Message from the Associate Dean/ Director of Graduate Student Life

Dear Graduate Students,

It is the time of year when the weather turns brisk, the light dims earlier and we reach the middle of the semester. In your life as a student, you are likely taking midterm exams, comprehensive exams, entering proposal hearings or defending dissertations. You may also be writing articles, teaching classes and grading papers. It is not unusual, at this time of year, for students to question their purpose. Students will ask themselves “Why am I in graduate school?” “Where will this lead me?” These are important questions to pose, and sometimes, the answer is not immediately clear. Graduate Student Life is offering opportunities for you to explore these questions. Please check out our calendar of events and other articles in this newsletter for more information.

It has often been said that life is a journey, not a destination and this most definitely applies to the graduate student experience. You have made significant sacrifices in your life to take this time to have an extraordinary academic journey. Our hope for you is that you find your true north while you are on this journey to a new field, profession or passionate interest.

It is a serious quest, no doubt, but it is important to stop to enjoy along the way. To that end, we are sharing a link with you (“Dance Your Ph.D.” contest: http://tinyurl.com/3b3xh2b) and hope you enjoy it.

All the best,
Carole Hughes
Associate Dean/Director
Office of Graduate Student Life

Important Dates

- Thursday November 10: Graduate/CASU registration period for spring 2012 begins
- Wednesday-Friday November 23-25: Thanksgiving Holiday
- Thursday December 1: Last date for master’s and doctoral candidates to submit signed and approved copies of theses and dissertations for December 2011 graduation

For a full list of BC Academic Calendars visit: www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/current/calendar/
# Upcoming Events and Programs for November

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<tr>
<td>7 7pm Movie Monday at Murray House</td>
<td>8 12:30-2pm Intro to Linux Cluster (RS)</td>
<td>9 12pm-1:30pm Using Mixed Modeling in Stata &amp; HLM (RS)</td>
<td>10 Registration period begins</td>
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<td>7:30pm-8:30pm Be yourself: Authentic Leadership 101 (LS)</td>
<td>12pm Wii Wednesday at Murray House</td>
<td>12pm Brown Bag Series: Finances &amp; Grad Life (JS)</td>
<td>12pm-1:30pm Whole Person Series: Difficult Conversations in the Classroom (JS)</td>
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<td>16 12pm Brown Bag Series: Health, Wellness, and Balance (JS)</td>
<td>17 12:15pm-1:15pm Doctoral Student Support Group (DS)</td>
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<td>1 Theses and dissertations submission deadline</td>
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<td>7:30pm-8:30pm Two is Better than One: Build collaborative leadership (LS)</td>
<td>12pm Wii Wednesday at Murray House</td>
<td>12pm-1pm Brown Bag Series: Students with Families (JS)</td>
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**Museum of Science Trip: November 19th**
Spend the day at the Museum of Science and meet other graduate students! Explore over 40 different exhibits and presentations - all for FREE! **Limited supply of tickets**, please email [gsc@bc.edu](mailto:gsc@bc.edu) to RSVP and for more details.

**Brown Bag Lunch Series**
The Brown Bag Lunch Series brings together graduate students from across Boston College for lunchtime conversation. All brown bag events take place 12-1pm in the Murray Center Living Room.

Speakers from around campus will come to talk about a particular topic of conversation that pertains to graduate life at Boston College.

Please e-mail your RSVP to [Jenna Sattar](mailto:sattarj@bc.edu), Graduate Assistant in the Office of Graduate Student Life, at [sattarj@bc.edu](mailto:sattarj@bc.edu)

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**Have an event or announcement that you would like posted in next month’s newsletter?**
Email us at [gradnews@bc.edu](mailto:gradnews@bc.edu)
Whole Person Education Series

What does it mean to educate the whole person? Faculty often think of themselves as educators of the mind, but students come to the classroom as whole persons, with all of their social, emotional, spiritual, and intellectual experiences and concerns. This series of workshops, sponsored by The Office of Graduate Student Life, is aimed at graduate students in all disciplines who intend to teach in higher education. It is meant to complement discipline-based programs on teaching, as well as the teaching workshops offered by the Connors Family Learning Center.

"Difficult Conversations in the Classroom"
Thursday, November 10th, 12pm-1:30pm
Murray Graduate Student Center - Facilitated by Elizabeth Sparks (Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Lynch School)

Facilitating conversation about problematic issues is a challenge for many of us. We may find it difficult to talk about topics that threaten, offend or embarrass some students. We may be at a loss during moments of raised voices, tears, and silence. We may find it difficult to engage some students in conversation on a sensitive topic to the degree they are comfortable, and we may not know how to gauge their level of comfort. In this workshop, we will discuss how to manage difficult conversations in the classroom. We will consider how to keep students involved in discussion and how to give them space when involvement is not best for them. We will also consider how instructors manage their own sensitivity to difficult topics.

The Three W's of Graduate Funding: Who should apply, why, and where?
Wednesday, November 30th, 12pm-1:30pm
Murray Graduate Student Center - Facilitated by Candace Hetzner (Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences) and Scune Carrington (Grant Manager, Graduate School of Social Work)

Trying to figure out how to pay for graduate school and for our research projects often feels daunting, especially during this time of economic downturn. This workshop will explore the range of options for students at different stages of their respective careers from master’s students applying for and attempting to obtain fellowships for doctoral programs to doctoral students trying to finance dissertation research.

Please email your RSVP to Jenna Sattar: sattarj@bc.edu

**The GSC will provide lunch for the Whole Person Education Series**

Graduate Campus Ministry Presents

On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at noon a group gathers to celebrate liturgy in Cushing Chapel next door to Room 326. If you’re free, join us for a quiet liturgy that lasts about 30 minutes.

15 Minutes of Peace and Quiet and Prayer also takes place in Cushing Chapel on Thursdays, 4:00 – 4:15 PM. It’s a great way to re-focus. We share a Scripture reading, quiet, and some time for intercessory prayer.

Growing through Grief is a group for Boston College students who are grieving the loss of a loved one. If you could use some support and, at the same, would like to help other students, meet at the Service Building, Room 205 B on Mondays at 5PM.

Please visit the Campus Ministry’s website for additional information: www.bc.edu/ministry
Doctoral Student Support Group

BC doctoral students from all programs across the university are invited to have lunch and to talk about the stresses and strains of life as a doctoral student. Doctoral students will work with a professional facilitator to formulate issues, discuss concerns, and explore ways to address the challenges of being a doctoral student. Possible topics are such things as marriage and relationships, time management, and student-advisor dynamics.

All sessions will be held in Gasson 315 from 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Luncheon will be provided. Here are the new dates for the doctoral support group: November 17th and December 1st. If you are interested in participating, please contact Candace Hetzner, Associate Dean, GSAS hetzner@bc.edu.

Research Services

Research Services offers tutorials and workshops on a variety of topics. Each semester, we present a series of tutorials. If you have suggestions, please contact us (researchservices@bc.edu). We will also give customized tutorials, and we are available for advanced topics and consulting. The tutorials are available and FREE to all members of the BC community. For more information see: www.bc.edu/offices/researchservices/tutorials.html. To register, please send email to researchservices@bc.edu with the names of the tutorial(s) that you are interested in attending.

ACADEMIC DRESS CODE

Graduate Parents:

Check out the newly updated Family & Parent Resources website for interesting things to do on campus and around Boston! Let us know if there’s something you’d like added or you have a recommendation for other graduate parents! Click here to go directly to the Family & Parent Resources link: http://www.bc.edu/offices/gsc/gradorgs/gsa/activities/grad_parents/links.html

Coaching Corner

Congratulations! You have made it through more than half the semester already! Amidst all of the tests, papers, projects and general stress that you face in the second half of this semester, pause to remember why you’re here. Take a moment each day to think about what brought you to BC and what exciting professional aspirations you are working toward. Remember... all of this hard work will be worth it!

“Develop an attitude of gratitude, and give thanks for everything that happens to you, knowing that every step forward is a step toward achieving something bigger and better than your current situation.” ~ Brian Tracy

Jessica Moore Crowley
Certified Professional Coach
MA Higher Education Administration '13
BC Leaders for Others

BC Leaders for Others is a leadership development program open to all BC students who want to expand their leadership skills. Students can come individually or with a team from a club or organization. We focus on the Social Change Model leadership values of Citizenship, Collaboration, Common Purpose, Controversy with Civility, Consciousness of Self, Congruence, Commitment, and Change.

Fall 2011 Schedule for Leadership Sessions:
- November 7 - Be Yourself: Authentic leadership 101
- November 14 - Clocks: Make your time count
- November 28 - Two is Better than One: Build collaborative leadership

Leadership sessions run 7:30-8:30pm in 250 Maloney (formerly Campanella), and are open to all interested students. Sign up through MyBC or send an e-mail to bcleadership@bc.edu.

Grad Runners Group

As part of the Office of Graduate Student Life's Wellness series, we are organizing an informal running group for graduate students, their friends and partners. Recreational runners at all levels are encouraged to join. Email us at gradrunners@bc.edu.

In your email, please include:
1. Running availability (days/times)
2. Where you live
3. Phone/Email and how you prefer to be contacted
4. Running experience (i.e., if you have run a handful of half-marathons and other distances as well as seven marathons since 2005 and have a PR of 4:22, include that. Or if you have not bought a new pair of running shoes since 1997, include that too!)

Become an Arrupe Mentor

Learn more about Arrupe mentor opportunities at one of the 3 info sessions, each in the Multi-Faith Center on lower campus:
- Tue. Nov. 15 at 10 am
- Wed. Nov. 16 at 12 noon
- Thu. Nov. 17 at 3:30 pm

Administrator Spotlight: Denise Fung, Assistant Director of Office of Graduate Student Life

Educational Background:
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from University of California Irvine
Master of Science in Educational Psychology: College Student Development and Counseling from Northeastern University

Role at Boston College: In my role as Assistant Director, I supervise the daily facilities and financial operations of the Murray Graduate Student Center. Some of my responsibilities include working on the strategic planning for the Office of Graduate Student Life, advising and overseeing finances for over 25 student organizations, and exploring possibilities for collaboration with other critical areas of the university focused on graduate students. In addition, I advise the Graduate International Student Association on connecting cultures and promoting peace. I enjoy talking to graduate students about their journey and how to best support them to succeed at Boston College.
To contact Denise: 617-552-1855 or fungde@bc.edu.

Advice to grad students:
“Peace. It does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.” —Author Unknown. Remember to be open to guidance when you don’t feel at peace. We asked to you be at BC because we want you to succeed.
When choosing a doctorate program, Rachel knew she wanted to work at the intersections of social justice, political conflict and psychology. Specifically, Rachel chose BC because she wanted to work with the Center for the Human Rights and International Justice (http://www.bc.edu/centers/humanrights/), and have opportunities to work with diverse families and communities in the US. Surprisingly, many students don’t even know about the center, and all of the resources it offers to students, including interdisciplinary doctoral seminars and research grants.

For her Ph.D work, Rachel joined forces with Dr. Brinton Lykes who had just initiated the ongoing Participatory and Action Research (PAR) Post-Deportation Human Rights Project (PDHRP). The project was developed in the spring of 2007, bridging social science research, legal advocacy, and community-university partnerships between Boston College and immigrant community organizations, to find a way to systematically document and combat human rights violations experienced by immigrant groups in the northeast. Together, Rachel and Dr. Lykes are hoping to encourage more community-university collaborations and PAR work around the campus, especially at the graduate level.

Rachel began her transnational dissertation research between the US and Guatemala, in Zacualpa, El Quiche, Guatemala in 2010. She returned again in February of this year and is now planning to go back in January ‘12. As part of Rachel’s ongoing participation in the PDHRP, and for her dissertation, she also engages in educational workshops with children and other relatives of migrants in the US whenever she is in Guatemala. The focus of her work is on the psycho-social consequences of immigration and deportation processes for families who are spread out between the US and Guatemala.

This year, Rachel is a recipient of an AAUW Fellowship, which is awarded to doctoral students who are important female mentors to other women in academia. Rachel says “the fellowship is a great honor and it puts more pressure on you to do a great job, but it’s really nice to be recognized for the work we are doing.”

Click here to read the full interview with Rachel (http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/gsc/news/2011/2011_Rachel_Hershberg.html)

For more information and to see how you could get involved in the Center for Human Rights and International Justice, visit the Post-Deportation Human Rights Project website: http://www.bc.edu/centers/humanrights/projects/deportation.html

Volunteer Opportunities

It is part of the mission of the Office of Graduate Student Life to provide co-curricular support to our graduate and professional students in all areas, including opportunities for our students to give back and engage in the world around us.

Check out the volunteer database for numerous service opportunities from local organizations, provided by the Volunteer and Service Learning Center: http://volunteer.bc.edu/volunteer/
The John Courtney Murray, S.J. Graduate Student Center:
Who was John Courtney Murray, SJ?

John Courtney Murray, SJ, was a member of the Society of Jesus and an American theologian. He was especially known for his efforts to reconcile Catholicism and religious pluralism, and he was instrumental in the formulation of many ground-breaking Vatican II (1962-1965) documents - most notably *Gaudium et Spes* [The Church in the Modern World], and *Dignitatis Humanae* [Declaration on Religious Freedom]. He was a friend and colleague of Karol Wojtyla during Vatican II, who eventually became the famous Pope John Paul II.

Murray was born in New York City in 1904 and entered the New York province of the Society of Jesus in 1920. He studied Classics and Philosophy at Boston College, receiving bachelor's and master's degrees in 1926 and 1927 respectively. Following graduation from BC, he travelled to the Philippines where he taught Latin and English literature at the Ateneo de Manila. He returned to the United States in 1930 and was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1933. He completed a doctorate in sacred theology in 1937 at the Gregorian University in Rome. Upon returning to the United States, he taught Catholic trinitarian theology at the Jesuit theologate at Woodstock, Maryland, and in 1941 was named editor of the Jesuit journal *Theological Studies*. He held both positions until his death in Queens, New York in 1967.

Murray became a leading public figure, and his work dealt primarily with the tensions between religion and public life. His best-known book, *We Hold These Truths: Catholic Reflections on the American Proposition* is a collection of his essays regarding these tensions, all of which are centered on the separation of church and state, allowing individuals to assume control over their own religious beliefs. Murray advocated religious freedom as defined and protected by the First Amendment, and he eventually argued that Catholic teaching on church/state relations no longer served contemporary society.

Not surprisingly, his work initially was not well received by the Church and he had to cease publishing his book for a number of years. At the time, his work seemed rather progressive, particularly with respect to accommodating ideas of religious freedom with an increasingly religiously pluralistic society. However, Murray and his work became well-known when he was featured on the cover of *Time Magazine* in the December 12, 1960 issue, which featured "U.S. Catholics & the State" as the cover story.

Murray collaborated on a project with Robert Morrison MacIver of Columbia University to assess academic freedom and religious education in American public universities. In light of his increasingly public role, several American bishops consulted Murray on legal issues such as censorship and birth control. In 1966, prompted by the Vietnam War, Murray was appointed to serve on Lyndon Johnson’s presidential commission that reviewed Selective Service classifications. He supported the allowance of a classification for those opposed on moral grounds to some (though not all) wars — a recommendation that was ultimately not accepted by the Selective Service Administration.

John Courtney Murray’s legacy at Boston College is set by his steady commitment to the promotion of progressive issues, serving as an exemplary paragon to which we may all aspire. We are honored that the home of our Graduate Student Center is named after such an esteemed, influential individual.

The John Courtney Murray, S.J. Graduate Student Center is dedicated to the support and enrichment of graduate student life at Boston College. Its primary purpose is to build a sense of community among the entire graduate student population and cultivate a sense of belonging to the University as a whole.
The Resident Assistant Process for 2012-2013 is beginning!

**Job Description**
Resident Assistants are full-time students who live in the residence halls and are responsible for a community of residents. They provide support, act as a resource for students, coordinate social and educational programs, and work together as a staff to enforce University policy within the halls. The compensation for Resident Assistants consists of room, board, and the infirmary fee.

**Application Timeline:**
- **November 4, 2011:** Online Applications Available
- **November 23, 2011:** Final Deadline for Junior Studying Abroad in Spring 2012
- **December 9, 2011:** FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE
- **January 21-22, 2012:** Group Process Interviews (one day only)
- **February 2-3, 2012:** Individual Interviews
- **February 17, 2012:** Hire Notifications Sent
- **February 24, 2012:** Hire Acceptances Due
- **April 13, 2012:** Spring Orientation (mandatory)

**Resident Assistant Information Sessions:**
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<td>Thea Bowman AHANA Ctr</td>
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<td>Thurs., Nov 10th</td>
<td>Murray Grad Student Ctr</td>
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<td>Fri., Nov 11th</td>
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<td>Tues., Nov 15th</td>
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<td>Fri., Nov 18th</td>
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To apply, go to [www.bc.edu/bcra](http://www.bc.edu/bcra)

**Life in Boston...**
Check out boston.com’s recommendations for cheap and creative dates (or nights out with friends) around town: [http://www.boston.com/thingstodo/nightlife/gallery/cheapdates/](http://www.boston.com/thingstodo/nightlife/gallery/cheapdates/)

A preview of one of their many date night ideas (see the website for the full list):

**Books and brûlée**
- **Location:** Brookline
- **First things first:** Start the evening at Brookline Booksmith where you can attend a FREE event with an author or topic you’re both interested in. [brooklinebooksmith.com](http://brooklinebooksmith.com)
- **And then:** Split a dessert — perhaps the crème brûlée for $9.99 or the decadent Molten Chocolate for $10.99 — and sip wine at Finale to reward your curious minds. Thanks to the reading, you’ll have plenty of conversation topics. [finaledesserts.com](http://finaledesserts.com)

**Links to various campus calendars:**
- Arts Calendar: [https://events.bc.edu/cgi-bin/publish/webevent.cgi?cmd=opencal&cal=cal9&token=](https://events.bc.edu/cgi-bin/publish/webevent.cgi?cmd=opencal&cal=cal9&token=)
- McMullen Museum of Art Events Calendar: [http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/artmuseum/events-calendar/](http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/artmuseum/events-calendar/)
- Music Department Concert Calendar: [http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/music/calendar.html](http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/music/calendar.html)

Stay connected with us! This newsletter will be sent to you at the beginning of each month. Please email us if you have questions, comments, or anything that you would like us to feature in future newsletters.
[gradnews@bc.edu](mailto:gradnews@bc.edu)