

## UNIVERSITY TO LAUNCH AGORA PORTAL AUGUST 4 NEW INTERFACE REPLACES PREVIOUS AGORA SITE; MERGES WITH BC INFO

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (8-1-08) - Beginning next week, members of the University community will be able to review or change employment-related or personal information, make requests to BC libraries, access Eagle One Card services or dining services, and perform other tasks related to their role at the University, as well as keep up-to-date on campus-wide news, information and events, check the weather forecast and create a personalized gateway to their favorite external sites - all at the same on-line location.



This new capability is made possible by Agora Portal, the enhanced interface that will officially replace the previous Agora Web site on Monday, August 4, following a four-month beta testing phase. Agora Portal will offer users a more attractive look, easy access to BC Web sites, and the ability to personalize pages by adding a mix of internal BC services or links to favorite Web sites through the use of "portlets" - small windows on the page that provide immediate access to specific content and services, each customized by the user.

The goal of Agora Portal, according to Information Technology Project Manager Denis Walsh, is to provide an environment of services and functionality that members of the University community will use as their primary BC resource.



To this end, Agora Portal will be integrated with BC Info, the Web nexus of University-wide news and information, to enable users to keep up-to-date on campus happenings while utilizing Agora Portal functions.

Produced by the Office of Public Affairs, and sporting a fresh design, BC Info will continue to provide frequently updated campus news, event information, features and photos, as well as notices and advisories to the BC community. In addition, BC Info, along with the University's emergency preparedness Web site BC/Prepared, will be a central location for campus-wide emergency alerts.

"We're delighted that BC Info will be a significant part of the new Agora Portal, which will make it even easier for the campus community to check in on the BC news and information it provides on a daily basis," said Office of Public Affairs Director Jack Dunn.

More information, user assistance and FAQs about Agora Portal can be found at <http://www.bc.edu/offices/help/meta-elements/doc/articles/html/AP-about001.shtml>