

Without Exception

The Bridgewater Campaign for Success through Innovation



BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY | 2023 - 2024 Philanthropic Impact Report



Dear Friends,

The choice of our campaign name - *Without Exception: The Bridgewater Campaign for Success through Innovation* – was very deliberate. And bold. It signals our unwavering commitment to be the best, to be the leader, in everything we do. We don't aspire to be good; we strive to be great. We're not satisfied with helping some students secure the life-changing benefits of a college education; we won't rest until all students can succeed and reach their highest potential.

BSU is on the rise. The *Without Exception* campaign is about making the investments that will bolster our upward trajectory, break new ground, and sustain the innovative programs, initiatives, and strategies that will elevate BSU, advance our students and serve our communities, our commonwealth and our country. For the second year in a row *The Wall Street Journal* has ranked BSU as one of the Best Colleges in America for the impact we have on the lives of our students – advancing their success and upward mobility and providing them an extraordinary return on investment.

Leadership is in our blood. We were founded in 1840 as a radical experiment in “normalizing” the training of teachers – an invention that transformed the world.

We have been leading for the past 184 years. That restless drive to better the lives of our students and the world is core to our mission – *Not to be Ministered Unto, But to Minister*. It links our past to our present. For all the marvelous changes visible on our campus, from our physical plant to the extraordinary opportunities we provide the students we are privileged to serve, Bridgewater in its essence remains the same institution, with the same drive, determination, innovative spirit, and heart we have always had.

Recently, we announced *The Bridgewater Commitment*, whereby BSU will cover the costs of tuition and mandatory fees for students of families earning \$125,000 and less. We didn't follow others; we leaped over them. *The Bridgewater Commitment* makes BSU the most affordable four-year public university in Massachusetts. We were able to do this because of you. By leveraging federal, state, institutional and private resources - provided through your generosity - BSU has set a new standard for equity and accessibility in public higher education.

The *Without Exception* campaign to reach \$100 million in our endowment will provide the stable resources needed to advance other critical priorities, including:

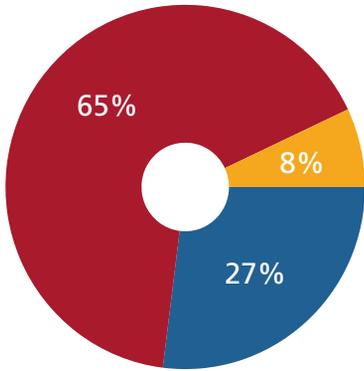
- Ensuring all students receive career counseling and planning and building stronger pathways to employment through deeper employer partnerships and expanded professional experiences for students through our BSU Works initiative.
- Building on our nationally recognized Undergraduate Research program and the success of our students in competing for the highest academic recognitions, including Fulbright Fellowships, to develop the first Honors College in the state university system.
- Expanding BSU's groundbreaking EXCEL program - the leading educational program in the state for adults with learning and developmental disabilities – and creating new pathways for more students to have career opportunities and become independent adults.
- Developing innovative, data-driven strategies that make sure every student, regardless of background or identity, can thrive.

These are but a sampling of the extraordinary goals we can advance through your generosity and support. Whatever we dare to imagine, we can achieve – together. *Without Exception: The Bridgewater Campaign for Success through Innovation* will propel BSU and the students and communities we serve to an even brighter tomorrow. That's our promise. Without exception.

Frederick W. Clark Jr., Esq., '83
President
Bridgewater State University

Ellen Cuttle Oliver, '82, G'89
Executive Director, BSU Foundation and
Chief Development Officer

David Rumrill, '91
Chairperson
Bridgewater State University Foundation

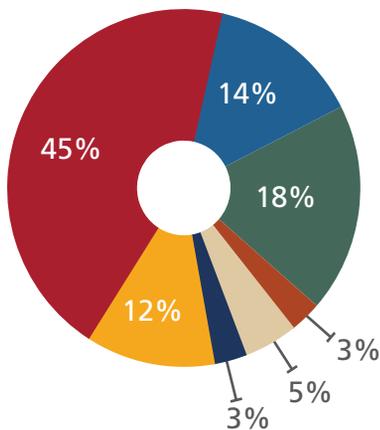


GIFTS

Alumni	\$5,325,000
Corporate and Foundation	\$2,228,000
Friends, Parents, Faculty and Staff.....	\$668,000

Total.....\$8,221,000

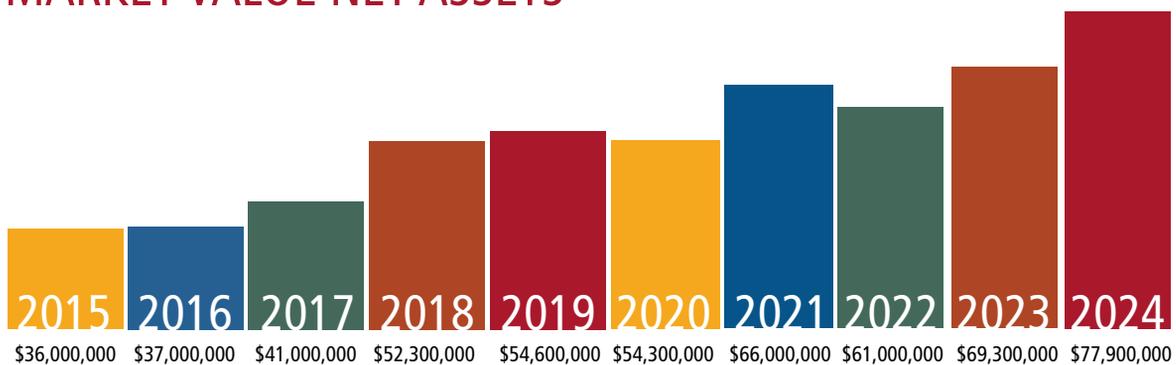
*100% of private donations go directly to helping students and programs.
All BSU operating costs associated with the BSU Foundation are provided by Bridgewater State University.*



DISBURSEMENTS

Academic/Student Programs.....	\$825,092
Athletics	\$132,004
Equipment	\$212,820
Faculty Support.....	\$148,357
Internships.....	\$542,243
Scholarships/Financial Aid.....	\$2,015,815
Student Retention Initiatives	\$650,000

MARKET VALUE NET ASSETS



REVENUE

In fiscal year 2024, Bridgewater State University received approximately **35 percent of its revenue from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts**. The remainder of its revenue is from local tuition and fees, government and private grants, contracts, gifts and auxiliary enterprises.



BRIDGEWATER IS ON THE RISE

From being named one of the Best Colleges in America by *The Wall Street Journal*, to being ranked the 3rd safest campus in the U.S., to having one of the leading Undergraduate Research programs in the country, to our ranking as the #4 driver of social mobility in Massachusetts, to recently launching the most sophisticated cybersecurity program in the state ... Bridgewater State University is on the rise.

To build on and sustain this momentum, BSU is launching the largest comprehensive campaign in its history. We boldly call this campaign ***Without Exception: The Bridgewater Campaign for Success through Innovation.***

OUR DESTINATION? A \$100 MILLION ENDOWMENT.

WHY AN ENDOWMENT? An endowment is an investment in the future. It provides important financial stability and a source of income that Bridgewater can rely on to ensure an even brighter future. We can count on the annual distribution of endowed funds to support students and the expansion of programs when the future of state funding is often uncertain.

WHY \$100 MILLION? \$100 million will generate a perpetual revenue stream that will allow BSU to accelerate our momentum and break new ground; sustain the innovative programs, initiatives and strategies that are helping BSU lead on many fronts; advance our students' success and wellbeing; and serve our communities, our state and our nation.

WHY US? The Bridgewater Campaign for Success through Innovation ensures we remain true to our history as a place of opportunity, serving our region as a springboard to success for every student. As a member of the Bridgewater family, you know the life-changing impact of the educational experiences we offer. With your support, guidance and dedication, we can grow our culture of philanthropy to match BSU's upward trajectory and help unlock promising futures for generations to come.

WHY NOW? Bridgewater has never before occupied a place of greater strength. Together, we must harness this momentum to fuel the next evolution of our alma mater.

How will the endowment do all of this? By supporting FOUR overarching priorities that will guide our future.

Make a BSU education synonymous with outstanding career pathways and great opportunities for professional running starts.

Infuse BSU's programs with new resources to make them more nimble, impactful and responsive to emerging opportunities.

We call this BSU Works. Every student comes to BSU to get a great education that leads to meaningful employment and careers. At a time when the value of higher education is being questioned, BSU is standing firm on our mission to create pathways to employment by:

- Integrating career and life planning and career counseling into each student's BSU experience;
- Expanding opportunities for internships, project-based learning with businesses, entrepreneurship experiences, professional apprenticeships, student employment and cooperative learning;
- Developing new academic programs and credentials aligned with high workforce demand and the needs of employers.

Teaching and research are at the heart of what we do. Led by our dedicated faculty, we are developing new programs and opportunities at the leading edge of academic innovation to support our students and the needs of society. Private philanthropy allows Bridgewater to:

- Expand our endowed Professorships and Chairs in each college, and develop new programs that respond to dynamic economic, social and technological changes and needs, including photonics and optical engineering, cybersecurity, childhood studies, health studies, public relations and mathematics;
- Provide students more opportunities for learning by doing, including our nationally ranked Undergraduate Research program, global engagement experiences, and to transform our rigorous Honors Program into an Honors College;
- Position BSU as a national leader and innovator in free speech and expression, civic engagement and K-12 antibullying strategies.



Double down on BSU's historic mission: Bring the dream of college success to those who once considered it impractical – or impossible.

Make a BSU education a great return on investment, giving students the opportunity to focus less on paying for college and more on building their futures and changing the world.

At BSU, our doors are open, not closed. We say to our students, all our students, “you can succeed” and “we’re here to help you achieve all you can be.” This campaign is an opportunity to:

- Expand BSU's groundbreaking EXCEL program, the leading educational program in the state for adults with learning and developmental disabilities, through new and varied pathways that help more students develop rewarding career opportunities and become independent adults;
- Expand our Student Accessibility Services to help students with myriad learning challenges thrive in and outside the classroom;
- Grow innovative programming through our Wellness Center because physical and emotional health are prerequisites to learning.

For many, college is a stretch, and 80% of our students work while they attend BSU. If BSU is not affordable, then it is not accessible. *Without Exception: The Bridgewater Campaign for Success through Innovation* will:

- Award more financial aid than at any time in our history and significantly increase the amount of private scholarships that don't need to be repaid;
- Expand merit scholarships to attract and retain students with strong academic records, while simultaneously growing need-based aid;
- Develop innovative funding tools such as finish-line scholarships to make sure students don't fall short of graduating for want of a few hundred dollars.



THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

Make a BSU education synonymous with outstanding career pathways and great opportunities for professional running starts.

Assisting students on their personalized pathway to outstanding careers might well define philanthropist Louis M. Ricciardi's own goal for his decades of support for Bridgewater State University as well as his current participation in BSU's campaign.

Without Exception: The Bridgewater Campaign for Success through Innovation is all about driving student success through innovative programs and practices and, as the campaign boldly promises, serving every student – without exception.

Ricciardi not only graduated from Bridgewater, he, for all intents and purposes, has never really left. With his BSU education as his rock-solid foundation, he quickly built a small business into a successful large one. Through it all, he served 20 years on BSU's Board of Trustees, eight years as chair, and 24 years on the BSU Foundation. A lifelong supporter of the College of Business, it now bears his name. In 2020, he established the Louis M. Ricciardi, '81, Entrepreneurial Leadership Fund.

Heavily invested in BSU's Without Exception campaign, Ricciardi is directing his support to the Ricciardi College of Business (RCOB) and his existing Entrepreneurial Leadership Fund. As of this writing, discussions are underway as to how best to use these funds. Some of the many ideas under consideration are establishing the first ever endowed chair in the RCOB, hiring an Entrepreneur in Residence or creating an incubator space and providing some start-up capital for student entrepreneurs.

When asked what makes Bridgewater so special to him and to so many others, Ricciardi quickly responded, "Bridgewater lives its mission." A mission that is all inclusive "within the student body, within the faculty, within the administration, within the broader community as well as within higher education," he said. Together with BSU's 82,000 alumni, many of whom are donors, Ricciardi believes in the

importance of "making the college experience more robust for future generations of students." That, he said, is Bridgewater "living its mission."

And thanks to BSU's many generous donors, Bridgewater manages to do just that and more despite the fact that state support for public universities has dwindled significantly over the years. Ricciardi credits the power of philanthropy as the differentiator helping "to make things happen.

"If you have the right focus on the students and the student experience, if you keep an eye on the health and sustainability of the university, then why not try something innovative or challenge the traditional way of doing things. Philanthropic dollars are flexible, not tied to bottom line costs like salaries, maintenance, and utilities.

"The power of philanthropy is to help sustain the mission of the institution. It's the power to help dreams come true, and to broaden the breadth and depth of the student experience and the university's impact."

The first in his family to attend college, Ricciardi is grateful for the support he received at Bridgewater. "Between my faculty advisors, the many learning opportunities I had at Bridgewater, and the willingness of the college to work with me, even in directed studies, the support I had was phenomenal.

"I was blessed."

Louis M. Ricciardi lives Bridgewater's time-honored motto "Not to be ministered unto, but to minister," and his Entrepreneurial Leadership Fund – Not to be led, but to lead – mirrors the sentiment.

Pictured right top: Louis M. Ricciardi, '81, H'15, meets with students in the Ricciardi College of Business.

Pictured right bottom: Zachary Allen, '24, and Louis M. Ricciardi shake hands during the Commissioning Ceremony at the State House in Boston.



PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT

Zachary Allen, '24 Aviation Science

When asked about his BSU experience, Zachary Allen, '24, didn't miss a beat. "If it weren't for Bridgewater, I don't think I'd be where I am today," said Allen. He's currently attending Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, which is a fighter-focused program for the U.S. Air Force.

His journey to "today" is a story of commitment, hard work, and involvement in his community – ROTC, student trustee, and photographer for the Division of Enrollment, Marketing and Communications.

While a student trustee, Allen was introduced to Ricciardi. "We clicked," said Allen. "We talked about ROTC, aviation and his passion for military aviation," which Allen shares. One thing led to another and the two developed a lasting friendship.

Allen described Ricciardi as a valued mentor. "But Lou wasn't just a mentor, he also wanted to learn from me. It was – and still is – a two-way street. The typical mentor shares wisdom and knowledge, which is valuable, but with Lou, I would often find myself answering his questions, learning about his interests."

Initiatives such as Ricciardi's Entrepreneurial Leadership Fund, his support for the Aviation Science program and his participation in BSU's *Without Exception* campaign, among other projects speak to Allen's reflections on his Bridgewater experience.

"Bridgewater values educational experiences, life experiences and networking opportunities," he said. "The university has a lot more opportunities than I even imagined. I got a first-class, quality education while being involved on campus, serving as a trustee and in student government."

Through his philanthropy, Ricciardi has helped countless students find their professional running starts.



If you wish to make a gift in support of the Entrepreneurial Leadership Fund, visit bridgew.edu/give and choose "Louis M. Ricciardi '81 Entrepreneurial Leadership Fund" in the drop-down menu.

LEADING WITH PURPOSE

Double down on BSU's historic mission: Bring the dream of college success to those who once considered it impractical – or impossible.

Too often, racial justice and equity are simple words in need of substance. To Bridgewater State University, racial justice and equity are a sacred pledge backed by actionable strategies.

BSU President Fred Clark is committed to equity and student success without exception. Equity is the driving force behind not only strengthening, but also creating many BSU programs designed to provide equal opportunities for all students. This is one of several reasons why Dr. Jean MacCormack (pictured below) chose to support the university's *Without Exception* campaign.

The campaign's promise to "Bring the dream of college success to those who once considered it impractical—or impossible" deeply resonates with Dr. MacCormack, who has devoted her entire career in higher education to ensuring all students, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, income or physical abilities have the tools they need to achieve their dreams.

Inspired by the university's efforts, Dr. MacCormack and a group of like-minded alumni, established the "Achieving the Dream" fund in support of BSU programs that "have been proven to close achievement/opportunity gaps for underserved students so they can stay in school, graduate from BSU, have successful careers, and make meaningful contributions in their communities." Retention Scholarships and the Summer Pride program are among the many initiatives supported by this fund.

Dr. MacCormack's passion for equity and fairness took root in her childhood. She grew up in a working-class neighborhood in Dorchester and, while neither of her parents had attended college, they saw education as a great "equalizer" and encouraged all their children to do well in school and "dream big." She did that, but also she quickly realized that being the first in her family to go to college, there were many things they did not understand about succeeding in higher education. While her parents were supportive, they did not always know how to help her navigate this pathway.

Throughout her educational journey from an undergraduate to doctorate, faculty to dean to chancellor of UMass Dartmouth, Dr. MacCormack came to understand that the common

assumption that students who are accepted to college have all the skills and support they need to succeed was just not reality. Academic acumen was not enough. Racial, socioeconomic, gender, language and cultural differences impacted students' ability to navigate the system and succeed. Higher education institutions were set up at first to serve white, male, upper-class students, and many of the institutional structures in place today date back to that era. A rich multi-racial, multi-cultural, socio-economically diverse student body requires that institutional structures and ways of doing business be carefully assessed so that they do not create unintended barriers to achieving the dream.

Bridgewater's efforts to examine itself resonated with Dr. MacCormack who was appointed to BSU's Board of



Trustees (BOT) in 2014 and served from 2014 to 2024. “From the beginning, I was impressed with how BSU asked itself this question. I was impressed with the university’s desire to maintain high academic standards while also being responsive, self-reflective and willing to challenge itself to ensure that every student they accepted could succeed.”

When he was appointed, President Clark asked the trustees to form a BOT Diversity and Student Success committee, which Dr. MacCormack chaired. In 2020, following the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others, President Clark appointed a broad-based Racial Justice Task Force that included faculty, staff, librarians, students and alumni from throughout the Bridgewater community to assess how well Bridgewater was addressing racial issues. The trustees were asked to form a Racial Justice and Equity Committee to follow up on the recommendation of the Task Force and to bring an equity lens to all the trustee committee work. “When we ask the right questions, people focus on the right things,” Dr. MacCormack said. “Data shows us what we’re doing well, where the gaps are among student groups, and what we might do better.”

Financial support is critical for any institution to help students achieve this all-encompassing success. For BSU, it is essential, given the modest support public institutions receive from the state. Dr. MacCormack encourages people to give according to their means. “I was happy to give to ensure that future students can achieve their dreams. You can start small. Give what you can. Ask yourself, ‘Can I at least make an annual contribution equal to the cost of a dinner and a movie?’ Think of it as an investment in the leaders of tomorrow.”



RETENTION SCHOLARSHIP

Summa Slater, '25
Psychology; Minor
Childhood Studies

Responsible for paying for her education, Summa Slater, '25, took out a personal loan in order to stay in school.”

Her debt was overwhelming. Summa shared her decision to withdraw with one of several professional staff members serving as student navigators in the Division of Student

Success, Equity and Diversity, who arranged for Summa to receive a Retention Scholarship.

“My education is something I value a lot, and I appreciate there are people who want to help me achieve my goals,” said Summa. “Bridgewater was the best decision I’ve ever made for myself. Bridgewater is truly a second home to me.”



PRIDE PROGRAM

Avery Barry, '27,
Biology

The Summer Pride Program, a three-day orientation program held in August for incoming LGBTQ students, is supported by the “Achieving the Dream” fund. Students meet with President Clark, talk with faculty, attend events and, importantly, embrace the opportunity to meet like-minded people, many of whom develop long-lasting friendships.

“The Summer Pride program is really valuable,” said Avery Barry, '27. Having the time to adjust and to learn at a university that helps address our challenges and works with us from the very start is really helpful. My participation had a valuable impact on my Bridgewater experiences.”

If you wish to make a gift in support of Retention Scholarships, visit bridgew.edu/give and choose “Retention Scholarships” in the drop-down menu. An anonymous donor will match all gifts dollar-for-dollar up to \$200,000.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Infuse BSU's programs with new resources to make them more nimble, impactful, and responsive to emerging opportunities

Good things happen when you huddle up! You have only to look to the Bear's Football Endowed Fund and its newly established Coaches Society to see the truth of the old adage, "Strength in Numbers," which captures the power of like-minded individuals uniting for a common cause.

It's difficult to say who among them initiated the decisive first huddle. However, we can point to a tight group of BSU football players from the '60s, '70s, and '80s who have stayed connected through the decades, love Bridgewater, are passionate about the game of football, and determined nothing should threaten BSU's football future – not lack of funding, not administrative changes, not politics. Nothing.

Enter the Coaches Society, a fund-raising arm within the Bear's Football Endowed Fund. Membership requires a minimum gift of \$2,500 paid outright or spread out over five years. There are many other ways to support BSU football including a multi-year pledge of any amount, a charitable gift annuity, an estate bequest, an outright cash gift and more.

Younger players, encouraged by their predecessors' visions, also support the cause. Together, the group of past and present players has already raised over \$175,000 toward the Phase 1 goal of \$250,000.

The Coaches Society came together as a result of a collaboration among the university, alumni and development staff, and the Football Council, the idea being to ensure every coach – present and future – has access to funds in perpetuity to support the growing needs of the football program.

Coach Joe Verria, '81, has been coaching at Bridgewater since 1988, moving up to part-time head coach in 2016, and becoming full-time head coach in 2023. "Funds will be spent on necessities like uniforms, transportation and travel, professional coaching clinics, athletic equipment and gear, you name it," said Verria, opportunities that arise above and beyond those activities covered in the regular season.

"Football at Bridgewater is as much about relationships as it is the game," he said. "Football is about being part of something. So much sacrifice and hard work goes into football. So much discipline and, obviously, there's heartache. You're not going to win every game. How do you handle those things? These are all the things that, in my opinion, make the game of football the greatest game."



Pictured on next page: Members of the Coaches Society came together at the season's first home game, where co-captain Zachary Souza, '25, was presented with the jersey of Marty Rizzo, a former Bridgewater State football player who tragically passed away more than 60 years ago due to an injury sustained during a game.

Without Exception



Jeff Tuller, '78
Left Tackle

Jeff Tuller remembers Coach Verria, '81, as his back up on the team back in the day. Fast forward to today, he said, "I'm so impressed with what Coach Verria has done with the team over the years. He's a quality guy. A great leader. The perfect mentor for young men."

Football aside, Tuller added, "Bridgewater was and is a wonderful place to get an education. People are from different backgrounds, it's a beautiful campus, and importantly, everyone is treated the same."

Tuller has kept in touch with BSU over the years, lives now in Florida with his wife, Lynne (pictured left), and often helps with meetings when the BSU alumni team makes its annual trek south. "I'm more than willing to help out," he said, and has hosted a reception at his country club. He makes regular visits back to his alma mater, playing in the alumni golf tournament or catching a football game from time-to-time.

Bottom line: Jeff Tuller's memories of his Bridgewater days and his four years playing football with the guys made his choice of joining the Coaches Society with an estate gift an easy decision.



Jim Tartari, '64
Guard

Jim Tartari recalls with fondness his former teammates as well as many others he met and socialized with along the way. It's a tight group, and Tartari was in on the ground floor, or turf as it were. He hesitates to name other players because, through his multi-year involvement with BSU's football program, there are so many. But when pressed he mentions Dave Morwick, '64, Bob Mason, '65, Skip Rodriguez, '66, Charlie Worden, '70, Rich Florence, '74. Tartari's list goes on and on.

"So many players worked tirelessly for years to raise money for the football program," Tartari said.

He especially remembers his friend and fellow teammate, Marty Rizzo, who was injured on the field and later succumbed to those injuries. Tartari was instrumental in establishing the Rizzo Fund for BSU football and is heartened that this fund not only grows the Bears Football Endowed Fund, but also has seeded the elite Coaches Society, helping to boost the fund to endowment level.

The Bear's Football Endowed Fund with its newly established Coaches Society ensures that the BSU football program not only will have the funds it needs in perpetuity, but also honors Marty Rizzo's legacy. Jim Tartari couldn't be happier.

Casey Florence, '10 Linebacker

"I have so many good memories of football growing up," said Casey Florence. "It's almost 15 years since I played at Bridgewater. My memories are not so much the wins, losses, and plays, but are more the life lessons I learned. They've made such a difference in my life and the lives of so many young men."

A paramedic, firefighter, and emergency room nurse, Florence's career is wrapped around giving back. He sees joining the Coaches Society as a way to give back to the university and the game he loves by supporting present and future coaches. "I asked myself 'What can I do to help the next generation.'" The Coaches Society, he decided, was a perfect way to give back.

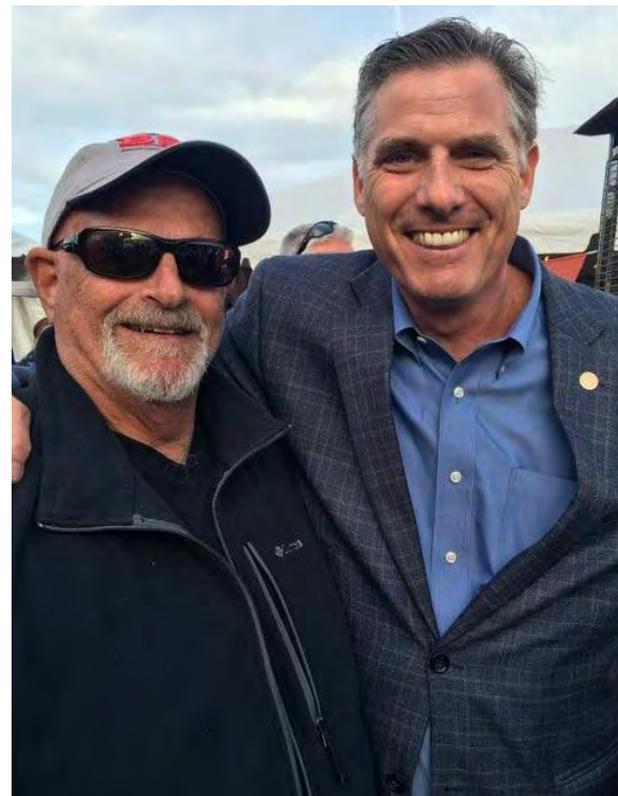


Leon Weinstein, '70 Offense, Interior Lineman, Guard Defense, Middle Guard

Football is a story all about relationships. "It's the camaraderie, dependence, and friendship," said Leon Weinstein. "There's a lot of respect and mutual admiration." Weinstein rates friendship highest on the list. To wit, he graduated more than 50 years ago. In 2015, he was inducted into BSU's Football Hall of Fame. But he was as moved, if not more so, by the 16 former teammates who attended the ceremony in honor of their friend.

The Coaches Society is a story not only about supporting football, but also it's building a community and helping sustain the lifelong relationships forged on the field.

When Coach Verria contacted Weinstein to introduce him to the Coaches Society, Weinstein didn't hesitate. He was in. "I've always believed in giving back when you can," he said. The Coaches Society gave him the opportunity to financially assist the sport that gave him so much. To this day, Weinstein attends games, homecoming and awards dinners whenever he can.



ENSURING A BETTER TOMORROW

Make a BSU education a great return on investment, giving students the opportunity to focus less on paying for college and more on building their futures and changing the world.

Isabel Dawson's passion for and belief in the value of education is her legacy. Her confidence in a BSU education as a great return on investment is more than evident in her decision to bequeath her entire estate to Bridgewater when she passed in 2023, making it the single largest gift to the College of Education and Health Sciences to date. Consistent with the goals of BSU's *Without Exception* campaign, Dawson's goal was to give students the wherewithal to focus less on financial stress and more on building their future success.

Born in 1928 and having come of age in the early 1950s when women in high places were more the anomaly than the norm, Isabel (Zappone) Dawson, a U.S. diplomat and political analyst, defied the odds. She credited her own teachers for nurturing her curiosity and challenging her intellectually, a combination that contributed to her decades of success in the diplomatic/political arena.

Isabel's teacher was the first person who believed in her and fueled in her this passion for education and independence. She wanted to leave her money to aspiring educators because she saw the difference her teacher made in her life and her sense of self.

She did so when she established the Isabel A. Dawson and Richard J. Powers Endowed Education Scholarship Fund. And while she did not attend BSU, she appreciated Bridgewater's role as the single leading producer of teachers in the state, with Massachusetts being the top state for public education in the country.

Dr. Marci J. Swede, dean of the College of Education and Health Sciences, is delighted. "This fund will help reduce economic barriers for many students as they move through and complete their education programs and progress professionally in ways required of them," she said.

Bottom line: a student's inability to financially complete an education program has ripple effects, which Swede described as "chilling. There is not only the negative effect on teacher recruitment, but also on representation in the field," she said, with fewer teachers representing the communities they serve.

That, and the documented nationwide teacher shortage, is cause for alarm. According to the U.S. Department of Education, "... up to 48 percent of district executives in Massachusetts reported teacher shortages in the 2022-2023 school year."

The Isabel A. Dawson and Richard J. Powers Endowed Education Scholarship Fund addresses the areas that most challenge education students financially – the unpaid, full-time student teaching requirement and the cost of the competency exams and licensures are high on the list. And finally, although students can begin teaching immediately following graduation, their licensure is temporary. Within five years, they must earn a professional license, which requires returning to university to earn a master's degree. The first of its kind, this innovative fund supports teachers who graduated from BSU by helping them come back to their alma mater to get their master's degree.

"Our students are passionate about becoming teachers," said Swede, "but often they have to pull back from it because they just can't afford it." The cost of certifications, exams, and, especially, unpaid student teaching is, too often and sadly, the reasons why students withdraw from the program.

The Isabel A. Dawson and Richard J. Powers Endowed Education Scholarship Fund looks at the teacher preparation process, identifying the gaps to completion and then providing financial solutions to address those gaps and help ease the nationwide issue of teacher shortages.



To make a gift in support of alleviating the financial burden for future teachers, visit bridgew.edu/give and choose "Isabel A. Dawson & Richard J. Powers Education Endowed Scholarship" in the drop-down menu. 15



BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY'S BOARDS AND OFFICERS

BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Michael Taylor
Chairperson
Dr. Lisa Battaglini, '79
Vice Chairperson
Ms. Carolyn V. Turchon, '62
Secretary
Mx. Emily Rose, '25
Student Trustee
Mr. Davede U. I. Alexander
Ms. Tiffany Cesero
Mr. Francis Giles
Peter Koutoujian, Esq., '83
Dr. Jean F. MacCormack
Walter B. Prince, Esq.
Dr. Michael J. Vieira, '75, G'82

OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Frederick W. Clark Jr., Esq., '83
President
Dr. Arnaa Alcon
Interim Provost and
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Diane Bell
Vice President for
Outreach and Engagement
Dr. Lucy Croft
Vice President for Student Life
Mr. Viriato (Vinny) M. deMacedo
Senior Advisor for External Relations
Dr. Sabrina Gentlewarrior
Vice President for Student
Success, Equity and Diversity
Ms. Karen W. Jason, G'04, G'10, G'15, G'24
Vice President for Operations
Mr. Paul Jean, '83
Vice President for Enrollment,
Marketing and Communications
Dr. Deniz Zeynep Leuenberger
Chief of Staff, Vice President
for Planning and Strategy, and
Interim Dean of the College
of Graduate Studies
Ms. Ellen Cuttle Oliver, '82, G'89
Chief Development Officer and
Executive Director of the Bridgewater
State University Foundation
Ms. Keri Powers
Vice President for Human Resources
and Talent Management
Mr. Doug Shropshire
Vice President for Finance
and Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Steven Zuromski, '04, G'09
Vice President for
Information Technology
and Chief Information Officer

BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION BOARD

Mr. David Rumrill, '91
Chairperson
Mrs. Phyllis Klock, '67
First Vice Chairperson
Mr. Tom Magee, '91
Second Vice Chairperson
Ms. Sharon Mutrie
Secretary
Ms. Ann Ulett, '92
Treasurer
Ms. Ellen Cuttle Oliver, '82, G'89
Executive Director
Mr. Jack Badavas, '25
Student Director
Mr. Paul Bonitto, '87
Kevin Costa, Esq., '15
Bridgewater Alumni Association
Ex-Officio
Frederick W. Clark Jr., Esq., '83
Ex-Officio
Jeremy David, Esq.
Mr. Steven Goodyear, '90
Mr. George Gurley, G'82
Mr. Aenis Harris Jr., '94
Ms. Lori Hindle, '97, G'23
Mr. Wayne Lombardi, '92
Ms. Michelle O'Connor, '88
Mr. Louis M. Ricciardi, '81
Mr. Daniel W. Smith
Mr. Joseph St. Laurent, '88
Immediate Past Chairperson
Mr. Michael Taylor
Bridgewater State University
Board of Trustees
Ex-Officio

BRIDGEWATER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Kevin C. Costa, Esq., '15
President
Mr. Nicholas E. Promponas, '89
Vice President
Ms. Jessica McNeill, '14
Secretary
Ms. Colleen V. McIntyre, '97
Treasurer
Christopher McMillan, Esq., '11, G'17
Assistant Treasurer
Ms. Carrie Kulick-Clark, '85, G'98
Past President
Dr. Michael J. Vieira, '75, G'82
Alumni Trustee
Mr. Colby Shannon, '25
Student Director
Mr. Rob Berger, '83
Ms. Vinda Butler, '08
Ms. Stella M. Citrano, '73
Dr. Kelly J. Duggan, '06
Mr. Andrew Fagan, '20
Ms. Amanda Foulds, '06
Ms. Amber Gazerro, '13
Ms. Michelle A. Hacunda, '12
Ms. Mia Hazlett, '95
Ms. Colleen Logan, '08
Mr. Timothy P. Millerick, '82, G'86
Mr. Dave Morwick, '64
Ms. Karen Penny, '93



While many aspects of how we educate and engage students are continually evolving, one thing remains the same: the impact friends like you have on the future of our students.

Bridgewater State University will continue to adapt to the changing needs of our students because generous past donors had the foresight to make gifts in support of Bridgewater's future.

Learn how to take care of yourself and loved ones while also making a gift to Bridgewater in your will or through a gift that pays you income.

Our Future
**LOOKS
BRIGHT**

Thanks to **YOU**

CONTACT THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUR COMPLIMENTARY PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING LESSON BOOK

The Office of Alumni & Development
Bridgewater State University Foundation
PO Box 42
Bridgewater, MA 02324
development@bridgew.edu
508.531.1290

bridgew.planmygift.org



BRIDGEWATER

STATE UNIVERSITY

Jones Alumni House
26 Summer Street
Bridgewater, MA 02325
508.531.1290

For a complete list
of all our donors visit:
bridgew.edu/give/your-impact



Without Exception

The Bridgewater Campaign
for Success through Innovation

A gift to the campaign honors and affirms the best of Bridgewater:
where we come from, who we are, and all that we can be.

If you would like to learn ways you can support BSU through
planned or other gifts, or to be in touch with our Chief Development
Officer, Ellen Cuttle Oliver, '82, G'89, or our Executive Director of
Alumni and Development, Betsy Dubuque, G'11, please email:
development@bridgew.edu or call 508.531.1290.



Visit bridgew.edu/bsu-campaign
or scan the QR code to check out our videos and
hear directly from our students on how private
philanthropy has made a difference in their lives.

