

BOSTON COLLEGE ESTABLISHES NEW CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE GLOBAL STUDIES

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (April 2008) -- Boston College has announced the establishment of the Center for Undergraduate Global Studies, which will expand the international experiences of BC undergraduates by better integrating study-abroad opportunities into the academic curriculum.

The center will also provide funds for students for whom studying abroad would otherwise be out of reach, and enhance international program development. Bernd Widdig, who has served as director of BC's Office of International Programs since 2007, will head the center.

"Study abroad is at the core of the Boston College undergraduate experience," said Widdig. "Nearly 40 percent of Boston College undergraduates participate in study abroad programs, and most rate their international experience as one of the best aspects of their BC education.

"With the formation of this center, BC students will now have greater opportunities to learn first-hand how transformative international study can be to their academic interests and personal growth."



Bernd Widdig

The establishment of the center has been made possible by a \$10 million gift from University Trustee Kathleen M. McGillicuddy and her husband, Ronald E. Logue, chairman and CEO of State Street Corporation. The center will be named the McGillicuddy-Logue Center for Undergraduate Global Studies in recognition of their support.

A key priority of the McGillicuddy-Logue Center will be the development of a Fellows Program, which will combine intense academic preparation before study abroad with structured opportunities for reflection on the experience afterwards, in the form of a Capstone seminar taken during students' senior year. Capstone seminars help students evaluate their BC education and prepare for lifelong commitments to work, relationships, society and spirituality.

"A fully developed study abroad experience includes three phases: preparation, experience, and reflection," said Widdig. "The Fellows Program will enable us to enhance students' academic preparation during their sophomore year, and to provide a forum during their senior year in which they can discuss the experience in a structured way. We hope that these initiatives will bring about a longer-term engagement by students with the world."

Additional areas of focus for the McGillicuddy-Logue Center include implementing a Travel Grants Program and increasing the number of nontraditional study abroad destinations, including Latin America, Southeast Asia, and South Asia, from which students can choose. Currently, 88 percent of the 1,000 students who go abroad each year study in Western Europe.

"Part of a well-rounded education in the 21st century is learning what it means to be a global citizen," said McGillicuddy. "Enabling students to experience a broader view of the world and their role in it, while supporting their ability to attain practical skills and first-hand experiences to apply in their future careers, will be key areas of focus for this center."



Kathleen M. McGillicuddy

Added Logue, "Kathleen and I are committed to BC's strategic plan and the ambitious course it lays out for the University's future. The goal to develop a student formation program that will be a contemporary model for other colleges resonated with us because of its focus on undergraduate education. Boston College is well positioned to become a leader in linking study abroad experiences with on-campus programs focused on student formation."



Ronald E. Logue

Provost and Dean of Faculties Cutberto Garza said, "Kathleen and Ron have been energetic proponents of providing BC students with the experience, guidance, and perspective necessary to serve in leadership roles as globally competent citizens. Their generosity has made it possible to implement a key part of the University's strategic plan. I am grateful for their leadership in this critical area."

A trustee since 2002, McGillicuddy is a 1971 graduate of Newton College of the Sacred Heart, which was acquired by Boston College in 1975. Logue, who received bachelor of science (1967) and master of business administration (1974) degrees from Boston College, has been chairman and chief executive officer of State Street Corporation since 2004.

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