 2002, and would like to plan a special reunion on Oct. 27, contact Candace Maguire at cmaguire@bridgew.edu no later than Aug. 1 and she will assist you in setting up a reunion committee. To ensure a memorable reunion, a committee needs to be involved in planning the event. Once the plans are made, Ms. Maguire and her team will see that the plans are put into action, and you can just sit back, enjoy seeing old friends and reminisce about your days at BSC.

The Athletic Hall of Fame banquet will be held on Oct. 26. This special event recognizes alumni for their outstanding athletic accomplishments as BSC student athletes.

Alumni and students cheer on the Bears at the 2006 homecoming football game. Priscilla Joseph, 2006 homecoming queen, is congratulated by President Dana Mohler-Faria.

CELEBRATE A LIFELONG CONNECTION TO YOUR ALMA MATER WITH THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME

Buy a Brick and Give the Gift that Lasts a Lifetime.
The Bridgewater State College Alumni Association invites you to celebrate your lifelong connection to your alma mater by purchasing a personalized engraved brick that will be placed in the Alumni Courtyard in front of Horace Mann Auditorium. Your tax-deductible gift of $100 entitles you to a 4 x 8 inch personalized brick that will become a lasting part of Bridgewater State College’s history. An 8 x 8 inch brick paver is available for a tax-deductible gift of $250. Every time you come to campus, you will be able to stroll the courtyard, see your engraved brick or paver, and be reminded of your commitment to and support of Bridgewater State College and its students.

You may choose to purchase a brick to honor or memorialize a special BSC graduate. A gift card will be sent to that person or to the family of the graduate you are memorializing.

All proceeds will benefit BSC students through enhanced scholarship funds.

Place your order today, and become a part of Bridgewater State College’s legacy. You may order online at http://alumni.bridgew.edu or call 508.531.2682.
Ms. Suzanne Condon, '79, associate commissioner at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and director of its Center for Environmental Health, was the featured speaker in April at the annual Dr. Mary Jo Moriarty Lecture, sponsored by the college's alumni association.

As her topic for the Moriarty Lecture, Ms. Condon spoke on the subject of “The Epidemiology of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis,” an affliction also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, which took the life of her former professor at BSC, Dr. Paul Dubois, as well as her own aunt.

“Dr. Dubois was a professor of mine at Bridgewater – I enrolled in his exercise physiology course in 1978 – and I recall being so impressed with his teaching style. He was committed to working with students individually to help them grow,” she said in a recent interview for Bridgewater magazine.

A native of Beverly and a staff member at the Department of Public Health since 1980, Ms. Condon last saw Dr. Dubois at the Massachusetts Statehouse in 2003 when she was a featured speaker on a program devoted to the subject of Lou Gehrig's Disease, the name given to the illness after the death of the famed New York Yankees ballplayer in 1941.

“I’m glad we had that chance in Boston to reconnect,” she said. “He was there with his wife and daughter. I’m grateful that I had the opportunity to tell him how much of an influence he had been on my life.”

Ms. Condon, the 2003 recipient of the college’s Dr. Adrian Rondileau Award for Professional Achievement and Community Service, continues to devote major amounts of time, energy and the resources of her department trying to unlock the mystery of the disease.

“There is still a great deal we don't know about ALS,” she said. “As we research its causes, it’s been discovered that approximately 5 percent of those who get the disease have a gene mutation which, when triggered, leads to ALS. However, between 90 and 95 percent of those who contract ALS don’t have that mutation.”

Of particular interest to the scientific community is the role of certain environmental factors.

“Is there a chemical in the environment – metal exposure is high on the list of possibilities – that might initiate the disease process?” she asked. “We’re beginning – slowly – to gain a clearer understanding of ALS, and I hope within the next 10 years we’ll find out more about the causes of this disease and ultimately a cure.”

Besides her connections to Dr. Dubois, Ms. Condon knows on a personal level the terrible impact of the disease.

“Early in my career, my mother’s only sister died of ALS,” she said. “When I spoke at the Moriarty Lecture, I told the audience that Aunt Julie was a very special person in my life. She was a telephone operator for New England Bell, and I can recall vividly that during the famous Blizzard of ’78 she would call me at Bridgewater to check on me and keep me informed. In those days, before cell phones, Aunt Julie was my lifeline to my family and the outside world.”

The loss of Dr. Dubois and her aunt keep the subject of ALS in the forefront of Ms. Condon's mind. “I believe we will conquer this disease,” she said. “The research process goes on around the world on a daily basis. We’ll find the answer; of that, I'm optimistic.”
This was no ordinary dinner. When students and parents filed into the Rondileau Campus Center Ballroom on a February evening, they were greeted by a detailed map at their place settings. Called a “cover,” it outlined an array of plates, cutlery and stemware at a formal place setting – five types of glasses and eight different utensils, including something that looked like a mini meat cleaver.

The dinner was part of the Workplace Protocol Program, sponsored by the Office of the President and the Office of Career Services. Offered four times a year, the program introduces students to effective on-the-job communication, focusing on speaking, writing and technology, in addition to the essentials of dining.

Former BSC faculty member Dr. Wayne Phillips, co-author of *The Concise Guide to Executive Etiquette*, addressed common workplace protocol issues and then guided participants through a four-course meal.

“First, I want to explode the myth that proper etiquette has its own intrinsic rewards,” said Dr. Phillips. “It’s not a nostrum for morality. It’s just another arrow in your quiver. Etiquette is simply rules for living,” he explained. “And having rules makes life a lot simpler.”

Dr. Phillips started with the basics – everything from where to attach a name tag (on the upper right of your blouse or jacket) to what you should do when entertaining clients at a fine-dining restaurant and drop your fork (leave it there and ask the server to bring another).

Programs like the Workplace Protocol Program have become increasingly important. “The typical American family eats together once a week, and then it’s usually in the family room in front of the TV,” Dr. Phillips noted. “If you’re dining out for work, you want to be able to sit and have a meal without worrying about it.”

“The Workplace Protocol Program helps Bridgewater State College students develop the skills needed to succeed in the workplace,” said Christine Tetreault, director of career services. “We strongly believe that these lifelong social and professional skills will help our students gain a competitive advantage in the world of work and beyond.”

This particular evening was co-sponsored by the Parent Association, a group of BSC parents that supports programs and activities that enhance the mission of the college. “This event is a great opportunity for parents to learn about the types of resources and programming available to their students,” added Ms. Tetreault. “It’s great to see students and parents enjoy a component of the Workplace Protocol Program.”

The Office of Career Services regularly collaborates with groups to attract participants to the workshop. “In the past, we’ve partnered with the School of Education; the School of Business; Greek Life; the Community Service Center; Commuter Services; Center for Multicultural and International Affairs; and the Department of Movement Arts, Health Promotion and Leisure Studies,” noted Colleen Oliva, assistant director of career services.

Parent Association members and students alike enjoyed the evening. “The food was great and the presenter was terrific,” said Maryann Patota of Somerset, who came with her son, Andrew, ‘10. “I learned so much about the different silverware and the proper way to set a formal table. Plus it was a good opportunity to spend time together,” she added, with a nod to Andrew.

“It was really interesting,” said Laurie Bloom, ’10, who attended with her mother, Julie. “There were so many things I didn’t know. Now I hope I get to go to a nice restaurant so I can use what I learned.”

The Workplace Protocol Program started in fall 2003. To date, more than 700 participants have graduated from program, honing their social and professional skills. Each attendee also receives a take-home kit, containing a padfolio, a copy of Dr. Phillips’ etiquette book, as well as a pen and note cards for those all-important thank you notes – which are handwritten, by the way – never e-mailed.

Maura King Scully is a freelance writer from Walpole specializing in higher education.
Submissions for class notes are due by Aug. 6 for inclusion in the Fall 2007 edition of Bridgewater. E-mail class notes to cmaguire@bridgew.edu or mail to Candace Maguire, Davis Alumni Center, Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA 02325.

The Editorial Board makes every effort to publish photo submissions to the magazine. Original prints from film or high resolution digital images can be sent to Candace Maguire (see above). We are not able to use digital images printed on home printers because they generally are not of the quality necessary for print reproduction.

1941

Winnifred Taylor Hodges
2219 New Bedford Drive
Sun City Center, FL 33573-5805

Carey Brush and his wife live in Vancouver, WA. … Winnifred Taylor Hodges plays golf at two regulation 18-hole courses and one executive course.

1954

Hazel Luke Varella
121 Center Street
North Easton, MA 02356

Myra Powers Lopes, local historian, author and town representative in Fairhaven, held a leadership position on Fairhaven’s Time Capsule Committee. Last fall the time capsule was sealed at Fairhaven High School as part of the 100th birthday of the school, which was a gift given to Fairhaven by Henry Huttleston Rogers.

1955

Francena Warren Smith
32 Mellen Street
Needham, MA 02494

Three class of 1955 college roommates, Mary Ellen Meagher Corcoran, Elva Bertoncini Kanakry and Doris Swalaes Estes, who lived in Woodward Hall for four years, continue to go out on the town about four times a year. … Marcia Crooks and Mary Lydon received the 2006-2007 Heights Award that recognizes those who have shown a long-term commitment and dedication to women’s athletics. The awards were presented at a reception at Boston College prior to the BC women’s basketball team’s final game. Marcia is a member of the BSC Athletic Hall of Fame and was a teacher, coach and administrator for 39 years in the Abington public school system where she organized the first track and field program. She is an active participant in Massachusetts’ Senior Games and the U.S.A. track and field master’s program. Mary Lydon was recognized for her significant contributions to the growth, support, development and advancement of women’s athletics. She has been involved as a supporter of women’s sports since 1949 when she became a volunteer basketball coach for the C.Y.O. She played a primary role in the development of the Massachusetts New Agenda: Northeast, an organization dedicated to advancing the role of girls and women in sport. Her involvement with the New Agenda: Northeast has had an impact in the lives of many young women, as well as women’s sports in Massachusetts. These efforts have raised women’s athletics in Massachusetts to new heights. Mary has taught physical education for 52 years and has coached swimming, basketball, softball, and track and field. During her early career, she officiated softball and basketball.

1956

Carlene Dodd Brown
35 Tam O’Santer Way
South Yarmouth, MA 02664-2049

Eleanor Lydon Olson
R117 Shellback Way
Mashpee, MA 02649

Since our reunion last June, the Class of 1956 has been a little more diligent at keeping in touch and getting together whenever possible. We’ve heard from a few more people whom we have not seen in years. John and Lorraine DeFrates Blanchon of Hyannis celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in February. The couple met while attending BSC. … Mary Ann Pedone Hunt is involved in computer-design embroidery, kayaking and ice skating. She and her husband, Eddie, still go camping every summer.
… Jan Phelps Parker, unable to attend our reunion, sent a letter that our classmates thoroughly enjoyed. After a career in public schools, Jan went on to teach at a college in Vermont. She has also served as a guardian ad litem in family courts. … Donna Webster Barrett traveled to the southern part of Ireland, crossed the Irish Sea into Wales and finished her trip in London. … Gene and Carlene Dodd Brown went to the Salt Lake City ski areas and heard the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. … Ray and Judy Tromblay Kenney traveled to California and Jim and Harriet Schroeder Weaver went on a two-week river cruise on the Danube and Rhine Rivers. They reported that they really enjoyed the 50th reunion and thought it was wonderful to see old friends. … Ann Peters and her longtime partner, Susan Fischler, tied the knot and divide their time between Englewood, NJ, and Maine raising champion miniature pinchers. … Anne Marie Mason Walsh and her husband, Larry, have a wonderful family tradition. Every summer they meet their five sons and their families for vacation. They also have a true family gathering at Thanksgiving. … Courtney and Ellie Hodgkins Yelle toured Ireland in November. … Annie Robbins Talbot, Carol Colcord Smale and Blandine Jasnocha Hogan, along with several family members, boarded the Norwegian Majesty the day after our reunion and went on a seven-day cruise to Bermuda. … Gail Hutchinson Jamison and her husband, Clark, went on a riverboat cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest. … Janet Lee Green is working in the travel business and last summer took two national park tours, a trip to Alaska and a trip to Seattle. … John and Eileen Sullivan O’Grady welcomed their sixth grandchild in July 2006. … Robert Bachmann was unable to attend the reunion, but asked that anyone who had a chance to drop him a note at 18 Stratford Road, Andover, MA 01810.

### 1958

**John B. Lonergan**  
21 Westminster Road  
East Weymouth, MA 02189-1939

Plans are well under way for the Class of 1958 50th reunion in 2008. More information pertaining to the reunion will be mailed in the fall, but for now, please mark your calendars for May 31 to June 2 for a weekend of great fun and reuniting with old friends.

### 1959

A reunion committee has met on campus several times to start planning for the 50th reunion in 2009. Those serving on the committee are Robert Rosenblatt, Leon Long, Jane Tuttle Powers, Ernest Cardoza, Carol Tweedie Markey, Paul Giberti, Jean O’Brien, Audrey Perkins Anderson, William Bruno, Richard Lombardi, Monica Silvia Ragonesi, Donald Smith and Jane Footo Melvin. Fundraising plans are under way in an effort to present the college with a 50th anniversary gift of $59,000 from the entire class. The 50th reunion class gift has become a very special tradition at BSC. More than $600,000 has been raised from the classes ranging from 1950–1957. The Class of 1959 Reunion Committee wants to ensure that the tradition is carried on by their class.

### 1962

**Barbara Aguiar Lombardo**  
53 Oakland Street  
Brockton, MA 02302

**Judy Murphy DeFilippo**’s latest English-as-a-second-language textbook was published by Pro Lingua Associates. She is author and co-author of 11 other ESL textbooks. Since retiring from Northeastern University’s English Language Center, Judy has been supervising student teachers receiving their MATESL at Simmons College. … **Joan Sheehan Lloyd**, G’62, and her husband, Dr. William Lloyd, are both alive and well after a close call with a widely reported tornado that tore through their home in Lady Lake, FL. Joan, Bill and the community worked diligently to help those who were less fortunate in the wake of the disaster. … **Sheila Tunstall McKenna**, along with her brother and his wife, were awarded the Fairhaven Improvement Association’s Outstanding Community Service Award.
This is the first time the award has been given to a family. Sheila was also honored for her work with the Fairhaven High School Alumni Association, the Fairhaven High School Hall of Fame and, most recently, for her work on the high school’s Centennial Committee and Time Capsule Committee.

### 1964

**James Nidositko**  
25 Coleridge Drive  
Falmouth, MA 02540

The Class of 1964 was represented by [Jana Foss Samuels](#) and [Susan Libby Thevenin](#) at the March 11 BSC alumni reception in Bradenton, FL. There were more than 64 participants, along with Dr. George Weygand, ’53, G’56, and his wife, Bea, and former dean David Deep and his wife, Judy.

### 1968

**Mary Lou Thimas** received the 2006-2007 Heights Award, which recognizes those who have shown a long-term commitment and dedication to women’s athletics. The award was presented at a pre-game reception at Boston College prior the BC women’s basketball team’s final game.

Mary Lou was recognized for her long-term commitment to women’s basketball, field hockey and lacrosse. She dedicated her career to women’s athletics and focused on increasing opportunities for female athletes as she served as director of athletics for Framingham North and South High Schools, and as assistant commissioner for the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association. She then assumed the role of associate director of athletics at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. She has been recognized by *The Boston Globe* as Coach of the Year in basketball and was inducted into the All-American Football Foundation, the New Agenda: Northeast Women’s Hall of Fame, and the Plymouth High School and Bridgewater State College athletic halls of fame.

### 1969

**Joseph P. Hackett**  
48 Legedgewood Drive  
Norwood, MA 02062-5806

**Geraldine Stanton Cummings** is a middle school math teacher at the Wynn Middle School in Tewksbury. ... [Natalia Lebre Ritchie](#) retired after teaching elementary music for 28 years in Tiverton, RI, and moved to Florida where she continued to teach music at the Locke Elementary School in Elfers. In October 2005, she was chosen to be a participant in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program, and she traveled to Japan for three weeks as a guest of the Japanese government. In December 2006 she became a National Boards Certified Teacher in early and middle childhood music. She is also a delegation leader with People to People Student Ambassador Programs and has traveled with students to Washington, D.C., Australia and New Zealand.

### 1970

**Mary Lou Thimas**, received the 2006-2007 Heights Award, which recognizes those who have shown a long-term commitment and dedication to women’s athletics. The award was presented at a pre-game reception at Boston College prior the BC women’s basketball team’s final game. Mary Lou was recognized for her long-term commitment to women’s basketball, field hockey and lacrosse. She dedicated her career to women’s athletics and focused on increasing opportunities for female athletes as she served as director of athletics for Framingham North and South High Schools, and as assistant commissioner for the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association. She then assumed the role of associate director of athletics at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. She has been recognized by *The Boston Globe* as Coach of the Year in basketball and was inducted into the All-American Football Foundation, the New Agenda: Northeast Women’s Hall of Fame, and the Plymouth High School and Bridgewater State College athletic halls of fame.

**Phil Conroy**  
Janice Indorato Conroy  
85 Bridle Road  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

**Nancy Doyle Shemeth** attended, coached and taught for more than 36 years at the same Martha’s Vineyard high school from which she retired. After graduating from BSC, she took a position at the Sacred Heart Academy in Fall River for two years, waiting for a position on Martha’s Vineyard to open so she could return to her home.

### 1972

**Robert Mansur**  
12584 Autumn Gate Way  
Carmel, IN 46033-8221

**Susan Barber Geier** is a service coordinator for The Kennedy-Donovan Center Early Intervention Program serving children who have developmental delays.

### 1973

**William Morse** is president and chief operating officer for Mutual Bank, a community bank with seven branches throughout Southeastern Massachusetts and Cape Cod.

### 1977

**Kathie Breen Lawrence**  
77 Main Street  
Norwell, MA 02061

**Mary Jo Livingstone** will become Weymouth’s next superintendent of schools and will be the first woman to lead the town’s school system.

### 1979

**M. Scott McDonald**  
101 Highgreen Ridge  
Peachtree City, GA 30269

**Mary Jo Livingstone** will become Weymouth’s next superintendent of schools and will be the first woman to lead the town’s school system.

### 1980

**Scott Levison** is living in Pinellas Park, FL, and is very active with St. Pete for Peace.

### 1985

**Paula Vogel Quill**  
20 Goldsmith Drive  
Newburyport, MA 01950-3417

**Susan Berger Geier** is a service coordinator for The Kennedy-Donovan Center Early Intervention Program serving children who have developmental delays.
1987
Kevin Kindregan
38 Tilden Commons
Quincy, MA 02170-1840

Jeannine Aronson Madden and her husband, Dave, are living in California. Jeannine is working for a local plastic surgeon as his practice administrator and is teaching elementary and middle school art. Her husband is Wing Commander for the Global Positioning Systems wing at the Los Angeles Air Force Base. … Paula Peters was hired in January as the associate director of marketing at Plimoth Plantation. She is also a regular columnist for the Cape Cod Times.

1988
Dan Darcy
42 Gas Light Drive, Apt. 1
Weymouth, MA 02190

Paul Brassil is vice president of infrastructure services at Siemens IT Solutions and Services. … Dennis Leahy is a senior vice president for Bristol County Savings Bank and oversees the bank's accounting/finance department. Dennis has been with the bank for more than 11 years and previously served as controller, assistant vice president/controller and vice president/controller.

1989
Tracey Armstrong is president and CEO of the Copyright Clearance Center. CCC is a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Danvers and employs more than 200.

1990
Jorge Neves
16 Labrie Lane
Holyoke, MA 01040

Jane Taris Cafferty, Donna Preskenis, Lisa Orlandello Stokes and Andrea Ayer Cafferty attended the October homecoming celebration and saw Gary Parziale, '92, and Mike Rothenberg who also were on campus. … Angela Johnson Rideout is married and has two sons, James and Devin. She works full time as a Quincy Court probation officer.

1992
Michael Henry is an assistant vice president at State Street Institutional Investor Services.

1994
Thomas Ross is the acting director for the National Park Service/John H. Chafee National Heritage Corridor Commission in Woonsocket, RI.

1995
Patrick Crowley is chairman of the Lincoln, RI, Democratic Town Committee. … Patricia Oakley, G’95, is superintendent of schools for the West Bridgewater school district. … Stephanie Wrobel Montisanti works as an executive assistant in estimating for the Middlesex Corporation in Littleton. She is married to James Montisanti and they have two daughters, Ashlyn and Violet.

1996
Jennifer Wilton Murray
2 Clinton Terrace
Kingston, MA 02364

Donna Bouchard Cutting lives in Florida and recently signed a contract with Wiley Publishing, a leading publisher of professional/trade books based in New York City, to publish her book, The Celebrity Experience: Transform Your Company with Red Carpet Service. Donna interviewed people who work in companies that service Hollywood celebrities about their customer service practices. The book is due to be released next winter.

1999
Lee Charpentier
23 Uptone Drive
Nashua, NH 03063

Noelle Beaudet Foye is a marketing associate for the Fuller Craft Museum. … Rebecca Field had a supporting role in ABC’s television show October Road. Jeffrey Newhall is the athletic director at St. Mary’s High School in Lynn.

2000
Nancy Hartley Weaver Cassidy is working for the Greg Norman Collection in Canton as an inventory planner and was recently presented with the 2006 President’s Award. Her daughter, Victoria, has been accepted into BSC’s Class of 2011. … Luis Lopes, G’00, is the superintendent at Southeastern Regional Technical Vocational High School. … Joseph Perna graduated in March from the police academy in Reading. … Maureen Catani Sniff, G’01, was recognized by the Chandler Arizona Chamber of Commerce as Administrator of the Year. She was honored for her leadership and commitment to the students. Maureen is an elementary school principal at the Chandler Traditional Academy-Goodman campus in Chandler, AZ.

2001
Kevin Mossman was honored for his 10 years of service to the Hanson Community Christmas, a 30-year-old nonprofit organization providing social services to local residents. Kevin is also a full-time Hanson firefighter.

2002
Andrew Loewen is an officer for the Falmouth police department. He is working on his master’s degree in criminal justice at BSC.
2003
Jennifer Couto, assistant treasurer and branch manager of Credit Union Savings Bank’s Troy Street office, graduated from the Massachusetts Bankers Association’s School for Financial Services. … Richard Labrecque is the assistant vice president at Mayflower Bank and leads the bank’s commercial lending activities in the Plymouth area.

2004
Steven Peters IV is the assistant director of marketing and communications for Mount Ida College in Newton. He is married to Jennifer Lynch Peters, ’03, a senior accounting associate at State Street Bank in Quincy. Steven is also chairman of the Affirmative Action Committee for the Town of Mashpee and chairman of Mashpee’s No Place for Hate program. … Thomas Gainey is a Holbrook police officer.

2005
Sean O’Leary is a physical education teacher at Westford Academy where he has developed an out-of-the-box, innovative and challenging curriculum to meet the needs of all students.

2006
Amy Beckerman is performing stand-up comedy in New York City. Her recent performances have been at the Laugh Lounge and The Broadway Comedy Club. She will also be seen in an episode of the final season of The Sopranos. … Natalie Chaves joined the audit and accounting department of G.T. Reilly and Company in Milton. … Peter Crowell, G’06, is the principal of the MacArthur Elementary School in South Yarmouth. … Aimee Proulx-DeCain is a tutor with the Learning for Life program at Haverhill High School and plans to travel to Africa in June as part of a group of volunteers from America, Australia and England with Cross Cultural Solutions, a nonprofit organization founded in 1995. … Meghan Sullivan took part in the annual New Year’s Day Polar Plunge in Boston Harbor. Meghan was part of a fundraising effort for Camp Sunshine, a retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

NOTA BENE

Births
To Lisa Lundy Kusinitz, ’82, and Stewart Kusinitz, a daughter, Kaylee Sullivan, on Sept. 11, 2006
To Yadira Ochoa Roberts and Kevin Roberts, ’84, a son, George Wilfredo, on April 29, 2005
To Robin Adams Potvin, ’93, and Michael Potvin, a daughter, Reagan Michaela, on Dec. 3, 2006
To Kimberly Mooney Parker, ’94, and Christopher Parker, a daughter, Grace Mary, on Jan. 16, 2007

To Paula Machado Raposa, ’95, and Laine Raposa, a son, Anthony Joseph Raposa, on March 5, 2006. He joins big brothers Adam, age 7; Alex, age 4; and Andrew, age 2.
To Karen Callahan Corey, ’96, and Tom Corey, a son, Jack Thomas, on Aug. 1, 2006
To Elaine Schmotzer Lutz, ’96, and Devon Lutz, a daughter, Molly Grace, on Oct. 16, 2006

To Elyse Ganz and Eric Ganz, ’99, a daughter, Allyson Wendi, on Dec. 29, 2006
To Rebecca Moore Raymond, ’01, and David Raymond, a son, John Carlton Raymond, on Aug. 16, 2006
To Danielle Marie Brown, ’02, and Ronald D. O’Brien Jr., a daughter, Isabel Jean O’Brien, on Nov. 1, 2006
Deaths

Catherine Lee Cahill Ferguson, ’25, on April 5, 2007
Grace Hanley, ’29, on Feb. 24, 2007
Lena A. Delaura Lionberger, ’30, on Jan. 25, 2007
Anne J. Grigas Duksta, ’31, on Dec. 3, 2006
Isabel Gabriel Black, ’33, on Dec. 3, 2006
Mary E. Allen Ripley, ’33, on March 4, 2007
Ruth K. Ferris Latham, ’34, on Feb. 12, 2007
Ruth Koss Rolin, ’34, on Dec. 23, 2006
Frances Doris Jones Bennett, ’36, on Dec. 18, 2006
Helen “Rita” Cassidy Wheeler, ’36, on July 29, 2006
Pearl B. Heyworth, ’36, on Dec. 20, 2006
Frances Doris Jones Bennett, ’36, on Dec. 18, 2006
Linnea E. Harju Maki, ’41, on Feb. 14, 2007
Virginia B. Hull Clark, ’41, on Jan. 10, 2007
Winifred M. Laughlin, ’40, G’57, on Dec. 21, 2006
Dorothy A. Whittemore Rice, ’38, on Jan. 7, 2006
Marjorie Moore, ’38, G’50, on Nov. 12, 2006
Reta P. Pease Watson, ’39, on March 18, 2007
Marjorie Mosher Marland, ’41, on Dec. 11, 2006
Edward F. Barry, ’42, on March 17, 2007
Eleanor F. Kuchmeister Crabill, ’43, on Dec. 29, 2006
Ina May Mosher Marland, ’41, on Dec. 11, 2006
Winifred M. Laughlin, ’40, G’57, on Dec. 21, 2006
Geraldine M. Muller Hoy, ’45, on Feb. 26, 2007
Marjorie Tolman Rodriguez, ’46, on Nov. 26, 2006
Anita A. Ghiardi, ’47, on Feb. 20, 2007
Richard T. Grimley, ’48, on Dec. 1, 2006
Doris Eleanor Hartwell-Peterson Osborn, ’49, on Nov. 22, 2006
Richard Rothe Ryalls, ’49, on Jan. 6, 2007
Warren E. Thoutte, ’50, on March 21, 2007
Robert S. Kelly, ’53, on Nov. 25, 2006
Jean D. Janiok Oksuzian, ’55, on Dec. 17, 2006
John P. Harrington, G’56, on Nov. 24, 2006
Lewis B. Lartlett, G’60, on Aug. 25, 2006
William P. Campbell Jr., ’60, on Feb. 6, 2007
Marjorie Antonelli, G’61, on April 4, 2007
Elaine M. Bisemore, ’62, on Jan. 29, 2007
Kenneth W. Peters, G’62, on Feb. 7, 2007
Joseph P. Joaquin III, ’64, on Jan. 5, 2007
Florence Feener Wright, ’64, on June 3, 2005
Robert F. Murphy, ’65, on March 23, 2007
Robert L. Tremblay, ’67, on Dec. 17, 2006
Peter W. Gregory, ’67, on Feb. 12, 2007
Margaret A. Lawrence Lind, G’67, on Dec. 9, 2006
Ruth C. Perkins, G’67, on Dec. 17, 2006
Mary Ann Dodge, G’68, on Dec. 21, 2006
Robert Young Covel, ’70, on Dec. 4, 2006
Karin Devereux, ’73, on Jan. 18, 2007
Joanne Henderson Josselyn, G’73, on Feb. 11, 2007
Eleanor Pickwell Tasham, G’73, on March 23, 2007
Amy L. Lester Fuller, G’74, on April 7, 2007
Marie H. Holzmann Rasche, G’74, on March 8, 2007
Gene V. Clinton, ’75, on Nov. 2, 2006
Katherine A. Mackie Paradis, ’76, on Jan. 11, 2007
Janet Jenkins Miller, G’77, on Dec. 22, 2006
Robert L. Tremblay, ’77, on Feb. 3, 2007
Doris M. Foyes Butchard, ’78, G’84, on March 13, 2007
Rev. A. John Skeirik, ’78, on March 7, 2007
Jean Elston, ’90, on Jan. 5, 2007
Beverly Jean Lang, ’92, on Feb. 28, 2007
Diana Maria, ’94, on Feb. 5, 2007
Jason Michael Ribeiro, ’97, on Nov. 19, 2006
Anthony Palermo Jr., ’03, on April 6, 2007

Marriages

Debora M. McCarthy to Robert L. Tremblay, ’77, on Oct. 6, 2006
Elizabeth A. Gilmette, ’89, to Frank M. Rodrigues Jr. on Aug. 26, 2006
Robin Adams, ’93, to Michael Potvin on Dec. 3, 2005
Tiffany Noel Gurn, ’95, to Brock Christopher Richard on Nov. 25, 2006
Carol-Ann Plante to Keith James Merrill, ’96 on Sept. 30, 2006
Laura Peach to Frank Sorrento, ’97, on Sept. 30, 2006
Heather Desmond, ’98, to Kevin O’Neill, G’06, on Nov. 11, 2006
Kathleen Ann Borges to Scott Christopher Farnham, ’98, on May 13, 2006
Brandi Krugger, ’99, G’06, to Jared Richmond on Sept. 2, 2006
Erica Lynn Scott to Stephen P. Pereira, ’99, on Sept. 16, 2006
Holly Davis, ’99, to Marc Fleury on Nov. 4, 2006
Stacy L. Scott, ’99, G’04, to David S. Barrows on June 18, 2005
Ana Beatriz Easton, ’00, to John Byron Cameron on June 25, 2006
Christine J. Griffin, ’00, to Michael R. Yanni on Aug. 19, 2006
Erin Elizabeth Dore to Todd Andrew Babola, ’01, on Aug. 6, 2006
Shannon Mathes, ’01, to Scott McNeil on June 23, 2006
Meghann K. Parker, ’01, to Christofo A. Balczuns on July 29, 2006
Julie Pacheco to Chad Pires, ’01, on Sept. 30, 2006
Laura Varley, ’01, to John C. Hergenhan on Nov. 18, 2006
Kim Barry, ’02, G’05, to Kevin Brennan, G’05, on July 16, 2006
Lauren R. Jette, ’02, to Bryan A. Lefcourt on July 16, 2006
Rebecca Kate Nelson, ’02, to Richard Mark Paquette, ’01, G’05, on July 8, 2006
Elise Mathewson, ’02, to Thomas DeLauro Jr. on Oct. 21, 2006
Kendra L. Sroka, ’02, G’04, to Jason F. Pires on June 24, 2006
Marie Wall, ’02, to Patrick Copeland on July 22, 2006
Alicia Maria Juara, ’03, to Jason Manuel Cabral on Sept. 30, 2006
Sonia Pedro, ’03, to Daniel Cabral on Sept. 16, 2006
Corinne Sirianos, ’03, to Jeffrey Brems, ’03, on June 30, 2006
Amy A. Berrio to Gregory E. Zackrison, G’03 on June 30, 2006
Diana Elizabeth Bellucci, ’04, to Stewart Franklin Prue on Dec. 16, 2006
Julie Selliew, ’04, to Craig DeMelo, ’04, on Sept. 23, 2006
Julie A. Schwotzer, ’04, to Seth D. Porter on June 24, 2006
Christina I. MacDonald to Adam C. Leet, ’04, on Oct. 28, 2006
Michelle Elise Cieply to Michael David Rubin, G’04, on Jan. 20, 2007
Mara Sarhanis, ’04, to James Sullivan, ’04
Jami Lynn St. Peter, G’04, to Aaron Shane Fox on Sept. 2, 2006
Jennifer Mueller to Robert Lewis Jr., ’05, on Aug. 25, 2006
Kristine Roy, ’05, to Bryan Smith on June 24, 2006
Kelly Marie Tavares, ’05, to Colin T.R. Smith on July 15, 2006
Kimberly Marie Tedesco, G’05, to Guy Anthony Marzullo on July 15, 2006
Patricia Estacio, ’06, to Bernardino Ferreira on Aug. 5, 2006
Christiana Thorne, ’06, to Kristian Mather on July 22, 2006

Spring Commencement
More than 800 graduates at Bridgewater State College’s 166th spring commencement held May 19 were told by speakers that no one is too young to make a difference.

The graduates, from 202 Massachusetts communities and seven states, were congratulated on their success by college faculty, administrators, family and friends, and were encouraged to reflect on their accomplishments while looking forward to their future.

Clockwise from top, Mr. Louis Ricciardi, ’81, (from left), chairman of the Board of Trustees; Mr. Craig Kielburger, honorary degree recipient; President Dana Mohler-Faria; Mr. John Newhall, trustee for the Constance Killam Trust and the Elizabeth Rogers Trust and Distinguished Service Award recipient; Mr. Derrick Zellmann, ’07, student commencement speaker.

President Mohler-Faria and Ms. Terry Hart Cogan, ’51. Ms. Cogan has pledged to donate between $2.5 and $3 million to the college over the next several years.

Craig Kielburger, civil rights advocate and leadership specialist, received an honorary degree and delivered this year’s commencement remarks.

Mr. Derrick Zellmann, ’07, student commencement speaker.

Graduate Commencement
Master’s degree and certificates of advanced graduate study candidates received their degrees in a graduate commencement ceremony on May 16. The 450 graduates heard remarks from Dr. Ruth Farrar, professor of elementary and early childhood education at BSC. She urged graduates to take advantage of all that surrounds them.

“Step into the wonder of things not understood. Lose yourself in the passion of your professional calling,” she said.

“Twirl, shuffle, tap, dip and do whatever you can to celebrate the universal realities that are consequential to a shared, collective, human knowing.”

Pictured, from left, Paul Boyle, (left), and Thomas Sexton of the Boston Police Gaelic Column opened the graduate commencement exercises.

Dr. Ruth Farrar gives her remarks to the graduates.

Joliane Charlotin receives her hood during the ceremony.
Gov. Patrick Makes Historic Visit to BSC

Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick visited the college for the first time since his election in November 2006. The governor was on campus for a meeting with nearly all of the presidents and chancellors of Massachusetts community colleges, state colleges and the University of Massachusetts campuses to discuss issues of public higher education coordination, funding and governance. It is believed that this is the first time a sitting governor has met with all of the college and university leaders at once.

The governor told the gathered officials that he would be a “champion” for state education. Other issues discussed during the meeting included campus safety and future funding of higher education in the commonwealth.

Since January, President Dana Mohler-Faria has been serving as the governor’s special adviser for education and has been engaged in countless discussions with K-16 representatives.