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Greetings from the President

Dana Mohler-Faria
Bridgewater State College, dmohlerfaria@bridgew.edu

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Dear Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 25th anniversary edition of The Bridgewater Review, and to offer my sincere congratulations to the hundreds of talented faculty writers, researchers, artists and commentators who have made it such a fine publication since its first printing in 1982.

While many colleges and universities across Massachusetts and New England support quality journals, very few are produced with an eye towards highlighting the adventures, insights and advances of faculty as captured in their own words and pictures. It is a wonderful testament to the commitment, energy and drive of Bridgewater’s faculty that The Bridgewater Review is celebrating its silver anniversary on such a high note.

More than 7,500 individuals and institutions receive the journal twice per year. This eclectic group includes alumni, legislators, business people, media representatives, parents, prospective students, guidance counselors and local libraries. Throughout my fifteen years at BSC, many readers have personally taken the time to thank the college for making such a fine publication available to us wide an audience. Needless to say, it is an endeavor we are proud to support.

Enthusiasts enjoy the scholarly articles, artwork, poetry, faculty profiles and socio-political perspectives contained within the journal. At the same time, many alumni have used it as a way to reconnect with their former professors and to join in the celebration of the institution’s many achievements.

Regionally and nationally, The Bridgewater Review has been lauded for both its excellence and originality. In addition to receiving awards from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), the journal also won the 2004 Jack Conway Press Award from Jack Conway and Company.

This commemorative issue carries forward the rich traditions of The Bridgewater Review and is representative of the depth of faculty analysis and expression that has endeared it to readers for more than a generation. In the pages of this issue and in congratulating our faculty contributors on a job exceedingly well done.

Lastly, my hat goes off to Dr. Michael Kraayen and The Review’s longstanding editor and a staple of our Political Science department, for his unwavering dedication to the journal and the institution. Here’s hoping his byline adorns the opening pages for many years to come!

Sincerely,

Dana Mohler-Faria
President

25 years of publishing the Bridgewater Review is indeed a milestone worth celebrating. Also 25 years of continuous publication is also worth a celebratory cheer. But what is most important to celebrate is the faculty of Bridgewater State College, who for the last 25 years have given their research, their artwork, their poetry, their short stories, their innovations in teaching and their social commentary to the Review, thus helping to make this magazine both unique and a shining example of academic excellence.

When the Bridgewater Review first appeared in May of 1982 the vision was to produce a magazine that highlighted the work of the faculty. That vision has never changed, nor has the commitment of the faculty to blend their teaching and advising responsibilities with a broad range of professional, creative, scientific and literary pursuits.

As Editor of the Review over these 25 years I constantly marvel at the productivity of the faculty. Despite substantial instructional duties and the ever-growing opportunities to mentor students, the faculty continues to remain at the cutting edge of their academic disciplines. Each issue of the Review shows clearly the intellectual vitality that the faculty brings to the Bridgewater State College community.

A magazine like the Bridgewater Review could never last 25 years without the support of college presidents, provosts and deans. Fortunately the Review has been blessed with Presidents who believed in the magazine and its mission. Drs. Andrian Rondinella, Gerard Indelicato, Robert Dillman, Adrian Tinsley and now Dana Mohler-Faria have all been enormously supportive of the Review, not just in terms of budget allocations, but in taking pride in the magazine and recognizing its special place in public higher education in Massachusetts.

And of course the Review’s success over the years has also been the result of faculty colleagues who joined me as associate editors and regular contributors to the magazine. Dr. Don Johnson worked with me during the early years of the Review as Associate Editor. Don’s love of poetry, sports and the outdoors often provided the Review with insightful and thought provoking writing that elevated the quality of the Review. Don is now at East Tennessee State University but he once again is being published in the commemorative issue of the magazine. Don’s poetry remains beautiful and uplifting.

Barbara Apstein has been with the Review the longest as Associate Editor. Barbara recently retired, but she has left a long legacy of commentaries on teaching English, working with students and analyzing works of literature. Barbara has been the quality control expert on the Review lending her editing skills and her critical insights into each article that she has worked on. In this issue we are publishing what I think is one of her best articles, a discussion of racism in Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn.

Bill Levin of the Sociology Department has been. As a long time professor of Sociology, Bill has provided some of the most read and talked about commentaries that we have published. Bill, a true renaissance man, has written on everything from late bloomers in education to sailing on Cape Cod to the aging process. Each commentary is based on meticulous research and reveals a keen ability to write for a general audience.