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President Mohler-Faria reflects on his service with Gov. Patrick

INSIDE:
Innovation in the classroom | Building for the future
Battling Alzheimer’s | Senior competes in Beijing Paralympics
Dear Friends,

The past month has brought with it understandable uncertainty and anxiety over the health of the global economy. No part of our nation was immune to the financial shocks, nor was any sector spared. Massachusetts is confronting a projected $1.4 billion budget gap, and Gov. Patrick is using his emergency powers to make budget rescissions. Bridgewater State College has lost $2 million of its state appropriation and is bracing for the possibility of additional cuts.

Times like these test the mettle of a public institution. They make us take stock of all that we do and clarify and define those things which are most important. Equally essential, they force tough decisions about what we can do without. Faced with the challenge before us, I cannot be prouder with how our people responded. Bridgewater is leading by example and demonstrating its ability to be nimble and innovative.

For state agencies that generate revenue, the easiest offset to budgets cuts is a sharp increase in fees. This is not acceptable at Bridgewater. Doing so would mean passing the burden onto hard-working students and their families. We have a moral obligation to find another path.

While implementing across-the-board cuts allows for organizational equity and ease, it relinquishes the responsibility of leading. The ongoing pursuit of excellence requires focused energies around preserving and bolstering that which is most critical to the future. At Bridgewater, those priorities are to hold teaching and learning paramount and to emphasize our growing commitment to quality. As we are in the business of generating and harnessing human capital, it is imperative for us to maintain and strengthen the vitality of our greatest resource – our people.

To paraphrase the words of Robert Frost, we choose instead the road less traveled by – and we suspect it will make all the difference. Having been a public servant my entire life, I am all too familiar with the tendency for success to be driven exclusively by resources. When budgets are flush, there’s every reason for optimism. When funding is tight, the best we can hope for is stasis. This way of thinking cannot suffice. We must do better. We owe it to the citizens of Massachusetts who support our enterprise and to the students who directly benefit. We also, quite frankly, owe it to ourselves. Our response to the budget crisis is a reflection of how we should operate during any economic climate: strategic. We are shedding practices and processes that no longer make good sense. We are using technology to introduce efficiencies. We are prioritizing our agenda based upon regional need and opportunity. We are rethinking and recalibrating the responsibilities of our work force. And we are doing all of this not against the backdrop of forced retraction, but of opportunity.

Is this difficult and intensive work? Yes. But does it also mean that we will emerge leaner and more institutionally fit as a result of this work? Absolutely. Now is the time to use what one has more wisely. No matter how protracted or severe the economic downturn becomes, it will only be mitigated by a corresponding surge in the character of leadership. There is no doubt in my mind that we have this within us. It is simply a matter of admitting that we need to seek it.

Sincerely,

Dana Mohler-Faria
President
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ON THE COVER
Bridgewater President Dana Mohler-Faria and Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick
Photo by Jimmy Day/Office of the Governor
Events draw constituents to campus

Sustainability Summit From conservation programs that save a million dollars annually, to use of a wind turbine and solar panels, to tons of recycling and an on-campus community farm, the state’s public colleges and university in Southeastern Massachusetts are doing much to save energy and cut their greenhouse gas emissions.

These efforts were highlighted at a Sustainability Summit held at the Moakley Center, allowing the CONNECT institutions – Bridgewater State College, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Cape Cod Community College, Bristol Community College, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and Massasoit Community College – to discuss their progress.

Diversity Reception Guests attending the second annual Diversity Reception, hosted by Dr. William Lewis, director of the Office of Institutional Diversity, had reason to celebrate. He enumerated some of the accomplishments of the college community since last year’s reception, including receipt of a $200,000 Nellie Mae grant to study retention rates of students of color, and establishment of the Diversity Council.

President Dana Mohler-Faria spoke highly of the year’s achievements and emphasized the focus of all efforts “to create an environment that allows people to celebrate and appreciate each other. This clarity of purpose has produced results we can see. We are engaging people academically and socially and preparing our graduates to go on to a create a better world.”

Environmental Summit U.S. Sen. John Kerry and representatives from several environmental organizations came together on campus in August for the Energy and Environmental Summit for Municipal, Business and Community Leaders. State Sen. Marc R. Pacheco (D-First Plymouth-Bristol District) hosted the summit, and said with the state’s recently signed clean energy laws, the commonwealth is “on the horizon for a real change.” Those laws include the Green Communities Act, Clean Energy Biofuels Act, Green Jobs Act and Global Warming Solutions Act.
Employment status
87 percent of Bridgewater State College alumni employed full time within six months to a year after graduation

Unemployment
4.8 percent among 2007 alumni
4.6 percent statewide
5.7 percent nationally

Location of employment
91 percent live and work in Massachusetts
4 percent work in other New England states
5 percent employed outside the region

Areas of employment
Business – 38 percent
Education – 33 percent
Human services and nonprofit sector – 11 percent
Health-related fields – 8 percent

Relation of position to academic major
78 percent directly or somewhat related

Preparation
“The academic program at Bridgewater prepared me for my current position.”
84 percent strongly agree or agree

Job search strategies
Networking – 43 percent
Online job postings – 21 percent
Hired from internship or part-time employment – 17 percent

Graduate school
120 enrolled in graduate school
71 enrolled full time
47 enrolled at Bridgewater State College

Internships
34 percent completed internships
93 percent reported that their internship was related to their field of study
78 percent received academic credit for the internship
42 percent indicated the internship was required for their major

This survey is conducted annually by the Office of Career Services to examine the choice of career paths and employment trends of recent Bridgewater State College graduates. The Class of 2007 survey was mailed in November 2007 to 1,351 alumni representing bachelor’s degrees awarded in January, May and August 2007. An online survey allowed graduates to send results electronically. A total of 622 replies were received for a response rate of 46 percent.
Advice at the ready
Bridgewater president reflects on 18

BY BRYAN M. BALDWIN
Along the way, the president came into contact with thousands of lifelong educators, captains of industry, dedicated civic leaders and more than a few passionate students. Many wanted to talk about the commonwealth’s past failures in fulfilling its commitment to education. Some shared their frustrations with the disconnectedness between early childhood, PreK-12 and higher education. Still others proffered their own research on groundbreaking proposals ranging from expanded teaching and learning time to alternatives to traditional schools.

The essence of these countless conversations came together last June with the release of the Readiness Report, the Patrick Administration’s comprehensive program of innovation and reform focused on positioning the Massachusetts educational system for 21st century success. The report centered on four overarching goals:

- Meeting the learning needs of each student and providing the understanding, encouragement, support, knowledge and skills each requires to exceed the state’s high expectations and rigorous academic standards;
- Ensuring that every student in the commonwealth is taught by highly competent, well-educated, strongly supported and effective educators;
- Preparing every student for postsecondary education, career and lifelong economic, social and civic success;
- And unleashing innovation and systemic change through the commonwealth’s schools, school districts, colleges and university as well as in the partnerships and collaborations among educational institutions, communities, businesses and nonprofits.

**NINETY THOUSAND MILES.**

That’s the equivalent of driving the entire length of the Massachusetts Turnpike 650 times. And it was the distance traveled along the highways and byways of the commonwealth by Bridgewater State College President Dana Mohler-Faria during his time as Gov. Deval Patrick’s Special Advisor for Education.

**Intensive months with Gov. Patrick.**
Synthesizing so much information into a realistic, action-item agenda would be a tall task for anyone, let alone a person presiding over a complex organization like Bridgewater State College. Dr. Mohler-Faria admitted it took everything he had to juggle the demands of his unpaid advisory position with the governor with his responsibilities as president of the largest public college in Massachusetts. He would typically work from 4 AM until after midnight – seven days a week and for months at a time without a day off.

“To say that it was a collective effort is an understatement,” said the president. “The staff at the college and the staff in Boston were unbelievable, as were the dozens of state leaders who sat on the various working committees of the Readiness Project. Doing something like this – and doing it well – required everyone’s patience, agility, intensity and camaraderie.”

With a smile, Dr. Mohler-Faria recalled the many days in which his schedule would change eight or nine times over the course of just a few hours. He also remembered that the beginning of each day seemed to bring with it some new Herculean task.

“If there were a 50-page policy assessment that needed to be written overnight, we’d find a way to get it done,” said Dr. Mohler-Faria. “If I had to be in Boston in the morning, Bridgewater in the afternoon and Springfield in the evening, we’d work through it. You have to have genuine passion for this kind of work, and you have to know how to take the long view. A Bluetooth phone comes in awfully handy, too.”

Dr. Mohler-Faria’s journey as a statewide educational leader and member of Gov. Patrick’s first cabinet began during a chance meeting facilitated by Dr. Michael Kryzanek, professor of political science at Bridgewater and longtime observer of Massachusetts elections. After winning his party’s nomination for the gubernatorial ticket, Candidate Patrick was on campus in September 2006 to address students and employees. He and the president met for lunch prior to the speaking engagement, and the rest is history.

“I remember being immediately impressed by not only his intellect but also his ability to listen with tremendous concentration and focus,” said Dr. Mohler-Faria of Gov. Patrick. “He knew from the very beginning that this was going to be a long road and would require some very difficult decisions. Along the way, though, he never lost sight of just how much these efforts mattered, nor of how much a difference-maker quality education can be in people’s lives.”

Though they grew up in different parts of the country – Patrick on the South Side of Chicago and Mohler-Faria in the blue-collar village of Onset – each was the first in his family to go to college and credits the experience with being truly transformational.

As the Readiness Report was nearing completion, Dr. Mohler-Faria made what many considered a surprising choice: returning full-time as Bridgewater’s president. Though many speculated he would be a positive presence on Beacon Hill for years to come, Dr. Mohler-Faria longed for his home campus.

“My time with Gov. Patrick was exhilarating. It was the honor of a lifetime to be asked to serve,” said the president, adding, “but Bridgewater is the place I ultimately wanted to be. There’s nothing quite as satisfying as seeing our institution march towards excellence, and experiencing firsthand the positive difference it’s making in the lives of our students each and every day. I want to channel every ounce of my energy into that pursuit.

“This is the final stop of my professional career, and there’s still so much I want to do for Bridgewater and for Southeastern Massachusetts,” he said. “Even after working in the system for nearly 40 years, this experience gave me added perspectives and insights. I am eager for Bridgewater to be the beneficiary.”

Though the agenda outlined in the Readiness Report may take a generation or longer to be realized, Dr. Mohler-Faria effected considerable positive change for public education during his 18 months with the governor. He played a prominent role in re-establishing the Executive Office of Education, thus ensuring that education remains a major area of focus at the highest levels of state government. At the same time, he was instrumental in the selection of Paul Reville, the new Secretary of Education; former Bridgewater State College Board of Trustees Chairman Frederick W. Clark Jr., ’83, as chair of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education; Mitchell Chester as the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education; and former Bridgewater Trustee Judith Block McLaughlin as chairperson of the state’s Public Education Nominating Council, the body responsible for selecting members for college boards of trustees and making recommendations for the state board of higher education.
Ultimately, Dr. Mohler-Faria joined a growing list of individuals associated with the college who have been intimately involved with a statewide educational agenda. The institution’s founder, Horace Mann, was appointed in 1837 the first secretary of what was then the new Board of Education. Mann’s pioneering work is widely credited with launching the development of normal schools throughout the nation.

George Henry, a member of the Class of 1841, served as the first assistant to Bridgewater State Normal School President Albert Gardner Boyden and supervisor of schools for the City of Boston before being appointed Secretary of State for the Board of Education in 1904, a position he held for five years.

More recently, Dr. Owen Kiernan, ’35, held numerous positions in schools throughout the commonwealth before serving as Commissioner of Education in Massachusetts from 1957-1969 and advising numerous U.S. presidential administrations.

“No matter your position in life, history has a way of reminding you that you’re forever standing on the shoulders of giants,” said Dr. Mohler-Faria. “To be a small part of that growing lineage and to commit one’s life to helping others is the very definition of public service.”

Massachusetts Secretary of Education Paul Reville talks to President Mohler-Faria, faculty and students during a September visit to campus.
Facility ranks continue to swell

Bridgewater’s commitment to faculty growth can be found across all disciplines.

BY ROBERT W. MATHESON JR., ’08

They come from the Midwest, Japan and just down the road. Some are new to teaching, others are old hands. Their backgrounds are varied, some rich in research, others in real-world experience. They are Bridgewater State College’s new faculty members, and what they have in common is a desire to share the knowledge and experience they’ve garnered over the years with the students who will fill their classrooms.

Increasing the number of faculty members is one of the pillars of the college’s strategic plan advanced by President Dana Mohler-Faria. In the past five years, the number of faculty has grown by 45 and stands at 306 strong. That trend continued this fall, as 27 new faculty members across all disciplines arrived at Bridgewater from near and far.

New hires are strongly interested in continuing scholarship and professional development, and dedicated to the advancement of higher education and institutional growth among other qualifications, said Dr. Howard London, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, who oversaw their hiring. However, “First and foremost, they must be excellent teachers,” he said, adding, “We only hire those who are ardently committed to achievement in the classroom.”

Indeed they are. Meet four of them.

Dr. Boriana Marintcheva

With years of experience and published research, Dr. Boriana Marintcheva, a native of Bulgaria, said she views teaching as “a dynamic process of sharing both knowledge and tools for learning.” She has much to offer her students as an assistant professor of biological sciences.

Dr. Marintcheva, who lives in Belmont with her husband and 7-year-old son, earned a PhD in molecular biology and genetics from the University of Connecticut Health Center in 2002. Since 2006, she has taught biology at Simmons College, and was previously affiliated with Harvard Medical School’s biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology departments.

Dr. Marintcheva’s research has been published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Journal and the Journal of Biological Chemistry. Currently, her research centers on the T7 bacterial virus.

“I hope that my research will contribute to the understanding of how viruses invade cells and, in the long run, help the development of effective strategies to combat viruses,” she said.

She has performed 10 years of mentored research, including work with plants and the herpes simplex virus type 1.

“I was impressed by the broad range of areas of expertise of the biology department faculty and the spectrum of advanced courses offered to students,” she said. “I was also impressed by the commitment of the institution to offering students hands-on research experience.”

Hands-on experience is something Dr. Marintcheva is ready to make available to her students. After the challenging assignments and active participation required for her classes, Dr. Marintcheva said her students should walk away with the confidence to explore all facets of biology. This idea fits well with her goal to share with her students an “appreciation of the transforming power of human knowledge.”
Dr. Donald Running

Bass trombonist Dr. Donald Running said he enjoys living in Bridgewater, only a 20-minute walk from campus. It seems fitting for the assistant professor of music to live close to his work because he will be on campus a lot, playing a number of different roles.

Born in Duluth, MN, Dr. Running earned his master’s degree and PhD in music education at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, where he was a teaching assistant for music fundamentals, rock and roll history and music-in-film courses; served as a chamber music coach and ensemble conductor; and worked as an undergraduate peer adviser.

That enthusiasm seems to have traveled with Dr. Running to Bridgewater, where he will fulfill three roles. The first is conductor for both the wind ensemble and jazz bands, where he said his philosophy for this job is to tap into the students’ ultimate potential. “My primary mission is to create the best possible performance from the best possible music literature,” he said.

Secondly, he teaches music courses to “best prepare them to step into a classroom as music educators and teach the youth of Massachusetts.”

As a teacher of non-major courses, his third role is to encourage students who aren’t music majors to think and write critically about music. “Here, I get students to experience new music and experience familiar music in new ways,” he said.

Educating children is something with which Dr. Running is familiar. He taught music classes to students in grades five through 12 in Minnesota and Wisconsin public schools until 2001, while taking on the positions of chairman of the music department and conductor of several band ensembles.

The importance of music in life is something Dr. Running aims to impart to his students. Just as with his music, he said, his teaching must be balanced and all parts must come together to make for a beneficial experience for his students.

“I want my students to walk away with a greater appreciation for music’s artistic value, personal value, intellectual value and value to the community,” he said. “And if I’m missing one of those four things, then something has to change.”
Dr. Nicole Glen

After earning from Syracuse University her PhD in science education (with a minor in literacy education) in June, Dr. Nicole Glen moved from upstate New York to Middleboro with her husband to work at Bridgewater as an assistant professor of elementary and early childhood education.

Once a second-grade teacher in Rochester, NY, Dr. Glen said she was attracted to Bridgewater’s elementary education program and is interested in collaborating with future and current elementary school teachers at the college and beyond. That type of cooperation is something she enjoys and will teach her students.

“They will learn to collaborate with colleagues on lesson planning and implementation, integrate technology into their lesson plans and assess their students’ learning,” she said.

Dr. Glen has taught neuroscience courses to fifth- and sixth-graders at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth summer program. At Syracuse, where she earned her master’s degree in science education, she taught undergraduate and graduate education methods courses. During her doctoral studies, Dr. Glen earned an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, and finished her dissertation, “Writing in Elementary School Science: Factors that Influence Teacher Beliefs and Practices.” Her other research includes the uses of science vocabulary and science notebooks in the classroom, and literacy integration via technology in elementary science lessons.

Her academic interests involve learning anything science and advocating for “anything related to the successful education of elementary students.” She also has been a competitive gymnast and taught all levels of gymnastics.

Keeping in step with Bridgewater’s green initiatives, the Erie, PA, native said she “strives to reduce [her] carbon footprint” and will introduce green ideas in class. “It is certainly a societal issue that teachers at all levels can be discussing with their students,” she said.

With science and literacy education as a teaching focus, Dr. Glen’s courses should serve as a challenging academic environment. Simply stated, her courses “are sure to help the future teachers that graduate from Bridgewater with their own teaching of science.”

Dr. Matthew Parrett

For the past five years, Dr. Matthew Parrett has been busy. During the summer, he and his wife, Susan, finished painting every room in their recently purchased Braintree townhouse. After that, the Richmond, VA, native began his new career this fall as an assistant professor of economics at Bridgewater.

Dr. Parrett earned a PhD in economics in 2003 at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg and taught at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA, for a year. He moved to Atlanta, where he spent three years working at Deloitte Tax LLP, an accounting firm. It was during his time at Deloitte that Dr. Parrett, an applied microeconomist, authored a research paper, “An Analysis of the Determinants of Tipping Behavior: A Laboratory Experiment and Evidence from Restaurant Tipping,” published in the October 2006 issue of *Southern Economic Journal*.

This, he said, made him eager to return to higher education. “It really triggered the academic spark in me,” he said. So, in August 2007, as a means of re-entering academia, Dr. Parrett accepted a one-year teaching position at Emory University in Atlanta. Wanting a permanent place to teach, he began searching and found the position at Bridgewater, which he said appealed to him because of the institution’s impressive collegiality and proximity to Boston, where his wife works.

Dr. Parrett said he is looking to share his passion for teaching and research with students and faculty. He also aims to incorporate into his course work his real-life experiences at Deloitte where he worked on transfer pricing, which involves assisting multinational corporations in the pricing of their cross-border intercompany transactions. “I’ve created some of my assignments with a transfer pricing twist,” he said.

In his first semester, Dr. Parrett is teaching “Principles of Microeconomics” and “Introductory Statistics,” which will “enable students to become not just better informed consumers, but also better informed citizens,” he said. To add on to that academic foundation, in spring 2009, Dr. Parrett will teach a managerial economics course aimed to increase his students’ knowledge of the business world.
I grew up in Kyoto, Japan, and had always been interested in American culture, so I moved here after graduating from Kyoto University to continue my higher education. At Ohio State University, where I earned my master’s degree and PhD in Japanese studies, I served as a teaching associate and enjoyed the large amount of research conducted there. I also taught Japanese content courses at Colgate University and Hamilton College (both in upstate New York) and enjoyed the smaller, liberal arts environment at those institutions. I found Bridgewater State College has many research opportunities, as well as a close-knit atmosphere, and that was one reason I came to teach here.

A few months ago, I attended a meeting at Bridgewater Town Hall and witnessed all the representatives sign the agreement that designated Ina, Japan, as Bridgewater’s sister city. That connection to my home country was exciting and was one of the other things that attracted me to work at Bridgewater State College. It was also very important to me that faculty and students here have such strong interest in Japan.

I teach Japanese and “Japan in Literature and Film,” and already during the first few days of classes, I have students asking to be added to my already-full courses.

Kyoto being one of Boston’s sister cities was a significant attraction, as well. For 15 years I have lived in the United States and have become very aware of my own identity. Learning a different language and being in a different culture is almost like experiencing a transformation: You realize something new about yourself, and you realize something different about yourself. This is one of the things I emphasize in my classes: To be culturally functional, you have to learn to adapt.

For example: Remaining quiet about your talents is very important in Japan, but here I feel I have to speak up more. However, just because I still have this strong Japanese cultural trait doesn’t mean I can’t adapt. With foreign cultures you can be yourself, but enjoy a different side of yourself – I make sure to teach my students that.

Working in public higher education is something I always wanted to do, and there’s a large diversity of students on campus all interested in learning the Japanese culture. Reaching out to them really appealed to me. I have lived in Philadelphia, New York and other places around the Midwestern United States, but now I come to Bridgewater, a place with such a strong connection to my native country, and think “I’m finally home.”
They are several examples of the unique seminar courses offered to first- and second-year students with the aim of introducing them to the college learning environment.

As opposed to survey classes, which offer broad subject studies, seminar courses zoom in on a specific topic from any discipline, said Dr. Rita Miller, acting dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. She and a number of faculty members played key roles in implementing the seminar program, which began in fall 2006.

With newer students adjusting to the vagaries of college-level course work, the seminars serve as an introduction to serious academic discourse through small, topical classes that resonate with them. Some of the courses cover offbeat topics, yet all involve research, writing and cognitive skills.

“We show them right out of the gate what’s really expected from a college student,” said Dr. Miller. “We want to introduce new students to how to think, write and speak like college students.”

Active engagement is a strong characteristic of the seminars. Smaller class sizes – 15 to 20 students – create an intimate climate where students are encouraged to participate and not to blend in with the crowd. As Dr. Miller put it, “The students can’t hide anymore.”

The students don’t mind the active participation. A class titled, “Vampires, Monstrous Desire and Taboo: ‘Nosferatu’ in Literature and Film,” taught by Dr. Leora Lev, professor of foreign languages, has been very popular each year, with some students enjoying the material so much they wanted to repeat the course for no credit (something that’s not allowed).

“There’s something about the subject matter that always inspires the imagination,” said Dr. Lev.

Andrea Foley, a freshman, said she has always been interested in vampire-related literature, and this seminar course was her first choice. After the first class, Ms. Foley said she enjoyed it and was looking for more. “It was pretty intense and had a lot of information,” she said, “but I’m definitely excited to learn more.”

Parents of students have taken a shine to the courses, as well. During student orientations, Dr. Miller said she sometimes observes parents looking over the seminar descriptions and selecting the course best suited for their child. “I see them point and say, ‘Definitely take this one.’ It’s great to see the parents getting so excited,” she said.

Who wouldn’t get excited? Course material is geared toward sparking student interest as well as educating,
said Dr. Teresa King, associate professor of psychology and coordinator of second-year seminars.

Dr. Ed Deveney, assistant professor of physics, teaches a course that’s nominally about UFOs. But that’s deceiving. In the class, students learn critical thinking, scientific methods and writing skills through analyzing and critiquing a variety of claims — real and fantastic. Titled “UFO’s, Chi and Relativistic Quantum Field Theory: Critically Thinking Your Way Through the Possible, Possibly Possible and Outright Nonsense,” the course even includes a dose of Socratic reasoning.

Although he offers no answers or opinions and does not delve into religious topics during his seminar, Dr. Deveney said he teaches students to critically question unexplained phenomena, as most people may accept such things as true without scientific proof. “It’s all about challenging what they believe in,” he said. Yet, by studying incredible, but real things, like anti-matter, “they learn the strangest things in the universe turn out to be real.”

If these titles and others such as “Homer Simpson for President: The Political Uses of Humor,” taught by Sandra Cleary of the communication studies department, appear to involve light study, Dr. King assures they are not. Part of her job is to ensure that each class meets rigorous academic requirements. The material delves deep into academic research, which engages students in studying the course work and learning to use the academic resources available, she said.

“It’s like getting their foot in the door,” Dr. King said, “and once their foot is in the door, they’re more willing to continue forward with academics.” She teaches the seminar course, “Your Looks and Your Health,” centered on how body image affects health.

Dr. Thomas Kling, assistant professor of physics and coordinator of first-year seminars, said he agrees that the courses are challenging, while offering students the opportunity to think insightfully about academic topics. “Most students have never thought of how food can teach you all about different cultures,” he said, referring to the course, “Food, Feasting and Folly,” which explores historical and cultural modes of gathering food and eating, as well as world hunger issues.

The creative academic environment that gets students so interested in college, said Dr. Kling, is due in large part to the faculty members’ take on the material. “The professors tend to think very deeply about whatever they’re interested in,” he said, “and they do that through a very unique lens.”

Requiring that the courses be initiated and organized by the professors is a key component to their success. Course work is geared toward each professor’s interest, and this makes for an energetic, engaging learning environment, said Dr. Miller. “Students get to see what makes the professors really light up,” she said.

“Geography of Boston,” a first-year course taught by Dr. Phil Birge-Liberman, a visiting lecturer of geography, takes the idea of active engagement a step further. He requires students to participate in a number of walking tours to explore public spaces, neighborhoods, architecture, history and cultural institutions of the city.

Each course is designated as either writing or speaking intensive to cover all necessary skills for a student to progress academically. And although the seminars are relatively new, Dr. Miller said faculty members are noticing an improvement in student writing, involvement and overall communication skills.

“These classes engage students in being more responsible and involved in their own education,” said Dr. Miller.
Sarah Chu’s internships and volunteer work help others while preparing her for a career in social service.

BY ROBERT W. MATHESON JR., ’08

A world of experience

A summer internship with the Asian Community Development Corporation in Boston’s Chinatown was a perfect fit for Sarah Chu in many ways. After all, part of the ACDC’s mission is to build a better future for others, and that idea is central to the life of this political science major.

“I just want to give back to the community, whether locally, statewide, nationally or worldwide,” she said. The Bridgewater State College senior participated in not one, but two public service internships over the summer. Both involved serving others and were arranged through the college’s Office of Career Services.

“There is so much Bridgewater has to offer, and I’ve definitely taken advantage of that,” said Ms. Chu, who, in addition to her work at the ACDC, for which she received three college credits, worked with constituents of U.S. Congressman Stephen F. Lynch.

ACDC is focused on supplying affordable housing to Boston’s Asian American community. Ms. Chu was primarily a grant writer for the organization, seeking funds to support its mission in addition to other projects, such as Asian Voices of Organized Youth for Community Empowerment, a youth development program featuring a national radio show, walking tours of Chinatown, and participation in nationwide conferences and workshops.

Her favorite aspect of the internship was writing grants to support the walking tours, which “highlight the deeper cultural significance of Chinatown.” To raise additional funds, she organized a variety of events, such as banquets, film nights and ACDC’s 20th anniversary celebration.

Ms. Chu’s internship at ACDC was notable for another reason. After securing the position in June, she earned the first Tinsley Public Service Internship Award, a grant endowed by President Emerita Adrian Tinsley, which covered all related daily expenses. “Without that grant, I would not have been able to take this
internship, which was definitely my favorite activity this summer,” said Ms. Chu, a Bridgewater resident.

She is the first recipient of the $2,000 grant designed and implemented by career services earlier this year for students who demonstrate a strong interest in the fields of public service, social service, nonprofit, government or education. Its strict requirements were easily met by Ms. Chu, who minors in health resources management and is named to the dean’s list each semester. She is an active member of several student organizations, including Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society; Afghans for Afghans charity knitting circle; and the GLBTA (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Ally) Pride Center.

Her volunteerism is extensive and includes working with the Falmouth Service Center, American Red Cross Disaster Relief, Falmouth Free Clinic and a free health clinic in China during a semester at Shanghai University as part of Bridgewater’s study abroad program.

Her commitment to various organizations made Ms. Chu a top candidate for the grant, said John Paganelli, acting director of career services, who has assisted her throughout her years at Bridgewater. “She was a standout student in our office from day one,” he said.

Being a standout in any office seems to fit Ms. Chu. Lisa Chice, grants manager and Ms. Chu’s direct supervisor at ACDC, said the intern integrated herself into the company’s culture and “formed her own special niche” there.

Although the internship ended in September, Ms. Chu, also of Chinese descent, continued to volunteer at ACDC, and she is looking into volunteer opportunities in China. “Because of her dedication to community service, Sarah will always find ways to contribute no matter where she goes,” said Ms. Chice.
Building for the
A cadre of craftsmen wielding drills, hammers, saws and sanders worked feverishly through the summer, implementing Bridgewater State College’s strategically planned program of urgently needed renovations and new construction to meet growing demand.

Extensive renovations to Horace Mann Auditorium in Boyden Hall restored the historic space to its former glory. Meanwhile, the Campus Center cafeteria has morphed into a dynamic space. Phase one of eight at the former Burnell School saw the opening of eight general-purpose “smart” classrooms. Additions to Pope and Scott halls, doubling capacity at both, are underway to prepare them for occupancy next fall. New sprinkler systems were installed in Miles and DiNardo halls and their shared courtyard was redone.

It’s all part of Bridgewater’s focus on offering a world-class education at an affordable price.
Equally staggering is the latest estimate of caregivers – almost 10 million family, friends and neighbors who, in 2007 alone, provided upward of 8.4 billion hours of care. The emotional stress and financial strain on these millions of unpaid caregivers is enormous. Combine that with the rising costs of health care and the estimated 11 to 16 million individuals who will develop AD by 2050, and the importance of helping individuals continue to function independently for as long as possible is self evident.

To that end, Dr. Neargarder conducts research with the goal of improving the quality of life for all those touched by this debilitating disease. Her research takes place at Boston University’s nationally recognized Vision and Cognition Lab, where she is a senior research associate working with the director, Dr. Alice Cronin-Golomb. Their work is funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA). The ground-breaking results of Dr. Neargarder’s research benefit not only patients and caregivers, but also her Bridgewater State College students, who she inspires and challenges with examples of practical application of real-world research.

“I’m interested in conducting research that, ultimately, benefits someone. And it is extremely fulfilling when, after months of hard work, the results are in and you know you’ve made a difference. It is, by far, the most gratifying aspect of my research,” said Dr. Neargarder.

The prevailing definition of AD offered by the Alzheimer’s Association is “a brain disorder that destroys brain cells, causing problems with memory, thinking and behavior severe enough to affect work, lifelong hobbies or social life.”

Dr. Neargarder’s research goes beyond this definition of a memory disorder as the primary identifier of AD and explores vision deficits as major symptoms affecting behavior. In a recent article, she wrote: “Although a memory deficit is usually the first sign of AD, impairments are evident in other domains, including visual function.” She goes on to identify contrast sensitivity – or the ability to distinguish objects based on the degree to which one object stands out from the other – as having “the greatest influence on the ability of individuals with AD to carry out activities of daily living.”

The Alzheimer’s Association reports that approximately 40 percent of individuals with AD suffer significant weight loss, often attributed to depression or the inability to eat independently. Dr. Neargarder’s research adds the important element of contrast sensitivity to the dialogue.
Dr. Sandra Neargarder's research goes beyond the definition of memory disorder as the primary identifier of Alzheimer's and explores vision deficits as major symptoms affecting behavior. In one experiment, Dr. Neargarder asked participants to find pills of varying gray levels on a white surface – the higher the contrast, the more successful the individual.
In one of several experiments designed to explore vision deficits, Dr. Neargarder tested individuals’ ability to distinguish food presented on white plates as opposed to bright red. She reported a 24.6 percent mean increase in food intake with the red plates, which provided the greater contrast between food and plate. In another test, participants were asked to find pills of varying gray levels on a white surface. The results were similar — the higher the contrast, the more successfully the individual completed the task.

From a caregiver’s perspective, understanding how contrast sensitivity impacts a patient’s food intake offers real potential to help improve his or her nutritional health. But the practical applications of the results of Dr. Neargarder’s research extend far beyond nutrition and well into helping to improve and prolong an individual’s ability to perform simple activities of daily living.

For example, Dr. Neargarder suggests simple ways that a caregiver can use his or her knowledge of contrast sensitivity to adapt the home environment to accommodate an individual with AD. “Choose a brightly colored, non-slip mat for the bath tub. Define the toilet with a floor mat in a contrasting color to the floor. In the kitchen, use contrasting knobs on the cabinet to enhance visibility.

“The basic rule of thumb is that if you want the individual to see and use an object, make the contrast as high as possible. If you want to discourage use, minimize the contrast. For example, paint electrical outlets the same color as the wall to prevent tampering.”

Vision deficit includes impaired depth perception, knowledge of which, again, has practical applications. Dr. Neargarder suggests using a black floor mat by a door to prevent wandering. “Individuals with impaired depth perception read the mat as a hole, and often hesitate to step on it,” she said. Similarly, a carpet with a busy, floral pattern confuses the AD patient, who might step gingerly to avoid, or bend down to pluck, what he or she perceives as a floor strewn with real blossoms.

Dr. Neargarder’s scholarly efforts are not confined to the lab. With a committed focus on teaching, she incorporates her research work into her courses: “I love to teach, and combining research with teaching enables both to be much stronger,” she said. “I use my research in the classroom to illustrate different concepts, help students develop critical thinking skills and get them excited about the research process.

“Research is very challenging – designing and setting up experiments, running participants, analyzing data and writing up findings – takes a lot of effort, time and dedication. Research and teaching both feed off each other and allow me to become a more knowledgeable teacher and researcher,” she continued.

“And I consistently find that the real-world aspect of the research really engages students and prompts stimulating classroom dialogue. The fact that the results of the research have real-world practical application is inspiring to them.”

And with Dr. Neargarder as mentor, students learn that, although research is very challenging, it is possible to make a difference.
Three years ago, Mrs. Barbara Nagle, ’61, enrolled in a volunteer class focused on the care of individuals with Alzheimer’s disease offered by Beacon Hospice. Mrs. Nagle could not even articulate why, in her words, she “was drawn” to this particular class, given she had never demonstrated to herself – or anyone for that matter – any passionate interest in end-of-life issues, other than those that affected her own family.

When asked in that first class why she enrolled and what she hoped to accomplish, she answered honestly: “I know I am supposed to be here, but I haven’t a clue why.” Seven short weeks later her reasons became clear; her purpose, defined.

Mrs. Nagle, who had traveled the Alzheimer’s journey with her own father, came to appreciate on an even more visceral level how family history and stories bring comfort and meaning, not only to the family but also to the caregivers – the nurses, the doctors, the volunteers.

“We all treat people differently when we know them,” explained Mrs. Nagle, who began making “Memory Books” for the families of Alzheimer’s patients.

The idea is simple – the implementation, one of loving care. Mrs. Nagle interviews family members, collects memories of their loved one – stories, photographs, anecdotes – and carefully compiles a scrapbook of cherished memories, which is given to the family by hospice. Memory books evolved into “Chart-a-Life” posters when Mrs. Nagle observed that, though the memory books were cherished, they were cherished in drawers. Posters would hang on the wall and help introduce patients more intimately to their caregivers.

A Chart-a-Life poster is a visual representation of a person’s life, using words, pictures and symbols to tell stories. A traveler’s life is immortalized with photographs of his trips to England and Wales; a woman’s avocation of gardening, captured in recipes, graphics and pictures.

Mrs. Nagle’s idea is so powerful and so therapeutic that it has been adopted by the 21 offices of Beacon Hospice and is available to the families of all patients served by the organization.

Reflecting on her own journey, Mrs. Nagle recalled her days as an undergraduate at Bridgewater State College. In particular, she remembers Dr. Jordan Fiore, professor of history. A not-so-surprising linkage comes to light.

“Of anyone who influenced my appreciation of history, it was Professor Fiore,” she said. “He made it come alive. You could see and feel the characters. He’d say, ‘Look at my hand. This is the hand that shook the hand of …’ and he would work his way back to, maybe, Abraham Lincoln, all the while making connections, all the while bringing his characters to life.

“Our Chart-a-Life process is much the same. We bring family members to life for other family members. We make connections. We help them see their loved ones in new, different and inspiring ways.”

Mrs. Nagle graduated in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. The majority of her career was spent as a full-time special needs tutor, working one-on-one with children from kindergarten through grade five. When she retired in 2001, she had no idea her life focus would change so dramatically.

“It’s an old-fashioned phrase – ‘having a calling.’ I never understood it – until hospice, until the Chart-a-Life project. I’ve learned that if you can be open to what comes your way, it will lead you to where you are supposed to go in life.”

Mrs. Nagle lives in Barnstable with her husband, Walter, also a Bridgewater graduate, Class of 1961. The couple has two children and four grandchildren.
Bridgewater Paralympian

Anderson Wise, ‘humbled’ by the experience,

BY JOHN J. WINTERS

Around campus, he’s simply known as “Andy,” the affable exercise and sports science major with the ready smile and a voice that conveys the warmth of his personality. But in a much larger arena – the world – he’s known as the 11th best powerlifter in his division.

Anderson Wise staked this claim in September in Beijing at the Paralympics. There, he represented Team USA in the men’s 67.50kg powerlifting competition and made two of three lifts, finishing 11th in his class.

Mr. Wise’s first two attempts were good at 314 and 330 pounds respectively. He had no lift on his third attempt of 341 pounds. (Metwaly Ibrahim Matbna of Egypt won the competition and set a new Paralympic record with a lift of 479 pounds.)

Born with spina bifida and restricted to using a wheelchair, Mr. Wise began powerlifting in 2003. Although he has competed in Brazil and around the United States, the Needham resident said he was humbled by the experience in Beijing.

“It’s overwhelming to see the best Paralympic athletes in the world,” he said. “And to know I’m among them is unfathomable.”

Powerlifting is one of the Paralympics’ most competitive events. Officials indicate it is the Games’ fastest growing sport, with 109 countries sending competitors to Beijing. Team USA powerlifting coach Mary Hodge praised Mr. Wise’s efforts and spoke highly of his future in the sport.

“For a rookie who has only been competing for five years, he has come a long way, and I’m very proud of him,” said Ms. Hodge. “He is 11th in the world out of 331 athletes, and he shows great promise.”

In the audience to watch him perform in Beijing were his adoptive parents, Dale and Sally Wise. The couple has fostered 45 children over the years, many with special needs. The prognosis they faced with young Andy was not good – doctors said he’d never walk, and because of a shunt they had to place in his skull after birth, Andy had probably sustained too much brain damage to ever talk.

But the Wises played tapes and talked to their son until he started forming his own words. They took the braces and casts off his legs and manually moved each one a little at a time until he learned to crawl. Not long after, the toddler pulled himself upright by holding onto a table, and an athletic career seemed to be underway.

With much behind him, Mr. Wise, 25, is already looking ahead. Although he finished out of medal contention, he was in high spirits and positive about his experience in Beijing.

“This has been absolutely great,” he said. “I’m going to take the whole experience, learn from it, and put it toward training for London in 2012.”

(Some material provided by the U.S. Olympic Committee.)
competes in Beijing among best in the world
Maribeth Johnson, '01, is back on campus in her new role as associate director of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership. She will advise Greek organizations, work with students to broaden options for Greek life and involvement, and with the Greek alumni. “I hope to keep alumni connected to their fraternity and sorority community at Bridgewater through mentoring, networking and social programming. I am always looking for alumni who will be positive role models to fraternity and sorority members in a modern-day fraternal experience,” Ms. Johnson said. “I would love to hear ideas how fraternity and sorority alumni/ae would like to engage with undergraduate members. I hope to rekindle the commitment to lifelong membership and support the future of fraternity and sorority life at Bridgewater.”

Greek alumni interested in these opportunities may contact:
Christine Regan cregan@bridgew.edu
OR
Maribeth Johnson maribeth.johnson@bridgew.edu

The Afro-American Alumni Association hosted a summer barbecue at Miles Standish Park. Jackie Tucker and the board planned an enjoyable event that brought together alumni of all ages. The association is looking forward to another academic year of interacting with students and collaborating with various departments on campus to support programming for students of color at Bridgewater. The group is seeking new members to serve on its Board of Directors. If you are interested and can attend a monthly meeting, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 508.531.2695.

The Recent Graduate Association has developed long-range plans for its members that include events, career and education programming, as well as service opportunities. This fall, the RGA sponsored Oktoberfest during the afternoon of Homecoming and a casino trip in early November. Check the online community at http://alumni.bridgew.edu for details.

To join the RGA, contact Christine Regan at cregan@bridgew.edu.

The Bridgewater Alumni Association Board of Directors welcomes Judith Murphy DeFilippo, '62, who was elected to a three-year term. Carol Sacchetti, '98, and Kathryn Stone Bonneau, '02, were elected for second terms. Several seats on the BAA board will open in 2009.

To nominate someone for the board, prepare a letter of nomination and backup material that addresses why the nominee would be an excellent candidate. Send them to: Candace Maguire, director of alumni and development programs 25 Park Terrace Bridgewater, MA 02324.

Carolyn Van Buskirk Turchon, ’62, turned over the president’s gavel of the Bridgewater Alumni Association to Carol Wilusz Kryzanek, ’69, at the annual meeting during Alumni Weekend. Ms. Turchon will remain on the board for two years, serving as the immediate past-president.

Jeanette Damon completed her second term and became a member of the Alumni Council.

Maribeth Johnson, ’01, is back on campus in her new role as associate director of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership. She will advise Greek organizations, work with students to broaden options for Greek life and involvement, and with the Greek alumni. "I hope to keep alumni connected to their fraternity and sorority community at Bridgewater through mentoring, networking and social programming. I am always looking for alumni who will be positive role models to fraternity and sorority members in a modern-day fraternal experience," Ms. Johnson said. "I would love to hear ideas how fraternity and sorority alumni/ae would like to engage with undergraduate members. I hope to rekindle the commitment to lifelong membership and support the future of fraternity and sorority life at Bridgewater.”

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OR
Maribeth Johnson maribeth.johnson@bridgew.edu

STAY CONNECTED.
Send your news to Christine Regan in the Office of Alumni Relations via e-mail at cregan@bridgew.edu or via mail at Davis Alumni Center, Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA 02325.

The class notes editor reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity and brevity.

Submitted photos must be either high-resolution digital images or original prints from film. Photos generated on home printers are not of publication quality.
Class of 1958 donates $80,000 to Alumni Legacy Fund

Bridgewater State College alumni, some of whom had not returned to their alma mater for more than 50 years, enjoyed Alumni Weekend 2008 at on- and off-campus venues the first weekend in June.

The Class of 1958 began its golden anniversary celebration on Friday, June 6, with a private cocktail reception and reunion dinner. The celebration continued Saturday with a reunion breakfast, guided bus tours of the campus, the presentation of its $80,000 class gift to President Dana Mohler-Faria and a buffet luncheon.

Campus tours were a big hit because many returning alumni remembered only the buildings that were on the quadrangle 50 years ago. They were astounded by the growth of the campus and how it has remained the warm and welcoming place they remembered. Immediately following the tours, members of the Class of 1958 visited the college television studio to share their fondest memories of their days at Bridgewater in a “Walk Down Memory Lane” video recording, which will become a permanent part of college’s archive.

On behalf of the Class of 1958, Marilyn White Barry and Henry Daley presented President Mohler-Faria an $80,000 gift for the Alumni Legacy Fund. Earnings from the fund will support students who have demonstrated academic excellence as well as financial need. The Class of 1957 was the first class to designate its gift to this fund, and subsequent 50th reunion classes will continue the practice, transforming it into a Bridgewater tradition.

Members of the Class of 1958 gathered in their hospitality suite at the Courtyard Marriott before proceeding to the all-alumni dinner. Festivities concluded with a Sunday brunch, which included preliminary discussions about their 55th reunion in 2013.

Other classes that celebrated special reunions were 1938, 1943, 1948, 1953 and 1963. President Mohler-Faria recognized all of them from the podium at the Bridgewater Alumni Association’s annual meeting and thanked them for their dedication to their alma mater.

The Class of 1963 enjoyed a special evening for its 45th reunion dinner on Friday night in the Davis Alumni Center and then continued its celebration throughout the day on Saturday, concluding with the All-Alumni Dinner-Dance at the StoneForge Tavern in Raynham.

The Class of 1963 Reunion Committee will continue to meet and communicate with classmates on a regular basis, and is hoping to host several receptions leading up to its 50th reunion.
1954
Plans are being made for the 55th class reunion in June 2009 at the Fireside Grille in Middleboro. Contact Joe Pauley or Hazel Luke Varella with ideas.

Joe and Judy Pauley will receive the 2008 National Individual Crystal Star Award from the National Dropout Center at Clemson University on Nov. 19 at the National Dropout Prevention Network Conference in Atlanta. The award is in recognition of their outstanding work in dropout prevention with at-risk students.

1956
Winifred Murray Leary and her husband, Richard, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June on a cruise through Greece and Italy. The couple’s eight children and 30 grandchildren joined them on Cape Cod for a family reunion.

1958
Adrienne Wilson Grant, artistic director of the Arundel Barn Playhouse, earned the Outstanding Achievement in the Arts Award from the Bridgewater Alumni Association.

1959
The reunion committee meets regularly to plan its 50th reunion, June 5-7, 2009. Communications, including an early registration form, will be mailed.

1961
Janice Reed Metz retired as a Catholic school educator after 35 years. The City of Dunedin, FL, declared May 17, 2008, “Mrs. Janice Metz Day.”

1962
Cynthia Walker Leonard exhibited her artwork at Lakeville Public Library’s Great Ponds Gallery.

1968
Maureen White is principal of Elizabeth Seton Academy in Dorchester.

Leon Tavares retired after 40 years of teaching fifth-grade students. He and his wife, Karen, reside eight months of the year in Whitehall, NY.

Charles Notis is co-owner and meteorologist of Freese-Notis Weather and Captain Jack Communications in Des Moines, IA.

1969
Terry Martin retired from Lawrence public schools after 28 years.

1970
Edmund Hands retired from teaching at Oliver Ames High School and is writing a book about Easton during the Civil War era.
Bridgewater Savings has 136-year-old ties to the college

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

Fifteen years after graduating from Bridgewater Normal School in the institution’s 17th commencement, Samuel Pearly Gates, Class of 1857, helped establish Bridgewater Savings Bank; he and the bank both prospered.

And he was generous, ultimately donating his home to the college. Gates House is where the college’s Office of Undergraduate Admission resides today, but Samuel Pearly Gates’ association with the college was just the beginning.

Mr. James C. Lively, president and CEO of Bridgewater Savings, has been with the institution for more than a quarter of a century and has taken advantage of resources offered. Today, Bridgewater State College alumni make up almost 25 percent of the bank’s work force.

“When I joined the bank, I was looking for a steady stream of part-time employees, particularly on weekends and evenings,” Mr. Lively said. “The college is a great source of labor – students and graduates are well educated, talented and dependable.”

Among the many bank employees are Bridgewater graduates Stephen F. Banks, G’74, senior vice president and chief information officer; Ronald B. Hill, ’84, assistant vice president and loan officer; Anthony J. Aveni, ’86, vice president and commercial loan officer; and Sandra Cinelli, ’00, G’04, assistant operations officer.

The connections don’t end there. Several Bridgewater alumni have served on various bank boards. Retired Dean Martha D. Jones, ’64, served as bank trustee; Dr. Marilyn W. Barry, ’58, former dean of the graduate school, was a corporator. Today, Robert L. Todd Sr., ’64, G’70, is chairman of the board; and Mr. Lively serves as a trustee on the college’s Foundation.

Samuel Pearly Gates was treasurer of the bank until his death in 1914. He would be proud of the way things turned out for his bank – from a second-floor office and $4 million in assets in the 1800s to seven locations and $405 million in assets in the first decade of the 21st century.

Equally, he would be proud of his alma mater – from a one-room school house to 38 buildings on a 270-acre campus that services more than 10,000 students, responsible for educating a large percentage the region’s work force – including a full quarter of “his” bank’s employees.

1972
George Kelly, G’77, G’92, is principal of Nantucket High School.

1973
William Morse was re-elected to the Mutual Bank Board of Directors.

1974
Harold Taylor is a realtor with Jack Conway Realtors, Plymouth.

1975
Kathryn Battillo was named foundation executive director and vice president of development at Fletcher Allen Health Care.

Gail Furtado Coelho is director of technical services at Taunton Public Library and has been married 31 years to Manuel Coelho.
1976
Ron Stahley, school superintendent in Windham Southeast Supervisory Union in Brattleboro, VT, where he resides with his wife, Gale McVie Stahley, ’75, earned a doctorate in educational policy, research and administration from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Charles Nechtem completed his book, Chuck It, The Revolutionary Path to Success and Happiness.

1977
Linda Wells is director of quality and patient safety at Winchester Hospital.

Kathleen Montagano, G’82, is superintendent of the Dighton-Rehoboth regional school district.

1978
Marguerite Simons and her husband, Richard, were honored by Catholic Charities South.

1979
Kevin Wells is principal of Oxford High School.

1981
Michael Doyle, group leader of protein biochemistry at Bristol-Myers Squibb Research and Development in Princeton, is president of the Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities.

Donna Holt received a Teacher Recognition Award from the Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce.

Rev. Daniel Lacroix is pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Hyannis.

Cheryl Jackson Fogarty was inducted into the Burlington High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

1982
Mona Podgurski’s artwork was displayed by the Rhode Island Watercolor Society.

1983
Frederick Clark Jr. and student government leaders from Massachusetts public colleges met at a leadership conference at Framingham State College hosted by U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas.

1984
Donna Eaton Mahoney, G’84, is principal of Nathaniel Morton Elementary School, Plymouth.

1987
Michael Gaughan received a master’s degree in middle school education from Fitchburg State College.

John Marciano is director of the Lowell Summer Music Series at the Boarding House Park Amphitheater.

1988
Dennis Sullivan was promoted to lieutenant in the Plymouth Fire Department.

1989
Ellen Lennon’s artwork is on display at the West Falmouth Library.

1991
William Conard, principal of Randolph High School, earned his doctoral degree in education from DePaul University in Chicago.
Delta pilots share a first-rate experience

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

“We love to fly and it shows” – Delta’s slogan says it all for Captain Curtis Guillotte, ‘86, and First Officer Dan Woodside, ‘98, who met in the cockpit during a routine Delta flight.

Immersed in the getting-to-know-you small talk common to initial meetings, the two moved into the all-critical where-did-you-do-your-training portion of their dialogue.

First Officer Woodside responded sheepishly with, “You’ve probably never heard of it, but I graduated from the aviation science program at Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts.”

Silence … followed by Captain Guillotte’s response – “me too!”

In an e-mail message relating the incident, Captain Guillotte wrote: “Bridgewater’s aviation program has served me well. It was challenging, and I had the pleasure of learning from people with real-life experience, such as Professor Bryan and others.”

Captain Guillotte’s fast-track journey after graduation took him first to Norwood airport as an instructor, then as pilot for National Air and Jet Express and, finally, to Delta in 1991.

“In the cockpit at Delta, pilots come from huge schools like Air Force Academy and Purdue University, just to name a couple,” wrote Captain Guillotte. “So when a Bridgewater pilot walks in, it surprises the heck out of you.”

It also speaks to the exceptional level of training students receive in Bridgewater’s aviation science program.

Heidi Silva-Brooks, G’91, is principal of Potter Elementary School, Dartmouth.

Craig Almeida, associate professor of biology, became the first dean of academic achievement at Stonehill College.

David Linnevers of Marina, CA, is director of admissions and recruitment at California State University at Monterey Bay.

1992

Jeffrey Corwin was featured at the Franklin Park Zoo’s celebration of Earth Day.

Charles Doherty, Woburn City Council president, spoke to Woburn Memorial High School students during Student Government Day.

Christopher Baratta, G’92, G’07, is principal of Norton Middle School.

Todd Davis is senior account executive for Pipeline Wireless, Woburn.

1994

Shawn Rogan was promoted to vice president of Sterling Associates in Whitinsville and is responsible for marine, recreational vehicle and airplane loans.

Paula Cataldo Maxwell, G’94, is a housemaster at Silver Lake High School.

Christopher Campbell, G’99, is assistant superintendent of schools in Plymouth.

Lisa Chiaraluce Parks owns a business designing and fabricating soft home furnishings. She lives in Iowa with her husband and two children.

1995

Susanne Menihane Murphy is a speech-language pathologist at Huckleberry Hill School, Lynnfield.

1996

Randy King was appointed senior loan officer at Rockland Trust.

John Corrigan received a Teacher Recognition Award from the Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce.

1997

Peter Regan is principal of Taylor Elementary School, Foxboro.
Lillian Raposo Rodrigues received a Teacher Recognition Award from the Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce.

Christine Masiello Panarese is principal of the Joseph G. Luther Elementary School, Swansea.

Lorraine Jamerson Lopes, G’04, obtained LMHC licensure.

1998
Marc Mangiacotti, assistant coach for men’s and women’s track and field at Wheaton College, is USTFCCCA Assistant Coach of the Year and New England Coach of the Year for Division III.

Philip Klotzbach was awarded a PhD in atmospheric science from Colorado State University.

Matthew MacCurtain is principal of North Elementary, Abington.

Carrol Hardy is circulation manager for the New England Patriots.

2000
John Willis is principal of Jenkins Elementary School, Scituate.

2001
Marissa Holt, a graduate student at Florida Gulf Coast University, was inducted into the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Randy Bonneau was promoted to budget officer for the 102nd Intelligence Wing of the Massachusetts National Guard.

Elizabeth Boca of California is a trial attorney specializing in employment and labor litigation.

2003
Nicholas Charest is director of the Greater New Bedford Tobacco Control Board.

Katie Sagarin is an organizer for Stand for Children, Cambridge.

Edward P. Dervan is a police officer with the Boston Police Department.

2004
Deborah Horkey Ribak is assistant director of Adult Day Health Programs, New England Sinai Hospital.

Rose Esson-Dawson’s ceramic wall piece “Decommissioned I” will be displayed in an exhibit called “Time” at IMAGO in Warren, RI.

2005
Allan Chiocca, G’05, is town administrator of Rockland.

Christopher Pereira graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX.

2006
Michael Desnoyers is manager of Get in Shape for Women, North Reading.

William Theroux Jr. is a financial service professional at Charter Oak Insurance & Financial Services Co., Springfield.

Teah Mazzoni is an instructor of dance at Marion Art Center.

Sara Coelho is a financial analyst at Redcats USA, West Bridgewater.

2008
Dana Hansen is in the police academy for the Hanover Police Department.
BIRTHS  Congratulations to Bridgewater alumni on these new additions to their families:

To Robert Charters, ’91, and Phyllis Drouin, a daughter, Kiley Rose Charters, on June 16, 2007
To Heather Brightman, ’92, a daughter, Deanna Lynn Brightman, on Jan. 2, 2007
To Lisa Federici, ’92, and Scott Farris, a son, Colby Gerard-Federici Farris, on April 5, 2008, joining big sister, Gianna Rose Farris
To Christine Rogers Curtis, ’95, and Allen Curtis, a son, Andrew Joseph, on Feb. 24, 2008, joining big sister, Abigail, and brother, Aidan
To Christen Coen Garcia, ’95, and Lou Garcia, a daughter, Brooke Noelle, on Dec. 13, 2007, joining big brothers, Nicholas and Thomas
To Denise Breault Hutchins, ’95, and Mark Hutchins, a son, Jack Palmer, on March 28, 2008
To Jennifer Brown Johnson, ’95, and Matthew Johnson, ’95, a daughter, Tessa Marian, on Jan. 18, 2008
To Eric Heise, ’96, and Kimberly Heise, a daughter, Aili Grace Heise, on Nov. 30, 2007
To Keri Lewandoski Sperling, ’96, and Jeff Sperling, ’97, a son, Kelan Thomas on June 27, 2008, joining big sister, Shea Rose Sperling
To Marshall Daniels, ’97, and Sadie Daniels, a son, Brett Lawrence Daniels, on June 28, 2008
To Melissa Nappi Kiernan, ’99, and Josh Kiernan, a daughter, Natalie Anne, on June 22, 2007, joining big brother, Jack Nelson
To Rhonda Trust-Schwartz, ’99, and Jason Schwartz, a son, Ryder Ari Schwartz, on June 11, 2008
To Rebecca Lewis Clary, ’01, G’06, and Brent Clary, a son, Shawn Lewis, on May 22, 2007
To Rebecca Moore Raymond, ’01, and David Raymond, a daughter, Lydia Sweet, on June 6, 2008, joining big brother John Carlton
To Edward Dervan, ’03, and Megan Dervan, a son, Edward Dana, on May 29, 2008

IN MEMORIAM  Bridgewater is saddened by the deaths of the following alumni and extends condolences to their loved ones:

Edith Caswell Vance, ’29, on April 1, 2008
Helen Rogers Eaton, ’31, on May 7, 2008
 Mildred Ferguson Dutton, ’33, on Jan. 28, 2008
 Frances Lyman, ’34, on June 11, 2008
 Dorothy Swift Bearse, ’36, on March 31, 2008
 Gertrude French Hunt, ’36, on April 25, 2008
 Irene Mattie Cormier, ’40, on Nov. 23, 2007
 Arnold Nerenberg, ’40, on April 5, 2008
 Alice Bubrisky, ’42, on May 14, 2008
 Margaret Austin, ’44, on June 2, 2008
 Donald Griffin, ’52, on June 5, 2008
 Paul Breslin, G’53, on May 12, 2008
 Anne Lemieux Dolan, ’55, on June 2, 2008
 Neil Fitzgerald, G’58, on April 11, 2008
 Isabelle Wojnar, G’59, on April 5, 2008
 Michael George, G’63, on April 25, 2008
 Lawrence Street, G’64, on April 22, 2008
 Elizabeth Miller Gibson, ’65, on April 23, 2008
 Melvin Cohen, G’65, on April 28, 2008
 Marguerite Welsh Soares Gesualdo-Lee, ’69, on May 20, 2008
 Lynn Briscoe Wisneski, ’69, on April 12, 2008
 Alfred Alberti, G’72, on May 15, 2008

MARRIAGES  The college celebrates the weddings of the following alumni:

Robert Charters, ’91, to Phyllis Drouin on July 8, 2006
Robert Counihan, ’97, to Tina DeMarco on May 10, 2008
Rhonda Trust-Schwartz, ’99, to Jason Schwartz on July 3, 2005
Elisa Hansen, ’00, G’04, to Wyatt Clifford on July 28, 2007
Kristin Sacchetti, ’00, to Christopher Ernest on May 17, 2008
Kathyrn Coughlin, ’01, to Elliot Ranger on June 21, 2008
Kelly Tufts, ’01, to Jose Victoria on April 19, 2008

Erin Burke, ’03, to Jason Magnani on April 20, 2008
Emily Galofaro, ’03, to Jamie Danis on Aug. 24, 2007
Marguerite Grady, ’03, to Paul O’Hara, ’02, on July 12, 2008
Jillian Souza, ’03, to Joshua Fikkert on May 26, 2008
Kristen Dorrance, ’04, to Chris Hirsch on Aug. 11, 2007
Stacy Auerr, G’05, to James Koshivaki on Aug. 11, 2007
Sara Coelho, ’06, to Julien Arbour on Aug. 16, 2008
Bethany Masten, ’07, to Derek Drake, ’07, on May 24, 2008
The Finishing Touch

Over the summer, Horace Mann Auditorium was renovated from top to bottom. The 82-year-old facility was gutted, with the wall murals the only remaining untouched link to its earliest days. Here, a worker installs one of eight new lighting fixtures, capping off a stunning renovation.
Guaranteed income, guaranteed for life
Charitable Gift Annuity

“A state college needs private support to ensure the next generation has access to an excellent, affordable education the same way we did. You simply cannot beat a Bridgewater education.”

–Jane Tuttle Powers

Jane Tuttle Powers, ’59, and Bernie Powers, ’61, G’63, retired educators from Cape Cod

It’s a four-generation family affair!
Jane Tuttle Powers, ’59, and Bernie Powers, ’61, G’63, are grateful for the excellent education they received at Bridgewater State College and proudly name other family members who shared their experience: Jane’s maternal grandparents, J. Murray Baker and Mercy Kelly Baker; her mother, Harriet Baker Tuttle, ’28; and Jane and Bernie’s son, Daniel.

THREE GREAT PASSIONS Our six children, 12 grandchildren and baseball. Bernie was captain of the BSC baseball team. Today, he’s a member of Cape Cod Five Senior All-Star team.

FAVORITE FACULTY “Annabelle Melville, ‘fabulous;’ Jordan Fiore, ‘He liked us because we laughed at his jokes;’ Professors Olive Lovett, William Wall and George Durgin. All our professors were tremendous.”

WHY MAKE A GIFT? To express our gratitude. As we approached our milestone 50th class reunions, the timing was perfect to establish a $10,000 Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).

To learn more or to request a personalized CGA complimentary example, please contact Alice Zaff, assistant vice president for institutional advancement, at 508.531.2700 or azaff@bridgew.edu.

A Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) is an irrevocable gift that provides you with:
- Guaranteed income stream for life, a portion tax-free
- High income rates, beginning at 5.5%
- Sizeable income tax deductions

GIFT ANNUITY RATES
As of October 1, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ONE LIFE BENEFICIARY</th>
<th>TWO LIFE BENEFICIARIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>65 5.7%</td>
<td>65 70 5.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 6.1%</td>
<td>70 75-78 5.8%</td>
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<td>75 6.7%</td>
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<td>80 7.6%</td>
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On a campus that today has 38 major buildings spread across 270 acres, it may be difficult to imagine that the college’s first home in 1840 was a 40 x 50-foot single room in the original Bridgewater Town Hall. Here are some highlights from that first century of building at Bridgewater:

1846 On Aug. 19, the first State Normal School building in America was officially dedicated at Bridgewater. Horace Mann, then-secretary of education, spoke at the ceremony.

1860 Still standing today is Gates House. It was built in 1860 and became college property in the early 1900s.

1869 The first residence hall built on the campus of any public college or university in Massachusetts opened at Bridgewater. Normal Hall stood until 1916.

1905 The Art Building opened this year as a gymnasium and is today the oldest continuously operated classroom building on campus.

1924 In December, fire destroyed three of the college’s six buildings, but within months, a rebuilding program had begun.

1926 Boyden and Harrington halls opened in January.

–David K. Wilson, ’71