Moving Forward, Rising to the Top

GSSW has plenty of reason to cheer, but the school is not about to rest on its laurels

BY JEAN SMITH

Early in his tenure as Graduate School of Social Work dean, Alberto Godenzi began holding an annual luncheon to recognize GSSW faculty members who had enjoyed a productive year in external research funding.

The number of attendees at the first such event would have barely filled a dining room table.

This year’s luncheon, however, included a list of nearly 50 faculty, students and staff.

While attendance at a luncheon might seem an unlikely benchmark of success, it’s nonetheless a revealing one for the Graduate School of Social Work. These past few years have seen major steps forward for GSSW, as measured by many important yardsticks — increases in enrollment, scholarly publications, financial aid, as well as external funding [see box on p. 4] — and most recently its rise from 26th to 14th in the US News & World Report rankings of social work programs. (GSSW had tied for 14th in the 1997 US News rankings.)

Colleagues and observers praise Godenzi, who became dean in the spring of 2001, for GSSW’s progress and cite his leadership and vision in, for example, bringing to the school an emphasis on global practice and aging — areas that are at the forefront of contemporary social work, they note.

But Godenzi credits the GSSW community’s willingness to look hard at its strengths, needs, character, and most of all, its identity. By doing so, he says, GSSW has been able to build on its legacy while adapting to 21st-century realities of social work.

“If you want to move a school forward, you need to know the rules of the game,” says Godenzi. “You have to understand where the market is going, and to accept the role and significance of something like a US News ranking. If people don’t know about you, especially the good things about you, you won’t make an impression. Without that kind of visibility, you just don’t attract the outstanding students and faculty who help you achieve your goals.

“None of what GSSW has achieved would have been possible without an engaged school community — alumni as well as students, faculty and staff. You need to excite them, and they need to excite you. That is how you transform an organization.”

Bill Allen, a 1971 GSSW graduate who co-chairs the school’s Advisory Council, says, “Besides strengthening the school, what Al has done is set a tone and given us some good ideas about marketing that we adopted and followed through. I was pleasantly surprised at the effort.”

Graduate School of Social Work Dean Alberto Godenzi and Adrienne Pisani MSW ’08

“...This is a tremendous resource for local and international companies looking for energetic young management students to help create or refine business plans.”

—Lect. Greg Stoller

Fr. Paris Nominated for ‘Professor of the Year’ Honor

Provost and Dean of Faculties Cuthberto Garza has nominated Walsh Professor of Bioethics John Paris, SJ, for the Council on Advancement and Support of Education “US Professor of the Year” award.

Co-sponsored by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the award honors excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. Candidates are nominated by the school administration or members of the campus faculty, and entries are judged by top American educators and other active participants on the education scene. Boston College’s nominee is determined through a consultative process with deans and department chairs.

Last year, the Professor of the Year program recognized four national winners and state winners in 40 states and the District of Columbia.

Fr. Paris is a widely recognized national authority in the field of bioethics and the interrelated roles of law, medicine and ethics. A 1959 graduate of Boston College, Fr. — he also holds a master’s degree from BC — Fr. Paris joined the University faculty in 1990 as the inaugural Rev. Michael P. Walsh, SJ, Professor of Bioethics.

The recipient of the 2007 Teacher of the Year Award from BC’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter, Fr. Paris has authored or co-authored more than 165 articles, law reviews and book chapters, which have appeared in such publications as the New England Journal of Medicine, Pediatrics and the San Francisco Law Review.

He has frequently offered commentary to the media, including the New York Times, Washington Post, Time, Newsweek, National Public Radio and every major TV and cable news channel.

Professor of the Year Award entries include six letters of recommendation: two from current

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Fr. Paris nominated for ‘Professor of the Year’ Honor

US News rankings.

Carroll School MBAs offer high-quality, no-cost consulting services

BY ED HAYWARD

Carroll School MBAs offer high-quality, no-cost consulting services

Vince Sawhney, the president of Natick-based Boston National Capital Partners Inc., saw an opportunity to enter into the commercial mortgage market back in 2006. To refine the idea, the entrepreneur turned to an unlikely source: the students and faculty of the Carroll Graduate School of Management.

In six months, a team of MBA students had turned his idea into a legitimate business plan. “It was a very good deal for me,” says Sawhney, who teaches a summer course at the school as well. “I got a business plan written by these smart kids in a short period of time and free of charge. They helped us focus and gave us some good ideas about marketing that we adopted and followed through. I was pleasantly surprised at the effort.”

Continued on page 4

Carroll School MBAs offer high-quality, no-cost consulting services

Sawhney’s venture made inroads in the niche market he sought to serve, although the mortgage crisis of the past year has negatively affected his business.

As the US and regional economies continue to sputter along, a new course has bolstered the Carroll School’s ability to offer students the opportunity to cut their teeth on real business development projects while providing businesses with high quality consulting services at no cost.

“First and foremost, this is about teaching students to launch or run a business,” says Lect. Greg Stoller, who teaches MBA courses in entrepreneurship and global business.

“But we also think this is a tremendous resource for local and international companies looking for energetic young management students to help create or refine business plans.”

Continued on page 4
Forecasting the Heights

In true New England form, Boston College campus weather takes many turns — sometimes in the course of a single day. The University’s first weather station, the brainchild of senior Eric Sanderson, will eliminate some of the guesswork now that monitoring technology has been installed on the roof of the O’Neill Library.

The station, which tracks temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, UV index, solar radiation, and rainfall, is expected to support the fun of it,” says Sanderson, an environmental geosciences major and aspiring forecaster. “It turned out, everyone was in to do and would have done for sure, UV index, solar radiation, and direction, barometric pressure, humidity, wind speed

The installation of “Big Belly” solar-powered trash compactors at three busy locations on the Boston College campus has not only cut down on litter, but reduced the cost of daily trash collection. The new compactors, which provide up to five times the capacity of traditional trash barrels, are located on the north side of the Campus Green, on the north side of Conte Forum and the walkway between Kostka and Gonzaga residence halls on upper campus.

“The ‘Big Belly’ systems have reduced the numbers of collect-tions,” notes Facilities Services Superintendent of Grounds Scott McCoy. “In the past, the grounds staff would often change out the cans at these locations two or three times a day. Now we only have to visit the ‘Big Bellies’ once a day to ensure proper operation and empty if needed.”

McCoy says that grounds crew staffers were at first skeptical of the new compacting canisters installed by Facilities Management in late April, but have quickly become proponents of the new self-powered system. “They recognize the need for innovative new ideas which also teach a valuable lesson about sustainability and a cleaner tomorrow,” McCoy says.

“Plus, they are a big hit with the students,” McCoy adds. “It’s something we can all be proud of.”

Title of the Week:

“In a Grotto Da Vida, Baby: Trenvienz’s Care as a Place of Re-Birth in Wolfram’s Parzival”

Presented by English graduate student Leihon Elion at the 29th annual Medieval and Renaissance Forum at Plymouth State University.

Clariﬁcation:

Off-campus student life conference

A Chronicle story in the April 25 edition concerning the conference on off-campustudent life issues held April 15 at Corcoran Commons neglected to mention that the event was organized by the Office of the Dean for Student Development in cooperation with the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs. Chronicle regrets the oversight.

“...Ecological footprint analy-sis suggests that global produc-tion and consumption are now exceeding sustainable levels by more than 23 percent. That’s the backdrop when scientists confirm that 2007 was yet another year of rising carbon and methane emis-sions, when hungry Vietnam-ese workers stage massive strikes against Nike, and when major US retailers start rationing rice.”

—Assoc. Prof. Premaanand Par-bhushan (Hindi) and Prof. Julie Scher (Sociology), Boston Globe

“In a Democratic adminis-tration, Massachusetts supplies a recruitment pool for the adminis-trators.”

—Model Professor Kay Schloss-man, interviewed by the Boston Herald about Bay State political leaders’ loyalties in the Obama Clinton race

With the Boston College community savoring the Eagles’ national hockey championship, BC women’s athletics took its place in the spotlight.

On April 26, the University held its ﬁrst “Celebration of Women’s Athletics: Honoring Yesterday, Celebrating Today, Building Tomorrow,” a tribute to the more than 1,300 female athlete alumni who have competed during nearly four decades of women’s sports at the University, as well as the more than 250 BC female student athletes and women’s varsity sports coaches, staff and administrators.

The event, held in Conte Forum, included a panel discussion with alumnae and current athletes representing a variety of sports (above), including S. R. Kia McNell, ’18 (women’s soccer), Kristin Stewart, ’18 (women’s ice hockey) and Alison Corradi Wallace, ’18 (field hockey). This past weekend saw the BC women’s water polo team (below) ﬁnish up its most successful season to date, as they traveled to the National Collegiate Club Water Polo Tournament in Graham, Ore., where they ﬁnished 11th. The team, which was founded in 2001, earned its berth in the nationals with a victory over MIT in the North Atlantic Division Tournament.
Fr. Paris Is Candidate for CASE Award

By Melissa Beecher

Fr. Paris, a faculty member at Boston College, has been nominated for the CASE Award for Faculty Excellence. The award recognizes faculty members who have made significant contributions to their institutions and the larger academy. Fr. Paris is being considered for his dedication to teaching, research, and service, as well as his contributions to Boston College’s Master and Strategic plans.

Fr. Paris is known for his commitment to student success, particularly in the sciences. He has been instrumental in the development of the Master and Strategic plans, and he is one of the driving forces behind the University’s $1.7 billion endowment. Fr. Paris has also been a vocal advocate for the importance of research and scholarship.

Fr. Paris is a well-respected figure on campus, and his nomination for the CASE Award is a testament to his influence. If he is selected, Fr. Paris will join a long list of distinguished scholars who have received this honor in the past.

University President William P. Leahy, S.J., and Provost and Dean of Faculties Catherine Gaffney (Psychology), who received the 2010 Faculty Distinguished Research Award at Faculty Day.

Roberts and Kensinger Earn Awards for Faculty Research

A look at this year’s Distinguished Research Awards, Prof. Mary Roberts (Chemistry) and Prof. Elizabeth Kensinger (Psychology).

Senior Research Award Recipient Roberts’ work is in two areas: the use of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance to define how interfaces modulate lipolytic enzyme activities; and stress responses in various cells and microorganisms, particularly the regulation of novel solutes in extremophiles.

Kensinger’s junior Research award winner, focuses on cognitive and effective neurosciences, the effect of emotion on memory with a focus on the cognitive and neural mechanisms through which emotion influences vividness and accuracy of memory. Kensinger also researches how memory changes across the adult lifespan. One of her notable projects — that human beings remember sad events with greater clarity than happy events — involved asking red Sox fans to recall details about the final game of the 2004 American League Championship Series.

Kensinger was recently named a 2008 Searle Scholar, an award that provides funding to support the independent research of exceptionally creative and productive young faculty in the biomedical sciences and chemistry. The Searle Scholars Program recognizes and supports individuals who have already done important, innovative research and have the potential for making pivotal contributions to basic research in the biomedical sciences.

Melissa Beecher

Snyder's research has focused on the role of gut hormones in appetite, satiety, and energy balance. His work has been supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the American Diabetes Association. He has also been a visiting scientist at the University of California, San Francisco, and a fellow at the National Institutes of Health.

Snyder is a member of the American Society for Nutrition, the American College of Nutrition, and the American Physiological Society. He has served on numerous committees and task forces for these organizations.

Snyder is currently the director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Nutrition and Health at Boston University School of Medicine, where he is also a professor of biology and genetics.

Snyder has received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to the field of nutrition and health, including the American Society for Nutrition's Distinguished Service Award and the American Physiological Society's Distinguished Service Award.
The following grants were announced at Faculty Day May 2 (see page 3):

Teaching, Advising and Mentoring Experience Grant Recipients: Ass't Prof. Mary Arada (CSON), Prof. Robin Fleming (History), Adj. Asst. Prof. Michael Anas (CSON), and Asst. Prof. Angela Amor (CSON), Assoc. Prof. Karen Arnold (LSOE), Assoc. Prof. Eric Dearing (LSOE), Assoc. Prof. Patricia Fischer (CSON), Assoc. Prof. Laura O’Dwyer (LSOE), Adj. Assoc. Prof. Kathleen Bailey (Polical Science), Assoc. Prof. David Deese (Political Science), Prof. Ann Burgess (CSON), Biology Laboratories Director Michael Patella, Asst. Prof. Othelia Lee (CSON), Assoc. Prof. Kenneth Metz (Chemistry), Assoc. Prof. Eliza Rhodes (Spanish), Assoc. Prof. Robert Signorelli (CSON), Asst. Prof. Lisa Patel Stevens (LSOE).

Research Incentive Grant Recipients: Asst. Prof. Singh-Chiang (Slavic Languages), Asst. Prof. Yonder Gullahan (Theology), Prof. Charles Hoffman (Biology), Prof. Jane Honnott (CSON), Assoc. Prof. Goran Kizlov (Chemistry), Assoc. Prof. Sean McGeachie (Social Work), Prof. John Michael Chiu (Art), Assoc. Prof. Elizabeth Miller (CSON), Assoc. Prof. Renato Mirollo (Mathematics), Assoc. Prof. Jan Engelbrecht (Physics), Assoc. Prof. Zachary Morgan (History), Prof. Michael Numan (Psychology), Asst. Prof. Carrie Proctor (LSOE), Assoc. Prof. Stacey Soo (CSON) and Assoc. Prof. Valentina Zamora (CSON).

Academic Technology Innovation Grant Recipients: Michael Barnett (LSOE), Asst. Prof. Steven Bruner (Chemistry), Asst. Prof. Amy Frappling (Geology), Asst. Prof. Sheila Gallagher (Fine Arts), Prof. Sean-A Jin (Communications) Prof. Evan Kanzowetz (Chemistry) and Assoc. Prof. Robin (CSON).

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Texton Financial and Sesame Workshop to namespace companies envisioned by Carroll School MBA alumni and global entrepreneurs. Last fall, students worked on plans for businesses in regions as diverse as Beijing, China; Tokyo, Japan, and Bordeaux, France. Other projects have included commercialization of research out of BC’s own departments of chemistry, computer science and physics.

In the fall semester’s Business Planning and Entrepreneurship course, five-person teams work alongside a mentor with industry or entrepreneurial experience, as well as a third-year law student who provides advice on legal issues that arise. In the end, each team develops its business plan, and then makes a 5-minute “elevator pitch” to a panel of professors and businesspeople. The top teams compete again to determine the best proposal.

This spring, Stoller rolled out the new Business Plan Continuation Course, where students work individually or in teams with clients to refine plans developed during the fall semester or on new projects.

“When you get the students to work on ideas that come from outside of Fulton Hall, the learning becomes that much stronger,” says Stoller. “Students are working on something that is absolutely real and has a pretty good probability of getting implemented.”

Building strengths in financial analysis, accounting, marketing, communications, business plan writing and presentation pitching, the students say the projects sharpen skills and resumés as they approach graduation.

For Colleen Pendl’08, who spent this semester refining the business plan her team developed last fall for a group of investors, the experience proved invaluable.

“Certainly, as a social work student, you can’t really teach that,” says Pendl, who works in real estate with CB Richard Ellis Capi- tal Markets Group. "You gain the experience of knowing what they want and managing and meeting expectations. They can fire you if they want. So even if we are not making money on this, it could af- fect their business. You have to take this seriously.”

For the fall course, Stoller will assemble 18 outside projects with companies who seek assistance. This year, he expects to see interest grow beyond the 30 to 35 proposals he normally receives.
Bringing Her Energy to Education

Height of Excellence

For the Lynch School’s Mary Walsh, home is where her heart — and her work — remains

Heights of Excellence profiles faculty members who, through their exemplary teaching and research, contribute to the intellectual and spiritual life of Boston College.

BY ED HAYWARD STAFF WRITER

Something of a study in perpetual motion, Kearns Professor of Urban Education and Leadership Mary Walsh criss-crosses St. Columbkille Elementary School, a red brick building on Arlington Street in Brighton. The apple green hallways are familiar to Walsh, who turns a corner and stops momentarily in front of Room 2 to whisper, “This was my first-grade classroom.”

Not a lot has physically changed a few decades later inside of Room 2. The tiles have gone from light and dark to a patina somewhere in between. Walsh, who now assays her alma mater with student assessment, notes that the old desks are gone. “You can see the holes they filled when they took them out. They used to be nailed to the floor,” says Walsh, toeing the patch jobs, if you will, she does.

St. Columbkille is a few blocks from the house where Walsh and her sister were raised by their parents — her father a factory worker in Watertown, her mother a homemaker. It’s just a few more blocks from the Lynch School of Education, where Walsh has been a professor since 1989 in the Department of Counseling and Developmental Psychology.

There might be more exotic research locales than Brighton Center. But from her vantage point as a clinical-developmental psychologist, St. Columbkille and other city schools sit directly in that area Walsh so clearly covets as a teacher and researcher.

“For me, the place where I’ve always lived, intellectually, is the space where thought and action meet,” Walsh says. “That, to me, is where the excitement is.”

A sense of place

After earning her doctorate from Clark University in Worcester, Walsh divided her time between teaching psychology at Regis College and doing research at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, where she examined how ways patients explain their particular illness and its cause. Her career has focused most often on mental health challenges for children and families in a variety of settings — ranging from health care facilities to schools to homeless shelters, where Walsh researched her 1992 book, Moving to Neuburgh: Children’s Stories of Homelessness.

Lynch School Dean Joseph M. O’Keefe, SJ, says Walsh’s sense of place — be it academic or geographic — contributes to her focus on schools serving the newest generations of immigrants from Latin America, Africa and Asia.

“Mary is driven by this loyalty to her neighborhood and to her experience of being a daughter of Irish immigrants and the importance of the immigrant experience,” says Fr. O’Keefe. “It has shaped her work. Many psychologists are removed from day-to-day engagement in their local community. But I think Mary puts in the time. She is up and away in the community, and she is also able to be enter the world of practitioners. That is one of the important things she does very, very well.”

Her students are also fed off of what Fr. O’Keefe and others describe as Walsh’s “boundless energy.”

Ana Merriam, who graduates this month with her bachelor’s degree in human development and a fifth-year master’s degree in elementary education, first met Walsh when she was a freshman.

“I just automatically noticed she was very energetic,” says Merriam, who this year taught part-time in the St. Columbkille after-school program. “I couldn’t understand where she got her energy from. I thought, ‘OK. I’ve got my work cut out for me.’ She really sets the bar high.”

Students say that when they’re running out of steam, Walsh usually digs up a granola bar or other healthy snack. She’s an avid consumer of apples, they note. But often, there is a tin of cookies somewhere in her office. Walsh is typically at work by 7 a.m., usually brown bags lunch. By 4 p.m., she might be on the phone with her husband, offering a cooking tip or two.

Research reports and other projects that are turned in are typically met with Walsh’s trademark response: “Terrific!” and double thumbs up sign.

“I feel like I owe Dr. Walsh so much,” says Merriam, who plans on returning to teach in her native Honduras. “If I hadn’t connected with her, I think I would have missed out on what is such a huge part of my life right now. I would have missed out on something great.”

“School’s the place to be”

From the beginning of her career, Walsh knew she wanted to make a difference in the lives of children. But she did not entertain the idea of becoming a classroom teacher. “I could never. It’s the hardest job in the world,” says Walsh, who did marry a school teacher, Dan Hurley, recently retired from the Boston Public Schools.

But the schoolhouse was the place to make the biggest difference with the largest number of children.

“It’s the one place in society where children are and it’s the place where they spend the most significant amount of time,” she says. “If you’re going to engage in intervention programs to enhance the life chances of kids, school’s the place to be.”

Today, she’s directing a program that reaches 4,000 children.

Managed from the Center for Child, Family and Community Partnerships, which Walsh directs, BostonConnects is a signature program of the Lynch School and Walsh’s defining project in a 33-year career that has focused on using best practices and sound assessment to design and prove the worthiness of programs that help children and families.

From its first site, BostonConnects has grown into a broad partnership of the Lynch School, city schools, foundations, and community groups that provide a comprehensive array of supports — such as health, mentoring, counseling, after-school and family services — to 14 Boston Public Schools serving 4,000 students. The program expanded to five new schools this year with $9.2 million in new funding — bringing total funding during its nine-year history to more than $14 million. The project research and implementation staff number about two dozen people.

Walsh does not administer from a distance. “She’s involved in everything,” says Kristin Wernerke, a doctoral candidate and research assistant who works on assessing the impact of BostonConnects. “In every aspect of the project, she knows what’s happening on the ground – with training, evaluations, schools and funding. On top of that she teaches and is involved in what’s going on in our department. I don’t know if she sleeps.”

Among the strengths of BostonConnects are the relationships it has helped to forge with the communities that host its schools. A primary focus is to construct a system within schools that leverages school and program resources to attract extra services and support from community groups, non-profits and others.

Walsh, and her colleagues from inside and outside of the University, have broken apart the old approach to helping “at-risk” students and implemented a new “whole child” model of student supports aimed at removing the “non-academic” barriers to success for urban students.

Fr. O’Keefe notes that it takes a manager’s touch for an academician to generate the funding to support such an ambitious project and also coordinate the many players involved.

“Dedication, that boundless energy, a sense of what people need and an ability to convey that to funders and stakeholders are critical to the task,” he says. “In addition, Mary brings an appreciation of evaluation and assessment data that often is just not found. You often find you have people who do research and those who do practice and the two do not meet. But Mary is able to bring them both together.”

Garfield Elementary Principal Victoria Megias-Batista says Walsh brings a comprehensive approach to solving the problems students have inside and outside of her Brighton school.

“She sees the big picture of what is needed in this school,” says Megias-Batista. “She sees the whole child, the family. Because of that, everybody works with her to complete the whole package. What I admire most is her passion and advocating for what she believes children and families need.”
College Bound for Success

A presentation by Boston Public Schools students at the May 2 reception marking the 20th anniversary of the College Bound Program. (Photo by Frank Curran)

By Melissa Beecher Staff Writer

Matthew Viala, ‘11, couldn’t hide his pride any longer.

The seventh annual Boston Public School students Viala had mentored, coached and taught over the past year last week stood conference in front of a classroom full of people and discussed how they established TAV, or Teens Against Violence, an outreach program in Boston.

Each of the students had personally experienced or witnessed violence and, over the next year, will be reaching out to middle school students in the city to encourage alternatives to violent behavior.

“I am just so proud of all of you,” Viala said to his group, who had created pamphlets, a PowerPoint presentation, a slide, statistical analysis and speaking points to bolster their pitch.

“This group has worked so hard and what they have achieved, it should be commended,” Viala said.

TAV is one of the latest achievements to come out of the College Bound Program, which this year is marking two decades of partnerships between Boston College students and Boston Public Schools to keep local schoolchildren focused on higher education.

After through-school and Saturday sessions, the program provides academic enhancement opportunities and college coaching while fostering tomorrow’s leaders.

In celebration of College Bound’s 20th anniversary, students, parents, BC supporters and alumni from the program gathered in Gasson Hall on May 2 for an award ceremony and banquet.

Lynch School of Education Dean Joseph O’Keefe, SJ, that said over the last two decades in their lives have been changed thanks to College Bound.

“We have what we have today is made possible because we are standing on the shoulders of some truly wonderful people,” said Fr. O’Keefe.

One of those people honored was Prof. Emeritus George Ladd (LSOE), who after working as liaison to the Boston Public Schools in the 1970s, established College Bound as a vehicle to provide educational assistance to promising students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The novel concept has become the region’s oldest and most successful campus-based college preparation effort.

To date, more than 200 students have participated in the program; 85 percent of the participants have been the first in their family to attend college.

“Remember,” Ladd told the hundreds gathered for the celebration, “People really care for you. Make us proud.”

This year, students from West Roxbury High School’s Media and Communications Technology Program, Brighton’s Brook Farm Business & Service Career Academy and Brighton High School presented a symposium of which included establishing outreach programs on teen violence, drop out rates and peer assistance.

Catherine Wong, the director of urban social studies at the Lynch School of Education, hopes the symposium will become an annual event to highlight the important work of College Bound.

“We want to give all students involved an experience,” said Wong. “We decided to do things a little different this year and have students work on action research projects that they could take back to their schools to provide the enriching and contributory way.

“This is the fourth time these students have presented and each year they get a little bit better. It is time for them to tell them that what they have been doing is college-level work and that’s what we are proud of it. They might not understand that they are doing statistical analysis, but that is what this is.”

Sung-Joon Pai, headmaster of Media Communications Technology High School, said the partnership is a positive experience for all involved.

“I have only known about this program for the last three years and it didn’t take long for me to see what a valuable experience this is for the students who participat,” said Pai. "The goal is to get students to college and that’s what this program represents.”

CSON Partnership with Local Church Draws Praise

Outreach is seen to benefit largely Haitian community

By Kathleen Sullivan Staff Writer

Connett School of Nursing faculty and students pitched in at a health fair last month in Mattapan, as part of an ongoing relationship with a local church located in an underserved, primarily Haitian community.

The Inite Pou La Sante (Unit for Health) Health and Job Fair, sponsored by CSON and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, took place April 19 at the Voice of Gospel Tabernacle Church in Mattapan. It was a “fly in” event, with children attended the event, which offered prostate cancer education and screenings, mammograms; eye exams; blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol measurements; nutritional counseling; BMI testing; health insurance sign-up; health information, and information on employment and local educational opportunities, among other services.

The health fair was the most recent product of a partnership between CSON and the Voice of the Gospel Tabernacle Pastor Rev. Nicolas Homicil. During the school year, as part of their community health clinical work, Connell School students make weekly visits to the church to work with area residents. Students conduct health screenings, including blood pressure and blood sugar checks, give advice about nutrition and answer questions about medications and general health.

“Health risks are not evenly distributed and factors like race, ethnicity and social class all have an effect on health,” said Ass. Prof. Jennifer Allen (CSON), who oversees the Voice of Gospel Tabernacle clinical group and is described as “the glue” behind the collaboration of BC, Dana Farb and Voice of the Gospel Tabernacle.

“Many cultural and systemic barriers prevent Boston’s Haitian community from easily accessing health care services provided in the area,” explained Sam Clark, a BC graduate nursing student and organizer of the health fair. “Lan- gage and lack of interpreters in clinical settings make communication difficult, and make misunderstand- standings common. Non-English speakers often do not receive the essential information and resources needed to live a healthy lifestyle.”

High costs of care prevent the community from being able to bring more culturally competent care into the neighborhoods in which they live, and poor access to public transportation makes it difficult for people to get it difficult, as well,” he continued. “A lack of supermarket means a lack of healthy food choices, a lack of safe outdoor spaces means too few places to exercise, and what results is a very difficult path to a healthy life- style.”

The Boston College nursing students not only worked the day of the health fair, but also was instrumental in planning and publicizing the event. The stu- dents visited several churches in Mattapan and Dorchester to speak about the health fair and distribute flyers.

A Dorchester native Dana Mars is one of the keys to this project’s success. A 2007 graduate of Bos- ton College of Arts, Mars helped organize the first health fair last year. She and other BC students established a partnership with the Haitian Multi-Serve Center of Catholic Charities and together they were able to reach out to many com- munity health and social service agencies.
Grad, Professional Awards Presented

The following honors were presented at the Graduate and Professional Student Awards Ceremony, held April 23 in the Murray Room of Yawkey Center.

Graduate School of Social Work: Adrienne Pianos (Academic Achievement), Megan O’Brien (Contribution to Community), Heather Wind (School Spirit Award).

Law School: William Trunk (Academic Achievement), Toni Ann Knue (Contribution to Community), Eleanor Richardson (School Award).

Lynch School of Education: Edmund Bowers (Academic Achievement), Sally Haynes (Contribution to Community).

Wood College of Advancing Studies: Andrew and Matthew Kroll (Contribution to Community), Rikiya Taki (School Award).

Carroll School of Management: Florian Leka, Diane MacLaughlin (Academic Achievement), Tia Wilcox (Contribution to Community), Jessica Wesner (School Award).

Connell School of Nursing: Leah Grant (Academic Achievement), Laura Parks (Contribution to Community), Patricia Underwood (School Award).

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences: Yingying Dong (Academic Achievement), Elia Bliss-Morrone (Contribution to Community), Mark Senesy (School Award).

Research Excellence Award: Jessica Johnson, GSSW.

Mentoring Excellence Award: Justine E. Hager, GSSW.

John Cannon Murray, SJ, Award for Student Life: Farouk Patha, GSSW.

Set the World Aflame Award: Marissa Loun, GSAS.

Excellence to Award: Fadiya Bakar, LSOE.

Sister Thea Bowman Award: Marlon Cummings, GSSW.

Men and Women for Others Award: Anthony E. Guidiano, Law School.

Commitment to Change Award: Gregory S. Burnett, Jennifer Kim, Jessica Liss, Josmar Roman, and Debbie Syral, Law School.

Jobs

The following are among the most recent positions posted by the Department of Human Resources for more information on employment opportunities at Boston College, see www.bc.edu/offices/hr/.

Senior Research Associate, Academic Technology Services: Administrative Assistant, Lynch School of Education.

Accounting Specialist, Student Services: Teacher Assistant, Campus School, Lynch School of Education.

Health Education/RN, University Health Services: Grant Manager, Connell School of Nursing.


dreamed of during the panel “Trespass and For-
Arts Hit The Heights

The Boston College Arts Festival celebrates its 10th anniversary April 24-26 with an array of artistic activities, including a Dance Showcase featuring the South Asian Student Association and other BC student dance groups (above), a performance of the off-beat musical “Urinetown” at Robsham Theater (right), and a demonstration of ceramics and other arts (lower right). Appearances by notable alumni Tom McCarthy, ’88, and Mike Lupica, ’74, further enriched the festival, as did the first concert collaboration between BC BeBy and Voices of Iman — a performance of excerpts from Duke Ellington’s “Sacred Concerts.”

In addition, the BC Arts Council presented its annual Achievement in the Arts awards. Fine Arts Department chairman Prof. John Michalczuk won the Faculty Award, and the following honors were presented to these students: Lindsey Barcetab, ’08 (photography); Meghan Hart, ’08; Sarah Lang, ’10 (theater); Lois Kamandulis, ’08; Tyson Jang, ’09; Melissa Keller, ’10 (studio art); Katherine Moulton, ’08 (English); Benjamin Tress, ’08 (bands); Eileen Walsh, ’08; Jennifer Patten, ’09; David Heighington, ’10 (music); Matthew Porter, ’09 (film); Sibbi Thurau, ’09 (bands, theater).

Looking Ahead

READINGS • LECTURES • DISCUSSION

May 9
• Lecture: “Amicita in the Manipulus Florum of Thomas of Ireland: Flowers from Ancient Gardens,” with James McEvoy, Queen’s University, Belfast, 4 p.m., McGuinn Third Floor Lounge.

May 14
• Reading for Pleasure: A Thousand Splendid Suns, by Khaled Hosseini, with Mary Ellen Kiddle, noon, O’Neill 413. Contact pettyp@bc.edu for more information.

• Lecture: “Forecasting Earthquakes: A Statistical Approach,” with Assoc. Prof. Daniel Chambers (Mathematics), 7 p.m., Boston College Weston Observatory, 381 Concord Rd., Weston. Reservations required due to limited seating, call ext.2-8300.

May 20
• Conversations With...Series: New England authors and illustrators discuss their work, 7:30 p.m., location TBA. See www.thefcb.org or e-mail cohenlm@bc.edu for details.

UNIVERSITY EVENTS

May 19
• Boston College Commencement Exercises, 9:30 a.m., Alumni Stadium (rain site Conte Forum).

May 23
• Boston College Law School Commencement Exercises, 2 p.m., Newton Campus.

MUSIC • ART • PERFORMANCE

May 16
• Concert: “Family Night at the Pops.” Annual concert held at Symphony Hall for alumni, parents and friends of Boston College. Tickets range from $30-$890. See www.bc.edu/familypops, call ext.2-3469 or e-mail kate.lotruff@bc.edu for information.

ONGOING EXHIBITIONS

• “Tree of Paradise: Jewish Mosaics from the Roman Empire,” at the McMullen Museum of Art, through June 6.

• “Neenan, Have You Read a Good Book Lately?” O’Neill Library Lobby, through June 10.

• “Fighting Irishmen: Celebrating Celtic Prizefighters 1820 to Present,” Burns Library, through Sept. 5.

For more on Boston College events, see events.bc.edu or check BCInfo (www.bc.edu/bcinfo) for updates.

Ex-Governor Cellucci Is First Rehnquist Award Winner

Former Massachusetts Governor A. Paul Cellucci, JD’73, is the inaugural recipient of an award from the Boston College Law School chapter of the Federalist Society for Public Policy Studies that is named for late United States Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist.

Cellucci formally received the Rehnquist Memorial Award at a banquet held April 24 at the Law School. James Rehnquist, son of the chief justice, was the presenter.

The award will recognize a member of the legal community who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in serving the public, according to BC Law Federalist Society President Guillaume Buell. “We have named the series in memory of the late chief justice because of his decades of service to the United States while on the Supreme Court,” said Buell. “We are also establishing this award — and the banquet dinner where it will be presented — to bring together current BC Law students and faculty, alumni, members of the legal community, and supporters of the Federalist Society for an evening of celebration of our common ideals and the recipient’s service to the public.”

Buell said Cellucci, who served as US ambassador to Canada from 2001-05 following his four years as governor of Massachusetts, was an appropriate choice to receive the award. “Ambassador Cellucci is a role model for any law student aspiring to serve the public,” said Buell. “From his time in the Massachusetts Legislature, and as United States ambassador to Canada, Ambassador Cellucci has demonstrated all of the qualities of service and leadership that Chief Justice Rehnquist similarly displayed during his time on the Supreme Court. While many politicians can only stake their reputation on rhetoric of hope and expectation, Ambassador Cellucci had one of the most successful governorships in the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and served his country admirably during a time of war. Few graduates of Boston College Law School have done more for their state and country.”

—Law School Marketing and Communications Director Nathaniel Kenyon