



BCC

briefing

Bristol Community College

Fall River/New Bedford/Attleboro, MA

Food and drink – in the library???

It's not your grandparents' library. Gone are the days when food and library work do not mix. The Rodgers Cyber Café has opened in the

Farley Learning Resources Center on the Fall River Campus. The facility was built in part through funding from the Rodgers Family Foundation to address the need for more informal student space on campus. The soaring glass enclosure is stocked with comfortable furniture, Internet-accessible computer stations, and ample



Mr. Rodgers

“plug and play” docks for people to use with their own laptops. Plus, the area offers wireless access and a bank of gourmet coffee and snacks.

From the moment of opening the Rodgers Cyber Café has been a popular gathering spot, reported Bob Rezendes, access services librarian. “It demonstrates the need for gathering space as well as working space, where students can work on group projects and socialize,” he said.

The Rodgers Foundation has long been a supporter of the BCC Foundation, providing scholarships for students as well as other gifts.



Thomas A. Rodgers III, vice president of the Rodgers Family Foundation, (left) joined President Sbrega and the College's students and staff for the anxiously-awaited opening of the Rodgers Cyber Café.

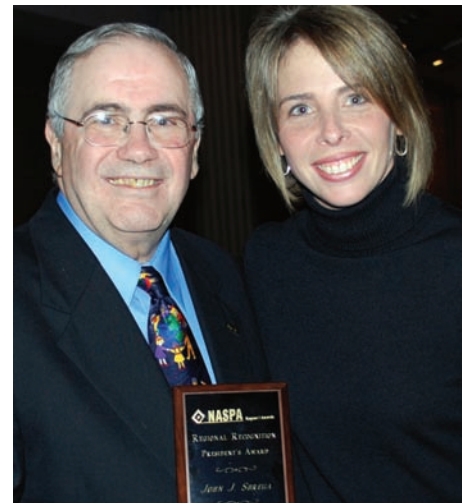
Bristol Community College CEO recognized for student commitment

WINTER 2008-09

- The best, the worst.....2
- Dream comes true, part 2.....3
- The Bristol Bees debut4
- Benefactor of the year.....6
- Alumni news7

BCC President John J. Sbrega, Ph.D., received the President's Award from NASPA, the professional organization of student affairs administrators in higher education.

Dr. Sbrega was chosen from a field of community and baccalaureate college presidents as one who “over a sustained period of time, demonstrates commitment to the student affairs function at the college,” according to the award description. Steve Ozug, vice president of students who nominated Dr. Sbrega, pointed out that community college presidents don't often receive this honor. “The award recognizes a president who works tirelessly to advance student life on campus and promote student development by supporting



Dr. John J. Sbrega with Pauline Dobrowski, regional vice president for Region I, NASPA, and associate vice president for student affairs at Stonehill College.

Continued on page 3

The best of times, the worst of times

Dear Colleagues in Learning:

Halfway through the academic year finds Bristol Community College in both the best of times and the worst of times. We started the year filled with wonderful news that galvanized our plans for the New Year and does much to illustrate the quality of our College. But it will come as no surprise that we find the College facing significant challenges that threaten progress and the future.

Take, for example, the College's record enrollment. The College cracked the 8,000 credit students threshold for the first time, with overall increases of 12.21 percent in full-time equivalent students (FTE) and 9.69 percent in student headcount, among the highest in the state. The Attleboro Center (up 49.77 percent FTE) and New Bedford Campus (up 23.44 percent FTE) continue to attract significant numbers. Of special note is that enrollments in distance learning courses rose by 46.44 percent. The true significance of this steady pattern of enrollment growth lies in the vivid demonstration that BCC is fulfilling its primary mission mandate of providing access to high-quality educational opportunities for the community. This is why we are in business. BCC makes a valuable contribution to the region, especially given the prevailing low rates of literacy and educational attainment.

Moreover, consider also that in July the Legislature approved a \$2 billion capital bond bill to increase capacity and to improve existing facilities throughout public higher education. The Fall River Campus is slated for \$46.5 million to construct a new Technology Center (\$25.5 million) and to completely renovate the Science Building, which includes our science labs (\$10 million), and the Siegel Health Technologies Building, which houses our healthcare programs (\$10 million). The Legislature also approved an award of \$4.5 million for our Attleboro Learning Center. We are slated to receive a whopping \$20 million to build or renovate a new stand-alone campus in downtown New Bedford. The total of \$71 million is the largest apportionment in this bond bill for any community college and all but two of the state colleges. Our notable share of the Bond Bill reflects widespread recognition of BCC's quality as a high-performing institution as well as our critical shortage of space at all locations.

Other "good news" items showered upon us as we launched the new academic year. We opened our new Attleboro Learning Center in August (see page 3). This moving occasion culminated a long, hard-fought campaign to strengthen BCC's presence in the Greater Attleboro area. An exciting dimension associated with this project centers on the presence of Bridgewater State. In effect, we are building a higher education center in Attleboro that will not only serve the community by providing an ambitious array of educational opportunities (from pre-G.E.D. through graduate work) but also provide a model of regional collaboration for the Commonwealth.

Yet another "blockbuster" cluster of welcome news emerged in the form of significant grants that the College attracted. Perhaps the most significant grant award this year came when the U.S. Department of Education awarded BCC a Title III grant of \$1.94 million to reinforce our two chief institutional priorities: instruction and instructional support. This sizeable award comes at a key moment for the College. Our attention to developing a new strategic plan, the continuing pattern of soaring enrollments, and the creation of a special Task Force to focus on academic support services all converge with the infusion of these Title III funds to provide an auspicious opportunity for us to further enhance our commitment to "Student Success." In fact, drawing from my experience as an Air Force pilot, I have characterized this Title III grant as a JATO (jet-assisted take-off) force that gives us a much-needed boost.

Two other notable examples are a \$500,000 grant for the Professional Advancement Through Health and Human Service Careers (PATHHS), which Governor Deval Patrick and Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Suzanne Bump personally delivered to me; and an adult literacy award, congressionally designated by Senator Ted Kennedy, which provides \$162,000 to facilitate the transition to credit and degree pathways for G.E.D. graduates.

Another piece of wonderful developments is the blockbuster start (or should I say resumption) of intercollegiate athletics at BCC. Coming back to intercollegiate athletics buttresses our primary focus on students as well as our major emphasis on providing an enriching, holistic educational experience at BCC.



President Sbraga

To be sure, this decision did not attract unanimous approval. Cautioning voices warned of possible problems for student-athletes with their academic progress. This, of course, is always a primary concern at the College. But why "limit" it only to student-athletes? Building on these discussions, I decided to create an advisory board for all co-curricular student

activities. Vice President Steve Ozug has invited community leaders to join with BCC faculty and staff in this new venture. One – but not the only – purpose of this advisory board is to monitor the academic progress and academic support services of all students who participate in co-curricular activities. I am grateful for the collegial and productive process that led to these decisions. Oh, yes, both soccer teams enjoyed great success in this inaugural season and basketball is underway. (See page 4)

Despite this amazing array of happy happenings at BCC, the early part of this academic year also brought a measure of unhappiness to the state in general and to BCC in particular. Gathering fiscal storm clouds have beset us, and we remain uncertain of their dimension or longevity. Twice in four months BCC (and all of public higher education) suffered reductions in our state appropriation for a total (thus far) in excess of 7 percent, with more projected for January. The supreme irony is that they menace BCC not only at a time of record enrollments but also when community colleges with the help of targeted investments, not cuts, could help fuel economic recovery in Massachusetts. Even worse, unless the state situation brightens, we could be facing more reductions in early 2009.

So how are we facing the gathering storm clouds of fiscal uncertainty? We shall continue doing what we always do, namely, to provide a holistic education of the highest quality for our community. By every instrument that measures performance, BCC leads the state, and we have done so year after year. Even in the midst of this turbulent weather, the aircraft is under control and remains on course. Our unyielding commitment to "Student Success" continues.

Cheers!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely reading "John J. Sbraga".

Dream comes true – part 2

On a hot August day in 2004, on the steps of the old Attleboro High School, President John J. Sbrega declared a dream had come true for Greater Attleboro as he cut the ribbon for the opening of the full-service community college center in borrowed quarters.

Flash forward to four years later, to another hot August day, when Bristol Community College proudly opened a state-of-the-art facility that was far beyond those first dreams. The new Attleboro Center boasts bright learning spaces and the latest in computer and science labs, as well as ample parking and handicapped accessibility.

Bristol Community College Attleboro Center was carved out of the former Texas Instruments campus off Pleasant Street through the partnership of the BCC Foundation, headed by Foundation President Luke Travis, and the support of the College's Board of Trustees, headed by Attleboro community leader Donald Smyth. Municipal and state government leaders, including Reps. John Lepper and Elizabeth Poirier, and Senators James Timilty and Scott

Brown, pitched in as well. The new site enrolled more than 1,000 students for the Fall semester, a triple-digit percentage increase since that first hot August day.

"Enrollment has taken off in Attleboro," said Kathleen Torpey Garganta, dean of the Attleboro Center. "It is clear that the area is hungry for higher education, and Bristol Community College is addressing that hunger."

A unique feature of the new Center is the collaboration with Bridgewater State College, offering classes this spring. "In this age of limited state resources, Dr. [Dana] Mohler-Faria [president of Bridgewater State] was enthusiastic to join our entrepreneurial endeavor to address the significant interest and need for higher education in Attleboro," Dr. Sbrega said. BSC will offer junior- and senior-level courses in specific majors, with the plan that Bristol students will be able to complete full four-year degrees in Attleboro.

To see photos of the new facility, visit www.BristolCC.edu/Attleboro and choose "new site."



Above, a sign in the hallway welcomes students to the new Attleboro Center. Below, Board of Trustees Chair Don Smyth welcomes the crowd to the opening.



CEO, from page 1

student services. This accurately describes Dr. Sbrega," he said. "Connecting students at a commuter college has always been a challenge, but it is one that Dr. Sbrega has embraced to the great benefit of our students."

All who know President Sbrega are familiar with his mantra, "Student Success." He has led efforts to expand financial aid resources through the BCC Foundation and during times of economic upheaval has committed growing amounts of funds to provide College-based aid for students. But most importantly, said Vice President Ozug, Dr. Sbrega serves as a model of putting students first.

The award was given in November at the district conference of NASPA Region I.

Vice President Ozug believes that Dr. Sbrega embodies the spirit of the organization. "One thing is abundantly clear to all who know him – his primary reason for going to work each day is to contribute to student success," he said.

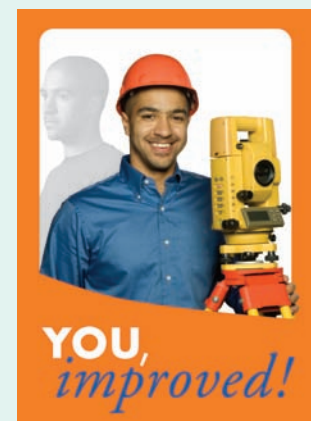
College marketing receives honors and raves

The College's Fall marketing campaign reaped various honors at the annual district awards program of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR). A popular calendar created for 2008 for the BCC Foundation also was recognized. The College received a total of five awards.

The College's new campaign, "You, Improved," was cited for its graphics, its overall message, and its effectiveness. It received silver awards for the direct mail brochure, the overall campaign, and the print advertising; and a bronze award for the radio commercial. The calendar also received a bronze award.

NCMPR is the leading professional organization for community college communicators. "Recognition in this awards program goes to the best of the best," said Sally Chapman Cameron, vice president, College Communications. "It is an honor to compete so well in the field, a result of the very talented team we have in place."

College Communications includes Cameron, Jill Carrico '05, Publications Specialist; Nicole DeCambra, Media Specialist; and Linda Viveiros, Media Buyer. Kelly Arruda '07, former graphic artist in the department, created the calendar.



The Buzz about the Bees

The Bristol Community College Bees, that is. In their first year in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), BCC competes in two sports: men's and women's soccer and basketball. BCC is a member of Region 21 of the NJCAA, playing against other junior colleges in Massachusetts, as well as Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire.

Men's soccer: Led by **Jason Couto '09** (Somerset), First Team All-American and All-Region, and Player of the Week, the team was ranked as high as fourth in the country during the season. The balanced roster included three other teammates who were named to All-Region teams. (see box)

Women's soccer: The team had some solid wins this season, including a 13-1 showing against Briarwood. **Chelsea Metivier's '10** (New Bedford) 22 goals were a large part of the offense this season, helping the team to a 7-5 record and earning herself All-Region honors.

Coaches include David Allen (men's soccer), Angela DaCosta (women's soccer), Rob Delaleu (men's basketball) and Sheila Freitas (women's basketball).

All home games are played at Bishop Connolly High School in Fall River. For more information or a schedule of remaining basketball games, visit www.BristolCC.edu/Athletics.

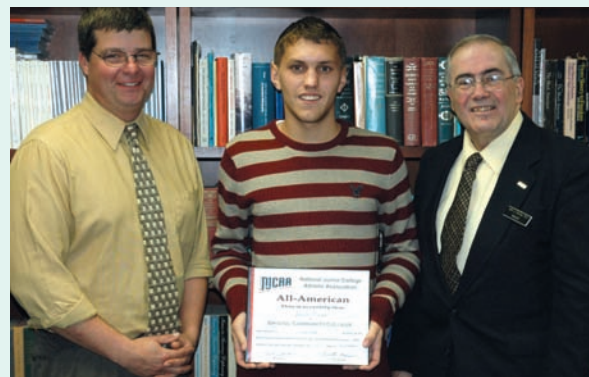


Men's basketball: Currently in season, the team has had some impressive games, including a dramatic 85-84 win over Region 21 powerhouse Roxbury Community College. **Anthony Morreo '10** (New Bedford) nailed a jumper with 27 seconds left, giving his team the win they needed as they head into the second half of the season.

Women's basketball: The women have shown flashes of great play early in their season. The team won their season opener against Gateway Community College (CT). Look for the Bees to come out strong as they add more talent during the second semester.

Beverly Cambra, retired vice principal and coach from B.M.C. Durfee High School, serves as the athletic director.

Five soccer players received individual honors for the season. These players stood out against other regional and national opponents all season long, earning them the honor of being the first class of All-American and All-Region athletes at the College.



Jason Couto '09 was named First Team All-American and First Team All-Region. Couto led the country in goals scored for a majority of the 2008 season and finished with 31 goals and 2 assists. He tied Jimmy Cange from Manchester Community College (CT) in most goals scored, though he played in five fewer games than Cange. (Jason is shown above with coach David Allen, left; and President Sbraga.)

Couto had seven hattricks during the 2008 season, including a career-high four goals against MassBay in September. The NJCAA recognized Couto in October, awarding him national Player of the Week honors. He ended the season tied for second leading scorer in the country.

Kyle Lopes '10, leading assist scorer in the nation, was named First Team All-Region. Lopes had 17 assists during the season and scored 8 goals, making him the 25th leading scorer in the country.

The defensive prowess of **Justin Pereira '10** was recognized by the NJCAA, as he was named Second Team All-Region. **Wasley Lima '11** also was named All-Region as an honorable mention player.

BCC women's soccer player **Chelsea Metivier '10** was named First Team All-Region. In only nine games played, Metivier recorded 22 goals and 3 assists, putting her second in the leading scorer category for Region 21. She was tied for first in goals scored.

College news

Carole Berube, Professor Emerita of Nursing and Instructor in Medical Assisting, has been reviewing manuscripts of health textbooks for publishing companies. She is planning a new course titled, "The Art of Health," to be offered in the spring semester. It will incorporate physical and psychological assessment/observation skills for the healthcare student, cultural diversity and world religions, and using art, color, design, and structure to plan a clinical setting.

Dr. A. Keith Carreiro, BCC Attleboro Center, has been accepted to present his research on educational theory at the International Conference of Synesthesia, Science & Art 09. The April 2009 conference will be held in the Park of the Sciences in Granada, Spain.

Sandy Lygren, Associate Professor and Program Director of Deaf Studies, took the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) certification test and passed with a score of 4.9 out of 5.

Sarah Morrell, Director of Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search Programs, attended the Council for Opportunity in Education national conference in Washington D.C., in September. She is serving on the 08-09 New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEOA) Board of Directors, in the capacity of Chair of Advocacy and Legislation and Education (and Past-President). She has also been appointed to a two-year term on the national Council for Opportunity in Education Board of Directors, serving on the Finance and the International Access Committees, and made a presentation at the Board retreat meeting, held in Puerto Rico in December.

J.P. Nadeau, Assistant Professor of English, and Professor of English **Howard Tinberg's** book manuscript, "Community College Writers at Work: The First Semester," a research study funded by the Calderwood Initiative and Bristol Community College, has been accepted for publication by the Studies in Writing and Rhetoric series.

Ricardo Rebelo '02, Television Services, has two films being released this year and recently won an award at the Rhode Island 48hr Film Festival. He had two films screened at New York's Pioneer Theatre in October and wrote the script for the Fall River Factory of Terror tour. Ricardo is a graduate student at Rhode Island College and is making a documentary about Lizzie Borden for his thesis project. He is also a film columnist for SCARS magazine, writing a column about historical relevance in horror films.

Marianne Taylor, Dr. Fred Rocco, and **Rhonda Gabovitch** presented a workshop at the New England Educational Assessment Network (NEEAN) conference at Worcester State College in November. The workshop, entitled "Using First Year Experience Data to Create Change," demonstrated how Bristol Community College used assessment data to build a shared vision and commitment to a plan to improve student success, and how data were used to describe the student experience.

Keith Thibault, Ricardo Rebelo '02, Michelle Dumais '93, and John Rezendes of Fall River Community Television have been awarded second place in the category of Outstanding Achievement by a Public Access Television Station by the Northeast Region of the Alliance for Community Media. The Northeast Region represents community access television stations across New England and the State of New York. The award is the equivalent to a "Station of the Year" category seen on the broadcast level.

Mary Zahm, Professor of Psychology, attended a two-day Service-Learning Conference sponsored by CONNECT at Cape Cod Community College in June. Drs. Mary Zahm and **Susan Kramer**, Adjunct Instructor in Psychology, attended the National Conference of the American Psychological Association (APA) in Boston, in August. Zahm is currently serving as co-coordinator and program chair for the 34th Annual Conference of the Association for Women in Psychology to be held at the Marriott Newport Hotel, Newport, RI, in March 2009. The Conference Theme is "Feminist Empowerment Through Unity and Diversity – Celebrating 40 Years of Feminist Psychology."

Alumni board news

The Bristol Community College Alumni Association elected new officers at its September Annual Meeting. They are Nancy Rosario '89, President; Peter Silva '73, Vice President; Shawn Dias '02, Treasurer; Shelly Armstrong '87, Secretary. New board members elected for three-year terms were Henry Bousquet '98 and Amy Rancourt '06. Board members reelected to three-year terms were Kathy Torpey Garganta '73, Patricia Jeffries Zukowski '73, and Diane L. Silvia '86. Continuing board members are Laura Carlson '03, Pamela Colaneri '94, Nickie Collard '05, Susan Gamache '80, Carol Michael '70, Michael Skellinger '05, and Chrisanne Souza '97.

Achieving her dream: BCC student publishes children's book

The fact that 19-year-old Bristol Community College first-year student Elizabeth Larsen recently published a children's book is impressive enough. The accomplishment means even more after you learn that Liz is autistic.

The New Bedford resident was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism, at an early age. But to Liz, who has always loved to read and write, the dream of becoming a writer was never out of reach. She hopes that the story of her success will have a positive effect on other people with similar disabilities.

"I tell them that they can succeed," said Liz, who did a book signing for *Buster Hardings: Buster Makes New Friends* at the Autism Holiday Shopping Fest in November. "This doesn't have to stop you."

PublishAmerica didn't know about Liz's autism until after they decided to publish the book; they just enjoyed the story of Buster Hardings, an 8-year-old boy who has had to move around a lot because of his father's job as a diplomat. In the first book, Buster has just moved again from New Jersey to Delaware and he must make new friends.

"I don't know anyone like Buster," Liz said as she described the character. "I wish I did."

Liz is currently editing a second *Buster Hardings* book. She plans to write five as part of the series and hopes that it will become a television show. She travels to the Fall River Campus for classes and meets once a week with a mentor, who Liz says is "just great." She was raised by her grandmother and enjoys reading *Baby-Sitters Club* books and writing fan-fiction.

"Honestly, I just love to write," she said.

Buster Hardings: Buster Makes New Friends is available at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and Borders at the Providence Place Mall.

BCC on Facebook?

You heard right. Bristol Community College is now on Facebook. It's the ideal place to connect (or reconnect) with classmates and find useful information about College events.

Facebook is a free social networking site with more than 140 million active users. And it's not limited to the younger generation – the fastest growing demographic is those 25 and older.

With more than 500 fans, the BCC page on Facebook is rapidly becoming the place to find classmates, faculty, staff, and alumni. Get in touch with old friends – or make new ones. Promote college-related activities or view photos and videos of past events.

Whether you're looking for a roommate, trying to sell your books, or just wondering what classmates are up to, the discussion boards or the wall can be useful tools. Sign in today to start your own conversation.

Finding us is as simple as using the Facebook search box. Type in "Bristol Community College" to view our page. Once there, you can "become a fan" to keep in touch with all things Bristol!



Robert F. Stoico honored



Robert F. Stoico of The Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Charitable Foundation was honored with the Region I 2008 Benefactor Award by the Council for Resource Development (CRD) at its annual conference in November.

Mr. Stoico was nominated by the BCC Foundation for his ongoing commitment to education in the community. The Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Charitable Foundation recently gave \$1 million to the BCC Foundation. This is Bristol Community College's largest one-time gift, and it comes from an organization that has a long history of support for the College.

Mr. Stoico funded the College's HeadStart to College program in New Bedford, supported the Library, and renovated the Community Computing Center. Mr. Stoico was a major contributor to the Grimshaw-Gudewicz Art Gallery campaign, endowed student scholarships, and has provided ongoing support for outreach to the Mayan and Hispanic communities in New Bedford.

In addition to his commitment to the College, Mr. Stoico dedicates his time to many nonprofit organizations including Saint Anne's Hospital, Boys' and Girls' Clubs in Massachusetts, Roger Williams University, UMass Dartmouth, Providence Performing Arts, and the Zoological Society in Rhode Island. His support of these various nonprofits exceeds \$17 million.

The Council for Resource Development is the leading fundraising professional organization for community college philanthropy.

Alumni news

What's new with you?

Send your good news to
BCC Alumni Relations
777 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA 02720
Or email your news to
alumni@BristolCC.edu

Art Transfer

David Gordon '08 is employed at Hasbro as a web developer.

Brett Sylvia '08 is attending the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston, where he is pursuing his bachelor's degree. He built the costume for the BCC mascot as a final project for a course last spring.

Business Administration Career

Steven Alves '77 is the president of Stevens Home Improvement Company in Fairhaven. His company was nominated for the 2008 Small Business of the Year Award from the New Bedford Economic Development Council.

Barbara Cummiskey '96 received the Westport Youth Athletic Association's annual Founders Award in January for her longtime volunteer efforts as an advocate for youth athletics in Westport. Her husband, **Thomas** (Electro-Mechanical Tech '79), won that same award in 2003. Barbara is employed at d'Oliveira & Associates in East Providence, RI.

Cynthia Flanagan '99 is the club manager for the Sakonnet Golf Club in Little Compton, RI.

Lynn Motta '92 has been named vice president of the Commercial Services Division of BankFive. Lynn also serves on the board of directors of Junior Achievement, teaches JA classes, and serves on the organizing committee for the JA Golf Tournament.

John E. Murphy '78, who started at BCC with the first class, recently retired from Amtrak after 39 years of employment. John lives in Florida.

Philicia Pacheco '01 works in the Facilities department at Bristol Community College and was named an Employee of the Month for September 2008.

Lidia C. Rebello '85 has worked at Bank of Fall River since April 1989. She oversees the bank's residential mortgage area and was recently promoted to vice president.

Dawn Richard '05 and Michael Sullo were married on May 10, 2008. Dawn is employed in the Office of Stewardship at Roger Williams University.

Cynthia A. Rose '70, assistant clerk magistrate for the Trial Court of Massachusetts, New Bedford District Court, was presented with the St. Thomas More Award for dedicated service as a distinguished court employee. She currently serves on the Hall of Black Achievement Board at Bridgewater State College and as a trustee of Bristol Community College.

Business Administration Transfer

Marc Dionne '91 is a vice president at Citizens Financial Group in Providence, RI, where he works in the Privacy Office.

Steven Freitas '75 is a state portfolio manager for the Fall River Housing Authority. He and his wife, Rhonda, live in Somerset.

Dennis Morin '77 (Mechanical Engineering Technology '89) is a senior mechanical designer at John Crane Inc.

Ronald Robinson '73 has been involved with Little Theatre of Fall River since he graduated from BCC. Currently the ticket manager, he has acted, directed, done lighting, and other behind-the-scenes work over the years.

Andrea Santo '00 is an RN. She works for the Visiting Nurses Association of Southeastern Massachusetts as a manager for patient care.

Maiza Silva '06 graduated with a B.S. in International Business from Roger Williams University in May 2008.

Civil Engineering Technology

Jo Ann Bentley '80 received the John S. Brayton Community Recognition Award from the Fall River Chamber of Commerce at the annual recognition dinner in June 2008.

Clinical Laboratory Science

Nicole Lemay '08 is an MLT (ASCP) in the microbiology laboratory at Sturdy Memorial Hospital in Attleboro.

Communication

Tegan Flanders '06 graduated from Adelphi University in May with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

Kelly Ann Teixeira '05 and Chad Landry were married on August 23, 2008, at Colt State Park in Bristol, RI. Kelly is employed as the administrative assistant in Resource Development at Bristol Community College.

Computer Information Systems

Ronald Tavares '00 is a computer consultant for TuringSMI, a global consultancy company specializing in business service management.

Computer Programming

Carol Robinson '93 married Larry Tucker on August 9, 2008, in New Bedford. They spent their honeymoon at Moosehead Lake in Maine. Carol is a Systems Analyst in the Information Technology Services department at Bristol Community College and was named an Employee of the Month for September 2008.

Wayne Daveau '86 (Business Administration Career '07) is an administrative assistant for Treatment on Demand, a New Bedford based non-profit that provides street outreach services to people with HIV/AIDS.

Criminal Justice

Deborah Benoit '02 and her husband, **Daniel '05** (Business Administration Career), have two reasons to celebrate. Daniel received a B.S. from Eastern Connecticut State University in May, and Deborah gave birth to their fourth child on July 16, a son named Christopher Felix.

Culinary Arts

Sarah Higginbottom '06 had a prize-winning dessert at the 3rd Annual Rhode Island Chef Smackdown sponsored by the American Institute of Food and Wine. Her berry/angel food cake/lemon crème fraiche concoction was named "Best Dish of the Evening" at the multi-team competition. Sarah is the pastry sous-chef at the Spiced Pear in Newport.

Dental Hygiene

Karla Lyne '06 is a registered dental hygienist employed in the office of Don Silberman, DMD.

Elementary Education

Isabel (Vicencio) Andrade '97 is a third grade teacher in the New Bedford Public School system.

Madeline Brumley '07 is starting her senior year at UMass Dartmouth, where she is majoring in humanities and social sciences.

Leanne Marie Diogo '04 was one of the exhibiting artists in the LusAmerican Vistas de Verao at the Cherry and Webb Gallery in downtown Fall River. She is currently pursuing her life-long dream of a career in art elementary education at the Holy Trinity School in Fall River.

General Studies

Betty-Jo Arlington '07 (Marketing Certificate '06) attended BCC while she was employed at Ahold USA. Upon graduation she was promoted to assistant buyer as a result of the on-the-job experience she obtained through BCC's co-op program. She was recently promoted to buyer for Stop & Shop and several other Ahold USA grocery store chains.

Nickie Collard '05 works as the visitor services manager of the Mary Baker Eddy Library at the Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston.

Human Services

Melissa (Dias) Chase '07 started her new job at the men's minimum security facility in Cranston, RI, as an intake counselor and intake coordinator.

Journalism

Brian Mello '80 is a flamenco guitarist with Boston's "El Arte Flamenco" and a soloist of all styles of music. He is also involved in music therapy.

Liberal Arts

Nicole Benjamin '06 married Preston James Duff on July 26, 2008, at St. Mary's Church in Dartmouth.

Jennifer Boulay '08, former student trustee on BCC's Board of Trustees, is continuing her academic career at Brown University, where she is working towards her bachelor's degree.

Joe Correia '68 is enjoying retirement in Florida and is sorry he couldn't attend the 40th reunion gathering of the Class of 1968 in September. He writes, "Please pass my fondest regards to my fellow classmates. I think having been part of the first graduating class was a thrill for me and laid the foundation for a very successful career. BCC and its teachers were definitely a major influence in my personal and professional life, and I will always be grateful for having attended. What progress and growth you have experienced!"

Jennifer DeCosta '01 received her B.S. from Roger Williams University in 2004 and her M.B.A. from Johnson & Wales in 2007.

Damra Pao '04 was named Bristol Community College Employee of the Month for June 2008. Damra is a technical assistant in Information Technology Services.

Julie Robinson '01 graduated from Rhode Island College with a B.A. in 2005. She is currently a fourth year law student at Barry University School of Law in Orlando, FL. She is the Lt. Governor for the 5th Circuit of the American Bar Association Student Division over the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). She also works full time as an accountant at a publicly traded company.

Liberal Studies

Rene Brown '96 is an attorney with offices in Fall River.

Corey Cotta '89 published his first book, *All of Yesterday's Tomorrows*, in May 2007.

Lisa Gallant-Stanzione '84 received a bachelor's degree in Public Administration from Roger Williams University in 2005. In July 2008 she started a new job as the executive assistant to the director of human resources and administration in the Division of Advancement at Brown University in Providence. Lisa resides in Bristol, RI, with her husband, Tim, and son, Kyle.

Mental Health

Jacqueline (Mitchell) Cummings '71 was reelected as treasurer of the board of Citizens for Citizens in Fall River.

Continued on page 8

Novell Administration

Diane Forand '06 was named Bristol Community College Employee of the Month for July 2008. Diane is a technical assistant in the Distance Learning department.

Nursing

Marie Botelho '80 is an RN-case manager for Southcoast Hospitals Group at Charlton Memorial Hospital in Fall River.

Rachelle Boucher '80 is an attorney with offices in Plymouth and Sandwich.

Joshua DesRoches '07 married Odilia De Sousa on October 10, 2007, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Acushnet.

Sylvia Smith '85 is an RN and an education instructor in the VA Boston Healthcare system.

Deborah Vaz '96 is an RN at Saint Anne's Hospital in Fall River.

Office Administration

Laura Monteiro '08 currently works for the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance and is working toward a bachelor's degree in creative writing. She also owns and operates *NewEnglandBites.com*, a local restaurant review Web site.

Pre-Professional

Anthony Branco '93 returned from a tour in Kuwait with the Air Force Reserves in October 2007, as a transportation specialist supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is in his ninth year teaching Portuguese, currently in Somerset Public Schools.

Alan Dubreuil '89 is employed at St. Vincent's in Fall River, which provides residential, special education, and community-based services to children and families in need.

Keith Forsblom '97 is employed by the Massachusetts Department of Corrections as a correctional program officer at the Massachusetts Treatment Center.

Lois Spirlet '80 is the executive director at Autumn Glen at Dartmouth, an assisted living community in North Dartmouth. Lois and her husband, **Richard** (Law Enforcement '77), live in Westport.

Secretarial Science

Sandy (Thadeio) Boscoe '68 was named Employee of the Month at Bristol Community College for September 2008. She is a buyer in the Facilities department.

Monique (Letendre) Pavao '83 just celebrated 25 years with Dartmouth Dermatology. She is the practice manager for Drs. Paul Snyder and Deborah Schappell. She resides in Dartmouth with her husband, George, and her children, the youngest of which is currently enrolled at BCC.

Social Services

Jane Robinson '86 is employed by the city of Fall River and works at Talbot Middle School.

Thanatology

Lisa Giusti '02 delivered the annual BCC Alumni Lecture at the Thanatology Recognition ceremony in April.

Theatre

Selena Crabbe Snow '97 is known in the world as Pink Snow, erotic entertainer and lead vocalist of EROCKTICA, a theatrical erotic rock band she founded in 2000 that has toured in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. She is writing the story behind the band, called *PORN ROCK: The Musical*, and working with the NYC Fringe Theater Festival. When not working in the theatrical world or entertainment industry, she is a volunteer with The Atlas Society, a Washington, D.C.-based organization dedicated to the philosophy of Ayn Rand which advocates rational individualism.

Tourism & Hospitality Certificate

Monica DeFraga '03 has been promoted to sales coordinator at the Residence Inn by Marriott in Dartmouth.

IN MEMORIAM

Stephen G. Blanchette '99, a teacher and coach at Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School, passed away on September 29, 2008.

Peter C. Cross '68 died on June 22, 2006.

Robert Lepage '92 passed away in April 2005.

Harry J. Ryan '80 of Taunton died on June 22, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Louise.

Susan H. Wood '96 passed away on December 27, 2004.



BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
777 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA 02720

Editor: Sally Chapman Cameron
Vice President, College Communications

Writers: Nicole DeCambra, Jane L.H. Ash

Design: Mary Senra '78

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Providence, RI
Permit No. 231