

Bridgewater

STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2024



Lighting the Way

The nation's last lighthouse keeper and first woman in that role, Sally Snowman, '76, retires after 21 years of tending Boston Light

INSIDE: Interdisciplinary Classes Address Climate Change | Alumnus is Top Expert on High-Intensity Exercise | 20 Years of *The Bridge*

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



A piece of advice: Don't trade schedules with **Cindy Mack, '23**. That is unless you're looking to experience a superhuman level of busyness.

The Stoughton resident, first-gen student, Trinidad native and soon-to-be double Bear is doing all he can to make sure public higher-education students have a voice in the halls of power. He first double majored in criminal justice and political science; his master's degree will be in public administration.

At BSU, he served in several positions as a voting member with the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education. These include segmental advisor, parliamentarian/policy chair, as well as member of the Student Advisory Council Board, the Sexual Misconduct Campus Climate Task Force and executive member of the Open Educational Resources Committee. He has also served as an intern with the board and has been a longtime advocate of free community college.

Cindy splits his time on campus, at the Statehouse and at myriad locations where his advocacy work is needed. Last November, in fact, he found himself onstage at Salem State University representing the BHE, along with Governor Maura Healey as she unveiled \$62 million earmarked for financial aid.

For his honors thesis, Cindy produced a documentary, *See Me: A Life of Invisibility of the LGBTQIA+ Community in Tobago*, funded in part by BSU and overseen by faculty mentor and communication studies instructor James Moore. In Cindy's native land, same-sex intimacy was historically a criminal act, and transphobia and homophobia remain pervasive.

We recently caught up with Cindy on what was a relatively quiet day for him.

Do you have a guiding philosophy as an activist?

My thing is, be smart with heart. We need to have that passion, all student leaders.

What's the key to your success, other than passion and a desire to make change?

My family is my rock. My dad died when I was six, and I was raised by a single mom. My mom really went through hell to bring us up, and she did a damn good job. I am so motivated by human compassion deep inside me. I love the person I am and that this journey I am on is where I need to be.

Would you agree that your various roles with the BHE speak to your level of engagement and dedication?

When I do something I don't want it to ever be about me. It genuinely comes from the heart. I want people to believe in higher education. And that students know someone is here to make sure their voices are heard. It's important people know this because it will empower them and others to be leaders. To take that chance. I don't think people understand how much of a difference getting involved can make, especially representing those who can't raise their own voice.

Can you tell us about the documentary?

If people get the message behind it, I think it will make them want to change their mindset or have at least a little more compassion about what others are going through, and maybe have a different outlook when they see someone from the LGBTQIA+ community. I was just happy to bring this to light, and Bridgewater saw the importance of it and allowed me to showcase what's going on in other parts of the world. If we can make change, then I've done my job.

Interview by John Winters, G'11

EDITORIAL BOARD

Karen Callan, *editor*
 Amy Barnes
 Nicole Chaves, '11, G'19
 Elizabeth Dubuque, G'11
 Eva T. Gaffney, G'01
 Paul Jean, '83
 Jaime Knight, G'19
 Ellen Cuttle Oliver, '82, G'89
 David Robichaud, '83
 John Winters, G'11

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Brian Benson, G'23
 Heather Harris Michonski
 John Winters, G'11

PHOTOGRAPHY

Zachary Allen, '24
 Brian Benson, G'23
 Karen Callan
 Paul Connors
 Ashley McCabe
 Charlie Peters, G'20
 Luis Pires, '24
 Mackenzie Rubitschung, '21
 Ben van der Voet, '26

DESIGN

Karen Callan
 Ken Davidson, '96
(inside and outside back covers)

Bridgewater keeps alumni, faculty, students and their families, staff and friends of Bridgewater State University informed about the university community and its impact on the region.

This magazine is written, designed and edited by the Office of Creative Services and Publications with the needs of its varied audiences at heart and in mind.

For up-to-date university news, activities and events, and to view past issues of the magazine, visit <http://bridgew.edu/news-events>.

ADDRESS MAIL TO:

Bridgewater
 Creative Services and Publications
 Bridgewater State University
 Bridgewater, MA 02325
 508.531.1335

Email class notes to:
alumni@bridgew.edu

Keep up with BSU on social media.



Bridgewater

VOLUME 34/NUMBER 1 STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

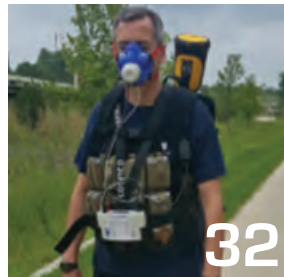
SPRING 2024

FEATURES



19 SAFE HOME

Sally Snowman, '76, retires as the nation's first female U.S. Coast Guard lighthouse keeper... and the last



22 THE MULTIPLE SIDES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Interdisciplinary approaches bring new opportunities for collaboration among students, faculty and other universities

28 MUCH TO 'ASPIRE' TO

Program helps students with an autism spectrum disorder or related social profile gain real-world work experience



33 KEEPING PACE

Peter Weyand, G'88, helps students and world-class athletes stay on track

36 TWO DECADES OF *THE BRIDGE*

Student-run journal has earned awards and changed lives

42 ECLIPSING EXPECTATIONS

On-campus viewing event draws hundreds to BSU, observatory

DEPARTMENTS

2 PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

3 CAMPUS CONNECTION

BSU News, Student Perspective, Faculty Focus,
 Behind the Name, Keeping Score, Preserving History

44 ALUMNI UPDATE

Class Notes, In Memoriam, Alumni Services, Career Services

48 PARTING SHOT

ON THE COVER:

Sally Snowman, '76, stands in front of Boston Light where she served as the lighthouse keeper and historian for 21 years.

photo by Daniel Afzal/Alamy Stock Photo



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

PRESIDENT FREDERICK W. CLARK JR., ESQ., '83

Like many of you, I was enthralled by April's total solar eclipse. I can't say whether it was the rarity of such an event or the fact that by simply looking skyward we could witness an incredible celestial show, the moon passing between the sun and Earth. Somehow, it felt overwhelmingly huge and intimately close at the same time.

On that day, April 8, the campus was teeming with amateur astronomers seeking advantageous spots from which to view this amazing feat of nature. Hundreds of students, local residents and other members of the greater Bridgewater community came out. Similar scenes played out all across North America. For those in the path of totality, the world went dark for a few moments.

That must have been an eerie effect. Then again, there are those who will tell you that darkness is perhaps the best overarching metaphor for these days. They think of the world's problems – divisiveness here and abroad, war, climate change, the threat to democracies near and far – and feel both helpless and hopeless.

Meanwhile, some believe the heyday of higher education is itself slowly being eclipsed. Yet, we here at BSU are as confident as ever that the value, quality, breadth and depth of a Bridgewater education continues to provide a life-changing opportunity for thousands of students each year.

To those who still feel anxious about the world and its prospects, I offer the stories in these pages, on the university's website and shared via our social media channels. They tell of exceptional students, caring and deeply engaged faculty and librarians, eager-to-help staff and generous benefactors.

If I sound like an optimist, I am. Even in the darkest times, the light of education has pointed the way forward. Here at BSU, that light represents the core of what we do. It is the spark of knowledge, the torch we aim to pass. The reward for all our efforts was on display last month as a glint in the eye of every graduate who crossed the commencement stage at Gillette Stadium.

Those lights I hope will never be eclipsed.

With warmest regards,



President Frederick W. Clark Jr.



New Cyber Range Open for Business

In February, Bridgewater State University officials, lawmakers, and area tech and industry leaders gathered inside the Dana Mohler-Faria Science and Mathematics Center for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the school's cyber range and Security Operations Center.

Already, the reviews have been stellar.

"The BSU cyber range will be a focal point for a growing cyber program, offering students an essential hands-on environment to complement their classroom learning," said Peter Sherlock, CEO of CyberTrust Massachusetts. "Cyber ranges are becoming essential laboratories for cyber education, just as important as laboratories are to chemistry and biology."



Last year, BSU launched a new degree program in cybersecurity, the first undergraduate degree of its kind within the state university system. Students will gain real-world experience working in the new facility and develop a skill set that will undoubtedly open doors for their careers. In fall 2025, the Master of Science degree in cybersecurity and justice will launch. Also currently offered is a graduate certificate in cybercriminology and cybersecurity.

According to Steve Zuromski, '04, G'09, BSU's vice president of information technology and chief information officer, there are currently more than 20,000 unfilled cybersecurity positions in Massachusetts and more than 750,000 nationally.



BSU students take part in a class in the cyber range.



Steve Zuromski, '04, G'09, vice president of information technology and chief information officer, addresses attendees at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

Another Piece of the Plan



With the Bridgewater State University Foundation's purchase of a property at 21 Park Terrace, BSU has taken a significant final step in completing its 2012 Master Plan. The Foundation will also be funding the renovations.

The acquisition of the property with its 3,000-plus-square-foot house, large yard and external structure means the Foundation owns all properties on that street – the Barry House, the Minnock Institute for Global Engagement, 21 Park Terrace and the Guy C. Clifford House, which fronts Summer Street.

Park Terrace is diagonally across the street from the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice, located at 161 Summer Street, which

was also purchased and fully renovated by the Foundation, likewise the Jones Alumni House, located at 26 Summer Street.

By owning all four properties on Park Terrace, the university will also be able to create a shared green space that links all the sites.

This latest Foundation acquisition will become the new home for the College of Graduate Studies. Interestingly, the college's inaugural dean, Dr. William Smith, a longtime professor of English at BSU, owned the home prior to its sale to the owner who sold the property to the Foundation.

Moving the College of Graduate Studies to this new location will elevate the visibility of graduate education at BSU and complement other initiatives and investments the university plans to undertake to increase its graduate student population.

Another beneficiary of this important purchase is the Academic Achievement Center, which stands to significantly expand its footprint on the ground floor of Maxwell Library. The ultimate beneficiaries of this expansion are BSU students who will experience more privacy and additional academic support and resources.

Renovations to both 21 Park Terrace and the library are scheduled to take 18 months to complete.

Impressed with the level of care that went into the restoration of the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice, the previous owner of 21 Park Terrace exclusively offered the property to BSU and also donated to the university a baby grand piano, which sits in a glass-lined common area in Weygand Hall for use by students.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

Criminal Justice Students Experience Learning Inside Local Prison

As an aspiring police or correctional officer, Benjamin, '24, may one day be putting people behind bars. This semester, Benjamin sees inmates in a different light: as classmates.

He is one of a dozen students (joined by roughly the same number of inmates) taking a BSU class inside the Plymouth County Correctional Facility.

"It's an eye-opening experience," said Benjamin, a criminal justice major and sociology minor. "It provides a different perspective on incarceration in the U.S."

The course, taught by criminal justice instructor Stephen Simms, is part of an educational movement called Inside-Out. The initiative strives to connect college students (called outside students) and inmates (inside students).

The BSU class, which for privacy reasons is conducted on a first-name-only basis, meets for 2.5 hours a week. Students sit in a large circle alternating between inside and outside students. Without the distractions of cell phones (which visitors cannot bring into the jail), classmates engage in deep conversations that consider a criminal justice system based on love and compassion, rather than punishment.

"The real magic in this course is the conversations that emerge from interactions with inside and outside students," Mr. Simms said.

For the first time at BSU, inmates who complete the course will receive college credit. Mr. Simms hopes they are inspired to pursue further education, which research shows makes them less likely to re-offend.

"I will carry with me the belief that I can hold my own in a class/college setting," inside student André said, noting the class helps him realize he is not too old for school.

A fellow inside student, Franky, said he will now seek to participate in more substantive conversations that contribute to improving society. The class helps him "gain insight from people from different backgrounds, opinions and views of the justicesystem, which gives me more patience for those who are quick to judge people in my position," he said.



Participating in a class inside the Plymouth County Correctional Facility are Sandra Crispin, '05, G'10, program manager for the Plymouth County Sheriff's anti-violence unit; Meagan, '24; Benjamin, '24; and Instructor Stephen Simms of BSU's Department of Criminal Justice.

The course complements jail programming on anger management, behavior change and other topics, said Sandra Crispin, '05, G'10, program manager for the sheriff's anti-violence unit.

"It's to broaden their minds and have them realize there is a bigger world beyond the one they may have left," Ms. Crispin said. "There are opportunities out there."

For outside students, the course explores the criminal justice system in a way that a traditional class can't replicate, said Meagan, '24, a sociology major and criminal justice minor. "It's so different to be able to go in and experience this and not just learn it from a textbook," she said.

Meagan and Benjamin now see inside students as not all that different from themselves.

"The perceived notion that is a driving force of American society today is that these people are all bad because they're locked up," Benjamin said. "But they are human beings. ... You need to have an open mind and keep your heart open."

That's what Meagan is doing as she considers a career helping inmates re-enter society. "After getting their perspectives, it makes me want to do this even more," she said.

FACULTY FOCUS

DR. SIDITA KUSHI / POLITICAL SCIENCE



As a child, Dr. Sidita Kushi watched her homeland of Albania fall apart.

The Balkan nation shook off the yoke of a brutal communist dictatorship in 1991. The imperfect democracy that emerged lasted six years, until a pyramid scheme supported by the government itself brought absolute chaos. “There were no rules, no school, no healthcare,” Dr. Kushi recalled.

Then something happened that would play a role in shaping her destiny. Across the Adriatic Sea in her hometown of Durres, Italian ships headed her way as part of an international rescue mission.

They were bringing humanitarian aid and military manpower to help the

Albanians. She was nine years old. “I thought, isn’t the world amazing; our neighbors are helping,” she said.

As the years passed, Dr. Kushi watched as other countries, including the United States, made decisions as to whether or not to intervene in various hotspots around the world, such as in the United State’s humanitarian intervention in Kosovo in 1999, which rescued some of Dr. Kushi’s family members. Truisms, like resources are limited and politics colors everything, are always in play, hence tough decisions must be made by any country considering intervening in a regional or global problem.

As Dr. Kushi got older, she noticed that countries were inconsistent about getting involved in others’ battles and internal conflicts. She points to the little help accorded to Darfur and Rwanda in recent decades.

“Why do powerful countries intervene in certain parts of the world but ignore human suffering in others?” she said. “Why rescue some people and not others? What is it that drives military interventions?”

These questions continued for Dr. Kushi, even after she moved to the United States in her teen years and then came to BSU four years ago. An assistant professor of political science, her research interests include international relations, political economy, humanitarian interventions and U.S. foreign policy.

The whys of intervention can include human rights issues, domestic lobbying and national interests, to name just a few. Still, the issue needed a more comprehensive approach. (For her purposes, Dr. Kushi defines a military intervention as at minimum a threat of force and expanding to include all-out wars.)

This is why Dr. Kushi and a team of faculty researchers at Tufts University have joined together to study these issues and help others to do likewise. She was the research director of the Military Intervention Project, which included the building of a database chronicling every military intervention the United States has ever engaged in. It measures more than 200 variables, highlights objectives and outcomes, and includes written narratives about each entry. The project now counts among its holdings more than 400 case studies.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

"The goal is to trace U.S. foreign policy over the centuries to see how we've used the different tools of statecraft, including economic, militaristic and diplomatic," she said.

The project continues and has thus far produced one book, last year's *Dying by the Sword: The Militarization of US Foreign Policy*, by Dr. Kushi and Dr. Monica Duffy Toft of Tufts University, and published by Oxford University Press.

It's not only Dr. Kushi's readers who benefit from her work, but also her students. Lessons large and small are found in the data and narratives of the Military Intervention Project. "I think ultimately what they show is that powerful countries like the United States have gotten used to using their military resources more and more, despite all the negative consequences," she said. "You have to ask, whose human rights are worthy of protection? Countries closer to the United States, who appear more like us, get more immediate and intense support. Others are ignored, unless there are strong interests to intervene. "The closer you are to the West, the more your human rights are protected and promoted by great powers," Dr. Kushi added, a finding from her additional research on humanitarian interventions specifically.

Meanwhile, the data show that the rate of U.S. interventions nearly doubled in the decades since the Cold War. More recently, since the attacks of September 11, 2001, United States' interventions have been relying much more on the military. And, while America's numbers are up, our adversaries have generally de-escalated on the intervention front.

Some of this is a result of an anemic U.S. foreign policy, Dr. Kushi said. "There's no long-term plan or vision," she said. "It's like Whac-A-Mole; we just sort of whack at it anytime something pops up on the horizon. Our leaders need to unite around a grand strategy."

There is still much more to discover, and, sadly, new wars and global hotspots are regularly in the headlines. Dr. Kushi and her colleagues will continue tracking and analyzing it all. She already has a second book on the way with the working title, *From Kosovo to Darfur: Why Humanitarian Militarism Favors the West*.

View the *Military Intervention Project* by logging on to <https://sites.tufts.edu/css/mip-research/mip-dataset>

In Brief

DR. MISTI NEUTZLING's devotion to her students was recognized with this year's Massachusetts Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Honor (MAHPERD) Award. The award is given to an individual who has made significant strides in the association's areas of focus. "We don't do our jobs to receive praise, but it does feel good," said the professor of health and kinesiology. "It encourages and inspires me to work even harder and do more."

ALEX RAY, '25, was awarded a national research award from the American Psychology-Law Society. The psychology major was mentored by Dr. Nesa Wasarhaley of the Department of Psychology. The award is for the Access Path to Psychology and Law Experience Program, which provides financial support to students from groups currently underrepresented in the fields of psychology and law. As a first-generation student who identifies as Hispanic, Alex was an appropriate candidate to apply. "Alex is motivated, high-achieving and immensely passionate," Dr. Wasarhaley said.

DR. ADAM BRIESKE-ULENSKI, an associate professor of literacy education in the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, recently received the Early Career Literacy Scholar Award from the American Reading Forum. The accolade recognizes the impact of the professor's research on literacy coaches, who serve as in-house trainers and professional development experts for school districts. Dr. Brieske-Ulenski has had 17 academic pieces published since coming to BSU in 2017 and presented in front of an international audience. School districts use tools he developed, and he discusses his research with BSU graduate students aiming to become reading specialists or literacy coaches.



Disney Channel's Extraordinary Girls: Gender in 2000s Tween Sitcoms

Dr. Christina Hodel

Between 2001-2011, the Disney Channel produced several sitcoms aimed at tweens that featured female protagonists with extraordinary abilities (e.g., celebrity and super/magical powers). In this book, published by Lexington Books, Dr. Hodel of the Department of Communication Studies argues that while male counterparts in similar programs openly displayed their extraordinariness, the female characters in these programs were often forced into hiding and secrecy, which significantly diminished their agency. She analyzes sitcom episodes, commentary in magazine articles, and web-based discussions of these series to examine how they portrayed female youths and the impact they had on adolescent viewers.

PRESERVING HISTORY

FROM THE ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Professor Emeritus Donates Papers to BSU's Archives and Special Collections

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

Charles Fanning may have departed many years ago from Bridgewater State College, as it was then called, but it's safe to say he left a piece of himself here. And now his archives, focused primarily on Irish poetry and immigration, will help complete his legacy as founder of the institution's Irish Studies Program, which still thrives today.

"The family is really connected to Bridgewater, and I was looking for a place to donate everything," Dr. Fanning said via Zoom from St. Louis, where he has lived since 2015. His sister Patricia retired from BSU not long ago as professor of sociology, and their late brother Geoffrey Fanning was a 1967 graduate. "I had my first job at Bridgewater, and we stayed for more than 20 years. Our kids were born here, and it's just such a lovely town."

Dr. Fanning received bachelor's and master's degrees from Harvard University and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. He came to Bridgewater State in 1970, teaching courses in modern poetry and the history and literature of Ireland and Irish immigration. He did likewise at the University of Missouri St. Louis and Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Dr. Fanning's works of nonfiction have received national recognition, including his landmark study, *The Irish Voice in America: 250 Years of Irish-American Fiction*, which won the Book Prize in Literary Criticism of the American Conference for Irish Studies. He is also a newly minted novelist and has edited many collections of Irish American writing, including fiction by James T. Farrell.

A relative whirlwind has marked Dr. Fanning's 50 years of teaching Irish and modern poetry. In addition to the recent donation of his archives to BSU, with the help of Dr. Orson Kingsley, senior librarian and head of Archives and Special Collections; his latest novel was published; and in early May a group of friends and admirers in St. Louis, headed by Dr. Eamonn Wall at the University of Missouri, held a two-day symposium devoted to his work on Irish immigration studies. Bestselling author Alice McDermott was the keynote speaker. "I'm so touched they are going to do this," Dr. Fanning said this winter. "There's quite an Irish presence here in St. Louis."

His scholarly path was set for him early on when he got to know Harvard's John Kelleher, one of the founders of Irish studies in



Dr. Charles Fanning (right) with Irish poet, playwright and translator Seamus Heaney

America, and the University of Massachusetts Boston professor and author Thomas N. Brown. "Those two were really my mentors and guides, and they gave me things to read and really shaped my thinking," Dr. Fanning said. "And I sort of went on from there."

His dissertation was on Irish immigration and the Irish in America. This growing breadth of knowledge prepared him well to lay the groundwork for Bridgewater State's first forays into Irish studies.

"It's useful and relevant now more than ever," Dr. Fanning said. "We are a nation of immigrants, and sometimes, if we've been here for a number of generations, we forget that. These days, it's more important than ever to be reminded of the triumphs and tragedies and struggles and victories of those who made the country."

Eventually, he was joined in the Department of English by Maureen Connelly, who was well-known in the region's Irish community. She carried the torch for Irish studies after Mr. Fanning moved on to Carbondale. Both were friends with Seamus Heaney and other literary lights of Ireland.

In 2012, Professor Connelly donated her archives to BSU, giving Dr. Fanning an idea. "That's when I first saw what a solid and professional archive Orson has developed there, and I wanted the materials to go to someplace where they would be used," he said.

Dr. Kingsley knows about Irish literature. Not only has he been involved with BSU's Irish Studies over the years, in the fall he will serve as the program's coordinator. Dr. Fanning's contribution will add to a growing and important Irish literature collection

PRESERVING HISTORY

FROM THE ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

housed at BSU. "This is great for researchers, particularly the Seamus Heaney material," Dr. Kingsley said. "Scholars are already using it."

Indeed, both the Fanning and Connelly collections contain many letters from the poet Seamus Heaney. (Pre-COVID, BSU held an annual literary event marking the poet's April 13 birthday.) There are also letters from such luminaries as Eavan Boland, Elizabeth Cullinan and Paul Muldoon.

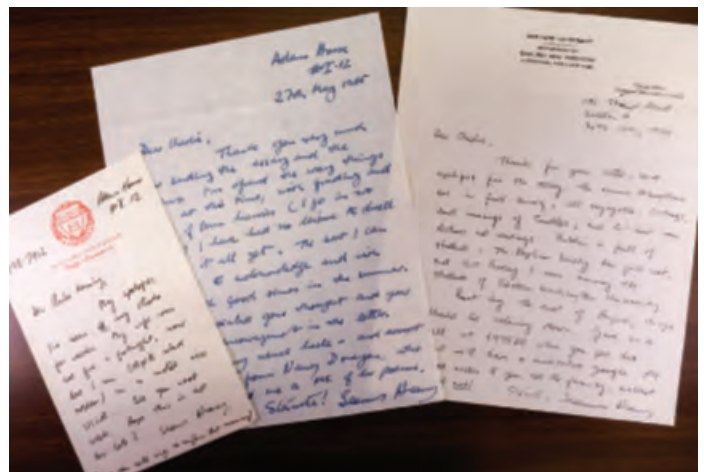
Dr. Fanning's donation includes ephemera and pamphlets, including a limited-edition one that was hand-painted and signed by Jack B. Yeats, the famed poet's painter brother; books signed by Thomas Kinsella; books from the Cuala Press (once owned by Yeats' sisters, Elizabeth and Lilly); Professor Kelleher's annotated teaching copies of books by Irish writers, and much more.

Now with an official minor in Irish studies, BSU faculty members like Dr. Ellen Scheibel, a professor in the Department of English and founder of the university's Irish Studies Program, and her students will certainly find themselves making good use of this pot of literary gold located on the top floor of Maxwell Library.

"The recent growth of BSU's archival collection of Irish studies materials to include the Charles Fanning donation adds to an already strong curriculum supporting the study of Irish culture and heritage on our campus," Dr. Scheibel said. "We are lucky to have acquired such a rich array of texts and documents from a beloved former professor and community member. The collection will offer students and other campus groups access to documentation of Ireland's important role in our own communal history as one of the strongest Irish diasporas in New England."

Dr. Fanning's new novel came about after he finished a memoir of growing up in Massachusetts called *Mapping Norwood: An Irish American Memoir*, published in 2010 by the University of Massachusetts Press. Over the course of the next decade-plus, the story began to take shape.

The Music of What Happens is set in the Chicago of 1880, and follows the life of one Jimmy Farrell, a fiddler, between the ages 12 and 21. It was an incredibly eventful time in the history of both the city and Ireland. Dr. Fanning's protagonist is involved in the American Labor Movement and the attempt to overthrow British rule in Ireland, including the so-called dynamite campaign. "I surrounded him with real characters," Dr. Fanning said. "It's an amazing conjunction of noteworthy and intrinsically interesting events. So, I set out to put my character in the middle of it all."



Among the donations made by Dr. Charles Fanning to BSU's Archives and Special Collections are (from top) four books written or edited by Dr. Fanning, three letters written to Dr. Fanning by Seamus Heaney and a copy of *The Irish Penny Journal* dated July 4, 1840.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS

Second Group of Ukrainian Students on Campus to Train as Educators

When Russian soldiers invaded their homeland, aspiring teachers Diana Nelin, Sofia Loboda and Alona Potapova had to flee their eastern Ukraine college campus to safety. Now they are spending a semester as Bridgewater State University international students. But, with the war entering its third year, their thoughts are never far from home. "Many people died, and we don't have enough teachers," Diana, who is studying math, said of the importance of her career goal. "I'm planning to help my country."

They are the second group of students to spend a semester at Bridgewater State University thanks to a new partnership with Sumy State Pedagogical University. In addition to taking classes, the students participate in events supporting Ukraine and share their culture with BSU students. Some also met American lawmakers.

"During the stay of our students at your prestigious university, they not only received a quality education but also felt undoubted care and attention from you," Sumy State Rector Yurii Liannoï wrote in a letter of thanks to President Clark. "Your well-organized teaching, highly professional lectures and the efforts of your teachers leave a vivid impression in the hearts of our students."

Rector Liannoï praised the Minnock Institute for Global Engagement and the BSU group Educators United for Ukraine for "taking care of their comfort and safety."

Educators United for Ukraine is composed of faculty and administrators working to bring Ukrainian students to study at BSU and, hopefully, use what they learn to rebuild their home country after the war. "It's helpful and unusual to see just a group of people who are so interested (in supporting Ukrainian students) even though they are that far away from you," said Alona, who is also studying math.

Alona, Diana and Sofia are fully embracing the BSU experience, including hands-on lessons that they said makes learning much more interesting. They're also taking classes outside of their majors in yoga and archery.



Spending the spring semester at BSU are (from left) Diana Nelin, Alona Potapova and Sofia Loboda, who came to BSU through the university's Educators for Ukraine program.

As they consider careers teaching in Ukraine or neighboring Poland, the students hope to incorporate the BSU teaching style into their future classrooms.

Outside of class, they enjoy playing bingo, attending basketball games and interacting with therapy dogs. In the residence halls, they introduce their American roommates to Ukrainian music and talk about differences in food and dating culture. "It's important to meet new people from other cultures, get something new from their culture and share your own," said Sofia, who is studying computer science.

Added Alona: "You need to see other countries and not just experience them from home on the television. You need to see it for yourself."

CAMPUS CONNECTION

NEWS AND NEWSMAKERS



First-Year Student to Sing with Boston Symphony and Pops Orchestras

Josh Shilo, '27, discovered his passion for singing as a child. Now a college freshman, he's about to achieve a goal he's held for almost as long: performing regularly with the Boston Pops and Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Josh was recently accepted into the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, a group of approximately 200 highly talented singers that accompanies the orchestras. "It feels so surreal," said Josh, a music education major from Salem. "It's been a dream of mine for 10-plus years. To have accomplished this before I'm even 20 is a great feeling. I can only go up from here."

When Josh performed with the chorus for the first time this spring, he was among the youngest musicians on the Symphony Hall stage. But he was ready for the spotlight thanks to years of practice and lessons with part-time music faculty member Albert Craig. "This is such a unique opportunity for him and a great opportunity for a young singer to be able to participate in such a world-renowned chorus," Professor Craig said. Josh brings a rich deep voice, the understanding of musical phrasing and dynamics, and the willingness to continually improve, he added.

Josh, who sang from Handel's Messiah and Brahms' Requiem for his Tanglewood audition, worked with Professor Craig on the pieces. "He has been extremely helpful in preparing me for my audition," Josh said. "I've improved dramatically from my first day. It's really thanks to him and the insight he provided."

Josh draws musical inspiration from his mom, who teaches healthcare studies at Salem State University and used to perform in church choirs. "My mom lost her singing voice because of a stroke," Josh said. "That pushed me to continue to sing and pursue the highest level (of performing) so I can sing for my mom."

BSU, he said, is the perfect school to help him achieve his goals of teaching high school music and, eventually, follow in his mom's footsteps by becoming a professor. "The music instruction is fantastic," he said of BSU. "There really is no better place for me to be going to school."

Two New Programs Debuting on Campus

This fall, BSU will introduce a master's degree in public relations, which will be offered only online through the BSU Department of Communication Studies. "It is designed for career-focused professionals ready to enhance their skills, deepen their understanding of strategic communication and advance into leadership roles within the industry," said Dr. Thomasena Shaw, professor of public relations and graduate program chair.

Meanwhile, a new BSU initiative seeks to help individuals holding temporary emergency teaching licenses to complete the necessary coursework to earn the standard license. The program is free.

Funded through a \$600,000 state grant, participants receive advising, preparation for MTEL exams and access to courses that also count toward a master's degree. Many come into the program without prior education classes because they were only required to have a bachelor's degree (in any subject) to secure an emergency license.

The need for this program is immense, as Massachusetts issued approximately 5,000 emergency licenses to combat a critical shortage of educators during the pandemic. BSU, the first university to receive a grant, aims to serve about 700 emergency licensed teachers from schools in Southeastern Massachusetts.

BEHIND THE NAME

MORIARTY POOL



For generations of Bridgewater State physical education students, Dr. Mary Jo Moriarty was a source of inspiration and mentorship. By utilizing the lessons she taught, many of those students became leaders in the field. Current Bears may only know Moriarty as the name of the campus pool, but the program Dr. Moriarty founded and shaped continues to serve them well today.

Dr. Moriarty brought a physical education program to Bridgewater State from Hyannis State Teachers College after the Cape Cod college closed in 1944. She taught at Bridgewater State for the remainder of her career, retiring in 1970 as chairperson of the Department of Physical Education.

"She was a strong role model for many of us during our years at Bridgewater, during our professional careers and in our personal lives," former students wrote in a *Bridgewater* magazine tribute to her.

Many thought of themselves as "Mary's girls," a testament to her skill as an educator and commitment to her students. "She had a way of teaching that took the difficulty out of learning," recalled Marcia Crooks, '55.

During Dr. Moriarty's tenure, she launched an academic program respected locally, nationally and globally. She also helped design Kelly Gymnasium, which houses the pool named in her honor during the 1990-1991 academic year." Dr. Moriarty, you gave us the world's best start, and you left your anchor deep in our hearts," Ms. Crooks said at the ceremony naming the pool after Dr. Moriarty.

The Physical Education Alumni Association presents an award named for Dr. Moriarty to a member of each graduating class from the Department of Health and Kinesiology, which houses the physical education program today.

Moriarty Pool is the home of the men's and women's swimming and diving teams. It has six 25-yard-long lanes, and 1- and 3-meter diving boards. It can accommodate 300 spectators and 150 swimmers. The pool also hosts open swim hours and swimming lessons. The Children's Physical Developmental Clinic, through which BSU students work with children with disabilities, uses the pool as part of its weekly sessions.

—BY BRIAN BENSON, G'23

Material in this article comes from the Spring 1991 and Spring 1992 editions of *Bridgewater* magazine as well as the 1997 book, *A Noble Legacy: Physical Education Major 1937-1987, Bridgewater State College* by Dr. Catherine Comeau.

EXCEL Students Gain Work Experience with Bear Trap Food Stand

When Bob Donahue is on duty at the Bear Trap convenience stand, be sure to ask for his special flavor of smoothies. On a recent Tuesday afternoon, he doled out strawberry banana versions of the popular drink while greeting passing students with a smile.

"It's caring for people and making them feel special," Bob said of working at the convenience stand in the Tinsley Center lobby.

Bob is one of the first students in Bridgewater State University's EXCEL program to staff the Bear Trap through a new internship. The EXCEL program provides an inclusive postsecondary experience for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The partnership with food service provider Sodexo helps Bob and his peers gain important job skills. Working alongside Sodexo student employees, four EXCEL students participate in all facets of running the stand, from taking inventory to making smoothies to serving customers. "It gives me the opportunity to learn more new things and learn more about myself," Bob said.

The initiative breaks down barriers people with disabilities face in the job market because it provides experience students can show prospective employers, said Dr. Jon Cash, EXCEL's interim director.

"The Bear Trap allows students who see point of sale operations management as their future to come to BSU, experience college and have an outcome of their choice that will help them find competitive employment," Dr. Cash said.

Sodexo and EXCEL launched the pilot program in the fall semester. Organizers hope it becomes a model for dining programs at other universities.

"Sodexo is a company that's invested in our diversity and inclusion," said Staci DeSimone, general manager of BSU Dining. "Piloting this program helps to explore what Sodexo can do for all people."

The partnership has proven beneficial for everyone involved.

"I really, really like working with this population," said psychology major Sierra Cummins-Remington, '25, who runs the stand



Bob Donahue serves up a smoothie at the Bear Trap convenience stand as Sierra Cummins-Remington, '25, looks on.

alongside Bob. "I learn more from them than they learn from me."

Minoring in special education, Sierra works as an education coach for the EXCEL program and appreciates the hands-on experience as she aspires to become a life coach serving people with disabilities.

Bob, who is attending a principles of management class this semester, also sees a connection to his career goals. He hopes to one day open a food truck with his father. But he knows he has already pleased his parents because of his growth as a Bear. "I'm making my mom and dad proud and showing them that I can be like them," he said.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

BY ZACHARY ALLEN, '24

Senior Zachary Allen has kept a busy schedule during his time at BSU, especially in recent years. The Scranton, Pennsylvania, native and aviation major first joined the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps and then not only learned to fly jets, but also served with the BSU Police Department and as the student representative to the university's Board of Trustees. To try to capture all that he's done and gained from his time at BSU, we asked him to share his story.

As I sit back and reflect on my time at Bridgewater State University, I can't help but feel overwhelmed with gratitude for the transformative experiences that have shaped me into the person I am today. My journey began as a freshman cadet in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC); I was filled with ambition and a drive to serve my country. Little did I know, my path would lead me to unexpected opportunities and profound connections within the BSU community.

The defining moment of my college career came when I received the news of my selection to attend the prestigious Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training (ENJJPT) program. It was a surreal feeling, knowing that I would soon be soaring through international skies, representing both Bridgewater State and my country. The rigorous training and mentoring provided by AFROTC had prepared me well for this moment, instilling in me the discipline, determination and leadership skills necessary to excel in the demanding environment of military aviation.

As I embarked on my journey to ENJJPT, I carried with me the unwavering support of my fellow cadets and the Bridgewater community. Their encouragement fueled my determination to succeed, even in the face of daunting challenges and my rigorous training regimens. The bonds forged during those intense months of flight school would become lifelong friendships, cementing my connection to both my alma mater and the broader military community.

Returning to Bridgewater for my senior year, I was eager to continue serving my campus and community in new ways. Joining the Bridgewater State University Police Department (BSUPD) as a cadet, I was paired with K-9 Mikey, a loyal and dedicated partner in our mission to ensure the safety and well-being of our campus community. Together, we participated in community outreach events aimed at fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and the community.



In addition to my duties with the BSUPD, I also served as a photographer in the university's Enrollment, Marketing and Communications Division, capturing the vibrant spirit and diverse experiences of life at Bridgewater State. From bustling campus events to quiet moments of reflection, my camera became a tool for storytelling, showcasing the unique beauty and energy of our campus to the world.

Throughout my four years at Bridgewater State, I found not only a place to learn and grow academically but also a home – a community of faculty, staff and fellow students who supported me every step of the way. Whether in the classroom, on the flight line or out in the community, Bridgewater State University provided me with the opportunities and resources I needed to set myself up for success in my career and beyond.

As I embark on the next chapter of my journey, I carry with me the lessons learned, the friendships forged and the memories cherished. With the unwavering support of Bridgewater State behind me, I am confident in my ability to tackle whatever challenges lie ahead and continue making a positive impact in the world.

BSU Listed as One of the Nation's Safest Campuses

In a new national ranking of the safest college campuses in America, BSU earned the number four spot.

"The safety of our students has always been our highest priority," said President Clark in response to learning the institution made the list. "This ranking reflects strategic investments the university has made, the fine work of our BSU police department in building relationships with our students, our commitment to a high level of transparency, and creating safe spaces for students and other members of our community."

According to AcademicInfluence.com, which released the rankings after gathering data and information from schools across the country, BSU earned high marks because it complies with the Clery Act, a law that strives to provide students and staff with transparent information about campus policy and statistics.

BSU maintains a safe campus environment with a dedicated police department, employing 23 full-time officers and support staff. The university encourages community awareness of

potential crime and proactive crime prevention. The university also offers free counseling services to students experiencing psychological difficulties.

When considering colleges, physical education major Gabe Elias, '24, said safety was a top priority. "As a student, my well-being is crucial to my overall academic and personal experience," he said. "A safe environment fosters a conducive learning atmosphere, allowing me to focus on my studies and engage in campus activities without unnecessary concerns about personal safety."

Gabe said it's reassuring that BSU finds itself on the "Safest College Campuses in America" list. "It validates the efforts and measures taken by the university to prioritize the well-being of its students, faculty and staff," he said. "This recognition reflects the university's dedication to providing a secure environment for its community members, and I feel confident in my choice to be part of such a campus."



BSU's newest trustee, Tiffany Cesero (center), stands with Dr. Jean MacCormack, chair of the Board, and President Clark.

New Trustee Welcomed

As she falls asleep at night, Tiffany Cesero often reflects on how she helped someone that day. With extensive volunteer experience, Bridgewater State University's new trustee typically has much to ponder. "That's been in my bloodstream, just to help," she said. "There's no such thing as, 'I can't.' Anything is possible."

A community leader and the president and CEO of the security company K-9 Mercantile Protection Inc., Ms. Cesero brings a passion for helping students that is rooted in her family experience. She raised three children of her own and another four through marriage, as well as a niece and a close family friend.

"I want to always make a difference and be impactful in the lives of our leaders of tomorrow," she said. To that end, Ms. Cesero serves on boards of the Old Colony

YMCA, Sunrise Rotary Club and Salvation Army, and mentors high school students with disabilities who are transitioning into the workforce.

Ms. Cesero is a "dynamic individual," with a passion for volunteering and significant experience fundraising and supporting education for marginalized and underserved individuals, President Clark said.

BSU's new trustee also co-owns the construction supply company ST Materials and Equipment. Her many leadership positions include serving on the board of the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce and, since 2019, the Business Advisory Board for BSU's Louis M. Ricciardi College of Business.

She appreciates the hands-on learning and numerous opportunities available at BSU. Students have the chance to find their own way and identity, she said.

"It's unbelievable to be afforded this opportunity," Ms. Cesero said of being appointed to BSU's Board of Trustees by Governor Maura Healey. "I'm very honored."

KEEPING SCORE

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS AND RECREATION



Alumnus Finds True Calling on the NFL Sidelines

Fresh out of college, Joshua Pierre Jean, '17, started a career in corporate sales, but deep down he wasn't satisfied. It wasn't until a friend, who coached college football, invited him over to watch game film that the lightbulb went off.

The two friends sat together and went over plays on the screen in front of them. Five hours passed before Mr. Jean realized how late it was and that night had turned into early morning. "That's when I realized I needed to make a change," the BSU alumnus said. "I was making a lot of money but wasn't happy with what I was doing. That's when I started reaching out to my former contacts."

It didn't happen overnight, but his networking paid off. Today Mr. Jean works as a scouting assistant in the NFL for the Arizona Cardinals. "I love what I do – watching film, being around the game ... even though the hours can be long, it's something I'm passionate about," he said.

Raised in Mattapan, Mr. Jean said he was an inner-city kid who loved to play sports. He credits his mother, Joselene, for instilling in him a strong work ethic. "I owe a lot of my success to my mom," he said.

In third grade Mr. Jean started playing soccer then made the switch to football in seventh grade. In ninth grade he also took up track. His athleticism caught the attention of area colleges, BSU being one of them.

Off the field, Mr. Jean studied and earned a degree in business administration and management with a minor in accounting and finance. He also was involved in Men Integrated in Brotherhood, a campus group for men of color. "Being involved required me to be detail oriented ... you have to have those skills to play multiple sports, go to school and participate in activities," he said.

While at BSU he continued to forge connections. "Bridgewater State has a large network of people who have gone on to do big things in the football world; there are people coaching in the NFL and college," Mr. Jean said.

When switching gears from corporate sales to football, he learned of a volunteer opportunity at Boston College that led to him being hired as a skills coach.

While moving up the ranks to full-time recruiter analyst, he simultaneously earned a master's degree in sports administration from Boston College. Mr. Jean was next hired as assistant director of player personnel for the college's football program.

One of his contacts then approached him with another possibility, a position working in the NFL.

"It's been a blessing to have the opportunities I've had. I've been part of great teams with great coaches and ultimately have been able to hit the goals I've set for myself," Mr. Jean said.

The most important piece of advice he would offer a BSU student looking to create their own success? "You've got to be prepared and take the opportunities, be ready to make a move," he said. "It's also really important that you make connections. Network and be conscious of your surroundings. Do a good job in school ... all of these things play a factor."

Awards for Academic Excellence Announced

In late April, President Clark announced this year's recipients of the prestigious Awards for Academic Excellence, saying: "These highly competitive awards recognize faculty and librarians who have made outstanding contributions to teaching, research, scholarship and social justice. The extraordinary work and dedication of these faculty members and librarians contributes to the vibrancy of intellectual life on our campus, the richness of our educational offerings and the success of our students. Their work is truly an inspiration to all of us."

Here are the 2024 Awards for Academic Excellence recipients:

BSU Faculty/Librarian Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Edward Deveney, *Department of Physics, Photonics and Optical Engineering*

Presidential Fellowship Award

Dr. Paul Rubinson, *Department of History*

Presidential Award for Distinguished Teaching

Dr. Rachel Navarre, *Department of Political Science*
Dr. Caroline Stanley, *Department of Psychology*

Presidential Award for Distinguished Full-Time Temporary Faculty Teaching

Professor Angelina Cummings, *Department of Health and Kinesiology*

Presidential Award for Distinguished Part-Time Faculty Teaching

Dr. Richard Brabander, *Department of History*
Dr. Wendy Rockne, *Department of English*
Dr. Reneé Somers, *Department of English*

Racial Justice, Equity, and Inclusion Emerging Leader Faculty and Librarian Award

Dr. Sheena Manuel Rancher, *Department of Special Education*

Dr. Robert A. Daniel Award for Racial Justice, Equity, and Inclusion

Dr. Uma Shama, *Department of Mathematics*

Dr. V. James DiNardo Award for Excellence in Teaching

Dr. Hui Zhang, *Department of Communication Studies*

Class of 1950 Distinguished Faculty Research Award

Dr. Sidita Kushi, *Department of Political Science*
Dr. Samuel Serna-Otálvaro, *Department of Physics, Photonics and Optical Engineering*

Exemplary Use of Technology in Teaching Award

Professor Shawn Connor, *Department of English*

Faculty & Librarian Award for Excellence in Academic Advising

Dr. Allyson Ferrante, *Department of English*
Dr. Stephanie Jacobsen, *Department of Management and Marketing*
Dr. Saritha Nellutla, *Department of Chemical Sciences*
Dr. Sheena Manuel Rancher, *Department of Special Education*
Dr. Pamela Szczygiel, *School of Social Work*



Alumna's Band Performed at Prestigious 2024 Boston Calling Music Festival

Meaghan Casey, '14, is a member of the Boston- and Providence-based band the Highwater Haulers. She describes the group as "a cosmic rock and roll outfit ... blending influences of old-school country, punk, rock and roll and more. (We) write and play original music for your eardrums."

The Haulers played the Boston Calling Music Festival on May 25, sharing the bill with the likes of Ed Sheeran, Megan Thee Stallion and the Killers. This annual three-day music festival took place at the Harvard Athletic Complex and showcased more than 50 performances across four stages, food vendors, a 100-foot Ferris wheel and art installations, among other activities.

The band's first album is now available. Visit <https://www.highwaterhaulers.com> to learn more.

(Ms. Casey is also featured in *The Bridge* story, pages 36 to 41.)





Safe Home

*Sally Snowman, '76,
retires as the nation's
first female U.S. Coast Guard
lighthouse keeper... and the last*

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

ON A LATE MARCH MORNING, Sally Snowman was feeling blue. It had been more than three months since her retirement as the nation's last lighthouse keeper, and the Weymouth resident had in recent days been feeling the void. "Somewhere around March 10 it hit me, and I dealt with some depression," she said. "And it just hit me that it's over. Oh, my gosh, it's really over."

From 2003 through the end of 2023, Dr. Snowman served as the keeper and historian of Boston Light, located on Little Brewster Island in the outer harbor. It is the nation's oldest lighthouse, keeping ships safe in Boston's outer harbor since 1716.

Dr. Snowman was the 70th keeper in Boston Light's storied history, and the first woman to hold the job. The day she stepped away for the final time she became the last keeper – not only here, but in the entire country, where more than 800 lighthouses still exist. [The Coast Guard has been shedding its lighthouses over the years, and no longer mans any; a number have been sold off to private individuals under the National Lighthouse Preservation Act (NLPA) of 2000. Some have been converted into B&Bs and museums.]

"I'm the first and the last," Dr. Snowman said. "To have that distinction is such an honor."



Boston Light sits on the rocky coastline of Little Brewster Island; Sally Snowman, '76, and her husband, James Thomson, (inset photo), marry at the base of Boston Light in 1994.

When in the early 1970s she first came to what was then Bridgewater State College, Dr. Snowman dreamed of a career in teaching. However, the pull of the ocean, still in view from the family home where she grew up, remained strong. "I joke that I was born with saltwater in my veins," she said.

She found a way to fulfill both passions. After graduating from Bridgewater State, she got a master's degree and a subsequent job at Curry College in the graduate education department. Meanwhile, to fulfill her more nautical leanings, Dr. Snowman also joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary right after her time at Bridgewater State. She provided tours of Boston Light, one of the 34 islands and peninsulas within the Boston Harbor Islands National & State Park.

Dr. Snowman loved growing up near the water in Weymouth, and with her parents was a regular visitor to the islands of Boston Harbor. Hence, the move to spending so much time hovering high above one of those small islands wasn't much of a stretch, she said. In fact, she and her husband paid tribute to the lighthouse even before she became keeper, penning *Boston Light: A Historical Perspective*. (Her husband, James Thomson, often wears a shirt that reads, "Keeper's Husband," according to a recent profile of his wife in *The New Yorker*.)

The book was so thorough and well done that when the National Park Service began giving tours in 1999, it tapped their work as a primary resource in the program's development.

"The job is like living history," said Dr. Snowman, whose knowledge about Boston Light was shared with more than 60 visitors a day back when she was keeper, every May to October as part of the National Park Service tours. The Park Service ran two tours per day, and there were always many of what she calls "drive-bys" – people boating past who often checked out the island on their own.

One might think that the costume Dr. Snowman wore while manning Boston Light was strictly for historical accuracy. However, it was really a mask of sorts.

"I'm an introvert, so I needed to extrovert my introversion," she said. When she first went shopping for the right costume she experienced a bit of sticker shock: most were prohibitively expensive. So, she made her own – a blue outfit replete with bonnet that would have been in fashion circa 1783.

"You want you to stand out from the crowd, so people know who the keeper is when they arrive on the island," she said. "Plus, it allowed me to go out in public with no one recognizing me."

Over the years, her duties have included preparing for the tours, getting volunteer staff members to and from the island, monitoring and recording the day's weather and sea conditions for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and general maintenance of the lighthouse.

This latter aspect of the job is not to be taken lightly. Boston Light is 89-feet tall and topped by a 4,000-pound lamp, made mainly of glass and brass, that can be seen for 27 miles on a clear night.

When not on the job, Dr. Snowman and her husband lived in the nearby 1884-built keeper's house. Off-seasons found her living in Plymouth, during which time she worked for the Coast Guard in Boston, creating programming for both future tour guides and schoolchildren. "I always wanted to be a teacher, and this job allows me to do that as well," she said.

She and her husband, James, a fellow volunteer, married at the foot of Boston Light in 1994. They served as volunteer keepers beginning two years later. Things ramped up in 2000, when, still a volunteer, Dr. Snowman recruited, trained and scheduled a cadre of 80 Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers. She at last went on the Guard's payroll in 2003, continuing recruiting-training-scheduling along with what would be her biggest task yet.

Like many Americans, September 11, 2001, changed everything for Dr. Snowman. Previously, three active duty Coast Guard members manned the island. Post 9/11, they were needed elsewhere, so deemed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, allowing for a civilian to become the full-time keeper. For Dr. Snowman, that meant her country had found the perfect calling for her as full-time keeper and historian of Boston Light.

It wasn't until 2003 that Dr. Snowman was officially named as the keeper. More than 1,000 people applied for the job. She got it in large part due to her previous experience as a 25-year volunteer on the island. Plus, she knew the lighthouse as well as or better than anyone, and as a college professor – even operating her own private practice, the Snowman Learning Center – was well equipped to give tours for visitors of all ages and develop programs for school-age children.

In addition, she had a boat and during warmer months could get herself to and from the island. "The interviewer told me, 'We don't know how to get the keeper out to the island,'" she recalled. "I said I can't manage the volunteers from a cubicle at the Coast Guard base on the mainland. I joke that I got the job because I had that boat."

As a student herself, Dr. Snowman struggled in high school. She was diagnosed with ADHD and obsessive-compulsive disorder. It took her six years to earn her bachelor's degree from Bridgewater State. After graduating, she earned a master's degree from Curry College, as well as a PhD from Walden University in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a second PhD from the University of Metaphysical Sciences, Arcata, California.

Keeping Dr. Snowman busy in retirement is her home-based business, The Harmonic Sanctuary of Enlightenment, where she practices different methods of alternative therapies involving gongs, handheld drums, earth-energy ceremonies and a Native American medicine wheel. During our interview, her husband was in the backyard laying down a brick labyrinth. "This is my sanctuary," she said.

Prior to being hired as the lighthouse keeper, Dr. Snowman, through her learning center, worked with families of children with learning disabilities, offering guidance on a wide range of matters, including creation of appropriate IEPs (individualized education programs). She also wrote two books, *Rising to the Challenge: A Style Approach to Understanding Adults with ADD and Other Learning Difficulties*, and its attendant workbook.

It was a penny tax on ships entering Boston Harbor that funded the building of Boston Light. In 1776, the British destroyed the lighthouse, but it was rebuilt and reopened seven years later. It has had an eventful history (its first two keepers met tragic endings on the island). However, it finally came up against the one unmovable obstacle, Father Time, and in 2018 Boston Light failed inspection, leading to it becoming unmanned. The tours of the island were also halted.

For the last five years before retiring, Dr. Snowman no longer lived on the island seasonally, but visited it frequently to perform "day duty." She instead spent most of her time working for the Coast Guard on the mainland.

It's all part of a trend: Advances in GPS have relegated obsolete many lighthouses around the country. Meanwhile, the high costs of keeping a fully operational lighthouse going is another reason for having the island transferred under the NLPA, with the Coast Guard continuing to maintain the light at the top of the tower and the fog signal. Once new owners complete the repairs on the island, the National Park Service will resume its seasonal tours to Boston Light.

Dr. Snowman was 72 years old on December 30, 2023, when she wrapped up her work for good at Boston Light. It had been a satisfying long run. Doing stories about her life and career were *The New Yorker* magazine and newspapers, including *The Boston Globe* and *The Guardian* out of London. During the week in March that she spoke with *Bridgewater* magazine, she had three other interviews scheduled with various entities from around the United States.

The interest speaks to our fascination with the sea and our abiding interest in history. Sally Snowman said she's glad she got to play such an important role in the story of her country's coming into being and keeping seafaring travelers safe over the decades of her service.

"I feel so honored that I had this job," she said. "Not very many people get paid for what they love, and I truly had a passion for it." ♦

The Multiple Sides of Climate Change

Interdisciplinary approaches bring new opportunities for collaboration among students, faculty and other universities

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

CLIMATE CHANGE IS IN THE NEWS a lot these days. Its effects can be seen in the proliferation of natural events around the country, such as tornadoes, hurricanes, extreme temperatures and wildfires.

Meanwhile, closer to home, many people have been dealing with climate-related disasters in basements and backyards, thanks to recent storms that have dumped up to six inches of rain in a flash.

While nobody knows how the future may unfold on the climate front, one thing for sure is that the world is going to need experts who can help deal with the fallout, as well as professionals who can help develop mitigation strategies.

In these pages, we visit two courses that deal in very different ways with climate-related issues. Both employ interdisciplinary approaches to one degree or another and are led by faculty who are passionate about the environment and sustainability.

Aiming High for Peru

IT WAS A BLUSTERY LATE-WINTER AFTERNOON at Blue Hills Reservation in Milton, and Professor Rob Hellström and a small group of students were holding a dry run of sorts. They scaled the local ski and hiking area and, along the way, hung on the bare branches of several trees dotting the hill small homemade shields (corrugated cardboard, plastic and wire, each costing about \$5). Inside the shields, protected from the New England elements, is a Lascar temperature and humidity data logger.

"We're like the MacGyver of fieldwork," Dr. Hellström told me a few weeks earlier inside a warm classroom in BSU's Dana Mohler-Faria Science and





At the top of Blue Hills Reservation, Ethan Medeiros, '25, flies a kite equipped with a data logger.



Dr. Rob Hellström and several students hike to the top of the Blue Hills Reservation.



Luke Davies, '25, hangs a homemade shield containing a Lascar temperature and humidity data logger on a tree.



Luke Davies helps Dr. Hellström name each shield and note its location.

Mathematics Center, pointing out that the shield was designed in 2015 by Jason Covert, G'16. "We find things that are easy and simple to use."

After each shield device was successfully dangling in the breeze, Dr. Hellström kneeled at his laptop, which sat open on the cold, leafy ground, to name each shield and note its location. Then he picked up his backpack of tools and devices, and led the students further up into the Blue Hills, where it would be their turn to work. Near the top, they planned to fly a kite, also equipped with a data logger, as well as one to measure barometric pressure to indicate its altitude.

They will do all this over again, and much more, when Dr. Hellström and the students travel to the Peruvian Andes to study the effects of climate change, specifically those related to water. The trip was scheduled for May 22.

The students are Jenalyn Warcup, '24, of Warwick, Rhode Island, a geography major with minors in sustainability and studio art; Callie Milliard, '27, of North Andover, who is majoring in geography and psychology; Ashleigh Hartsfield, '25, of Cumberland, Rhode Island, a double major in geography and communications; Ethan Medeiros, '25, of New Bedford, a biology major with a minor in communication studies; Abby Bulman, '24, of Hanover, who is studying political science with a minor in sustainability; and Foxboro's Luke Davies, '25, a geography major who is minoring in sustainability and Latin American Studies.

Jenalyn is the president and Luke is the co-vice president of the student-led Environmental Action Team.

With their various majors and minors, the students are hoping to bring to the research some of their "outside" experience, adding an interdisciplinary twist to the project.

"I love psychology and also have a passion for the planet and conservation, and I wanted to implement both of those passions and wasn't sure how," Jenalyn said. "One of the things I believe will solve climate change is psychology."

I believe human emotion plays a large part in our decisions ... and I think that could help us to try and find a way to come together to possibly find a solution." She's also interested in the emerging idea of climate anxiety.

The research trip is in conjunction with faculty from The Ohio State University and McGill University in Montreal. The goal is to study changes in primary hydrology, including water quality-related projects and work in the local watersheds. Also on the docket are discussions about and work related to water management policy in Peru, which is home to part of the Amazon rainforest.

Dr. Hellström has spent time in the South American country over the past 17 years studying issues related to climate. However, this time it's the students who motivated this trip.

"This is coming from them," he said. "I'm thrilled about how excited they are."

The students will also benefit from working with international peers from two universities in Peru.

The biology major in the group, Ethan, is worried about more than just climate change's impact on humans. Seeing malaria surging in South America (experts predict more than 330 million people could get the disease by 2070, partly due to climate change) he believes more needs to be done – and it needs to be seen through a wider lens. "I also want to know more about how climate change is going to impact the animals in Peru," he said. "And if it impacts them, it's going to impact humans."

Mixing the Paint

BY HEATHER HARRIS MICHONSKI

WHEN RECENTLY LOOKING TO GATHER paint supplies, a group of BSU students didn't head to the local craft store. Instead, they made their way to the university's permaculture garden and after that to a science lab.

The students were part of Sustainable Art and Science Laboratory, an immersive course, taught by Professors Ivana George and Alyssa (Deline) Lankone. They learned hands-on about using natural sources for paint, forgoing the factory-produced products often rich with chemicals. To do this, they planted seeds to grow dye-producing plants and then used them to create the "green" media for their final exam – a 9-by-12-inch environmentally friendly painting. The resulting artwork was showcased on campus at last year's Student Arts and Research Symposium.



"I want students to be aware of what kind of toxins they are exposing themselves to and toxins they might be exposing others to. They need to be conscious of what they are creating as scientists and artists, and make sure they are being mindful in terms of their impact."

–Professor Ivana George

PHOTOS, FROM LEFT:

Members of the campus community work in BSU's permaculture garden, where students in the Sustainable Art and Science Laboratory course plant seeds to grow dye-producing plants.

Students in a campus lab make marigold pigment from flowers culled from the permaculture garden.

Students paint their cyanotypes with the natural paints they created.



The course was the brainchild of Professors George and Lankone, who teamed up last year in the hopes of offering a class that combined both art and science. (Dr. Lankone has since left BSU, but Professor George is seeking a new partner to teach the course with.) "Alyssa and I both served on the sustainability advisory board and wanted to create new courses on sustainability," Professor George said.

Students in the class were asked to conduct scientific research into environmentally sustainable art materials. They also learned about professional artists who are currently using these in their work.

A portion of the semester was dedicated to learning how to conduct science experiments, including testing the toxicity of the natural dyes and comparing the results to those of contemporary synthetic equivalents. Students also learned about pH levels and water quality, and how they can impact the results one gets from using different dyes. "If you use different types of water, it can impact the color," Professor George said.

The professors anticipated that the class would appeal to students studying art or science but were pleasantly surprised to see students from multiple disciplines across campus,

Artwork by students using the natural paints they created from plants grown in the campus permaculture garden



Jaedyn Rice



Keira Nagle



including political science and psychology. Some students were nervous about the process of producing art in the lab, but eventually that subsided, and they gained confidence as the semester progressed, Professor George said.

In the end, it was a new adventure for many. "I got to learn about things a lot of students don't normally get to learn," said Kim Salla, '25, a marketing major. "Learning how to create paint with natural materials, getting to use the paint we created to make projects and then getting to garden in the spring so students in the fall can harvest ... I got to enjoy so many new things that I have never been introduced to."

For Professor George, the goal of the course is to bring about greater awareness. "I want students to be aware of what kind of toxins they are exposing themselves to and toxins they might be exposing others to," she said. "They need to be conscious of what they are creating as scientists and artists, and make sure they are being mindful in terms of their impact."

"Also, we wanted them to understand that both science and art make use of creative thinking as applied to problem solving," she added. "In both, one has to be willing to take risks in order to have breakthroughs in knowledge and also to create innovative artworks that are engaging." ♦



Nicholas Grace



Ainsleigh McCue



Victoria Oliveira

Much to 'Aspire' to

Program helps students with an autism spectrum disorder or related social profile gain real-world work experience

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

FOR PART OF THIS PAST ACADEMIC YEAR, Gabe Alexander of BSU's Class of '24, enjoyed a job at Brandeis University doing the mix of computer and creative work that he excels at. He worked in the university's archives, identifying and marking up film clips, annotating news broadcasts and writing chyrons (those titles that appear on the bottom of television screens to identify talking heads). The Hingham resident had done similar work at GBH-TV, but the Brandeis position offered him more flexibility, given his schedule.

"That kind of atmosphere made me feel good about Brandeis, that they'd let me work like that," said Gabe, an English major with minors in African American studies, anthropology and American studies. "And the people I work with are very nice and very understanding, and if I have a question about something, they help me solve it to the best of their abilities."

Gabe secured the Brandeis job thanks to a partnership between Bridgewater State University and Aspire Works, a program at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). Student participants with an autism spectrum disorder or related social profile receive coaching, professional development and an internship in their field. Meanwhile, the companies' staff also are trained by specialists at MGH on how to work with employees and/or interns who may have special needs. Over the past three years, the partnership

has had a great deal of success for BSU students. "We have four or five students who have gone through the program and now have outstanding jobs," said Diane Bell, vice president of outreach and engagement.

Aspire Works supports individuals of all ages. The program that BSU students are eligible for is geared to those 18 years old and older. MGH began the program in the 1990s to help individuals on the spectrum gain needed professional skills, develop positive self-awareness, and stress-management and social-competency skills so they can succeed at home, school, work and in the community.

About 60 employers participate in the MGH program. They provide the internships and jobs filled through the program, as well as on-site support needed to ensure success. Aspire Works also includes interview preparation for the participants, ongoing training and strategizing, and MGH staff members' collaboration with the host managers each week.

Jack S. Lewis, associate manager of employment services for MGH, sees the transformations up close. "It's exciting to see the changes ... and I see some of the skill sets they have that they don't know they have yet," he said. "When they come to fruition, it's great to see their confidence building and what they can bring to the workplace. And it's gratifying



Gabe Alexander, '24, worked at Brandeis University and GBH-TV as part of the Aspire Works program.

to see the employees learn about all the skill sets our students can bring. It is phenomenal.”

Handling the Aspire Works program at BSU is Carol Crosby, associate director in the Career Services and Internship Program Office. She is likewise inspired by what she’s seen. “These students are amazing,” she said. “It’s one of the best parts of my job.”

She’s right to feel a sense of pride over the success of alumni like Marla Windman, '22, who obtained her current job thanks to her involvement with Aspire Works. She is a programming analyst for Meditech, and if there’s an issue with one of its applications at an emergency room somewhere in the United States, Ms. Windham goes sleuthing to try to solve the problem. “It’s like solving a mystery,” the Sharon native said.

At BSU she majored in computer science and art, with a concentration in graphic design. The Aspire Works program helped her get an internship with Fidelity Investments back

in her student days. It was a major step for her career, Ms. Windham said. “Overall, I think the program gave me the opportunity to improve myself, and it also showed companies that I could do the work,” Ms. Windham said.

That’s not always easy, she added. “When you have autism, sometimes people don’t see you,” she said. “I was told once, before attending BSU, that because I have special needs I couldn’t be in the computer science field. But I have lots of accommodations at my now employer, Meditech, that help me do my job.”

Hoping to follow in Ms. Windham’s footsteps into the working world is current BSU student Gray Medeiros, '26, who served an internship through Aspire Works at Northeastern University’s Regame-XR Lab, which its website says uses sensor technology as assessments and interventions designed to improve the lives of individuals living with cognitive and motor challenges. “I was literally making a game,” Gray said.



Carol Crosby, associate director in the Career Services and Internship Program Office, oversees the Aspire Works program at BSU.

While it wasn't the type of video game he and his friends typically play, the one he helped develop was being billed as an exercise game for the 65-plus crowd. His work involved using augmented reality and an external camera to track players' movements.

The project involved writing code, something Gray had only a passing knowledge of. However, now that he's done it at a professional level as part of his internship, he explains, "I was fascinated with it. As time goes by, I like it more and more."

He has not only gained the experience of working but also got to pull back the curtain on something that has long interested him. "I wanted to find out what happened behind the games, so to speak," he said. "Learning about the coding that goes into them has given me a newfound appreciation for game developers." He is now eyeing a career in game design.

Gray said this last part with a real sense of awe in his voice, before adding, "Getting to work on a real game was challenging. Challenging in a fun way." ♦




Through Aspire Works, Gray Medeiros, '26, undertook an internship at Northeastern University's Regame-XR Lab.



Dr. Peter Weyand, G'88, oversees a former PhD student taking part in a maximum sprint test used to measure the ground forces involved in sprinting. The tests are conducted incrementally and discontinuously, one steady speed after the next with rest in between until a speed is reached that the runners cannot match on the belt for eight steps.

Photo courtesy of Southern Methodist University



*Peter Weyand, G'88,
helps students and
world-class athletes
stay on track*

Keeping Pace

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11

PETER WEYAND WAS TEACHING HISTORY in Middleboro in the late 1980s and coaching track and field in Duxbury. There was much he liked about this life, yet he knew he needed a change. "I felt I couldn't make a big enough difference," the Milton native said.

So, he devised a plan: He would attend Bridgewater State College, as it was known back in the mid-1980s, and get a

master's degree in physical education. He knew this would enhance his knowledge and skills and ultimately make him an even better coach and teacher.

Once he got to campus, however, his plans changed. When Dr. Weyand learned he could focus on the scientific basis of bodily function and performance, his interest was piqued. "I just dove right into it," he recalled. "I said, 'I like this stuff.'"

Thirty years later, Dr. Weyand, now a professor at Texas Christian University, is widely considered the world's leading authority on the mechanics and energetics of high-speed running and high-intensity exercise performance. He is a much sought after expert and an important voice in these areas.

Dr. Weyand also spent time in his early years in Duxbury. "I was just a kid who competed in basketball and track, and these experiences were formative for me, both in high school and college," he said.

He graduated from Duxbury High School and attended Bates College. Then came his years of teaching high school history, before changing paths and coming to Bridgewater State.

At Bridgewater State, he quickly found a mentor in veteran health and kinesiology professor, Dr. Robert Haslam. "He was a really important influence on me," Dr. Weyand said. "He was terrific. I think he appreciated my level of interest and saw something in me."



To measure the energy cost of running, Dr. Weyand studies a one-time research associate in the lab using a mouthpiece and tubing to participate in a test on a high-speed treadmill. The custom treadmill can reach speeds up to 90 mph and measure the foot-ground forces in three axes - vertical, horizontal and lateral - 1000 times per second.

Photo courtesy of Southern Methodist University

Dr. Haslam found a research assistantship position for Dr. Weyand after his first year in the master's program, which eliminated tuition and even provided a small stipend for the program's second year.

At Bridgewater State, Dr. Haslam was more than just a mentor for Dr. Weyand in the classroom and lab, he also forged connections for his young protégé and advised him about his future, which would take Dr. Weyand where he wanted to go. The next stop was a PhD from the University of Georgia and then a job at Harvard University's renowned research facility, the Concord Field Station (CFS), located in Bedford.

To hear Dr. Weyand tell it, the CFS was quite a place, then operated by yet another faculty member who changed his life, Dr. C. Richard Taylor. The Harvard biology professor founded

the facility in 1970 and was its first director. It was housed in an abandoned Nike missile factory. "Dick was brilliant," Dr. Weyand said. "He let me do what I wanted to do."

To study the movement of animals, he and his colleagues at times found themselves putting foxes, emus, coyotes and even potbellied pigs on treadmills. The lab's primary treadmill, which was able to track at more than 20 mph, was used for antelopes. "But when they turned six months old, the treadmill was no longer fast enough," Dr. Weyand said.

Learning at the foot of a master like Dr. Taylor, who was elected to the American National Academy of Sciences in 1985, was another boon for Dr. Weyand. Sadly, his new mentor died while Dr. Weyand was in year three of his post-doc fellowship. It was time to take all he'd learned and put it to work in new ways.

“I ended up essentially directing the research at the facility for the next three years, which really forced me to mature very quickly as a young scientist,” he said.

Dr. Weyand’s time at Harvard broadened his academic focus, he said, and created space in his portfolio for human locomotion studies and questions about how the fastest athletes on earth are able to generate such speed. These issues were part of his doctoral thesis, but now he was ready to push further ahead in this area.

Dr. Weyand headed to Texas, where he’s lived since 2003. First, he established the Locomotion Laboratory at Rice University. Then he moved to Southern Methodist University where he was a founding member of its Department of Applied Physiology & Wellness. He remained there from 2008 to 2023, (serving as an Endowed Professor of Applied Physiology and Biomechanics). Last September, he was named chairman of the Department of Kinesiology at Texas Christian University. There he is establishing a Locomotor Performance Lab that will integrate the university’s long-standing strengths and traditions in academics and athletics into a performance-focused research program.

The limits and determinants of running speeds in humans, now a large part of his specialty, has become big news in recent years. Dr. Weyand is often called upon to provide commentary in publications such as *The New York Times* and *Sports Illustrated*, as well as on the PBS show *Nova*, among many others. He and his team have worked with many Olympic athletes and world-class runners, some of whom are household names, such as Oscar Pistorius and Usain Bolt.

The work he and his team do help shape how athletes at all levels train. “We never want to leave the science back in the lab,” Dr. Weyand said. “We’ve invested considerable time in reaching out to many practitioners, coaches and professionals, and they help us think about the science in different ways.”

Part of his current work – dealing with questions such as how fast an athlete can run and accelerate, and the basis of endurance – “goes all the way back to Bridgewater,” Dr. Weyand said.

His passion for this work has not dimmed, despite the years and accomplishments. “It’s a privilege to do this work,” he said. ♦

To learn more about the work of Dr. Weyand and TCU’s Locomotor Performance Lab, visit www.youtube.com/@LocomotorLabTCU.



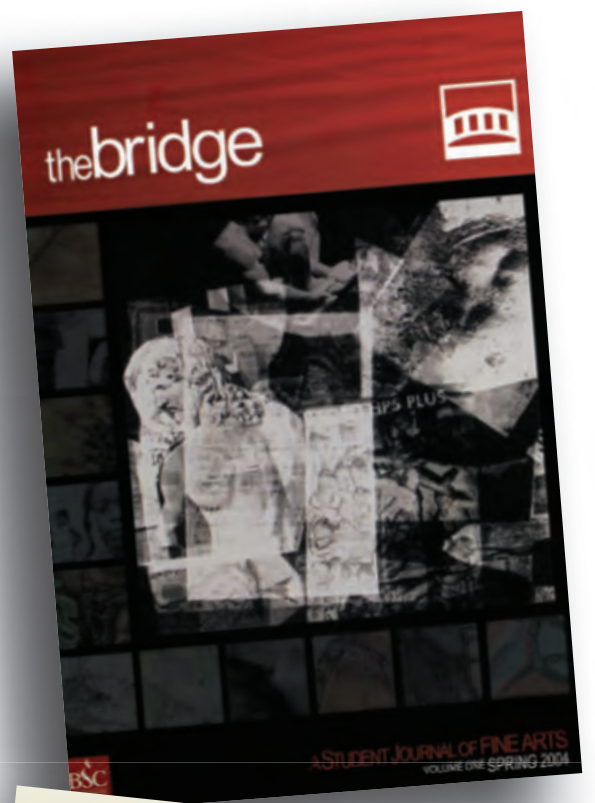
At Flag Pole Hill Park in Dallas, Dr. Weyand dons a mask to measure oxygen consumption and a GPS unit to measure position, speed and grade, while testing equations for predicting the energy expended during walking.



Two Decades of *The Bridge*

Student-run journal has earned awards and changed lives

BY JOHN WINTERS, G'11



BEFORE FACEBOOK AND TWITTER were popular and when TikTok was just a gleam in the eyes of some hedge-fund managers, students at Bridgewater State were happily expressing themselves the old school way, via *The Bridge*.

PHOTOS ABOVE: Alain Blunt, (top, center) associate professor in the Department of Art and Art History and co-advisor for this year's edition of *The Bridge*, discusses the publication's design with the student staff (clockwise from the right of Professor Blunt) Liz Cowden, '25; Arlene Perez, '24; Emma Voelker, '25; Jessica Melendy, '12, assistant professor in the Department of English and the journal's other advisor; Jaina Hicks, '24; Ashley LaVergne, '25; Mollie Rose Burk, '25; and Colm McDonough, '24. Above, right, are the cover designs of the first edition of *The Bridge* from 2004 and the 2024 cover.



Jessica Melendy, '12, an assistant professor in the Department of English and co-advisor of *The Bridge* for 2024, speaks with members of the publication's literature staff (from left) Ashley LaVergne, '25; Jaina Hicks, '24; and Emma Voelker, '25.

With the late-spring release of the 2024 edition, the student-run journal of art and literature celebrated two decades of showcasing the talents of Bears old and new. Volume 21 maintains the high standards that has led to *The Bridge* becoming a perennial favorite every award season.

Current faculty co-advisor Jessica Melendy, '12, who as a student was an editor on the 10th edition of *The Bridge*, loves this role she's held now for two years. "It feels like it's come full circle," she said. "I love it. It's so great to be a part of it this year."

Students serve as editors, designers and photographers, and submissions are open to all members of the BSU

community. Each spring, during an on-campus celebration (also planned and promoted by the students), the latest issue is unveiled.

The Bridge debuted in 2004 under the guidance of faculty advisor Dr. Jerald Walker, then a faculty member in the Department of English, along with alumni consultants Linda Hall, '95, and Rosann Kozlowski, '92.

It began with a bold declaration on page three of that inaugural effort: "*the Bridge* is entirely student produced and run ... Our goal is to excel, as we wish to pay a debt to our alumni, keep a promise to ourselves, and set an example for our successors."

It was early that year when the idea first took root for a journal that would, as Dr. Walker wrote in the first volume, “provide a forum with which to showcase the artistic talents of our students.”

The next eight months leading up to publication were not always smooth, but the seven student staffers, with lots of help from Bridgewater State staff, faculty and administrators, met their deadlines and produced a first volume that went on to win the best-in-show Apple Award from College Media Advisers, as well as a Gold Medal and Silver Crown Award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The association also awarded staff members of that first volume six Gold Circle Awards.

The winning ways would continue, with subsequent editions matching or even besting that initial trophy haul.

The students who produce *The Bridge* must enroll in a year-long course where they learn the fine art of putting a publication together from A to Z.

Each year in the fall, the staff solicits submissions for the upcoming journal and selects those that will be included. The typical number of submissions received each year is roughly 300. Then the race to the spring publication date is on, with many late nights put in by students and advisors, especially when crunch time arrives. “During the fall semester they learn, and in the spring, they are actually doing it, Professor Melendy said.

That hands-on nature of the work is what draws many students to sign on. “I wanted the experience of being part of a team that was going to design a large project,” said senior Arlene Perez, a native of Honduras living in Abington and majoring in graphic design with a minor



“I wanted the experience of being part of a team that was going to design a large project. I’m not experienced in layout and hoped this would open that door for me.”

*Arlene Perez, '24
graphic design major
marketing minor*

“I thought this would help with my writing, and it would be a fun experience,”

*Jaina Hicks, '24
English major
creative writing concentration*



in marketing. “I’m not experienced in layout and hoped this would open that door for me.”

The submissions each year include poetry, prose, essays, painting, photography, sculpture and more. Between 60 and 70 submissions make the cut. Selecting, editing, photographing and laying out the issue takes place each Wednesday afternoon in a classroom on the second floor of the Art Building.

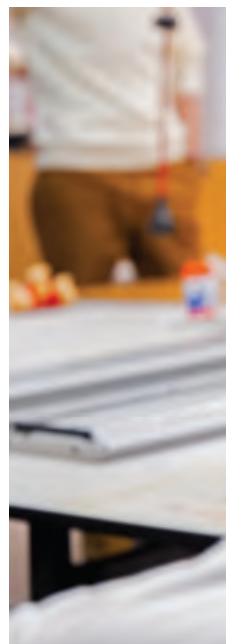
“It’s a big undertaking for them,” Professor Melendy said.

Jaina Hicks was on the volume 21 staff. An English major with a concentration in creative writing, the senior heard about *The Bridge* from a classmate. “I thought this would help with my writing, and it would be a fun experience,” she said.

Since *The Bridge’s* inception, there have been several faculty advisors, most serving multiple years, including Mary Dondero, John Mulrooney, Melanie Joy McNaughton, Katy Whittingham, Evan Dardano, Carrie Oeding,



Colm McDonough, '24, reviews proofs of the journal.



A Bridge to Opportunity

Sarah Fawn Montgomery and, currently, Professor Melendy and Alain Blunt, associate professor in the Department of Art and Art History.

“It takes many hours and a lot of late nights,” remembered Professor Mulrooney of the Department of English. “The students really got into it. It’s almost like a secret society. It was great. I loved doing it.”

While Professor Melendy oversees the poetry and prose that will be featured in this year’s edition of *The Bridge*, Professor Blunt does likewise for the art and design work. He said the process teaches more than the basics of publishing.

“I want to see the students succeed and follow through on a big project that they may never had been exposed to without an opportunity like this,” he said. “It’s a very collaborative environment, which also prepares the students for future team projects.”

Art students participating in the production of *The Bridge* also gain internship credit. ♦

The benefits of being an alumna of *The Bridge* are manifold. Just ask Meaghan Casey, ‘14, who was a literature editor for volume 10 and the art editor-in-chief for number 11.

“My experience not only brought me lifelong friendships, but also skills that remain pertinent to my personal and professional life today,” said the Marshfield native.

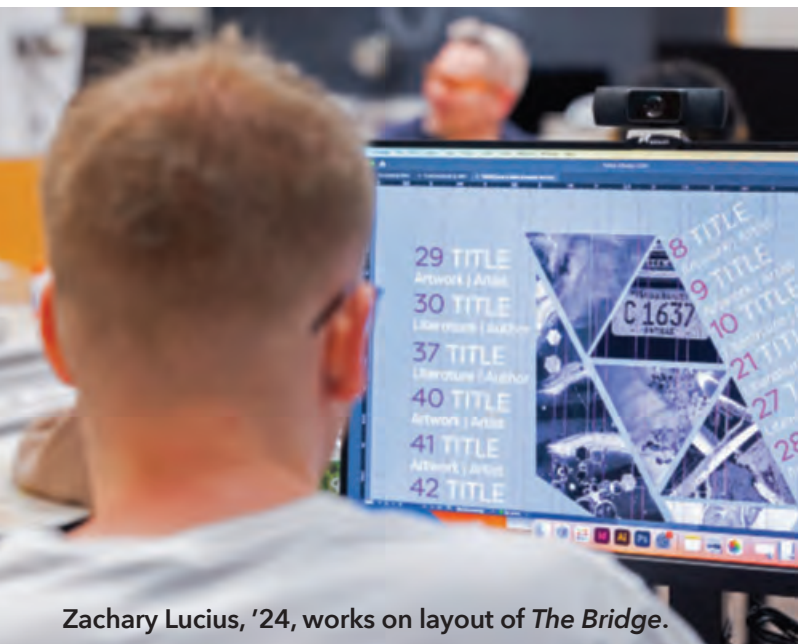
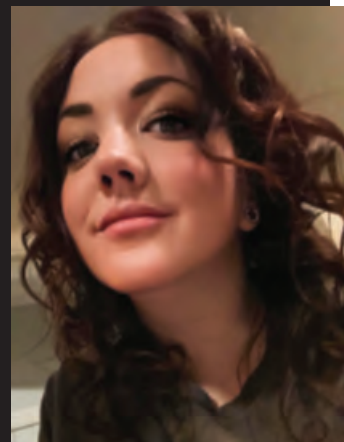
It was in her American literature class when Professor Mulrooney approached her about working on *The Bridge* that year. She’s glad she said yes. “This was a fantastic decision that not only got me involved on campus but also led to many other opportunities during my time there as an undergraduate,” Ms. Casey said.

An English major at BSU, she went on to earn a master’s degree in secondary education (with a concentration in English) from UMass Boston, and now teaches high school while also contemplating pursuing a PhD.

Creatively, her main gig is as a member of the Highwater Haulers, a fast-rising Boston-based band that mixes elements of rock, country and folk (featured to perform at this year’s Boston Calling Music Festival—see story on page 17).

“*The Bridge* truly changed my personal and professional life for the better,” said Ms. Casey, who added that she still submits her poetry and photography. She sees the journal as a tide that lifts all nearby boats.

“This publication deserves so much applause and recognition for the impact it’s had on Bridgewater State’s students,” she said. “Not to mention the incredible advisors who gave gentle guidance and let us lead the creative process.” ♦



Zachary Lucius, '24, works on layout of *The Bridge*.

Eclipsing Expectations

On-campus viewing event draws hundreds to BSU, observatory

BY BRIAN BENSON, G'23



EIGHT-YEAR-OLD ANDREW DELORY loves everything about astronomy. And there was no better place for the Whitman youngster to watch the recent solar eclipse than the BSU observatory. Andrew, who learned about the eclipse through videos and apps, was so excited that he woke up well before 7AM. It was like Christmas morning, except the “gifts” weren’t beneath the tree, but up in the sky: a rare alignment of the Earth, sun and moon.

“It’s making this once-in-a-lifetime event special,” mom Sarah, ’06, G’17, said of bringing her son to her alma mater for the celestial event. “I think it is wonderful that they’re making connections with the community.”

Sitting on blankets, benches and Adirondack chairs across campus, people donned special glasses to gaze skyward as the eclipse progressed. The university distributed thousands of the glasses that enabled people to look at the sun without damaging their eyes. High atop the Dana Mohler-Faria Science and Mathematics Center, the observatory opened its roof decks to the BSU community and the public.

“The most exciting part is seeing the community excited about it,” said Tiago Filadelfo, ’25, an observatory student worker who ran a telescope in University Park. Tiago is studying biology and chemistry but said working at the observatory gave him a new hobby and passion.

Janelle Murphy, ’26, a photonics and optical engineering and management major, credited her work at the observatory with improving her science communication skills. Those were on full display as she helped eclipse watchers use telescopes on a roof deck. “It’s amazing,” she said of BSU experiences outside of the classroom. “It’s really encouraging and exposes me to so many aspects of my career. ... What I really like about Bridgewater State are the opportunities and ability to learn from those opportunities.”

In addition to the eclipse event, the observatory regularly hosts evening programs where youth groups and the public can look in telescopes at wonders of the night sky.

“It’s nice to have an audience of people who love astronomy just like we do,” said Joshua Andrews, ’26, who is studying photonics and astrophysics with an eye toward a career in aerospace engineering.

Those astronomy buffs include humanities students Delia French and Emma Kershaw, who came to Monday’s viewing early to stake out a prime location on a roof deck. The freshmen missed out on seeing a 2017 solar eclipse, and they weren’t going to let another opportunity pass by. “It’s nice that they do this for all students,” said Delia, a graphic design major. “Even if you’re not a science major, you can come up here.”◆



ALUMNI UPDATE

CLASS NOTES

1956

Oliver Ames High School in Easton offers a scholarship in memory of the late **Dr. Andrew Miller, G'63**, an OAHS alumnus who served the Easton school system for 23 years, first as assistant superintendent and then as principal of the Richardson Olmsted School. The scholarship, \$5,000 per year and renewable for four years, is awarded to an OAHS senior who has attended Easton public schools for at least six years and has an interest in a career in teaching.

1960

James Hubbard Jr. was elected to the Sports Hall of Fame at Fairhaven High School. He also received Athletic Hall of Fame awards from Bridgewater State University, Old Rochester Regional High School and Cape League Baseball.

1964

Dr. Gail Appiani Lamb received the Legacy and Hall of Fame Honor from the College of Education at Illinois State University where she earned her doctorate and served for many years as associate professor and senior director of development. This honor noted that during her development tenure, she worked with donors to create more than 250 scholarships, endowments and funds for special projects, bringing in more than \$25 million for Illinois State University.

1965

Elayne Scott Neal, whose pen name is E.N. Light, published a book in September 2023 titled *The Light, The Sound & The Rose: Autobiography of a Psychic and Mystic*.

1973

Joseph F. Krowski was inducted into the Massachusetts Lawyer's Hall of Fame in 2023.

1977

Marjorie Turner Hollman published the seventh book in her Easy Walks in... series. Four trail guides cover 53 contiguous towns and more than 180 outdoor destinations in Eastern/Central Massachusetts. Her latest book, *Easy Walks South of Boston*, includes the three Bridgewater. *Easy Walks and Paddles in Milwaukee* is her first guidebook reaching beyond Massachusetts. Ms. Hollman's memoir is titled *My Liturgy of Easy Walks*. *Finding Easy Walks Wherever You Are* helps readers find easy walks for themselves. The series arose out of her own mobility challenges and efforts to help others find outdoor spaces where they can enjoy being out on the trail safely.

1980

Anthony Costello has coached Babe Ruth League Baseball in North Providence for the past eight years with several of his teams having won state championships.

1984

Lawrence Allen was awarded a grant through the Palo Verde Fiesta Bowl Charities Wishes for Teachers. His wish was to purchase chapter books, picture books and stuffed animal reading buddies for his students.

Christopher Harwood joined Brown University as Director of Emergency Management, Resilience and Business Continuity in the Department of Public Safety.

STAY CONNECTED. Send your news to the Office of Alumni Relations via email to alumni@bridgew.edu or mail to Jones Alumni House, 26 Summer St., 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.

1987

Bryan King, G'91, recently retired from Hopkinton High School after a 30-year career teaching biology and zoology. As an educator, he served many roles, including as quasi-assistant principal and in union leadership, and he developed the school's MCAS remediation program. Mr. King also had a very successful coaching career in softball, golf and most notably, swimming, where his teams won many league championships.

1988

James F. Barton is a member of the Franklin Food Pantry board of directors.

1991

Salvatore Cardella is the chief communication officer at the New Hanover County Schools in North Carolina.

1992

Clifton Watts Jr. was appointed chair of the Department of Recreation Sciences at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, in August 2023.

1993

Gail Marrella, G'93, received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Health Professions Education from Simmons University in Boston. Her qualitative study, "Exploring Women's Psychological and Emotional Experiences in Long-Term Strength Training Adherence," was published in the *American Journal of Health Education*.

1995

Nicholas M. Garofolo played Dave Slade in the film *Crime Traveler: The Adventures of Dave Slade*, currently on Tubi, Plex, Troma and Prime Video;

Lucifer Beelzebub in *Insomniac Nightmare Killers*, streaming on the Reveel website, Roku and App; the hobo in *The VelociPastor*, currently on Peacock TV; and William in *One Cent Can't Change*, showing on Tubi and Prime Video.

2001

Shane Muscato was promoted to the rank of colonel in the U.S. Air Force in May 2023.

2002

Eric Steele recently founded Soluvoll, a company located in Jacksonville, Florida, that completes turnkey energy-efficiency projects by helping commercial and industrial customers make buildings as energy efficient as possible.

2007

Sean Dowd of the Seekonk Police Department was promoted to lieutenant.

Michael Esposito, G'07, is the new group vice president for motion automation intelligence at Motion Industries, Inc.

2010

Alex Perry released his first feature documentary, *ANGLE*, on the Peacock Network. It's a sports documentary that features interviews with Dwayne Johnson, Rhonda Rousey, and many more. He started filmmaking by participating in Campus Moviefest while a BSU student.

2011

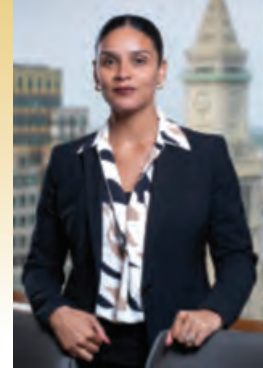
Michelle Terry, G'11, was presented with a prestigious Milken Educator Award at Plymouth North High School where she teaches English. Hailed as the "Oscars of Teaching," the award comes with an unrestricted cash prize

Polly LaCroix Bixby, '62, (seated, right) was inducted into the New Agenda Northeast Hall of Fame. The award honors women from New England who have made contributions to girls and women in sports.

Joining Ms. Bixby are (seated, from left) Patti Thompson West, '62, and Mary Dowling, '62; Standing are (from left) Johanna Lawlor Moore, '83, and Sheila Tunstall McKenna, '62. Ms. Dowling and Ms. McKenna were previously inducted into the hall.



Shayla Mombeleur, '12, was elected secretary of the Massachusetts Bar Association for the 2023-2024 membership year.



of \$25,000 and recognizes excellence and innovation in education.

2012

Deana Andrade, LICSW, MSW, was promoted to behavioral health manager at Old Colony Elder Services, a nonprofit agency that serves older adults and individuals with disabilities in Plymouth County and surrounding towns.

2013

Comfort Nyeswah-Wiafe, G'16, founded the Comfort Counseling Center, a mental health private practice in

Massachusetts and Texas. A licensed mental health counselor, she is committed to helping Black Christian professionals and entrepreneurs overcome mental health challenges to lead fulfilling lives.

2014

Thomas Goldwait is a mail processing clerk for the United States Postal Service at the Brockton Processing and Distribution Center.

2016

Sinchul Back, G'16, received the Advancing Global Learning Award from The University of

Scranton, presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated noteworthy academic leadership in integrating international issues/perspectives into the curriculum and through whose efforts students have acquired competencies, attributes and insights required to meaningfully and successfully participate in an increasingly interdependent world.

Charles Blanchette ran in the 2024 Boston Marathon for Boston Children's Hospital as part of the Miles for Miracles Team.

Timothy Jerome has worked for Delta Air Lines for eight years and was promoted to flight superintendent (dispatcher) earlier this year. He has lived in Newnan, Georgia, for more than two years.

2017

Amanda Pitts joined NBC Connecticut as a news reporter.

2022

Kobe Lomba joined the staff of G.T. Reilly & Company as an in-charge accountant and auditor.

CAREER SERVICES AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM OFFICE

Help lead Bridgewater State University students to success

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Career Services office has merged with the Internship Program Office this year forming the new Career Services & Internship Program Office with additional staff and resources to prepare our current students as well as assist our alumni.

NEW WEBSITE!

The Career Services & Internship Program Office has launched a new site allowing all constituents access to information pertinent to them. Sign up for an account on our website, powered by uConnect, which will allow you to create customized e-newsletters to keep you updated on jobs and events of interest. Check out our new website and resources at: <https://careers.bridgew.edu/>

HANDSHAKE

Handshake is BSU's recruiting database connecting students and alumni to employers across the country looking to fill jobs and internships. Alumni are welcome to create an account to access position postings, networking opportunities and career event information: bridgew.joinhandshake.com/login. Make sure your company posts on Handshake as well.

CAREER FAIRS

The Career Services & Internship Program Office hosts several career fairs each year that alumni are welcome to attend to search for positions or to register as an employer looking to hire BSU students.

Fall Job and Internship Fair

Thursday, September 19, 1-3:30 PM
Rondileau Student Union Ballroom

STEM and Health Sciences Career Expo

Wednesday, October 16, 1:30-4 PM
Dana Mohler-Faria Science and Mathematics Center Atriums

COLLABORATIVE UNIVERSITY BUSINESS EXPERIENCES (CUBES)

The CUBEs program connects organizations with students taking courses across the university's academic majors solving problems through in-class project work. We also welcome other opportunities to collaborate with alumni/employers, such as guest speakers in the classroom, facility tours, networking events and more. Visit www.bridgew.edu/academics/cubes for information.

BSU STUDENT AND ALUMNI NETWORKING GROUP

Join the Bridgewater State University Student and Alumni Networking Group on LinkedIn.com, and connect with BSU students and other alumni. Help members explore career options, learn about internships and jobs, and build networks on this popular professional social media site.

CAMPUS ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Many opportunities are available for alumni to engage with BSU students throughout the academic year. The Career Services & Internship Program Office coordinates several programs, including career panels, information sessions, networking events, and career fairs where alumni get the chance to represent their employers and interact with students.

For more information, visit our website at: <https://careers.bridgew.edu> or contact the Career Services & Internship Program Office at 508.531.1328 or careerservices@bridgew.edu.

ALUMNI UPDATE

NOTA BENE

IN MEMORIAM

The university is saddened by the deaths of the following alumni and extends condolences to their loved ones:

Barbara Daly Canavan, '42, on October 9, 2023
Mary Hildreth Chassey, '42, on September 6, 2022
Virginia Chamberlain Perry, '46, on August 12, 2023
Miriam Osborne Allen, '49, on January 3, 2023
Marjorie Berry Pearson, '49, on December 10, 2023
Mary Oakley Anderson, '50, on December 6, 2022
Jeanne Lapierre Kozak, '50, on May 26, 2023
Pauline Coutavas Panagopoulos, '50, on October 7, 2023
Rita Loughlin Scudder, '50, on January 22, 2024
Barbara McNeill Hickey, '51, on September 6, 2023
Nancy Whitney Rickard, '51, on October 23, 2023
Janice Haydon Shurtleff, '51, on February 19, 2024
Ruth Wynot Goldberg, '52, on November 26, 2023
Carol Ruddock Peterson, '53, on November 6, 2023
Barbara Andrade Wordell, '53, G'55, on January 1, 2023
Rose Dantono Maloney, '54, G'56, G'82, on February 17, 2024
Janice Moore Slater, '54, on February 20, 2024
Phyllis Lanza Caligaris, '55, on February 4, 2024
Barbara Tyrrell Nugent, G'55, on January 13, 2024
Donna Webster Barrett, '56, on February 2, 2024
Sheila Foster Dlouhy, '56, on September 3, 2023
Patricia Moore Handren, '56, on May 3, 2023
Virginia Gill Hathaway, '56, on September 12, 2023
Judith Tromblay Kenney, '56, on November 27, 2023
Romeo Lafond, '56, on November 3, 2022
Robert Meffan, G'56, on August 14, 2023
Joan M. Park, '56, G'63, on February 14, 2024
Anne Mason Walsh, '56, on September 12, 2023
Lois Hebert Cronan, '57, on September 17, 2023
Ann Dunn Greene, '57, on September 19, 2023
Nancy Monbleau Clapp, '58, on October 11, 2022
Shirley Haworth Geary, '58, on February 21, 2024
John E. Heslin Jr., G'58, on January 7, 2024
June Conant Moskal, '58, on March 4, 2023
Vincent J. Pizzano, G'58, on November 2, 2023
Ann L. Reardon, '59, on November 4, 2023
Kay I. Swanson, '59, on August 14, 2023

Nancy Boyle Arns, '60, on September 1, 2023
Anna Morrison Hall, '60, G'62, on October 14, 2023
Lilija Keturakis Kulbis, '60, G'70, on November 20, 2023
Albert Wagner, G'60, on January 19, 2024
Norrine Looney Burnett, '61, on July 9, 2023
Caroline B. Keiger, G'61, on February 2, 2024
Anne Blouin Chase, '62, on January 23, 2024
Robert A. Demers, '62, on October 9, 2023
Margaret E. Farrell, G'62, on January 23, 2024
Phyllis Welch Frechette, G'62, on March 15, 2023
Sandra Howlett, '62, on June 27, 2021
Elaine Perry Liming, '62, on February 28, 2024
Paul Alvarnaz, '63, G'67, on June 10, 2023
Robert Corbin, G'63, on September 4, 2022
Alfred Johnson, G'63, on February 2, 2021
Avis Brown Miller, '63, G'66, on January 13, 2024
Margaret Lamoureux Reed, '63, on July 8, 2023
Richard D. Fusco, G'64, on May 9, 2023
Jacqueline LaFontaine Hutchinson, '64, on February 15, 2024
Edward F. Kelly, '64, on December 15, 2023
Ann Liimatainen Levasseur, '64, on February 7, 2024
Kathleen Love, '64, on June 10, 2023
Ronald E. Lovett, G'64, on January 31, 2021
Angelo Stavros, G'64, on August 7, 2023
Mary McGrath Burke, '65, on October 5, 2023
Donna Werthamer Modzelewski, '65, on December 6, 2023
Sally Dean Nolan, '66, on November 27, 2023
Foster F. Purrington, '66, on August 13, 2023
Mary C. Corsi, G'67, on October 1, 2023
Roberta Wilk Horsfall, '67, on November 4, 2022
Michael Kacergis, '67, on August 22, 2023
Irene Packard Santos, '67, on September 11, 2023
Charlene Holmes, '68, on April 25, 2023
William M. Murphy, '68, on December 13, 2023
Lorna Warren Pruell, '68, on November 24, 2023
Ralph B. Robinson, '68, on January 28, 2024
Cheryl Jordan Rowe, '68, on January 17, 2024

ALUMNI SERVICES

For more information about the services below, visit www.bridgew.edu/alumni

WEBSITE

Visit the BSU alumni website, www.bridgew.edu/alumni, to learn more about events, services and the activities of alumni affinity groups.

FACEBOOK

Follow us on Facebook (@BSUAlum) or search "Bridgewater State Alumni."

LINKEDIN

The "Official Bridgewater State University" group on LinkedIn is more than 59,000 strong. Request to join the group today.

X (FORMERLY KNOWN AS TWITTER)

Follow us @BSU_Alumni.

INSTAGRAM

Follow us @BSU_Alumni.

Susan Cleveland Clark, '69, on January 9, 2024
 Cheryl Bromley Jones, '69, on June 6, 2023
 Ann Maguire, '69, on December 29, 2023
 Martha Sisson Moulton, '69, on December 25, 2023
 Leon J. Raczkowski, '69, on August 15, 2023
 Elaine Canestrari Rittenhouse, '69, on September 10, 2023
 Robert P. Scoppettuolo, '69, on November 1, 2023
 Louis Colombo, '70, on June 22, 2022
 Janet Cope, '70, on December 9, 2022
 Edward C. McLaughlin, '70, on February 26, 2023
 Maryjane P. Murray, '70, on August 1, 2023
 Michael L. Perchard, '70, on November 25, 2023
 Barbara Sullivan Travers, '70, on October 30, 2022
 Peter S. Barney, '71, on October 18, 2022
 John A. Barter, G'71, on February 2, 2024
 Susan E. Himmelman, '71, on September 25, 2023
 William G. Hosford, '71, G'74, G'76, on November 8, 2023
 Cathy Vose Karolow, '71, on December 24, 2023
 Eileen Racette Murphy, '71, on September 22, 2023
 Ida Cerezo O'Donnell, '71
 Robert L. Phelan, '71, on November 27, 2023
 James Ruberti, G'71, on July 3, 2023
 Karl P. Tinsley, '71, on January 25, 2023
 Margaret Aleks Wright, '71, on September 27, 2023
 Nancy Ek Hall, '72, on September 20, 2023
 Thomas J. Kelley, '72, on March 26, 2023
 Marie Crimmins Ryan, '72, on August 13, 2023
 Jeanette I. Winthrop, G'72, on March 2, 2024
 Kent Harlow, '73, on October 22, 2023
 Kevin G. Harrington, '73, on February 5, 2023
 Joseph W. O'Brien, G'73, on March 16, 2023
 James T. Pirrello, '73, on December 13, 2023
 John J. Tuite, G'73, on November 6, 2023
 Joanne Pumroy Voorhis, G'73 in November 2023
 Renaldo Agostinelli, '74, on September 26, 2023
 Edward W. Alusow, G'74, on December 22, 2022
 Ronald H. Cote, G'74, on November 4, 2022
 Patricia J. Harding, '75, on August 6, 2023
 Karen Friberg Phillips, '75, on November 9, 2023
 Francine Donahue Welch, '75, on May 8, 2023
 Ethel B. Winokoor, G'75, on August 30, 2022
 Bruce Clarke, G'76, on February 17, 2024
 John A. Davis, '76, on February 6, 2024
 Thomas Droukas, '76, on March 29, 2023
 Janice Jezak, '76, on February 10, 2023
 Catherine Costello McCarrick, '76, on January 5, 2024
 Edward M. Perkins Jr., G'76, on February 27, 2024
 Ann R. Spencer, G'76, on January 16, 2024
 Linda Walker Tannahill, '76, on September 21, 2023
 Nancy F. Cannon, G'77, on June 18, 2023
 Mary A. Doherty, '77, on September 21, 2023
 Cynthia Clausen Giblin, '77, on September 2, 2023
 Eugene G. Macomber, G'77, on December 5, 2023
 Otis W. Magoun, G'77, on October 28, 2023
 Gertrude McAdams, G'77, on November 4, 2023
 Sandra L. Will-Gelinas, '77, on November 8, 2023
 Ronald E. LeBretton, G'78, on February 23, 2024
 Ned D. Witham, Sr., G'78, on October 2, 2023
 Thomas D. Brouillard, '79, on February 1, 2024
 Deborah M. Ross, '79, on December 7, 2023
 Andrew R. Greene, '81, on September 25, 2022
 James Sanford, '81, on January 11, 2022
 Diane A. DeLowery, '82, on September 17, 2023
 Bridgette Flaherty Sheridan, '82, on February 16, 2024
 Virginia Deknis, '83, on February 20, 2024
 Mary Donovan-Thomas, '83, on December 3, 2023
 James M. Greco, '84, on April 28, 2024
 Maureen McGran-Reber, G'84, on July 21, 2023
 Michele Potwin, '84, on December 4, 2023
 Nora L. Crowley, '85, on February 22, 2024
 Ralph W. Evans Jr., '86, on September 20, 2023
 Krisanne Ferreira, '87, on September 4, 2023
 Margaret M. Wood, G'87, on October 12, 2023
 Christopher G. Alden, '88, on September 18, 2023
 Elizabeth Kearns Douglas, '88, G'90, on May 11, 2021
 William J. Mikutel Jr., '88, on April 10, 2023
 Roseanne Owens-Gross, G'88, on December 5, 2023
 Marc P. Lange, '89, on December 8, 2023
 Gregory R. Strachoff, '89, on January 15, 2024
 Scott J. Azulay, '90, on December 31, 2023
 Catherine Smart Caley, '90, on December 6, 2023
 Michael A. Coller, '90, on August 6, 2022
 Mark Goddard (Charles H. Goddard), '90, G'92, on October 10, 2023
 Maria Styles Cochrane, '91, on March 8, 2021
 Judith King Lemay, '91, on November 15, 2023
 Christopher J. Park, '91, on December 2, 2023
 Patricia Stering, G'91, on December 12, 2022
 Ellen P. Butler, G'92, on February 20, 2024
 Priscilla A. Dodd, '92, on September 11, 2023
 Michael Lagace, '92, on December 22, 2023
 Nancy Beguerie Young, '92, on May 19, 2023
 Margaret Colon, '93, on February 21, 2023
 Theresa Frances Murphy, G'93, on November 23, 2023
 Jonathan D. Klotzbach, '94, on February 6, 2024
 Paul Yanakakis, '94, on January 11, 2024
 Jason T. Berube, '95, on February 9, 2024
 Nancy Amaral, '96, on February 21, 2024
 Maurice Barrett, '96, on June 10, 2023
 Nicole St. Amand Strange, '97, on June 29, 2023
 Sandra E. Finlay, '98, on May 3, 2023
 Linda M. Veracka, '98, on October 6, 2023
 William C. Welch, '98, G'04, on August 19, 2023
 Eileen Gravlin-Dunn, '00, on May 29, 2023
 Richard O. Silva, '00, on December 29, 2021
 Michael D. Comeau, '01, on October 1, 2023
 Joshua N. Kelly, '01, on December 29, 2023
 Karen Wright Machado, '01, on September 4, 2023
 Eileen Timony Clark, '02, on October 13, 2019
 Emily A. Zeida, '06, on December 6, 2023
 Rebecca Case, G'07, on December 18, 2023
 Lynne S. Kostka, G'08, on January 31, 2024
 Tara M. Bigelow, '09, on August 28, 2023
 Teresa R. Tristaino, '10, on December 9, 2023
 William G. Merritt, '21, on January 13, 2024

BSU pays its respects to the following members of the campus community who recently passed away:

Dr. Robert F. Boutilier, professor emeritus, Department of Geology, on February 5, 2024
 Dr. Robert A. Briggs, professor emeritus, Department of Foreign Languages, on September 25, 2023
 Dr. Theresa R. Brush, part-time faculty, Department of Chemical Sciences, on February 29, 2024
 Edgar T. Canty Jr., professor emeritus, Department of Information Systems Management, on February 5, 2023
 Dr. Sandra Ciocci, professor and chairperson, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, on February 9, 2024
 Professor John J. Droege, professor emeritus, Department of Art, on October 3, 2022
 Professor Lee A. Dunne, professor emerita, Department of Communications and Theater, on August 15, 2023
 Dr. Jacek K. Sulanowski, professor emeritus, Department of Earth Sciences, on October 18, 2023
 Dr. Yongmei Wu, part-time faculty, Departments of Anthropology and Global Languages and Literatures, on January 7, 2024

PARTING SHOT



In November, dozens of BSU students enjoyed a bird's eye view of campus. For the second year in a row, they soared above residence halls and classrooms in a hot air balloon, thanks to Program Council, which sponsored the event.

PHOTO BY LUIS PIRES, '24



YOU can make a difference, one student at a time



“The financial assistance I received immediately helped me remove a hold on my account. Your belief in me has inspired me to work harder and I am immensely grateful.”

OWEN REED, '24

Too many students, like **Owen Reed, '24**, are at risk of not finishing college because they don't have enough money. These students are working – sometimes multiple jobs – but it's not enough.

You can be part of the solution by sponsoring a student. Your gift of \$1,000 or more this fiscal year will be awarded in its entirety next academic year as a one-time scholarship to a student in need.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

- You contribute a \$1,000 gift designated to Sponsor-A-Student.
- You name your award for yourself or in honor of another.
- A deserving student is selected to receive your one-time named scholarship in its entirety.
- Gifts made by June 30th will be awarded in the fall semester.
- Packets will be mailed to you, giving you the opportunity to learn about your student beneficiary.

SPONSOR-A-STUDENT

Visit give.bridgew.edu/SAS to make your gift online or use the reply envelope to send your gift in the mail today.



Jones Alumni House
26 Summer Street
Bridgewater, MA 02325

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Norwood, MA
Permit No. 20

View this issue online at
www.bridgew.edu/bridgewater-magazine

Save the date!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

HOMECOMING '24

Visit bridgew.edu/homecoming for details and registration information.

FRIDAY FEATURED EVENTS

- Golden Bear Society Luncheon
- Reunion Class Celebrations

Get Social with BSU Alumni

-  @BSUalum
-  @BSU_Alumni
-  @BSU_Alumni

SATURDAY FEATURED EVENTS

- BAA Annual Meeting
- Trolley Tours of Campus
- Alumni Champagne and Bloody Mary Brunch
- Bristaco's Block Party in University Park
- Pre-Game Celebration at The Riviera Café (The Riv)
- Rathskeller Party Tent at Swenson Field Lot
- BSU Football vs. Worcester State



WELCOME HOME
Once A Bear, Always A Bear

FOOD • CAMPUS TOURS • CARNIVAL GAMES • ENTERTAINMENT • FUN