Thinking Globally, Educating Locally

See Story Beginning on Page 2
Bridgewater aims to keep alumni, faculty, students and their families, staff and friends of Bridgewater State College informed about the college community and its impact on the region. The triannual college magazine is written, designed and edited with the needs of its varied audiences at heart and in mind.

On the cover: Some of Bridgewater State College's many international faculty and students gather in January at Hunt Hall. This issue of Bridgewater features the experiences of alumni, faculty and students from other countries; Bridgewater's international history; exchange and study-abroad programs; as well as collaborations and partnerships that provide international experiences for students. See story pages 2-11.

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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,

Increasing campus participation in our diverse and global society is more than an institutional priority – it’s an obligation. Never before have the challenges of our world economy been more acute, and never before have international issues been more complex. With each new day, we realize that less and less is truly “foreign” about foreign affairs. To succeed and to lead, our students need to be both well versed and experienced in the nuances of international culture and society. It’s not hyperbole to see that our shared future depends on it.

Since its earliest days, Bridgewater State College has had a long history of being a progressive, globally conscious institution committed to providing students with challenging educational experiences that give them a competitive edge. Our faculty continue to lead that charge, infusing the curriculum with the richness of their own experiences abroad.

At the same time, the college’s growing complement of international students – from nations as diverse as Japan, Kenya and the United Kingdom – combined with the on-campus presence of visiting scholars and dignitaries from all over the world, is transforming Bridgewater into something of a new global village for Southeastern Massachusetts. Living and studying side-by-side with students and faculty from other countries helps to foster a genuine culture of respect and understanding.

As we welcome international visitors to our campus, more and more Bridgewater students and faculty are giving their own passports a workout. Very quickly, we are becoming known throughout the commonwealth as having one of the most dynamic and inventive international studies programs of any public institution. Whether it is Dr. Hayes-Bohanan’s study tour to Cape Verde where students explore sustainability as it relates to urban planning and education, or Dr. Luci Fortunato’s summer seminars in Lucca, Italy, studying aspects of Italian political, social and cultural history, our programming is not only exciting in its own right, but reflects our deep commitment to prepare students for success in the world.

As evidence, take a moment and journey through the pages of this magazine and meet several of the many students involved in Bridgewater’s international exchange and study abroad programs. Each story, though personal, shares a common result – the immersion in a culture other than one’s own is life changing.

Sincerely,

Dana Mohler-Faria
President
Thinking Globally, Educating Locally

By Maura King Scully

Bridgewater State College may be geographically nestled in the heart of Southeastern Massachusetts, but it is ever expanding its borders to provide students with a progressively global view of life.

As Bridgewater's largely regional student population explores a variety of international study opportunities, the college campus itself continues to welcome students and faculty from other countries and continents.

Living, working, studying and socializing with classmates from other countries and learning from faculty from other cultures engenders an increasingly diverse campus community.

In the pages that follow, we share some of the successes achieved and challenges faced by Bridgewater's international student population, which numbers about 100, as well as detail a variety of faculty inspired and led study-abroad opportunities.

Given Bridgewater's historic roots in teacher preparation, a number of our alumni have played critical roles in the development of public education systems, especially in Japan. Learn why students from Japan today comprise the largest segment of the international student population at the college and participate in specialized Bridgewater programs.

We also offer stories of faculty who have come from other countries to Bridgewater, providing local students an inkling of life beyond the commonwealth. In addition, a longtime Bridgewater faculty member conveys her personal and professional thoughts about her decades' worth of work in China.

Finally, we also tell accounts of Bridgewater State College alumni – both national and international – and their chosen professions after graduation. Some have returned to their native land while others have relocated to other parts of the globe.

In each and every instance, all call Bridgewater State College home, crediting the college for providing the opportunity to participate and compete in a truly global economy.

Marco Izquierdo Llanos, G’04
Colombia

“I came to Boston to research graduate programs. I knew I wanted to study in the area, but I didn’t know which school,” recalled Marco Izquierdo Llanos. “I checked all of the programs carefully but...”
and met with professors. Bridgewater was my first choice. I met some great, great professors who ended up being amazing teachers.

“Teachers are like God in Latin America,” Mr. Llanos said. “When I went to college in Colombia, professors gave the lectures. But if you had questions, you went to the teaching assistant … never the professor. Here, professors are like regular people. They’re very approachable; their doors are open to everyone.

“I really enjoyed all my classes. In Colombia, if I went for an MBA, I would have been in classes with all accountants and people in finance,” he said. “At Bridgewater, I had classes with all different kinds of people — accountants, yes, but also government workers, managers and homemakers. It made for a much richer experience and much better learning because I heard many different points of view. Also, in my classes were students from India, Brazil, Portugal and Venezuela, so I not only got to learn about America, but those cultures as well.”

Mr. Llanos earned a Master of Science in Management degree in 2004 and went on to complete all the course work for a Master of Public Administration degree. Today, he’s an equity investment manager for Aval Group, the largest financial company in Colombia.

“This country is one of the most rapidly growing countries in Latin America,” he said. “With all the privatization of industries in my country – gas, transportation, utilities – we’re creating financial corporations to invest in those companies.

“ Colombians educated in the United States have a competitive edge, and my Bridgewater education gives me a huge advantage,” he said. “I love that I have a combination of public management with classical management. It gives me all the tools I need to be successful in my job and in my country.”

Anastasiya Kelly, ’07
Belarus

“I came to the United States as a summer exchange student and ended up meeting my husband here,” said Mrs. Kelly, explaining how she came to Southeastern Massachusetts from her native Belarus. Following her marriage, she transferred credits from the Linguistic University in Belarus to Cape Cod Community College, where she earned an associate’s degree, and then enrolled at BSC to complete her bachelor’s degree, magna cum laude.

“I loved my time at Bridgewater. I made friends with many of my professors. In my country, you are not on the same level as professors. You would not talk to them outside class. Here, I keep in touch with several of my former professors,” she said. One of those is Professor Susan Miskelly of communication studies and coach of BSC’s award-winning forensics team.

“Professor Miskelly convinced me to compete with the forensics team. New to this country, I traveled to five different states and won awards, which really helped my self-confidence. My first year, I took sixth place in the New England Regional Tournament. I took second place the next year,” she said.

Today, Mrs. Kelly is assistant to the vice president of enrollment management and event planner at the National Graduate School of Quality Systems Management, an accredited institution that operates in 22 corporate and military sites across the country.

“Bridgewater definitely prepared me for what I’m doing now,” she said. “Public speaking, as I mentioned, gave me lots of confidence. And right before I graduated, I did an internship at the Hyannis Chamber of Commerce under the direction of Dr. Joel Litvin, professor of communication studies, which gave me experience in an office setting, working with people.”

Beyond the career preparation, Mrs. Kelly said she appreciated the well-rounded education at BSC. “I really enjoyed history and was able to take three courses because I wanted to learn all I could about this country. And I even took creative dance – what an experience that was. In America, you get to do all sorts of different things as part of your education. It’s hard to imagine I would have been able to do these things back in Belarus. Now, I understand why people in America donate money to their colleges, because they are grateful for their experience. I’m so proud to say that Bridgewater State College is my alma mater.”

Harold Tavares, ’05, G’07
Cape Verde

A native of the West African nation of Cape Verde, Harold Tavares decided to come to the United States to earn his college degree. “I had relatives in Brockton who took me to see Bridgewater,” he said.

Though excited at the opportunity to study in a new country, he found he was unprepared for the culture shock. “The first year was hard – adjusting to the language, the weather – I had never seen snow before,” he said. Though he found the climate chilly, luckily, “everyone at Bridgewater was so warm and welcoming. They were very helpful in trying to show me the best way to do things. Today, I have many close relationships with faculty and staff members, people I still call when I have questions.”

Continued on page 4.
Mr. Tavares became involved with the Cape Veredian Student Association. “The group has events – like dances and culture nights – and runs a tutoring program in a Brockton elementary school. The organization is a way to showcase Cape Veredian culture on campus and to demonstrate the long relationship between Cape Verde and New England,” he said.

Mr. Tavares said after he completed his economics degree, “President Mohler-Faria really encouraged me to stay and pursue a master's degree. He kept telling me how beneficial it would be to me and to Cape Verde when I returned home.” So he applied and was accepted in the Master of Public Administration program. “I have been so very satisfied with the MPA program,” he said.

Dr. Street Dedicated to Enhancing Intercultural and Global Communications

By Maura King Scully

Bridgewater State College began an exchange program with Shanxi Teacher’s University in the People’s Republic of China 23 years ago. Then-President Adrian Rondileau was in search of faculty volunteers willing to spend a year living and working in remote Shanxi Province, an 18-hour train ride from Beijing.

Dr. Nancy Street, professor in the Department of Communication Studies, jumped at the chance. “I’ve always been intrigued by what I couldn’t do,” said Dr. Street. So in the 1980s, during the Cold War, she had set a goal to travel to both communist Russia and China.

“My research interests are intercultural and global communications,” explained Dr. Street, noting that the trip fulfilled aspirations both personal and professional. She spent the 1985-1986 academic year at Shanxi Teacher’s University teaching English language, American literature and history and public speaking, “which was new to them,” she said. “In those days, Chinese students sat in the classroom and said nothing. It was a challenge to get them to speak – and to challenge you.”

That year in China “changed my life completely,” Dr. Street said. “When you go to a country as a tourist, you don’t really experience it. You’re so removed from everyday life. It’s only when you spend real time there – working, studying and living, that you step outside yourself and your own culture.”

Although she experienced culture shock in the first few months there – adapting to different food, lifestyle and norms – she found she experienced reverse culture shock when she returned to the United States. “I just saw everything differently,” she said.

The experience struck a deep chord with Dr. Street and led to nine more trips to China over the next decade. Two of those trips, in 1988 and 1991, were sponsored by Fulbright grants. In addition to Shanxi Teacher’s University, Dr. Street served as a visiting professor at Southeastern University in Nanjing in 1997.

“While I was there, I coached the school’s first public speaking team. They took second place in the city’s very first public speaking contest,” she said proudly. She also delivered invited lectures in subsequent trips at Xi’an International University and SanJiang College.

Dr. Street’s Asian travels have produced some impressive scholarship, inspiring three of her five books: In Search of Red Buddha (1992, released in a new international version in 2004); American Businesses in China: Balancing Culture and Communication (2003, co-authored with Dr. Marilyn Matelski, in its second edition due out this spring); and China: From the Four Modernizations to Globalization Through Higher Education (2007, also co-authored with Dr. Matelski).

Dr. Street said she’s been astounded by the changes in her recent trips to China. “What used to be dirt roads are superhighways. It used to take three days to make a phone call – now everyone has cell phones. In 1985, Shanxi Teacher’s University had three cars to serve a work unit of 3,000 people. Today, China has 30 million private cars.”

She expressed concern that the pace of change in China “is going much too fast. There’s a great gap between the haves and the have-nots – the 300 million Chinese who live in cities are doing well, but the one billion who live in the countryside are not. That builds resentment.”

Following news outlets and keeping in touch with her many Chinese colleagues, Dr. Street has been tracking growing social protests and the government’s attempts to deal with the inequalities. It’s a phenomenon she’ll watch closely, particularly as Beijing hosts the 2008 summer Olympics and the eyes of the world are upon China. And like her first trip to the country 23 years ago, her interest is personal and professional.
Alexandra Ataya, ’06
Lebanon

“I was two years into an environmental health program in Lebanon but wasn’t convinced it was my calling,” said Alexandra Ataya, who graduated in 2006 with a degree in health education. “My father is Lebanese and my mom is Portuguese-American. She grew up in New Bedford, and still has family there, so I packed my bags and went to the United States. It was all very spontaneous. My family drove me around to see different campuses, and I fell in love with Bridgewater at first sight.”

Like other international students, Ms. Ataya found, “the first year really hard. But by the second year, I got to know faculty in my major and felt much more comfortable. Everyone was so supportive. I remember a time when I was on campus and saw a CNN report on a bombing in Beirut. My family lives in Beirut, but it’s a big place and they didn’t say where. I went to see my adviser, Dr. Edward Hart. I sat in his office, sobbing uncontrollably. He was so kind; he just listened. And then, he wouldn’t let me take my midterm that day. He sent me home.”

Beyond the personal caring, Ms. Ataya also appreciated the intellectual challenge at BSC. “My professors got me very involved. I worked on two different long-term research projects and presented my results at both the Bridgewater undergraduate research symposium and the MAHPERD Convention,” she said.

She’s back in Lebanon and completing a Master in Public Health degree at American University in Beirut. “Everyone in my master’s program is tired of hearing me talk about how great my undergraduate program was,” she laughed.

She hopes to continue on for a PhD, but is “interviewing with a drug rehab and prevention organization,” she said. “This is the kind of work I want to do.”

She credits BSC with setting her on her current path. “At Bridgewater, I took courses like Human Sexuality and Drugs and Society – courses I never would have been able to take at home. There are so many taboos in Lebanon. People don’t talk about safe sex, HIV or drug use. But now, that’s starting to change. People are beginning to be more open about discussing these things. I feel like I’m here at the right time.”

Tao Yang, G’90
China

In 1985–1986, Tao Yang studied English with Dr. Nancy Street at Shanxi Teacher’s University (see page 4) with a year of conversational English under his belt, he decided to sign on as one of the first BSC-STU exchange students and come to Bridgewater State College to earn a master’s degree in biology.

“The culture shock was enormous,” he said about those early months. In the days before e-mail, “we were only able to communicate with family and friends back in China through written mail. Each day seemed unduly long during that first year. Bridgewater was a wonderful place to make that adjustment to a whole new world. I developed some great friendships, which I cherish to this day. The personal attention from my professors inspired me and made for a most enjoyable academic experience.”

Following BSC, Mr. Yang went on to earn a PhD from Cornell University and embarked on a career as a scientist at major corporations such as DuPont and Merck. Today, he’s a biopharmaceutical scientist for new drug discovery at Bristol-Myers Squibb, working on treatments in the areas of cardiology, cancer, antiviral treatments and neurobiology.

Mr. Yang said he is where he is today because of BSC. “Without the outstanding preparation BSC gave me, it would have been inconceivable for me to have gone on to Cornell and subsequently be in a fulfilling scientific career,” he said. “Nearly two decades have elapsed since I graduated, and I have set foot in many places across the United States. Yet, in a sense, Bridgewater is forever my American hometown. I will always think of BSC as the special place that made my academic dreams possible.”

Maura King Scully is a freelance writer from Walpole specializing in higher education.
Japanese Students Drawn to Bridgewater Are Very Happy with Their Choice

By Maura King Scully

More than half of the international students who study at Bridgewater State College are from Japan, coming to the college via the National Collegiate Network (NCN) of Tokyo, which assists Japanese students who are interested in studying in the United States.

“NCN and BSC have worked together for 13 years,” said Akane Shirai, an NCN adviser who maintains an on-campus office. “I provide both academic and nonacademic advice to my students during their time at Bridgewater, including career guidance. I was an international student myself who studied in the United States, so I understand their needs and frustrations. I know that it’s not always easy.”

Japanese students are drawn to Bridgewater State College for two reasons, according to Ms. Shirai – its Massachusetts location and unique programs, such as aviation science and athletic training education.

That was the case for Satoshi Kajiyama, ’06. “I wanted to come and study in the United States because I was very interested in athletic training and sports are much bigger in the United States than they are in Japan,” he said. An athletic training education major, Mr. Kajiyama completed four internships during his four years – at Durfee High School in Fall River, Stonehill College, Bryant University, and finally, the Red Sox organization, where he worked as a trainer for the Lowell Spinners.

“I thought studying in the United States would be fun and challenging,” he said. “It was both. The language was the toughest part. It was hard when I couldn’t speak to my friends. But everyone at Bridgewater was so helpful.”

Mr. Kajiyama is working as a part-time trainer at Bryant University and researching graduate schools. “I’m thinking about something related to sports exercise science,” he said, adding that he hopes to stay in the United States permanently.

Keita Kamamoto, ’06, also came to BSC for a specific major: aviation science. “I was interested in aviation, but in Japan, there is no such major,” he said. When he graduated, Mr. Kamamoto discovered there weren’t many aviation opportunities for him back home, so he applied to the management-training program at General Electric International. “I work in Tokyo on the financial management program, which is GE’s leadership program designed specifically for finance,” he said.

Although he’s not flying planes for a living, Mr. Kamamoto said he still finds his BSC education applicable to what he’s doing today. “At American colleges, you need good communication skills – much more so than at Japanese schools. Now at work, I find communication skills are essential, and I’m grateful I improved mine through BSC,” he said.

Makiko Kobayashi, ’93, one of the first modern-day international students from Japan, chose Bridgewater State College for a different reason: “At that time, there weren’t many Japanese students, so I thought it would be a great opportunity to practice English,” she said. And it was.

Ms. Kobayashi not only mastered the language, but also was one of BSC’s first recipients of a bachelor’s degree in economics and a Shea Scholar. She completed a project comparing the banking systems of the United States and Japan with Dr. Margaret Brooks, chair the economics department. “It was a lot of work and very challenging. I felt that I got to know Dr. Brooks very well,” she said.

Beyond academics, Ms. Kobayashi enjoyed her college days. “I made so many good friends,” she said. “I thought being Japanese, a minority, would make me different. But I found I met many people who just took me as one of their friends. That made me feel so comfortable.”

Today, after a difficult spell of health concerns, Ms. Kobayashi is studying yoga in India and planning to return to Japan in the spring. “I may visit Boston next year,” she said. And if she does, Bridgewater is high on the itinerary. “I really would love to see some of my Bridgewater friends.”

Such international friendships are one of the best aspects of the NCN-BSC program, according to Ms. Shirai. “Beyond learning English, Japanese students learn much more about their own country by living in the United States. They introduce their culture and beliefs to American students, and then their American friends go to Japan to study and visit them there. I think that kind of exchange is wonderful. Understanding different cultures certainly widens our view of the world.”
Winter 2008

A Look Back at Our International Roots
By Maura King Scully

International students are not new at Bridgewater State College. Because of the college’s status as one of America’s first teacher preparation institutions, Bridgewater was educating students from all over the world by the late-1800s.

According to Dr. Wing-kai To, history professor and coordinator of the Asian Studies Program at Bridgewater, enrollment lists from the late-1800s to the early-1900s show students from such countries as Argentina, Armenia, Burma, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, England, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico and Turkey.

Most notable among international students was Shuji Isawa of Japan, who studied at Bridgewater from 1875-1877. “Japan was moving from Shogun/Samurai rule to imperial rule,” said Dr. To.

“They had recently abolished the samurai class and established a parliament under the new Meiji Emperor.” The Japanese ministry of education, with hopes of modernizing its public school system, sent Mr. Isawa to Bridgewater to learn about educational theories.

Mr. Isawa was a young school principal, only 24, when he came to Bridgewater. He was particularly interested in music education through his study with Luther Witing Mason, a longtime Boston public school music teacher. During his time at Bridgewater, he was exposed to new ideas like physical education and special education – concepts that fascinated him. He even met Alexander Graham Bell and tested the telephone.

After two years, Mr. Isawa returned home to become one of the central figures in reforming elementary education in Japan.

“He was instrumental in introducing the normal school system and new curriculum for music education,” said Dr. To. “He went on to serve as the first president of the Tokyo Music School which later became the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music,” a leading institution for both western and traditional music education in Japan.

In 1895, Mr. Isawa was sent to Taiwan to modernize that island’s education system. The pioneering educator also wrote, edited or translated 20 books related to education practice and theory.

“What was truly a leader,” said Dr. To, who has traveled to Japan to study Mr. Isawa and his ongoing influence. “His history is still very much alive,” said Dr. To. “In his hometown, there’s a memorial outside the house where he was born commemorating his contributions to modern Japanese education.” Contributions he first learned during his time at Bridgewater.

Shuji Isawa is featured at the Takato Town Museum of History in Mr. Isawa’s hometown.

Dr. Wing-kai To stands next to a statue of Shuji Isawa at the National University of Fine Arts and Music in Tokyo. Mr. Isawa was the first principal of the music school in 1887.

Shuji Isawa in 1875 at age 24.
This image courtesy of the Archives and Special Collections of the Clement C. Maxwell Library, 2008

Dr. Wing-kai To stands next to a statue of Shuji Isawa at the National University of Fine Arts and Music in Tokyo. Mr. Isawa was the first principal of the music school in 1887.
Desire to Teach Knows No Borders

By Craig Borges

The desire to learn, as well as the desire to teach, knows no borders, whether it be a physics lesson in Pakistan or a literature class in Paris.

But talk to some of the many international professors who call Bridgewater State College home, and you’ll quickly realize that the relationship between instructor and student varies widely, with the United States operating in a manner almost unheard of in many places in the world.

Dr. Cielito (Tammy) King, an associate professor in BSC’s Department of Chemical Sciences, knows the cultural difference firsthand.

As a native of the Philippines, Dr. King came to the United States 17 years ago as a graduate student at the University of Cincinnati. Right away, she said, she noticed how odd the students’ relationships were with their professors.

“The first thing I noticed was the attitude of both students and teachers,” she said. “In my country, there is definitely more of a divide between the two. The professors lecture, the students listen. You’d never question a professor, and the students’ show of respect is very apparent in the Philippines.

“Here, it’s different,” she said. “Many students are very eager to learn, but they have their say. It is OK to question a professor in class. Some students even argue with their professor. It was very strange for me to see and experience this.”

But at the same time, she finds students, especially here at BSC, more appreciative of the work a professor does.

“I think a lot of them understand what it’s like to work hard, because they are working hard. Many hold jobs in addition to going to school. In the Philippines you wouldn’t do that. You’d go to college full-time if your parents can afford it, or you don’t attend college at all.”

Professor Magaly Ponce, an assistant professor of new media in BSC’s growing Department of Art, agrees.

A native of Chile, Professor Ponce said she, too, was surprised at the casualness students have here as opposed to those in her homeland.

“The professor is a strong authority figure in Chile,” she said. “Students are much more formal in their relationships and interactions with their instructors.”

But, she said, that’s not always a good thing.

“It may be more relaxed here in the United States but that doesn’t mean it’s an inferior education. Not by any means. Here, people have a clear understanding of what they want to get out of a degree. In Chile, you go to college more for the experience of learning. They are not so career oriented.”

What American’s accept as being laid-back, however, can sometimes come off as downright rude to people of other cultures.

Dr. Khalil Qatawneh, a visiting professor from Tafila Technical University (TTU) in Jordan, where he is an assistant professor of English, said he was at first offended when students would enter his classroom and not offer up a greeting.

“When I first started teaching here, I was surprised, and a bit offended …” he said of the students’ actions. “In my part of the world, if you come in from outside you must be the first to offer a greeting.”

But, he said, once he explained that to his students, they enthusiastically adopted the new custom.

“Now, even when I see them outside on the campus they seek me out and offer a greeting in Arabic,” he said. “I am always pleased when they do so.”

For Dr. Andrew Holman, a professor of Canadian and American history in the Department of History, the differences between American students and Canadian scholars are minimal. Both, he said, have a great interest in learning about their pasts. But, he said, American students have almost no background in Canadian history.

“I was never one to throw up my hands and complain that American students didn’t know about their northern neighbor,” he said. “But what I can bring them is an outsider’s perspective – a non-partisan perspective – to shed a different light on America’s past.”

And, he said, they seem to enjoy his lessons on Canada’s role in helping form North America.

“I feel I bring a more global look to the subject, one that they may have not heard before,” he said.

Craig Borges is assistant managing editor and online editor at The Sun Chronicle in Attleboro.
Opportunities Abound for Students to Study in Foreign Countries

By Joan Wilder

It’s like a bonus, really: You apply to Bridgewater State College, you get accepted, you’re in, you’re set, and then, if you want – and it works for you – you can spend a semester, a year, or a week studying at another college or university in almost any country in the world – while staying matriculated at BSC and working toward your degree.

Although most colleges offer international study programs, Bridgewater has one of the most extensive menus of overseas study opportunities among the commonwealth’s state colleges.

“I sit on the board of the Massachusetts Council for International Education, which is made up of people from all the different state institutions … and a lot of schools really covet our programs,” said Dr. Julia Davis, director of international programs at Bridgewater.

“They see we’ve got strong backing from the administration and a lot of focus from faculty,” Dr. Davis said. “We are doing a great job – we still have a long way to go, but we’re growing exponentially. This past fall, we sent 100 students abroad … and had 16 students on exchange here.”

International programs are broadly divided into three categories: study tours, exchange programs and study-abroad programs. Study tours are distinct from the other two in that they are three-credit, short trips (one to three weeks) led by a BSC professor.

Exchange and study-abroad are umbrella terms that refer to programs through which students study in a foreign country for a semester or a year. The basic difference between the two designations is the way they are administered and how the student pays for them.

“With exchange programs, a student pays tuition and fees as though they were at BSC, but their body goes somewhere else,” said Dr. Davis. “It’s sort of a swap, we’re taking a student from this other place, and we send a student – almost a one-on-one swap. Students who go on study-abroad programs, on the other hand, pay tuition and other costs directly to the foreign institutions.

Bridgewater has exchange agreements with schools in England, Ireland, Canada, Brazil, Japan, Hong Kong and Jordan. Cape Verde will likely be added to the list soon. “For study-abroad programs, BSC works with a number of providers, nonprofits and other institutions that organize study abroad in many countries,” said Dr. Davis.

Among BSC’s most prestigious exchange programs is the Killam Fellowship program, which involves exchanges among 12 American colleges and universities and 10 in Canada. Students who are chosen as Killam Fellows receive $10,000 if they are doing a yearlong exchange and $5,000 for a half year.

“It’s an elite group of schools,” said Dr. Anthony Cicerone, professor of economics and director of BSC’s Canadian Studies Program. “BSC is definitely the most active of any of the schools involved. Every year (for the past five years), we’ve sent two students a year and had at least one incoming student.”

Hannah Renglich, one of this year’s Killam Fellows, is on exchange from Glendon College, York University, Canada. Ms. Renglich’s extensive extracurricular activities at BSC include singing with the college chorale and chamber singers and volunteering at Colchester Farm, an organic grower.

Among BSC’s rarest international programs is its study-abroad program for student teachers.

“We’re unique in that we offer – for qualified students – the opportunity to do half their student teaching in England,” said Dr. Davis. “Eight weeks abroad and eight weeks at home.” BSC has also had exchange students doing half their student teaching in Mexico.

After 20 years of working with international study programs, Dr. Davis retains tremendous enthusiasm for their value. “I tell students it is a life-changing experience. I have never had a student come to me afterward and say that was a waste of time and resources … but, I have had students come back and rave. It changes a person’s perspective of themselves and the world and makes them very marketable to employers.

“It shows a potential employer that they are flexible, they are culturally diverse, that they are risk takers, and that sets them apart from all other graduates within their major,” said Dr. Davis. “I think in the United States we have a tendency to be so insulated, and being able to see a different perspective is very healthy.”

Joan Wilder is a Boston-based freelance journalist and writer.

By far, the largest scholarship funding for BSC student exchange or study programs – about $70,000 per year – comes from the school’s foundation account and is used for student study trips. Only two other scholarships for studying abroad are available strictly to Bridgewater State College students. They are the Hart-McFarland Fund for International Study and the Bristol County Savings Bank Endowed Fund for Study Abroad.

Depending on the type of exchange or study abroad program a student is considering – and there are dozens – various scholarships unique to the particular program may be available.

BSC students are also allowed to use their financial aid to study abroad, which isn’t true of all colleges and universities.
International Students Find BSC a Welcoming Environment

By Craig Borges

Leaving home for college is never easy. With the anxiety of meeting new people and making new friends, comes the heartache of leaving behind old friendships and family, not to mention the worries about the course work and surviving on your own.

Imagine, then, what goes through the mind of the international student who must also often endure language and cultural barriers as well.

At Bridgewater State College, 94 students from countries throughout the world are doing just that this academic year, all in an effort to become better educated through the varied resources and excellence that the BSC experience provides.

For Kim Kirkwood, a native of South Africa, the hurdle wasn’t language but rather age.

Unlike most undergraduates entering Bridgewater, Ms. Kirkwood was older – 28 – and had already compiled a decade of real-life experience, leaving behind not only friends and family, but quitting her full-time computer science job and selling her property to make the move to the United States.

“There’s a lot of pressure in starting over,” she said. “You do certain things and then you realize you just can’t go back. I guess all I went through provided me with the extra motivation to move forward. I can’t afford to fail.”

But Bridgewater, she said, has helped her overcome her worries. “I love the feel of the school, the community,” she said. “It felt like the right place for me. Everyone is friendly and willing to help.”

Ms. Kirkwood, a computer science major who is minoring in Asian studies and serves as secretary for Bridgewater’s International Culture Club, became familiar with BSC through an aunt who lives in Massachusetts.

“I liked it the minute I saw it,” she said. “I like the way the campus looks, feels.”

She said one of the things she likes most about American higher education is the emphasis on a liberal arts education. Her sister attends college in South Africa, where students are extremely focused on their core subject.

Hilal Ulusan is in a similar situation. She, too, is older than most of her classmates. But she likes the vibe at BSC so much that she is planning on continuing her graduate studies in information technology when she gets her degree in 2009.

A native of Istanbul, Turkey, Ms. Ulusan came to Bridgewater through its relationship with Quincy College, transferring her community college credits. “I had heard very good things about Bridgewater and learned that most of my credits could be transferred,” she said.

“When I got here I really liked it. The whole environment here is very nice,” Ms. Ulusan said. “Everyone I meet is friendly. The environment of BSC welcomes people from all cultures.”

Ms. Ulusan worked in the hospitality industry in Turkey for 10 years before coming to the United States. She holds down two jobs at the school, one as a senior technical consultant and another as a Web designer in the school’s Information Technology Department, a job she says she loves.

But her proudest moments, she said, are when she makes Bridgewater’s Dean’s List.

“It takes a great effort to make it and I work very hard, but I do this not only for me, but for my parents,” she said. “It is a matter of pride. Each time I make it, it makes them feel so happy.”

Jessica Andersson’s path to Bridgewater was similar to Ms. Ulusan’s. The native of Lulea, Sweden, first attended Bristol Community College in Fall River after working in the area as an au pair. There she earned her associate’s degree. Through BSC’s joint admission’s program, she was able to transfer her credits to Bridgewater and went on for a four-year degree in chemistry and education. She is set to graduate in January 2009.

For her, the professors are what help make Bridgewater special. “They have always been extremely supportive,” the 27-year-old said. “They’ve helped me get scholarships and different opportunities to work on classes. ... They help me out a lot. I know that doesn’t happen at other schools.”

Multiculturalism at Bridgewater is one of the things England’s Sofia Georgoulias likes the most about the school. The 25-year-old London native, who has just completed her master’s degree in clinical psychology, said the school, though small, is able to provide a host of events for its varied student population.

“I like the fact that BSC is multicultural and has many multicultural events going on,” she said. She had recently attended one about the Dominican Republic. “They give people the opportunity to taste food from all over the world, learn traditional dancing and experience a bit of every culture.”

She, too, likes that Bridgewater is not a huge faceless university. “Teachers are very accessible,” she said. Despite English, of course, being her native language, she said she’s rather amused with the little spoken differences she finds here where rubbish is trash, soccer is not football and a tracksuit is a sweat suit.

Craig Borges is assistant managing editor and online editor at The Sun Chronicle in Attleboro.
Faculty Collaborations and Partnerships Provide Enriching International Experiences for Students

By Joan Wilder

While the poet William Blake wrote of, “seeing the world in a grain of sand,” BSC Geography Professor James Hayes-Bohanan’s ability to see the world in a cup of coffee has led him to squire students on study trips to the remote coffee-growing regions of Nicaragua.

For the past two years, Dr. Hayes-Bohanan has taken about 10 students on each 10-day, three-credit trip to Nicaragua where they are exposed to the politics of coffee growing. After experiencing how the Nicaraguan farmers struggle to get their fresh beans sold or dried before they rot (coffee is a fruit), the students start seeing the commodities in their everyday American lives differently.

The Hayes-Bohanan style of study trip, which immerses students in an intensive learning experience that involves spending nights in farmers’ homes, is only one of many study trips BSC professors offer students. While the trips are arranged through the college’s Office of International Programs, each is designed through connections the professors forge with institutions and individuals from the particular destination.

“There’s a long string of connections between a trip and a coffee farmer,” said Dr. Hayes-Bohanan, who made his first Nicaraguan connection through a contact at Equal Exchange. That company, which is the largest to promote the concept of Fair Trade, is located in West Bridgewater.

After an Equal Exchange spokeswoman addressed Dr. Hayes-Bohanan’s environmental geography class, she put him in touch with a farmers’ coffee growing co-op in Nicaragua. From there, the string of connections began – and continues – to grow. Dr. Hayes-Bohanan will lead his second study tour to Cape Verde in June. “This trip will build on the college’s extensive contacts in the country and will explore various aspects of sustainable development, from urban planning to education to agriculture,” he said.

Like many who have participated in BSC study trips, Dr. Hayes-Bohanan’s students have been deeply affected by their experiences. “For most of them, it really changes their life – day and night,” he said. “I take what I call ordinary mall-dwelling American teenagers who’ve never thought about where the stuff they buy comes from” to a rural area where there’s minimal electricity and everybody’s a farmer.

A study trip’s enriching effect on students isn’t limited to those visiting developing countries. Dr. Luci Fortunato, professor of history, has taken groups of BSC students to Italy on three-week summer study trips for the last six years. She said studying abroad can change lives.

“Some of them have never traveled, or visited another country, or lived in a foreign culture,” she explained. “It opens students up to very different cultural perspectives,” said Dr. Fortunato. “They don’t realize how closed an environment they’ve lived in until they get there. It broadens them in ways that are astounding.”

Dr. Fortunato, who earned her undergraduate degree from Bridgewater State College, knows firsthand how affecting going abroad can be for a student. She attributes her decision to become a history professor with a specialty in Italian history to a trip she made there as an undergraduate.

“I scraped up enough money to go to Italy for a couple weeks … and it was life changing. Now, I’m happy to be able to say to the students, ‘Here’s a little piece of the world.’”

Dr. Fortunato designs the Bridgewater in Lucca study trips with an Italian colleague she met when attending a conference in Florence in 2000. The three-week trips are undertaken in collaboration with the University of Florence and cultural institutions in the historic walled city of Lucca.

No part of the world is out as a possible destination for a BSC study trip. Among Bridgewater’s upcoming trip destinations are countries as diverse as Chile, England, Japan, China, Tanzania, Cape Verde and Jordan.

Dr. Deniz Leuenberger, assistant professor of political science and public administration, has followed her political interests to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. Last March, she took a group of six BSC students to a seven-day conference of international women entitled Insight Dubai, at Dubai Women’s College. The annual conference focuses on increasing cross-cultural and leadership skills in young women by studying world issues.

“The conference brings women of all backgrounds together, professionals and students,” said Dr. Leuenberger. The relationships the conference fostered among the young women resulted in a distance-learning project – focused on economic and environmental sustainability – between students at the two colleges. The collaborative project incorporated video technology that facilitates live dialogues between the BSC students and those at Dubai Women’s College.

Through a multitude of similar post-trip projects, student papers, articles and presentations, BSC study trip students bring their foreign experiences back to share with those on campus.

Joan Wilder is a Boston-based freelance journalist and writer.
Taking a Chance on China
A Year Abroad Leads Bill Crampton, ’88, to Make His Home in Shanghai

By Maura King Scully

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By the time an ad for a Bridgewater State College study-abroad year in China. “They were asking for a one-page summary of why you’d like to study in China. So that night, I went home, wrote my one-page essay and submitted it. Two days later, I found out I was going.”

Mr. Crampton spent the 1986-1987 academic year at Shanxi Teacher’s University, studying Mandarin Chinese four hours a day for nine months. It was an eye-opening experience. A native of Norwell, Mr. Crampton found himself one of only a handful of foreigners on campus. “You have to remember that China had just opened its borders to outsiders in 1982 after years of isolation,” he said.

“It was a tough year, but it changed my life,” Mr. Crampton recalled. Once classes concluded, he spent three months traveling. “By that time, I had perfected basic Chinese. And once you can speak their language, people open up to you. I visited Tibet, Xinjiang – the Muslim area of China – and inner Mongolia, among other places. I was the first foreigner in many villages I visited.”

A management/psychology double major, Mr. Crampton returned to the states with a new focus – Asian studies. He traveled to Boston to take intermediate Chinese, and after graduation, went on to study in Japan. Over the next four years, he learned to speak Japanese and earned two master’s degrees – one in East Asian studies from the University of Illinois and a second in cultural anthropology from the University of Hawaii.

“By 1992, I understood Asia pretty well,” he recalled. But in order to excel in either language, “I knew I had to make a choice: China or Japan?” On the heels of the ‘Japan, Inc.’ hype of the late ’80s, the island nation would have been a natural choice – yet Mr. Crampton found himself drawn to China. “When I studied in Japan, I found very sharp limits for foreigners; it was hard to integrate into society,” he explained. In contrast, “the Chinese are very friendly, open, and they’re intensely curious about America,” he noted.

So once again, Mr. Crampton gambled and put his professional chips on China. It’s a decision that’s paid off handsomely.

He returned to China, teaching at the Southwest Institute of Minority Nationalities and running a translation service. In 1994, Mr. Crampton moved back to the United States to become Asia Pacific regional manager for New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, where he set up 15 training centers in 10 Asian countries.

In 2001, he relocated permanently to Shanghai and opened his own outfit, Boston Training Technologies. BTT, as it is known, is, “a business English training company. We teach English to managers and technical workers at some of China’s largest companies, like China Mobile, China Telecom and Crowne Plaza Hotels,” Mr. Crampton noted. BTT also trains English speakers who work for foreign multinationals and travel or work in China. “English training is an exploding specialty,” he added.

After six years in business, BTT has 70,000 customers, and Mr. Crampton is bullish about the future. “China is the next Internet,” he said. “It’s going to affect every aspect of business. Today, things are going one way: the United States imports Chinese-made goods. In the future, it’s going to be much more back and forth, with the Chinese opening corporations here. It’s just the beginning.

“China has changed more in the past 20 years than in the last 50,” he continued. “And it’s growing much faster than anyone in the United States knows – it’s staggering how fast the economy is moving over there.” Once a gambler, Mr. Crampton today is promoting a simple message: “We need to get more people interested in China. There are lots of jobs and huge opportunities for any American who wants to learn Chinese,” he said.

Mr. Crampton credits BSC with starting him on the path to his current success. “Over the years, many people have asked me how I learned Chinese, and I always tell them it was from the exchange program through Bridgewater State College,” he concluded. “I had tremendous opportunity because BSC had an exchange program early on, and I’d like to see that program continue and flourish.”

Maura King Scully is a freelance writer from Walpole specializing in higher education.
Yash and Anvita Verma Complete Master’s Degrees in Computer Science . . . A Long Way from India

By Joan Wilder

Despite the fact that Anvita Verma’s new husband recommended that she choose Bridgewater State College for her graduate degree, the Indian native prepared herself for a culture shock when she began her studies in September 2005.

“I was expecting a lot of differences in the culture, but I got to know that at the personal level, people are the same,” said Mrs. Verma, who graduated with a master’s degree in computer science last May.

Unlike her husband, Yash Verma, who graduated a year ahead of her, also with a master’s degree in computer science, Mrs. Verma had never been to America before she arrived less than a year prior to enrolling at BSC. Although the couple had met in their home state of Uttar Pradesh in northern India years before their marriage, Mr. Verma had lived in Toronto from the ages of seven to fourteen and visited his sister in Massachusetts several times during that period.

Mr. Verma found BSC when a distant relative put him in touch with Jeane Lincoln at BSC’s School of Graduate Studies, whom he credits with helping him immensely. When he left for America a year before his wife-to-be, the couple agreed that she might choose a different college if that turned out to be right for her.

“We weren’t of the opinion that we had to go to the same graduate schools,” said Mr. Verma. Mr. Verma had such a positive experience at Bridgewater, his wife ended up wanting to go there, too.

“At Bridgewater, the professors were much more accessible to you than at my college in India,” he said.

Several months after Mr. Verma began his master’s degree studies in the fall of 2004, he and his wife were married and she moved to the United States. She began her master’s program at BSC a year after he did, and finished in May 2007, a year after her husband.

Although neither of the Vermas had the chance to participate in many extracurricular activities, each forged lasting relationships at the college.

Husband and wife both worked as graduate assistants at BSC. Mr. Verma’s job at the college’s information technology help desk afforded him additional opportunities to meet classmates.

“Other students were very, very generous with information,” said Mr. Verma. “They were very open about what they wanted to do and their approach, so that gave me a very good idea of how to proceed.” Later, after he’d been at BSC for a while, Mr. Verma was able to pass on the help he’d received to newer students.

Along with the know-how their fellow students passed onto the Vermas, each developed valuable relationships with their superiors through their on-campus graduate assistant jobs.

“She learned quite a bit at that job… and she owes that to Dr. Jones,” said Mr. Verma.

“Dr. Jones – we’re still in touch,” said Mrs. Verma. “On a one-to-one basis, I developed some really great relationships in school with faculty and graduate school employees, so we had a great time.”

The couple each mentioned Dr. Lee Mondshein, assistant professor of computer science, as a wonderful teacher, who guided them through artificial intelligence courses, as well as Dr. John Santore, assistant professor of computer science.

“Dr. Santore taught robotics, database systems, some crucial courses, and he was fun,” said Mrs. Verma. “He taught us very well. In fact, he taught both my husband and me, and he was my adviser, too.”

The Vermas live in New Jersey and work in their field: he is with KPMG, named by Fortune magazine in 2007 as one of the 100 best companies to work for, and she is working on computer databases with Jones Apparel Group.

“There are very wonderful teachers at Bridgewater,” said Mrs. Verma.

Joan Wilder is a Boston-area freelance writer.
Ivan Velinov Became Intrigued with the United States After Hearing a Radio Broadcast from Bulgaria

By Joan Wilder

It was the Voice of America – the government-sponsored American radio station that has been broadcasting throughout the world since 1942 – that ignited a fascination with the United States in Bulgarian native Ivan Velinov and which ultimately led him to Bridgewater State College.

“My interest in the United States, in the English language, and in both international relations and communication started in the early 1980s when I was growing up in communist Eastern Europe,” said Mr. Velinov, who graduated from BSC in 2006 with a bachelor’s degree in communications. “I was seven or eight when I first heard the Voice of America on an old Russian radio. I didn’t understand a word, but there was something intriguing and enchanting about it.”

Soon after that, Mr. Velinov began taking private English lessons, and his adolescence and teen years were filled with a yearning to learn about the United States. As a teenager, he decided that he would, one day, study in America.

“For me, the biggest attraction of America was this idea of idealism, freedom, independence. It always bothered me that we had state-run media. I always liked communications. And media and journalism … weren’t free,” said Mr. Velinov.

When the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, his dream began to seem a little closer.

Despite the new freedom the end of the Cold War brought to Bulgaria, it didn’t eliminate all obstacles to the free movement of people and ideas.

“It took me years before I was able to realize my dream,” said Mr. Velinov, who worked as much as he could throughout his young life to save money for his future studies in America. Working toward his goal, he also completed an undergraduate program in English philology and linguistics at Southwestern University in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. At that time, one of the first American Universities in Eastern Europe opened – American University – and Mr. Velinov would, “often sneak into the library and read books and newspapers.”

Finally, in 2001, at the age of 23, Mr. Velinov arrived in the United States. Knowing that his degree from Bulgaria wouldn’t be fully recognized by future employers, he chose to start all over again.

“I wanted to study here so much and felt that the educational systems were so different that I didn’t want to miss anything and wanted to absorb as much information as possible,” he said. “Even when I could have used some credits and shortened my undergraduate program here, I just didn’t want to sacrifice any subjects that I could take.”

After taking courses at Quincy College and Cape Cod Community College, the Bulgarian, who lives on the Cape with his wife, says he, “fell in love with the school’s [BSC’s] small-town, homey and easy-going atmosphere.” His list of favorite professors includes Dr. Jabbar Al-Obaidi, Dr. Nancy Street, Dr. Arthur Lizie Jr., and Professor Susan Miskelly.

Mr. Velinov found his lifelong desire for an American education to have been exactly the right path for him. At BSC, he was able to personalize his program by choosing classes, schedules and professors that he liked. His Bulgarian education had offered few choices of any sort. BSC also differed greatly from his Bulgarian college in the interaction it welcomed between professors and students. In Bulgaria, many classes consisted of daily lectures and one enormous test at the end of the course, a format that stifled creativity. Among his most satisfying BSC academic activities were class presentations, and being able to disagree with professors and pursue creative responses to issues.

“I had open-minded professors who appreciated this, and it did not affect my grades negatively, but just the opposite,” said Mr. Velinov. “For me, this was very important – for my academic freedom, creativity and opportunity – to even argue with my professors in trying to learn and realize my potential.”

Mr. Velinov is pursuing his master’s degree in political science and international relations at Suffolk University and is thinking of going on for a PhD.

“I am considering a doctoral degree because I’ve always enjoyed the academic environment, and I would like to remain in it and one day teach,” he said. “My Bridgewater State College professors have encouraged me in this endeavor, and some have even said that they would like it if I came back and taught one day. It is by far my favorite school, and I would love to do so.”

Joan Wilder is a Boston-based freelance journalist and writer.
Remaining Open to Opportunities Leads to Success for Austin Awasung, ’06, G’06
By Clare Leschin-Hoar

It was Austin Awasung’s parents who encouraged him to pursue his higher education here in the United States. After all, the family had happy ties to America. Mr. Awasung was born in Lubbock, TX, though his family moved back to the Republic of Cameroon in West Africa when he was still a young child.

In August 2001, at the age of 18, Mr. Awasung and his mother made the long journey from Cameroon to the United States, returning for the first time since he left, and by September, he was enrolled at Bridgewater State College. But like many transitions, things weren’t always easy.

“There was definitely some cultural shock,” said Mr. Awasung. “I knew very little of the culture here, and while English was my first language, it took some learning to get a comfortable understanding of subtexts, such as humor and sarcasm, in the American way of speech.”

It also took time to understand classroom references to companies like Wal-Mart.

There was no Wal-Mart in Cameroon, and no touchstone for Mr. Awasung, who quickly learned it was imperative that he ask questions, even at the risk of embarrassment. “I was here to learn,” he said.

Mr. Awasung not only learned about Wal-Mart and other American cultural references, he thrived at BSC. Graduating from BSC in May 2006, with a bachelor’s degree in both accounting and finance (magna cum laude) and a master’s degree in management science, his time here was also peppered with a number of outstanding achievements.

He served as treasurer of the Student Government Association, vice president of community services for the college chapter of the American Marketing Association and member of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society. Mr. Awasung was a recipient of BSC’s Alumni Association Award for Excellence, and in 2006, he received the Dr. Robert A. Daniel African-American Scholarship and was awarded first prize in the Massachusetts Society of CPAs William Holmes College Student Essay Contest.

During his final semester at BSC, Mr. Awasung was tapped by his academic adviser, Dr. Patricia Bancroft, chairperson of the Department of Accounting and Finance, to take on the role of adjunct professor, teaching two accounting courses.

“It was very different to go from the student sitting at a desk, to the instructor across from the desk,” said Mr. Awasung. “I tried to vary the teaching methods and always looked for ways to make sure the message was getting across, ways to ensure my students would understand.

“That was a great experience,” he said. One of the many opportunities he accepted during his time at BSC was an internship at PricewaterhouseCoopers during his junior year that set the path for Mr. Awasung’s career.

His internship was so successful, the firm made him a formal job offer while he was still an undergraduate, but Mr. Awasung knew it was important to finish his degree first.

“I talked to my parents, friends, BSC alumni mentors and accounting professors, and they validated my opinion. So I asked PricewaterhouseCoopers to defer the job offer, and I countered by offering to stay for another internship, while completing my degree.”

It was a wise move, and after graduating, Mr. Awasung joined the firm in September 2006, working in insurance services in the health sector. He has since earned his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license and says much of what he learned as a student at BSC he now sees firsthand in real-life applications.

From a foreign student arriving in the United States for the first time as an adult, to his current career with Pricewaterhouse-Coopers, Mr. Awasung’s willingness to seek out and accept new challenges is a well-cultivated trait, even when it means stretching far beyond his comfort-zone.

“For example, being outgoing is something I’ve had to teach myself. It’s important. So I put myself in those opportunities at Bridgewater, a habit which helps me even today. The awards received at Bridgewater reinforced the fact that there are opportunities out there – we just have to recognize and reach for them,” said Mr. Awasung.

Clare Leschin-Hoar of Mansfield writes for magazines and newspapers covering such topics as environmental issues, social enterprise, food, agriculture, health and business.
Shruti Tekwani, ’05, Found New Beginning at Bridgewater State College After Arriving from Curaçao

By Joan Wilder

Although most college-bound natives of the island of Curaçao, in the Caribbean’s Netherlands Antilles, head for Miami or Holland for their education, Shruti Tekwani wanted to study in a locale that offered four seasons. Going through a book of colleges, she settled on the Boston area.

“I think I’m the only person from Curaçao to have studied at Bridgewater,” said Ms. Tekwani, who graduated in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and minors in both social work and forensic psychology.

“It was a different world altogether, and I fell in love when I stepped onto the Bridgewater campus,” said Ms. Tekwani. “I had established myself for 18 years on this small island – didn’t have much time for soul searching. I get to this new place, nobody knows me, and I know nobody. It gave me a chance to say, this is who I am.”

While Ms. Tekwani was passionate about academics – she had enough credits to graduate after three years but stayed the full four – she said that extracurricular activities were a big part of her college experience.

Ms. Tekwani went on to be president of the club and also served as president of the Leadership Honor Society, graduated from BSC’s Leadership Institute, worked as a resident assistant (RA) in her sophomore year and as a senior resident assistant in her junior and senior years.

Working as an RA put her in constant contact with BSC’s housing office, where staff taught her much about the work world.

“The people who worked at the housing office really helped me out. First of all, they hired me, but they also took me to professional development seminars, where I learned about jobs,” said Ms. Tekwani, who now works as a resident director at Wentworth Institute of Technology, while pursuing her master’s in counseling and psychology at Northeastern University. Although Wentworth’s housing department officials were looking for someone with a master’s degree, Ms. Tekwani landed the job four days after she graduated from BSC.

“When I got hired for this job, I was 21 years old and didn’t have the master’s degree that they preferred,” she said. “If it weren’t for the people in the housing office, I would not have gotten it. They pushed me, and they guided me.”

Ms. Tekwani says that her job is an amalgam of counselor, building manager and judicial officer, all rolled into one.

Ms. Tekwani, who lives in Boston, found the BSC campus to have the right combination of town and country for her.

“Bridgewater had enough of a town life that we weren’t in the middle of nowhere but also had easy access to Boston,” she said. “I stayed on campus a lot and got the most out of it. If it’d been a busy city, I might have gotten distracted. I loved it, I’d go back in a heartbeat.”

Joan Wilder is a Boston-based freelance journalist and writer.
Cheering the Troops

BSC Student Angela Vernaglia Travels to Iraq to Entertain for the Holidays

By Joan Wilder

ot too many people can say they’ve spent the night in a sleeping bag on the floor of a C17 military cargo plane, performed on a makeshift stage under the night skies in the Iraqi desert, or wore a bulletproof jacket over a New England Patriots cheerleading uniform while visiting service men and women in a war zone. But Bridgewater State College senior Angela Vernaglia did all that over a two-week period last November when she was part of the United States military’s Operation Season’s Greetings.

Ms. Vernaglia was one of six Pat’s cheerleaders (out of 24) to be chosen to perform in the annual Air Force-sponsored show to entertain the troops overseas. Among those in the 2007 lineup were country music star Jamie O’Neal, Latin pop singer Melina Leon, comedian Dick Hardwick, the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve and the cheerleaders.

“It’s a huge honor to be chosen,” said the 21 year old, who has been at BSC for four years – and with the cheerleaders since March 2006.

The enormous, logistically complex effort was carried out by a large contingent of Air Force Reserve personnel in the United States and overseas. The two-week trip began with a 14-hour flight (aboard a cavernous C17 cargo plane where Ms. Vernaglia and others camped out) from Robbins Air Force base in Georgia to Incirlik Air Force base in Turkey. The large cast and crew were put up in comfortable, hotel-like lodgings on the base, which served as their home for three daytrips to different locations in Iraq. Following the week in Turkey, the cast and crew arrived at each location in the morning and spent the day visiting the troops. While the crew unloaded lights and other equipment from the plane and set up the stage, the performers split up and spread out around the base, visiting service personnel in their work places. Ms. Vernaglia visited with men and women in the dining hall, the airplane control tower, inside tanks, and in heavily secured rooms where guns and ammunition are given out. Wherever they were, the cheerleaders – in their red, white and blue Patriots apparel – brought holiday cheer into the difficult days of the soldiers’ lives.

“All the shows took place at night,” said Ms. Vernaglia, who will graduate with a bachelor’s degree in psychology this year. Being someone whose major includes the study of the mind, mental states and behavior, Ms. Vernaglia’s exposure to troops in a war zone made an especially deep impact.

“Some of these kids were so young. Some were from Massachusetts and just graduated from high school four months earlier. It was so close to home … and they’re so far from home. What really struck me the most … was they’re such honorable people,” said Ms. Vernaglia.

The shows opened with comedian Dick Hardwick introducing the cheerleaders, who kicked things off with a 10-minute routine of dances to popular rock songs. The Patriots’ squad also ended the two-hour shows with another number. Immediately after that, the rest of the cast – including the band – would join the cheerleaders on stage for a group rendition of “God Bless America.”

While Ms. Vernaglia’s participation in Operation Season’s Greetings changed the holidays for the better for thousands in the military, the experience changed her, too.

“I probably won’t support the war, no matter what, I have a better understanding of what our troops do, so I will always support them. If I could say anything to anyone, it’s just to try to be more educated about current events, because without that, you really can’t base an opinion on anything.”

Joan Wilder is a Boston-based freelance journalist and writer.

Kirkuk, they were greeted by military hospitality people and given heavy bulletproof vests to wear. Despite the reality behind the need for visitors to wear the “flak jackets,” Ms. Vernaglia wasn’t frightened.

“I felt so comfortable, I was never scared,” she said.

Although the shows took place at night, the cast and crew arrived at each location in the morning and spent the day visiting the troops. While the crew unloaded lights and other equipment from the plane and set up the stage, the performers split up and spread out around the base, visiting service personnel in their work places. Ms. Vernaglia visited with men and women in the dining hall, the airplane control tower, inside tanks, and in heavily secured rooms where guns and ammunition are given out. Wherever they were, the cheerleaders – in their red, white and blue Patriots apparel – brought holiday cheer into the difficult days of the soldiers’ lives.

“Everybody was so happy and appreciative to see us. They were just so happy we were there,” said Ms. Vernaglia, who will graduate with a bachelor’s degree in psychology this year. Being someone whose major includes the study of the mind, mental states and behavior, Ms. Vernaglia’s exposure to troops in a war zone made an especially deep impact.

“Some of these kids were so young. Some are from Massachusetts and just graduated from high school four months earlier. It was so close to home … and they’re so far from home. What really struck me the most … was they’re such honorable people,” said Ms. Vernaglia.

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While Ms. Vernaglia’s participation in Operation Season’s Greetings changed the holidays for the better for thousands in the military, the experience changed her, too.

“Before I went on this trip, I was uneducated on what was going on in Iraq. I don’t think a lot of students know what’s going on there. Now, for or against the war, no matter what, I have a better understanding of what our troops do, so I will always support them. If I could say anything to anyone, it’s just to try to be more educated about current events, because without that, you really can’t base an opinion on anything.”

Joan Wilder is a Boston-based freelance journalist and writer.
First Students Inducted into International Sociology Society

The college has inducted its first students into the Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society. Twenty-nine inductees, all junior and senior sociology majors, met the strict standards set by the society.

Alpha Kappa Delta was founded in 1920 under the credo: “To investigate humanity for the purpose of service.” Members have to maintain a 3.0 grade point average, both overall and in their sociology course work, and show a commitment to study in the field of sociology, said Dr. Jodi Cohen, an assistant professor of sociology.

Local School Helmed by Trustee Recognized as Among Tops in United States

Brockton High School has been named by U.S. News & World Report as one of the best high schools in the United States. Bridgewater State College Trustee Susan Szachowicz, ’75, G’81, serves as principal of the 4,400-student school, which was chosen as one of the nation’s 1,591 best high schools for academic excellence and awarded a bronze medal for its success in providing what the magazine termed “a model of public education.”

Midyear Symposium Highlights Student Research Projects

First- and second-year seminar students had the opportunity to present their research projects at the second Midyear Symposium. More than 200 students participated in research categories including consumer mathematics, literature analysis, and environmental and societal issues. Some students delivered oral presentations, while others featured the results of their work via video exhibitions and performances.
Crimson Hall Conference Suite Named for College Benefactors

By John Winters

The spacious new conference room at Bridgewater State College’s new four-star residence, Crimson Hall, was named the Frank and Dorothy Szafer Dunn Conference Suite. The dedication ceremony, held last fall, honored the couple’s longtime support, commitment and leadership at the college. President Dana Mohler-Faria was in attendance together with college administrators and a large gathering of supporters and members of the Dunn family. A proclamation from Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick was delivered by State Rep. David Flynn, ’58.

In her opening remarks, Vice President of Institutional Advancement Molly Fannon Williams expressed her great appreciation for the Dunns, saying, “Our purpose today is to ensure that Frank, ’49, G’51, and Dodie (Dorothy), ’51, will always have a place on this campus and in Bridgewater history, because they have meant so much to so many who have passed through this institution.”

President Dana Mohler-Faria called the Dunns, “two wonderful people who have been working for decades to support this college in so many different ways. For them, Bridgewater is more than just a place or something they’re fond of. It’s part of the fabric of their lives.”

In thanking those gathered for their kind words, Mrs. Dunn spoke for herself and her husband, saying with emotion, “When we were students, we never in our wildest dreams expected such an occasion as this.”

The culmination of the ceremony included the unveiling of a plaque dedicating the conference room in the name of the Dunns. Mr. E. Dennis Kelly Jr., president of the Bridgewater State College Foundation, read the transcription aloud, adding, “The Dunns are wonderful ambassadors for the college. They certainly make a difference.”

Taking advantage of named gift opportunities is one exciting way alumni and friends can support the college and, at the same time, create a lasting legacy.

Alice Tobin Zaff Appointed Assistant Vice President for Leadership Gifts

By Karen Booth

“The mission of public higher education drew me in,” said Alice Tobin Zaff, who comes to her position as assistant vice president for leadership gifts at Bridgewater State College from a nine-year tenure as director of principal gifts at Wheaton College in Norton. “Education offers such transformative experiences for young women and men. That’s true for public or private education, but I feel that Bridgewater is where I can make the biggest difference. This is a historic time for the college, and I’m excited to be part of it.”

Bridgewater is equally excited to have Ms. Zaff on its team. Vice President for Advancement Molly Fannon Williams said of Ms. Zaff, “Attracting a seasoned professional like Alice to our staff is a sign of real momentum in the growth and development of our advancement program. Alice has not only hit the ground running with a strategic work plan for the spring semester, but she has also made immediate friends on and off campus with her friendly and sincere personality.”

Ms. Zaff has been on campus for only a short time, but already has a flavor for the intense connection to the college felt by the Bridgewater family. “It’s obvious how much our alumni, friends, faculty and staff love Bridgewater. There’s an almost palpable sense of pride. I have to say that it’s a joy working with so many people who want to give back to the institution that’s done so much for them.”

Joining a growing staff in the advancement division, Ms. Zaff, with her special expertise in major and planned giving fundraising, will work with alumni and friends of the college to help them achieve their philanthropic goals.

New Scholarship Honors the Lifetime Achievements of John “Bertie” Cruz

Created by the friends and family of John B. Cruz Jr., the John “Bertie” Cruz Scholarship honors Mr. Cruz’s achievements in business and his unwavering commitment to education. Scholarship funds will be used to benefit a Bridgewater State College undergraduate student, with preference for applicants of Cape Verdean heritage from New Bedford. The Cruz family and friends have expressed their intent to grow the $75,000 endowed scholarship over time.
Afro-American Alumni Association

Several members of the Afro-American Alumni Association Board of Directors hosted tables at the Workplace Protocol dinner sponsored by the Office of Career Services. Dr. Wayne Phillips, ’62, author of The Concise Guide to Executive Etiquette, provided advice to students on appropriate dining behavior.

The Afro-American Alumni Association is hosting a fundraising dinner on Saturday, April 5, honoring Arthur Cox, ’98, whose sudden death in 2006 saddened many people. The highlight of this dinner will be an overview of Arthur’s life and how he touched so many others and paved the way for many students of color at Bridgewater State College. If you would like to make a donation to the Arthur Cox Memorial Scholarship Fund, please send your donation, made payable to the BSC Foundation, to Bridgewater State College, P.O. Box 42, Bridgewater, MA 02324.

Alumni Chamber Choir

The Alumni Chamber Choir (ACC) had a fun and active fall and winter season under the direction of Dr. Carol Nicholeris. In November, the choir performed at The Breakers mansion in Newport, RI, before an audience of 500 and also performed before a full house at the Central Square Congregational Church in Bridgewater on Dec. 3. This concert was taped and broadcast on cable access channel BTV-9.

The ACC is rehearsing for its spring concert on Sunday, May 4, again at the Central Square Congregational Church. The choir is looking for vocally talented individuals to become new members. For more details about the ACC, please visit www.bscacc.org or e-mail john.goulart.jr@comcast.net.

Hyannis-Bridgewater Physical Education Alumni Association

A “Getting to Know You” event for students with majors from the Department of Movement Arts, Health Promotion and Leisure Studies was hosted by the Hyannis-Bridgewater Physical Education Alumni Association. The focus of this event was to introduce students to the alumni group and let them know that when they graduate, there is an alumni organization that will help them remain connected to the college, as well as to their major. The alumni group will host an event in the spring for seniors to congratulate them on their accomplishments and to encourage them to become members of the organization.

The Carol Mulloy Cuttle 5K Road Race is an annual event that is cosponsored by this alumni organization. Volunteers assisted with registration, course monitoring and awarding prizes. Faculty liaison Dr. Maura Rosenthal recruited students from her Sports Management class to assist the alumni volunteers.

The annual Moriarity Lecture is scheduled for April 16 in the Moakley Center. More information about the lecture will be mailed in early spring.

To become part of this very active group, please e-mail Candace Maguire, director of Alumni and Development Programs, at cmaguire@bridgew.edu.
Crimson Ambassadors

The Crimson Ambassadors began their year with a successful recruitment campaign, adding more than 10 new members. The group was very busy during Homecoming, acting as hosts for the Athletic Hall of Fame banquet and riding on the Bridgewater Alumni Association float during the parade. To raise money for their annual service project, the Ambassadors held a raffle for baskets filled with BSC memorabilia at the alumni tent.

The ambassadors used the money raised from the raffle, along with money provided by the Recent Graduate Association, to sponsor a family through My Brother’s Keeper, an organization in Easton that delivers food and furniture to families in need. Toys, warm clothing and gift cards were purchased to brighten the holiday season for the sponsored family. Members from both groups gathered to wrap the gifts and share a meal before winter break.

Homecoming 2007

Homecoming and Family Day were combined this year, and hundreds of people participated in the activities that were available. The day began with the Carol Mulloy Cuttle 5K Road Race, followed by several pre-parade breakfasts, including a parents’ breakfast, Kappa Delta Phi’s annual homecoming breakfast and a Sigma Pi gathering.

The Recent Graduate Association sponsored a wine-pairing event immediately following the parade during which Chef Dan prepared a Mardi Gras menu of red beans and rice, chicken gumbo, bread pudding and beignets. Various types of wines were available for the guests to pair with the delicious food samplings.
The Bridgewater Bears faced Worcester State College on the football field and brought home a win with a score of 21-13. Immediately following the game, the Class of 1992 held its 15th reunion at Castaway's Bar & Grille in Bridgewater.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Oct. 18, for Homecoming 2008.

James Vaitanes and Jennifer Johnson were selected Homecoming king and queen.

BSC fans attend Homecoming to cheer on the Bears.

Carol Mulloy Cuttle 5K Road Race

More than 60 people, including students, faculty and alumni, ran in this year’s race. Listed below are the first and second place winners in the various categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOMEN</th>
<th>MEN</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01-14</td>
<td>First Place . . . . Jennifer Petty Second Place . . . Megan McDonald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>First Place . . . . Erin Bentley Second Place . . Lauren Statton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>First Place . . . . Sarah Heverly Second Place . . . Bryn Morwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>First Place . . . . Courtney Jones Visser Second Place . . Jen Murray</td>
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<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>First Place . . . . Karen Langevin Second Place . . Greta MacRae</td>
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<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>First Place . . . . Colleen Heverly Second Place . . Anna Bradfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 and Over</td>
<td>First Place . . . . John Jones Second Place . . Sam Baumgarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Overall</td>
<td>Katie Ayers with a time of 21:47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All proceeds from the race benefit the Carol Mulloy Cuttle Scholarship Fund. A scholarship is awarded annually to a student clinician within the Children’s Physical Developmental Clinic program at BSC.

Bridgewater State College 2007 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

The 2007 Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner was held on Oct. 26. Six former BSC athletes were honored for their outstanding athletic achievements while they were BSC students. Athletic Hall of Fame inductions are held every other year, and selection is based on the following criteria: Athletes shall be eligible beginning five years after receiving their undergraduate degree from Bridgewater State College; non-alumna/us eligibility shall begin two years after service to the athletic program has ended; college personnel (coaches, faculty and athletic staff) presently employed at Bridgewater State College require completion of a minimum of five years of service to BSC athletics for eligibility.

Nominations for the 2009 inductions may be made online by visiting the athletics department Web site at www.bscbears.com/landing/index.

The six inductees for 2007 are:

Seto Berry, ’01

Arguably one of the greatest running backs to ever set foot on Swenson Field, Seto Berry competed on the gridiron at Bridgewater State College from 1997 to 2000. He is the Bears’ all-time career rushing leader with 4,495 yards and 44 rushing touchdowns, and the only running back in BSC football history to eclipse the 4,000-yard barrier. Mr. Berry, who is second all-time at BSC in scoring with 274 career points, rushed for 1,286 yards and 16 touchdowns in 1999, which at the time were school records. He helped lead the Bears to a 10-0 regular season mark that season as well as the first of back-to-back NCAA Division III Tournament appearances. The 1999 team broke the school marks for points scored in a season (468), and total offense (4,958). In 1998, Mr. Berry rushed for a school single-game record of 283 yards in BSC’s Cranberry Bowl victory over Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Since graduating from BSC, he has gone on to become a middle school physical education teacher in Plymouth. He also started a health and fitness training business six years ago. The competitive experience on the football field at BSC has
helped guide him throughout his professional career. Mr. Berry resides in his hometown of Plymouth and is engaged to Marisa Hourihan.

Richard Carreiro, ’60
One of the all-time greatest soccer players to don cleats at Bridgewater State College, Richard Carreiro excelled on the pitch as a four-year letterman from 1956 to 1959. Nicknamed ‘The Cannon,’ due to his vicious shot, Mr. Carreiro scored an impressive 70 goals and added 35 assists in his collegiate career. While a student at New Bedford High School in the early 1950s, Mr. Carreiro was solely responsible for resurrecting soccer as a sport at the school. He captained the New Bedford High School soccer team his senior year and, at the age of 18, was the youngest soccer player to compete in Big League Soccer east of the Mississippi. In 1952, before attending college, Mr. Carreiro entered the military and graduated from the U.S. Army Physical Training School, Supervisor Course. He also graduated from Ranger School and captained the U.S. Army Soccer Team in Augsburg, Germany. After serving in the armed forces, he went on to attend Bridgewater Teachers College (now Bridgewater State College). After receiving his Bridgewater State College education, Mr. Carreiro taught at New Bedford High School for 37 years. He resides in New Bedford with his wife of 49 years, Leonora.

Joan Ando Casabian, ’66
A pioneer in women’s athletics as a student-athlete and later as a coach and physical educator at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School, Joan Casabian was a three-sport athlete at BSC from 1962 to 1966 at a time when opportunities were limited for women. She competed in field hockey, lacrosse and basketball in college. Ms. Casabian, who studied health and physical education at BSC, was the first member of her family to graduate from a four-year college. After graduating, Ms. Casabian shared her love for athletics and a healthy lifestyle with a countless number of students for 35 years as a teacher and field hockey coach at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School. She achieved many accolades over the span of her career including The Boston Globe Division I Field Hockey Coach of the Year in 1992. On five different occasions, Ms. Casabian was voted to Who’s Who, an award credited to outstanding American Teachers. In 1997, she was awarded the LPGA Award in recognition of her leadership, inspiration and outstanding contributions to athletics. She was inducted into the Oliver Ames High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003. Ms. Casabian resides in Bridgewater with her husband, Ed.

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.
Paul Duffy, ’89  
Paul Duffy was an outstanding pitcher on the Bridgewater State College baseball team from 1986 to 1989. He posted a win-loss record of 20-7 during his career with 116 strikeouts and a 3.56 earned run average in 41 appearances on the mound. Mr. Duffy still holds the BSC all-time records for starts (32), is third all-time in complete games (13), innings pitched (214.2), and wins (20), and is fourth overall in games pitched (41). In 1988, Mr. Duffy had one of the finest seasons on the mound in BSC baseball history as he captured First Team All-American honors, as well as First Team All-New England honors. He went 8-2 that year with 51 strikeouts and an impressive 1.41 ERA. That season, he set school marks for starts (12), wins and complete games (6). Mr. Duffy was recognized for his outstanding season by being selected to the New England College All-Star Game at Fenway Park. Since graduating from BSC, Mr. Duffy has gone on to serve the athletic community as a member of the Bridgewater Little League Board of Directors. He also coaches Bridgewater Travel Basketball and Little League. Mr. Duffy resides in Bridgewater with his wife, Lisa, and two sons, Connor and Kyle.

Andy Macaione, ’01  
Andy Macaione played football for Bridgewater State College from 1997 to 2000. He is arguably one of the greatest wide receivers ever to play at BSC. Mr. Macaione is the Bears’ all-time leading receiver with 2,642 yards. He also holds the BSC career, single-season and single-game records for touchdown receptions. Mr. Macaione had 37 touchdown passes during his four-year career at BSC, hauled in 15 touchdown receptions during the 1999 season and caught four touchdown passes in a 1998 game against MIT. Mr. Macaione also holds the career mark for receptions with 120. One of the most versatile players for the Bears, he also played defensive back and kicked. He finished his BSC career third all-time in scoring with 262 points (39 touchdowns and 28 PATs). In 1999, he helped lead the Bears to a 10-0 regular season mark, as well as the first of back-to-back NCAA Division III Tournament appearances. The 1999 team broke the school marks for points scored in a season (468), and total offense (4,958). After graduating in 2001, Mr. Macaione played arena football for both the Chicago Rush (2001) and the Mohegan Wolves (2002). He lives in Gilmanton, NH, with his wife, Elizabeth, and son, Michael.

Sheila Tunstall McKenna, ’62  
Sheila Tunstall McKenna was a three-sport athlete, playing softball, volleyball and basketball at Fairhaven High School. She captained the basketball team, which won the Narragansett Girl’s Basketball League in the 1957-1958 season, while also leading the league in scoring with 20.5 points per game. Ms. McKenna was a health and physical education major and competed in field hockey, basketball and lacrosse. After graduating, she implemented and coached the first girl’s varsity teams at Attleboro High School in field hockey, volleyball and spring track. She also served as a physical education teacher at Attleboro. In 1997, Ms. McKenna was inducted into the Fairhaven High School Hall of Fame. Her contributions in the field of physical education have been numerous, and she continues to be active in the field as she has done for more than 49 years. Ms. McKenna has remained very involved in both the BSC and Fairhaven High School Alumni Associations. She was president of the BSC Alumni Association from 1992 to 1994. Ms. McKenna, who resides in Attleboro with her husband of 39 years, Jack, has been very active in the Senior Games over the last 12 years, competing in basketball and track at the regional and national level.

Recent Graduate Association  
Committee members from the Recent Graduate Association teamed up with the Crimson Ambassadors for their holiday service project. The annual event allows the
recent graduates to connect with students while contributing to a great cause.

The RGA group is hard at work planning events for the upcoming year, including the second annual New Year, New You seminar, and a career and financial makeover session for recent graduates. Please visit the online community at alumni.bridgew.edu to see details and to register.

Upcoming Events

April 5
Afro-American Alumni Association
Arthur Cox Scholarship Fund Dinner
6-10 PM
Rondileau Campus Center Ballroom
Reservations Required

April 12
Major Awards Dinner
6-9 PM
Rondileau Campus Center Ballroom
Reservations Required

April 16
Moriarity Lecture
6 PM Reception
7 PM Lecture
Moakley Auditorium
Details will be mailed in March.

April 24
Social Work Spring Conference
The Rise of Addiction Across the Life Span
12:15-5 PM
Moakley Auditorium
Attendees will receive CEUs

Shea Scholar Presentation

The Bridgewater Alumni Association established the Shea Scholar program during the 1987–1988 academic year in honor of Dr. Ellen M. Shea, dean of students emerita. Her distinguished career in education and her role as a mentor to generations of BSC students served to guide the alumni association in the design and criteria for this prestigious award, funded through a generous bequest left to the college by Dr. Shea to provide scholarly assistance. Ms. Jean Cabral, '08, was this year's Shea Scholar recipient.

Ms. Cabral presented a one-woman performance based on the life and musical works of Clara Schumann, a 19th century female musician and composer. Ms. Cabral wrote the musical play and performed several of Schumann's pieces in both English and German. Elementary school students from the area attended and were offered the opportunity to ask Ms. Cabral questions at the end of the performance.

Jean Cabral, '08, portrays Clara Schumann in a musical play she wrote and performed.

June 6-8
Alumni Reception and Dinner
6-7:30 PM
Dunn Conference Room

Alumni Weekend

Please mark June 6–8 on your calendars. Members of the Class of 1958 are returning to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation. Festivities will begin on Friday evening and continue until Sunday morning.

All classes are invited to take part in Saturday’s activities. Call your classmates, and plan on returning to our beautiful campus for a memorable day. For more information, please visit the alumni Web site at www.bridgew.edu/alumni.

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

Winter 2008
Voices of Experience
Alumni bring students real-world perspectives on the competitive communications field
By Maura King Scully
They came, they spoke, they passed on invaluable workplace wisdom. “They” were five alumni who served on “Careers in Communications,” an October panel discussion held in the Heritage Room at Maxwell Library. More than 60 students came to hear, firsthand, views of careers in public relations, event planning, mass media and organizational communications.

Co-sponsored by the Department of Communication Studies and the Office of Career Services, the panel included Kerrie Babin, ’02, president and CEO of the Taunton Chamber of Commerce; Christine Bren, ’03, broadcast technician at WCVB-TV; Jeff Fowler, ’03, station manager at Bridgewater Television; Judith Graham, ’01, acting dean/staff associate at Bunker Hill Community College, Chelsea campus; and Jenna Stephenson, ’03, event planning coordinator for external affairs at Bridgewater State College.

Though the panelists came from diverse industries, their jobs offered common elements: a varied work experience, with no two days ever the same; fast-paced work environments; and long days, 10-12 hours on average. Another theme was the importance of internships. “I’m interviewing candidates for an entry-level job, and I can tell you the ones who have not done internships don’t hold a candle to the ones who have,” said Ms. Babin. “I highly encourage you to do as many as you can. You’ll love it. You’ll learn a lot, even if you don’t like the internship, and you’ll be ahead of the game.”

“My internship got me to where I am today,” echoed Ms. Stephenson. “I didn’t like the placement, but the overall experience was amazing – learning to think on my feet and meeting different people every day. That absolutely helped me get my foot in the door to my first job.”

“You’ll see jobs that require three years experience, and you think, ‘how can I get that?’ Mr. Fowler added. “You can do it – by volunteering and interning. Do all these little things, and then all of a sudden, your resume looks great.”

The message was not lost on those in attendance. “It was interesting to hear where their careers have gone,” observed Jennifer Haley, ’08. “And it really got me thinking about a second internship. I did one last year, but since they all stressed how important those experiences are, I think I should line up one for next semester.”

“I was impressed with how articulate and open they all were about their struggles and successes,” added Bjorn Ingvolstad, assistant professor in the Department of Communication Studies. “I think because they were young alumni, they could empathize with students and where they were. They were also extremely practical – ‘this is how I got from point A to point B.’ It was a terrific way to get students thinking about all the different avenues open to them.”

The panel was part of the 30 or so programs Career Services offers annually to prepare students for meaningful lives and careers after BSC. “We provide as many experiences as we can to connect alumni and students, so students can see what alumni are doing, and think, ‘yes I can do that too,’” said Carol Crosby, assistant director of career services.

Career Services Upcoming Events
Annual Job Fair
Wednesday, April 9
11 AM-1:30 PM
Rondileau Campus Center Ballroom
The Bridgewater State College Annual Job Fair is open to all BSC students, alumni and the community. Employers from more than 50 organizations in the fields of business; education; human services and nonprofit; health and science; and government will be on hand offering full-time professional positions.

A sampling of employers who will be participating in this year’s Job Fair includes: Dunkin Brands, Inc.; John Hancock; May Institute; New Hope, Inc.; Clean Harbors Environmental Services; and The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Visit www.bridgew.edu/careerservices for more information about this event.

Perfect Interview is an innovative online tool that allows alumni and students to enhance their job-interviewing skills with a realistic, simulated-interview experience. This program offers more than 1,500 interview questions, answers and hints that have all been professionally produced on digital video.

To access Perfect Interview, visit www.bridgew.edu/careerservices/perfectinterview.cfm.

Please contact the Office of Career Services at 508.531.1328 for more information.
Submissions for class notes are due by April 15 for inclusion in the summer 2008 edition of Bridgewater. E-mail class notes to cregan@bridgew.edu or mail to Christine Regan, 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 photography or high-resolution digital images may be sent to Christine Regan (see above). We are not able to use digital images printed on home printers because they are generally not of the quality necessary for print reproduction.

1938
Magda Borgatti Fiorni wishes to let friends of Pauline “Polly” Hull know that Polly is unable to converse on the telephone, but would appreciate cards at 8 Abbot Road, Gloucester, MA 01930. … Plan to return to campus on Saturday, June 7, for a 70th reunion. Details will be mailed in the spring.

1943
Plan to return to BSC on Saturday, June 7, for a 65th reunion. Details will be mailed in the spring.

1948
Plan to return to BSC on Saturday, June 7, for a 60th reunion. Details will be mailed in the spring.

1952
Richard “Rick” Morin, founder and member of the band, The Rhythm Room, opened a private studio and will begin offering classes to the public through Innerythms, Mr. Morin’s educational group.

1953
Plan to return to BSC on Saturday, June 7, for a 55th reunion. Details will be mailed in the spring.

1958
Taunton High School’s softball field has been named Jack Tripp Field, in honor of John S. “Jack” Tripp, G’64. … Don’t forget June 6 and 7 are the dates for your 50th reunion. Details will be mailed.

1962
Sheila Tunstall McKenna was inducted into to the Bridgewater State College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007. … Dr. Wayne Phillips, chairman and founder of the Beautification and Landscape Committee at BSC, was recognized by the college with the courtyard next to Hart Hall named in his honor. … Several members of the class gathered in Boston for a day of fine food and fun. Those in attendance were: Barbara Aguiar Lombardo, Carol Oliveira Nash, Cynthia Beaudoin, Beverly White Lutz, Janet Drummey Cahill, Patricia Paone Himber, Kathy Barrett Becker, Joan LeClair Cotter, Jackie Bouchard Fitzpatrick, Sheila Tunstall McKenna, Judy Murphy DeFillippo and Janice Souza Randall; seated (from left): Barbara Aguiar Lombardo, Carol Oliveira Nash, Cindy Beaudoin and Beverly White Lutz.

Career Services has launched its career management site, BSC Career Link. BSC Career Link is an easy-to-use, centralized system where you can:

- Search jobs
- Post jobs
- Become an alumni mentor
- Access the alumni mentor database

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.
C L A S S  N O T E S

Becker, Joan Leclair Cotter, Jackie Bouchard Fitzpatrick, Sheila Tunstall McKenna, Judy Murphy DeFillippo and Janice Souza Randall.

Please mark June 6 and 7 on your calendar because your reunion committee has planned a wonderful 45th reunion. Details will be mailed in the spring.

John Whalen has announced the formation of his own company, Phoenix Commercial Realty. … Marjorie Nordman Dorney, G’76, principal of Vinal School in Newton, has announced that she is retiring in March 2008.

John Mullaly, G’71, was inducted into the Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School Hall of Fame. … Thomas LaLiberte was named the MetLife Massachusetts Middle School Principal of the Year by the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association. … Senator Joan Hickey Menard was the Grand Marshal of the 34th annual Somerset Musictown Festival Parade. … William “Bill” Bristol retired from the Duxbury Public Schools after 35 years of service.

Janel Lafond-Paquin is the president of the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association. … Vincent Hickey is retiring from Blue Hills Regional High School in Canton. He has been an athletic director and football coach at the school for the past 35 years. As a student at BSC, Mr. Hickey was the quarterback and captain of the football team and holds the record for career completions.

Robert Boule, G’75, is the interim principal at Burrillville High School in Rhode Island. … Sue-Carol Moran Endrusick and her husband, Thomas Endrusick, ’80, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in Asolo, Italy. Sue-Carol is the special needs chairperson at Weymouth High School. … Richard Fontaine is vice president of technology and chief information officer at Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Tom Turco, head coach of the Barnstable High School girls’ volleyball team, has recorded more than 423 career victories and has the most wins as a high school girls’ volleyball coach in state history. … Peter Tufts Richardson, G’76, wrote the book Archetype of the Spirit (2007), which is available at www.redbarnrockland.com and is one of five books he has in print. Other
Table of Contents

1977
Dana Almeida was inducted into the Fairhaven High School Hall of Fame as head coach of the Blue Devils. … George Goodfellow, G’77, a teacher at Scituate High School in Rhode Island, has been named the 2008 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year. … Donald J. Reello, G’77, G’85, is principal of Mt. Hope High School in Bristol, RI. … Fran Reddington, a professor of criminal justice at the University of Central Missouri, received the 2006 University of Central Missouri Excellence in Teaching Award and the 2007 Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. … Jean O’Hara Sheridan, G’77, concluded a 27-year teaching career in the Brockton Public Schools.

1978
Bill Alberti, G’78, taught a creative writing workshop at the Kingston Public Library. … Rachel Stewart is assistant vice president at Framingham Co-operative Bank.

1979
Kathy Perry DeiCicchi has been a preschool and kindergarten teacher at Jacobs Elementary School in Hull for nearly 20 years. … Madeline Wallis is vice president of human resources development at North Shore Community College.

1980
Pamela Alvares, the Bristol County Agricultural High School athletic director, was highlighted in the Taunton Daily Gazette as part of a continuing series about people in the community. … Joanne Erickson was appointed to the board of The Arc of the South Shore. … Brian Morrison accepted a host of awards and citations as the 2007 Labor Person of the Year from the Central Berkshire Labor Council. … Jean St. Andre-Remillard Chisser married Skip Chisser in March 2005 and spent time sailing down the United States coast to the Exuma Islands in the Bahamas. She is an executive assistant for the Alumni Association at Boston College where she received a Master of Arts degree in 1991. … Thomas Endrusick and his wife, Sue-Carol Moran Endrusick, ’75, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in Asolo, Italy. He is a research scientist at the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine in Natick.

1981
Dennis Heenan has been chosen as Seventh Grade Housemaster for the 2007-2008 school year at Higgins Middle School in Peabody.

1982
Diane Burns works as a real estate investor with South Shore Home Buyers. … Christine Spangler Evans, G’85, G’05, is the new director of guidance at East Bridgewater High School. … Bob MacKinnon has joined Boston South Financial Group, an office of MetLife, as a financial service representative.

1983
Marilyn Howe, director of public policy for the Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council, was appointed to the National Council on Disability by President Bush.

1984
The Rev. Bill Ferguson, G’84, is the new pastor of the First Congregational Church of Pelham, NH. … Jim Greco celebrated two decades of service as owner of Greco Graphics in Billerica.

1985
Former BSC football player David A. Buckley attended a fundraising event for New England youth held at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro. Also in attendance were former New England Patriots John Hannah, Steve Grogan, Steve Nelson, Andre Tippett and Russ Francis. Mr. Buckley is employed as a senior business analyst with Hanover Insurance Corporation in Worcester. He is married with two daughters, Sarah, 14, and Samantha, 6. … David Lane is the director of volunteer services for Unity Health in Rochester, NY.

1986
Jane Brett is vice president of sales and marketing at Cirelli Foods of Middleboro. … Edwin P. Walsh, G’86, was appointed as the assistant superintendent of Duxbury Public Schools.

1987
Jane Hartlage, G’87, is the new director of the Florida Senior Center in Florida, MA. … Kevin Kindregan, G’90, is working in human resources at State Street after working at Fidelity Investments for 10 years.

1989
Ray Puglisi became part owner of Big Fogg, which supplies misting fans and heaters for the NFL, NCAA football, the PGA Tour and NASCAR.

1990
Craig C. Hall was elected president of the 2007 class of Robert J. Thompson Fellows for the Council of State Governments. He also completed a series called Innovating Government for the Weymouth News. Mr. Hall is an associate faculty member for the College of Undergraduate Business and Management for the University of Phoenix and is the chief financial officer for the Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council. He and his wife, Julie, adopted their son, Tyler, in April 2007.

Winter 2008
Author balances two careers
Jan Bornstein, ’91, graduated from Bridgewater State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, and she put some of that knowledge to good use when she developed her characters in Sweet Emotions, published by Back Channel Press last November. Book Two of her Song Trilogy tells the fast-paced, passionate story of two music icons. Ms. Bornstein’s personal experiences as former musician and her career as a nurse played a part in the story she developed. Although the book is a work of fiction, Ms. Bornstein’s publicity material suggests that some readers draw parallels to the similarities between Scott Tenny, the book’s main character, and real-life rocker Steven Tyler of Aerosmith.

Ms. Bornstein went on to earn her Bachelor of Science in nursing from UMass Boston in 1995 and balances her nursing career with her writing. She lives south of Boston.

1991
Traci Holmes is the assistant vice president and branch manager of Bank-Newport’s Portsmouth office. … Thomas Zaya is chairperson of the Health and Physical Education Department at Reading Memorial High School. … David Zemotel is a police officer in Hanover and was featured in The Patriot Ledger as part of their “To the Rescue” series.

1992
Jennifer Smith Miguel recently opened her own law firm, Miguel Law Offices, in Somerset, specializing in domestic law. … This summer, Ellyn Robinson, G’92, took home a gold medal in weightlifting at the World Master’s Weightlifting Championships held in Hungary and a gold medal in Olympic weightlifting at the Pan American Games in Texas.

1993
Jennifer LaFrance received her Paralegal Certificate from Roger Williams University and was hired by Miguel Law Offices in Somerset.

1994
Holly Dottridge Barclay received her Master of Education degree in Moderate Special Needs from Lesley University. … Tracey Hallamore Hixon and Troy Hixon, ’96, have adopted a two-year-old girl.

1995
Deidre Fountain, G’95, vice president of human resources at BankFive, earned certification as a senior professional in human resources.

1996
Adelbert “Del” Malloy Jr., G’96, was ordained by Bishop George W. Coleman as a permanent deacon for service in the
Fall River Diocese. … Troy Hixon, recreation director for Arc of Northern Bristol County, was awarded the 2007 Boggs-Mitchell Award for outstanding community outreach for people with developmental and physical disabilities. … Karl Marsiglio is a technical writer/quality change analyst for Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, a division of Johnson & Johnson.

1997
Nichole Rich, G’02, G’05, has opened Breathing Room, a new yoga and massage center in Taunton. … Veronica Boyle, G’97, is working as a reading specialist in grades three, four and five at the Cottage Street School in Sharon. … Jackie Routhier Jerome hosted a Phi Sigma Sigma reunion at her home in Sutton.

1999
Brian P. Kelley was sworn in as a police officer for the city of Attleboro. … Marilyn Smith, G’05, is the assistant principal at the Memorial Middle School in Hull. … Melissa Donovan Russo is the branch manager of Mutual Bank’s Carver Banking Center.

2001
Keith Gilchrist is general manager of the Canton Club.

2002
Jessica Stanley completed her Master of Arts degree in Broadcast Journalism at Emerson College.

2003
Jessica Busch Burke graduated from Lesley University in January 2007 with a Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a specialization in Literacy: Language Arts, Reading and Writing. … In September 2007, Julie Dwinnells Loiselle received her Master of Publishing degree from Oxford Brookes University in Oxford, UK, and is working for the Rhode Island Department of Health, Division of Community, Family Health and Equity as a graphic designer and assistant editor. … The paintings of John Nutter were displayed in the art gallery at the James Library and Center for the Arts.

2005
Jennifer Aguiar is vice president and manager in Citizens Bank’s Enterprise Risk Management department. Ms. Aguiar joined Citizens in August 2007 from Capital One in Framingham. … Jennifer Roberge is a third grade teacher at North Elementary School in Somerset. … Robin Kiggen Leoni is teaching in the Franklin public schools.

2006
Citizens-Union Savings Bank announced that Kathleen Gendreau Medeiros was appointed assistant treasurer and bank manager of the Tiverton, RI, branch. … Alissa Setera will be competing for the title of Miss New Bedford 2008. … Doris Cochran is working at New Testament Christian School. … Jacob Raposo has joined the Freetown Police Department as a reserve police officer. … Anthony Nardozzi was chosen to represent Massachusetts for Cosmopolitan’s 50 Hottest Bachelors in 2007 list. … Mutual Bank announced that Christine Silva was promoted to branch manager at the Brockton East Banking Center.

2007
Julie Feeley has been accepted into the master’s program for speech pathology at Northeastern University. … Greg Ledoux, G’07, is working part time as an adjunct professor in the Department of Exercise Science at Lyndon State College while pursuing a doctorate in health services. … Bristol Elder Services Inc. has announced that Jamie Navarro has accepted a position on their Attleboro team.

Passing Along Passion for the Arts through Education
Educating adults and children about the meaning and value of contemporary craftsmanship in a society obsessed with quick and easy is germane to Noelle Foye’s new position as education director of the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton. Her duties include all educational programming within the museum and all outreach efforts to schools and community groups.

A 1999 graduate, Ms. Foye earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a crafts concentration, and she is eloquent in her praise of the arts program at the college. “Absolutely excellent,” she said. “The whole art department gave students the opportunity to explore all craft media and to meet the artists.” Ms. Foye elaborated on the value of this wide exposure to people and process: “While attending Bridgewater, I was able to build a network of connections with the craft community that eventually led me to obtaining this position.”

Ms. Foye went on to earn her Master of Science degree in Arts Administration from Boston University. She lives in Brockton with her husband, Jim.
Deaths
Mildred Kennedy Clegg, ’26, on July 4, 2007
Eleanor G. Bates Hubbard, ’29, on July 13, 2007
Margaret Froeberg Dowell, ’30, on Nov. 16, 2007
Elizabeth M. O’Donnell Copeland, ’31, on Sept. 13, 2007
Etta E. Larkin Bowker, ’32, on Sept. 4, 2007
Mary E. Burke, ’32, on Oct. 13, 2007
Anne Clarke Sullivan, ’32, on Sept. 22, 2007
Miriam E. Roberts Provost, ’33, on Nov. 22, 2007
Ruth E. Flaherty Lovett, ’36, on Nov. 22, 2007
Dr. Charles L. Whitcomb, ’36, on July 15, 2007
Alma L. Weygand Keliher, ’37, on July 14, 2007
Edith Doremus Russell, ’37, on July 29, 2007
Charles Wintermeyer, ’38, on July 6, 2007
Margaret Froeberg Dowell, ’30, on Nov. 16, 2007
Eleanor G. Bates Hubbard, ’29, on July 13, 2007
Mildred Kennedy Clegg, ’26, on July 4, 2007
Deaths
Amy Gibbons, ’00
Kassandra Trudeau to Dawn Ruell, ’95
Julie Goodsell to Julie L. Drummey to
To
Karen Regan Finn, ’81
Births
Erin Marie Goldeski to
Stefanie Lauren Scheer to
Marriages
Margaret Auburn to
To
To
Jill Terramagra Wilmot, ’95, and Drew Wilmot, ’95, a son, Nathan Louis, on March 26, 2007. He joins his sister, Phoebe Ann
To
Jen Forkin Murphy, ’95, and Joe Murphy, ’94, a girl, Alison Mae, on Aug. 23, 2007
To
Michelle Widder Stone, ’96, and Brian Stone, a son, Malcolm Blake, on Sept. 4, 2007
To
Teri Bowers McDonald, ’96, and Brian McDonald, a son, Gavin Merrill, on Sept. 27, 2007
To
Stacy Siros Parisi, ’00, and Mike Parisi, a daughter, Gwendolyn Rose, on Aug. 23, 2007
To
Nicole Gainey Draves, ’04, and Karl Draves, a son, Colby John, on Feb. 7, 2007
Births
To
Karen Regan Finn, ’81, and Thomas Finn, twins, Nicole Theresa and Sean Patrick, on Feb. 8, 2006
To
Kristyna Windmere-Fairbanks and Mark Fairbanks, ’92, a daughter, Cieva Grace, on April 25, 2007. She joins her sister, Khryiana Eve.
To
Jill Terramagra Wilmot, ’95, and Drew Wilmot, ’95, a son, Nathan Louis, on March 26, 2007. He joins his sister, Phoebe Ann
To
Jen Forkin Murphy, ’95, and Joe Murphy, ’94, a girl, Alison Mae, on Aug. 23, 2007
To
Michelle Widder Stone, ’96, and Brian Stone, a son, Malcolm Blake, on Sept. 4, 2007
To
Frances T. Filippetti Morast, ’68, on Sept. 3, 2007
Claudia Baumgardner ’70, on Sept. 25, 2007
Elsie Fogarty, ’70, on July 28, 2007
Francis J. Waynas, G’70, on July 15, 2007
Nicholas J. Montuori Jr., ’73, on Sept. 22, 2007
Margaretta Conrad DuPont, ’75, on Sept. 25, 2007
Laurie A. Smith, ’75, on July 19, 2007
James M. McCormick, ’76, on July 14, 2007
Dianne M. Gagnon Burke, ’77, on July 29, 2007
Patricia Cummings Foster, ’78, on Aug. 1, 2007
Eileen Kozak, G’78, on July 21, 2007
Robert J. Taylor, G’79, on Sept. 3, 2007
Marie Augustin LeBlanc, ’80, on Oct. 11, 2007
Carolyn B. O’Donnell, ’80, on Aug. 23, 2007
Kerry R. Xenos, ’85, on July 25, 2007
Lori Ann Marchand Dragontetti, ’96, on Sept. 4, 2007
William H. Isherwood Jr., G’05, on June 30, 2007
Annette V. Fielding, G’06, on Aug. 30, 2007
To
Jill Terramagra Wilmot, ’95
To
Jen Forkin Murphy, ’95
To
Michelle Widder Stone, ’96
To
Nicole Gainey Draves, ’04
NOTA BENE
To
Jill Terramagra Wilmot, ’95
To
Jen Forkin Murphy, ’95
To
Michelle Widder Stone, ’96
To
Nicole Gainey Draves, ’04
Your Annual Fund gift makes a difference by helping to ensure that Bridgewater State College continues to grow its resources and maintain its reputation as an accessible, affordable, top-quality institution of higher education.

Limited state aid combined with the growth in our student population has resulted in a troubling increase in the number of students whose needs are not met through current financial aid resources. Every public institution of higher education needs a healthy mix of public and private funds to secure the future of excellence. BSC increasingly relies on private support from our alumni and friends of the college to meet those additional student financial needs. Last year, more than 5,455 BSC students received financial aid.

Annual fund gifts:
- **Keep the college doors open** for students by providing additional financial assistance.
- **Enrich lives** by assisting in the development of a number diverse opportunities, such as study abroad and undergraduate research.
- **Strengthen the overall educational mission of the college** by supporting faculty research and development that helps the college attract and retain faculty of the highest caliber.

If you have not already made a gift to the Annual Fund, please consider a gift today. Your support means so much to our students, our faculty and your college.

To make a fast, easy and secure gift online, please visit our Web site at alumni.bridgew.edu.

*Thank you for your support.*
The winter season brings several major events held annually at Bridgewater State College – the MLK Celebration and Breakfast, the Massachusetts Hall of Black Achievement Heritage Celebration and Winter Commencement. Pictured top left: President Dana Mohler-Faria presents Dr. Terence A. Gomes, president of Roxbury Community College, with the Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award at the college’s breakfast named for the slain civil rights leader. More than 400 undergraduate students receive their diplomas at Winter Commencement. Pictured top right: (from left) are Trustee Chairman Louis Ricciardi, ’81, who delivered the keynote address; Trustee Terry Hart Cogan; Bridgewater State College Foundation Member Carolyn Turchon, ’62, who announced her million-dollar gift commitment to the college; and President Mohler-Faria. More than 30 student achievers representing all of the state colleges in the commonwealth are honored during the 20th HOBA event. The woman recognized as Bridgewater’s first African-American graduate, Sarah Lewis, is inducted into the hall as is Mary Hudson Onley, ’12. Major General Joseph C. Carter, a leader of the Massachusetts National Guard, receives the Onley Award and is pictured (at left) with the student achievers from Bridgewater.