Boston College has embarked on a comprehensive emergency preparedness program in the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy that its organizers hope will enable administrators to respond quickly and effectively in the event of an emergency situation.

Under the direction of Executive Vice President Patrick Keating, BC’s Emergency Response Team, comprising representatives from BC Police, Residential Life, Public Affairs, Facilities Management, Student Services and Information Technology, among others, worked throughout the summer to complete a new emergency preparedness Web site, blast voice, e-mail and text messaging and blast voice technology.

The preparedness Web site, blast voice, e-mail and text messaging and blast voice will enable the University to send an e-mail notification that will provide a designated location for emergency operations. Lastly, the Emergency Response Team is evaluating a site/park/public address notification system to see if it would be an effective emergency communications tool on the BC campus.

“We have done a great deal of work to prepare ourselves in the event of a man-made emergency or natural disaster on campus,” said Keating. “We now have a comprehensive electronic messaging system and hosted phone service that are designed to meet the needs of a university community. While we believe BC is a safe campus, these steps are necessary to enable us to respond effectively should we ever be called upon to do so.”

Keaning said he is pleased that more than 11,000 BC students have already provided their cell phone numbers through www.bc.edu/agota to avail themselves of emergency notification technology. “I encourage all students, faculty and staff who have not yet responded to register their numbers today so that we can alert them on their cell phones in the event of an emergency, and with Verizon Business, we will create a 1-800 emergency hotline to provide individuals on and off campus with a means of obtaining updated information should BC land and cell phone lines become overwhelmed.

While we believe BC is a safe campus, these steps are necessary to enable us to respond effectively should we ever be called upon to do so.” —Patrick Keating

Faculty Forum Set for Oct. 29

The Office of the Provost and Dean of Facilities will sponsor a faculty forum on Monday, Oct 29, from 4-6 p.m. in McGuinn 121.

Provost and Dean of Facilities Catherto Garza said the event will serve to build on the talk at the Sepe 5 University Convocation, at which he outlined several major initiatives — including the allocation of $43 million for the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences and professional schools — aimed at strengthening the University’s academic, research and student formation missions.

Garza said faculty will have the opportunity to offer questions and comments on the plans.

INSIDE:

Fonte’s List 2007: Fr. Neenan, right, has a few books for you to read (page 5)

Alumni Awards to be presented next week (page 6)
Finding the center

The Graduate School of Social Work typically holds a special Afternoon of Service during the second week of September, sending students, faculty and administrators out into Allston, Brighton, Roxbury and other Boston neighborhoods to help with various beautification and clean-up community projects, as well as to make contact with area residents. But the date this year wasn’t exactly typical: It was the sixth anniversary of 9/11.

So the school decided to add a special touch to the day, gathering at the morning at the memorial labyrinth on the Burns Library lawn — dedicated four years ago — to members of the BC community who perished on 9/11 — to reflect on the symbolism it offered to those beginning their studies at GSSW.

Speaking to the assembly, Campus Minister Sister Mary Sweeney, SC, said the labyrinth represented an inward journey “into the center,” where one can find their deepest values, desires and memories. The labyrinth also recalled, she said, the sacrifice of Welles Crowther ’99, who died into the center,” where one can find their deepest values, desires and memories. The labyrinth also recalled, she said, the sacrifice of Welles Crowther ’99, who died when the World Trade Center was attacked on 9/11.

“It’s good to remember whether at the labyrinth or elsewhere, ‘help you to remember the values that are at your center, to remember what gives you the impetus to become social workers,’” she said.

Sister Sweeney also noted the concluding statement of University President William P. Leahy, SJ, at the 2003 dedication: “May the labyrinth’s presence on the Boston College campus call us to the values that are at your center, will ‘help you to remember the values that are at your center, to remember what gives you the impetus to become social workers’,” she said.

A “Classic” recalled

Boston College football has a place in Irish (and European) history — and vice versa — and you’ll be able to see for yourself at an exhibition opening tomorrow in Burns Library.

The exhibition commemorates the 20th anniversary of the announcement of the Boston College–Army “Emerald Isle Classic” football game that was played in Dublin on Nov. 19, 1988. More than 10,000 Boston College fans traveled to the game, which the Eagles won by a score of 38-24. It was the first American college football game played in Europe.

The special display includes photographs, memorabilia and press clippings from the game played at Lansdowne Road Stadium as part of Dublin’s Millennium Celebration that year.

The exhibit is running in conjunction with this Saturday’s BC-Army game, being played 20 years after the contest in Ireland was announced to the general public at an Alumni Stadium game between the two schools that was attended by numerous Irish and American government and sports officials.

In addition to regular Burns Library hours, the exhibit will be open to the public on Saturday from 10 a.m. until the start of the BC-Army game at 1 p.m. The exhibit will run through Oct. 5.

Tuning in from Iraq

In spite of his Army uniform, there’s no doubting the football allegiance of Lt. Col. Brian J. Cummins ’82, who is currently serving with the US military in Iraq. Cummins has videotaped a message cheering on the Boston College Eagles that will be shown on the Alumni Stadium scoreboard during this Saturday’s game against West Point.

Not only is Cummins a BC grad, he’s married to Patty Foley Cummins ’81, the daughter of Maureen ’80 and Erin ’11; the son of Daniel Cummins ’58; and the son-in-law of Daniel ’55 and Carolyn Foley ’56.

A resident of Fairfax, Va., Brian Cummins was recently recalled to active duty by the Army and is stationed north of Baghdad where he is involved in training Iraqi military and police forces.
It doesn’t have the most eye-catching name, but in the world of human biology “oxidative stress” is something like a shadowy, sinister film noir character. Scarcely known for its oxidase activity is implicated in diseases such as atherosclerosis, Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s — they’re just not how... 

But a team at Boston College researchers from the Biology and Chemistry departments has found a means to discover more about what role oxidative stress plays in the development of diseases. 

Through the use of a novel synthetic intracellular targeting molecule that contains oxygen species—generating compounds that cause oxidative stress, the BC researchers can target specific locations within the cell — notably the nucleus and mitochondria — and observe how these molecules interact with nuclear acids (DNA). This will make it easier to determine what parts of a cell are most likely to combat the effects of oxidative stress, and which are weaker, according to the researchers. 

This knowledge, in turn, could someday lead to the development of toxic agents that could be used, for example, to attack cancer at the sub-cellular level. 

The achievement — recounted in a paper highlighted in a recent edition of Chemistry & Biology(www.chembio.com) — demonstrates the value of interdepartmental and interdisciplinary collaborations, say the investigators, a trend which is becoming a hallmark of the University’s natural science programs.

“This experience is an illustration of where natural sciences are headed at Boston College: towards a more integrated approach to science,” said Biology Department chair Prof. Tony Mahon. 

The two scientists whose lab was involved in the research.

“It shows what can happen when you have an environment where chemists and biologists continually encounter each other, formally and informally. Conversations start, ideas are exchanged and progress is made rapidly; these historically separate disciplines can get together to share observations and work together.”

Adds Terra Potocky, a post-doc- toral scientist in Chiles’ lab, “The fact that we were all in the same uni- versity having already helped the work go forward.” 

Fittingly enough, says Chiles, the collaboration began a few years ago when he and Shana Kelley — a former member of the Chemistry faculty now at the University of Toronto — were serving on a plann- ing committee for BC’s proposed integrated sciences center. She des- cribed her research to Chiles, and in two years the two scientists have exchanged ideas and sharing lab resources and staff to work on the project. Kelley had designed highly in- novative chemical probes to target specific locations within the cell, Chiles explains, “but once inside, she found she needed another per- spective, because she was dealing with questions of a biological na- ture. Were these compounds killing cells, and if so, how? How does a cell survive oxidative stress?” 

Past research on oxidative stress focused on the cell as a whole, so it was difficult to ascertain exactly what was happening at the molecu- lar level. But with these compounds developed through Shana’s lab, we can begin to understand the specific- ies of the cell’s response to oxidative stress. 

“The next step is to look at whether the changes occurring within the cell are in response to the oxidative stress caused by the com- pounds, or if the compounds themselves are triggering the changes.”

Other investigators who co-pub- lished the research — including Biology post-doctoral scientist Derek Blair; Biochemistry Department research associate Kelly Stewart; and Marc Roy and Kerry Mahon, former graduate students in the Chemistry Department. 

By time of publication, Barrett had been awarded the honor. 

Prof. Lisa Feldman Barrett (Psychology) has been awarded a five-year $2.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health that will fund her research on the psychology and neuroscience of emotion — in particular her development of a “conceptual act model” that offers a new view of emotions and their role in mental and physical health. 

Barrett is one of 12 recipients of the NIH Director’s Pioneer Award, which recognize “exceptionally in- novative investigators” whose work holds the potential to provide important new concepts and technological breakthroughs in science, according to an NIH release.

This is the fourth set of Pioneer Awards to be given, and Barrett is the second psychologist to have earned the honor.

Barrett expressed enthusiasm at receiving the grant, which she said would “allow me the intellectual freedom to pursue resources to continue building evidence for the conceptu- al act model of emotion, thereby shaping a new paradigm to guide the study of emotion.”

Explaining her research, Barrett said much of the previous work on emotion has been guided “by a scienti- fic paradigm that is grounded in human experi- ence.” Because people “experience fear and see it in oth- ers,” she said, “people have always assumed there must be a lit- eral circuit for fear in the mammalian brain.”

For example, Barrett said, “nervous tissue freeze when they hear a tone paired with a foot shock, so they are presumed to be a state of fear — versus surprise, anger, or even a general state of alarm — and un- dergong ‘fear learning.’” Scientists also presume that a major neural circuitry of freezing behav- ior will yield a neural mechanism for fear that is largely preserved in humans, and a decade of neuro- imaging studies have focused on locating a similar neural circuit in the human brain.

But Barrett said her studies found this “natural kind” model to be an insufficient explanation for the effects seen. In re- sponse, she developed the conceptu- al act model, which incorporates psychological and neuroscience findings from rats, primates and humans, and explains “the mechanisms that produce the range and variety of be- havioral and introspective consequences that we call ‘emo- tion.”

“The conceptual act model asks different — and perhaps better — questions about what emotions are and how they function in mental and physical health.”

Psychology Department chairman Prof. James Rus- sell called the NIH award a “fabu- lous achievement” for Barrett. “Of course,” he added, “it reflects her many accomplishments, but it also reflects the excellence of the lab she has established here at BC and on the general environment here in which major research can take place.”

Barrett is a fellow of the Ameri- can Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Scien- ce, and the Society for Person- ality and Social Psychology. Her other honors include the Society for Experimental Social Psychol- ogy Career Trajectory Award and fellowships from the American Philosophical Society and the Asso- ciation for Psychological Science. 

Correction and Clarification on BC-Weston Jesuit Reaffiliation

An article in the Sept. 7 Chronicle concerning the University’s acquisition of property from the Archdiocese of Boston included news of a proposed reaffiliation between Boston Col- lege and the Weston Jesuit School of Theology.

The following paragraphs are intended to correct details concerning the proposal that were incorrectly presented in the article:

The proposed Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, which would be the result of the reaffiliation of the Weston Jesuit School of Theology and Boston College — a move that has yet to be finalized — would be located in Bishop Peterson Hall, which contains classroom, academic and office facilities.

The School of Theology and Ministry also would comprise the Institute for Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry and the on-line programs of the Center for Jesuit Educa- tion.

The BC Theology Department, however, is not part of the re-affiliation and will remain part of the College of Arts and Sciences in its present location in 21 Campanella Way.

The Weston Jesuit School’s 60,000-volume collection of books, periodicals, documents and other materials will be located in the former St. John’s Seminary Library, now located at St. John’s from BC, as well as STM and St. John’s Seminary, will have access to the library, although St. John’s and Weston Jesuit will retain ownership of their collections.

BC’s theology holdings, however, will remain at O’ Neil Library. Plans also include the construction of housing for the Je- suit formation community on the newly acquired real estate located on Foster Street. 

Chronicle regrets any inconvenience that may have resulted from the article.

Prof. Thomas Chiles (Biology) says BC research on oxidative stress indicates the University’s trend “toward a more integrated sciences.”

Barrett

Barrett

Chiles

Kelley

shares that oxidative stress is implicated in diseases such as atherosclerosis, Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s — they’re just not how much of the previous work on emotion has been guided “by a scienti- fic paradigm that is grounded in human experi- ence.” Because people “experience fear and see it in oth- ers,” she said, “people have always assumed there must be a lit- eral circuit for fear in the mammalian brain.”

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Ignatius Loyola, "Go set the world a lighted torch and the words of St. Ignatius to your journey" and urging them to "the next stage of education. Each group received a challenge as well as a welcome to the new student convocation that drew more than 2,000 members of the University’s Class of 2011 and an equal number of new students. Upperclassmen, faculty, administrators, parents and alumni are here because you have a dream," Walls told the audience. "Boston College is asking a lot of you. It is expecting you to make the most of your dreams. "What matters is that you have a dream. But dreams alone are not enough. There is a lot of hard work ahead of you."

In addition to Walls’ keynote address, the First Year event included a barbecue for the new students on the Campus Green, followed by the “First Flight” academic procession from Linden Lane to Conte Forum. As each group departed on the procession they were addressed by various Jesuit priests and University administrators, welcoming them to “the next stage of your journey” and urging them to continue the spirit of Jesuit education. Each group received a lighted torch and the words of St. Ignatius Loyola, “Go set the world aflame.”

More than 100 alumni — including many members of the 50th anniversary class of 1958 — joined in the procession and convocation to welcome the new Eagles. “It is important for all students to understand that the Alumni Association is going to be there to support them for the rest of their lives,” said Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations John Feudo. “They are now members of the Boston College family and that will never end.”

Last week’s convocation offered a challenge as well as a welcome to the new students. First Year Experience Director Rev. Joseph Mar cetta, SJ, said, "as a place to explore your intellectual gifts. "I hope that Boston College is also a place that will help you develop as a human being." Walls drew the title of her book from her alcoholic father’s constant promise to build a “glass castle” for the often-homeless family to live in one day. “Some may have seen it as a drunken promise,” she said, “or see it as I choose to — as a dream of hope for the future.”

Walls, who eventually earned a degree from Columbia University and went on to become an entertainment reporter for MSNBC-TV, said she hid her hardscrabble background for many years. “If even one rich kid, one child who grew up not knowing what it was like in life to do without, if one child who doesn’t understand what it is like to be poor reads this book and understands, then whatever embarrassment and humiliation that I had to go through was worth it.”

Interviewed after her speech, which drew a thunderous standing ovation from the audience, Walls said she was honored to share her story with the newest members of the University community. "Nothing means more to me than to have these kids read the book and then have them ask the intelligent questions that they were asking.”

“It shows that they are thinking about these things,” she said. “It blows your mind that you can make them think outside of their immediate sphere and understand what other people are going through.”

Freshman Branden Getchell of Sherborn, Mass., said he was moved by Walls’ presentation. “I have had some problems in my life too,” he said, “so it was good to hear how she overcame what she had to go through. As she was speaking, I was thinking about my own life and how it has come together. It was really cool.”

On Friday, Walls visited the Bookstore to sign copies of her book and also spoke to four classes during the day [see page 2].

—Kathleen Sullivan

**Former Israeli Ambassador to Speak on Middle East Oct. 2**

Former Israeli Ambassador to the United States Itamar Rabinovich will present his views on the current, and future, Middle East situation on Oct. 2, at 4:30 p.m. in McGuinn Auditorium.

His talk, “The US, Israel and Syria: On the Brink of Peace and Waging Dysfunctional War,” will be sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Middle Eastern and Asian Studies Program.

Rabinovich, who holds the Ettinger Chair of Contemporary Middle Eastern History of Tel Aviv University, served as Israel’s Ambassador to the United States and as his country’s chief negotiator with Syria from 1992-96 — a period marked by the historic 1993 accord between Israel and Syria; the Assad regime’s continued support for Hezbollah; and Rabin’s assassination two years later.

A member of the Tel Aviv faculty since 1971, Rabinovich recently completed an eight-year term as university president. He has been chairman of the Department of Middle Eastern Studies, director of the Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, dean of humanities and rector.

Rabinovich is the author of numerous books and other academic works, among them *The Brink of Peace and Waging Peace*. —Office of Public Affairs

**Pops on the Heights to Mark 15th Year**

The 15th anniversary of the Pops on the Heights Scholarship Gala will be announced at this event of this year’s Parent’s Weekend at Boston College during Sept. 28-30.

During the weekend, family members can learn about BC’s volunteer opportunities and use of technology for education, and hear University President William P. Leahy, SJ, offer his perspective on BC.

During its 15 years, Pops on the Heights — established by University Trustee Associate James F. Cleary ’50 — has awarded 522 scholarship grants to 251 students. Organizers say the event has already raised more than $9 million this year.

The concert, which takes place Friday night, Sept. 28, in Conte Forum, will once again feature John Williams, Boston Pops Laureate Conductor and winner of multiple Grammy and Academy awards, lead the Boston Pops Orchestra before an expected sell-out crown of parents, students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the BC community.

A variety of student musical groups will entertain concert-goers before the show and the University Choir will join the Pops on stage.

Parents’ Weekend will officially kick off earlier in the day in theRobsham Theater lobby where University administrators will greet arriving parents and families at a welcome reception beginning at noon. Parents have the option of attending classes with their children on Friday as well.

Formal presentations for families will be held in Robsham Theater beginning at 12:30 p.m. with a discussion of “Spirituality and Social Justice: Twin Aspects of Volunteering at BC” by Campus Minister Catherine Brunell and Michael Sacco, associate director of the University’s Intersections Project.

The creative integration of technology in the classroom will be the topic of a 1:30 p.m. presentation by Associate Academic Vice President for Technology Rita Owens and Environmental Studies Program Director Eric Strauss titled “From Blackboard to Blackberry.”

Concluding the presentations will be “At the Core of a Jesuit Education” at 2:30 p.m., at which a panel of faculty members will examine the how the University’s core curriculum is integral to the nature of a Jesuit education. Presenters will be: Philosophy Department chair Prof. Patrick Byrne; Connell School of Nursing Associate Dean Catherine Read; Prof. Margaret Thomas (Slavic and Eastern Languages); and Assoc. Prof. James Weiss (Theology), director of the Capstone Program.

Fr. Leahy will address the parents and families at 4 p.m., also in Robsham Theater. Parent’s Weekend activities continue Saturday, Sept. 29, with a tailgate lunch at the Flynn Recreation Complex followed by the BC-Umass football game.

A family liturgy Sunday at 10 a.m. on O’Neill Plaza will finish up Parents’ Weekend. The liturgy will be followed by a continental breakfast on Bapst Lawn. In the event of inclement weather, all Sunday events will be held in Conte Forum.

—Reid Oslin

**Speaker’s Story Enthralls Convocation Crowd**

Speaker’s Story Enthralls Convocation Crowd

By Reid Oslin

Staff Writer

“Never stop dreaming,” author and network television personality Jeannette Walls urged Boston College’s newest students at the First Year Academic Convocation last Thursday evening. “And,” she added, “never stop loving.”

Walls, whose own life story of conquering homelessness, family dysfunction and poverty was detailed in her best-selling memoir *The Glass Castle*, was the keynote speaker at the fourth annual student convocation that drew more than 2,000 members of the University’s Class of 2011 and an equal number of new students. Upperclassmen, faculty, administrators, parents and alumni were there to welcome them to their next stage of education. Each group received a challenge as well as a welcome to the new students. First Year Experience Director Rev. Joseph Mar cetta, SJ, said, “as a place to explore your intellectual gifts.”

“I hope that Boston College is also a place that will help you develop as a human being.”

Walls drew the title of her book from her alcoholic father’s constant promise to build a “glass castle” for the often-homeless family to live in one day. “Some may have seen it as a drunken promise,” she said, “or see it as I choose to — as a dream of hope for the future.”

Walls, who eventually earned a degree from Columbia University and went on to become an entertainment reporter for MSNBC-TV, said she hid her hardscrabble background for many years. “If even one rich kid, one child who grew up not knowing what it was like in life to do without, if one child who doesn’t understand what it is like to be poor reads this book and understands, then whatever embarrassment and humiliation that I had to go through was worth it.”

Interviewed after her speech, which drew a thunderous standing ovation from the audience, Walls said she was honored to share her story with the newest members of the University community. “Nothing means more to me than to have these kids read the book and then have them ask the intelligent questions that they were asking.”

“It shows that they are thinking about these things,” she said. “It blows your mind that you can make them think outside of their immediate sphere and understand what other people are going through.”

Freshman Branden Getchell of Sherborn, Mass., said he was moved by Walls’ presentation. “I have had some problems in my life too,” he said, “so it was good to hear how she overcame what she had to go through. As she was speaking, I was thinking about my own life and how it has come together. It was really cool.”

On Friday, Walls visited the Bookstore to sign copies of her book and also spoke to four classes during the day [see page 2].

(Right) Jeannette Walls during her keynote speech, which drew applause and praise from students and others in the audience.

A group of students prepare to embark on the “First Flight” procession to Conte Forum as part of the Sept. 13 First Year Academic Convocation.

Photos by Frank Carcam
Linton Kwesи Johnson (left) and Rобert Manfоrt are among this fall’s Lowell Lecure Humanities Series speakers.

This fall’s Lowell Lectures Humanities Series slate begins next Wednesday, Sept. 26, at 5 p.m. with an appearance in DeLorme 101 by Jamaican “dub poet” lyricist Linton Kwesi Johnson — the second living, and first black, poet to have worked in the Midnight Modern Classics series.

Other speakers this fall are: Robert Manfоrt (Oct. 4), a popular New Yorker cartoonist for three decades; Ralph James Savarese (Oct. 23), whose recent book describes the life of his autiс son, once thought to be retarded and now an honor roll student; Charles M. Payne Jr. (Nov. 1), a researcher and writer on urban education and school reform, social change and modern African American history.

Also featured this semester are Martin Espada (Nov. 8), whose six awarded books of poetry draw from his Puerto Rican heritage and work experiences ranging from bouncer to tenant lawyer; and David Reiff (Nov. 15), known for an non-ideological approach to human affairs, such as post-Iraqi humanitarian intervention — the subject of his talk — and his vision to end the war in Iraq.

More information about Humanities Series events is available at www.bc.edu/offices/lowellhs.

...and Frost Says, ‘Well, What Do You Think It Means?’

A sampling of memories and moments from the first 50 years of the Lowell Lectures Humanities Series.

Rattigan Professor of English Emeritus John Mahoney:

One of the traditions early on in the series was that the English Department chairman would introduce the speaker. You can imagine being an 18-year-old and being able to present Robert Lowell, Lillian Hellman and W.H. Auden. I had that privilege.

One of my favorite Humanities Series moments came when Rобert Frost spoke, in the old Roberts Center. As you can imagine, it was a packed house. All the students who were here tried to get him to explain the more cryptic parts of his poems.

A young man stood up and pressed Frost on a particular passage, and Frost finally asked, “Well, what do you think it means?”

The young man gave his theory, and Frost nodded and said, “Hmm, that sounds good. Yes, I think that is what I meant. I have to remember to use that next time.”

Vice President and Assistant to the Provost Gennaro Garmo:

About 20 years ago, Calvin Trillin came to speak at the Humanities Series, and there was a huge blank in that day which closed the airport. He had to take a train up, and John Connolly, the husband of my mother, Mary Lou Connolly, picked him up on Route 128 and brought him to campus.

Humanities Series at 50

Continued from page 1

Catholic university. It is a credit to him and Paul Doherty that the Humanities Series has grown right along with BC.”

Colleagues say Doherty has more than maintained the high standards of keeping the Humanities Series relevant and interesting. “Fr. Sweeney sees the series as very literary in nature, and he wants to be poised,” says Fr. Eliot, W.H. Auden and so on,” says Mahoney. “But consider how different the landscape is nowadays, how fields like poetry have changed — really, is there anybody who has the same presence as a Frost or Eliot?”

“You look at the speakers Paul invites — Naomi Klein, Sharon Olds, Grace Paley, Andrew Delbanco, and you begin to see that he has enlarged the conversation beyond traditional ideas of what constitutes literature.” He has widened the scope of what is presented at the same time without losing the intensity.

Mahoney adds that Doherty usually plans his workshop-like session earlier in the day for stu- dents to meet with the Humanities Series speaker appearing that night. Reflecting on his tenure as series director, Doherty expresses gratui- ty toward the administration for its longstanding support, and respect toward Fr. Sweeney and his legacy. “I’ve done pretty much what he did. Maybe I’ve expanded the scope in a few areas, but I certainly had no wish to change the underlying vision Fr. Sweeney brought to the series.”

“The idea, I think, has always been to have people who will be of interest beyond their disciplines, who while they may be ‘celebrities’ are also likely to be of interest to an undergraduate or graduate student. We can’t neglect our educational and formative responsibilities.”

When we brought him to St. Ignatius Church, where he was speak- ing, we found that — despite the weather — 50 people had showed up. Some of them had come on skis.

Prof. Elizabeth Green (English):

The writer and activist Grace Paley died this August, just before her 80th birthday. She was a prominent voice in the women’s movement, especially during the 1960s. Her stories and essays, published in The Atlantic Monthly, The Nation, and The New Yorker, have been anthologized in several collections, and her work has been translated into many languages.

Paley’s stories were often about the experiences of women and their families, and she was known for her use of language and her ability to tell stories in a way that was both humorous and poignant. Her writing often focused on themes of love,loss, and the struggles of women to find their place in the world.

In her work, Paley often explored the idea of the “good read,” which she defined as a book that offers a sense of hope and optimism despite the challenges of the world.

Paley’s legacy is still felt today, as her work continues to inspire readers and writers alike. Her stories continue to be studied and discussed in classrooms across the world, and her influence can be seen in the work of many contemporary writers.

The 2007 Dean’s List (hold- face indicates new addition)


... —Fr. Nevin is vice president and special assistant to the president. He has issued by Dean’s List of recom- mended reading annually since he was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in the early 1980s.
**Alumni Achievement Awards**

Joseph Corcoran to Receive McKenney Honor

Boston real estate developer Joseph E. Corcoran ‘59, a trustee of Boston College from 1998-2006 and a long-time and generous supporter of the University, will receive the 2007 Joseph V. McKenney Award next week as the graduate who has made outstanding contributions to service, industry and BC during his lifetime.

The McKenney Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Boston College Alumni Association, will be presented to Corcoran at the Association’s annual Awards of Excellence event to be held in Robsham Theater on Thursday, Sept. 27, starting at 7 p.m.

Corcoran will be among 10 distinguished alumni who will be honored in recognition of their excellence in various professional and academic disciplines.

Corcoran is chairman of the privately held real estate development firm Corcoran Jennison Companies, which has developed a wide array of residential apartment communities, commercial and recreational real estate, schools, health facilities, condominiums, hotels, resorts, conference centers and golf courses in Greater Boston and beyond.

During his eight years as a University trustee, Corcoran served on the Building and Properties Committee and the Executive Committee. He is a former president of the Boston College Real Estate and Finance Council.

Says April Hillman, a 2000 graduate, who will receive the Young Alumni Award that evening in recognition of her work as a documentary filmmaker who also teaches media to at-risk youth in her native Chicago, “As an alumnus of Boston College, I am truly honored to have this evening.”

Corcoran, an Irish national, has lived in the Boston area since 1960 and is a 1964 graduate of St. Joseph’s Parochial School in Jamaica Plain. He is a former president of the Boston College Real Estate and Finance Council.

Other alumni to be honored at the event are:

- **Henrik Sye, MA ‘91**, head of corporate governance, Norges Bank Investment Management (Arts and Humanities);
- **G. Craig Sullivan ’64**, retired chairman and CEO, The Clorox Company (Commerce);
- **James E. Cotter ’59**, retired teacher and coach at Boston College High School (Education);
- **Assoc. Prof. Rosanna DeMarco (CSON), MS ’76** (Healthcare);
- **Wayne A. Bud, Esq. ’63**, senior counsel, Goodwin Procter LLP (Law);
- **Daniel J. Hennessey ’77**, founder and partner, C.Hennessy & Simmons, LLC (Public Service);
- **William C. Burchard ’49**, retired priest, St. Joseph’s Parish, Belmont, Mass. (Religion);
- **Maura M. Kosiarchik ’71**, chairman and president, ActioN Biosciences, Inc. (Science).

The Alumni Awards event is open to the University community. Call ext. 2-4700 or e-mail alumni.comments@bc.edu for additional details and admission.

—Reid Oslin

**New Series to Focus on African-Irish Connections**

This Monday sees the start of a new interdisciplinary lecture series on African-Irish connections that explores the complex intersections between peoples of African and Irish descent.

Entitled “Atlantic Worlds in Black and White,” sponsored by the Irish Studies and the African and African Diaspora Studies programs, features six lectures during the 2007-08 academic year, beginning with a Sept. 24 talk by activist, author and former California state legislator Tom Hayden, who will present “Irish Memory and Modern Multiculturalism.”

Other events in the lecture series are:

- **Oct. 15**: “Black Irish, Irish Whiteness and Atlantic State Formation,” with David Lloyd, a professor of English at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, specializing in Irish literature and culture and in cultural and aesthetic theory.
- **Nov. 12**: “Remembering Slavery in the Postcolonial State: Frederick Douglass and Ireland,” with Fionaughan Sweeney, director of Comparative American Studies at the University of Liverpool Institute of Latin American Studies.
- **Feb. 4**: “Race and Rights: The View from Ireland, America, at the Turn of the 20th Century and the Turn of the 21st,” with Matthew Frye Jacobson, associate professor of American Studies and history at Yale University, whose interests include race in US political culture.
- **Feb. 25**: “The Celtic Other and the Fight to End Slavery,” with University of California-Santa Cruz Associate Professor of Comparative Studies David Brundage, author of Who Built America: Working People and the Nation’s Economy, Politics, Culture, and Society.
- **April 14**: “Irish America and the Abolitionist Movement,” with Maurice Bric, who teaches Irish and American history at University College, Dublin.

**C21 Online Expands Offerings**

Church in the 21st Century On-line, or C21 Online, has introduced two new courses for the 2007-08 academic year. C21 Online offers non-credit courses for spiritual renewal and ongoing formation in collaboration with the Boston College Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry.


For course descriptions, registration, and more information, go to http://c21online@bc.edu or call ext. 2-8057.

**Emergency Preparedness**

Continued from page 1

event of a campus emergency.”

Kearin, who has led BC’s emergency preparedness efforts for the past few years, stressed that these emergency response efforts will supplement longstanding University policies and practices with the goal of promoting campus-wide safety.

“At the recommendation of our security consultants, our Emergency Response Team continues to meet regularly to assess risks, conduct training exercises and to prepare ourselves for any unforeseen circumstances,” said Kearin. “This team, coupled with BC’s 53 highly trained, professional police officers, nearly all of whom have completed crisis intervention and Homeland Security training, and annual hazardous materials and firearms training, will help us to respond to any emergency situation we may face. My hope is we will never have to use our Emergency Response Team, but if we do, we have well trained professionals who are ready to respond as needed.”

In addition to the emergency preparedness effort, Kearin is overseeing a Business Continuity Team that would be responsible for restoring University operations in the event of a natural disaster such as a fire, earthquake or hurricane. His team has worked with academic and administrative departments across campus to create contingency plans that would enable Boston College to remain functioning in the aftermath of a major disturbance.

“Our goal would be to restore operations at Boston College as quickly as possible,” said Kearin. “The planning efforts that we are undertaking now will go a long way in helping us to meet that challenge.”

**Postings**

“Thin” screening and discussion on Sept. 25

The award-winning “Thin,” a documentary by Laura Greenfield that follows several women with eating disorders through their stay at a treatment center, will be shown on Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 7:30 p.m. The screening, which will be followed by a panel discussion, is sponsored by the Connell School of Nursing and the Graduate Nursing Association.

For more information, call ext. 2-2758 or e-mail adrian.smith.1@bc.edu.

Irish Studies to host annual awards banquet

The Irish Studies Program will sponsor a talk on Sept. 26 by Anne Enright, whose novel The Gathering was recently shortlisted for this year’s Man Booker Prize. Enright has published The Pleasures of Eliza Lynch, What Are You Like? and The Portable Virgin (Fiction), and her writing has appeared in The New Yorker, The Paris Review, and Granta and the London Review of Books.

The lecture will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Higgins 300. For more information, see www.bc.edu/centers/irish/studies/writers.html, call ext.2-9308 or e-mail irish@bc.edu.

TIAA-CREF offers retirement plan counseling

Representatives from TIAA-CREF will be on campus this fall to offer one-on-one counseling sessions for participants in the 401(k) and 403(b) retirement plan. Meetings are available this month for Sept. 26 and 27 and are held in rooms near the Benefits Office in More Hall.

To make an appointment, see www.tiaa-cref.org/moc or call Pearl Aijayi at 1-800-842-2004.

Oct. 3 concert features koto music

A concert of song and music spotlighting the Japanese instrument the koto will be presented on Oct. 3 at 4:15 p.m. in Gasson 100.

The performers are Miho Sato, soprano; Gary Tucker, baritone; Sumie Kaneko, koto and Linda Papapoli, piano.

For information, see www.bc.edu/music, call ext.2-6004 or e-mail concerts@bc.edu.

BC’s Makransky discusses his new book

Assoc. Prof. John Makransky (Theolog) will speak about his new book, Awakening Through Love: Unveiling Your Deepest Goodness, on Wednesday, Oct. 3, from 7-9:30 p.m. in Mercert 127.

In the book, Makransky—who is a Buddhist tara—discusses universal elements in Buddhist ideas and practices, and how these relate to traditions of other religions. Makransky will be joined by Steigl Professor of Philosophy Richard Kennedy and Prof. Richard Himes (Theology).

For information, call ext.2-3702 or e-mail mcgarity@bc.edu.
She jointly holds the Calde-
regarding
in the monthly book section of
Brooks
York Daily News
Reconciliation in America.
the history of the sacrament of
•Clough Millennium Professor
shrayer
sia, interviewed Prof.
rogue radio stations in the area.
(Communication) was quoted in
•Adj. Assoc. Prof.
Germany.
about terrorism-related arrests in
viewed on NPR's "Day to Day"
(Political Science) was inter
•Prof.
Nineteenth Century
tion of his book
(English) on the recent publica
•Prof.
(knowing the history of the sacrament of
the Catholic Church.
•The article "Judgments of Emo-
tion from Spontaneous Facial Ex-
pressions of New Guineans," by Prof.
James Russell (Psychology) and
student graduated in acceptance for
Eminem.

Honors/Appointments
•Center for Work & Family Ex-
•Prof. Jorge Garcia (Philosophy)
spoke at the Study Section on
Ethical, Legal and Social Implica-
tions in Washington, DC, and
participated in the study section's
meeting. He also was a faculty
member at a panel on the Rut-
gers Summer Institute for Diver-
sity in Philosophy, and presented
the talk "Racism as Vice" to the
Yale University Philosophy De-

Time and a Half
•Center for Work & Fam-
it army professorship at Boston
College with her husband, Jona-
derwood professorship at Boston
College with her husband, Jona-

A First: Blair Earns
Honor for Second Time
Sheila Blair, who is Norma Jean Caldenwood University Pro-
fessor of Islamic and Asian Art, re-
cently earned her second British-
Kuwait Friendship Society/British
Society of Middle Eastern Studies
Prize, the first person to have that
honor. The award, which is given for
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Studies published in the United
Kingdom, was presented to Blair
for her book "Islamic Calligraphy,"
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Jobs
The following are among the most
recent positions posted by the De-
partment of Human Resources.
For more information on employ-
ment opportunities at Boston Col-
lege, see www.bc.edu/officehr/

Compensation Analyst or senior
Compensation Analyst, Human
Resources
Administrative Assistant, Leader-
ship Gifts, Parents’ Fundraising,
Development Office
Assistant/Associate Director, An-
imal Care, Special Gifts, Develop-
ment Office
Third Cook, Dining Services
(McElroy)
Educational Technology Special-
ist/ Legal Information Librarian
and Lecturer in Law, Law Li-
brary
Technology Consultant
Data Manager/Analyst, Lynch
School of Education
Administrative Officer, Lynch
School of Education
Administrative Assistant, Law
School - Alumni and Develop-
ment
Database Specialist, Carroll
School of Management, Center
for Corporate Citizenship
Academic Counselor, Learning
Resources for Student Athletes
The “Pollock Matters” exhibition continues at the McMullen Museum.

ONGOING EXHIBITIONS

• Somewhere A Voice is Calling: American Irish Musical Interpret- ers, 1890 - 1975, O’Neill Library Lobby, through Oct. 26. E-mail sweetse@bc.edu.

• Pollock Matters,” McMullen Museum of Art, through Dec. 9. Call ext. 2-8100, e-mail artmusm@bc.edu or see www.bc.edu/music.

ATHLETICS

Women’s soccer: BC vs. North- eastern, 3 p.m., Newton Campus.

Field hockey: BC vs. Yale, 4 p.m., Newton Campus.

Women’s volleyball: BC vs. NC State, 7 p.m., Conte Forum.

Field hockey: BC vs. Lake Erie, 7 p.m., Newton Campus.

Women’s basketball: BC vs. UMass, 1 p.m., Alumni Stadium.

STEADY ROCKER FINN COMES TO BC

How does it feel to be a rock’n’ roll singer and composer whose work has been compared to Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band?

You can find out for yourself when 1993 alum Craig Finn comes to campus this Tuesday, Sept. 25, for a “master class” with Prof. Carlo Rotella (English). Finn, a member of the band The Hold Steady, will speak informally with Rotella about his life, art, and music. Writing in the winter 2006 Boston College Magazine, Tim Hef- fferman described Finn’s work as “rock-and-roll dime novels of pain and redemption at the junction of suburbia and the demimonde.” He’s been reviewed favorably by such publications as The New York- er and Village Voice.

Finn’s presence is certainly help- ing The Hold Steady attract plenty of attention. This year, the band released several of their songs on various soundtracks, notably that of the film “The Nanny Diaries.” And for whatever weight one gives to celebrity endorsements, “Harry Potter” star Daniel Radcliffe has proclaimed them his favorite band.

Finn has spoken frequently about the Catholic influence in his songwriting, and in a recent e-mail interview with Chronicle he noted it also had a lot to do with his college choice.

“I went to want to go to a Catholic school, and BC appealed to me in its size and its loca- tion - I wanted to be near a city,” he says. “So what does he plan to do in the master class? “Well, I hope I don’t have to critique anyone’s songs,” he quips. And if you expect to hear about the glories of a rock’n roll lifestyle, you’ll probably be disap- pointed: “I think there are a lot of myths and misunderstandings about a career as an artist. I hope we can shed light on some of those types of things.”

The class is open to the public as well as the Boston College commu- nity, but those who plan to attend should register here: omc.bc.edu/ masterclass.