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Bridgewater State University

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BSU promotes paid internships

Corporate partners and the state help sponsor more than 200 student interns this spring, among them, Tamara Flanagan.
Mentored by Dr. Richard Wright, the Norwood resident looked at bias in media coverage of homicides. The research was funded by an Adrian Tinsley Program (ATP) for Undergraduate Research summer 2013 grant. The purpose of the research was to assess whether bias exists in the media coverage of homicide victims based on such factors as a victim or offender’s race, age or socioeconomic status. My intellectual interests center on crime victims, their recovery process and their public portrayal.

What did you find?
I conducted my research over the summer as a part of the ATP summer grant program. My research involved a multicase study analysis. As it involved the media, it required countless hours of sorting through library databases for news articles and using a type of software called Concordance to analyze it all.

What did you find?
The result from my research indicated that there was a media bias in the portrayal of homicide victims due to extralegal factors (i.e. race, class, status). In a perfect world, these results would lead to a change in the way the media covers crime victims. Ideally, this would mean all victims would be covered no matter their race, class or socioeconomic status.

What’s next?
I am currently working on my honors thesis on military sexual assault, which will be presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences annual meeting in Philadelphia. I will be attending graduate school at Bridgewater for my master’s degree in criminal justice.

Tell us about your project.
The title of my project is ‘Victim Worthiness: The Effects of Media Coverage on the Portrayal of Homicide Victims.’

What did you mean to be accepted to the NCRC at Harvard?
It was humbling and simultaneously affirming. I, like many young people in Massachusetts, know about Harvard’s tremendous prestige. It was an honor to have been accepted, and I hope I made Bridgewater State proud.

Can you talk about how you did your research?
I was invited to Harvard where I spent a few days in January among the crimson and ivy, presenting my research at the National Collegiate Research Conference (NCRC). Previously, she had presented her findings at the American Society of Criminology’s (ASC) Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

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FEATURES
3 REMEMBERING DR. GEORGE WEGYAND
8 ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO . . . Internships give students the competitive edge
14 HIGH ACHIEVERS
NASA grants enable students to pursue a variety of projects
16 YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE
GeoGraphics Lab develops website to help commuters in Massachusetts
18 HE’S THE TOP
Brian Lynch, G’89, captures national and state honors for outstanding elementary school principals
20 THE RARE AND THE BEAUTIFUL
Maxwell Library’s Special Collections and the Anderson Gallery house a treasure trove of arts and ideas
24 LIFE, LOVE AND LEARNING
The Ron Burton Training Village
28 MAKING AN IMPACT
BSU athletes step up to the plate for children with devastating illnesses
30 MINORITY REPORT
Student group provides an invaluable resource for men of color
32 THE GREEN DRAGON TAVERN OPENS ON THE WEST COAST
36 TAKING THE HELM
After a paralyzing ski accident upends her life, Jennifer French, ’93, charts a new course
38 BRIDGELWATER CALLING

DEPARTMENTS
2 A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
4 BRIDGELWATER NEWS
40 ALUMNI NEWS
48 PARTING SHOT
Dear friends,

Recently and with mixed emotion, I announced my decision to retire as president of Bridgewater State University, effective following the 2015 academic year. I came to this difficult decision after much thought on all we have accomplished together over the past 23 years and knowing I leave the university extremely well positioned to ascend to new levels of excellence.

Working with a shared sense of purpose, our collective efforts over the years have resulted in the rapid expansion of our student population, catapulting us to become the eighth largest institution of higher education in the commonwealth; the addition of more than 75 full-time, tenure-track faculty members, the most prolific hiring rate among the 10 largest colleges and universities in Massachusetts; construction of 10 new buildings, representing a 55 percent increase in the overall size of Bridgewater’s physical plant; a six-year graduation rate rapidly closing in on 60 percent, well above the national average for our mission class; and a 76 percent increase in the number of degrees awarded.

Annually, we prepare the largest number of mathematics and science teachers in Massachusetts; have grown our international partnerships from four to 40, in more than 25 countries; and quadrupled our endowment to more than $30 million. All of this enables us to help our students grow as scholars and as individuals with respect for all people. We are better positioned to give our students opportunities to participate in undergraduate research, community service, social justice initiatives, internships, athletics and a widening array of high-impact programs.

Our university’s transition and transformation will require strong and sustained leadership at every level. Before I step down, we will have completed our review of Bridgewater’s mission, vision and values, and developed a new strategic plan. Careful realignment of our human capital will provide the bedrock upon which our incoming leaders – together with your help – will build a stronger, nimble and an even more focused institution – one poised to seize terrific new opportunities. I very much believe the university’s best days lie ahead. We all share each and every day at Bridgewater,” continued the president.

In September 2013, in one of his last appearances at BSU, when he and his beloved wife Bea were on hand at the dedication of the university’s newest residence hall – the 500-bed dormitory named for him on the East Campus – Dr. Weygand remarked, “I feel myself exceedingly fortunate to have had the career I did. I loved teaching. What I would change in my life? Nothing. I loved Bridgewater, both to go to school there and to work there as well.”

Yet there was a time, many years ago, when it seemed that his life might well have taken an entirely different direction, a route that would have kept him out of the classroom and far away from the teaching of physics, which he came to enjoy so much.

First, World War II intervened, as it did for so many of his generation. “I enlisted in the Army just after I turned 18 in November 1943. I was very small and very thin, and when I went in for my physical examination, a sergeant remarked, ‘Good God, we’re losing the war. They’re taking Boy Scouts into the Army.’ But I went on to fly some 30 combat missions overseas, and I came out okay,” he recalled.

Then, after returning to civilian life on October 15, 1946, he chose to postpone any plans for college and instead began a career in retail. “I had thought seriously about going to college, but then I met someone who was working for Western Auto Supply. I took a test and got hired in the company’s management program. I was assigned to a store in Brockton,” said Dr. Weygand. “However, I only stayed a year and a half before I left to attend Bridgewater.”

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He was devoted to the work of BSU’s alumni association, serving as president for six years, and was one of only two people ever afforded lifetime membership in that organization. Dr. Weygand earned numerous major awards, including the V. James DiNardo Award for Excellence in Teaching, the highest honor that BSU awards its faculty members. He was also presented with two Distinguished Service Awards and the Nichols Tillinghast Award for Outstanding Contributions to Public Education.

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During a conversation several years ago, he was asked how his connection to Bridgewater State University had begun. “I had heard of what was then Bridgewater State Teachers College because my cousin, Alma Weygand Keller, ‘37, had attended,” he said. “My motivation in going to college was that I had always wanted to be a teacher, and I wanted to do something in science. I had always liked mathematics, and physics appealed to me because it’s a changing field, one that’s always moving. Bridgewater was a logical choice.”

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Remembering Dr. George Weygand

BY DAVID K. WILSON, ‘71

“Without question, Dr. George A. Weygand is in the pantheon of extraordinary individuals who have defined our institution,” said BSU President Dana Mohler-Faria in a tribute to the much-loved and respected science educator whose connections to Bridgewater State University spanned seven decades and who passed away in March at the age of 88.

“Though we will miss his tremendous presence, gentle demeanor and caring smile, his legacy is one in which we all share each and every day at Bridgewater,” continued the president.

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Spring 2014 | BRIDGEWATER 3
**Keys to the city**

Professor Emeritus Henry Santos put on a bravura demonstration in the Horace Mann Auditorium, performing music by three little-known composers.

“The Piano Recital of New Orleans Composers of Color” featured a selection of solo pieces composed by Basile Barès, Sidney Lambert and Lucien Lambert. The goal of the program was, in Professor Santos’ words, “to bring the music off the shelf and into the public domain.”

Professor Santos taught music full time at Bridgewater State from 1971 until his retirement in 1999, and part time for several more years. He has performed and studied in Europe, as well as the United States. His “Psalm 64,” which is dedicated to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., his roommate at Boston University, was debuted at BSU and later performed at the Rhode Island Statehouse to mark the first celebration of the holiday dedicated to the slain civil rights leader.

Introducing Professor Santos, President Dana Mohler-Faria paid tribute to the master pianist, bestowing upon him the honorific, “our composer.”

The performance had been in the works for many years, with Professor Santos studying the composers and their work. The preparation paid off handsomely: Upon both his introduction and the completion of the program, Professor Santos received a standing ovation.

**Governor Patrick visits campus to discuss “The Future of Black History”**

“Long look back”

Governor Deval Patrick and President Dana Mohler-Faria led a panel discussion titled “The Future of Black History,” shining a light on racial issues in America.

Sharing the stage were state Administrative Judge Yvonne Vieira-Cardoza, ’91; and Davede Alexander of the Ron Burton Training Village and CEO and chief strategist for Inuvo Strategic Solutions, LLC.

Governor Deval Patrick and President Dana Mohler-Faria led a panel discussion titled “The Future of Black History,” shining a light on racial issues in America.

Sharing the stage were state Administrative Judge Yvonne Vieira-Cardoza, ’91; and Davede Alexander of the Ron Burton Training Village and CEO and chief strategist for Inuvo Strategic Solutions, LLC. Each panel member contributed to a candid conversation about their challenges, successes and the ways future generations can make their mark on history.

Speaking to the many young people in the Horace Mann Auditorium, President Mohler-Faria set the tone for the afternoon.

“Governor Patrick introduced Governor Patrick, who spoke about meeting Doug Wilder, former governor of Virginia and the first African American to be elected governor in the country.

“He said being the first doesn’t mean a thing unless there’s a second,” Governor Patrick recalled. “And I loved that point. Because it’s so much about passing it on. It’s about what we do right now for you. And what you do right now for yourselves and for a generation to come.”

The panelists shared a past marked by poverty, yet achieved beyond their dreams through hard work, education, good choices and not being afraid to take risks at the right time, said Dr. Anna Bradfield, executive director of university initiatives, who introduced the panel.

“I am thankful to the BSU faculty members who have been so supportive of my writing, especially during my ATP creative grant project last summer,” she said. “After that experience, I felt emboldened enough to start entering poetry contests.”

The victory comes only months after Lisa published her first chapbook of 11 poems, The Childless Mother, written with the support of a 2013 ATP summer grant. The poems explore the complex emotions of childless (or “childfree”) people in order to dispel lingering social stigmas about those without children, whether by choice, family circumstances, miscarriage or infertility.

The contest for the Ireland Poetry Project prize is held in collaboration with the Academy of American Poets (poets.org).

Lisa J. Sullivan, a BSU English major with a writing concentration, is the United States winner of the Ireland Poetry Project prize. Her winning entry, “To the Bog of Allen,” is an ekphrastic poem, meaning it was written in response to another work of art. Lisa’s poem responds to a short video by Nigel Rolfe titled “Into the Mire.” The poem is printed at right; to view the video, visit http://thepoetryproject.ie/2013/10/01.

“I was elated,” Lisa said of learning her poem had been chosen. “I have a special affinity for ekphrastic poetry, so this win really bolstered my confidence in that category.”

A Plymouth resident, Lisa’s ultimate goal is to earn an MFA in poetry. She cites an undergraduate research project through the Adrian Tinsley Program as a turning point.

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“Words that matter”

Rider up

BSU police are getting a leg up on campus patrols. Make that four legs.

Thanks to an agreement with the Plymouth County Sheriff’s Department, the university now has a part-time mounted police unit.

The horses are on campus as needed, for special events and to patrol surrounding areas. The program will also serve as a community outreach tool. Plans call for BSU’s equestrian team to play a role in the program.
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The panelists shared a past marked by poverty, yet achieved beyond their expectations. Dana Mohler-Faria set the tone for the discussion held in February, introducing the three panelists: Governor Patrick, who spoke about meeting Doug Wilder, former governor of Virginia and the first African American to be elected governor in the country. He said being the first doesn’t mean a thing unless there’s a second,” Governor Patrick recalled. “And I loved that point. Because it’s so much about passing it on. It’s about what we do right now for you. And what you do right now for yourselves and for a generation to come.”

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Civil rights leader Julian Bond visited campus as the fall 2013 presidential distinguished speaker. He shared his thoughts on the era of Obama, the Tea Party, conservative politics, Washington’s current troubles and the scourge of the narrow-minded.

After a few humorous remarks and recollections of his visit to Bridgewater State in the 1970s, Mr. Bond got serious, saying the election of Barack Obama did not mean that time had not dulled his attack. “That was just one of the unfair burdens placed on the Obama presidency,” he said.

In fact, Mr. Bond added, the election of a black president may have strained race relations in the United States even more. “President Obama is to the Tea Party as the moon is to werewolves,” he said.

A politician, educator, former chairman of the NAACP and a man cited by Time magazine as one of America’s top 200 leaders, Mr. Bond has the distinction of being one of just eight men of the NAACP and a man cited by President Obama. He was also picked up at the airport 40 years ago to bring him to a campus in Cape for a talk. His passenger wanted to see the Kennedy Compound, so President Mohler-Faria took him there. As luck would have it, the president said, Senator Ted Kennedy drove by and invited them to spend the afternoon with him. Clearly, that day was deeply etched in the president’s memory; he wondered if Mr. Bond recalled it, as well.

“I asked him about it,” the president said. “Not only did he remember it, he recalled details that I’d forgotten.”

The president concluded his introduction by welcoming Mr. Bond to the podium, saying “I’m so proud to have him on campus.”

Write on

A new speaker series kicked off with a critically acclaimed writer who has deep local ties. Andre Dubus III was the inaugural speaker of BSU’s Visiting Author Series. He discussed his latest work of fiction, Dirty Love, and much more. After a craft talk and Q&A session with faculty, staff and students, he presented a reading and book signing.

“Dubus’ numerous works of fiction include the novel The House of Sand and Fog, a National Book Award finalist, a New York Times bestseller and the basis for an Oscar-nominated film starring Jennifer Connelly and Ben Kingsley. His memoir, Towie, was also a critical and commercial hit.

“We see a series like this as integral to the university’s mission,” said Bruce Machart, assistant professor of English, and one of the Visiting Author Series organizers. “It allows the campus and the local community to enter the literary conversation.”

He has seen other institutions have great success with similar series. It’s hoped that a benefactor can be found to sponsor the BSU series over the long term.

“We’re a school of 10,000, and we were hoping for a bigger turnout,” Mr. Bond said. “I asked him about it,” the president said. “Not only did he remember it, he recalled details that I’d forgotten.”

The president concluded his introduction by welcoming Mr. Bond to the podium, saying “I’m so proud to have him on campus.”

Key grants received

Bridgewater State University received three state grants that will help fund several key initiatives. The awards include a $196,527 individual grant and a $508,667 consortium grant, both from the Vision Project Performance Incentive Fund. The latter amount is to be shared with Bristol, Cape Cod and Massasoit Community Colleges.

Additionally, BSU received $173,969 from the State University Internship Incentive Program. The funding will help students in many ways, said state Senator Marc Pacheco, whose office announced the awards. “These grants represent the commonwealth’s strong commitment to not only help students excel academically, but to help them land a job after college,” he said.

Vision Project Performance Incentive Fund grants are awarded to public colleges and universities for initiatives to increase higher education access and completion, improve student learning, enhance workforce alignment, close achievement gaps and advance civic education.

The State University Internship Incentive Program supports students on their paths to employment, as well as their growth in work-related skills and attitudes, and connections between academic learning and the outside world.

“State internship dollars not only leverage private matching funds but also provide BSU students with unprecedented opportunities to put their skills to work for our region’s top employers,” said Frederick Clark, ’83, executive vice president and vice president for external affairs.

Meanwhile, the consortium grant shared with the three community colleges will support transfer students moving from those institutions to BSU through curriculum alignment and advising, as well as a new Bridgewater Transfer Institute to help support and retain transfer students.
Civil rights leader Julian Bond visited campus as the fall 2013 presidential distinguished speaker. He shared his thoughts on the era of Obama, the Tea Party, conservative politics, Washington’s current troubles and the scourge of the narrow-minded.

After a few humorous remarks and recollections of his visit to Bridgewater State in the 1970s, Mr. Bond got serious, saying the election of Barack Obama did not signal the end of racism.

“That was just one of the unfair burdens placed on the Obama presidency,” he said.

In fact, Mr. Bond added, the election of a black president may have strained race relations in the United States even more. “President Obama is to the Tea Party as the moon is to werewolves,” he said.

A politician, educator, former chairman of the NAACP and a man cited by Time magazine as one of America’s top 200 leaders, Mr. Bond has the distinction of being one of just eight students ever taught in a classroom by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He was on the front lines during the heyday of the Civil Rights Movement. His biography is a compilation of honors, and his presidential lecture, delivered in the Horace Mann Auditorium, showed that time has not dulled his attack.

“America is racy,” he said at one point, citing examples from recent history to back up his point that the divide between different ethnic groups is greater now than ever. He also discussed the dangerous political rhetoric heard today across the country, holding up the “brothers, who we used to call Birchers,” for special emnity.

Mr. Bond then described the history of the Civil Rights Movement. Though they are remembered as glory-filled days, they were borne out of persecution and struggle, he said. “In those days, the laws, the schools, the courts favored whites,” he said. “That was white supremacy.”

When introducing Mr. Bond, President Duna Moeller-Faria called him “an icon of the Civil Rights Movement.” He also recalled picking up Mr. Bond at the airport 40 years ago to bring him to a campus in Cape for a talk. His passenger wanted to see the Kennedy Compound, so President Moeller-Faria took him there. As luck would have it, the president said, Senator Ted Kennedy drove by and invited them to spend the afternoon with him. Clearly, that day was deeply etched in the president’s memory; he wondered if Mr. Bond recalled it, as well.

“I asked him about it,” the president said. “Not only did he remember it, he recalled details that I’d forgotten.”

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Write on

A new speaker series kicked off with a critically acclaimed writer who has deep local ties. Andre Dubus III was the inaugural speaker of BSU’s Visiting Author Series. He discussed his latest work of fiction, Dirty Love, and much more. After a craft talk and Q&A session with faculty, staff and students, he presented a reading and book signing.

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As for the craft talk before the reading, Professor Machart said the goal was to “demystify the writing life” for the students.

The series is presented in conjunction with the Office of Academic Affairs and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

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Spring 2014 | BRIDGEWATER 7
On your mark, get set, go . . .

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Savvy students understand that internships are a first-class ticket to opening up opportunities for in-depth learning and future successes. And Bridgewater State University is committed to opening up as many of those opportunities as possible.

The benefits of internships, however, far surpass the potential of successfully launching students into the “real” world. “Yes, internships allow students to learn and to utilize their talents,” said Diane Bell, director of student internships, a new position at the university and one that underscores its commitment to the growth of the internship program. “But often, through internships, many students are able to find their passion; many others discover their purpose in life.”

President Dana Mohler-Faria is steadfast in his commitment to expanding the university’s internship program. “I believe internships are key to providing Bridgewater State University students with transformative opportunities, not only allowing them to be challenged intellectually but also to learn more about potential future career options. They are invaluable in helping students acquire new skills to assist them in achieving success after graduation.” Furthermore, the president believes internships to be equally important in providing students with a vital network of professional contacts that might ultimately lead to a fulfilling career.

Findings of Maguire Associates’ survey of more than 700 executives, managers and human resources professionals at private, public and not-for-profit employers that hire college graduates confirm the verity of President Mohler-Faria’s perspective. The number one key finding, as reported in the Chronicle of Higher Education, was that “internships ‘make the difference’—employers across recent graduates.” The report states that “Indeed, internships ranked first among eight academic and employment criteria considered by respondents.” Additional criteria measured (in order of ranking) included: employment during college, college major, volunteer experience, extracurricular activities, relevance of course work, college GPA and college reputation.

Ms. Bell is quick to point out that all students, regardless of their majors, are suitable candidates for internships. “Many students have no reference point, and they tend to think that internships are reserved for business or science majors. But nothing could be further from the truth. Students in all majors will benefit from the internship experience, and it’s my job to get that message out there.”

And, as Ms. Bell confirms, there’s a lot to “get out there,” in addition to the very existence of the many internship opportunities at BSUI. Paid internships are the goal, and the university is well on its way to expanding and sustaining a viable paid internship program. For starters, all proceeds from BSUI’s annual Chairmen’s Dinner support internships, to the tune of $150,000 plus. Combine that with the Board of Higher Education’s State University Internship Incentive Program, and things are looking good. This year alone, BSUI received $173,969 from the matching funds program, which supports students on their path to employment.

But the value of internships reach far beyond the students’ experiences. Ms. Bell is equally confident about the positive contributions internships make to the companies and organizations that partner with the university. “The companies we work with benefit from our students’ energy, creativity and talents,” she said. “Internships translate into a win-win-win for everyone involved.”

Multiple sources identify several critical reasons why working with interns is a savvy business decision. They assert that employers gain a new perspective on organizational issues because interns challenge traditional methods. Companies benefit from the technological know-how of young professionals and have an opportunity to test drive the talent. Additionally, giving interns meaningful work helps the organization increase productivity.

President Mohler-Faria sums up his hopes for the internship program at BSU: “My vision for the future of the internship program is to make all of our students aware that internships are a valuable resource available to them, a resource that cannot be understated. Building a network of contacts with professionals outside of the university can help students build a strong career foundation and bolster their chance of success, uniquely preparing them to carry on Bridgewater’s tradition of excellence.”

Learning by doing

The Internship Program at Bridgewater State University

The internship initiative at the university awards need-based paid internships to qualified students. Not surprisingly, the program is a win-win-win for all involved: our students, our region and our corporate sponsors, who benefit from the students’ energy, creativity and talents. While students embrace the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge to real-world situations, employers have the opportunity to “test drive the talent.”

The university is proud to partner with professional sponsors and interested individuals to expand this initiative. It aims to help more students gain the hands-on experience they need to succeed in their chosen fields. For information on how you can be involved, contact BSU’s director of student internships, Diane Bell (right); at diane.bell@bridgewater.edu or 508-531-2632.

Internships give students the competitive edge

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

MARIAMA SANÓ received the following email from Rory Clark, internship coordinator and assistant director in the Office of Governor Deval Patrick: “On behalf of the Governor and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I would like to congratulate you on your acceptance into the Governor’s Internship Program. You have been selected by the Office of Constituent Services as an intern for spring 2014.” Mariama was, not surprisingly, elated.

A once in a lifetime opportunity

BY MARIAMA SANÓ

My work within the Governor’s Office is with the Constituent Services Office. We are responsible for communications between the residents of Massachusetts and the Governor’s Office. Many of the people I work with were interns in this office prior to being hired as full-time employees. That got me thinking more about the critical importance of an internship, and the impact it can have on my life. As an intern, you have the opportunity to network with professionals; you can see firsthand if this specific job is something you really want to do in the future. If you decide “no,” you can look at other options. I’m a junior. I think the earlier you do an internship, the better it is. It gives you more time to plan out your future.

I learned about this internship through Career Services. I scheduled an appointment with a counselor who helped me with my résumé so it spoke to the needs of this specific internship. Right now, I’m learning a lot. Our office responds to email and telephone questions from our constituents. We create specific citations that are then signed by the governor and sent to the recipients. A citation might be created to thank a retiree for years of service or celebrate a parent’s birthday. We take the information and send it in a beautiful folder to its recipient.

I’d encourage every student to take advantage of an internship opportunity. I can’t thank the Governor’s Office enough for selecting me. I’m a criminal justice major with a minor in civic education and community leadership. I’m confident I will learn a lot through this experience.

GOVERNOR’S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
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By KAREN A. BOOTH
My future in photography

I would like to thank Weymouth Design for funding my internship with South Shore Living magazine. The opportunity was amazing, and it helped me understand my future in the world of photography. I was able to gain hands-on experience with and without assistance from staff at the magazine. During the internship, the editor, who was my immediate supervisor, would email me weekly assignments. Often, I would complete my work alone, which I found satisfying. Also, I was able to network and meet their staff photographers and gain insight into how they got involved both in the magazine and photography. Overall, the experience was rewarding. I had my work published multiple times, which added to my portfolio. I will use what I learned from this experience and apply it to my future ventures.

Your support is very much appreciated. Thanks again.

BY TAMARA FLANAGAN

Major: Art
Concentration: Photography

From intern to employee

I'd like to thank Chase Corporation for funding my summer internship at Smithers Viscient, LLC. Thanks to your generosity, I was able to make the hour-long commute there and back every day, and pay for food. During my internship, I received valuable training in a professional chemistry lab. I learned things from proper pipetting technique and lab etiquette to instrumentation, such as high performance liquid chromatography. I was treated as an employee and gained a lot of experience in a real-world situation, giving me the opportunity to get a lot more training in lab techniques than otherwise possible. After the internship ended, I was fortunate enough to be offered a part-time position as a chemistry technician. I've been working there on weekends and school breaks ever since.

With the experience I had at Smithers, I have explored new analytical techniques in my undergraduate research project. I often ask the chemists at Smithers for advice, and I have used my project on a technique called Solid Phase Extraction (SPE). SPE detects low levels of herbicides and pesticides possibly linked to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) in the European honey bee. My research has gone well this past semester, and I plan to present it at the American Chemical Society (ACS) Conference in Dallas, Texas, this spring.

Again, thank you so much for your support. With the experience I've received and the boost on my undergraduate research project, I hope to be able to enter a good PhD program in chemistry. I'll remember that it would have been difficult to get there without the internship you sponsored.

BY SCOTT GORMAN

Major: Biology and Chemistry
Concentration: Biomedical/Molecular Biology

Thanks
Spring 2014

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I want to thank Bridgewater Savings Bank for funding my internship opportunity at Playspace Programs at Horizons for Homeless Children in Middleboro. This opportunity helped relieve some of my financial burdens and gave me invaluable hands-on experience in my chosen field.

Playspaces are educational spaces, stocked with books, toys and art supplies. They are located in family-based homeless shelters throughout many regions in Massachusetts, with the goal of ensuring that children have the opportunity for developmentally appropriate play. While their children are being watched by a Play PAL (Playspace Activity Leader), parents can participate in parenting groups, budgeting classes and job searches.

During my time as a Play PAL, I was placed at Ruth House shelter, which services single mothers from ages 14 to 24. Some of the young women were forced out of their current living situation, some age out from foster care, some experience domestic violence or sexual abuse, and a few are runaways.

I was born in Haiti. When I was one year old, my father left for America to build a better life for our family. Seven years later, he sent for us. The transition was a challenge, but I managed to learn English and graduate from high school with honors. I attended college part time, but was never sure of my path. In 2010, after completing treatment for breast cancer, I finally made the decision to follow my heart. I found Bridgewater State University to be the perfect fit for me. The university has small classes, and the staff is friendly and concerned about each student’s learning progress.

I am a senior majoring in sociology, and I plan to remain in the area after graduation. BSU has provided a safe, challenging and encouraging environment for the growth of my leadership abilities. I have built professional relationships with professors, who have helped mentor me along the way. BSU has given me opportunities to do in-service involvement with the school and surrounding community. I am truly enjoying my time at Bridgewater State. I appreciate that it is family centered and committed to encouraging students to love their community by giving back and getting involved.
Inspiring hope for girls in Afghanistan

BY DANA CLAWSON, G’13

I would like to thank Staples Advantage for its generous support of the Bridgewater State University internship program. Because of you, I had the opportunity to work with Razia’s Ray of Hope (RRH) Foundation, a small nonprofit organization formed in 2005 to support the Zabuli Education Center, which operates in a small village outside of Kabul, Afghanistan. The center provides free education to roughly 400 girls, kindergarten through 10th grade. It is the first girls’ school in this town, and it is dedicated to offering girls in the region a quality education.

This internship not only gave me the opportunity to learn about girls’ education in Afghanistan but also to use many of the skills I acquired in BSU’s Master of Public Administration program. I am also happy to report that as a result of my work as an intern with the organization, I was hired as RRH’s new program manager.

Razia’s Ray of Hope Foundation recently received national attention and is transitioning from a small grassroots effort based in Wellesley, Massachusetts, to a more formalized organization. Until recently, most efforts of the all-volunteer organization have been devoted to fundraising. With your support through BSU’s internship program, I was able to work with RRH on a number of projects that had been set aside due to a lack of capacity. These included planning the upcoming visit of the Zabuli school administrator, who is a visiting scholar at BSU this spring, and the coordination of an online cultural exchange program that allows the girls in Afghanistan to work on projects and to Skype with students in the United States.

This internship was an incredible experience for me for many, many reasons. It allowed me to work with an organization that is still in the process of formalizing its policies and procedures, and it pushed me to use my education and experience as I embraced tasks that were new both to me and the organization. Thank you very much for this opportunity.

Support family-based homeless shelters

BY DONATHA NORDE

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In school, as in life, it pays to shoot for the moon.

For Jeremy Foote, that moon happens to be a little farther away. His is one of the moons in a ring around Saturn. And getting a NASA space grant to study one of those rings was like playing in the big leagues. "For me, NASA is the NFL or the MLB of the scientific community, and what person would not want that chance?" asked the BSU senior.

Jeremy, a geological sciences major, is the university's first recipient of a semester space grant from NASA, a program that began at BSU during the summer of 2012. His project, studying the particles that make up one of Saturn's rings, is an ambitious one. Dr. Robert Cicerone, associate professor of geological sciences, is Jeremy's mentor.

Already, the research has begun to bear fruit: "One of the goals I set for myself was to complete and present this research at a national conference, and I did," he said. Jeremy presented his research in October at the National Geological Science Association conference in Denver.

The program's interdisciplinary approach of bringing in students from fields outside physics was a goal of its administrator, Dr. Martina Arndt, professor of physics. "I want to challenge them more, to think about what they do and see if it connects with NASA's mission, which is also part of the point [of why] NASA does this," she said. "Because it's not always just engineers and physicists that do stuff at NASA." BSU students have other opportunities for undergraduate research grants, including the university's own successful Adrian Tinsley Program. The NASA space grants, provided to 19 Massachusetts colleges and programs as part of a consortium, are another avenue for hands-on research; the NASA connection adds extra prestige.

Six summer grants have been awarded to BSU students: four in 2012, two in 2013 and, now, Jeremy's semester grant, according to Dr. Arndt. The grants provide $4,500 for student research through the summer, and the semester grant provides $1,400. And there has been no lack of applicants. In fact, the program has had to turn away some students.

"The ultimate goal is that we want the students to learn something from it, that they'll have a high probability of being successful, and that means that they're academically prepared, that their project has been vetted," Dr. Arndt said, adding that projects can be new, or can build on the work of other students.

Dr. Arndt is proud of all the students chosen to receive the "space grants." She has seen remarkable growth in several, including Jeremy: "I've really seen him blossom over the years and ... he's finally ready to doing it. I'm really excited to see how this has enabled him," she said. "He's grown a lot from this experience."

Jeremy, who lives in Whitman, is enthusiastic about his work. He is studying the rate at which particles that make up Saturn's outermost ring are diffusing. "The belief is that those particles are coming from Saturn's moon Enceladus, which emits them through a process called cryovolcanism.

"The way to describe it is an ice-cold version of Old Faithful that runs continuously from very large and very long crevasses in the south polar region of the moon," he said. "The material moves fast enough and high enough to break the orbit of the moon," ultimately comprising the ring.

Though Dr. Arndt wants students in the program to succeed, she emphasizes that a large part of scientific research is doing the work, dealing with limitations and learning how to move forward.

Indeed, students have dealt with real-world problems. When Kathryn St. Laurent, '13, studied an exoplanet (a planet around another star) in 2012, she coped with poor weather and faulty equipment to complete her research. Jeremy worked with so much data it overwhelmed Microsoft Excel. "I really want them to tackle a real-life, interesting project that's not just textbook, but it's data, and it's messy, and that they really understand what it feels like to do this kind of work," Dr. Arndt said. "It might inspire them to continue. I also think it makes them feel confident, and it makes them stand out among other applicants for jobs, industry or graduate schools if they have this experience."

High achievers

BY STEVE IDE

NASA grants enable students to pursue a variety of projects

In school, as in life, it pays to shoot for the moon.

For Jeremy Foote, that moon happens to be a little farther away. His is one of the moons in a ring around Saturn. And getting a NASA space grant to study one of those rings was like playing in the big leagues. "For me, NASA is the NFL or the MLB of the scientific community, and what person would not want that chance?" asked the BSU senior.

Jeremy, a geological sciences major, is the university’s first recipient of a semester space grant from NASA, a program that began at BSU during the summer of 2012. His project, studying the particles that make up one of Saturn's rings, is an ambitious one. Dr. Robert Cicerone, associate professor of geological sciences, is Jeremy’s mentor.

Already, the research has begun to bear fruit: "One of the goals I set for myself was to complete and present this research at a national conference, and I did," he said. Jeremy presented his research in October at the National Geological Science Association conference in Denver.

The program’s interdisciplinary approach of bringing in students from fields outside physics was a goal of its administrator, Dr. Martina Arndt, professor of physics. "I want to challenge them more, to think about what they do and see if it connects with NASA’s mission, which is also part of the point [of why] NASA does this," she said. "Because it’s not always just engineers and physicists that do stuff at NASA."

BSU students have other opportunities for undergraduate research grants, including the university’s own successful Adrian Tinsley Program. The NASA space grants, provided to 19 Massachusetts colleges and programs as part of a consortium, are another avenue for hands-on research; the NASA connection adds extra prestige.

Six summer grants have been awarded to BSU students: four in 2012, two in 2013 and, now, Jeremy’s semester grant, according to Dr. Arndt. The grants provide $4,500 for student research through the summer, and the semester grant provides $1,400. And there has been no lack of applicants. In fact, the program has had to turn away some students.

"The ultimate goal is that we want the students to learn something from it, that they’ll have a high probability of being successful, and that means that they’re academically prepared, that their project has been vetted," Dr. Arndt said, adding that projects can be new, or can build on the work of other students.

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In school, as in life, it pays to shoot for the moon.
You can get there from here

Travelers looking for the best way to get around Massachusetts have a new best friend. Students and faculty in BSU’s GeoGraphics Lab, in conjunction with the state Department of Transportation’s MassRIDES Statewide Travel Options Program, have developed a website that will map nearly any trip within the commonwealth. Google Maps Transit shows travelers available options, transportation lines and changeovers, and public transit schedules.

“It provides you with all the information you need to plan,” said mathematics professor Dr. Uma Shama, co-director of the lab with Lawrence Harman.

The members of the GeoGraphics Lab grunted the schedules, routes and other pertinent information onto a Google Maps application. The program includes the MBTA and all 15 Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) across the state.

Mateusz Pacha-Sucharewski, ‘G-13, has spent a lot of time working on the project over the past few years and said it’s a boon to Bay State travelers. “It’s a great way to improve public transportation. It really simplifies access to the data.”

Mapping transit routes and providing real-time data has been a concentration of the GeoGraphics lab for several years. Working with two to seven students, the lab’s servers and databases provide the backbone for a wide range of programs, including transit information services and the national hurricane forecast.

The lab’s programs benefit the general public, and the students gain experience that transcends the classroom, noted graduate student Carly Van Zandt. “I’ve learned more in the lab than in most of my classes,” she said.

Dr. Shama said the students bring a unique perspective to every project. “The great thing about having the students involved is they ask the right questions,” Dr. Shama said. She added that the mapping program has a social justice component, as it is especially helpful to those who rely on public transportation or who have disabilities.

The future holds further developments. Graduate student Sathwika Goswami and undergraduate students Matthew Ahrens and Andrew Seremetis are working in the lab on other transportation programs.


**Hurricane data stored at BSU**

Each spring when the national hurricane forecast is issued by Colorado State University, it’s big news. Civic leaders, government officials and forecasters around the world use it to calibrate their expectations for the season. Few realize that the data that serves as the bedrock for that forecast is housed and maintained inside BSU’s GeoGraphics Lab.

For the past decade, the United States Landfalling Hurricane Probability Project has been an important source of data for the forecast. BSU servers house the project, and the staff of the GeoGraphics Lab, overseen by Dr. Uma Shama of the Department of Mathematics, maintains it. The collaboration was initiated by Dr. Philip Klotzbach, ’99, now a research scientist at CSU’s Tropical Meteorology Project and co-author of the annual forecast with his mentor, Dr. William Gray, a pioneer in the science of forecasting hurricanes and one of the world’s leading experts on tropical storms. The project examines more than a century’s worth of data concerning hurricane landfalls across the United States. It calculates the chances, county by county, that a hurricane will hit. The results are posted on a website for anyone to view. It receives more than 100,000 visits each year.

“The Landfalling Hurricane Probability Project idea started in 2003 when Dr. Gray and I did a bunch of computations to calculate historical probabilities of United States landfall,” Dr. Klotzbach said. “We wanted to display it in a nice graphical format, and while we had the data, at that point, we didn’t have the web-mapping capabilities to do this.”

Dr. Klotzbach knew from his student work at BSU’s GeoGraphics Lab that the lab had those capabilities. He contacted Dr. Shama. “She was more than happy to help us,” he said, adding that Dan Fitch, who also worked in the lab at the time, helped get the project off the ground.

Currently stored at BSU is the historical landfall probability data for the entire United States coastline, as well as every island in the Caribbean and every country in Central America. These probabilities are also adjusted based upon the latest CSU forecast.

Since the data is available online for anyone to see, Dr. Shama said it sometimes provokes some strange and not-so-scientific questions.

“People say they planned their wedding for a particular weekend and want to know if there’s going to be a hurricane,” she said. “We try to educate them about what probability means.”

Spring 2014 | BRIDGEWATER 17
You can get there from here

Travelers looking for the best way to get around Massachusetts have a new best friend.

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Working on the mapping program in the GeoGraphics Lab are BSU students, standing, Andrew Seremetis and Carly Van Zandt. Seated, from left, are Maxwell Norris and Christopher Gracia. An example of the GeoGraphics Lab’s transit map is above, far left.

BRIDgewater | spring 2014
Brian Lynch, G’89, captures national and state honors for outstanding elementary school principals

When Brian Lynch, G’89, discovered his school community had nominated him for Massachusetts’ elementary school principal’s top award, he did what kids of all ages would do: He called his mother. Stunned and a bit overwhelmed, he asked her, “Why me?” As any proud mother would, she replied, “Why not you?”

The answer was apparent not only to his mother but also to the faculty, parents and students at George H. Mitchell Elementary School in Bridgewater, where Mr. Lynch has served as principal since 2008. After winning the Thomas C. Passios Outstanding Principal Award, Mr. Lynch went on to be honored as a National Distinguished Principal. As one of just 61 chosen for this top award in 2013, Mr. Lynch attended a gala event and symposium in Washington, D.C., during which U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan delivered remarks.

“I was blown away,” said Mr. Lynch, describing the two-day event held in October. “It was a fantastic opportunity to socialize and share professional ideas with people who are incredibly committed and intelligent school leaders.”

Mr. Lynch, who presides over Bridgewater’s sole elementary school for preK through third grade (more than 1,000 students), dedicated the honors to “Team Mitchell,” a moniker he coined several years ago when the district’s four elementary schools were merged into one large campus community. “I’m a big person in a big place full of small people,” explained Mr. Lynch, who is six feet six inches tall. “Kids like to jump up and ‘high-five’ me, but parents and teachers understand that we’re all part of the same team. I just happen to be the leader.”

Illustrating that team spirit, Mr. Lynch points to the school’s Level 1 MCAS standing for the past two years, the highest rating provided by the Massachusetts Department of Education’s Accountability System, which places schools and districts on a five-level scale. Each year, Team Mitchell assesses the data from the previous year. “We analyze the test to determine areas where we can improve student achievement,” he said.

For example, Team Mitchell found that students consistently failed questions related to using number lines for fractions. “In this case, our physical education teachers offered to help our grade-level teachers, developing a number line that stretched around the gym,” said Mr. Lynch. “They designed activities built around fractions. The next year our students were 12 points above state average on those test items. That’s Team Mitchell in action.”

Mr. Lynch also noted the power of his own educational experiences. After earning his undergraduate degree at Stonehill College, he began his teaching career in Pembroke. During the summers of 1984 through 1990, he was director of the academically based residential Project Contem porary Competitiveness (PCC) Advanced Studies Program, which was housed at BSU. “It was a natural decision for me to take graduate courses at BSU,” he said, noting that his grandmother graduated from Bridgewater Normal School in 1919.

Following seven years as a school administrator in Uxbridge, Mr. Lynch joined the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District in 1994 as an assistant principal and later became housemaster for what was then a campus of three integrated but independent schools that comprised the district’s early elementary school. Over time, the three schools became four with the addition of BSU’s Burnell Campus School. This “melting pot” then became the single school that Mr. Lynch was chosen to head.

“To me, the best part of Team Mitchell is having every Bridgewater student up to third grade under the same roof,” said Mr. Lynch. “Instead of competing for resources, we’re all in the same place, working together toward the same goals. Our entire school community is focused on maximizing student achievement within a safe, caring and nurturing school environment. As I said when I received the national principal’s award, it wasn’t just mine. It belongs to the dedicated faculty, staff and school community. I just happen to be the proud principal. It could have been someone else, but I’m glad it was me.”
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Imagining the possibilities in visual art

"Artists are always looking down the curve, around the edge," said Jay Block, collections and exhibitions manager for BSU. With that in mind, Mr. Block is enthusiastically racing down the road to establishing the university as a cultural hub. "Bridgewater is uniquely situated to be a major art facility and a cultural influence," he said. "I was hired because the administration realizes that art and culture at this university are essential. You can train wonderful scientists and business people, but they need a foundation in culture to have well-rounded minds."

With great gusto, Mr. Block is mounting a series of ambitious exhibitions at BSU, while working individually with students and faculty to build arts and culture into every aspect of university life. "It's not just about decorating," said Mr. Block, a graduate of the Pratt Institute who spent two decades as a private curator based in New York City. "I touched a lot of work," said Mr. Block, and then, "I decided enough was enough. I wanted to help build an arts and culture program at Bridgewater. The talent is here. The students are fabulous."

Mr. Block wants the community to see how the arts are interrelated with every aspect of life. Among his shows at BSU thus far are "Twist and Shout," featuring landscape painter John Brosio's interpretation of suburban's calm picturesque beauty, paired with the ominous horror of tornadoes, and "Concretions," which showcases Adjunct Professor Joan Mullen's award-winning sculptures.

"Right now, we're developing an exhibit that will pair artists working in scientific materials with scientists who are articulating their research by using art," he said. "A long time ago, art and science were not separated. Newton was also a draftsman. In recent years, there has been a movement toward individuals specializing, but I think this gap is slowly closing again."

Mr. Block is particularly interested in up-and-coming domestic talent. "I love American artists, because they're still out there making mistakes," he said. "There's excitement where people are willing to do something so awful that they'll learn from their mistakes and make something wonderful."

That lesson—learning through mistakes—is critical in both art and education, Mr. Block believes. In planning exhibits, he challenges his student interns to justify their decisions. "They need to explain why they selected or didn't select pieces for inclusion. I try to give the students I'm working with the tools, skills and foundation to go and work in a museum or compete in an MFA program," he said. "I encourage them to focus on the practical side as well, to take business and finance classes. There's the money side and the appreciation side. Art is an investment vehicle, and we have to acknowledge and understand it, but we can't be consumed by it."

Throughout the campus, Mr. Block is showcasing BSU's permanent collection, which mostly features regional impressionists. He describes the collection as "really good," and he hopes to build upon it, while also staging special exhibits, such as 'Modern Traditions,' featuring works by photographer Doug Menuez. "What I've done is gone into his thousands of images and taken all of the accidental narratives," he said. "The photos are from all over the world, but the narratives can be understood by anyone."

This fall, a show called "Fantastic Food" will be displayed in the library, with 150 years of Northeastern menus, from road food to haute cuisine, paired with photographs by T.E. Marr and Pamela Johnson. "Marr was the photographer to the Boston elite during the Gilded Age, and Pamela Johnson is a super realist painter who does oversized fast food paintings," explained Mr. Block. "We're mixing contemporary food imagery with the historical, as well as looking at the interrelated graphics, typography and advertising."

Education is at the heart of Mr. Block's activities. "My goal is to help students—and the community—recognize that the mind is agile," he said. "A mind must be willing to make mistakes. You don't hit the note. You break the piece of marble. If you don't make mistakes, you don't learn. That's where innovation happens in industry, and that's where greatness happens in art. Art jars us from our reality and allows us to see possibilities."

**Included in BSU's permanent art collection are:**

- Provincetown, oil on canvas, by Aldro T. Hibbard;
- Tirca, lithograph, by Milton Avery;
- Diviner, oil on birch, by Paul Stopforth.

ALDRO T. HIBBARD, who taught at Boston University, is often called the Northeast's father of plein air painting. In 1921, his studio was the first location for the Rockport Art Association, which today continues Mr. Hibbard's emphasis on local and regional landscapes painted on site.

Milton Avery, an American printmaker and painter, created this image of long-time supporter and friend Tirca Karlis. Ms. Karlis was the driving force in bringing the emerging art of modernism to Provincetown when she opened her gallery there in the late 1950s.

Paul Stopforth, born in South Africa, was exiled from his country due to the strong imagery and political nature of his paintings and sculptures, which took aim at the apartheid system. Three of his works have been given to BSU. They are based on a longing for his homeland and recall the foundation of his roots for which he fought.

**MAXWELL LIBRARY'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND THE ANDERSON GALLERY HOUSE A TREASURE TROVE OF ARTS AND IDEAS**

BY MAURA KING SCULLY

It is no secret that BSU’s dramatic growth over the past decade—to its current position as the eighth-largest four-year institution of higher education in the state—has brought bright students, engaged faculty and an array of impressive new facilities to campus. With bold ambitions, the university is establishing itself as a cultural and intellectual leader in Southeastern Massachusetts and beyond.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the Maxwell Library’s Special Collections and the Anderson Gallery. Together, they provide a portal for discovery for the campus and the community, illustrating the direct relationship between art and ideas.
The rare and the beautiful

Maxwell Library’s Special Collections and the Anderson Gallery house a treasure trove of arts and ideas

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“Artists are always looking down the curve, around the edge,” said Jay Block, collections and exhibitions manager for BSU. With that in mind, Mr. Block is enthusiastically racing down the road to establishing the university as a cultural hub. “Bridgewater is uniquely situated to be a major art facility and a cultural influence,” he said. “It was hired because the administration realizes that art and culture at this university are essential. You can train wonderful scientists and business people, but they need a foundation in culture to have well-rounded minds.”

With great gusto, Mr. Block is mounting a series of ambitious exhibitions at BSU, while working individually with students and faculty to build arts and culture into every aspect of university life. “It’s not just about decorating,” said Mr. Block, a graduate of the Pratt Institute who spent two decades as a private curator based in New York City. “I touched a lot of work,” said Mr. Block, and then, “I decided enough was enough. I wanted to help build an arts and culture program at Bridgewater. The talent is here. The students are fabulous.”

Throughout the campus, Mr. Block is showcasing BSU’s permanent collection, which mostly features regional impressionists. He describes the collection as “really good,” and he hopes to build upon it, while also staging special exhibits, such as “Modern Traditions,” featuring works by photographer Doug Menuez. “What I’ve done is gone into his thousands of images and taken all of the accidental narratives,” he said. “The photos are from all over the world, but the narratives can be understood by anyone.”

This fall, a new permanent installation will be displayed in the library, with 150 years of Northeastern menus, from road food to haute cuisine, paired with photographs by T.E. Marr and Pamela Johnson. “Marr was the photographer to the Boston art element during the mid-1980s, and Pamela Johnson is a super realist painter who does oversized fast-food paintings,” explained Mr. Block. “We’re mixing contemporary food imagery with the historical, as well as looking at the interrelated graphics, typography and advertising.”

Education is at the heart of Mr. Block’s activities. “My goal is to help students – and the community – recognize that the mind is agile,” he said. “A mind must be willing to make mistakes. You don’t hit the note. You break the piece of marble. If you don’t make mistakes, you don’t learn. That’s where innovation happens in industry, and that’s where greatness happens in art. Art jar us from our reality and allow us to see possibilities.”

Mr. Block wants the community to see how the arts are interrelated with every aspect of life. Among his shows at BSU thus far are “Twist and Shout,” featuring landscape painter John Brosio’s interpretation of suburbia’s calm pastoral, paired with the ominous horror of tornadoes, and “Concretions,” which showcases Adjunct Professor Joan Mullen’s award-winning sculptures.

“Right now, we’re developing an exhibit that will pair artists working in scientific materials with scientists who are articulating their research by using art,” he said. “A long time ago, art and science were not separated. Newton was also a draftsman. In recent years, there has been a movement toward individuals specializing, but I think this gap is slowly closing again.”

Mr. Block is particularly interested in up-and-coming domestic talent. “I love American artists, because they’re still out there making mistakes,” he said. “There’s excitement where people are willing to do something so awful that they’ll learn from their mistakes and make something wonderful.”

That lesson – learning through mistakes – is critical in both art and education. Mr. Block believes. In planning exhibits, he challenges his students interns to justify their decisions. “They need to explain why they selected or didn’t select pieces for inclusion. I try to give the student interns the tools, skills and foundation to go and work in a museum or compete in an MFA program,” he said. “I encourage them to focus on the practical side as well, to take business and finance classes. There’s the money side and the appreciation side. Art is an investment vehicle, and we have to acknowledge and understand it, but we can’t be consumed by it.”

Included in BSU’s permanent art collection are (above, from left): Provincetown, oil on canvas, by Aldro T. Hibbard; Tirca Karlis, lithograph, by Milton Avery; and Diviner, oil on birch, by Paul Stopforth.

ALDRO T. HIBBARD, who taught at Boston University, is often called the Northeast’s father of plein air painting. In 1921, his studio was the first location for the Rockport Art Association, which today continues Mr. Hibbard’s emphasis on local and regional landscapes painted on site. MILENTO AVERY, an American printmaker and painter, created this image of long-time supporter and friend Tirca Karlis. Ms. Karlis was the driving force in bringing the emerging art of modernism to Provincetown when she opened her gallery there in the late 1950s.

PAAUL STOPFORTH, born in South Africa, was exiled from his country due to the strong imagery and political nature of his paintings and sculptures, which took aim at the apartheid system. Three of his works have been given to BSU. They are based on a longing for his homeland and recall the stories and history of his life. And he hopes to build upon it, while also staging special exhibits, such as “Modern Traditions,” featuring works by photographer Doug Menuez. “What I’ve done is gone into his thousands of images and taken all of the accidental narratives,” he said. “The photos are from all over the world, but the narratives can be understood by anyone.”

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20 BRIDGEWATER | Spring 2014
Lincoln and Dickens put the “special” in Special Collections

One of our most revered presidents, Abraham Lincoln, has morphed from man to myth over the past 150 years. For those who study, or consider themselves fans of the nation’s 16th leader, BSU’s Lincoln Collection is a treasure trove of research materials and quirky compendiums.

“What I find most interesting about our Lincoln materials are the pamphlets,” said Orson Kingsley, university archivist and special collections librarian. “They were published during the Civil War and relate to slavery and specific events. Rather than reading interpretations published later, we can read what people said at the time.”

BSU’s Lincoln Collection owes its genesis to another collection. In 1980, the Lincoln Group of Boston, formed in 1938 to promote the study of its namesake’s life and times, was looking to house its materials. Bridgewater State history professor Dr. Jordan Fiore, ’40, was a member of the group and helped bring the collection to BSU.

“The Lincoln Group started a flow of related materials to the university,” explained Mr. Kingsley. “The Lincoln Collection includes a lot more than items related to the president. It’s really a Civil War collection.”

“There is tremendous popular culture history that grew up around Lincoln,” Mr. Kingsley continued. “We have items that are extremely useful for those who continue to research the president and the war; we also have some unusual pieces that are just interesting to exhibit.”

For example, on the more serious side is a first edition of Carl Sandburg’s Pulitzer-Prize winning Lincoln biography. On the quirky side is a collection of every type of Lincoln penny minted from his 150th birthday in 1959 onward.

Mr. Kingsley is also conducting research on Bridgewater State students who fought in the Civil War. “We have a couple of graduates who won Medals of Honor and one who went to West Point, finished first in his class and became a general,” he explained. “It becomes very interesting when we can connect BSU’s own past to the Civil War through the archives.”

In addition to the Lincoln Collection, Mr. Kingsley points to another intriguing treasure chest: the Dickens Collection, which includes first editions by Charles Dickens, as well as numerous books and manuscripts about Dickens and London during the 1800s.

“The Dickens Collection was started in the early 1970s when the family of Clement Maxwell – a Dickens scholar and the man for whom our library is named – donated his collection,” said Mr. Kingsley. “Both Nicholas Nickleby and David Copperfield originally came out in 20 monthly installments. We have the complete sets, and they are real treasures. To view these as people saw them at the time is fascinating. Our collection is exceedingly rare and in very good condition.”

Scholars and students continue to make great use of the Special Collections. “I try to give students an idea of how rare and valuable our collection is,” said Mr. Kingsley. “I want them to appreciate the real print pieces, not just the digitized versions. There are always a couple of students whose eyes light up. That’s what our library mission is all about.”

Among the items in BSU’s Charles Dickens Collection, housed in Maxwell Library’s archives, are (far left, first two photos) first-edition copies of his publications stored in protective boxes. Included in the Lincoln Collection are an array of photographs of the 16th president, a compilation of statements of sympathy from around the world following Lincoln’s assassination and the attempted assassinations of his secretary of state and assistant secretary, and numerous books about his life and times.
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BSU’s Special Collections are growing. “One of our top goals is to develop a niche in Southeastern Massachusetts so that those who have materials related to the region’s history come to think of Bridgewater as the place to donate and conduct research,” said Mr. Kingsley (left, in the Lincoln Collection archives).

“We’ve recently acquired several important collections,” he said, pointing to the Congressman Hastings Keith Collection, donated by his daughters, Carolyn Sylvia and Helen Keith. Hastings Keith represented Southeastern Massachusetts and was known as the “cranberry congressman” after he helped the industry recover from a national rumor in 1959 that pesticides used in the industry caused cancer.

Mr. Kingsley is also enthusiastic about the Conrad Aiken, Seamus Heaney and May Sarton collections, donated by Professor Emerita Maureen Connelly. “Aiken was one of the first U.S. Poet Laureates – before it was called that,” he said. “Heaney was a world-renowned Irish poet, and May Sarton was a writer whose work is well known in the feminist movement. We have significant manuscripts, correspondence, photographs and more in these collections.”

As the university grows, Mr. Kingsley is encouraging graduates and friends to donate prized collections. “Our students and faculty are hungry for interesting manuscripts and special collections, and the more we can offer, the better able we will be to meet their needs, while also attracting researchers from around the world.”
SOME FOLKS RUN FOR THE SHEER JOY OF IT; others, for their health. Some love it, some hate it, many fall somewhere in between. Campers at the Ron Burton Training Village (RBTV) run, at least initially, because it’s a requirement of the five-week summer camp tucked away in Hubbardston, Massachusetts. It is a holistic training camp designed to help kids ages 11 to 17 become the best they can be.

The mission of RBTV is “to enrich the lives of challenged youth in the areas of dynamic character and leadership development, physical fitness, social and educational advancement, and spiritual growth.”

Luis Antonio Alvarez, ’12, credits the camp’s formula of positivity for helping him on the road to success. Running, in fact, was one of his greatest teachers. To clarify, running at RBTV is a five-week, five-days-a-week, 4:30 in the morning, seven-mile, rain-or-shine activity. Period.

Mr. Alvarez, by his own admission, was a troubled youth. Through it all, however, he had the love of his single mom whose belief in him was solid. Eventually, the structure of RBTV and the supportive counselors who recognized his potential and never gave up on him saved him from “slipping,” as Mr. Alvarez described it.

“I followed my older brother, Oscar, into the camp. He was well respected with a fine reputation,” he said. “I, on the other hand, saw summer camp as an ‘out,’ somewhere to be other than at school or at home. Somewhere to live on the edge. But then, with Oscar’s help, the staff’s steadfast encouragement, and the seven-mile run, I began to see the light.

“The run was a seven-mile journey. I endured much pain through those seven miles, and I came to understand that whatever life throws at me, it doesn’t matter. I can get through… I was fast, but Oscar was faster. He always encouraged me… I remember the day I finally caught up with him. It was truly a milestone for me. It wasn’t just a run; it wasn’t a competition with my older brother. It was my personal battle and a metaphor for how to get through life – one step at a time.”

After five summers as a camper, Mr. Alvarez enrolled in Bridgewater State University, graduating in 2012 with a degree in physical education. During summers while in college, he worked as a counselor at RBTV, sharing the values he learned there and so clearly lives by every day of his life. Today, he is a CrossFit coach at Reebok CrossFit in Medfield, and he credits his life’s turnaround to the unconditional love and values Ron Burton and the dedicated camp counselors instilled in him.

BSU student Sergio Tavares echoes Mr. Alvarez. “The most valuable thing I took from the camp would have to be the lesson to keep trying even when the road gets tough,” he said. “Running seven miles every weekday morning is no joke. After three weeks you are physically and mentally drained, but giving up isn’t an option. Keeping my head high and staying persistent to reaching the end goal kept me going.”

Sergio first attended the camp at age 13 and graduated as a counselor at age 18. Today, he is a criminal justice major at BSU. He is confident that the values he learned at RBTV will hold him in good stead at the university.

Those core values include kindness, confidence, leadership, faith, moral integrity, love, respect and humility. The camp, created by Ron Burton Jr. 29 years ago, has served more than 5,000 children, the majority from economically disadvantaged, at-risk situations.

Life, love and learning
The Ron Burton Training Village

BY KAREN A. BOOTH
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“The beauty of RBT V,” said Davede Alexander, who attended the camp in 1996 as a 17 year old, “is the socio-economic mix. Everyone brings something different to the table. Some campers are clearly at risk; others are seemingly stable, but you soon discover emotional issues that prevent these kids from connecting on any meaningful level. Some kids are well adjusted and looking for an opportunity; others seek a springboard to bigger and better things. RBT V focuses on a trajectory of success no matter what the back story.”

Mr. Alexander was recruited for his athletic and leadership skills, he put these to good use during his one year in the program. He later attended the Naval Academy in Annapolis, where he played football and graduated. He was stationed in San Diego, a surface warfare officer on a guided missile cruiser. In between deployments, he returned to Massachusetts and devoted himself to RBT V during the summer. Several years later, his orders returned him to his alma mater to serve as Northeast regional director for admissions. In 2006, he facilitated an official partnership between RBT V and the Naval Academy, whereby the academy sends Navy and Marine Corps officers to mentor and advise campers regarding their higher education and professional pursuits. A couple years later with his military service behind him, he was hired by the academy as a civilian and the academy’s first director of strategic outreach.

Ron Burton Jr. is highly appreciative of the impact Mr. Alexander has had on RBT V over the years. Mr. Burton and his brother Paul are co-directors of the camp, building on the legacy of their dad, Ron Burton Sr. (see sidebar) who created the camp 30 years ago. He passed in 2003. Their mother, Jo Ann, brothers Phil and Steve; and sister Elizabeth all are intimately involved with the camp in one way or another. “To fully understand the camp, you have to look at my father, who put the whole thing in motion,” said Ron Burton Jr. “Dad wanted to develop a place run completely on love, a place where kids could come and learn to make meaningful decisions in life through the medium of sport.”

Ron Burton Sr.’s own story tells how one person changed his life. He thought – if one person can change a life, what can many people do? “We teach kids how to love themselves,” said Mr. Burton. “Love others, respect people, develop a sense of consideration, never drink, never do drugs. Get on the honor roll, even if it’s not cool … We push education; we emphasize a sense of spirituality and moral virtue. We teach that if you have love, peace, patience and humility, you’re virtually unstoppable. That’s the goal of the camp.”

Eric Hayes, ‘12, was a well-adjusted 10 year old when he joined the camp; he was 17 his final summer there. Today, he is a Framingham police officer. “Where do I begin,” said Mr. Hayes of his summers at the camp. “Waking up at 4:30 in the morning to run seven miles when you’re 10 years old isn’t what you want to be doing. But it instilled character, taught me to always work hard, to push through, to never give up …”

Mr. Hayes talked about how counselors used spirituality “to connect us to different challenges. They used their own life lessons as examples.” Camp activities, he said, included educational sessions, SAT prep, grammar, athletic training, sports and Bible study.

Norris Spence credits the spiritual training he received at the camp with “putting me on the better path, helping me to become a more open-minded person. RBT V influenced all my beliefs in a positive way.” Norris graduated from RBT V after four years as a camper. He, too, references the seven-mile run as a life changer. “I became more motivated, more determined.” It was tough, he said, but, like all the others, he learned he could “do tough.”

Mr. Burton is passionate about RBT V and the campers it serves. “We teach kids to make big gains by making small steps. We teach them how to run, most may walk at first, but, in the end, they run …”

A fitting metaphor for facing life’s ups and downs – one step at a time.■
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Today, Mr. Alexander owns his own consulting business, Innovo Strategic Solutions, which is based in Annapolis; RBTV is one of his clients. As has been the case for the past 16 years, RBTV is more than a client to him. It is about sharing a way of walking the earth with respect for all. He considers it a privilege and an honor not only to get the RBTV message out there, but also to continue to devote each summer to his work as an RBTV counselor, program manager and camp facilitator.

Growing up impoverished in Springfield, Ohio, and raised by his grandmother, Ron Burton Sr. struggled through his school years. He was known for his lack of athletic prowess, to the point where school officials denied his request to join the football team. He suffered ridicule from his classmates. In his seventh grade year, the administration, in a rare moment of compassion, allowed him to join the team, though he was never on the field. However, in the last game of the season, with 35 seconds to go and the game already won, the coach put him in. It being the final game, many high school coaches were in the stands scouting the next year’s talent. When the clock ran out, one scout approached young Ron Burton and told him he needed strength and speed. He suggested Ron begin a routine of running. Every day. Seven miles. Rain or shine. And so he did.

Fast forward ... Ron Burton Sr. became a college All-American running back at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He went on to become a first round draft choice in the NFL, AFL and CFL. He played for six years with the New England Patriots and racked up impressive stats – 1,536 yards rushing, 1,205 yards receiving, 1,119 yards return kicks. Many accolades followed, including acceptance into the National Football Foundation’s College Football Hall of Fame.

Reflecting on his own life challenges, Ron Burton Sr. vowed to help children like his former self succeed. He vowed to create a place where kids could come, feel safe and become the best they could be. That place is the Ron Burton Training Village in Hubbardston, Massachusetts. For 30 years and counting, RBTV has supported the physical, spiritual and academic development of more than 5,000 children, ages 11 to 17.

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Coming together at BSU are former RBTV campers (from left) Luis Antonio Alvarez, ’12; Eric Hayes, ’12; and Davide Alexander.

Mr. Alvarez and Mr. Hayes were also roommates at BSU.

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A beacon of light

Ron Burton Sr. (1936-2003)

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Of the camp, Ron Burton Jr. said, “Everything that relates to each camper is positive and uplifting. We are constantly building kids up. Many come from a place that takes them down. We build them up. We help them make the right decisions.”

Ron Burton Jr. and his family emphasize that the camp is a reflection of the man who designed it – Ron Burton Sr. “His life was, and his legacy continues to be, a beacon of guidance and light.”
“Do you know of a child facing a life-threatening illness who would benefit from the camaraderie of getting drafted by a college athletic team?”

That statement is posted on the website of an organization called Team IMPACT, which maintains relationships with athletic teams at universities throughout the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest. A group of young athletes at Bridgewater State University are role models for that mission.

“Our team became involved a year ago, and we know firsthand how important that work is,” said Rick Smith, BSU’s head baseball coach. “Lori Salvia, the former softball coach at Bridgewater, was the first to contact me. She told me, ‘Rick, you’ve got to do this. Your players are going to love it. My players love it. Yours will too.’”

It’s a story both heart-warming and heart-wrenching. The young girl adopted by the BSU softball players succumbed to her illness.

“Going into this, you know how extraordinarily difficult this can be,” admitted coach Smith. “Our team ‘adopted’ a young boy named Dylan, and the players have become so attached to him and his family. Dylan and his family are part of our family, especially his older brother Hayden, who goes everywhere with Dylan—they’re inseparable.”

Dylan and Hayden attend BSU baseball games. They wear uniforms and helmets, sit in the dugout with the players and have various responsibilities, such as getting bats and balls for the team.

In the beginning, it took a bit of time for Dylan to get adjusted, said coach Smith. “I remember the first day that Dylan was here. He was very apprehensive. He was only seven years old. But as the day went on, he opened up more. We’re talking about a young boy who has a very serious illness, but when he comes here, the team interacts with him, and you can just see him light up. He starts to enjoy himself.”

And, it’s a family affair.

“Dawn, his mother, brings peanuts and other food to the games, and his dad, Phil, has been tremendously supportive. It’s awefully, awfully difficult to think about a time when that won’t happen. I hope it’s a long way off, please,” he said.

“It’s so rewarding for our students,” coach Smith continued. “The young men on our team are very good athletes. They’re gifted. And it’s humbling for them to see what someone less fortunate has to deal with.”

Coach Smith credits his assistant coach, Josh White, for his pivotal role in making Dylan feel part of the BSU baseball squad. “I told Josh, ‘I’m winding down my career at Bridge- water. I’ve been here 20 years. I need you to spearhead this. I need you to be the point person. You’re going to be here long after I’m gone.’ And, Josh has done a spectacular job with that assignment. Just as one example, last fall Josh planned a Halloween night with Dylan and his family, and the players dressed up in costumes. They went trick-or-treating with Dylan. I’m so proud and grateful to Josh and the players.”

Coach White stays in close contact with Dylan and his family even during the off-season. “I call him regularly, and we talk about what’s going on with his life. A lot of the players also stay in touch with him. When we spoke by telephone a week ago, he was so excited because he was getting a new ‘big wheels.’ He’s such a great young man, and when he comes to practice or a game, he fits right in. He doesn’t stop smiling from the time he gets here until he leaves.”

The baseball squad has partnered with other university teams affiliated with Team IMPACT. “If we can have him come to a game where the other team also has Team IMPACT players, it’s even more special,” said coach Smith. “We have a video of Dylan throwing out the first ball at a game at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, which also has a young person from the program. It’s extra special when each team can have on the field at the same time a participant from that organization.”

There are other rewards as well, even from former BSU baseball team players. “Chris Welch, one of our graduates and former star baseball player, is the director of RBI Baseball Academy in Foxboro, with owner Paul Rappoli, a former member of the Boston Red Sox. Last spring, Chris was at our game, and he saw Dylan and Hayden in the dugout. He asked why they were there, and I told him. Chris asked if Hayden plays baseball. I said yes. Chris is also the director of the staff at the baseball camp of Dustin Pedroia of the Red Sox, and he said, ‘Tell his mother that if Hayden wants to come to camp, it’s on us. We’ll pay for it.’ So it has expanded beyond the team to all of the Bridgewater State baseball family.”

In addition to the team’s work with Dylan, last year the squad combined with the softball team to be “Model Guest Readers” at the request of Kaitlin Lambert, assistant principal at George H. Mitchell Elementary School in Bridgewater. They went to the school and read the students Casey at the Bat. “Coach White and I encourage our players to do these things, because these are the right things to do,” said coach Smith.

BSU’s director of athletics and recreation, Dr. Marybeth Lamb, is a strong supporter of the program. “Involvement in the Team IMPACT program is a fantastic active community service commitment for our teams,” she said. “Not only are they connecting with a local youth and involving them in practice, games and other activities, but our BSU students grow so much through this truly transformative experience. This is the essence of a ‘win-win’ experience.”
BY DAVID K. WILSON, ’71

BSU athletes step up to the plate for children with devastating illnesses

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WHEN IT WAS FOUNDED IN 1999, Men Integrated in Brotherhood (MIB) was mostly a study group for the very small number of African-American men on campus. Today, with an undergraduate population that includes 16 percent students of color, MIB has evolved into one of the university’s most active and community-oriented student groups. “Our main focus is turning boys into men,” said Wesner Pierre-Louis, president of MIB. “We are providing them with the tools and sharing the qualities that they need to excel in school and when they graduate.”

“We’re open to men of all ethnicities, but the majority of the group are minorities,” said Marvin Ezhan, vice president of MIB. “It’s sometimes tough to be on your own as a minority. MIB provides a support system.”

MIB’s main activity is weekly meetings, which serve as part study group and part discussion forum. “I’ve been involved with MIB since coming to campus in 2007,” said Richardson Pierre-Louis, residence life and housing resident director and MIB faculty adviser (no relation to Wesner Pierre-Louis). “I remember the first meeting I attended was in a small conference room that accommodated 15 people, and we had plenty of space. Now, we average 40 young men every week. Before MIB, black men on campus felt isolated.”

MIB has also become known for its commitment to helping BSU and beyond. “We do a lot of community service in the Brockton and Bridgewater areas,” said Marvin. “We like to do things that involve working directly with kids, and we also hold four to five events on campus each year, with profits going to charities.”

The charity events, interestingly enough, are organized by MIB’s one female member: Each spring, the group sponsors a competition for one female student to join for a year. “Originally, Ms. MIB was just the female voice, to give us opinions from the other side,” said Wesner. “But that has evolved into much more. Now, she is our philanthropy chair. The position has made a huge impact.”

“When I see MIB members succeed in school and doing things for the community, it makes me happy because I don’t see a lot of that back home in Dorchester,” said Anay Baez, this year’s Ms. MIB. According to Anay, who is majoring in mathematics and minoring in actuarial science, there’s a misperception that Ms. MIB is a popularity contest. “This year I’m talking to women who might compete so they know this is a real position, and it’s important,” she said.

Recent MIB events include Holiday for Humanity – co-sponsored with Phi Kappa Theta, the newest member of the BSU Greek community. All proceeds were donated to the non-profit Light Up the Night, which involved a visit to Boston Children’s Hospital, where MIB members created arts and crafts with patients.

On the personal front, “MIB allows young men to let their guard down,” said Richardson Pierre-Louis. “They have conversations on a variety of topics, from staying motivated to what’s going on in pop culture. We talk about leadership, what it means to be responsible, to be a man, how we define success. It’s an education outside of the classroom.”

“MIB members have always complained that black men don’t feel welcome in traditional student Greek organizations,” he continued. “Now, MIB is examining its own role on campus. We ask our members, ‘What have you done to put yourself out there?’ The result is that MIB is now more visible on campus and is seen as a collaborator with other groups.”

Self-help also continues as a critical goal. “There’s still some hesitance on the part of some members to ask for help,” said Richardson Pierre-Louis. “That’s one of the most challenging aspects of advising this group. Every semester there are one or two who disappear for academic or financial reasons. I’m trying to help these students understand that the university is here for them. I tell them, ‘You prepaid for these services with your student fees. Don’t suffer in silence.’”

Wesner echoes that sentiment. “We’re supporting one another and brotherhood,” he said. “We’re trying to do all the right things and be welcoming to every man at Bridgewater.”

Student group provides an invaluable resource for men of color

BY MAURA KING SCULLY

Marvin Ezhan (left) and Wesner Pierre-Louis (above), speak at MIB’s 2014 Relationship Summit.

Taking part in one of MIB’s weekly meetings are (left) Kwami Nicholas and (right) Mike Honyeaux.

Volunteering at Big Sister Big Brother in Brockton, are (from left) Jovan Taylor and Wesner Joseph.
WHEN IT WAS FOUNDED in 1999, Men Integrated in Brotherhood (MiB) was mostly a study group for the very small number of African-American men on campus. Today, with an undergraduate population that includes 16 percent students of color, MiB has evolved into one of the university’s most active and community-oriented student groups. “Our main focus is turning boys into men,” said Wesner Pierre-Louis, president of MiB. “We are providing them with the tools and sharing the qualities that they need to excel in school and when they graduate.”

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Minority report

Student group provides an invaluable resource for men of color

By Maura King Scully
Paul Revere was as staunch a patriot as ever there was. He was also an accomplished silversmith, a warrior and, along with Samuel Adams, one of the founding fathers of our nation, and it all began in the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston—It being the American Revolution and the planning of the Boston Tea Party. That was then—1773. This is now—2014.

American Revolutionary War document collector and modern day entrepreneur, Bruce Bartlett, ’68, has created a historic version of the Green Dragon Tavern in, of all places, Carlsbad, California. But more on the why of that later.

For Mr. Bartlett, it all began in the fourth grade when he lived in Los Angeles County. “Our teacher shared her enthusiasm for the Pilgrims, weaving early American history into reading, history and art lessons. I vividly remember learning about the Pilgrims’ tough voyage, the fight for religious freedoms, the first Thanksgiving.”

Years later, sometime in the 1980s, his early attraction to this period of history was rekindled when browsing Goodspeed’s Book Shop in Boston, a favorite pastime for him and his wife of 47 years, Patricia Quinn Bartlett, ’67. His interest was history books; hers, Scottish terriers. That particular day, he came upon and purchased a document on Paul Revere, which prompted his further research on the Revolutionary War hero. Subsequently, he read the two-volume series The Life of Colonel Paul Revere, written by E. H. Goss and published in 1891. This he followed with the 1942 book by Esther Forbes, Paul Revere and the World He Lived In, a work that earned Ms. Forbes a Pulitzer Prize.

The Green Dragon Tavern opens on the West Coast

BY KAREN A. BOOTH
Paul Revere was as staunch a patriot as ever there was. He was also an accomplished silversmith, a warrior and, along with Samuel Adams, one of the founding fathers of our nation, and it all began in the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston — in 1773, the American Revolution and the planning of the Boston Tea Party. That was then — 2014, American Revolutionary War document collector and modern-day entrepreneur, Bruce Bartlett, ’68, has created a historic version of the Green Dragon Tavern in Carlsbad, California. But more on the why of that later.

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Four marines from Camp Pendleton (far left) raise the flag for the first time at the Green Dragon Tavern. Some things never change. Loyalists to the British monarchy were among the first to visit the original Green Dragon Tavern. Fast forward to 2014: The Royal Welsh Fusiliers (or British Brigade), in complete regalia (above, center), were among the first to visit the Green Dragon Tavern in Carlsbad. Outside the tavern are (from left) John Lek, senior vice president and general manager of the Green Dragon Tavern, and chefs Greg Kroll, Sara Costello and Craig Hastings.
Not surprisingly, the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston was featured front and center in books detailing this seminal time in American history, and Bruce Bartlett was intrigued. Let’s say “booked.” While researching, I saw a drawing of the Green Dragon Tavern,” said Mr. Bartlett. “I was fascinated by Paul Revere’s account of what took place there – the secret meetings of the paramilitary organization dubbed the Sons of Liberty, the discussions of the early Patriots as they tracked the movements of the British, the plotting and scheming. I felt I was reliving the most critical time in our nation’s history.”

Mr. Bartlett has immersed himself not only in researching the American Revolution, but also in learning about all things Pilgrim. Over the years, as he and his wife combed bookstores, he collected hundreds of historical documents and books pertaining to the Revolution, while she searched for all things terrier to complement her love of Scottish terriers, a love born of having owned and groomed several champion show dogs.

The couple eventually built a house in Duxbury across from the Myles Standish Monument. And though their house might have been built by the contractors, it was designed down to the hardware entirely by Mrs. Bartlett, whose eye for design balanced with her innate understanding of living space is second to none. The Colonial-style Cape home with its wooden slanted roof and dormers is very much in keeping with the spirit of New England and a fine complement to her husband’s passion for early America.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Bartlett became a trustee of the Pilgrim Society, which is responsible for operating the Pilgrim Museum in Plymouth. Founded in 1824, it is America’s oldest continuously operated museum. Not one to engage in an interest half-heartedly, he also accepted an invitation to be a trustee of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, serving three consecutive terms as trustee. He continues his involvement with these organizations, as vice president and councilor, respectively.

Fast forward, now, to Carlsbad, California – 2014. Mr. Bartlett’s Green Dragon Tavern pays tribute to these early pioneers – Paul Revere, Samuel Adams, John Hancock – the brave members of The Sons of Liberty, who met in the basement of the Boston tavern and, essentially, plotted the Boston Tea Party. In fact, in a speech, Daniel Webster referred to the Green Dragon Tavern as the “Headquarters of the Revolution.” It was from the Green Dragon Tavern, on April 18, 1775, that Paul Revere set out on his famous ride to warn the countryside that the British were coming. With more than a nod to history, Mr. Bartlett’s Green Dragon Tavern includes a museum, free to the public, displaying documents from his own collection. In addition, the New England Pilgrim Museum and the New England Historic Genealogical Society each has its own wall in the museum.

“The objective is two-fold, really: In my experience, a museum has greater attendance on rainy days,” he said. “But this is San Diego, where it rarely rains. So I thought attaching the museum to the Green Dragon Tavern would offer more reasons for people to visit.”

“My other goal,” Mr. Bartlett said, “is to help people learn more about the history of this country. Many Americans still don’t know much about the hardships endured by the Pilgrims and the Native Americans, as well as by these early Patriots. Collectively, their great contributions to religious freedom, democracy and the founding of our country are immeasurable. I wanted to create a space where families could celebrate and learn about our country, and at reasonable prices, which is why there is no charge for the museum.”

In addition to the museum and the two-story Green Dragon Tavern, the 32,000-square-foot, brick Colonial-style building includes a restaurant with Pilgrim themes depicted in pictures and etched glass, three meeting rooms, a bookstore and gift shop. Along with books on the Revolution and the Pilgrims for adults, the bookstore includes many for children.

The Green Dragon Tavern in Carlsbad opened to the public on February 12, President Lincoln’s birthday. The historic context of this undertaking has made folks stand up and take notice. Case in point: Four marines from Camp Pendleton asked to raise the flag for the first time, all wearing their dress blues. The California State Senate and the United States House of Representatives both issued proclamations commemorating its opening.

“Pat and I are truly blessed to have graduated from Bridgewater where we met so many friends,” said Mr. Bartlett. “We are blessed to work with our children and son-in-law in Deltek Manufacturing, Inc., Excel Modular scaffold and related companies, and we are blessed with our grandchildren.”

Life in retirement for the Bartletts is good. Mrs. Bartlett continues her passion with Scotties and, while always interested in higher education, she is now an active supporter of the learning differences programs at the University of Arizona. She serves on the Board of Trustees Foundation and is proud to have the Strategic Alternative Learning Techniques (SALT) Center building at the university named after her.

Mr. Bartlett reports that life has come full circle. Back in the day, call it “pre-retirement,” he flew around the country, participating in meetings and conferences throughout the United States. The couple has always shared every aspect of their 47 years together, so, whenever possible, Mrs. Bartlett accompanied her husband, juggling family, champion Scottish terrier show dogs and her responsibilities with the family’s many business endeavors. Now, reports Mr. Bartlett, it is he who sits in the hotel room, playing computer chess or reading, while his wife attends Board of Trustees Foundation meetings at the University of Arizona.
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The Green Dragon Tavern, a 22,000-square-foot, brick Colonial-style building includes a restaurant with Pilgrim themes depicted in pictures and etched glass, three meeting rooms, a bookstore and gift shop. Along with books on the Revolution and on the Pilgrims for adults, the bookstore includes many for children.

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In addition to the museum and the two-story Green Dragon Tavern, the 32,000-square-foot, brick Colonial-style building includes a restaurant with Pilgrim themes depicted in pictures and etched glass, three meeting rooms, a bookstore and gift shop. Along with books on the Revolution and on the Pilgrims for adults, the bookstore includes many for children.

The Green Dragon Tavern in Carlsbad opened to the public on February 12, President Lincoln’s birthday. The historic context of this undertaking has made folks stand up and take notice. Case in point: four marines from Camp Pendleton asked to raise the flag for the first time, all wearing their dress blues. The California State Senate and the United States House of Representatives both issued proclamations commemorating its opening.

"Fat and I are truly blessed to have graduated from Bridgewater where we met so many friends," said Mr. Bartlett. "We are blessed to work with our children and son-in-law in Deltek Manufacturing, Inc., Excel Modular Scaffold and related companies; and we are blessed with our grandchildren." Life in retirement for the Bartletts is good. Mrs. Bartlett continues her passion with Scotties and, while always interested in higher education, she is now an active supporter of the learning differences programs at the University of Arizona. She serves on the Board of Trustees Foundation and is proud to have the Strategic Alternative Learning Techniques (SALT) Center building at the university named after her.

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Considered an inspiration by the tavern of the same name in Boston, the California tavern pays tribute to Revolutionary War heroes. It includes, of course, a tavern, two stories, high and featuring craft beers on tap; a 115-seat restaurant with paintings and etched glass scenes of early America; an 1,800-square-foot museum displaying books and documents of the period, literally; a 225-seat convention area; bookstore; coffee shop; and parking for 200 cars.

Mr. Bartlett has immersed himself not only in researching the American Revolution, but also in learning about all things Pilgrim. Over the years, as he and his wife combed bookstores, he collected hundreds of historical documents and books pertaining to the Revolution, while she searched for all things terrier to complement her love of Scottish terriers, a love born of having owned and groomed several champion show dogs.

The couple eventually built a house in Duxbury across from the Myles Standish Monument. And though their house might have been built by the contractors, it was designed down to the hardware entirely by Mrs. Bartlett, whose eye for design balanced with her innate understanding of living space is second to none. The Colonial-style Cape home with its wood slanged roof and dormers is very much in keeping with the spirit of New England and a fine complement to its wood shingled roof and dormers.

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Jennifer French, ‘93, has built a very impressive personal and professional résumé since her Bridgewater State years: She is an author of a book, an award-winning medalist in the sport of sailing (in 2012, she was named Yachtswoman of the Year), co-founder and executive director of an international nonprofit organization, and the subject of a documentary film.

She is also the first woman to have a neuroprosthetic system implanted in her body by physicians at Case Western Reserve University, Louis Stokes VA Medical Center and MetroHealth Medical Center in Ohio, allowing her to stand up and use her limbs that were paralyzed in a snowboarding accident 15 years ago.

“It’s been a long road since my injury, that’s for sure, but since that operation in November 1999, I’ve been able to rebuild major parts of my life, for which I’m grateful beyond words,” said the native of North Royalton, Ohio, who earned her Bridgewater State degree in aviation science.

“Under a full moon, I was in Vermont skiing on a midnight run with several friends, and I didn’t make it to the bottom of the mountain. I hit a patch of ice and went down a 40-foot embankment,” she recalled. “I ended up a quadriplegic with a spinal cord injury. My then-boyfriend, and now husband, Tim, found me, and it took six rescuers and two snowmobiles to get me out of there. I was fortunate to have survived the accident. I was treated at a hospital in Burlington, and the doctors there tried to prepare me for the fact that I had no use of my arms or legs, and my ability to get around henceforth would be very limited.

“Eventually I was able to get some of my arm and hand function back, but I’m basically paralyzed from the chest down. I have what is classified as an incomplete injury because my spinal cord was not severed, so I do have some residual functions.

“With a spinal cord injury, everything in your life goes on hold,” she explained. “All that you knew how to do previously, you have to learn how to do again in a new body. It’s very much a life-changing experience. From a psychological point of view, you pass through the various stages of grief similar to grieving the loss of a loved one, except in this case you’re grieving the loss of your limbs. From a physical point of view, once your body is stabilized you go through a process of rehabilitation where you focus on rebuilding the strength of the muscles that you still have and begin to cope with the basics of daily living,” she said.

A major step forward in that process began when she started researching ways to improve her life. “Since there is no cure for spinal cord injuries, one of the things I did after my injury was to go on the Internet to see what resources I could find that would help me heal,” said Ms. French. “I discovered a research team at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio that was doing innovative work, and I became the first woman to be implanted with what is called a lower extremity neuroprosthetic system.”

“What that means is that I have electrodes implanted in my body that allow me to stand up and use my paralyzed limbs that I normally wouldn’t be able to use. In 2010, I had a system upgrade, which increased substantially my ability to get around.”

To participate, Ms. French had to move to the Cleveland area with her fiancé for 18 months.

“Tim and I then looked around for where we wanted to settle, and we decided on Florida. We married in St. Petersburg in 2001, and I used the system to walk down the aisle,” Ms. French said.

As her condition improved, she started to look for ways to share her experiences and to help others in similar circumstances. “Eleven years ago, I started an organization called ‘Neurotech Network’ to develop informative literature about neurotechnology,” she said.

The website of Neurotech Network explains its aim – “To help people regain life through neurotechnology” – and its objective is to “help develop technology that improves the quality of life of individuals with disabilities through the use of neurotechnology and enabling the transfer of the technology into clinical development.”

In simple terms, she said, the point is to “focus on education and be an advocate for promoting devices, therapies and treatment for people living with impairments, their caregivers and medical professionals.”

Neurotech Network’s headquarters is in Tampa, Florida. Its work is supported by a combination of government contracts, foundation grants and corporate sponsorships.

“This is a labor of love,” said Ms. French. “My work helps me stay healthy and keeps my mind moving. This is an enterprise that offers real benefits to those who suffer from such injuries and those who help them through each day.”

Several thousand people access Neurotech Network daily at www.neurotechnetwork.org. “We also host ‘webinars’ for both average citizens interested in learning about the technology, plus specialized programs for those in the medical field.”

Last year came a book chronicling her journey: “I Wrote On My Feet Again: My Journey Out of the Wheelchair Using Neurotechnology,” available on Amazon, and all the proceeds from the book go back into the organization, she said.

Jen French and J.P. Creignou display the silver medals they won at the 2012 Paralympic Games in London.

These accomplishments alone would be remarkable, but Ms. French has also revealed an active sports life.

“Oh our second date, back when I was at Bridgewater, Tim took me windsurfing. Years later, after we had moved to Florida, we took up sailboat racing. Eventually we improved our skills enough to enter international competition, and later I teamed up with J.P. Creignou, a gentleman who is legally blind, and we’ve entered a number of international regattas. At the 2012 Paralympic Games in London we earned a silver medal,” she said.

Ms. French was named the 2012 Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year for her silver-medal performance at the Paralympic Games among a fleet of 11 international teams.

In addition to all of the above, Ms. French’s story was featured in the documentary To Have Courage, produced by Triple Knot Productions, which describes the movie as “an amazing journey ... an inspirational experience.” The film is available on DVD from Amazon and other online sources.

“I’ve been very fortunate because I have a fantastic support system,” she said. “I consider myself very lucky.”

‘Taking the helm’

After a paralyzing ski accident upends her life, Jennifer French, ’93, charts a new course

Jennifer French, ’93, has built a very impressive personal and professional résumé since her Bridgewater State years: She is an author of a book, an award-winning medalist in the sport of sailing (in 2012, she was named Yachtswoman of the Year), co-founder and executive director of an international nonprofit organization, and the subject of a documentary film.

She is also the first woman to have a neuroprosthetic system implanted in her body by physicians at Case Western Reserve University, Louis Stokes VA Medical Center and MetroHealth Medical Center in Ohio, allowing her to stand up and use her limbs that were paralyzed in a snowboarding accident 15 years ago.

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“Under a full moon, I was in Vermont skiing on a midnight run with several friends, and I didn’t make it to the bottom of the mountain. I hit a patch of ice and went down a 40-foot embankment,” she recalled. “I ended up a quadriplegic with a spinal cord injury. My then-boyfriend, and now husband, Tim, found me, and it took six rescuers and two snowmobiles to get me out of there. I was fortunate to have survived the accident. I was treated at a hospital in Burlington, and the doctors there tried to prepare me for the fact that I had no use of my arms or legs, and my ability to get around henceforth would be very limited.

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“With a spinal cord injury, everything in your life goes on hold,” she explained. “All that you knew how to do previously, you have to learn how to do again in a new body. It’s very much a life-changing experience. From a psychological point of view, you pass through the various stages of grief similar to grieving the loss of a loved one, except in this case you’re grieving the loss of your limbs. From a physical point of view, once your body is stabilized you go through a process of rehabilitation where you focus on rebuilding the strength of the muscles that you still have and begin to cope with the basics of daily living,” she said.

A major step forward in that process began when she started researching ways to improve her life. “Since there is no cure for spinal cord injuries, one of the things I did after my injury was to go on the Internet to see what resources I could find that would help me heal,” said Ms. French. “I discovered a research team at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio that was doing innovative work, and I became the first woman to be implanted with what is called a lower extremity neuroprosthetic system.”

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“Tim and I then looked around for where we wanted to settle, and we decided on Florida. We married in St. Petersburg in 2001, and I used the system to walk down the aisle,” Ms. French said.

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In their own unique way, student callers working the Bridgewater Phonathon embrace the opportunity to change the financial landscape for students of BSU. Today’s students are a bridge that connects alumni to current-day happenings and challenges, while paving the way for future generations. Alumni and students work together to ensure a bright future for Bridgewater State University.

Eli Diaz invites alumni to walk down memory lane. As a Phonathon associate, he has taken that journey with hundreds of alumni. Eli especially enjoys speaking with alumni who live in his home state of Florida, understanding as he does, that making connections is a huge part of the job for Phonathon callers.

For example, one evening, Eli connected with Lisa Marcheterre, ’91, who was involved with the Bridgewater State Dance Team during the 1980s. Eli not only informed her about the 2014 dance team’s trip to Orlando, but also passed the phone over to his colleague Kayla Szettella, who is a member of the dance team and a Phonathon supervisor.

“I was thrilled to talk to Kayla during the recent Phonathon,” said Ms. Marcheterre. “I loved finding out more about the Bridgewater of today, and it was great to know that whatever I contributed was going to be tripled, thanks to the Terry Hart Cogan, ’51, Match Challenge.”

Tiffany Whynot, ’08, BSU Phonathon coordinator, actively encourages student callers to engage with alumni by learning about their time here and sharing all the great things that are happening today.

“Yes, the Phonathon is a fundraiser,” said Ms. Whynot. “But it is so much more than that. The Bridgewater Phonathon is an opportunity for current students and alumni to teach each other more about Bridgewater State. In the process, students encourage alumni to embrace the opportunity to help others in the way they might have been helped when they were here. It is extremely important to educate the alumni about the needs of the university.”

“As far as our student callers are concerned,” continued Ms. Whynot, “the chances for them to grow both professionally and personally are tremendous.” Alana Hans-Bodden is an excellent example. She was extremely shy when she first began working the Phonathon. Through her Phonathon experience, Alana enhanced her professional and personal skills. During one of her many calls, Alana, a political science major, learned from an alumnus that the university once had a political science club. Throughout the course of their conversation, Alana learned about how to re-establish the club, as well as the many events she could sponsor through it.

“Building relationships is more important than ever in order to continue the phone solicitation process,” according to RuffaloCODY, a national company specializing in fundraising services. Eli did just that and made several connections through his knowledge of four different languages. During one call, he recognized the Portuguese accent of an alumnus’ mother. He switched languages and was then able to communicate better with the mother and obtain her son’s new contact information.

The mission of the student Phonathon is to connect with alumni, encourage financial support and increase alumni participation on campus. “The connections are critical,” said Ms. Whynot. “Fundraising is a goal, but meeting alumni who are willing to serve on alumni panels, accept invitations as guest speakers, join BSU’s job shadow program, hire interns – it’s all part of the process.”

“With every phone call, I want to remind alumni of their time as a BSU bear,” said Alana. “With every call it is crucial to show alumni how the Bridgewater State University campus has developed. We hope that as they reflect on their time at BSU, they will find a way to give back to their alma mater.”
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AlumniUpdate

Upcoming Alumni Events

CARLSBAD, CALIFORNIA
ALUMNI EVENT
FRIDAY, MAY 2, 5:30-7:30 PM
Green Dragon Tavern and Museum
Hosted by Bruce, ‘88, and Patricia Quinn Bartlett, ‘57
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA
ALUMNI EVENT
SATURDAY, MAY 3, NOON-2 PM
Reinstein Residence
Hosted by Patricia Ross, ’65, and Fred Reinstein
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA
ALUMNI EVENT
SUNDAY, MAY 4, NOON
Champagne Jazz Brunch
Scott’s Seafood Grille
Hosted by Terry Hart Cogan, ’51
ALUMNI AWARDS DINNER
FRIDAY, MAY 9, 5-10 PM
Large Ballroom
Rondileau Campus Center
BRIDGEWATER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER
WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 6 PM
Duinn Conference Suite
CLASS OF 1954 60th REUNION
FRIDAY, JUNE 6, NOON
Duinn Conference Suite
RHODE ISLAND ALUMNI EVENT
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 5:30-7:30 PM
1149 Restaurant
Warwick, Rhode Island
THE SOUND OF MUSIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 11:30 AM
Warwicks Club Luncheon
and Zeiterion Theatre
New Bedford

BAA Board Nominations

The nominating committee of the Bridgewater Alumni Association is seeking candidates for board and committee vacancies. To learn more about alumni volunteer opportunities, please contact the alumni office at 508.531.1287 or alumni@bridgew.edu.

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 02325. The class notes editor reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity and brevity. Submitted photos must be either high-resolution digital images or original prints from film. Photos generated on home printers are not of publication quality.

Augusto Goncalves goes to Washington

Augusto Goncalves, ’12, is plugged in. The former political science major is involved with social media to such a degree that he was selected when the White House was looking for people to tweet during the recent State of the Union Address. This was not a small feat, given that only 60 social media-savvy citizens were afforded the honor.

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“For me, a first-generation Cape Verdean American male who grew up in Boston and Brockton, to be able to say that I have been to the White House, worked in HUD’s IGA office in D.C., in Governor Patrick’s constituent services office in Boston, on a presidential campaign in Las Vegas and at City Hall in Boston, is not only an incredible blessing but a White House accomplishment. A snapshot of those early days reveals a student active in a number of campus organizations, including the Social Justice Club, Free the Children, Cape Verdean Student Association, FAM for Change and STAND, a student anti-genocide coalition. Since graduation, this Brockton native has been equally busy.

“The BSU Women’s Basketball 1,000-Point Club

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Four BSU Hall of Famers, Cathy Baker, ’85; Carolyn Parsley, ’86; JoAnn Ringe, ’88; and Lynn Malkasian, ’90, were among the 15 players in attendance for the ceremony. Current Bear Jenna Williamson was recognized for becoming the program’s all-time leading scorer in that night’s win over the FSH Rams.

In the win over FSU, Elisha Homich became the 17th player in program history to score 1,000 points in a BSU uniform.

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Interview by John Winters, ’G11

Bears unveil women’s basketball 1,000-point banner

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Also honored were Tracy Howard, ’02, and current assistant coach Colleen Feeney, ’09, who each tallied 1,000 career points. Ms. Howard split her time between BSU and Wheaton College, and Ms. Feeney between BSU and Rhode Island College.

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Upcoming ALUMNI EVENTS

CARLSBAD, CALIFORNIA
ALUMNI EVENT
FRIDAY, MAY 2, 5:30-7:30 PM
Green Dragon Tavern and Museum
Hosted by Bruce, ’88, and Patricia Quinn Bartlett, ’67
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA
ALUMNI EVENT
SATURDAY, MAY 3, NOON-2 PM
Reinstein Residence
Hosted by Patricia Ross, ’65, and Fred Reinstein
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA
ALUMNI EVENT
SUNDAY, MAY 4, NOON
Champagne Jazz Brunch
Scott’s Seafood Grille
Hosted by Terry Hart Cogan, ’51
ALUMNI AWARDS DINNER
FRIDAY, MAY 9, 5-10 PM
Large Ballroom
Ronalds Campus Center
BREIDGATER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER
WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 6 PM
Dunn Conference Suite
CLASS OF 1954 60TH REUNION
FRIDAY, JUNE 6, NOON
Dunn Conference Suite
RHODE ISLAND ALUMNI EVENT
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 5:30-7:30 PM
1149 Restaurant
Warwick, Rhode Island
THE SOUND OF MUSIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 11:30 AM
Wamsutta Club Luncheon
and Zeiterion Theatre
New Bedford

BAA BOARD NOMINATIONS
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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 02325. The class notes editor reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity and brevity. Submitted photos must be either high-resolution digital images or original prints from film. Photos generated on home printers are not of publication quality.

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Dr. Suanne Maurer-Starks

Dr. Marcia K. Anderson (left) and Dr. Suanne Maurer-Starks

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BSU Athletic Hall of Fame inducts new members

Four former outstanding student athletes, the basketball coach with the most wins in the university’s history, a former director of athletics renowned for his ability to build a first-rate athletic program, and a sportswriter for the region’s largest daily newspaper who has covered BSU teams for more than 30 years were honored at the annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction and Banquet held in October.

Mike Storey, associate director of athletics and master of ceremonies for the 2013 BSU Athletic Hall of Fame Induction and Banquet, joins new inductees (from left): alumni athletes Lynne Bennett, ’85, and Brenden Kavey, ’96; BSU men’s basketball coach Joe Farroba; and former BSU director of athletics and recreation John Harper.

President Dana Mohler-Faria welcomed an audience of more than 300 to the Rondileau Campus Center Ballroom by describing “how very proud we are of the men and women whom we will honor this evening, for they represent the best traditions of excellence, which we all aspire to emulate.”

Mike Storey, BSU’s associate director of athletics and chairman of the committee that chooses inductees, served as master of ceremonies for the event. Dr. Marybeth Lamb, director of athletics and recreation, brought greetings as well.

Jim Fenton, sportswriter for The Enterprise, received The Crimson and White Award. Mr. Storey introduced him as “a longtime supporter and friend of the Bridgewater State University Department of Athletics who has been covering varsity sports at BSU since 1981.”

The four alumni inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame are Lynne Bennett, a star of the field hockey team from 1981 to 1984; Craig Buckley, a two-time All-American wrestler at BSU from 2001 to 2004; Kelsey Collalus, a four-year starter on the Bears’ volleyball team from 2004 to 2007; and Brenden Kavey, a football player described by Mr. Storey as “one of the top running backs in the history of BSU” during his years as a Bear, from 2002 to 2005.

Also inducted was Joe Farroba, who was introduced by Mr. Storey as “the all-time winningest coach in Bridgewater State University men’s basketball history.” To date, Mr. Farroba, now in his 22nd year, has compiled a record of 299 wins versus 256 losses.

John Harper, who served 21 years as the director of athletics and recreation, beginning in 1991, was also inducted. “Under his leadership, the BSU athletics program flourished with highly competitive teams and dramatically upgraded facilities, including Alumni Park, the Tinsley Athletic Center and Swenson Field,” Mr. Storey said. During his years as director of athletics, BSU won the coveted Smith Cup 11 times from the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference, an honor that is awarded annually to the top MASCAC program.

Mike Slavick in the Office of Alumni Relations about registering, email Michelle Slavick in the Office of Alumni Relations at mslavick@bridgew.edu.

For information regarding the above programs, call Career Services at 508.531.1328 or email the office at careersrv@bridgew.edu.
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Plate expectations

Coach Jen Goodwin’s philosophy for success, on and off the field

BY CHRISTOPHER MARKEY, ’08

An expectation, by definition, is the strong belief that something is going to happen. For Jen Goodwin, ’00, from her time as a student-athlete at Bridgewater State to her current role as head softball coach at Yale University, expectations have defined everything.

Like most BSU students, Ms. Goodwin divided her time between her responsibilities and her passion. While balancing a full class schedule and a 30-hour workweek, she played for the BSU varsity softball team. Ms. Goodwin enjoyed the game at the high-school level and was a relatively confident player. It was not until she began working with her coach at BSU, DeeDee Enabender, that she realized she could be so much more. “DeeDee is the best teacher of the game of softball – hands down,” said Ms. Goodwin.

“Early in my career at Bridgewater, I was a solid but very raw softball player. It was not until she began working with her coach at BSU, DeeDee Enabender, that she realized she could be so much more. “DeeDee is the best teacher of the game of softball – hands down,” said Ms. Goodwin.

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1969
Jane Heil was inducted into the Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame on November 24, 2013.

1971

1977
Brian Davis, G'81, retired from the Truro school district, where he served as district superintendent and school principal. He had an 18-year career at Truro Central School.

1978
Paul Tero is dean of academic affairs for the National Graduate School of Quality Management in Falmouth.

1980
Bob Spinney was inducted into the Greater Boston area Intracity League Baseball Hall of Fame in November. He had a prestigious career in the league, playing exclusively for Joe O’Donnell and the Homsie Chiefs for more than a decade.

1982
Timothy P. Millerrick, G'86, was honored with a Pillars of the Profession award for 2014 by the NASPA Foundation. Each year, a series of individuals honored with a Pillars of the Profession award for 2014 by the NASPA Foundation.

1986
Benjamin Elizabeth Gordon, director at Center for Awakening in Utah, was selected as an Executive of the Year by the Center for Children and Families. He was a panelist for the civic education and community leadership career panel held at BSU in November. He is pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at BSU.

1989
Sal Salvaggio was recalled by American Airlines as a first officer in New York City and accepted a temporary assignment to Air Mobility Command Headquarters Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. Lt. Col. Salvaggio is attached to the 109th Air Lift Wing in Schenectady, New York, as an LC-130 pilot flying global missions for the National Science Foundation in Greenland and Antarctica.

1991
Jeanine M. Bonnayer joined the West Brookfield police department as its first full-time female officer. She has several years of police work experience, in both Massachusetts and Florida.

1992
Cheryl Silvia won a $10,000 Knowledge Universe Early Childhood Educator Award in September. The award is given each year to 11 KinderCare staff members. KinderCare employs more than 30,000 staff nationwide.

1995
Thomas E. Ross was appointed superintendent of the Newton Falls Elementary School District. He was selected as the executive director of the Newton Falls Public Schools. He has been with the Newton Falls Public Schools for 20 years and has significantly impacted the community and telecommunications industry.

1996
Bob Spinney, G'03, was inducted into the Wareham High School Hall of Fame. He was honored as a three-sport standout who won 12 letters in his four years with the football, basketball and baseball teams. He has continued to be an active supporter of Wareham athletics since his graduation in 1992.

2008
Jacqueline Stark accepted a position with Bethany House. She is the activities director at KinderCare.

2009
Ian Abreu is an employer specialist with the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce. He oversees all chamber-related work force development and educational initiatives throughout the greater New Bedford community. He also serves as the chamber’s membership relations director.

2010
Matthews R. Sabourin became a member of the Wareham fire department in December. He is a certified paramedic and a graduate of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

2011
Paula Montgomery, G'11, was named executive director of the American Red Cross Rhode Island chapter. She was previously Rhode Island regional director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

2012
Julie Howell affiliated a high school varsity football game in October with her father, Fred Howell. It was her debut officiating a varsity game following three years of working Pop Warner games. The Cape Cod Chronicle reported that the pair is the first father-daughter duo in Massachusetts to officiate a high school varsity game together.

2013
Katherine Joy, G'12, performed in her first Nemasket River Productions show in October. She starred as Honey in Edward Albee’s Tony award-winning Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? at the West End Theatre in Middleboro.

2015
Joel Buzon, employment specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital, was inducted into the Massachusetts Hall of Fame. He has significantly impacted the community and telecommunications industry.

2016
Andrea Preston, a social worker with the Department of Children and Families, was a panelist for the civic education and community leadership career panel held at BSU in November. She is pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at BSU.

2017
Shawn Thornton was recalled by AmeriCorps. He was named executive director of the American Red Cross Rhode Island chapter. She was previously Rhode Island regional director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

2018
Matthew R. Sabourin was appointed superintendent of the Belton Independent School District. He was selected as the executive director of the Belton Independent School District. He has been with the Belton Independent School District for 20 years and has significantly impacted the community and telecommunications industry.

2019
James Heil was inducted into the Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame on November 24, 2013.

2020
Bob Spinney, G'03, was inducted into the Wareham High School Hall of Fame. He was honored as a three-sport standout who won 12 letters in his four years with the football, basketball and baseball teams. He has continued to be an active supporter of Wareham athletics since his graduation in 1992.

2021

2022
Jean Heil was inducted into the Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame on November 24, 2013.
A career in public service is all the more rewarding when your constituents identify you as one of their own.

For Taunton mayor and Bridgewater State University alumnus Thomas Hoye, the opportunity to serve his hometown every day is one that he has embraced and enjoyed for years.

Mayor Hoye graduated from Bridgewater State in 1992 with a degree in physical education. "In addition to our core classes, everyone in my program was required to complete 800 hours of practical experience," he said. "It was definitely challenging, but my classmates and professors created such a close-knit environment that every close doors on an opportunity and to always keep your eyes open to what could be next," he said.

Mayor Hoye's wife, Stephanie (Pereira) Hoye, '96, is a career when he was elected mayor of Taunton. Since then, "it was pretty special," Mayor Hoye said.

In November 2011, he received the greatest honor of his life: The university is saddened by the deaths of the following alumni and extends condolences to their loved ones:
Mayor Hoye's wife, Stephanie (Pereira) Hoye, is a teacher in the Taunton public schools. "I had always had a passion for education and politics. So to be able to do both for my community has been a dream," she said. "I never imagined what would become 12 incredible years of teaching and learning with my students."

Mayor Hoye has continued to work diligently on revitalizing the city's downtown and its industrial park, and expanding physical education in the Taunton public schools. He said he would like to see the city's downtown square become a bustling center of activity, with stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues.

"I've always been passionate about the role of education in the community," he said. "I've always emphasized to young people that they should be curious, that they should think outside the box, and that they should never give up on their dreams."

Mayor Hoye graduated from Bridgewater State in 1992 with a degree in education and a minor in political science. He was a first-generation employee of the program.

In 2000, Mayor Hoye was offered an opportunity to revisit his interests in education and public service when he began what would become 12 incredible years of teaching and learning with his students. "I had always had a passion for education and politics. So to be able to do both for my community was pretty special," Mayor Hoye said.

In November 2011, he received the greatest honor of his career when he was elected mayor of Taunton. Since then, Mayor Hoye has continued to work diligently on revitalizing the city's downtown and its industrial park, and expanding the role of education in the community. "I've never imagined that I would be mayor. I always emphasized to young people, especially as they work toward earning a degree, to never be afraid to take a chance, and to always keep your eyes open to what could be next," he said.

Mayor Hoye's wife, Stephanie (Pereira) Hoye, '96, is a guidance counselor. The couple lives in Taunton with their three young children.

Mayor Hoye is an honorary member of the board of directors for the Boys & Girls Club of Taunton and formerly served on the board of Taunton's Industrial Theatre. He volunteers coaching girls' softball, youth soccer, Taunton Western Little League and Boys & Girls Club floor hockey. He also co-owns Tom and Jimmy's Ice Cream & Deli's Lemonade in Taunton, and Tom and Jimmy's Ice Cream and Pizzeria of East Taunton.

Mayor Hoye leads a balanced life that revolves around family, education, public service and community, all with a cherry on top.
Brian Zayas, an aviation major and a student employee in BSU’s University News office, shot this snowy photo on campus early one night in December.

Explaining how the scene caught his eye, Brian said, “I walked past Boyden Hall and saw how the trees were arranged in straight lines. It looked like they were waiting for spring.”

The image was featured as a cover photo on the university’s official Facebook page (facebook.com/bridgewaterstateu).

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As part of its ongoing effort to be environmentally friendly, BSU is exploring alternative formats to deliver information to you. Visit www.bsumag.com/spring2014 to view a digital, interactive version of this issue of Bridgewater.

Looking Back

For more than 125 years, Bridgewater State University has been fielding outstanding women’s varsity athletic teams. At right is a photograph of the 1900 team as its members appeared in the yearbook for that year.

Fast forward to the 2014 season and the news about two of the current team members who have made headlines: senior co-captains Jenna Williamson and Elisha Homich.

In February, Jenna became the all-time leading scorer in BSU women’s basketball history with 1,275 career points, surpassing Laurie Berryman’s previous mark of 1,265, and Elisha became the 17th member of BSU’s 1,000-point club.

Jenna and Elisha have been playing basketball together since childhood.

by David K. Wilson, ’71