Multi-Faith Center Reopens Doors

BY ED HAYWARD

Boston College re-dedicated the Multi-Faith Center at the 66 Commonwealth Avenue residence hall on Oct. 26, celebrating renovations designed to provide the University community with an improved space that encourages spiritual development across all faiths.

The improvements to the center, which was initially dedicated for prayer and religious observance in 2000, include new furniture, storage space for religious artifacts, air conditioning, handicapped accessibility, and an updated look from the project architect. University Trustee Sally Erghardt Pingree donated five abstract prints by local artists.

The project’s opening “is a series of rededication events, which began this past Friday with a Jewish service coordinated by Rabbi Tamar Burrows of Temple Beth El,.” said O’Toole.

The tour begins at noon, lasts one hour, and concludes with a reception in the center’s main meeting room. The tour is scheduled for tomorrow, Nov. 2, at 1 p.m., and next Thursday, Nov. 8, will feature the Ecumenical Christian Service, sponsored by United In Christ and the Episcopal Chaplaincy, beginning at 7 p.m.

“By a university, we want to support the spiritual development of all of our students and provide the resources that they need,” said Vice President for University Mission and Ministry Joseph A. Appleyard, SJ. “What’s been done to the space is remarkable.”

Boston College re-dedicated the Multi-Faith Center at the 66 Commonwealth Avenue residence hall. (Photo by Lee Pellegrini)

Stories Behind the Bricks and Mortar

History professor’s walking tours of Brighton Campus prove popular

BY REID OSLIN

The history, topography, architecture and folklore of the University’s recently acquired Brighton campus took on a sharper focus for two groups of employees and neighbors who participated in walking tours of the property led by Clough Professor of History James O’Toole.

O’Toole, an archivist for the Archdiocese of Boston from 1978 through 1986 and author of several books on Boston’s Catholic heritage, hosted the 30-person groups on tours of the former archdiocesan land on Oct. 2 and 4 as part of an employee development program sponsored by the Human Resources department.

“There was a lot of interest [in the tours] because so many people have probably driven by the property and said ‘I wonder what is in there?’” says O’Toole.

“What impresses people the most is the sheer size of it,” Boston College has purchased 64 acres of land and numerous buildings from the archdiocese in transactions dating back to 2004.

O’Toole started each walking tour at the Lake Street entrance to the tract. “We went up over the hill and the first building that you see is what used to be the Tri-Building,” he says, “which was the archdiocesan marriage court for people seeking annulments and such.” (The building now houses the University’s Office of Marketing Communications and the Center on Work and Aging.)

“It’s a square, two-story building, but then there’s this funny little third story that almost looks like a house on top of the building. It’s an odd architectural thing.”

“The story there,” O’Toole continues, “is that when the building was built it was the Chancery office. The priests who worked there lived in the rectory at St. Columbkille’s Church in Brighton, but when the pastor raised the rent for the priests who lived there, Cardinal [William J.] O’Connell said, ‘The heck with this, I’ll build them a residence on top of the Chancery.’ If you go up there, there are living rooms, bedrooms, bathrooms and so on.”

O’Toole explains that St. John’s Seminary was built on the site – a former orchard – in the mid-1880s. Cardinal O’Connell relocated the archdiocesan offices and built his own lavish residence there in the 1920s after receiving a generous bequest from the will of Paul Keith, son of Boston vaudeville magnate Benjamin Franklin Keith.

Boston College re-dedicated the Multi-Faith Center at the 66 Commonwealth Avenue residence hall. (Photo by Lee Pellegrini)

Continued on page 5
So he thinks he can dance

One of the many memorable episodes of the just-completed Red Sox championship season was pitcher Jonathan Papelbon’s apparent fondness for Irish step-dancing. The fireballing righty’s “Riverdance”–style solo performance (to music by Boston Irish punk band The Dropkick Murphys) during team-award ceremonies elicited the spontaneous reactions in the press and public ranging from bemusement to amusement.

So, Chronicle turned to a couple of Irish dance experts in the Boston College community for an assessment of Papelbon’s prowess. The verdict? Watch out, Michael Flatley.

“His technique, although flawed in some areas, shows significant potential,” said Meghan Allen, a certified Irish dance instructor who teaches Irish dance in the Irish Studies program. “He has great height and bounce in his steps, and his turnout is quite impressive for an Irish dancer. He must also dance higher on his toes and straighten his knees. His cuts — movement where one leg is brought up towards the opposite hip — are very sharp and high, although he still can improve the arch in his foot when doing this movement.

“Overall, his energy is great, and his rhythm is perfect.”

Kieran Jordan ’96, a well–respected local performer, teacher and choreographer in the Irish dance tradition, was equally praiseworthy. “Jonathan Papelbon’s ‘Irish dance’ is a deeply–embodied expression of victory. While it is unclear whether or not he has had any formal dance training, the spirit of his dance is consistent with that of the great Irish dancers of our time. His athleticism lends itself to a powerful dance presence. His carriage is upright and confident. His rhythm and timing — driven by Boston’s beloved Dropkick Murphys — is impeccable. His steps are influenced by Irish hard–shoe and celtid dance movements, combined with improvisational, unbalanced, adrenaline–driven celebration.

“In other words, it’s a convincingly–fabricated–Irish–step–dance–meets–universal–sports–victory–dance. Furthermore, one cannot overlook the challenge of step dancing in flip flops, or in baseball cleats. Papelbon is underlined by the lack of appropriate dance footwear — a true performer who rises to the occasion to the delight of critics and fans alike.”

At press time, it was unknown whether Papelbon would be asked to reprise his performance as part of the Irish Studies’ Irish dance Dec. 5 in Gasson 100.

—— SS

Campus United Way Drive

Kicking Off Tomorrow

The 2007 Boston College United Way Campaign is set to kick off tomorrow, Nov. 2, following the traditional kick-off breakfast for campus United Way volunteers.

BC has participated for more than 65 years in the annual fundraising campaign for the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. Thanks to the generosity of Boston College employees, the 2006 campaign raised $12,800, which was distributed to agencies within the local community.

In her letter to the Boston College community, BC United Way Campaign Chair and University Vice President Mary Lou Donnelly ’73, ’78, stated, “At Boston College we are a guiding principle for those who work or study here care for the individual person. We are asked to translate this care into action, to share our gifts and talents with others. Giving to the United Way is a means of caring for our mission and helping others by opening doors to social and economic opportunity.”

This year’s campaign, which ends Dec. 3, offers employees the option of making a donation or pledge online in a fast, convenient and secure manner. Those wishing to make a gift may do so via payroll deduction, credit card or personal check.

For information and updates see www.bc.edu/offices/unitedway.
Melissa Beecher, an award-winning reporter with the Boston Globe, has accepted the position of Vice Provost for Research. In her new role, Beecher will work with BC Law School, the Student Affairs division, the Office of Sponsored Programs and the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. She also will cover student life through the Undergraduate Government of Boston College and other organizations. In addition, she will assist Deputy Director of Public Affairs Patricia Delaney in the daily maintenance of BCInsider.

As associate director of Public Affairs for more than a decade, Beecher has written extensively for a wide variety of news outlets, including the Boston Globe, the Lowell Sun, The Christian Science Monitor, The Boston Herald, and USA Today. She has also been a frequent guest lecturer in the College of Arts and Sciences, where she has taught courses in media ethics and public relations.

Bapst Gallery Spotlights ‘Sacred Space’

The Bapst Library Art Gallery will present the exhibition “Sacred Space — Sacred Form” from Nov. 9-19. Designed by Benjamin Carini, a Boston-based artist who is an assistant professor of drawing and sculpture at the University of New Hampshire, the exhibition comprises mixed media installations, sculptures, drawings and prints that reflect on religious faith, ritual and tradition.

For information, call ext. 2-4295 or e-mail hmazzardle@gmail.com.
University Offers Parish Priests Opportunity for Renewal

BY KATHLEEN SULLIVAN STAFF WRITER

Nine parish priests gathered last week at the Connors Family Retreat and Conference Center on the University’s Dover Campus for the inaugural session of a new collaborative program aimed at improving preaching in the Archdiocese of Boston.

The goal of “Encountering the Gospel/Renewing the Preacher” is to bring together priests who are committed to improving their preaching skills and offer them an opportunity to learn from one another’s teaching experience, to identify preaching strengths as well as areas for improvement, and to continue to develop preaching skills through online support, according to organizers.

Supported by an anonymous three-year grant, the preaching seminar is the product of joint efforts by the Church in the 21st Century Center, Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry, Weston Jesuit School of Theology and the Boston Archdiocese.

“Preaching is a central part of the people’s experience with the Church and when the preaching is good it can really enhance the worshiping experience,” said seminar organizer John McGinty, assistant director of IREPM and interims assistant director of C21.

“The important thing is for each priest to tailor his homily to his audience, but with parishes being multigenerational and multicultural that’s not a simple task,” said IREPM Assistant Director Monsignor James Mongelluzzo, who serves as a seminar instructor along with Fr. Thomas Kane, CSP, an associate professor of homiletics and liturgical practice at Weston Jesuit School of Theology.

“For priests, delivering the homily is one of the most communal parts of their duties. Preaching a homily is done in an isolated way,” added McGinty.

The priests attending last week’s two-day workshop were asked to bring with them their homily from their Oct. 21 service. Each priest was videotaped delivering his homily. Fellow priests were asked to offer evaluations, which were also videotaped. The priests were then given copies to review and reflect upon in private.

“There was a great deal of shared wisdom” during the workshop, noted Mongelluzzo. “You learn that communication is not necessarily what was said but what was heard.”

The common thread among all the priests — whose years of experience ranged from five to 50 — was their commitment to being there, said the organizers, noting that one priest came to the workshop after having presided over two funerals that morning.

“They embraced the experience whole-heartedly. The spiritual energy was at a high level. It was very inspirational to me,” said Mongelluzzo. “I see it as a sign of hope for the future Church.”

Rev. William Murphy of St. Paul Church in Cambridge signed on for the seminar because “it is suitable that he and his community would continue to develop preaching skills for both present and future.”

“When I saw the video of myself preaching, I wanted to shout to the TV ‘Look, I’m not that bad!’” chuckled Fr. Murphy, the undergraduates chaplain at Harvard University and a faculty member at Blessed John XXIII National Seminary in Weston. “The workshop was very well done and I’m looking forward to the year.”

Joseph Rade, the pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Bridgewater, came to the seminar looking to improve upon his preaching skills. “You hope you are making a difference [with your preaching], but you always wonder how well you are really doing,” said Fr. Rade, who has the challenge of preaching to various audiences, a traditional parish community as well as the college-age population at Bridgewater State College.

“I didn’t know it going into it, but the seminar was exactly what I needed it to be. I’m so grateful to BC and Weston for putting this together. It’s been very affirming.”

The preaching seminar will continue through offerings via C21 and the Boston Theological Institute’s website. With the assistance of C21 Program Manager Barbara Radde and Program and Communications Specialist Melinda Donovan, organizers will make resources available online and allow participating priests to conduct private online discussions with themselves regarding homily preparation.

The priests will reconvene on campus in January and continue online work until May when the seminar concludes with a final meeting. Organizers say there will be a tool for parishioners to evaluate the priests’ preaching progress.

Others involved in the planning of the preaching seminar were Special Assistant to the President and C21 Interim Director Robert Newton, IREPM Director Prof. Thomas Groome (Theology), Assistant to the Vice President of Mission and Ministry Timothy Muldoon and William Kelly of the Boston Archdiocese’s Office of Clergy Support and Ongoing Formation.

The organizers plan to offer the seminar again over the next two years, expanding it to include priests outside the archdiocese, permanent deacons and lay persons.

“It makes a lot of sense” for the preaching seminar to be at Boston College, according to McGinty. “The University has such a complement of resources to put to work for the betterment of the community. It’s a calling of our Jesuit/Catholic mission to build up the Church.”

Brighton Campus History

Continued from page 1

topography of the funeral with all of the details of John’s life.” —O’Toole

“While he was a member of the class of 1881, so to some extent, I suppose, it is suitable that he is back at Boston College,” he says.

O’Toole also likes to include the story of what’s new on the former Archdiocesan property.

“There used to be a small cemetery located next to the old gym on the property, when the seminary first opened, the faculty consisted of priests of the Sulpician order who were based in Baltimore and whose particular mission was educating clergy.”

“When Cardinal O’Connell was president of the college, the idea was to have a Sulpician provided a guide to the property for students at the college. He not only provided a guide, but also had them dig up the bodies of priests buried in the little cemetery and sent them back to Maryland as well.”

“O’Toole’s Brighton campus tours were such a success that he is considering them again in the spring. “We had waiting lists for both tours,” says Director of Employee Development Bernard O’Kane. “They were extremely positively received. People I spoke to who went on the tours were fascinated.”

“They liked hearing the stories and seeing the property.”

O’Toole says, “I think people have probably driven by the property and said ‘I wonder what is in there?’” —James O’Toole

“Continued from page 1

to broaden and enrich their lives. The coming together of so many dedicated faculty members, students and faculty to build the school is a historic moment for the archdiocese and Boston College. It is an unparalleled opportunity to advance the Gospel and serve the Church and academic community.”

In addition to his 37 years of service to Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Fr. Clifford has served as visiting lecturer at Harvard Divinity School, president of the Catholic Biblical Association and general editor of the Catholic Biblical Quarterly. He has also served as a consultant for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Commit- tee on Liturgy, and chair of the Boston Theological Institute’s Old Testament/Hebrew Scriptures Colloquium.


In addition to the appointment of Fr. Clifford, the University is conducting searches for associate deans of academic, student and administrative affairs.

The School of Theology and Min- istry will be located on the Brighton Campus of Boston College.
The Gene That Binds

Clare Dunsford’s book on fragile X syndrome is straight from the heart

By Sean Smith
Chronicle Editor

When College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean Clare Dunsford was just 10 years old, she wrote her story book, a story she thought she had a pretty good handle on the story.

Then the story kept revealing new and challenging chapters. Dunsford had never expected to write — but which ultimately became an indispensable part of the just-published book.

“Spelling Love with an ‘X’: A Mother, a Son and the Gene that Binds Them is Dunford’s literary memoir about her 22-year-old son, J.P., and his struggle with fragile X syndrome, the most common inherited cause of mental retardation.

The book is an honest, determinedly unsentimental account of the search for the answer to J.P.’s condition, Dunford says, and the questions raised by that discovery.

But Spelling Love with an ‘X’ is, above all, an affirmation, says Dunford, who will present a reading and lecture Wednesday, Sept. 1, in room 101 of the Center for the Arts.

“Like it or not, fragile X is part of my life. There have been some tough times, for him, for me, for our family. But through him, I’ve gained a new understanding of what life is about.

Fragile X causes a wide range of mental impairment, from mild to severe cognitive or intellectual disabilities. Symptoms can include characteristic physical and behavioral features, anxiety, and delays in speech and language development. Fragile X also is the most common known cause of autism or “autistic-like” behaviors.

These symptoms and behaviors have inevitably formed the rhythm of J.P.’s life, and that of Dunford. But the refrain runs through generations, she says. When J.P. was first diagnosed at age seven, Dunford also was informed that she and three of her four siblings also carried the fragile X gene and had unknowingly passed on the mutation to several of their children.

“The world isn’t normal. It’s an adaptive world,” says Dunford.

“Life, for J.P., is pointing in a positive direction. He’s matured a lot. He’s much more confident now. He is more self-sufficient now. He takes care of several of his daily activities and makes decisions that are in his best interest, she says.

“For J.P., the diagnosis — although it was devastating — gave him the freedom to express himself, to learn about new things and try new things, she added.

And that freedom, she says, continues to fuel Dunford’s drive to bring awareness to fragile X.

“We need to raise awareness to help people get to know about this and to help others who are struggling with fragile X. There is not a cure, so we need to work toward acceptance and for them to be able to live a normal life,” she said.

“The book is not only about my son, she said, but also ‘about the reality of fragile X and the struggles associated with having a child who has fragile X syndrome. It’s about our families and our lives, our stories.’”

Dunford also was informed that she and three of her four siblings were carriers of fragile X. Dunford now knows that 8 percent report no religious affiliations, 27 percent Catholic, 25 percent Jewish, 2 percent Muslim, 3 percent other Christian faiths, 3 percent Hispanic, 2 percent Buddhist or Hindu, and 8 percent report no religious affiliation.

The Office of Campus Ministry works with all faith groups and student religious organizations also serve a diverse range of religious backgrounds.

A number of external religious organizations are formally recognized by the University, including Billy Graham, Episcopal Campus Ministry, Inter-Varsity Campus Ministry, Asian Baptist Student Association, and Orthodox Christian Fellowship.

Supportive and Outside — who — would have taken over my job temporarily — was wonderful,” says Dunford.

Spelling Love with an ‘X’; Dunford notes, is only part of a continuing story that at the moment is pointed in a positive direction.


“The book is sorting through medical files, reconstructing events leading to the diagnosis, reflecting on painful personal episodes — proved to be a whole other ordeal, says Dunford, who took a leave of absence from BC to complete the book.

“I left in January of 2004 thinking I’d be back in September. I didn’t return until July of 2005. When I took the leave, I was shocked at how disconnected I suddenly felt from the BC community, which had been such a vibrant part of my life.

“There was one miserable February day when I felt like I just couldn’t write, and I began to second-guess my ability to start a project,” she said. “Is that a common trait for carriers of fragile X? I wondered.

“This is the first book I’ve written, and I hope it will make a difference. It’s my way of trying to help others who are struggling with fragile X. It will help them know they’re not alone.”
Alumni Mass this Sunday

The annual Alumni Memorial Mass will take place this Sunday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m. in Gasson Chapel on Newton campus, with a reception to follow at Alumni House. To RSVP or provide names and class years of deceased alumni, call ext.2-4753 or email carol.quintiliani.1@bc.edu.

Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy welcomes Campos

The Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy will sponsor a lecture on Nov. 8. “The Ontology of Feelings in the Platonic.” By Alvaro Vallejo Campos, a professor of philosophy at the University of Granada in Spain. Rachel Singularwalla, a professor of philosophy at the University of Maryland at College Park, will serve as commentator for the event, which takes place at 7:30 p.m. in the Mdloy Faculty Dining Room.

In addition, Campos will present a seminar, “The Cognitive Theory of Depressive Epistemic Poverty,” at 4 p.m. in room 328 of 21 Campanella Way.

For information about these events, contact John Cleary at ext.2-3869 or john.cleary@bc.edu.

Thanksgiving Host Program deadline is Nov. 9

The University’s Thanksgiving Day Host Program seeks faculty, staff and administrators who are interested in hosting a Big East Conference international student for Thanksgiving dinner. Hosts may invite one or more international students to join them for a Thanksgiving meal. No overnight stay is required. To participate, fill out the form provided at www.bc.edu/offices/odsd/intercultural programas/thanksgiving/hostprogram.html by Nov. 9; hosts will receive information about their guest students by Nov. 16. For information, call ext.2-8005 or e-mail mrose@bc.edu.

“Works in Progress” series presents Laura Murphy

Part-time faculty member Laura Murphy (English) will give the lecture “Starting Life with Words.” The Failure of Intimacy in Alma Ada Aidoo’s Grammar of Memo- ry” on Nov. 12 as part of the “Works in Progress” series sponsored by the African and African Diaspora Studies Program.

Murphy, an African and African Diaspora Studies lecturer, pursues research in West-African literature, 19th and 20th-century African American literature, slave and neo-slave narratives, questions of memory and monuments, and modern-day slavery. She is currently writing a dissertation on the slave trade and the Atlantic slave trade in Anglophone West African fiction.

For more on the series and other event information, see www.bc.edu/schools/cas/audios/events/wipls.html.

Hebron to speak at West Observatory Nov. 14

Prof. David Hebron (Geology and Geophysics) will discuss “The Assembly of the Geology of Scotland” in a lecture on Nov. 14 and Nov. 28, from 7-9 p.m. at the Boston College West Observatory, 381 Concord Road, Weston.

The event is free and open to the public and hosted by the observatory; call ext.2-8200 for more information, or see www.bc.edu/westobservable.

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Council for Women Gets Welcome Assistance

Students in the student-aided campus tour offered twice a year for interested CWBC members.

“It’s wonderful to see how in- vested alumni are in events that involve students,” said University Trustee Kathleen McGillycuddy NC’71, a founding co-chair of the council who was among those present for the recent campus tour. “And the students really love the fact that these highly successful career women care enough to come back and connect with them.”

On that October afternoon in Gasson’s Fulton Debate Room, Alison Finck ’09 and Catherine McCool ’09, who in September were appointed the advisory board’s first student chair and vice chair, introduced a short speaking program centered on campus life from a student perspective. The first-person narratives covered everything from extracurricular activities, internships and study abroad to first-year life and the previous weekend’s football victory over Notre Dame. (As Natalie Hohbachovsky ‘09 put it, “We just love talking about our school.”)

Then it was off on the first leg of the tour, led by Finck and McCool, who are particularly well- qualified to offer an orientation to BC.

As the daughter of council membership committee chair Ann Riley Finck ’66 — a nurse prac-titioner in the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit at New York’s Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, who also was on hand that day — and with four older siblings who graduated from the University, Alison has been visit-ing the campus “since she was four years old.”

Similarly McCool, whose fam- ily also is steeped in BC culture with graduates and whose younger sister Elizabeth ’11 has just joined the advisory board, says that BC feels “just like home” to her well before she enrolled.

Finck finds this program one of the most rewarding because it also allows the alumni to share their own BC experiences with the newcomer generation. “It’s inter- esting [for us] to see how the university spent a great deal of time on [the Chestnut Hill] campus.”

McGillycuddy, who says she didn’t reconnect with Boston College until three decades after graduation, believes it’s vital to the University’s future that alumnae take “the key roles in BC life, especially as women now com- prise more than 50 percent of all alumni.”

McCool concurs. “It’s impor-tant to stay connected to the school once you graduate,” she said. “Boston College is clearly a special place for all of us, and the council, and using the group as a tool to stay not only connected, but involved in the current student life is wonderful.”

Formal Focus on War, Christian-Jewish Relations

The Center for Christian-Jewish Learning (CJL) will present a two-part forum this month on the impact of international conflicts on Jewish-Christian relations. On Nov. 7, Prof. David Hollenbach, SJ (Theology), director of the Boston College Center for Human Rights and International Justice, will speak on “Legal and Ethical Dimensions of War and Human Rights.”

Both events will take place from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Higgins 300, and are cosponsored by CJL and the Center for Human Rights and International Justice. For more information, see the Center’s Web site at www.bc.edu/
cjlearning@bc.edu.

—Office of Public Affairs

Kathleen Kennedy Townsend Speaks Nov. 7

Former Maryland Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend will be the featured speaker at the Seventh Annual Prophetic Voices in the Church Lecture on Wednesday, Nov. 7. Her talk, titled “Failing America’s Faithful,” will take place at 4:30 p.m. in Gasson 100.

Now an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University School of Public Policy, and a visiting fellow at the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, Townsend was deputy attorney general of the US Justice Department before serving two terms as Maryland’s first female lieutenant governor. She was re- sponsible for a multimillion-dollar budget and had oversight of ma- jor departments including State Police, Economic Development, Transportation and the Office of Children, Youth and Family.

Townsend founded the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award in honor of her late father, and has become nationally known for involvement in political, religious, social and philanthropic causes, including character education. For information, see www. bc.edu/center/bossi/publicevents/ current_speaker.html or e-mail cjlearning@bc.edu.

—Office of Public Affairs
****Not a Bane****

Vanderbilt Professor of Chemistry T. Ross Kelly has been selected as a participant of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world’s largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal Science. Election as an AAAS Fellow is an honor bestowed upon members for creative contributions to the advancement of science or its applications. Kelly was chosen “for demonstrated excellence in research and teaching, and a distinguished record of enlightened leadership and wise counsel,” according to an AAAS press release announcing this year’s 471 fellows.

Part-time faculty member Laura Murphy (English) was named as one of six recipients of awards for innovative teaching from Alka, an international collaborative initiative building a digital library of scholarly resources from and about Africa. The award was developed to foster inventive uses of Alka’s holdings of more than 300,000 digital objects of high-quality scholarly materials focused on Africa including botanical specimens, visual and contextual representations, as well as periodicals and pamphlets documenting liberation struggles in southern Africa. Murphy, a lecturer in the African and African Diaspora Studies Program, plans to use visual and documentary materials in Alka to help students visualize Africa more accurately and counteract the images of violence and corruption often encountered in the public sphere. Students will be required to integrate the visual, geographic, and documentary evidence provided on the Alka site to create a thesis about the unique forms of memory Africans have created as a response to their particular surroundings and pasts.

Notas Bene

**Newsmakers**

• Prof. Ramsay Liem (Psychology) was interviewed by “The World,” a co-production of the BBC World Service, PRI and WGBH Boston, for a recent program on the second summit meeting between the leaders of North and South Korea.

• The 2014 New York Times cited excerpts from the book Frontiers of Empire: Women in American History, by Clinical Prof. Daniel Kevles (Science) directed by Clinton’s Center for Human Rights and International Justice, in a piece on the lack of legal protections for immigrants in the US.

• Smart Money magazine interviewed Aux. Prof. Roger Eden (CSOM) regarding a pay-for-performance system for money managers.

• Martha Bayles, a faculty member in the College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, wrote on Edward Hopper’s work in conjunction with an exhibition on view at the National Gallery for a cover story in the Weekly Standard.

• Center on Wealth and Philanthropy Director Prof. Paul Schervish (Sociology) discussed the reality and meaning of wealth transfer on the “Tribune/Tribune Show” on National Public Radio affiliate WRKF in Louisiana.

• Monan Professor of Higher Education Michael Altbach, director of the Lynch School of Education Center for International Higher Education, answered questions about how colleges should internationalize their campuses during a live web chat sponsored by the Chronicle of Higher Education.

**Grants**

• Aux. Prof. Jon Horvitz (Psychology): $1,400,000, NIH/NIDA, “Accumbens coding of reward expectation: electrophysiology and neuropharmacology.”

**Honors/Appointments**

• Adj. Assoc. Prof. Michael Noone (Music) has been elected to membership of the Spanish Royal Academy (Real Academia de Bellas Artes y Ciencias Historicas de Toledo).

• Prof. Dwayne E. Carpenter (Romance Languages) presented “The ‘Alboraxque’: A Seedbed of Medieval Spain” at the University of Valencia.

**Time and a Half**

• At the Workshop on Methods and Applications for Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium Models held at the National Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Murray & Monti Professor of Economics Peter Ireland was a discussant and Aux. Prof. Massimo Iacovello (Economics) presented “Housing Market Spillovers: Evidence from an Estimated DSGE Model.”

• Prof. Maxim D. Shriver (Slavic and Eastern Languages) presented “In Search of Jewish-Russian Literature” at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University.

• Prof. Dwayne E. Carpenter (Romance Languages) presented “The ‘Alboraxque’: A Seedbed of Medieval Spain” at the University of Valencia.

**People**

**Carlo Rotella Is Selected for 2007 Whiting Writing Award**

Prof. Carlo Rotella (English), whose nonfiction writing has portrayed boxing, blues and other aspects of modern urban America, was named as one of 10 recipients of the 2007 Whiting Writers’ Awards given annually to emerging writers of exceptional talent and promise. The awards, $50,000 each, were announced last month at a ceremony at The Morgan Library and Museum in New York City by the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation, which has presented the honors since 1985.

Rotella, who directs the American Studies Program at Boston College, has published three books: October Cities: The Re-development of Urban Literature (1998), Good with their Hands: Boxers, Bluesmen and other Characters from the Ruth Bet (2002) and Cut Time: An Education at the Beantown School (1999) which won the L.L. Winship/PEN New England Award and was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. He has published many essays and magazine pieces, including the title chapter from Cut Time, which was selected for inclusion in Best American Essays 2003 and chosen by The American Scholar as “Best Essay” and Best Work by a Younger Writer in 2000.

Whiting Writers’ Award recipients are proposed by about 100 anonymous nominators from across the country whose experience and vocations give them knowledge about individuals with extraordinary talent. Winners are chosen by a small anonymous selection committee of recognized writers, literary scholars, and editors, appointed annually by the foundation. Previous winners include Jonathan Franzen, Sandra Rahl, William T. Vollmann, Col. Whitehead, Jorie Graham, Kim Edwards, Z. Z. Parker, Denise Johnson, Tobias Wolff, Ethan Winters, Kathleen Cunningham, Lydia Davis and Jeffrey Eugenides.

—Office of Public Affairs

**The Burgin Center for Religion and American Public Life Prof. Alan Wolfe (Political Science) spoke at the “Getting off the Natural Landscape” conference held Oct. 25 and 26 on campus. (Photo by Frank Curran)**

**The following are among the most recent positions posted by the Development of Human Resources. For more information on employment opportunities at Boston College, see www.bc.edu/hr/hrlist.html**

• Receptionist/Staff Assistant, Office of the Academic Vice President/Dean Of Faculties

• Director of Emergency Preparedness and Management, Office of the Executive Vice President

• Assistant, Office of Aging and Disability Services

• Assistant Director, Center for Institutional Research

• Associate Director, Center for Institutional Research

• Associate Director, Institutional Research

• Data Entry Clerk, Center for Institutional Research

**JOBS**

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• Director of Emergency Preparedness and Management, Office of the Executive Vice President

• Assistant, Office of Aging and Disabilty Services

• Assistant Director, Center for Institutional Research

• Associate Director, Institutional Research

• Data Entry Clerk, Center for Institutional Research
Nov. 17 Symposium

The 21st century isn’t even a decade old, but it’s already provided plenty of media-related controversies: the press’s performance in the run-up to the invasion of Iraq; the Valerie Plame affair; the rise of blogs and other “new media”; and the fall-out of rising financial pressures on newspapers and magazines.

A symposium to be held in Robsham Theater Nov. 17 beginning at 12:30 p.m. will examine these and other trends and their implications, featuring an impressive array of panelists representing journalism, politics, government, business and academia.

Participants in “No News Is Bad News: The Role of the Media” will include: political strategist and former White House Press Secretary Joe Lockhart; Atlantic Monthly correspondent Mark Bowden, author of Black Hawk Down; Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington Post foreign correspondent Anthony Shadid; Ellen Hume, director of the University of Massachusetts-Boston Center on Media and Society and a former Wall Street Journal White House and political correspondent; and Atlantic Monthly blogger Andrew Sullivan, former editor of The New Republic.

Also scheduled to appear are:
- Samantha Power, a professor at the Kennedy School of Government and author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning book A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide.
- Columbia Journalism Professor David Greenberg, author of Nixon’s Shadow: The History of an Image.
- Todd Purdum, national correspondent and political correspondent for Vanity Fair and author of A Time Of Our Choosing: America’s War in Iraq.
- New Yorker staff writer Margaret Talbot, senior fellow at the New America Foundation.
- Mary Wheeler, columnist and author of The Anatomist: How the Bush Administration Used the Media to Sell the Iraq War.
- Miles Vaughan, political editor of The Boston Globe.
- Columbia University Provost and Professor of History Alan Brinkley.
- Todd Purdum, national editor and political correspondent for Vanity Fair and author of A Time Of Our Choosing: America’s War in Iraq.
- Howard Kurtz, media columnist on Fox News.
- Peter Alterman, former media columnist for The New York Times.
- Former Los Angeles Times editor John Carroll.

In addition, the symposium will be preceded at 10:30 a.m. by a special session for high school journalists in the Heights Room of Corcoran Commons.

The event, sponsored by The Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, is free and open to the public but registration is required. More information on the event is available at www.masshumanities.org/special—projects/symposium/index.html.

—Office of Public Affairs

The Boston College Chronicle
November 3, 2007

BC SCENES

ATHLETICS

November 1
- Field hockey: Virginia Quarterly, 1 p.m., Newton Campus.
- Women’s basketball: BC vs. St. Francis, 7 p.m., Conte Forum.

November 2
- Men’s hockey: BC vs. Maine, 7 p.m., Conte Forum.

November 3
- Football: BC vs. Florida State, 8 p.m., Alumni Stadium.

November 4
- Field hockey: ACC Finals, 1 p.m., Newton Campus.
- Men’s basketball: BC vs. Carleton (exhibition), 2 p.m., Conte Forum.

November 9
- Women’s basketball: BC vs. Wright State, 1 p.m., Conte Forum.
- Men’s soccer: BC vs. Virginia Tech, 7 p.m., Newton Campus.

November 10
- Men’s basketball: BC vs. New Hampshire, 4 p.m., Conte Forum.

ONGOING EXHIBITIONS
- Sacred Space — Sacred Form, installation by Benjamin S. Car- lson, Bapst Library Art Gallery, through Nov. 19. Call ext. 2-4295, e-mail kmandizzle@gmail.com.
- Pollock Matters, McNamara Museum of Art, through Dec. 9. Call ext. 2-8100, e-mail artmuseum@bc.edu or see www.bc.edu/artmuseum.

NY Times CEO to Speak Today

New York Times Co. CEO and President Janet L. Robinson will discuss her career, and the issues she has confronted as top executive of one of the world’s leading newspapers, today at 4 p.m. in Robsham Theater.

Since she was appointed CEO in December of 2004, Robinson has directed the acceleration of advertising and circulation revenue growth at all properties and the improvement in profit margins through expense controls, operating efficiencies and pricing initiatives. Among other accomplishments, she has overseen the completion of the Times’ conversion to color and its entry into television programming and distribution.

A former public school teacher in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, Robinson started out in the publishing field in sales with Golf Digest and Tennis Magazine, formerly owned by The New York Times Co. In 1990, she took an executive job with the company’s Women’s Magazine Group, and later held the position as president and general manager of the Times.

Robinson’s talk, which is free and open to the public, is presented through the Clough Colloquium Series of the Carroll School of Management’s Winston Center for Leadership and Ethics. The series recognizes individuals who have made important contributions as ethical leaders in their fields.

For more on BC campus events, see events.bc.edu or check BCInfo [www.bc.edu/bcinfo] for updates.