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Bridgewater State University

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BSU honored as Public University of the Year by The Washington Center

Dr. George Serra, chairperson of the Department of Political Science, stands with BSU students who’ve taken part in The Washington Center internship program. From left are Brendan Concannon, Alexandra Sousa, Zohaa Basra, Kayla Harvey, Amy Anderson, Dr. Serra, Hilary White and Kristin Helm.
WHEN JIGYASHA SINGH, an international student from Nepal, learned that in her hometown when a woman goes to prison and does not have relatives to take care of her child, the child goes to prison, too. Inside, the children do not have access to health care, vaccinations, education or nutritious food, and the mother has to share her own food with her child.

The health studies major was moved to do something and enlisted the help of her fellow students, Lisa deSousa, Angela Saluvcic, Sheila Leahy and Carrie Robitaille. They raised money across campus and sent it to Nepal, where Jigyasha’s sister, Dilasha, purchased backpacks for the imprisoned children. The project was done as the service-learning component of Professor James Leone’s School and Community Health course. The students’ efforts had a wider effect then they had anticipated.

How did you learn about this?
I came across it on Facebook. There was a video from CNN about Pushpa Basnet (founder of the Early Childhood Development Center), who was a finalist for the network’s Hero of the Year Award. The video explained about the organization and the work she does with the children who live in the prisons of Nepal.

What made you want to do something?
I am a health student, and I think I’m very fortunate to be in the U.S. for my studies. Half the population of Nepal is illiterate, yet they deserve the same opportunities that I’ve had. And being students of BSU, we strongly feel that raising awareness about this issue helps us to realize the motto of the university, ‘Not to be ministered unto, but to minister.’

Can you talk about the project?
The children in jail do not get proper nutrition or practice good hygiene, and they have a lot of health-related problems. And since we were doing a project on school and community health, I thought it would be relevant.

How did things work out?
Our small contribution was very much appreciated by the children. By doing this fundraising, we not only served the needs of the children, but we helped to raise awareness of this issue around campus too.

How did it feel to help others?
It made me feel great. It’s giving back what you receive. That’s the feeling I had. And I felt it was my obligation to do that because someone did it for me.

What did you learn?
There was so much to learn. After we made just a few calls we found that there is a need everywhere. Even here in the U.S., we can do so much for those deserving people, be they in Nepal or anywhere. There’s so much to do in this world.

(Interview by John Winters, G’11)
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This important accolade is a tribute, at least in part, to our university’s growing commitment to help students not only secure invaluable internships, but also to help alleviate some of the costs associated with taking advantage of these opportunities. Last year, the Bridgewater State University Foundation readily accepted my challenge of marshaling philanthropic support for this effort. The resulting program – the President’s Internship Initiative – provided direct financial support for students to attend the recent Democratic and Republican National Conventions, the Presidential Inauguration and other internships with various law enforcement, policymaking and legal arms of our government offered under the auspices of The Washington Center. Numerous other students have taken advantage of funded internship opportunities right here in Southeastern Massachusetts and as far away as Iraq and China.

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Second, and even more important, internships act as an integrated component of a Bridgewater education – an education that aims for no less than the intellectual and personal transformation of students and the ways in which they think about themselves and their world. The University continues to offer a vibrant, comprehensive learning environment, providing students with empowering tools to achieve success – the strength of a solid, well-rounded academic experience defined by extraordinary teaching and mentorship of a world-class faculty; confidence in their preparation for competitive and challenging careers; and pride in the privilege of carrying on Bridgewater State University’s tradition of excellence.

Sincerely,

Dana Mohler-Faria
President

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Remembering Dean Emerita Martha D. Jones, ’64

BY DAVID K. WILSON, ’71

Dean Emerita Martha Drinkwater Jones, ’64, was a pillar of the university community from the time she entered as a freshman in September 1960 until her passing last July.

After several years of public school teaching, she came back to her alma mater in 1966 as an administrator in the student affairs division and remained until her retirement in 2002. She also was active in the university’s alumni association, serving as its president for several terms, and was involved in the affairs of the association for four-plus decades.

As their friends at Bridgewater State University know, in 1970 Dean Jones married Jack Jones, ’62, professor emeritus of elementary education, and together they remained active in the life of the university (Jack, too, is a former president of the alumni association). Each spring the “Martha D. Jones Award for Outstanding Dedication to Students” is granted to a member of the faculty or staff in recognition of his or her service to the students of BSU.

In an interview several years ago, Dean Jones described her first visit to the campus: “I came with my high school guidance counselor, and when we walked into what was then the president’s office, Helen Tripp, the president’s secretary, greeted us. I said I was interested in attending Bridgewater. Helen said, ‘Do you have your transcript?’ I pulled out the papers and handed them to her. She took one look and said, ‘You’re admitted.’ That was literally how I got admitted to Bridgewater,” she recalled.

Martha Drinkwater was a product of a time when women had primarily three career choices: They could become secretaries, teachers or nurses. I knew from a young age that I wanted to be a teacher,” she said. “As I entered high school and began thinking seriously of preparing for my career, I knew that Framingham State and Bridgewater State were the two options I had, and if I attended Bridgewater, I could live on campus. Because I was an only child, I was quite eager to be on my own, so the idea of enrolling at Bridgewater was especially appealing to me.”

Bridgewater State was still a small school, and students lived by different standards.

“My years at Bridgewater were rewarding, pleasant and completely enjoyable. And I emerged a changed person,” Dean Jones said. “When I first came to college, I was very shy. In high school, I did sing in the chorus, but that was about the extent of my involvement in student life. I focused exclusively on my studies. In high school, I did sing in the chorus, but that was about the extent of my involvement in student life. I focused exclusively on my studies. But when I enrolled at Bridgewater, I involved myself in a lot of activities and organizations, including athletics, which is something I avoided entirely in high school. I was active in student government, the residence hall system and acted in a whole string of plays and musicals.”

Over the course of the next 36 years, Dean Jones was an exemplary leader and advocate for students.

“I’ve enjoyed my whole career, from my early days as a teacher in Wellesley through all my years at Bridgewater,” she said. “Every day that I was here I never knew what was going to walk through the door, but I always looked forward to the challenges that would greet me. I found my career enormously fulfilling.”

A teaching position in Wellesley awaited her, but only for two years.

“I was very fortunate to have the chance to return to Bridgewater,” she recalled. “I was hired for the position, and my title was to be assistant to the dean of women. It was a great experience to come back to be with so many of the men and women on the faculty whom I admired so much.”

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Martha Drinkwater was a product of a time when there were few professional options for young women.

“I grew up in an era when women had primarily three career choices: They could become secretaries, teachers or nurses. I knew from a young age that I wanted to be a teacher,” she said. “As I entered high school and began thinking seriously of preparing for my career, I knew that Framingham State and Bridgewater State were the two options I had, and if I attended Bridgewater, I could live on campus. Because I was an only child, I was quite eager to be on my own, so the idea of enrolling at Bridgewater was especially appealing to me.”

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Volunteering for Romney campaign sets course for graduate student

Her candidate may not have come out on top in the presidential election, but Mississiak Akers emerged from the campaign of 2012 a true winner. As an intern with Mitt Romney’s presidential campaign, the graduate student learned much about our political process, and may have discovered her life’s passion. “I feel like a completely different person now,” said the Crafton native, who now lives in Attleboro.

In May, Ms. Akers will earn her MBA, with a concentration in management. She signed on in July 2012 to volunteer for the Romney campaign, hoping to play a part in history, and was ultimately hired. “I love politics, especially during an election year,” she said. “This was the most important election of my life, and I wanted to play a part in it.”

Soon after reporting for duty at Gov. Romney’s Boston headquarters, Ms. Akers was appointed the sole intern working for the candidate’s wife, Ann. Her main duties consisted of managing Mrs. Romney’s correspondence, assisting the governor with various projects and going on the road to campaign events. “Going on the road for the first time and walking into rallies with the governor and seeing how much energy people had and how many people believed in him and what he stood for, I’ll never forget that,” she said.

Ms. Akers is already at work for another candidate, and has her sights set after graduation on a job in D.C. Looks like she’s found her path. “Once I took this position, I loved every single second of it,” she said.

The Three Pillars of Excellence, a campaign for Bridgewater, exceeds goal with campaign total of $16,319,252

The Bridgewater State University Foundation sends 16,319,252 thank yous to everyone who contributed to The Three Pillars of Excellence Campaign—that’s right, together we raised $16,319,252 to enhance the already outstanding education we offer Bridgewater State University students. BSU is benefiting today, and will continue to benefit for decades to come, from this successful campaign.

On July 1, 2006, the BSU Foundation began an ambitious campaign to raise $15 million to strengthen three areas of critical importance to the university:

- Equity—increasing the number of scholarships and financial assistance to assist students of all ages and backgrounds
- Engagement—offering experiential learning opportunities to help our students make vital connections both inside and outside of the classroom through internships, undergraduate research, study abroad
- Enrichment—helping to keep BSU vibrant and competitive

The Three Pillars of Excellence Campaign concluded on June 30, 2012. Bryan Baldwin, vice president for university advancement and executive director of the Bridgewater State University State Foundation confirmed that the campaign was not only complete, but also that it had exceeded its original goal. “By far surpassing our initial goal for this campaign, and accomplishing this significant achievement in the midst of a global economic downturn, we are making a transformative Bridgewater education affordable and accessible to students in our region, our state and indeed, the world.”

Today, the impact of dollars raised through private philanthropy exceeds $29 million – an increase of 115 percent since the inception of The Three Pillars of Excellence Campaign. The outpouring of support for this campaign from more than 10,226 donors enables the university to offer internship and undergraduate opportunities for our students, scholarships, lectures and student life enhancements.

Bridgewater State University is committed to access and affordability, and financial support from alumni and friends allows us to address our initiatives and thereby provide the programs and services we need to grow and prosper.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

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Central Los Angeles – at the same school Boston Celtic Paul Pierce attended, the and Mike Storey, the associate director. Over the years, she worked with BSU’s previous athletic director, John Harper, trainer. She holds a Master of Business Administration from Simmons College. certification in sports medicine, qualifying her as a certified and licensed athletic graduate degrees in physical education. She also earned teaching credentials and University of New York College at Brockport, where she earned undergraduate and iarity with the institution’s programs.

From left, Dr. Paula Krebs, Dr. Marybeth Lamb and Dr. Jason Pina

New faces

DR. PAULA KREBS was named as the founding dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She comes to Bridgewater State University from the president’s office at Wheaton College, where she helped establish partnerships with other colleges, the community and local government. A scholar of Victorian literature and longtime English professor at Wheaton, Dean Krebs has published works on British imperial culture, including books on the Boer War and Rudyard Kipling. She has worked for many years on issues of diversity in higher education and has been published in The Chronicle of Higher Education and elsewhere.

DR. MARYBETH LAMB brings more than 30 years of experience to her position as the new director of athletics and recreation at BSU, along with a strong familiarity with the institution’s programs.

Dr. Lamb lives in Natwick, but grew up on Long Island and attended the State University of New York College at Brockport, where she earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in physical education. She also earned teaching credentials and certification in sports medicine, qualifying her as a certified and licensed athletic trainer. She holds a Master of Business Administration from Simmons College. Over the years, she worked with BSU’s previous athletic director, John Harper, and Mike Storey, the associate director.

DR. JASON PINA is the new vice president of student affairs, replacing Dr. David Ostroth, who retired in 2012. The Rhode Island native brings a wide array of experience to his new position. He spent a year of his high school career in South Central Los Angeles – at the same school Boston Celtic Paul Pierce attended; the die-hard sports fan points out – and came to Massachusetts after earning two graduate degrees.

His resume includes positions at Babson College, Roger Williams University and the University of Rhode Island. In 2009, he earned his doctorate from Johnson & Wales University.

Dr. Pina’s division includes more than a dozen departments, ranging from Athletics and Recreation to Student Involvement and Leadership, to the GLFTA Pride Center.

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Good news is in the air at Bridgewater State University’s flight training center. Aviation science students will soon have access to a new simulator. Officially known as an AES 74 Cockpit and manufactured by Precision Flight Controls, Inc., the new unit re-creates the experience of flying a Boeing 737. “This will help our students transition from a single-pilot training environment and enable them to move to a multi-crew environment,” said Greg Bongiorno, aviation program manager.

The simulator arrives at a propitious time, as recent changes in the law increased the minimum flight time and experience new first officers will need before flying for an airline. The addition will help satisfy some of these new requirements.

The simulator is what’s known as a non-motion unit and features a full 737 cockpit. A “next-generation” model, it boasts all the latest technologies. Because 737s are turbo jets, they require a two-man crew, which allows students a chance to learn how to work together. Mr. Bongiorno said, “As two pilots work together efficiently, they increase the safety in the cockpit.”

The unit was donated to BSU by Daniel Webster College, which ended its aviation program. It comes with all the latest updates, including a full flight guidance computer system and full flight management system. Before being put into service, the simulator will require some hardware and software updates, and the Department of Aviation Science is seeking funding to complete that work.

Women’s hoop makes journey

BSU may have lost in the opening round of the 2013 NCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Tournament, but team members have no reason to hang their heads. The squad posted another great season, entering the tournament with 11 wins in a row. The squad also won 17 of its last 18 games. In fact, under coach Bridgett Casey, the team compiled the second-highest win total in program history.

It was the third consecutive trip to the tournament for the Bears, and its fourth in six years. Senior guard Michaela Cosby wrapped up an outstanding career, ranking seventh on the Bears’ all-time scoring list.

Coaches honored

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association named T.J. Smith as New England Region Men’s Head Coach of the Year for the 2013 NCAA Division III indoor track & field season. In his sixth season with the Bears, he coached the men’s team to the best season in school history winning two championships andshattering 13 school records along the way.

Also for the fourth time in the past six seasons, BSU’s Bridgegate has been selected as the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference Women’s Basketball Coach of the Year. She shares this year’s honor with Worcester State University head coach Karen Tessmer. She guided the Bears to their fourth MASCAC title in the last six years, completing the 2012-13 regular season with an 11-1 conference record and overall mark of 21-3. The Bears, who reached the 20-win plateau for the third time in the Casey era, were the top seed for the MASCAC Tournament.

Track & field accomplishments

Senior distance runner Holly Roulard of Dartmouth placed seventh in the finals of the one-mile run to earn All-American honors at the NCAA Division III Women’s Indoor Track and Field Championships at North Central College in Naperville, IL. She recorded a time of 4:53.68, less than 2/10 of a second off her school record time of 4:53.49, which she’d set the day before during preliminaries. She also captured her third straight MASCAC individual title and led the women’s cross country team to a third-place finish at the conference championships. She placed seventh at the New England championships, sending her to the NCAA championships where she placed 50th.

At the NCAA Division III Indoor Track & Field Championships, senior Michaela Hirsch, who qualified in both the shot put and the weight throw, capped her career as a member of 4x800 relay teams that took third place. She tied the school record in the shot put. She posted a distance of 55 feet, one inch (16.79 meters) in his second of three attempts during the meet, held at North Central College in Naperville, IL.

Football team, 9-1, clinched berth

After a 9-1 regular season, the BSU football team clinched a berth in the NCAA Division III tournament for the first time since 1992, but were knocked out in the first round by Widener University, 44-14. Outstanding play by Paul Melickseck earned him several honors, including being selected to both the All-Region (South) and the Athletic Bowl, the latter of which he was named team captain.

Preventing takeoff

New simulator will help aviation science majors in many ways

At the official opening ceremony for the university’s new Science and Mathematics Center, Gov. Deval Patrick and other guest speakers praised it as an important investment for the future of Massachusetts.

The governor told a crowd of hundreds that the newly constructed building is representative of his administration’s strategy for building a better commonwealth.

That strategy is based on three principles: education, innovation and infrastructure, he said. “This building combines them all,” said the governor. “It’s an emphasis on education. It is about the STEM subjects, which are so important to the growth sectors in the economy today.”

President Dana Mohler-Faria said the center is a valuable resource for the region in today’s tough economy. We are in times, he said, when it is difficult for government – state or federal – to provide resources for public higher education. We cannot afford access to public education.

See related story on page 12.
Women’s hoop makes journey

BSU may have lost in the opening round of the 2013 NCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Tournament, but team members have no reason to hang their heads. The squad posted another great season, entering the tournament with 11 wins in a row. The squad also won 17 of its last 18 games. In fact, under coach Bridgett Casey, the team compiled the second-highest win total in program history.

It was the third consecutive trip to the tournament for the Bears, and its fourth in six years. Senior guard Michaela Cosby wrapped up an outstanding career with 1,192 points, ranking seventh on the Bears’ all-time scoring list.

Coaches honored

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association named T.J. Smith as New England Region Men’s Head Coach of the Year for the 2013 NCAA Division III indoor track & field season. In his sixth season with the Bears, he coached the men’s team to the best season in school history winning two championships and shuttering 13 school records along the way.

Also for the fourth time in the past six seasons, BSU’s Bridgett Casey has been selected as the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference Women’s Basketball Coach of the Year. She shares this year’s honor with Worcester State University head coach Karen Tessmer. She guided the Bears to their fourth MASCAC title in the last six years, completing the 2012-13 regular season with an 11-1 conference record and overall mark of 21-3. The Bears, who reached the 20-win plateau for the third time in the Casey era, were the top seed for the MASCAC Tournament.

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New Science and Mathematics Center celebrated with official opening

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See related story on page 12.

The Bridge Partnership inaugurated

The inaugural session of The Bridge Partnership, a 13-day summer academic program for New Bedford’s Roosevelt Middle School students, was a success by all accounts. In July, 150 students attended two separate sessions, living in a university residence hall, taking courses with BSU faculty and staff, and touring educational, cultural and historic sites in Boston and Southeastern Massachusetts.

“You are embarking today on an educational experience that is like no other in the nation,” said BSU President Dana Mohler-Faria, as he welcomed the students and their parents at a dinner held the first day of the program.

The Bridge Partnership originated after a conversation between BSU’s president and New Bedford Mayor Scott Lang. The two were seeking ways in which the university’s resources could assist the city’s schools. Subsequently, President Mohler-Faria worked closely with Roosevelt principal Darcy Fernandes, as well as BSU’s Division of External Affairs, to design a learning program that includes a host of exciting educational opportunities.

Although labeled a “summer” program, the academic support does not end when September rolls around. “In the fall, the students were mentored when they returned to school, and our intent is to continue supporting them in the years immediately ahead,” said Mark Conrail, assistant to the vice president for external affairs and coordinator of the partnership. “We’ll be working closely with the mayor of New Bedford and the school principal to maintain a presence in their academic studies. This will be done on a weekly basis.”

In October, Gov. Deval Patrick announced an educational spending package that included nearly $198,000 to support the future of The Bridge Partnership. Next summer, the students will return to BSU for another session.

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The Washington Center

The Washington Center, a public university, selected as university advancement and executive director of the Foundation. “So many internships was at the top of the list,” said Bryan Baldwin, vice president for University Foundation, an affiliated, nonprofit corporation that builds private philanthropy for the institution.

“It is an experience of enrichment and inspiration that will come to define my academic career at Bridgewater State University,” he said.

Michael was one of the first students selected to receive assistance through a new program of financial support offered under the auspices of the Bridgewater State University Foundation, an affiliated, nonprofit corporation that builds private philanthropy for the institution.

“As we thought deeply about some of the transformative opportunities we wanted to bring within closer reach of our students, a sustained, funded program for internships was at the top of the list,” said Bryan Baldwin, vice president for university advancement and executive director of the Foundation. “So many students have the desire and the drive to complete an internship, but so many also find the transformative opportunities to be cost-prohibitive. We’re very hopeful this program will begin to eliminate that barrier.”

Though the Foundation’s program funds internships for students in all majors, the rich partnership between the university and The Washington Center proved a natural fit. Since spring 1998, more than 75 BSU students have experienced the singular opportunities available through the center.

The partnership has been hailed by students, faculty and administrators alike, and this fall The Washington Center named Bridgewater State University as its Public University of the Year for 2012. Dr. George Serra, professor of political science, said this was “significant recognition” from a highly respected institution.

The program provides internships across D.C., as well as abroad, for students of all majors. Students intern in government offices, communication companies, law firms, trade and professional associations, human rights groups and a host of other organizations.

When Michael Verleza decided to attend Bridgewater State University he got more than he bargained for. In a good way. The economics and finance double major from Attleboro was given the opportunity to spend time in the nation’s capital, thanks to the institution’s partnership with The Washington Center, the largest independent, nonprofit academic internship program in the country.

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Attending The Washington Center ceremony honoring BSU are (from left) Frederick Clark Jr., ’83, executive vice president and vice president for external affairs; President Dana Mohler-Faria; BSU student Alyssa Valcourt; Dr. George Serra, chairperson of the Department of Political Science; Shana Murrell, director of alumni relations; and Bryan Baldwin, vice president for university advancement and strategic planning.

The center offers internships in places such as the Library of Congress, the U.S. Department of Justice, National Endowment for the Arts and The World Bank.

As part of his internship, Michael attended the Democratic National Convention, where he worked with members of the media, including former CNN anchor Aaron Brown, as well as political analysts and others. “I found myself re-evaluating my career goals in quantitative finance, wondering if there was a place for me inside the Beltway rather than on Wall Street,” he said.

In announcing the honoring of BSU as Public University of the Year, The Washington Center’s senior vice president, Eugene J. Alpert, said in a letter to the university: “One of the many things that set Bridgewater State University apart from other institutions is your exceptional commitment to academic quality for your students in the field of experiential education. That you and members of your administration have made such a strong and conscious decision to support students attending The Washington Center academic programs is indicative of that commitment.”

Bridgewater State University was honored in Washington at the center’s Academic Affairs Awards Luncheon, held at the National Press Club. President Dana Mohler-Faria and other university administrators attended.

Embracing The Washington Center Program has been a life-changing experience. Having the opportunity to intern with the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy has enabled me to grow and develop into a more professional leader. Throughout this journey, I have achieved many of the goals I set for myself, such as improving upon my professional speaking and writing skills, setting up numerous informational interviews with professionals in career interests of mine, obtaining reliable resources and developing a better career focus. Words alone cannot express my gratitude and appreciation to all the amazing individuals I have met along this journey; these memories will forever stay with me.

The Washington Center is a unique opportunity. I am getting firsthand experience in a career field that I hope to enter. At the same time, there are opportunities to listen to speakers and meet people I would otherwise not have had the chance to.
Four BSU students reflect on their time at politics’ “Big Show”

Thanks to funding provided by the Bridgewater State University Foundation, four BSU students attended the 2012 political conventions. Amy Anderson and Mike Verlezza traveled to the Democratic convention in Charlotte, NC, while Kayla Harvey and Devin Armstrong attended the RNC in Tampa, FL, along with Dr. George Serra, professor and chairperson of the Department of Political Science. The trips were organized through BSU’s ongoing partnership with The Washington Center. We asked the students to share their thoughts on their experiences.

AMY ANDERSON
It was amazing to participate in this historic event with students from across the United States. There were a number of speakers who educated the group on the presidential nomination process, the role of the convention in an election, the qualities of a candidate and what holding a political position entails. Being a nontraditional student provided me with the ability to utilize my strengths during my field work placement in access control at the Time Warner Cable Arena. I was able to gain hands-on experience working with the DNC staff and Secret Service, which resulted in my being on the arena floor for President Obama’s acceptance speech. This experience gave me firsthand knowledge of the inner workings of this convention, with the vast amounts of preparation and attention to detail needed to facilitate such an enormous event. Opportunities such as this have laid the foundation for me to navigate toward an occupation that will utilize what I have learned inside as well as outside the classroom. Not only did this experience aid in my understanding of the presidential campaign, it reinforced my desire to educate individuals and hopefully become instrumental in future policy implementation for the commonwealth.

KAYLA HARVEY
As a registered independent attending the Republican National Convention, I thought I would learn more about the diversity of the American political system. However, the experience was much more than a lesson in the varying perspectives in the American electoral system. While at the RNC, I worked for CNN International, specifically for CNN anchor, Hala Gorani, who hosts the international news program, I-Desk. For the four days of the convention, I assisted Hala with research for her stories, offered hospitality to I-Desk guests like Condoleezza Rice, John King and Sen. John McCain, and of course, fetched coffee and did other “intern” things. Also, Dr. Serra and I received special press passes from the Republican National Committee and had the ability to watch the convention from start to finish. As someone who watched national conventions growing up, it’s hard to put into words the true importance and impact of being able to watch a convention in person and see a party nominate its candidate for president. Overall, it was a really great experience.

DEVIN ARMSTRONG
I, and every other BSU student involved with the program, know how lucky we are to have a Foundation looking out for the best interests of students. We all spoke not only of the fact that we would never have been able to have such an experience on our own, but that we know we have a responsibility to take what we learn and bring it out into the world. For me, I have no doubt in my mind that the program participants will continue making positive impacts in others’ lives wherever we go, whatever we do.

MIKE VERLEZZA
My time in Charlotte was more than a confluence of fortunate events. It was an experience of enrichment and inspiration that will come to define my academic career at Bridgewater State University. Without having experienced it, it’s difficult to imagine two weeks shaping and informing your educational aspirations and your career arc. Having said that, my time in Charlotte still has me asking myself some of the toughest questions I’ve ever had to answer. Interactions with journalist-in-residence, Aaron Brown, forced me to re-evaluate my perception of media’s role in government, while personal interchanges with opinion analyst Peter Hart spoke to my quantitative side.
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BY JOHN WINTERS, G’11

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More than conventional thinking

CAMPAIGN 2012 Academic Seminar Series
Democratic National Convention www.twc.edu/C2012

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At the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, NC, are (left photo) Mike Verlezza and Amy Anderson. Kayla Harvey and Devin Armstrong, along with Dr. George Serra, (right photo) attend the Republican National Convention in Tampa, FL. (Photos courtesy of The Washington Center.)
What was a few years ago a beautiful artist’s rendering is now a flourishing reality – a hotbed for research, an incredible teaching tool and an educational hub for the community.

Bridgewater State University’s new Science and Mathematics Center

When Dr. Arthur Goldstein, dean of the Bartlett College of Science and Mathematics, talks about BSU’s recently completed Science and Mathematics Center, he typically mentions this anecdote.

In early days of construction, he led a tour group around the center, stopping at the advanced instruments lab. One visitor, a chemist who holds positions at Harvard and MIT, looked at the equipment, gave a look of surprise and asked: “You don’t have undergraduates using these machines, do you?” “Every day,” answered Dean Goldstein. Needless to say, the chemist was impressed, because at most universities much of the equipment in the room is accessible to just graduate students.

Dean Goldstein tells the story with a smile, as it hits at the heart of the center: advanced undergraduate research. The building has 85 designated research spaces and 18 lab-classrooms for the college’s departments: biology, chemistry, computer science, geography, geology, mathematics and physics.

Everything beneficial about the center – best teaching practices, newfound collaboration, excellent workforce and graduate school preparation, community outreach – stems from the new and improved research facilities. “That extra research space – that’s the game changer,” said Dean Goldstein.

‘The game changer’

BY ROBERT W. MATHESON JR., ’07, G’12

Having your own space

Professors like Dr. Jenna Mendell see the building as a long-awaited dream. She not only taught in the Marshall Conant Science Building, which stood for nearly 50 years, but also completed her undergraduate studies there in the 1990s.

Much has changed, said the microbiologist, sitting in her new office down a third-floor corridor designated for biology faculty – a convenient format mirrored for each department. With all the new space and equipment, we are progressing so much faster in every way,” said Dr. Mendell.

Faculty helped design the building, with each department forming planning committees as far back as 2008. They encouraged equipment updates and spaces like the collaborative lab, where departments work alongside one another.

The center is also “green” (LEED certified), complete with a water reclamation system.
What was a few years ago a beautiful artist’s rendering is now a flourishing reality – a hotbed for research, an incredible teaching tool, and an educational hub for the community.

Bridgewater State University’s new Science and Mathematics Center

BY ROBERT W. MATHESON JR., ’07, G’12

‘The game changer’

When Dr. Arthur Goldstein, dean of the Bartlett College of Science and Mathematics, talks about BSU’s recently completed Science and Mathematics Center, he typically mentions this anecdote. In early days of construction, he led a tour group around the center, stopping at the advanced instruments lab. One visitor, a chemist who holds positions at Harvard and MIT, looked at the equipment, gave a look of surprise and asked: “You don’t have undergraduates using these machines, do you?” “Every day,” answered Dean Goldstein. Needless to say, the chemist was impressed, because at most universities much of the equipment in the room is accessible to just graduate students.

Dean Goldstein tells the story with a smile, as it hits at the heart of the center: advanced undergraduate research. The building has 85 designated research spaces and 18 lab-classrooms for the college’s departments: biology, chemistry, computer science, geography, geology, mathematics and physics.

Everything beneficial about the center – best teaching practices, newfound collaboration, excellent workforce and graduate school preparation, community outreach – stems from the new and improved research facilities. “That extra research space – that’s the game changer,” said Dean Goldstein.

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The center is also “green” (LEED certified), complete with a water reclamation system.
Two students work in BSU’s new machine lab.

Chemistry student Joe Matta conducts research in the university’s new advanced instruments lab.

Avoid being ‘lost in equations’

Walking down a second-floor hall lined with weather and climate charts made by geography students, Dr. Robert Hellstrom, chairperson of the Department of Geography, discusses updates of his prized teaching tool: the new wind tunnel.

Taking up an entire room, the tunnel resembles an air vent that connects at two points of the wall, where the wind can enter and exit. At a few areas along the tunnel are three-by-three-foot Plexiglas stations, used by geography, physics and aviation students conducting research. With a larger, more advanced tunnel, he said, students can measure up to hurricane-force winds and monitor a wide variety of environments, including sub-zero temperatures (this specialty). A major benefit is providing hands-on, practical research, said Dr. Hellstrom. “Students have a much better understanding of the principles of what we’re doing,” he said. “Sometimes students can get lost in equations in the classroom. This helps us avoid that.”

Hands-on research has been part of all science departments at BSU for years, but has improved with the new center.

Chemistry student Joe Matta worked in the advanced instruments lab, using such equipment as the massive nuclear magnetic resonance machine, which measures samples at sub-zero temperatures, and a sleek gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer. His Adrian Tinsley Program-funded research is on the vanguard of metal organic frameworks – materials that basically serve as sponges for toxic chemicals.

The type of concrete experimentation he did is extremely helpful for students, said Joe, sitting in chemistry’s collaborative lab, which is furnished with tables running the length of the room and piled high with chemistry utensils and equipment. “In the labs, you have faculty guidance, but you’re basically on your own,” he said. “You see all the problems and challenges that come from real chemistry work.”

The collaborative lab itself has provided Joe a broader range of understanding. “I can walk over to other benches and observe what other researchers are doing,” he said. “I want to be an overall, all-purpose chemist, and having this space where we all work together is invaluable.”

Giving students ‘an edge’

Behind locked lab doors on the center’s third and fourth floors, home to biology and chemistry, spinning machines analyze samples to be later stored in the new 80- to 20-degree below zero freezers available in each department’s research lab, or fed into another machine for further analysis.

The abundance of new resources is helping students develop skills that will “give them an edge” in looking beyond undergraduate studies, said Dr. Tammy King, chairperson of the Department of Chemistry, whose department has more than doubled its equipment in the new center. “We want to make sure students are best prepared to enter graduate or professional school and the work force,” she said. “They’ll definitely encounter instruments in industry or graduate school that are similar to the ones they’re using in the teaching and research laboratories.”

Biotech firms, pharmaceutical companies and chemical industry labs use equipment quite comparable to the chemistry department’s, including a new infrared spectrometer for identifying compounds, atomic absorption spectrophotometer for analyzing elements, and nuclear magnetic resonance, or NMR, spectrometer (basically an MRI machine for chemicals).

All departments provide students that “edge,” Physics Professor Ed Devery gained updates and new equipment in his laser lab and machine labs, now equipped with mill, table and band saws, as well as a lathe. “The building has transformed into something that combines education and practical research valuable for the world beyond college,” he said.

Physics student Tyler Holloway toiled away with classmates last semester in the machine lab, building tunable diode lasers, something they never could have done in the old building.

Tyler has seen similar equipment in the engineering field during his internship for the toy and game company, Hasbro. “We were using all the same tools,” he said as he drilled holes into the base plate for the diode laser. “This lab is definitely helping prepare for careers.”

Back to Dr. Hellstrom: She feels such preparation is the key at RSLI, which trains students well for further study in graduate programs and – in the case of biology – the biomedical field. “It always tells my students, ‘We don’t cure cancer here – my job is to give you the tools to go out and cure cancer,’” she said. “We’re definitely able to do that here.”

Star-struck

Visible across most of the campus is the new observatory dome, equipped with a 14-inch telescope. The great metal dome has come one of the most popular features of the new center. Undergraduates have been doing research with its state-of-the-art telescope, and community members have come in droves to view the eight smaller telescopes at public viewings. “We’re at a fledgling level, so I’m surprised at how much we’ve been able to do,” said Jamie Kern, director of the observatory, who taught physics for years in the old building and worked at the old observatory.

Kathryn St. Laurent of Brockton is one of four students to earn a NASA Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) grant for $4,500 to help fund summer research projects. She spent the summer in the computer room on the third floor that connects to the high-tech telescope, studying light curves of extra solar planets, Kepler 10b and KOI 977.01, to aid international efforts in finding planets outside our solar system.

As a volunteer who leads public viewing nights at the observatory, Kathryn said the observatory is involving students and the community in the STEM fields. Over the past year, a few thousand people from the Town of Bridgewater and area communities have flocked to public viewings and other science-centered events. “People are really starting to become more interested in space,” Kathryn said. “This has become an incredible educational tool.”

In a way, the observatory is symbolic of the new building. It represents the center’s new equipment and research space, as well as RSLI’s mission to use the building for stronger community outreach and involvement. Therefore, Ms. Kern’s thoughts on the observatory may, in fact, best summarize the impact of the entire center on the campus and community. “It certainly generates a lot of interest and wonder,” she said, “and has encouraged some great research.”

Turning cancer cells against themselves

Chemistry student Valerie Ivanvic, a senior, earned an Adrian Tinsley Program summer grant to research a method for potentially destroying cancer cells.

Her research focuses on glyoxalase I, an enzyme that converts naturally occurring harmful chemicals in the human body into innocuous compounds (i.e. converting methylglyoxal to tauric acid). She plans to demonstrate how glyoxalase I may be helpful in finding ways to cure cancer by using the enzyme to forcefully increase a certain chemical deadly to cancer cells.

“This will cause a cancer cell to essentially kill itself,” said Valerie.

Although potentially helpful, she said little research has been published on her specific inhibitor. “It’s not a well-known compound, but it has the potential of being a really good inhibitor, especially when looking at the future of cancer research.”

Among other new equipment Valerie used is an ultraviolet/visible spectrometer, which tracks the enzyme’s progression and produces enzyme kinetic data, and is conveniently located next to her workbench in the collaborative lab. “I have everything I need now right here,” said Valerie, who is applying to graduate schools, primarily Tufts University, where a professor has already taken notice of her work.
Two students work in BSU’s new machine lab.

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chemistry student Joe Matta conducted research in the university’s new advanced instruments lab. He doubled its equipment in the new center. “We want to make sure students are best prepared to enter graduate or professional school and the work force,” she said. “They’ll definitely encounter instruments in industry or graduate school that are very similar to the ones they’re using in the teaching and research laboratories.”

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Coach Ed Svenson, center, talks with 1962 co-captains Lee Rendell (left) and Paul Callahan.

A key anniversary of the return of a formal football program to Bridgewater State was nearing, and there was concern not enough was being done to mark the event. Indeed, a half century had passed since the institution transitioned from the Bridgewater State Teachers College to Bridgewater State College and at the same time reintroduced the sport.

Something had to be done.

Richard Florence, ’74, raised the issue during the 2009 football banquet and got the ball rolling. And roll it did. Mr. Florence organized a meeting that summer of the original members of the team, from the classes of 1961-1964. Armed with the addresses and phone numbers of their teammates and players up through the Class of 1967, they went to work. Soon, a team of early Bears was together again, ready to look back.

The immediate result of this work was an on-field reunion held during the first game of the 2010 season, which featured a special presentation to the members of the original Bears. Since then, the full story of football at BSU has been emerging, thanks to the involvement of several former players.

The Bears from those first seasons realized early on the need to fill in some gaps. Noticing that many of their old records were not listed in the current team program, Mike Hughes, ’65, James Tartari, ’64, and Bob Mason, ’65, set out to remedy this. The trio visited the microfilm archives at Brockton Public Library and got the information necessary to correct the official record. Before long, a more comprehensive project to highlight the past half century of Bears football history was under way. The results are a growing online history of the team’s early years, audio recordings with a number of original Bears, and an expanding collection of programs and memorabilia kept in the BSC archives inside Maxwell Library.

And this is just the start.

The impulse to gather and save materials from an important time in their lives is only natural, said Mr. Tartari, one of the leaders of the drive to archive the team’s past. “You have guys like Hughes and me and Charlie Warden, ’70, who were all history majors, so we said let’s put this whole thing together: It’s for posterity.”

The former teammates have had some help “off the bench,” enlisting the skills of the library’s staff. Ellen Dubinsky, assistant librarian and head of digital services, along with her colleague, archivist Orson Kingsley, have helped shepherd the incoming information and donations, and found them a home on BSU’s Virtual Commons.

What drew Ms. Dubinsky initially to the project were the covers of early game programs. “They were so delightful I had to find a way to display them,” she said. "I think it's important to honor this part of their school, their former coach and the program they helped revive, said Ms. Dubinsky. "They're really interested in preserving this time in their lives, a time that was really special to them," she said. "It think it's important to honor this part of the institution's history."  

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Coach Ed Svenson, center, talks with 1962 co-captains Lee Rendell (left) and Paul Callahan.

Birds of a feather
The so-called ‘Old Crows’ flock together monthly for drinks, memories and more

Four years ago, a group of alumni gathered for the memorial service of fellow Kappa Delta Phi member, Father Joe Sylvia. The gravity of the occasion and passing of time the event symbolized moved the men to think long and hard about where they’d been, where they were heading and what they could do in the present.

Thus the Old Crows were born. Once a month, the brothers of Kappa Delta Phi gather at Emma’s restaurant in Bridgewater to renew their friendship, keep in touch and, in the words of one of the men, “tell the same old stories.”

“We decided we didn’t want to wait to see our brothers,” said David “Skip” Rodriguez, ’66, of Masphee, one of the founding members and unofficial historian. “I had missed an opportunity to call Joe, and his passing took that away. We decided we weren’t going to wait any longer.”

The meetings commenced with a memorial service for Fr. Sylvia at the Bridgewater Vets Club, followed by a trip to campus where his brothers toasted his memory at the Kappa Stone, a granite memorial to the fraternity. “We toasted Joe with shots of Old Crow, left a full glass on the stone for him and adjourned to Barnett’s Alehouse for lunch,” Mr. Rodriguez wrote in his history.

Shortly after, a few of the brothers suggested they hold monthly get-togethers, and for the past four years they’ve done just that. A few meetings in, the group decided to expand, and through the Fraternity Alumni Association and an informal email chain, put out the invitation.

The monthly gatherings have drawn as few as four and as many as 30 Kappa Delta Phi members and unofficial historian. “I had missed an opportunity to call Joe, and his passing took that away. We decided we weren’t going to wait any longer.”

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Coach Ed Svenson, center, talks with 1962 co-captains Lee Rendell (left) and Paul Callahan.
Saving the game

Coach Ed Swenson, center, talks with Charles Varney.

from left, Peter Mazzaferro, David BSC’s 1966 football coaching staff, spring 2013

BridGeWater

Original Bears and others preserve the history of football at Bridgewater

BY JOHN WINTERS, G’11

A key anniversary of the return of a formal football program to Bridgewater State was nearing, and there was concern not enough was being done to mark the event. Indeed, a half-century had passed since the institution transitioned from the Bridgewater State Teachers College to Bridgewater State College and at the same time reintroduced the sport.

Something had to be done.

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And this is just the start.

The impulse to gather and save materials from an important time in their lives is only natural, said Mr. Tartari, one of the leaders of the drive to archive the team’s past. “You have guys like Hughes and me and Charlie (Worden, ’70), who were all history majors, so we said let’s put this whole thing together. It’s for posterity.”

The former teammates have had some help “off the bench,” enlisting the skills of the library’s staff. Ellen Dubsinsky, assistant librarian and head of digital services, along with staff catalogers, archivist Dr. Jean Kinsley, have helped shepherd the incoming information and donations, and found them a home on RSL’s Virtual Commons.

What drew Ms. Dubsinsky initially to the project were the covers of early game programs. Drawn by well-known artist Fred Fixler, they reminded her of early Norman Rockwell paintings. “They were so delightful I had to find a way to display them,” she said.

Thus, the first step in starting an online repository for the incoming material was created. Since then, a large number of game programs have been digitized. Meanwhile, Mr. Tartari has donated a Bears jersey, photos, a scrapbook and other material. Mr. Worden gave a varsity sweater, Bill Clifford, ’68, chipped in an original game jersey used in the first half dozen or so seasons, and Tom Ley, ’62, who was a cameraman for those early games, donated his proofs and negatives. Coach Peter Mazzaferro also donated material from his time at the team’s helm. “You bring back the memories along with it,” Mr. Tartari said.

Many of the old-time Bears see the work of piecing their history together as a tribute in part to Coach Edward Swenson. He was the one who saw the value in bringing football back to Bridgewater State, and did so with virtually no funding, no crowds nor a decent practice space. “I don’t know how he did it,” said former player Paul Doherty, ’63.

Mr. Dubsinsky’s assessment of the matter after sorting through the records and history is even higher. “Swenson’s legacy is so important, it really needs a light shone on it,” she said.

Virtual Commons features a transcription of recent recordings made by Messers. Tartari, Worden, Clifford, Hughes and Paul Callahan, ’63, as well as other former players David Fee, ’62, and David Morwick, ’64. Betty Sawan Callahan, ’63, also shared her remembrances. It includes a history of the Bears football programs and scanned images of many of the donated items.

It’s a project that speaks to the passion these alumni have for their school, their former coach and the program they helped revive, said Mr. Dubsinsky. “They’re really interested in preserving this time in their lives, a time that was really special to them,” she said. “I think it’s important to honor this part of the institution’s history.”

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The monthly gatherings have drawn as few as four and as many as 19 brothers, from up the street and as far away as Florida, Maine and Arizona. In all, more than 50 Kappa Delta Phi members have participated.

The July meeting had a record 20 attendees, and the mood was jovial, as beer flowed and pizza was passed. If it seemed like old times, there’s a reason: The old connections remain strong. “This keeps me young,” said Bob Hodge, ’66, of Halifax. “I’ve really been enjoying it.”

Many of the men first met that day in 1963 when they entered the pledge class of Kappa Delta Phi’s Alpha chapter. And to judge by watching them laugh and pose for photos nearly a half century later, not much has changed in the camaraderie they share.
The campus of Bridgewater State University is a long way from Haiti. Or a shelter in Middleboro. Or a hotel room in Brockton or Fall River.

All of these places are part of the journey that brought sisters Milca and Nephthalie Paul to BSU.

Thanks to the Bridgewater Scholars program, which is supported by The President’s Task Force to End Homelessness, the sisters receive full support while attending BSU, as long as they maintain an exceptional academic record.

“It’s really amazing to me,” Nephthalie said. “We can’t fully understand how it happened, and so fast. I knew that we would continue school, but we didn’t think we’d find this kind of help.”

Relaxing in their room at East Hall, the sisters are like any other BSU students. They fret over whether they’ve studied enough for an early-semester exam, laugh at each other’s jokes and talk about their family, just a few miles away in Brockton. However, never far from their minds, they say, is how lucky they are. “It’s really amazing,” Milca said. “I’m in college now, getting my bachelor’s degree. I am very grateful to God for this great opportunity.”

Nephthalie is thinking of teaching after graduation, and is majoring in biology, while Milca is set on becoming a physician’s assistant. Each spent three semesters at Massasoit Community College before transferring to BSU.

Still, when the sisters arrived, they and their family endured a series of shelters and state-subsidized hotel rooms. Yet there existed in all the children of the family, which includes two brothers and another sister, a desire for self-improvement – the kind that only education can deliver.

This was apparent to Cheryl Upper when she visited the family in an area shelter. As the founder and executive director of School on Wheels of Massachusetts, she immediately saw the potential in the sisters. She is not surprised by their subsequent success. “Nephthalie and Milca are remarkable young women,” she said.

Ms. Upper went to bat for the sisters when they wanted to go to Massasoit, even meeting with MCC’s president to help get the financial aid situation straightened out in time for the start of the semester.

Their time at the community college paved the way for the pair to become the inaugural Bridgewater Scholars. Once they settled in at BSU, the pair quickly adjusted to the lives of engaged students.

“When they first came to Bridgewater as transfer students, they were in a totally new environment and had to face numerous challenges,” said Professor Chifuru Noda, who taught the sisters in a chemistry course soon after they’d arrived. “Throughout the semester they worked diligently and helped each other academically and, more importantly, emotionally. Having each other as a study partner was a major plus, and their success and achievements came from the mutual support.” Professor Noda likely spoke for many faculty members who have known the sisters when he said, “It was a pleasure to have them sitting side by side in my class and seeing them working together toward their goals.”

Today, four Bridgewater Scholars attend the university; plans call for two more to be added each year, said Dr. Michele Wakin, executive director for BSU’s Institute for Social Justice. She stressed that the program provides the obvious benefits of an education and a place to live, but additionally emphasizes a holistic model of student life. “The scholars participate in work study and do community service during winter break,” she said, “and the focus of that work is the betterment of their community. That’s really exciting for them, and they’re uniquely poised to give back.”

Nephthalie is teaching after graduation, and is majoring in biology, while Milca is set on becoming a physician’s assistant. Each spent three semesters at Massasoit Community College before transferring to BSU.

The sisters came to the United States from Haiti in 2009, three years after their parents had emigrated and received their residency. “Our parents really sacrificed themselves to give us the best,” Milca said.
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The Bridgewater Scholars program rewards academic success among homeless people, youth in particular. It began in 2010, when the screening for its first participants got under way. The process includes interviews with referral agencies, followed by individual meetings with the various candidates. The next fall, Milca and Nephthalie became the first students to enter BSU under the auspices of the program.

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The world as classroom

Dr. Shaheen Mozaffar shares with students his three decades of international experience

BY JOHN WINTERS, G’11

Three decades later, after monitoring the first Iraqi elections since the United States’ invasion, working as a bureaucrat in the U.S. Agency for International Development, consulting with the United Nations, The World Bank and the British Foreign Office, training U.S. soldiers aboard battleships on the strategic interests in Africa and the Middle East, and leading three groundbreaking research projects on emerging democracies in Africa, those humble aspirations of his youth have clearly fallen by the wayside.

At the start of his career, political science Professor Shaheen Mozaffar envisioned himself happily ensconced in the ivory tower as a scholar and a teacher.

Dr. Mozaffar is applying his extensive experience in designing and implementing large-scale scholarly projects in his current cross-national research project on “democracy and Islam,” which examines the prospects for democracy in the 56 countries worldwide that are conventionally classified as Muslim. He hopes large-scale research initiatives like his will become the norm at BSU. These projects create synergy between scholarship, the “real world” and the classroom, and are a hallmark of any university, he said. “Three decades out in the ‘field’ have made me a better scholar, researcher, practitioner and educator.”

“There are things I want students to be able to do: to develop keen analytical skills, to evaluate and observe data, and to weigh competing arguments and explanations in an intellectually rigorous and objective manner, but without losing sight of the practical and moral implications of their work,” he said.

In other words, he hopes to make them worldly wise.

Information on the African Legislatures Project can be found at www.africangelegislatureproject.org.
The world as classroom

Dr. Shaheen Mozaffar shares with students his three decades of international experience

BY JOHN WINTERS, ’G11

At the start of his career, political science Professor Shaheen Mozaffar envisioned himself happily ensconced in the ivory tower as a scholar and a teacher.

Three decades later, after monitoring the first Iraqi elections since the United States’ invasion, working as a bureaucrat in the U.S. Agency for International Development, consulting with the United Nations, The World Bank and the British Foreign Office, training U.S. soldiers aboard battleships on the strategic interests in Africa and the Middle East, and leading three groundbreaking research projects on emerging democracies in Africa, those humble aspirations of his youth have clearly fallen by the wayside.

The upside for Bridgewater State University students is that they benefit from this world of experience. “All of this feeds the classroom, and are a hallmark of any university,” he said.

From that day on, Dr. Mozaffar has worked to integrate his academic research and policy work into his teaching at BSU. In 1994, Dr. Mozaffar became the first BSU faculty member to receive the highly competitive National Science Foundation grant for independent scholarly research. The $100,000 grant, awarded under the NSF’s Research in Undergraduate Institutional program, enabled him to hire three political science majors as research assistants and train them in high-powered academic research. One co-authored a conference paper with him. The grant supported the creation of two pioneering datasets on Africa’s emerging democracies: one on the institutional design of electoral systems, and the other on politicized ethnic groups in Africa. The datasets and publications it spawned in top political science journals established Dr. Mozaffar as a leading scholar on those subjects. The datasets are now widely used by scholars and doctoral students.

Having established a reputation for expertise in organizing and managing elections, Dr. Mozaffar was tapped by Elections Canada to join an international team of experts on a UN-supported mission to monitor and assess the organization and administration of polling in the January 2005 election of the Iraqi Constituent Assembly, the October 2005 constitutional referendum, and the December 2005 elections to the first democratically elected Iraqi parliament. He described this work as “boring and geeky, behind-the-scenes stuff you don’t read about in the press.” But these things make or break an election, he added.

For the December 2005 elections, Dr. Mozaffar spent 10 days in Baghdad doing his work wearing a battle helmet and an 18 lb flak jacket as bombs went off all around. “My extreme political science experience,” he called it.

Meanwhile, his students back home were tracking the elections online, crunching registration information and results he sent back, and writing papers about their findings. “The students were absolutely fascinated, they’ve never had anything like this,” he said.

Dr. Mozaffar’s largest sustained research endeavor to date is the African Legislatures Project. The ALP examines how and why legislatures on the continent function, what conditions allow a legislature to flourish and what best practices exist for strengthening these institutions. A collaboration between the Center for Social Science Research at the University of Cape Town and BSU’s Center for Legislative Studies, the ALP curricularly rigorous and objective manner, but without losing site of the practical and moral implications of their work,” he said.

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The ALP does in-country research involving teams of research associates who are trained by professionals in data collection methodology, including the administration of structured surveys to nationally representative samples of legislators in each country. Dr. Mozaffar trained the research associates in Ghana. Supported by a $150,000 USAID grant to BSU, he supervised the in-country research teams in Tanzania and Uganda and conducted part of the ALP research in the two countries.

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How does Dr. Choi, an assistant professor in Bridgewater State University’s Department of Criminal Justice, know this? He’s one of the country’s foremost experts in human trafficking and has been watching these men and others like them, go about their illegal business for several years. “I think it’s becoming more serious than ever,” he said of the problem.

This section of Manhattan is known as Koreatown, this block of 32nd Street as Korea Way. To the casual observer or tourist, it looks like a great place to visit. And it is. There are hotels, restaurants and bars, as well as nearly everything else you’d expect to find on a busy block in a major American city. However, behind the friendly exterior there coexists an underbelly of prostitution, drugs and violence.

For more than five years, Dr. Choi has been researching human trafficking, specifically as it has affected his native South Korea and the immigrants who left there hoping to find better lives in America. In 2008, South Korea toughened its laws on prostitution and drove the illegal business into exile. Many women landed in New York City, as well as other parts of the United States. “In 2008, when I started, it was very fortunate,” Dr. Choi said. “The South Korean government realized there was an issue with this. They saw the trend and knew something was going on but didn’t know what.”

This led to grant money flowing from South Korea, as well as a request to U.S.-based researchers from the Korean Institute of Criminology asking for help in studying the problem. Dr. Choi and a fellow researcher from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, Dr. Kyung Seok Choo, took up the project, along with Dr. Joonho Jang, a director at the Korean Institute of Criminology, who initially suggested human-trafficking research and served as a primary investigator from his home country.

Studying human trafficking is not run-of-the-mill research. It can be dangerous—Dr. Choi has memories of some 3 a.m. phone calls that still give him a bit of a stir—and access is difficult. It means working with informers who serve as conduits and going into dark places where the traditional rules of researcher-subject engagement do not exist.

The goal of this work is to understand, at a very basic level, how the system functions. “We have to indicate how the connections work,” Dr. Choi said. “And based on general information from the Korean Institute of Criminology, we knew that brokers from Korea and the United States recruit people. Once they get them here, a transporter takes them to a (work) site. The victims don’t know where they’re going or where they will be working.”

Legitimate-looking businesses serve as fronts, and local transporters, or middle men, take the women to appointments. The transporters are connected in a syndicate all around the city, and work with hotels, spas, massage parlors and elsewhere.

As for the victims, the women of human trafficking, they soon find they are caught up in a system designed to exploit them and keep them captive. “Most victims don’t realize they are the victims because they think they are voluntarily working for the establishment to make money,” Dr. Choi said. “But if you really see the structure, then you start to see the restriction of movement, the confiscation of passports and the language barrier.”

These factors, plus the fact that many of the people who run these operations do all they can to get the women hooked on drugs, ensuring an enslaved population working for little reward. Additionally, the women are typically left to live in dirty and inadequate quarters, forced to pay rent to their “employers,” and see up to 15 clients a day, spending an hour with each. After a given period of time, they are shifted to another city.

The people who run these operations, understandably, don’t enjoy the spotlight. Dr. Choi and his colleagues knew from the outset they would need the help of an insider in order to penetrate this underground world. They found a transporter willing to work with them. This man approached the people at the top of several operations working in New York City and explained that the researchers were working on a book on the immigrants legally and had no connections to law enforcement. “Anonymity was granted all around,” and Dr. Choi and his fellow researchers were given the access they needed.

Many of what they learned came from the hour-long interviews conducted with the women who were being victimized. One of the men at the top of one of the operations also agreed to talk and was very forthcoming.

The researchers discovered how the system worked from top to bottom, as well as the various faces of the sex trade—including a sex barbershop—and the fact that some of the victimized women actually rise through the ranks and eventually start their own operations.

The researchers also studied the impact of South Korea’s 2004 law that caused the mass migration of the country’s sex workers.

The information gathered through the research provided a rare glimpse inside the insidious world of human trafficking in this country, something President Barack Obama cited as a major problem back in September. Dr. Choi and his colleagues put out a book in 2009 based on the findings, in both Korean and English, and more publications are expected.

The work has led Dr. Choi to form opinions about how prostitution is treated by the legal system in this country. “Harsh punishment is not always the solution,” he said. “These activities happen anyway, so rather than just suppressing it, sometimes we need to regulate it. There’s no clear answer yet, but the government should help to minimize the impact.”

The research will next move to California, once funding is secured. There, the victims of human trafficking tend to be younger, and Los Angeles is a burgeoning hotbed of activity. “It’s already become a different scene than in New York City,” Dr. Choi said.

Professor Kyung-shick Choi stands on New York City’s West 32nd Street and points to a large, black SUV parked across the way, its engine running on a hot August afternoon.

“That’s a transporter,” he said.

Nodding toward a man a few feet in front of the vehicle wearing dark glasses and looking furtively about, he indicated that this man is a lookout with the same operation.

“Traffic patrol exposes the illegal sex trade from Korea to the United States”

BY JOHN WINTERS, ‘11

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Traffic patrol

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Much of what they learned came from the hour-long interviews conducted with the women who were being victimized. One of the men at the top of one of the operations also agreed to talk and was very forthcoming.

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THE SPIRIT OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. is alive and well as exemplified by more than 200 members of the campus community and area residents who spent the holiday volunteering at several locations.

(Dr. King) “was about many things, and at the center of those things was service to humanity,” said President Dana Mohler-Faria at a kickoff breakfast held in the East Campus Commons.

That event marked the start of “A Day On, Not a Day Off,” which turns the holiday in honor of the slain civil rights leader into a day of service in his name. The breakfast was attended by more than 100 students from the New Bedford school system who participated in The Bridge partnership, which brings the middle schoolers to campus each summer for extracurricular activities.

Student Sam Bellanton addressed those at the breakfast, recalling the plight of black Americans in previous decades and the important role Dr. King and others played in changing things. “What was a reality for them is history for us,” he said.

Beginning mid-morning, volunteers began to fan out across the region. The beneficiaries of their efforts were Father Bill’s Distribution Center in Brockton; Cradles to Crayons in Boston; the VA Hospital in Brockton; Girls, Inc. in Taunton; Bridgewater Nursing Home; and Gifts to Give in New Bedford.

On campus, the Jumpstart program alone had more than 100 volunteers who created activity books for Head Start programs in Brockton and Taunton, as well as Children’s Hospital in Boston, and made sandwiches for a food pantry.

"It’s nice to spend time before classes begin to do some community service," said BSU sophomore Ashley Deschenes, as she put together an activity book.

Joshua Osegueda, a site manager with the Jumpstart program, said he might need more space next year if the urge to volunteer grows any more. “The Bridgewater community is really into service, and all this work helps area kids,” he said.

Many of those who spent their holiday as “a day on,” seemed committed to the very thing Dr. Mohler-Faria said in closing his breakfast address: “There’s no better way to honor Dr. King than to serve.”
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Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve.

–MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
As it turns out, the fact that Jennifer Ellis, ’03, deemed she wasn’t ready to go to New York City to attend college worked out pretty well. Coming to Bridgewater State instead, where she majored in communication studies with a concentration in theater, she not only felt more at home, but also got all the stage time she could handle. In fact, the Whitman native appeared in 30 productions.

Thus a foundation was built for what became a solid career on Boston stages that the versatile actress hopes to parlay into bigger opportunities in New York and beyond. Ms. Ellis has spent a few weeks at a time in the Big Apple for the past year working toward that next break. “It was scary leaving Boston,” she said. “I knew the community and had a lot of friends here. I still had to audition, but I know the people. That’s all gone in New York. It’s like starting at square one again.”

Her first time at BSU was as a participant in Project Contemporary Competitiveness, a residential summer program that was held on campus for many years. There, Ms. Ellis took part in the music and movement class and found herself on a stage for the first time. “I didn’t know what I wanted to do in theater at that time,” she said. “So I was at this place in my life, and I felt like I needed to commit in one direction or another.”

With the recommendation of BSU’s Dr. Suzanne Rameczyk, he was accepted at Trinity Repertory Theater’s master of fine arts program in Providence. While there, he did some student teaching and wrote and performed in his own one-man show, Moving Vehicles. He took the show to a national gay and lesbian theater festival, where he won best solo actor.

At BSU, she worked with theater and dance department faculty, citing many as influences, in particular, the late Henry Sheffer. She also participated in chorus and chamber choir.

At age 28, Paul Ricciardi, ’93, found himself splitting time between a career as a program director and counselor at a health and human services agency and odd jobs in theater. He loved both, but knew he had to make a choice. After some soul searching, the Chelmsford native decided to cast his lot with the footlights. “I decided I really wanted to dedicate my life to theater,” he said.

That was in 2000, and he’s never looked back. Today, he is an assistant professor of theater arts at New York’s Siena College, as well as a performer and voice teacher. “It’s a good life,” he said.

It was a talk by professor emeritus Susan Holton during Mr. Ricciardi’s first visit to campus that convinced him this might be the place for him. “She gave a presentation that impressed me, talking about the arts and living the life of an artist,” he said. “I felt like she was speaking directly to me.”

While at Bridgewater State, he found out that living the artistic life was busy—if anything: so Mr. Ricciardi was a member of the Ensemble Theater Club, and appeared in The Madwoman of Chaillot in his first semester, was the lead in Pass ‘n’ Rock in 1990, and worked backstage on other productions. He also had his own show on WBSU radio and was the underwriting director for the student-run station. He served on the student programming committee and helped found a gay and lesbian studies group, CALL (later renamed AWAH).

Meanwhile, his interest in health issues, particularly the growing AIDS epidemic, led him to join the president’s advisory committee to help promote HIV awareness on campus. About that time, he also interned at the Brockton Visiting Nurses Association, where he manned the crisis hotline.

A semester in Nova Scotia at Dalhousie University made a big impression on Mr. Ricciardi, and after graduation, he moved to Boston to pursue the two things that were most important to him. That’s when his days were spent working in HIV services, and his evenings on stage or working behind the scenes. “I didn’t know what I wanted to do in theater at that time,” he said. “So I was at this place in my life, and I felt like I needed to commit in one direction or another.”

The Madwoman of Chaillot, first performed at a comedy club full of expectant faces, or spending hours on an audition set from here to Hollywood and behind the scenes. We selected six up and comers who have achieved a level of success, continue to pay their dues and remain on track to meet the expectations they’ve set for themselves. Their talent is evident and their hard work and perseverance will amaze.
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Mr. Ricciardi uses this experience, and the intensive training he's had in the Linklater method, to work as a vocal coach for our voice for the stage, and that planted the seed,” he said. “I connected with the work. She was teaching us how to use the voice and speech class with Suzanne Ramczyk, and I really felt like I needed to commit in one direction or another.”

With the recommendation of BSL’s Dr. Suzanne Ramirez, he was accepted at Trinity Repertory Theater’s master of fine arts program in Providence. While there, he did some student teaching and wrote and performed in his own one-man show, Moving Vehicles. He took the show to a national gay and lesbian theater festival, where he won best solo actor. After teaching part time for a few years, in 2009 he joined Siena College, in Loudonville, NY, in a tenure-track position. That year, he also won a national teaching artist award.

These days, Mr. Ricciardi’s primary focus outside the classroom is something he picked up early on at BSL: ”It was a voice and speech class with Suzanne Ramirez, and I really connected with the work. She was teaching us how to use our voice for the stage, and that planted the seed,” he said. Mr. Ricciardi uses this experience, and the intensive training he’s had in the Linklater method, to work as a vocal coach with actors across New York state. He has a private practice, and specializes in various dialects. His goal is to extend his technique to Off-Broadway and Broadway actors.

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Her first time at BSL was as a participant in Project Contemporary Competitiveness, a residential summer program that was held on campus for many years. There, Ms. Ellis took part in the music and movement class and found herself on a stage for the first time. Add to this singing she did in church, some “acting” in family home movies, and several musicals during her time at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School, and a future performer was born. “I sort of realized this entire world of theater existed,” she said. “I started out wanting to sing but fell in love with acting.”
Amy Beckerman, ’06, may have moved to New York City for a part-time job and a place to stay, but she remained because she’d found her ideal milieu. In recent years, the Sharon native has thrived in her adopted city.

In 2012, she was named “Best Comic” at the GO Magazine Readers’ Choice Awards, and previously had been interviewed by Howard Stern about an all-female comedy show she’d put together with an unusual twist.

Recently, Ms. Beckerman added professional photographer to her resume, branching out again from a career already remarkable for its diversity.

“As long as I can use my skills in performing to make connections with other people, I’m OK with whatever route my career takes me,” she said.

The job of part-time dormitory manager at the fashion Institute of Technology in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan and the chance to experience new art forms via photography classes are what drew her to New York. The gig also gave her a chance, to get up in front of other people – the institute’s students – and perform comedy and talk about issues like bullying and GLTFA-related topics.

Her career in the entertainment industry started out auspiciously, when she was cast for a scene in the HBO series The Sopranos. Still, she knew she hadn’t yet hit her stride. “I was sort of lost and didn’t know what I wanted to do as far as performing,” she said.

Being overweight at the time led Ms. Beckerman toward comedy versus work on the stage or screen. She began performing comedy at open mic nights and started to meet and network with other performers. The eventual result was a project she produced, and sometimes hosted and headlined called “Dykes on Mikes,” that toured New England, Pennsylvania and New York. Kate McKinnon of Saturday Night Live sometimes appeared as part of the show. “That gave me a lot of stage time and got my name out there,” Ms. Beckerman said.

This experience, plus some of her BSU classes, gave her the necessary skills for putting together a show and managing it correctly. “I had a log up on this stuff thanks to that,” she said.

The skills came in especially handy when in 2010 she had “a crazy idea,” that subsequently landed her on The Howard Stern Show. She got a group of female comics together and did a benefit performance for breast cancer – topics. “There were six other women and we were all nervous, and it was kind of funny for me to be the ringleader for something I didn’t know I could do,” Ms. Beckerman said. She’d lost 100 pounds by this time, and proudly took the stage with her cohorts.

The show was great fun and a big success, but the topic is clearly no laughing matter, she adds. In fact, Ms. Beckerman’s partner has breast cancer. Tied to the show was the development of a resource library for women under 40 who are dealing with the disease. This ranks among Ms. Beckerman’s proudest achievements, and she continues her advocacy through her work and in life.

Recently, she’s appeared at the Estrogenius Festival in New York City, and still hits the road when the right opportunity comes along. However, photography is playing an ever larger role in her professional life.

“Whether I’m performing, doing photography or showing a video on bullying, as long as I’m being creative and using my skills I’ll be happy,” she said. “I feel I’m doing the best when I’m creating my own work and able to make a difference for something.”


The last half of 2012 marked a particularly busy time in the creative life of William Donnelly, ’94. The shrewsbury-based playwright’s Homestead Crossing had just been staged at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre and the Berkshire Theatre Group, and was about to open at the Portland Stage Company. Meanwhile, his Rushamon had premiered as part of Mill 6 Collaborative’s T Plays IV at Boston Playwrights’ Theatre. Finally, leading up to Christmas, some short, festive pieces he’d written were being performed on the Taunton Green.

Good news, for a man who, ironically in hindsight, admits that his earliest intention was “to stay away from theater. I honestly wasn’t sure what I wanted to do initially,” he said. “I had always been interested in theater but also knew it was really tough to make a go of it.”

Right off the bat at Bridgewater State, where he was a communication studies major with a concentration in theater, Mr. Donnelly was bitten by the acting bug. “The first class I had was ‘a pleasant surprise,’” he said. “I spent that time just focusing on doing the work. It’s helped me come up with a couple of plays that people outside my circle have been interested in. I’ll take that.”

“Whether the work is diverse, but there is a common theme,” Mr. Donnelly said. “In a weird way the thing that connects them all is they’re based on my fears. I write about the things I don’t want to see happen. I always feel like I’m trying to exercise demons and get the fears out into the light.”

The recent success of Homestead Crossing was “a pleasant surprise,” he said. “I spent that time just focusing on doing the work. It’s helped me come up with a couple of plays that people outside my circle have been interested in. I’ll take that.”

More information is at www.williamdonnelly.net.
Amy Beckerman, '06, comedienne, activist

As long as I can use my skills in performing to make connections with other people— I’m OK with whatever route my career takes me,” she said.

The job of part-time dormitory manager at the fashion institute of Technology in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan and the chance to experience a new art form via photography classes are what drew her to New York. The gig also gave her a chance to get up in front of other people—the institute’s students—and perform comedy and talk about issues like bullying and GLBTQA-related topics.

Her career in the entertainment industry started out auspiciously, when she was cast for a scene in the HBO series The Sopranos. Still, she knew she hadn’t yet hit her stride. “I was sort of lost and didn’t know what I wanted to do as far as performing,” she said.

Being overweight at the time led Ms. Beckerman toward comedy versus work on the stage or screen. She began performing comedy at open mic nights and started to meet and network with other performers. The eventual result was a project she produced, and sometimes hosted and headlined called “Dykes on Mikes,” that toured New England, Pennsylvania and New York. Kate McKinnon of Saturday Night Live sometimes appeared as part of the show. “That gave me a lot of stage time and got my name out there,” Ms. Beckerman said. This experience, plus some of her BSU classes, gave her the necessary skills for putting together a show and managing it correctly. “I had a leg up on this stuff thanks to that,” she said.

The skills came in especially handy when in 2010 she had “a crazy idea,” that subsequently landed her on The Howard Stern Show. She got a group of female comics together and did a benefit performance for breast cancer—topless. “There were six other women and we were all nervous, and it was kind of funny for me to be the ringleader for something I didn’t know I could do,” Ms. Beckerman said. She’d lost 100 pounds by this time, and proudly took the stage with her cohorts.

The show was great fun and a big success, but the topic is clearly no laughing matter, she adds. In fact, Ms. Beckerman’s partner has breast cancer. Tied to the show was the development of a resource library for women under 40 who are dealing with the disease. This ranks among Ms. Beckerman’s proudest achievements, and she continues her advocacy through her work and in life.

Recently, she’s appeared at the Estrogenius Festival in New York City, and still hits the road when the right opportunity comes along. However, photography is playing an ever larger role in her professional life. “Whether I’m performing, doing photography or showing a video on bullying, as long as I’m being creative and using my skills I’ll be happy,” she said. “I feel I’m doing the best when I’m creating my own work and able to make a difference for someone.”


The last half of 2012 marked a particularly busy time in the creative life of William Donnelly, ’94. The shrewsbury-based playwright’s Homestead Crossing had just been staged at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre and the Berkshire Theatre Group, and was about to open at the Portland Stage Company. Meanwhile, his Rushamon had premiered as part of Mill 6 Collaborative 2 Play’s IV at Boston Playwrights’ Theatre. Finally, leading up to Christmas, some short, festive pieces he’d written were being performed on the Taunton Green.

Good news for a man who, ironically in hindsight, admits that his earliest intention was “to stay away from theater. I honestly wasn’t sure what I wanted to do initially,” he said. “I had always been interested in theater but also knew it was really tough to make a go of it.”

Right off the bat at Bridgewater State, where he was a communications studies major with a concentration in theater, Mr. Donnelly was bitten by the acting bug. “The first class I had was a one-act play, he wrote with fellow student John Petrie, was performed on campus in 1992. The next year his first solo-performed effort was staged in Horace Mann Auditorium.

He served as resident playwright for the Massachusetts-based Industrial Theatre from 1997 to 2008, and his work has been produced by The Active Theater Company, Act II Playhouse, The Public Theatre, Unicorn Theatre, Theater Alliance, Mad Cat, Sacred Fools Theatre, and Rough & Tumble among others.

A number of his short plays have appeared as part of the annual Boston Theatre Marathon. In 2005, he was awarded a Playwriting/New Theatre Works grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. He has twice been named a Clauder Competition Finalist and was awarded the grand prize in 2006. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

More than 75 times Mr. Donnelly has seen his work onstage, including five productions at BSKU. His many influences range from television of the 1970s and 80s, to the work of playwrights David Mamet, Sam Shepard and especially Harold Pinter. “If I do have my own style, it’s a weird amalgam of all these influences,” he said. “If all winds up filtering through the other things I like.”

The recent success of Homestead Crossing was “a pleasant surprise,” he said. “I spent that time just focusing on doing the work. It helped me come up with a couple of plays that people outside my circle have been interested in. I’ll take that.”

“The work is diverse, but there is a common theme,” Mr. Donnelly said. “In a weird way the thing that connects them all is they’re based on my fears. I write about the things I don’t want to see happen. I always feel like I’m trying to exercise demons and get the fears out into the light.”

Mr. Donnelly met his wife, Heather McNamara, during his time at BSKU. They have two children, Henry, 9, and Ruby, 4. He works at Commonwealth Financial Network in Waltham. His goal, artistically, is pretty simple. “I’m aiming to create something that feels right that I’m happy to work on,” he said. “Other than that it’s about hoping for the best.”

More information is at www.williamdonnelly.net.
Noube Rateau, ‘10, wasn’t sure at first where his love of filmmaking came from. But after a moment’s consideration, it came to him.

“My father had one of those old shoulder-mounted cameras,” the 23 year old said, thinking back to the late 1980s. “My family was the only one back then with one of those. Maybe that’s what got me started.”

Thus the seeds were planted for a burgeoning career in documentary filmmaking that has already seen Mr. Rateau release eight films and garner several awards at U.S. film festivals.

It was a job at Morgan Stanley, of all places, that led Darlene Violette, ‘88, to her true calling.

A theater major during her time at Bridgewater State, she’d spent a lot of time on the stages of Boston and, after moving to New York City, appeared in more than a dozen plays by Shakespeare. Still, she felt as if her goals were no closer than when she’d begun. “I wanted to make acting a career and part of my life, and I wasn’t sure how to do that,” Ms. Violette said. “I saw Bridgewater had a theater program, so I decided to apply.”

She’s now rewriting the show and preparing it for a larger audience for our performance. It was very successful.”

Mr. Rateau continued to work at Brockton Cable Access and is already planning his next film. Whatever it turns out to be, it will undoubtedly deal with something he believes society needs to sit up and notice. That’s the bottom line for everyone involved in the stories and judges alike. Mr. Rateau’s resume now includes a nomination for Best Documentary at the 2012 Queens Film Festival, an Official Selection to the 2012 Roxbury Film Festival, the Silver Ace Award at the Las Vegas Film Festival, and the top award at last year’s Philadelphia Urban-Suburban Festival. “It’s good to see the work reaching people and making a difference,” he said.

The films are truly handmade: financed, written, filmed and edited by Mr. Rateau. He holds screenrights at BSU area schools and anywhere else he feels there might be an audience to be reached. When the festival circuit is under way, it means climbing into his SUV and lugging the truth to Willard Medero and Hakim Hill, friends who serve as his co-producers.

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Darlene Violette, ’88

comic, film and television actress

After graduation, Ms. Violette acted in Boston and Cambridge and started a sketch comedy group, Strictly for Laughs, with fellow alumnus Michael Leonard. Eventually, she attended the Trinity Repertory Theater Conservatory in Providence. In November 1996, she moved to New York City, where she ran to auditions, performed Shakespeare and got laughs on stage. Two years later she found a manager, Ingrid French, and since then she’s had relatively steady work before the cameras. Her credits include Law & Order, 30 Rock, Ugly Betty, Louie, Rescue Me and many films, including 2 Days in New York, Premium Rush and The Hungry Ghosts. “I’m always surprised when I book a job,” she said. “It’s so interesting. What you perceive as your shortcomings are what will end up being your strengths.”

Two years ago, Mr. Violette set aside her stand-up work in favor of acting and to write a play about film great Mae West, someone whose life she feels parallels her own in some ways. Eventually, she turned it into a cabaret performance where she played the famed vixen. The show was workshopped at Don’t Tell Mama in New York City and performed during Hurricane Sandy. “So many were stranded in town, and a lot of shows were shut down,” she said. “We had a nice audience for our performance. It was very successful.”

She’s now rewriting the show and preparing it for a larger venue at the Nuyorican Poets Theatre in the Lower East Side of NYC in April. Also in the works is the second season of The Heart She Holier on the Adult Swim network, where Ms. Violette has been recurring role, and the films Gods Behaving Badly and El Ciclo Ex Atul.

Her advice to those hoping to make it in film or television? “It’s better to be a real person,” she said. “You need to know who you are and embrace that. Confidence is 90 percent of it.”

More at www.darleneviolette.com

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Noube Rateau, ‘10, wasn’t sure at first where his love of filmmaking came from. But after a moment’s consideration, it came to him: “My father had one of those old shoulder-mounted cameras,” the 23 year old said, thinking back to the late 1980s. “My family was the only one back then with one of those. Maybe that’s what got me started.”

Thus the seeds were planted for a burgeoning career in documentary filmmaking that has already seen Mr. Rateau release eight films and garner several awards at U.S. film festivals.

He recently signed a two-year deal with the Punch TV Network, a cable channel that boasts “an urban programming experience,” that will put his work before the eyes of millions of viewers.

Each of his films has gone further and been seen by more and more people. Last year’s Skip Up examined the cost to society of absent fathers. Thanks to the Punch TV deal, it will be shown in 40 U.S. cities to a potential audience of 35 million viewers over the next two years.

Along the way there has also been a growing list of festival appearances, awards and citations. Skip Up and Silence, his previous film, have both proven to be favorites among audiences and judges alike. Mr. Rateau’s resume now includes a nomination for Best Documentary at the 2012 Queens Film Festival, an Official Selection to the 2012 Roxbury Film Festival, a Silver Ace Award at the Las Vegas Film Festival, and the top award at last year’s Philadelphia Urban-Suburban Festival.

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Massport's Conley Terminal is a busy place. Its 101 acres on Boston Harbor comprise a hub where tractor trailers move through at all hours of the day and night, dropping off cargo to go overseas or picking up recent arrivals to transport across the United States.

A handful of BSU students got to know this terrain well, and that of a nearby port, when they served as researchers on two large projects for Massport under the mentorship of Professor Chien Wen Yu.

“When you do the research you need to know the business from the ground up,” Dr. Yu said, speaking loudly to be heard over the roar of the trucks entering the Conley Terminal through the nearby security gates.

Dr. Yu is a much sought-after consultant in the area of transportation and importing/exporting, and when he is on the job, he often takes his students along for the ride. These undergraduate research projects give him (and, in this case, the students) the benefit of student assistance, while the young people involved in this, said Jaspar Yuening Wu, an exchange student from China who participated in the work. “In China we didn’t have opportunities like this,” said Yuan Ying Chen, ‘13, who is pursuing her MBA, and Jaspar worked on the cruise team.

“I learned so much about transportation and things I would have never been able to learn otherwise,” said Yuan, who had previously studied high-speed rail service in her home country of China on an undergraduate research abroad project with Dr. Yu. “It’s very meaningful,” she said.

The student researchers expand the state’s capacity to explore developing fields and potential opportunities, said Kevin J. Laffey, director of freight marketing in Massport’s maritime department. “We always have these ideas we want to explore, but being short on manpower it’s hard to do.”

Two years ago, he met Dr. Yu at a trade show and the discussion came around to how the professor and some BSU students might be able to lend a hand on upcoming projects.

Mr. Laffey explained that the expansion of the Panama Canal, set to be completed around 2015, is one of the hottest issues in the transportation industry. It represents an opportunity to attract new business to the United States’ East Coast ports and the Port of Boston. “It could really transform things, and we have to ask ourselves how we handle it,” he said.

The students helped with the canvassing of freight forwarders concerning what they’re looking for in a port and what they would like Boston to provide. They also researched the topic, collected data and looked into various options for the local port, such as the need to increase its depth or expand in other ways. “Massport is very interested in what information we can provide for them,” Dr. Yu said.

On the cruise front, the issues are centered on the fact that people from this region have to fly to New York City or Miami in order to board a ship bound for the Caribbean. Despite this gap in service, it does not necessarily mean that Massport can expect cruise lines to come knocking unless they’re given a reason. “Information from the students may help,” Mr. Laffey said. “You need to convince them there’s a market here for the Caribbean, and then you have to get them to relocate some of their business.”

The students spent time on the waterfront getting a feel for the cruise business, assisted with surveys of the public and travel agents, and conducted other aspects of market research. Each student had a particular area to focus on, Dr. Yu said. “This type of research is a good skill to have.”

It also helps the students zero in on a specific career.

“I actually had to find out what I want to do in the marketing world,” Michelle said. “And it’s interesting to see how it all works.”

During a visit last spring to the Conley Terminal, the students got a tour of the facility and spent time learning its security systems and the ways the cargo is processed, stored and retrieved. Back outside, the group had time to inspect up close some of the thousands of existing 20- and 40-foot containers. As they did, the students looked like old hands as they made their way around, the experience they’ve gained on full display.

They also jelled as a research team during the tenure of the projects. “This is a great opportunity for me and my teammates,” said Emma. “Cooperation is so important for this kind of work.”

Thanks to the BSU Faculty Librarian Research Grant Dr. Yu was awarded for his research proposal, “Impact of the Panama Canal Expansion and Market Analysis on Massport,” he was able to visit the Panama Canal, where he met with the officials of the governing authority, and Manzanillo International, the largest port facility in Colon, Panama. One gets the feeling that the result of the trip will be the opening of further doors for BSU students.
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“I’ve gained a lot of experience and seen things I’d never get the chance to see if I wasn’t involved in this,” said Jaspar Yuening Wu, an exchange student from Shandong, China. “I actually had to find out what I want to do in the market, and what my possibilities are.”

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BSU student researchers work with Massport on major projects

Transpoting experience

BY JOHN WINTERS, G’11
Taking to the airwaves

Katie Crocker, ’09, lands job at award-winning radio station catering to visually impaired

By ROBERT W. MATHESON JR., ’07, G’12

One of Katie Crocker’s first memorable interviews as production assistant at the Talking Information Center was with Mike Hanson, the first blind man to hike the entire Appalachian Trail alone. It was broadcast live to 25,000 listeners across Massachusetts.

“My favorite part about this job is telling inspirational stories. That’s one that really sticks out,” said Ms. Crocker, who is legally blind. She sits among a sea of knobs and blinking lights – and a large computer screen – in a control room she will later use to record talk shows in an adjacent studio. Indeed, Ms. Crocker’s new position – “a dream job” – at the award-winning radio station in Marshfield keeps her days fulfilling, and busy. When she’s not conducting live interviews with noteworthy guests from the blind community for the two programs she hosts, TIC Talk and Horizons, she’s editing audio on the computer in her office or in another of the studios conducting various production tasks.

Radio is a fast-paced world, said Ms. Crocker, and it keeps her on her toes, tweaking programs she hosts, live interviews with noteworthy guests from the blind community for the two programs she hosts, TIC Talk and Horizons, she’s editing audio on the computer in her office or in another of the studios conducting various production tasks.

The job may seem demanding for a visually impaired person, but Ms. Crocker has everything down pat.

Her quick learning curve is testimony to her passion and aptitude for radio production, both of which she discovered just a few years ago as an intern.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in English and communication studies, Ms. Crocker participated in the inaugural class of the Vocational Opportunities in Communication Education (VOICE) program led by the TIC and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, which trains visually impaired students in various communication fields.

The internship introduced her to all things radio, from planning to writing to editing, and immediately drew her to the airwaves. “By day one, I was hooked,” said Ms. Crocker, a Wareham native who now lives in Braintree.

Impressed with their eager intern, the TIC created the production assistant position just for Ms. Crocker.

To accommodate the alumna, the station allows her to take her guide dog, Traveler, to the studio. Now, Ms. Crocker is not only working at the center, but also traveling weekly to Boston to help train interns and volunteers, which now number in the hundreds.

Despite having a demanding job, Ms. Crocker still loves everything about radio production. “Taking an idea and turning it into a finished product – that’s just incredible,” she said.

In addition to radio programming, the TIC provides readings of print publications for the blind and visually impaired, including newspapers, magazines, circulations, obituaries and literature. The center’s efforts have earned it many awards.

Talking to the airwaves

BY JOHN WINTERS, G’11

During January’s swearing-in ceremony at the Statehouse for the newly elected and returning members of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, the voice of Ashley Bernard serenaded the 160 lawmakers and their friends and families with songs of patriotism and inspiration. It was a high-profile gig, but this Bridgewater State University freshman took it in stride. The Stoughton native, who now lives in Easton, has been singing all her life. “I can’t remember a time when I didn’t sing,” she said. “My mother always had music on, and I guess it sprang from there.”

At the recent ceremony, Representative Angelo M. Scaccia introduced Ashley, and as the accomplished soprano rendered the final strains of “The Star-Spangled Banner,” the crowded chamber erupted into applause, which continued as she was escorted back to her seat.

Ashley has performed at Fenway Park and the TD North Garden with the chorus from the Perkins School for the Blind, where she was a student for about three years. She has a website, www.ashleybernard.net, where she posts the songs she writes and performs, and her CD, In His Arms, is available on iTunes.

While the social work major, who’s majoring in special education, loves to sing, performing is another matter. Despite the beauty and range of her voice, she worries people may think she’s special not for her talent, but because of her blindness. And, she was born with rhizomelic dwarfism, which greatly restricted her growth.

“I don’t like the attention; it drives me kind of crazy,” she said. “I just want to be identified as a really good singer. It’s not about my disability; it’s about my voice.”

Though performing may not be her thing, Ashley loves to tear it up at local open mic nights. “I love that stuff; it’s loose and fun and there’s no pressure,” she said. Her musical tastes are diverse, from Top 40 and country to hard rock, with musical influences ranging from Kelly Clarkson to Sarah McLachlan and the band Evanescence. “They’re singers and songwriters I connect to on a deeper level,” she said.

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The job may seem demanding for a visually impaired person, but Ms. Crocker has everything down pat.

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After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in English and communication studies, Ms. Crocker participated in the inaugural class of the Vocational Opportunities in Communication Education (VOICE) program led by the TIC and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, which trains visually impaired students in various communication fields.

The internship introduced her to all things radio, from planning to writing to editing, and immediately drew her to the airwaves. “By day one, I was hooked,” said Ms. Crocker, a Wareham native who now lives in Braintree.

Impressed with their eager intern, the TIC created the production assistant position just for Ms. Crocker.

To accommodate the alumna, the station allows her to take her guide dog, Traveler, to the studio. Now, Ms. Crocker is not only working at the center, but also traveling weekly to Boston to help train interns and volunteers, which now number in the hundreds.

Despite having a demanding job, Ms. Crocker still loves everything about radio production. “Taking an idea and turning it into a finished product – that’s just incredible,” she said.

In addition to radio programming, the TIC provides readings of print publications for the blind and visually impaired, including newspapers, magazines, circulations, obituaries and literature. The center’s efforts have earned it many awards.

The call to perform at the swearing-in ceremony came at the last minute. But even with just a short time to prepare, by all reports Ashley brought the house down.

The accomplished soprano rendered the final strains of “The Star-Spangled Banner,” the crowded chamber erupted into applause, which continued as she was escorted back to her seat.

A special voice

BSU student wants to be known for her good works and singing

BY JOHN WINTERS, G’11

During January’s swearing-in ceremony at the Statehouse for the newly elected and returning members of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, the voice of Ashley Bernard serenaded the 160 lawmakers and their friends and families with songs of patriotism and inspiration. It was a high-profile gig, but this Bridgewater State University freshman took it in stride. The Stoughton native, who now lives in Easton, has been singing all her life. “I can’t remember a time when I didn’t sing,” she said. “My mother always had music on, and I guess it sprang from there.”

At the recent ceremony, Representative Angelo M. Scaccia introduced Ashley, and as the accomplished soprano rendered the final strains of “The Star-Spangled Banner,” the crowded chamber erupted into applause, which continued as she was escorted back to her seat.

Ashley has performed at Fenway Park and the TD North Garden with the chorus from the Perkins School for the Blind, where she was a student for about three years. She has a website, www.ashleybernard.net, where she posts the songs she writes and performs, and her CD, In His Arms, is available on iTunes.

While the social work major, who’s minoring in special education, loves to sing, performing is another matter. Despite the beauty and range of her voice, she worries people may think she’s special not for her talent, but because of her blindness.

And, she was born with rheonomic dwarism, which greatly restricted her growth.

“I don’t like the attention, it drives me kind of crazy,” she said. “I just want to be identified as a really good singer. It’s not about my disability, it’s about my voice.”

Though performing may not be her thing, Ashley loves to tear it up at local open mic nights. “I love that stuff, it’s loose and fun and there’s no pressure,” she said.

Her musical tastes are diverse, from Top 40 and country to hard rock, with musical influences ranging from Kelly Clarkson to Sarah McLachlan and the band Evanescence. “They’re singers and songwriters I connect to on a deeper level,” she said.

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When looking out for a friend, one might say, “I’ve got your back.” Men and women serving in the military put it another way: For them, the magic words are, “I’ve got your 6.” This phrase is critical for those in a combat situation. It’s reassurance when the chips are down, or when one is facing the unknown or stepping into enemy territory. Today’s veterans are caught up in different battles, only for many of them, the fight is on the home front.

Lucky for them, Mark Daley has their 6.

Mr. Daley, ’99, is a principal in the Los Angeles-based social impact agency Propper Daley, which works at the nexus of public policy, philanthropy and the entertainment world. The “Got Your 6” campaign is the company’s latest, and it marks the culmination of what he has learned and the connections he’s made in his years of public service. “It was about bringing the right people to the table and working for one cause and moving it forward in the most thoughtful and creative way,” he said. “This is the collective-impact model, and that is the way you are going to see a lot of change taking place across the country.”

The passion to get involved in the great causes of our time can be traced back to Mr. Daley’s days at Bridgewater State, where he transferred after a semester at Westfield State. He figured he’d move on again to a large private institution in Boston, but found he enjoyed the campus life and discovered some “great professors” at Bridgewater State. “And so he stayed, majoring in political science. “During my last semester, Dr. (George) Serra approached me to take an internship in Joe Moakley’s office in Washington.” The powerful U.S. representative and his staff must have seen something in the young intern. Before he even graduated, they hired him full time. “It was a great experience, and I had no idea what else I wanted to do.”

It was early 1999, and Bill Clinton was president. Things in the nation’s capital were about to get interesting. His first day on the job coincided with the impeachment vote against President Clinton. In the ensuing years there was 9/11 and its aftermath, as well as the anthrax scare that even affected the building where he worked.

Mr. Daley is not from a political family per se, though his mother was a city councilor in his native Brockton. “But I had the bug,” he said. “I believed if I was going to impact change in D.C., I needed to get more people I agreed with serving there.” He began working on political campaigns in 2002, starting with Ken Bentsen Jr., nephew of Lloyd, who ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate from Texas. After that, he moved to Iowa to be spokesperson for the state Democratic Party, and in 2004, ran the caucus there. He left afterward to work in Los Angeles for U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer. Eventually Mr. Daley found his way back to Iowa, a place he’d grown to love. He started a consulting firm there and played a key role in founding a statewide organization that supported LGBTQ issues, focusing primarily on educating residents about gay marriage. In 2007 he became a spokesperson and top aide for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign, running the Iowa communications team. “I traveled with her across Iowa and served as part of the senior team on that historic campaign. It was the opportunity of a lifetime,” he said. “It’s spent a great deal of time with her and President Clinton. It was an honor to be part of that campaign and everything we fought for.”

Mr. Daley stayed in Iowa after the 2008 election, starting a software company. However, an idea—and warmer temperatures—beckoned him westward. In early 2011, he moved to Los Angeles. Politics was one way to create positive change in society, but he was interested in exploring another way. “Greg Propper had the idea of starting a firm that works to combine celebrity, social capital and personal wealth to create lasting and measurable change,” he said. The result was “a social impact agency.”

Already Propper Daley has established relationships with every movie studio, broadcast and cable TV network, the guilds and other major players in Hollywood. Working with individuals, nonprofits and corporations, its goal is to move the needle on an issue and have a positive impact on society. “It’s more than just getting a celebrity to go to a charity’s event. It’s about creating awareness, getting people talking about an issue and driving a result that affects lives,” Mr. Daley said. “It’s a world that mixes the buzz of celebrity (he shares an office suite with actor Tobey Maguire) with the satisfaction that comes with working to benefit society.

“Got Your 6” is just the latest of many projects the agency has worked on. And its success is typical of the work Mr. Daley has done throughout his career. A-list celebrities Tom Hanks, Sarah Jessica Parker, Ryan Seacrest, Bradley Cooper and Flo Rida, among many others, have shown support for the effort. And 24 best-in-class national nonprofits have signed on as partners working to find jobs, housing and other services for returning veterans. In the first three months of the campaign, more than 10,000 veterans have been helped through the program’s employment efforts, and 400 job fairs targeted to former soldiers are scheduled across the country this year. “It’s been a true and sincere partnership between Hollywood and the nonprofits,” Mr. Daley said. “It’s remarkable, and we’re fired up to keep it going.”

With all his success, he still looks back to Dr. Serra’s assistance, that original internship and his time at Bridgewater State as setting him on the right path. Not only has this helped him, in turn, it’s served many others. “It’s really easy to go to work every day when you feel good about the work you do,” he said. “Our vision and what we set out to do each day is to help people in need and move forward policies that benefit everyone.”

To learn more about the “Got Your 6” campaign, visit www.propperdaley.com.
Mark Daley, ’99, combines celebrity and philanthropy in new ways

BY JOHN WINTERS, G’11

When looking out for a friend, one might say, “I’ve got your back.” Men and women serving in the military use this phrase, but it’s not just for the battlefield. It has meaning for those in a combat situation. It’s reassurance when the chips are down, or when one is facing the unknown or stepping into enemy territory. Today’s veterans are caught up in different battles, only for many of them, the fight is on the home front.

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Class of 1962 holds 50th reunion and gives record-breaking class gift

The members of the Class of 1962 returned to Bridgewater State University last June to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation, and Janice Randall, a member of the reunion planning committee, shared highlights of the event.

“I was pleased that our Reunion Planning Committee supported the idea to conduct an online survey of our class – a 50-year perspective – to determine the extent to which our Bridgewater degree contributed to our professional lives, a not-so-easy path in the 1960s, when for most, college was not affordable,” she said. “But given the tuition and fees in 1958 – $125 per year – most of the freshmen class were the first in their families to go to college.”

Results of the survey found that “92 percent of those sampled entered the teaching profession – 70 percent in Massachusetts schools – and the others in 26 other states,” Ms. Randall said. “Also, 79 percent pursued advanced degrees, and of that number, 70 percent continued to teach. We asked each participant to calculate how many students they taught based on the number of years taught: nearly 145,000.

“While most of the class is retired,” she said, “at least a third of those surveyed are working in some capacity. While this was not a scientific survey and intended for the reunion only, the number of respondents was a valid sample of the class.”

Along with sharing results of the survey, the Class of 1962 presented a record-breaking class gift of $1,256,000 at the Alumni Association’s annual meeting.

Ms. Randall added that class members had “renewed our contractual agreement with the university’s foundation in support of The Jordan D. Fiore, ’40, Endowment for Social Justice.”

The fund was established and presented to BSU at the 25th reunion of the Class of 1962 “and fundraising efforts for the Fiore Fund amounted to $101,823,” she said. “The income from the fund is offered annually to support a faculty member’s research or scholarly work in a related field to social justice.

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“We were pleased that everything went so smoothly for our 50th,” Ms. Randall said, “we would be remiss to not include our shock at the loss of our dear friend and classmate, Carlene Broadbent Ingarozza, who died suddenly at Randall said, “we would be remiss to not include our shock at the loss of our dear friend and classmate, Carlene Broadbent Ingarozza, who died suddenly at

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Upcoming Alumni Events

Alumni Chamber Choir Spring Concert
Sunday, April 28, 3 pm
Central Square Congregational Church
Bridgewater

Alumni Awards Dinner
Friday, May 10, 5-10 pm
Rondicou Campus Center
Large Ballroom

Alumni Board Annual Meeting and Dinner
Wednesday, May 29, 6 pm
Crimson Hall, Dunn Conference Suite

Singing in the Rain
Sunday, August 4, 11:30 am
Wamsutta Club Brunch and Zetzen Theatre, New Bedford

School of Social Work Alumni Event
Tuesday, September 17, 6 pm
Crimson Hall, Dunn Conference Suite

Homecoming Weekend
Friday and Saturday, October 25 and 26
Highlights include the Class of 1965’s 50th reunion celebration and the Athletics Hall of Fame dinner.

Award Nominations
The Bridgewater Alumni Association Awards are presented annually to deserving alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the university who have made an impact in their communities through their work or service to others. We accept nominations throughout the year. They may be submitted by mail to the Davis Alumni Center or online at www.bridgew.edu/alumni/awards.cfm.

Stay Connected
Send your news to the Office of Alumni Relations, via email to alumni@bridgew.edu or mail to Davis Alumni Center, Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, MA 02324. 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.

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Results of the survey found that “92 percent of those sampled entered the teaching profession – 70 percent in Massachusetts schools – and the others in 26 other states,” Ms. Randall said. “Also, 79 percent pursued advanced degrees, and of that number, 70 percent continued to teach. We asked each participant to calculate how many students they taught based on the number of years taught: nearly 143,000.

“While most of the class is retired,” she said, “at least a third of those surveyed are very active in some capacity. While this was not a scientific survey and intended for the reunion only, the number of respondents was a valid sample of the class.”

Along with sharing results of the survey, the Class of 1962 presented a record-breaking class gift of $1,256,000 at the Alumni Association’s annual meeting.

Ms. Randall added that class members had “renewed our contractual agreement with the university’s foundation in support of The Jordan D. Fiore, ’40, Endowment for Social Justice.”

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“The Hyannis-Bridgewater Alumni Association celebrated the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the physical education major at BSU. Taking part in the festivities, which kicked off Homecoming 2012, are (top photo, from left) Jan Watts, Patricia Santin, ’84, Dr. Marcia Anderson, BSU professor emerita; Dr. Karen Croteau, ’83; and Susan Daigleault. In the bottom photo are (standing, from left) Mary Oakley Anderson, ’50; Betty Callahan, ’53; Marcia Crooks, ’55, G62; and (seated, from left) Ann Burgess Morris, ’54, Jean Damon, ’54, Lois Day Butterfield, ’54; and Joan Grieve Dagener, ’54.

The sisters of Gamma Phi Beta celebrated their chapter’s 25th anniversary at the Shaw’s Center in Brookline in December. The sorority set an ambitious goal of raising $25,000 to establish a scholarship to commemorate its anniversary.

Alumni Services
For more information about the services below, visit www.bridgew.edu/alumni/alumniservices.cfm

Credit Rewards
An alumni awards credit card bearing a picture of Boyden Hall is available to all Bridgewater State University graduates. Current students benefit directly from every purchase because the Bridgewater Alumni Association receives a percentage of all purchases to assist students with scholarships and other academic opportunities. To apply online, visit the alumni services link listed above. For information, contact the alumni office at 508.531.1287.

Insurance Program
The Bridgewater Alumni Association offers discounted car, home and recreational vehicle insurance. To learn more about this program, visit the alumni services link listed above.

Website and Online Community
Visit the Alumni Association website, www.bridgew.edu/alumni, to learn more about alumni events and services. To join the online community, use the constituent identification number printed on your magazine mailing label. For more information about registering, email Michelle Slavick in the Office of Alumni Relations at mslavick@bridgew.edu.

Become a Facebook Fan
The Alumni Association is on Facebook. Search for “Bridgewater Alumni Association.”

LinkedIn
The “Official Bridgewater Alumni Association” group on LinkedIn is more than 2,500 strong. Request to join the group today.
Lifetime achievements

At a ceremony held last spring, BSU presented its annual Alumni Association Awards to eight of its most distinguished alumni and campus community members for their professional and personal achievements, and their dedication to the community service.

In remarks preceding the ceremony, Shana Murrell, director of alumni relations, said the Alumni Association has more than 50,000 members worldwide – with 40,000 living in Massachusetts – representing a wide range of professions. “The diversity of experience and accomplishments of all of our graduates is reflected in all of our award recipients this evening,” she said.

The eight Alumni Association Award recipients:

**1939**
Helen Hansen, retired longtime principal of the Chestnut Hill Elementary School in Stoughton, celebrated her 95th birthday with fifth grade students who attend her former school, now named the Helen H. Hansen Elementary School in her honor.

**1955**
Barbara “Bardie” Stevens, women’s varsity basketball coach at Bentley University, is one of only six coaches in the NCAA women’s basketball history to reach the 800-vins plateau.

**1958**

**1961**
Barbara Nagle has been nominated to receive the Daily Point of Light Award from the Points of Light Institute for her commitment to creating meaningful change. Mr. Nagle said, “When I was at Bridgewater State, they encouraged not only academic achievement but also the ability to help others.”

**1962**
John Minihan was inducted into the North Andover Educator Hall of Fame for more than three decades of teaching world history to high school students.

**1963**
Patricia Souza and her husband, John, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. After graduating from Bridgewater State, she worked as a teacher in the Taunton schools before moving to Leominster. The couple has three children and seven grandchildren.

**1965**
After more than 40 years of living on Cape Cod, Allen “Charlie” Brown and his wife, Jane, moved to Framingham to live closer to their two daughters.

**1972**
Patricia Manchester, after a career as a teacher in Fairhaven, will retire at the end of this school year. She was named the SouthCoast Teacher of the Year by the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts for her devotion to her students and school.

**1973**
Stella Citrano was hired as a compliance specialist for BayCoast Bank in Fall River.

**1977**
Cris Pefel, G’77, is author of A Shepherd’s Rod, Outside the Box, and Miracles Happen. Sequel to Outside the Box. Recently, 5 Fold Media released her latest book, The Right Road.

**1978**
Tim Tomlinson, Barnstable High School volleyball coach, was named 2012 Volleyball Coach of the Year by the National High School Coaches Association.

**1979**
Karen McAuliffe is principal at St. John School in Boston’s North End.

**1981**
Christine Mello received the Golden Apple award for excellence in education. She has been an educator for 34 years at the Esperanto Santo Parochial School in Fall River.

**1982**
Harold Taylor of Options 153, Mullen & Partners real estate in Plymouth, was granted the Graduate, Realtor Institute designation by Laurie Cadigan, president of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors.

**1984**
William Taylor retired as lieutenant for the Somerset Fire Department after 24 years of public service.

**1985**
Brian O’Reilly, football and lacrosse coach at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH, has been inducted into the NFAA Hall of Fame. One of the all-time winningest two-sport coaches, he owns career marks of 259-101 in football with 10 Division I state titles, and 43-12-1 in football with nine state championships.

**1990**
Ron Stahley, superintendent for the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union, was selected as Vermont Superintendents Association.

**1991**
Michael Vetros, G’76, principal of Clinton High School, retired after 40 years of service.

**1995**
Robert Hamel has written, directed and produced a romantic comedy titled Abby & Mickey’s Duffing Trolley Tour. The romantic comedy/musical played at the Back Bay Events Center.

**1997**
Bill “Liam” Alberti, a poet, artist and musician, read from his poetry chapbook, Once Upon a Sunfire, at the Kingston Library. His work has been published by Sundance Books and Science Research Associates.

**1999**
Gayle Cameron was named by Attorney General Martha Coakley to fill the second of five positions on the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

**2001**
Tim Corkery was appointed to the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

**2004**
John Minihan was inducted into the New Hampshire High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

**2005**
Michael Silvia, a former basketball coach at Mount Saint Vincent College, was named the 2005 New England Division III Coach of the Year.

**2006**
Terrence Williams, a former CIA operations officer for more than 30 years, has written his first novel, Coop’s Revenge. A sequel, Unit 400, will be released in 2013.

**2009**
Norman Landry, retired longtime principal for the Espirito Santo Parochial School in Stoughton, celebrated her 96th birthday with the current students, her former students and friends who attend her former school, now named the Espirito Santo Elementary School in her honor.

**2010**
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Michael Silvia, a former basketball coach at Mount Saint Vincent College, was named the 2005 New England Division III Coach of the Year.

**2013**
Terrence Williams, a former CIA operations officer for more than 30 years, has written his first novel, Coop’s Revenge. A sequel, Unit 400, will be released in 2013.

**2013**
Norman Landry, retired longtime principal for the Espirito Santo Parochial School in Stoughton, celebrated her 96th birthday with the current students, her former students and friends who attend her former school, now named the Espirito Santo Elementary School in her honor.

**2013**
John Minihan was inducted into the North Andover Educator Hall of Fame for more than three decades of teaching world history to high school students.

**2013**
Karen O’Reilly, football and lacrosse coach at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH, has been inducted into the NFAA Hall of Fame. One of the all-time winningest two-sport coaches, he owns career marks of 259-101 in football with 10 Division I state titles, and 43-12-1 in football with nine state championships.

**2013**
Ron Stahley, superintendent for the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union, was selected as Vermont Superintendents Association.

**2013**
Michael Vetros, G’76, principal of Clinton High School, retired after 40 years of service.

**2013**
Robert Hamel has written, directed and produced a romantic comedy titled Abby & Mickey’s Duffing Trolley Tour. The romantic comedy/musical played at the Back Bay Events Center.

**2013**
Bill “Liam” Alberti, a poet, artist and musician, read from his poetry chapbook, Once Upon a Sunfire, at the Kingston Library. His work has been published by Sundance Books and Science Research Associates.

**2013**
Gayle Cameron was named by Attorney General Martha Coakley to fill the second of five positions on the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

**2013**
Tim Corkery was appointed to the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

**2013**
John Minihan was inducted into the New Hampshire High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

**2013**
Michael Silvia, a former basketball coach at Mount Saint Vincent College, was named the 2005 New England Division III Coach of the Year.
Lifetime achievements

At a ceremony held last spring, BSU presented its annual Alumni Association Awards to eight of its most distinguished alumni and campus community members for their professional and personal achievements, and their dedication to community service.

In remarks preceding the ceremony, Shana Murrell, director of alumni relations, said the Alumni Association has more than 50,000 members worldwide – with 40,000 living in Massachusetts – representing a wide range of professions. “The diversity of experience and accomplishments of all of our graduates is reflected in all of our award recipients this evening,” she said.

The eight Alumni Association Award recipients:

- Dr. Philip Conroy, ’72, president of Vermont Technical College, recipient of the Nicholas P. Tillinghast Award for Achievement in the Field of Education.
- John Harper, director of athletics and recreation at BSU, recipient of the Martha D. Jones Award for Outstanding Dedication to Students.
- Brendan Kearney, G’04, superintendent in chief of the City of Boston’s Emergency Medical Service, recipient of the Dr. Marilyn White Barry Graduate Alumni Award.
- Jacqueline Tucker, ’90, former president of the Afro-American Alumni Association, recipient of the Afro-American Alumni Association Award.
- Anne Heyswood, ’90, artist and author, recipient of the Dr. Adrian Tinsley Award for Achievement in the Arts.
- Beverly Beckham, ’68, G’76, columnist for The Boston Globe and former columnist and editorial writer for the Boston Herald, recipient of the Dr. Adrain Rouleau Award for Professional Achievement and Community Service.
- James Argir, ’61, member of the Alumni Association Board and Alumni Football Council and former trustee for the Bridgewater Foundation, recipient of the Dr. George A. Weygandt Award for Outstanding Service to the Bridgewater Alumni Association.
- Dr. James Leone, ’01, assistant professor of health in the BSU’s Department of Movement Arts, Health Promotion and Leisure Studies, recipient of the Dr. Catherine Comerch Award for Professional Achievement.

ClassNotes

1939
Helen Hansen, retired longtime principal of the Chemung Hill Elementary School in Stoughton, celebrated her 95th birthday with fifth grade students who attend her former school, now named the Helen H. Hansen Elementary School in her honor.

1955
Barbara “Barb” Stevens, women’s varsity basketball coach at Bentley University, is one of only six coaches in the NCAA women’s basketball history to reach the 800-wins plateau.

2015
Tim Tomlinson presented a paper at the Bread and Roses Academic Symposium, sponsored by the Lawrence History Center, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1912 Lawrence Textile Strike. His paper, “A Strike for Ten Loaves of Bread,” was written 50 years ago when he was a John Hay Fellow at Harvard and a master’s degree candidate at Boston University.

1958

1961
Barbara Nagle has been nominated to receive the Daily Point of Light Award from the Points of Light Institute for her commitment to creating meaningful change. Ms. Nagle said, “When I was at Bridgewater State, they encouraged not only academic achievement but also the ability to help others.”

1962
John Minihan was inducted into the North Andover Educator Hall of Fame for more than three decades of teaching world history to high school students.

1963
Patricia Souza and her husband, John, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. After graduating from Bridgewater State, she worked as a teacher in the Taunton schools before moving to Leominster. The couple has three children and seven grandchildren.

1965
After more than 40 years of living on Cape Cod, Allen “Charlie” Brown and his wife, Jane, moved to Framingham to live closer to their two daughters.

1972
Patricia Manchester, after a career as a teacher in Fairhaven, will retire at the end of this school year. She was named the SouthCoast Teacher of the Year by the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts for her devotion to her students and school.

1973
Terrence Williams, a former CIA operations officer for more than 30 years, has written his first novel, Caesar’s Revenge. A sequel, Unit 400, will be released in 2013.

1977
Cris Pfeil, G’77, is author of A Shepherd’s Rod, Outside the Box, and Miracles Happen. Sequel to Outside the Box. Recently, 5 Fold Media released her latest book, The Right Road.

1978
Bill “Liam” Alberti, a poet, artist and musician, read from his poetry chapbook, Once Upon a Sunrise. He published Outside the Box. Recently, 5 Fold Media released his latest book, Once Upon a Sunrise. He published Outside the Box. Recently, 5 Fold Media released his latest book, The Right Road.

1979
Karen McLaughlin, G’79, is principal at St. John School in Boston’s North End.

1980
Christine Mello received the Golden Apple award for excellence in education. She has been an educator for 34 years at the Esperito Santo Parochial School in Fall River.

1982
Ron Stahley, G’82, has been inducted into the NHIAA Hall of Fame. One of the all-time winningest two-sport coaches, he owns career marks of 239-101 in football with 10 Division I state titles, and 434-127-9 in lacrosse with nine state championships.

1984
Ron Stahley, superintendent for the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union, was selected as Vermont Superintendent of the Year for 2012 by the Vermont Superintendents Association.

1985
Michael Vetro, G’76, principal of Clinton High School, retired after 40 years of service.

1986
Robert Hamel has written, directed and produced a romantic comedy titled Abbie & Mickey’s Diving Trolley Tour. The romantic comedy musical played at the Back Bay Events Center.

1987
Bill Cooper’s book, Once Upon a Sunrise, was published by Sundance Books and Science Research Associates.

1988
Gaye Cameron was named by Attorney General Martha Coakley to fill the second of five positions on the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

1990
Tim Corkery published Collection of Short Stories: Poignant to Horror. He was a teacher in Maryland, California, Vermont and Boston. Now retired, he works as a gardener at a country club and writes mini mysteries for the Tinytown Gazette of Cohasset.

1991
Brian O’Reilly, football and lacrosse coach at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH, has been inducted into the NHAHA Hall of Fame. One of the all-time winningest two-sport coaches, he owns career marks of 259-101 in football with 10 Division I state titles, and 434-127-9 in lacrosse with nine state championships.

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1998

2001
Norman Landry, dean emeritus of student affairs at Northern Essex Community College, was one of the recipients of the Making a Difference Award, which is given to influential members of the NECC community who have had an effect on the lives of others.

2002
Karen McLaughlin, G’79, is principal at St. John School in Boston’s North End.

2003
Christine Mello received the Golden Apple award for excellence in education. She has been an educator for 34 years at the Esperito Santo Parochial School in Fall River.

2004
Harold Taylor of Options 153, Mullen & Partners real estate in Plymouth, was granted the Graduate, Realtor Institute designation by Laurie Cadigan, president of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors.

2005
William Taylor retired as lieutenant for the Somerset Fire Department after 24 years of public service.

2006
The eight Alumni Association Award recipients:

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FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE ABOVE PROGRAMS, CALL CAREER SERVICES AT 508.531.1328 OR EMAIL THE OFFICE AT CAREERSRV@BRIDGEW.EDU.

ANNUAL JOB FAIR
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 1-4 pm
Rondileau Campus Center Large Ballroom
Alumni, students and members of the community are welcome to attend. For information on participating employers, visit www.bridgew.edu/careerservices/jobfair.cfm

JOB SEEKERS
Spring 2013 | BRIDGEWATER 41 
Pamela Fernandes created Team F.E.D. - Feeding the minds, thoughts and dreams of our community. Sponsored by her employer, Best Buy, the program offers technology classes in exchange for donations of nonperishable, food items for food pantries in Mansfield, Norton, Easton and Foxboro.

Donal Gamache, who has worked in various real estate positions for 40 years, joined the Joyce D. Lopes Realty Company in Acushnet.

1979

1979 Nanette Bulger was named executive director of Strategic and Competitive Intelligence Professionals. Michel Ber- naiche, chair of the SCIP Board of Directors, said, “In the coming months and years, SCIP will soon see the benefit from Nan’s leadership, strategy and intelligence capabilities.”

Kevin Farr, former superintendent of the Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School, was named superintendent for the Killingly, CT, school district.

Michael Gill became principal at South High School in Fall River after 32 years of service for the Cohassett school system.

Paul Lanata received his Doctor of Education degree at the University of Louisville. He serves the 100,000 students of the Jefferson County public school district in Kentucky as director of library media services and is a member of the University of Mary- land’s Lilead Project Advisory Board, a national work force study.

1980

1980 Betty Ann Mullins was promoted to senior vice president for commercial lending at BayCoast Bank in Fall River.

Brian Salvaggio, G’82, assistant vice president of student affairs at BSIU, received the Pillar of Mentorship Award from the Massachusetts College Personnel Association.

1981

1981 After three decades with Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc., Keith J. Benoit has been promoted to vice president, global partners. Developing markets was formerly the director of international/Latin American markets and director of special markets. He oversees all business development in the Latin American and Asia Pacific regions, and manages Ocean Spray’s North Ameri- can alliance with PepsiCo.

Tina-Marie Legere, chief executive officer of the Franklin Medical Center in Derry, NH, was appointed to the River College board of trustees.

Jean Perry has been named principal of the Veterans Memorial Elementary School in Saugus after serving as prin- cipal for three years at West Parish Elementary School in Gloucester.

Christine Prendiville, a teacher at the Sterling Middle School in West Quincy, was honored by the Depart- ment of Massachusetts American Legion as its Educator of the Year.

1982

1982 Edwin Edelbiri established the I Am Happy project, a nonprofit organiza- tion focused on spreading happiness globally. He has presented on the topic of happiness to more than 1,000 people over the past year.

Ann Fournier has joined R.P. Valos Real Estate in Dartmouth. She had been the proprietor of ECT, an interna- tional indoor air-quality testing company for more than 21 years.

Neil Greenwald, head coach of the Taunton Regional High School baseball team for the past 25 years, was induc- ted into the Massachusetts Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

Michael Nickley joined The Bufflinch Group, a financial services and wealth management firm based in Needham.

1983

1983 Christine Berry, owner of Vocal Expressions, organized 10 of her stu- dents for a concert to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Place soup kitchen in Norwich, CT. She is also a designer at Saybrook Country Barn in Old Say- brook, CT.

Jabob Santamaria, G’83, was induc- ted into the Dedham High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Mr. Santamaria, who has worked at the Dedham school system since 1977, joined the staff as a teacher and was the boys’ varsity tennis, basketball and lacrosse coach, and later became athletic director, a role he held for 13 years. He became the assistant principal and, in 2008, was named principal of the high school.

1984


John Fournier, G’97, successfully defended his dissertation, “Leadership Styles of School Administrators at the Building and District,” at Robert Mor- ris University.

1986

1986 Bob Ashley was profiled on Wicked Local Stoughton for his job of recruit- ing Stoughton players on baseball and life. He was inducted into the Massa- chusetts Baseball Hall of Fame in 2001. While he no longer coaches, he said he owes all his successes to his players.

1987

1987 Bryan King, G’91, was inducted into the Eastern Massachusetts Internschol- astic Swimming Coaches Hall of Fame. He is a biology teacher and swim coach at Hopkinton High School.

11. Col. John Lee received a Bronze Star Medal and was awarded a resource management task for Task Force Yankee, 26th “Yankee” Brigade, Mas- sachusetts Army National Guard in Kabul, Afghanistan. When he is not serving, he teaches at Norfolk County Agricultural High School.

Kirsten O’Donnell joined The Villiam Ravens Real Estate office in Falmouth.

1988

1988 Michael Hall was named minister of Kern Unitarian Universalist Church. He was ordained at The First Parish in Framingham in June and enters his new ministry with enthusiasm.

Dennis Leahy was promoted to exec- utive vice president, treasurer and chief financial officer at Bristol Street Sav- ings Bank.

Jason Bua, president and CEO of Rea- dument-Audet Insurance Agency in Fall River, was elected to the board of trustees for Southeast Health Systems and Southcoast Hospitals Group.

1989

1989 Laurie Gardner, former director of human resources and administrative services for the University of Maine at Farmington, was appointed executive director of finance and administration for the university.

Ellen Lommen had 33 paintings – oil, watercolor, pastel, acrylic and mixed media – on display at Falmouth Hospi- tal’s Faxon Center last summer. The show was titled “Memories” and was inspired by her travels around the country visiting her children. She is a member of the Falmouth Artists Guild, Catatumbo Art Center, Encore Club and the Simmons College Club of Cape Cod.

Thomas Philpot, in partnership with public accounting firm Philpott Doyle & Com- pany PC., has been elected to the Cape Ann Savings Bank board of trustees.

Karen Renzende, who has been with WPIRI 12 Fox Providence for 16 years, was promoted to news director for Eyewitness News. WPIRI 12 President Philpot, in a statement, said, “Karen has been instrumental in developing and grow- ing our Target 12 investigative brand and our Eyewitness News brand across all platforms. She’s the perfect person to continue the momentum and suc- cess of our news stations and will continue to provide viewers with the high quality of news coverage they’ve come to expect from Eyewitness News.”

Karen Puglisi is sales and marketing director for Kemuri’s Key West Key Lime Shoppes, featured in National Geogra- phic’s Food Journeys of a Lifetime - 500 Favorite Places to Eat, Around the Globe.

Jaff Valin was named the weekend morning anchor at WTINH, News 8, in New Haven, CT.

1990

1990 Matt Gillis, head coach of the West-wood High School varsity golf team, was named boys golf coach of the year by The Boston Globe.

Daniel Hanley, vice president of busi- ness banking for Middlesex Savings Bank, served as a volunteer judge for BSIU’s Center for Entrepreneurship Studies Business Plan Competition.

Eric Kinser1, Braintree’s first finance director from 2001-2005, has been reappointed town auditor.

Thomas Zaya was named assistant principal of athletics and student activi- ties at Pembroke Memorial High School. He has actively involved with the Reading Coalition Against Substance Abuse, serving on the board of direc- tors and coordinating numerous par- ent groups.

Amy Scolaro is principal of South River Elementary School in Marshfield. She served as a school principal in Abington for five years.

1993

1993 Rosannoria Carlozzzi, vice principal at New Bedford High School, graduated with a doctorate in humanities from Suffolk University in Marlborough.

Peter Hallen, G’96, was appointed by the Waterville public school board as the director of Mid-Maine Technical Center, a regional high school serving 12 communities in the greater Waterv- ille, MI, area.

Steven Rumbolt was named interim director for the 2012-2013 school year at Sturbridge High School, where he has served as a teacher, coach and dean for more than 18 years.

1994

1994 After earning a master’s degree from Western Connecticut State University, Melia Wallace Galante was promoted to vice principal at Advanced Math and Science Academy in Waterbury.

Jason Place has been selected to become principal and registrar at Child Care Council, Inc., in the Wayne County, New York, branch office. He will work throughout the county to increase early childhood development opportunities for families.

Debbie Spingarn published a book, Another Spin: Columns by a Newspaper Writer. She works as a columnist for the Norwood Transcript and the Bulletin in Norwood.

1995

1995 Paul Branagan was named principal of Middleboro High School. He was appointed chairman of the history department in 2000 and promoted to assistant principal in 2010. He was also named the county’s top student counseling adviser in 2011.

Bob Gertz is a senior aviation safety inves- tigator for the National Transportation Safety Board covering general aviation accidents for the NTDB’s eastern region.
In anticipation of starting a Cape Cod alumna and a current student, a reception was held at the Hyannis Yacht Club and Farm Neck Golf Club on Martha’s Vineyard. At the Martha’s Vineyard reception are (from left) Margaret Mills Wall, ’74; Kathy Seablom, ’72; and Nanette Bulger, ’79.

Pamela Fernandes created Team F.E.D. — Feedback, minds and business of our community. Sponsored by her employer, Best Buy, the program offers technology classes in exchange for donations of nonperishable food items for food pantries in Mansfield, Norton, Easton and Foxboro.

Donald Gamage, who has worked in various real estate positions for 40 years, joined the Joyce D. Lopes Realty Company in Acushnet.

Buthina Obidyeen, g’09, is an instructor in Business Administration at the Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School, was named superintendent for the Killingly, CT. school district.

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Laurie Gardner was named principal of the high school, assistant principal and, in 2008, was named principal of the high school.

On It Japanese Baseball star Pujols is sales and marketing director for Kermit’s Key West Key Lime Shoppes, featured in National Geographic’s “Food Journeys of a Lifetime” — 500 Favorite Places to Eat. Around the Globe. Jason Puglisi was named the weekend morning anchor at WTNH, News 8, in New Haven, CT.

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Bob Gertz is a senior air safety investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board covering general aviation accidents for the NTSB’s eastern region.

Henry Cronin is a senior at Bridgewater State University, majoring in computer science.

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Lisa Plume Hallen is the director of guidance at Messalonskee High School in Oakland, ME, and is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Maine.

1996
Gail Adams McNamara, senior health care applications consultant for Hayes Management Consulting, was named a VIP member of Worldwide Who’s Who. This special distinction honors individuals who have made an exceptional commitment to achieving personal and professional success.

1997
Angela Constantinone was inducted into the New Bedford High School Athletic Hall of Fame. She teaches engineering technology at New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School.

Tamara Huntley has joined the Self-Advocacy Leadership Series as a trainer for the Development Disabilities Council, has Advocacy Leadership Series as a trainer. Tamara Huntley is a vocational technical high school graduate.

1998
Pauline Camara, G’98, was awarded a doctoral degree in education from Northeastern University. Ms. Camara, who is the principal of Somerset Middle School, did her thesis on the effects of community service on the academic performance of students at a Massachusetts middle school.

Seán Lavelle, a 12-year veteran of the Shrewsbury Fire Department, was promoted to fire captain.

1999
Noelle Foye was named executive director of ArtWork, New Bedford’s community arts center. Rhonda Trust holds a PhD in community communication from the University of Connecticut and is a teacher at Fairchild University. She owns a health education business, Rhonda Trust Consulting Services.

2000
Leandra Rotta is a professional freelance florist and assistant conductor of the South Shore Conservatory Flute Ensemble. She also has a flute/guitar trio, Two of Us, and an active flute instruction studio.

Renee Dufour was appointed director of corporate and employee relations at Lafrance Hospitality. She has an extensive background in public administration and is a member of the Greater Fall River Re-Creation Committee.

Michael Hicks opened Pit Sports, a training facility for high school athletes, in East Greenwich, RI.

Maureen Thomas is the conservation agent for the Kingston Conservation Commission and its only full-time staff member. In this role, she has collaborated with other municipalities and agencies to help Kingston progress in stormwater management and geographic information systems development.

2001
Michael DiMarino is head coach of the Winthrop High School boys’ basketball team. He received the 2012 Middlesex League history teacher of the year award and was a finalist for the History Channel’s national teacher of the year award.

Daniel Erickson, Canton High School athletic director, has joined Canton Co-operative Bank’s board of directors.

John Klimm, G’01, former Barnstaple town manager, is now town administrator for Portsmouth, RI.

Eric Scott is director of athletics at Medfield High School. He was director of athletics in Ashland for 10 years.

Jacinth Stevenson was named to the “40 under 40” list for BusinessWest. She is director of public relations and social media for Winstanley Partners, a marketing, creative design, communications and interactive agency in the Berkshires.

2002
Falmouth police officer Andrew Lumsden is the resource officer for Falmouth High School and is working toward obtaining a master’s degree.

Samira Rodrigues has joined the residential mortgage team at HarborOne Credit Union.

Julie Smith is manager of South Shore Bank’s Shrewsbury Plaza branch. Previously she was employed by Sovereign Bank for 11 years.

2003
Ryan Clutterbuck was promoted by The Davis Companies to the director of divisional operations.

Valerie Ruff works with academically challenged Middleboro public school students and offered a session for students titled “Building Life Skills and Relationships Through the Arts,” where participants explored all aspects of the performing arts.

2004
Amy Chandler has been certified as an e-PRU by the National Association of Bilingual Education and has over 13 years of experience with Optimum Real Estate, Inc., and has been successfully trained in e-marketing. This is her third real estate certification.

Ellen Driscoll was appointed to the position of information technology director at Bridgewater schools.

Patrolman Randy Lloyd graduated from the 20-week Municipal Police Training Academy in Roylston and is pursuing a master’s degree in criminal justice at Curry College.

Stacy LaCastro was appointed executive director of Central Pennsylvania Community Action, Inc., after serving as the agency’s chief operating officer.

Shannon McGuire, G’04, was promoted to vice principal of primary school at Bishop Connolly High School in Fall River.

2005
Andrew Boles, G’05, was named principal of Robert J. Coelho Middle School in Attleboro. He was assistant principal of Middle School in Milford as well as assistant principal at middle schools in Dedham and Taunton.

John Dudley, owner of DJ John Dudley Entertainment, was selected by WeddingWire.com as a Bride’s Choice Awards winner for 2012 and by The Knot.com and WeddingChannel.com as best of the wedding DJs.

Luís Rosa was appointed assistant dean of admission for multicultural recruitment at Stonehill College in Easton. He is past president of RSL’s Afro-American Alumni Association.

2006
Alan Cron, after 18 years of service at Milton High School, accepted the position of principal at Rockland High School. He is pursuing his doctorate in educational leadership at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Megan Kennedy is the director of continuing education at North Bennet Street School in Boston.

Kristel Love was promoted to director of youth services for the Greater Cape Cod Workforce Investment Board.

Lauren Marvel published a children’s book, Drawing a Mural, featuring artwork by her daughter, an RSL student pursuing a degree in biology with a minor in art.

Specialist Wender Ramos began flight training school at the U.S. Army Aviation Training Center at Fort Rucker, AL, after completing warrant officer candidate school.

Greg Thomas, G’06, is the athletic director of the Avon public schools, and serves the school district as the lead special education teacher in the alternative classroom. He is pursuing a certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in educational leadership at RSL.

Liz York is owner of a dog daycare and pet grooming business, Bark and Play, in York, ME.

2007
Kevin Donovan was promoted to marketing specialist at the Dedham Institution for Savings where he has worked since 2005.

Pat Kerrigan, Kathleen Lynch, ’09; Karen White, ’10; Julie Clarke, ’11; Shaniee Singleton, ’11; and Liz Palomino, ’12, came back to RSL as part of the Career and Communication Technologies panel to talk about their professional experiences with students seeking careers in the trades, two of fields of communication.

Juliette Miller, G’07, is the principal of Stoughton High School.

Dr. Wayne Phillips, ’62

Dr. Wayne Phillips was inducted into the Hall of Fame for the American Red Cross. He volunteered through the Red Cross to assist those in New York affected by Hurricane Sandy. At a Rotary Shelter, he helped distribute cot blankets to people in the community, and assisted the Red Cross staff and volunteers.

2008
Derek Rask is a Plymouth Regional Police Academy graduate and an officer for the Oak Bluffs police department.

Jamie Barry, G’11, is a care worker for the American Red Cross. She volunteered through the Red Cross to assist those in New York affected by Hurricane Sandy. At a Yonkers shelter, she helped distribute cot blankets to people in the community, and assisted the Red Cross staff and volunteers.
Lisa Plume Hallen is the director of guidance at Messalonskee High School in Oakland, ME, and is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Maine.

1996 Gail Adams McNamara, senior health care applications consultant for Hayes Management Consulting, was named a VIP member of Worldwide Who’s Who. This special distinction honors individuals who have contributed an exceptional commitment to achieving personal and professional success.

1997 Angela Constantine was inducted into the New Bedford High School Athletic Hall of Fame. She teaches engineering technology at New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School.

Tamura Huntley has joined the Self Advocacy Leadership Series as a trainer.

1998 Pauline Camara, G’98, was awarded a doctoral degree in education from Northeastern University. Ms. Camara, who is the principal of Somerset Middle School, did her thesis on the effects of community service on the academic performance of students at a Massachusetts middle school.

Savan Lavello, a 12-year veteran of the Shrewsbury Fire Department, was promoted to fire captain.

1999 Noelle Foye was named executive director of ArtWork!, New Bedford’s community arts center.

Rhonda Trust holds a PhD in communication from the University of Connecticut and is a teacher at Fairhaven University. She owns a health education business, Rhonda Trust Consulting Services.

2000 Leandra Rotta is a professional free-lance pianist and assistant conductor of the South Shore Conservatory Flute Ensemble. She also has a flute/guitar trio, Two of Us, and an active flute instruction studio.

Renee Dufour was appointed director of corporate and employee relations at Lafrance Hospitality. She has an extensive background in public administration and is a member of the Greater Fall River Re-Creation Committee.

Michael Hicks joined Pitt Sports, a training facility for high school athletes, in East Greenwich, RI.

Maureen Thomas is the conservation agent for the Kingston Conservation Commission and its only full-time staff member. In this role, she has collaborated with other municipalities and agencies to help Kingston progress in stormwater management and geographic information systems development.

2001 Michael DiMarino is head coach of the Winthrop High School boys’ basketball team. He received the 2012 Massasoit’s history teacher of the year award and was a finalist for the History Channel’s national teacher of the year award.

Daniel Erickson, Canton High School athletic director, has joined Canton Community Bank’s board of directors.

John Klimm, G’01, former Barnstable town manager, is now town administrator for Portsmouth, RI.

Eric Scott is director of athletics at Medfield High School. He was director of athletics in Ashland for 10 years.

Jachyn Stevenson was named to the “40 under 40” list for BusinessWest. She is director of public relations and social media for Winstanley Partners, a marketing, creative design, communications and interactive agency in the Berkshires.

2002 Falmouth police officer Andrew Leonowen is the resource officer for Falmouth High School and is working toward obtaining a master’s degree.

Samira Rodrigues has joined the residential mortgage team at HarborOne Credit Union.

Julie Smith is manager of South Shore Bank’s Shaws Plaza branch. Previously she was employed by Sovereign Bank for 11 years.

2003 Ryan Clutterbuck was promoted by The Davis Companies to the director of divisional operations.

Valerie Rufo works with academically challenged Middletown public school students and offered a session for students titled “Building Life Skills and Relationships Through the Arts,” where participants explored all aspects of the performing arts.

2004 Amy Chandler has been certified as an e-PRO by the National Association of Realtors. She is an e-Papro with Optimum Real Estate, Inc., and has been successfully trained in e-marketing. This is her third real estate certification.

Ellen Driscoll was appointed to the position of information technology director at Canton High School.

Patrolman Randy Lloyd graduated from the 20-week Municipal Police Training Academy in Royston and is pursuing a master’s degree in criminal justice at Curry College.

Stacy LaCastro was appointed executive director of Central Pennsylvania Community Action, Inc., after serving as its acting chief operating officer.

Shannon McGuire, G’04, was promoted to vice principal of student life at Bishop Connolly High School in Fall River.

2005 Andrew Boles, G’05, was named principal of Robert J. Coelho Middle School in Attleboro. He was assistant principal of Plymouth Middle School in Milton as well as assistant principal at middle schools in Dedham and Taunton.

John Dudley, owner of DJ John Dudley Entertainment, was selected by WeddingWire.com as a Bride’s Choice Awards winner for 2012 and by The knot.com and WeddingChannel.com as best of the wedding DJs.

Luis Rosa was appointed assistant dean of admission for multicultural recruitment at Stonehill College in Easton. He is past president of RSL’s Afro-American Alumni Association.

2006 Alan Cron, after 18 years of service at Milton High School, accepted the position of principal at Rockland High School. He is pursuing his doctorate in educational leadership at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Megan Keeneely is the director of continuing education at North Bennet Street School in Boston.

Krystal Love was promoted to director of youth services for Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board.

Lauren Marvel published a children’s book, Drawing a 4Mrade, featuring artwork by her daughter, a BSU student pursuing a degree in biology with a minor in art.

Specialist Wender Ramos began flight training school at the U.S. Army Aviation Center for Flight Rater, AL, after completing warrant officer candidate school.

Greg Thompson, G’06, is the athletic director of the Avon public schools, and serves the school district as the lead special education teacher in the alternative classroom. He is pursuing a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in educational leadership at RSL.

Liz York is owner of a dog day care and pet grooming business, Bark and Play, in York, ME.

2007 Kevin Donovan was promoted to marketing specialist at the Dedham Institution for Savings where he has worked since 2003.

Pat Kerrigan, Kathleen Lynch, ’99; Karen White, ’10; Julie Clarke, ’11; Sharielle Singleton, ’11; and Liz Pom, ’12, came back to BSU as part of the Drawer affixing Communication techniques. The workshops have been updated because so much has changed with regard to the social landscape. Now they include topics such as email, cell phones, Facebook and Twitter.

During his most recent presentation at BSU, he held four workshops over two days, and more than 200 students participated. “The focus is widening, centering primarily on how to comport oneself properly in business protocol,” he said. "The workshop also touches on many aspects of social interaction, including proper introductions, telephone manners and written communication. A four-course dining primer cultivates the training.”

In addition to his many years of teaching at BSU, Dr. Phillips played a major role in helping improve the campus through the efforts of the beautification committee. “I’m so glad I had the chance to lead that committee and to also continue to be a contributor to this institution through the protocols,” he said.

2008 Drew Rank is a Plymouth Regional Police Academy graduate and an officer for the Oak Bluffs police department.

Jamie Barry, ‘G11, is a care worker for the American Red Cross. She volunteered through the Red Cross to assist those in New York affected by Hurricane Sandy. At a Yonkers shelter, she helped distribute cot and blankets to people in the community, and assisted the Red Cross staff and volunteers.
Saori Ishikawa, G’08, is a doctoral candidate in the health and human performance department at the Tennessee State University where she is researching bone health. She is investigating whether sedentary behaviors have an impact on bone health in older women.

Greg Lessard served as band director for 10 years in South Eastern Massachusetts School Bandmasters Association Junior Festival concert. He is a fifth grade teacher at Gates Intermediate School and Jenkins Elementary School, both in Scituate.

Kathleen Turner, G’08, a French teacher at Sharon High School, was named the Massachusetts 2012 Teacher of the Year.

Lauren Worden is a dance teacher and owner of Illusions Academy of Dance in Auburn. He oversees the work of Development and Inspectional Services in Auburn. She was part of the production team for the 2012 Miss Massachusetts Outstanding Teen Pageant.

2009

William Burbeck, G’09, is principal of Normandin Middle School in New Bedford.

Adam Burney, G’09, is a teacher at Sharon High School, was part of the production team for the 2012 Miss Massachusetts Outstanding Teen Pageant.

2010

Megan Askew is an administrative assistant for the town of Dennis. She was the art director for Grow Grass Grow, a five-minute movie created for Campus MovieFest that won best comedy in the country.

Sarah Cook is a dance teacher and costume designer. He was the art director for Grow Grass Grow, a five-minute movie created for Campus MovieFest that won best comedy in the country.

2012

Patrice Sajous works with the Stoughton Youth Commission as a leadership mentor opportunities and teacher externships within various industries.

Tanequa Fields is pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at Boston University. Her goal is to work in juvenile probation to work with children, families, and communities.

Augusto Goncalves worked in Nevada as a field organizer for President Obama’s re-election campaign.

Joseph Page is employed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation as a seasonal park ranger on Georges Island in Boston Harbor. He works for several years in maine as a seasonal park ranger with the DCR at Isle au Haut, the Blue Hills Reservation, the DCR at Mount Desert Island, and the Blue Hills Reservation.

Courtney Tufts, G’12, is a third grade teacher in the Wrentham public school system.

Sammy Depperman is the general manager. She previously taught at the Roderick School in Wrentham.
Tania Sanes works with the Stough- ton Youth Commission as a leadership and civic engagement fellow through the AmeriCorps Massachusets Prom- ises Program. She hopes to inspire the next generation of youth leaders.

Yara Cardoso is the Connecting Activi- ties Partnership manager for Metro South Chamber of Commerce in Brock- ton. She serves on the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board, the Connecting Activities Partnership encourages employers to provide mentor opportunities and teacher externships for high school students.

Tanequa Fields is pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at Boston Uni- versity. Her goal is to work in juvenile detention as a social worker and eventually start her own consulting business.

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Courtney Tufts, G’12, is a grade teacher in the Wrentham public school system.

Patricia Griffin was included in the Irish Echo newspaper in its annual 40 Under 40. She works at the Irish Cul- ture Centre in Canton.

Courtney Jodoin, G’12, has joined the firm G.T. Reilly as a staff accountant.

Rylee Kliment is a second grade teacher at the Bridges School in Dorchester. She was a special education teacher’s aide at Harvard High School, a theater teacher’s aide and a full- time substitute at Station Avenue Ele- mentary School in South Yarmouth. Coast Guard Petty Officer First Class Stephen Morat returned from deployment to several Middle East loca- tions. He was a member of the Rapid Assistance Inspections Detachment.

2012

Felicity Sanes works with the Stough- ton Youth Commission as a leadership and civic engagement fellow through the AmeriCorps Massachusets Prom- ises Program. She hopes to inspire the next generation of youth leaders.

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ALUMNI SNAPSHOTs

Jessica Ann Hermitage, ’09, and Ian Edwin Daniel, son of Betsy, G’11, and Cory and Randy Bonneau, ’02, born Nov. 6, 2012

Emma Faith, daughter of Kate (Stone), ’02, ’12, born Jan. 19, 2012

Aliyah Rain, daughter of Sarah Manteiga, AliUmni SnapShotS

Dubuque, born Dec. 31, 2012

TO

Congratulations to BSU alumni on the new members of their families:

Christipher Pereira, ’05, to Patrick Ruble in October 2012

Seth Falconer on Sept. 22, 2012

Frank Baptista on May 12, 2012

Jesse M. Andrade, ’12, to Craig Maclcomson on July 6, 2012

Jeremy Whittaker on Feb. 11, 2012

Sean Kelly, ’05, to Michael DeSousa on Sept. 12, 2012

Derek Lakey on June 29, 2012

Christopher Connors in October 2012

Micheal Wayne Braley on Nov. 3, 2012

Micheal Rober Ratty in September 2012

Jonathan Wayne Botelho on Oct. 15, 2012

Micheal Wayne Braley on May 12, 2012

Molly Jarvi, ’06. to Patrick Ruble in October 2012

Elizabeth Anne Motte to James Christopher More, ’06, on July 28, 2012

Jamie Marie Ross, ’06, to Ross Evan Graham on Sept. 8, 2012

Meredith Russell to Matthew Chapdelaine, ’06, on Oct. 13, 2012

Michael D. Morrison, ’11, to Seth Falconer on Nov. 12, 2012

Meredith R. Waterman to Alissa J. Setera, ’06, on March 17, 2012

Jillian Marie Cuff, ’08, to Dustin Fauth in July 2012

Jennifer E. Coutu, ’08, G’11, to Joshua Mass, ’08, on June 15, 2012

Meredith R. Waterman to Alissa J. Setera, ’06, on Nov. 12, 2012

Karen Silva, ’08, to Jesse Austin, ’09, in February 2010

Meredith Anne Welch, ’08, to James Theodore Newton in August 2012

Jessi Clark, ’09, to Blake Tirlia on Dec. 10, 2011

Allan Silva, ’08, to Jesse Austin, ’09, in February 2010

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NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO, BUT TO MINISTER.

Bridgewater State University 1840-2010

BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY...FROM THE BEGINNING

DR. THOMAS TURNER, professor emeritus of history, has captured the journey of Bridgewater State University from Normal School to university in this in-depth history of the institution.

We learn the critical role Massachusetts played in normalizing education for teachers, beginning in 1838-40 when Horace Mann lobbied for the establishment of schools specifically for this purpose.

From humble beginnings, Bridgewater Normal School has evolved from a one-room schoolhouse located in the old town hall with 28 students to Bridgewater State University with its 270-acre campus, five colleges and one school serving more than 11,000 students. As the third normal school in the commonwealth and the only one to operate continuously in its original location, Bridgewater Normal School influenced generations of students and teachers. Not To Be Ministered Unto, But To Minister captures a tale of extraordinary vision, collaboration, perseverance, hard work and, ultimately, tangible success – the birth of the normal schools, establishment of the board of education, creation of minimum standards for the education of would-be teachers and, finally, the development of a viable system of public higher education.
ALUMNI SNAPSHOTs

Jessica Ann Hermitage, '09, and Ian Edwin Daniel, son of Betsy, G'11, and Cory and Randy Bonneau, '02, born Nov. 6, 2012

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ALUMNI SNAPSHOTs

Creutz were married Oct. 12, 2012.

Jessica Ann Hermitage, '09, and Ian Edwin Daniel, son of Betsy, G'11, and Cory and Randy Bonneau, '02, born Nov. 6, 2012

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To obtain a book ($50 each), please contact the Bridgewater State University Foundation at 508.531.2496.

BIRTHS

Congratulations to BSU alumni on the new members of their families:

To Annika Rose Heise and Eric Heise, '96, a daughter, Annika Rose on Oct. 17, 2011

To Courtney (Collins) Tormey, '07, and James Tormey, '08, a son, Christopher Patrick, on Nov. 12, 2012

To Nicole Williams, '07, and Sahum S. Sahum, a son, Kadim Suleiman, on Feb. 27, 2012

MARRIAGES

The university celebrates the weddings of the following alumni:

Catherine Waverly Avedesian to Patrick, on Nov. 12, 2012

Catherine Anne Furtado, '06, to Bryan Rego in fall 2012

Meredith Anne Welch to Michael DeSousa on Sept. 12, 2012

Amy Charlotte Deveau, '05, to Michael Rohr Ratty in September 2012

Leslie Metro to Christopher Pereira, '05, on Oct. 8, 2011

Molly Jarvi, '06, to Patrick Ruble in October 2012

Elizabeth Anne Motte to James Christopher More, '06, on July 28, 2012

Meredith Russell to Nicole Williams, '07, Courtney (Collins) Tormey, '07, and Seth-David Wilson on Aug. 22, 2012

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Eighty-eight years ago, on the cold, gray morning of Dec. 10, 1924, what we know today as Bridgewater State University was brought to near-ruin by a devastating fire that destroyed the school’s only classroom building and two of its three residence halls.

Frank Dunn, ‘49, a former longtime member of the university’s board of trustees, was a young schoolboy who witnessed the fire. He shared his memories of the fire and also the fact that he had taken a paperweight he found on the ground. Decades later, he returned it to his alma mater. He subsequently put in writing the story of the paperweight.

“The day was cloudy and quite cool,” he wrote. “My father was a member of the fire department and was at the scene very early in the morning. I was granted permission by my mother to go to see the fire with my older brother.

“We stood on the steps of what was then the school’s gymnasium and watched as the buildings were destroyed. We went down Summer Street and the firemen were vacating the Tillinghast Dormitory since they expected that building to become involved. They had erected a ladder up to the windows of the dining area and were passing material to the man on the ladder. They passed him a tablecloth filled with crockery and in the transfer lost control of one end, which resulted in a rain of broken dishes. These fell close to where we were standing and I noticed a paperweight which had survived the accident.”

He carefully tucked away what he calls “the purloined paperweight” as a souvenir and memento of that event and held it for “safekeeping” until he decided it was time for the paperweight to return home. And so it has indeed come home. (by David K. Wilson, ’71)

Pictured (far left) Frank, ’49, and Dodie (Szafer), ’51, Dunn