From 'Cancer Life' to Relay for Life

After her battle with leukemia, sophomore Meghan Woody is relishing her return to the BC campus.

“When I looked into the Overland Park, Kan., native was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia, an aggressive form of the cancer that requires immediate treatment. Woody underwent chemotherapy and missed the fall term, but was found to be in remission and is back at BC this semester.

On Feb. 18, she will take part in the BC Relay for Life event, which will be held from 6 a.m.-6 p.m. in the Flynn Recreation Complex. Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society’s signature fundraising activity. Donors sponsor participants who commit to having a member of their team walk the athletic track continuously.

Meghan Woody ’13, the day after her last dose of chemotherapy during her induction round in the hospital for treatment of leukemia: “I had been attached for eight days. I even had to stay attached for walks, showers, etc.”

Entry from Meghan Woody’s blog “Days That Feel Like

‘Cancer kills — more than cigarettes or freak accidents involving parasailing and dolphins. And, if it can kill and does kill, all I want to know is — will it kill me?’

By Sean Smith

ChroniclE DiRector

‘Light the World’ Hits Halfway Point

Despite poor economy, $1.5b campaign seen as heading in right direction

By Reid Slin

Staff Writer

Boston College’s ambitious $1.5 billion “Light the World” campaign has successfully reached the midpoint of the six-year fundraising effort, and University Vice President for Development Thom Lynch is relieved to report the campaign has been received “very, very well” by the entire Boston College community, noting that support has come equally from President William P. Leahy, SJ, and other University leaders as well as rank-and-file alumni and friends of the University.

“The campaign theme wasn’t just some numbers thrown up on a screen,” says Lynch. “It began with the strategic planning process that Fr. Leahy launched in the middle of the last decade that began to feed the Institutional Master Plan fundraising process. The campaign emerged from both of those things. Those who know Boston College as ‘insiders’ feel and know that this campaign represents our core strategy and their response to it has been very, very strong because it makes sense.

‘Even those who may not have followed the strategic plan or the master planning process quite so closely,’ he says, ‘feel as if it is the ‘right’ campaign for the University.”

Lynch sees the major campaign goals — investing in academic excellence, financial aid, the student experience, the campus and facilities, the University’s Jesuit and Catholic roots, and BC’s aspirations to be a leading Catholic institution in the world — as foundational factors in attracting such widespread support.

‘It’s been very well received because it feels so ‘BC’ to all of our constituents,” he says. “The No. 1 resonant issue has been financial aid.”

As an incentive to participate, Boston College will offer a $100 gift card to eligible employees and their spouses who complete the questionnaire. The University will also offer six free biometric screenings on campus for employees between Feb. 28 and April 30, hosted by nurses from Harvard Pilgrim and the Connell School of Nursing.

Employees and spouses who are covered by one of the University’s health plans will have until April 30 to complete the questionnaire and receive the gift card.

A brochure describing the health questionnaire in more detail will be mailed to subscribers’ homes this month.

’The goal of the ‘Healthy You’ initiative is to raise employees’ awareness of potential health issues so that they can be addressed before they become problematic,’” says Associate Vice President for Human Resources Robert Lewis. “This is a benefit enhancement that helps people to help themselves by improving their health awareness and providing them with health-related resources.”

The first biometric screening will take place on Feb. 28 in the Heights Room at Corcoran Commons from 7 a.m.–3 p.m. Employees must have their Harvard Pilgrim membership card with them to take part in the screening. To take the health questionnaire and be eligible for the $100 gift card, employees must open a Harvard Pilgrim HPHConnect account by going online to www.harvardpilgrim.com/bostoncollege and following the instructions for “Be HPHConnected.” The questionnaire may be completed online at the Heights Your Numbers screenings

As of Dec. 31, 2010, the University had raised more than $750 million through “Light the World,” in spite of a sluggish global economy that has affected philanthropic giving everywhere in the past two years. Lynch says the campaign has been received “very, very well” by the entire Boston College community, noting that support has come equally from President William P. Leahy, SJ, and other University leaders as well as rank-and-file alumni and friends of the University.

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Continued on page 5

Continued on page 4
Parents’ reminiscences can often be the bane of their children’s existence, but Lynch School of Education senior Katie Aguirre says she’s never gotten tired of hearing about her father’s escape from Cuba.

Her father, Jose, was among the 14,000 “Pedro Pans” — Cuban children whose parents, fearful of the island’s political instability in the wake of Fidel Castro’s rise to power, arranged to fly them secretly to the United States during 1959-62 as part of “Operation Peter Pan (Pedro Pan),” in the hopes of reuniting later. Jose Aguirre was nine years old when he and his 11-year-old sister were airlifted to Miami in 1962.


Around Campus

This touchdown run — and subsequent celebration dance — made former BC football player B.J. Raji ’09 an instant hit via the Internet. (Image originally from Fox TV broadcast)

Pack mentality

Boston College football fans may have a little extra rooting interest in the Green Bay Packers this Sunday as the “Pack faces the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XLV in Dallas.

Two former Eagle players, defensive lineman B.J. Raji and linebacker Robert Francois — both members of BC’s Class of 2009 — helped lead Green Bay to the National Football Conference championship with a 21-14 victory over the Chicago Bears on Jan. 23.

Raji, a 37.5-lb nose tackle, has become a folk hero of sorts after scoring the winning points against the Bears with an 18-yard ramble into the end zone, his interception of an errant Chicago pass. The YouTube posting of his lumbering touchdown jaunt and celebratory dance has been viewed by hundreds of thousands of football fans.

Raji, whose brother Corey is a member of the BC basketball team, was selected by Green Bay in the first round of the 2009 NFL draft.

Francis played inside linebacker and was a special teams standout for the Packers in their march to the Super Bowl this season. He was originally signed as a free agent by the Minnesota Vikings before joining Green Bay earlier this year. He made two tackles in the NFC championship game.
Senior Receives Teaching Fellowship

Wilson-Rockefeller award supports aspiring high school math teacher

BY ED HAYWARD
STAFF WRITER

Nathan Kono ‘11 has received a prestigious Woodrow Wilson-Rockefeller Brothers Fund Fellowship for Aspiring Teachers of Color that will support his master’s degree study at the Lynch School of Education on his way to becoming a high school math teacher.

Kono, a mathematics major and music minor, said he knew he wanted to become a teacher after falling in love with his mother, Amy, a math teacher at his alma mater Hanover (NH) High School, when she was recovering from surgery last year.

“I basically took over her five classes for a few weeks,” said Kono, who started out at BC focused on pre-med studies, in the footsteps of his father, Alan, a physician. “It was one of those things that by just doing it, I knew right away that this is where I’m headed.”

Kono said he was honored to receive one of just 25 fellowships awarded annually by WW-RBF to advance prospective teachers of color who want to teach in urban and rural schools throughout America.

“The foundation is so well respected and the WW-RBF fellow network is such a great group to be a part of,” Kono said. “Urban education is a very challenging subject area and I think the fellowship will provide me with the support to see me through that. There will be 24 other fellows going through the same thing, I’m honored and excited to have this opportunity.”

The WW-RBF Fellowships for Aspiring Teachers of Color help recruit, support, and retain individuals of color at K-12 public school teachers in the United States. Current trends indicate that by the year 2020, the percentage of teachers of color will fall to an all-time low of five percent of the total teacher force, while the percentage of students of color in the K-12 system will likely be near 50 percent. The fellowships offer an important opportunity to ensure that greater numbers of highly qualified teachers of color enter public school classrooms around the country.

Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs Donald Hafner said Kono’s undergraduate study in mathematics and music would prepare him to provide critical help in two high-need subject areas for urban schools.

“Without question, a key factor in student success in our schools is the wisdom and encouragement of their teachers,” Hafner said. “Students want to learn from their teachers, and they also want to admire them, and Nathan Kono will be an inspiring example in the urban classroom. He has mastered a difficult major in mathematics, and like so many talented mathematicians, he also has a passion and a talent for music.”

“Nathan is just the sort of skilled teacher that the founders of the WW-RBF Fellowship hoped to draw into the urban school classroom, and I am pleased that Nathan has received this recognition and the Fellowships’ generous financial support for his graduate preparation for teaching.”

Kono said he plans to pursue his master’s degree at the Lynch School, which this year was named one of just 29 graduate programs qualified to nominate WW-RBF fellows. The fellowship comes with a $30,000 stipend, which Kono said would allow him the freedom to focus on preparing for a career teaching in urban schools.

“I’m honored and excited to have been a part of,” Kono said. “Urban education is a very challenging subject area and I think the fellowship will provide me with the support to see me through that.”

—Nathan Kono ‘11

This Year, BC Idol Will Cast a Bigger Spotlight

Campus event will provide outreach to St. Columbkille School

BY MELISSA BECHER
STAFF WRITER

BC Idol is back for its seventh year, promising to be bigger and better — and with a decidedly more community bent.

Scheduled for Feb. 17, the show — based on the popular Fox television program, and featuring a dozen of Boston College’s best performers — will be held at Robsham Theater, with all proceeds going to St. Columbkille Partner School in Brighton.

But there will be more than BC student performers. There will now occupy the judge’s table with BC Idol veteran Campus Minister Don MacMillan, SJ.

“Every year we pick a meaningful area to be a part of,” laughed Zovko. “Really, we’re just hoping people come out and support the cause and support the student performers, who have a real platform with BC Idol this year.”

Zovko remembers when the event was nothing more than a few soloists gathered in the Chocolate Bar. Now, she says, with hundreds of spectators expected, Idol has become a banner event on campus. The sixth and final round of auditions was held this week and finalists will be named shortly.

“This year, Robsham; maybe in the future, Conte?” laughed Zovko. “Really, we’re just hoping people come out and support the cause and support the student performers, who have a real platform to showcase their talents.”

Tickets for BC Idol can be purchased for $10 at the Robsham Theater Ticket Office in advance or at the door the night of the performance, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. For more information, visit the BC Idol Facebook page, http://on.fb.me/1LUhS6, or watch this video, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lz1B9rP7k-I.

Student Programs Office Assistant Director for Leadership Programs Mer Zovko said this year’s Idol has become a banner event on campus.

This semester, BC’s Baldwin joins the roster of campus notables lending their visages to the University’s ongoing “got green?” energy conservation awareness campaign, overseen by the Office of News & Public Affairs. Members of the BC community have drawn praise from campus administrators for their conservation efforts to date, but officials stress that even more vigilance is needed to help meet the University’s goals for both cost efficiency and carbon footprint. Baldwin’s mustached beard will be appearing all over campus as a reminder to cut down on the use of electricity and water wherever possible.

got green? BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

This is a green Superfan! Help BC conserve energy!

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Making It Back to BC

By Melissa Beecher Staff Writer

Boston College continues to see a significant upward trend in international student enrollment, with an 11 percent increase over last year.

This year, there are 1,102 undergraduate and graduate students representing 91 countries currently enrolled in classes.

According to the annual statistics report issued by the Office of International Students and Scholars, five international students are from Canada this year.

The city’s international students are from Australia, Chile, China, Greece, the United Arab Emirates and Morocco are represented in the graduate programs.

“From where we sit in shaping the classes, reflecting greater geographical and cultural diversity adds to classroom discussion and overall graduate experience,” said Butt.

The International Student Numbers Rise

China, South Korea and Canada are most-represented countries at BC

By Melissa Beecher Staff Writer

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“We’re very excited to have a former student leader discuss leadership on campus, social justice and creating positive social change,” said Zovko.

Leadership Awards Nominees Sought

The Student Programs Office is seeking nominees for its annual Leadership Awards to recognize student contributions to co-curricular life at Boston College, exemplary student leadership through service, and a demonstrated commitment to Boston College and student formation by faculty or staff members.

Nominations must be received no later than Feb. 17; a complete list of awards, as well as nomination forms, may be found at www.bc.edu/offices/student-programs/programs/leadership-award-nomination.html.

For more information, contact Teri Zevko at teri.zevko@bc.edu or ext.2-3480.

Leadership Groups to Hold First Summit

“From where we sit in shaping the classes, reflecting greater geographical and cultural diversity adds to classroom discussion and overall graduate experience,” said Butt.

Nussbaum said the increased international enrollment at BC follows a national trend. According to the national Council of Graduate Study, offers of admissions from US graduate schools to prospective international students increased three percent from 2009 to 2010. And, attributed to the current economic slump include a weakened dollar and the Chinese government’s easing of limitations on study abroad opportunities for undergraduates, Nussbaum said. China has been the largest international representation at BC for the last several years, and registered a 23.6 percent increase this year.

“We continue to see large numbers of Chinese students applying for admission and will continue to see those numbers both at the undergraduate and especially graduate level,” said Nussbaum. “I don’t expect that to change anytime soon.”

To read the statistics report in its entirety, visit the OISS website at http://www.bc.edu/offices/odsd/international-students.html.

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Building the Better Microscope

BC researchers hope to expand capabilities of traditional scientific device

BY ED HAYWARD
STAFF WRITER

Boston College has been awarded a $1 million grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation to support a team of University researchers developing a new microscope that uses a light-guiding “metamaterial” to create images that reveal microscopic and macromolecular matter with significantly improved clarity.

The nano-scale coaxial optical microscope, or NCOM, would join a new class of microscopes known as “superlenses,” which function far differently than optical microscopes familiar to most people. These new devices use novel technologies to manipulate light, reconstitute it on computer or assemble into an image to create one in its entirety.

The NCOM design will use a bundle of hundreds of nanoscale tubes similar in design to the coaxial cable that supplies TV, Internet and phone signals. The nano-scale design will allow the microscope to focus beams of light on the smallest matter, such as cells or proteins, and then return that light to a camera that presents the image.

“We’re excited by the opportunities this grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation provides and grateful for their support,” said principal investigator Ferris Professor of Physics Michael J. Naughton. “We believe our novel concepts and ideas on imaging will have a far-reaching impact on scientific investigation.”

Developing the nano-scale coaxial optical microscope, says Naughton, will have “a far-reaching impact on scientific investigation.”

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Based in Los Angeles, the W.M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 by the late W. M. Keck, founder of the Superior Oil Company. The foundation’s grant-making mission is focused primarily on pioneering efforts in the areas of medical research, science and engineering and undergraduate education. The foundation also maintains a Southern California Grant Program that provides support for the Los Angeles community, with a special emphasis on children and youth. For more information, see the foundation website http://www.wmkeck.org.

In addition to Naughton, the research team includes Professor of Physics Zhifeng Ren, have been developing nanoscale technology for several years as a potential solar energy technology and to capture elusive “hot” electrons. The coaxial design makes it “thick” enough to capture electrons and “thin” enough to transport them before they dissipate. That design will allow the NCOM to focus small beams of light on matter and then guide photons along a converging array of nanocoaxes to deliver the image. BC holds several issued and pending patents related to the nanoscale technology.

The NCOM would exploit the unique properties of “metamaterials.” Fabricated using techniques and materials that enable them to interact in unique ways with waves of light, metamaterials exhibit capabilities that exceed the given properties used in their construction. Metamaterials have been used in light-bending experiments dubbed “ invisibility cloaking,” where light is routed around a point, rendering it essentially invisible.

The team will use the University’s Clean Room to construct the metamaterials using nanofabrication techniques. McMahon said the process includes growing the material’s design on a wafer-like substrate, or platform, using a beam of ions, then incorporating additional materials and the hundreds of minute nanocoaxial tubes.

“The resolution of the nanocoax is much like the central wire in your coaxial cable that feeds your television set,” said McMahon. “That’s what we’re making, except a million times smaller.”

Researchers have traditionally used electron microscopes to “see” matter using electron waves, which can be much shorter than light waves, or optically after a sample has been colored with fluorescent dyes. Rosenberg says the advantage of the NCOM will be the ability to examine matter using visible light — or photons — without the need to manipulate or stain the sample.

Where traditional microscopes offer a resolution that allows scientists to distinguish between two features as long as they are separated by 200 nanometers or more, the NCOM is projected to provide resolution of 20 nanometers. Without the need to manipulate or treat the sample, tissue could be examined in its living state, instead of in the vacuum of an electron microscope.

Naughton said the project is among the largest grants received by BC for integrated science research that brings together faculty and researchers from a number of departments or centers. He said the university’s commitment to integrated science has played a crucial role in competing for prestigious awards like the Keck Foundation funding.

“This is added recognition of the growing research and innovation portfolio at BC and one of the largest grants to date for integrated science at the University,” Naughton said. “This project benefits and capitalizes on the investments BC has made in its research infrastruc- ture with the construction of the Clean Room. We could not get this grant nor do this work without the Clean Room facility. We are all looking forward to the work involved in this cutting-edge, collaborative project that will involve not only faculty and researchers, but engage our students as well.”

Contact Ed Hayward at ed.hayward@bc.edu

McInnis-Dittrich Earns NASWMA Teaching Honor

She’s already earned teaching honors from her colleagues at the University and the Graduate School of Social Work. Now, Associate Professor of Social Work Kathryn McInnis-Dittrich has been accorded the same distinction by her professional peers.

McInnis-Dittrich was recently selected for a “Great Contribution to Social Work Education” award from the National Association of Social Workers Massachusetts Chapter (NASWMA), in recognition of her teaching, mentorship, course development and use of instructional technology in the field of older-adult mental health.

“It’s a humbling honor, especially given the company of other professionals,” said McInnis-Dittrich, who joined the GSSW faculty in 1994. “I think this is the first time anywhere that we’ve offered guidance to the next genera- tion of social workers is an honor and a privilege.”

“I am also very happy to be part of an educational institution that values and supports good teaching.”

McInnis-Dittrich is chair of the school’s Older Adults and Families concentration. She was the primary developer of a three-course curriculum integrating a clinical and macro-practice approach to social work with older adults.

This year marked the first time the NASWMA Distinguished Teaching Award and a similar honor from GSSW, McInnis-Dittrich was appointed in 2006 as the school’s inaugural “teaching chair,” providing mentoring, training and other support to help GSSW faculty in their classroom instruction. She developed a plan of action to rectify a health issue, or lifestyle coaching to assist employees in weight loss, smoking cessation, stress management or cholesterol reduction.

Also, long-term outreach will be provided by Harvard Pilgrim doctors and nurses in managing diseases such as asthma, diabetes and cardio-vascular disease.

In addition to the benefits of a healthy workforce, Lewis said he hoped this effort over time would lead to reduced health care costs that now exceed $40 million annually for BC employees.

“We believe that by providing incentives to our employees to take simple steps to live healthier lives, we can enhance wellness and slow the increase in health costs that are shared by BC and its employees,” said Lewis. “We see this program as a win-win for Boston College, and one that is in keeping with our mission as a Jesuit university.”

Contact Jack Dunn at jack.dunn@bc.edu
Sister Quinn to Direct Spiritual Formation at STM

By Kathleen Sullivan

Sister Barbara Quinn, RSCJ, has been appointed associate director of spiritual formation at the School of Theology and Ministry, effective Feb. 7. She succeeds Rev. James Mongelluzzo, who stepped down to join the faculty of the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

As associate director of spiritual formation, Sister Quinn will coordinate all aspects of spiritual formation at the STM, administering the holistic formation for ministry and spiritual formation programs, and assisting with the STM liturgical program.

“I am delighted to welcome Sister Barbara to the STM administrative team,” said STM Dean Mark Massa, SJ, in a statement announcing her appointment.

“She brings a wealth of experience in designing spiritual formation programs for ministers and other professionals, and in developing workshops and presentations in spiritual direction, spirituality and peace building, law and spirituality, and business leadership.”

Said Sister Quinn, “I have enormous respect for Boston College’s School of Theology and Ministry as an academic institution that serves the whole person in a context of deep values and broad vision. The opportunity to support andfacilitate the formation of students and the institution through spiritual formation is a great privilege. My first priority will be to get to know the needs and hopes of those served by the spiritual formation program so that whatever continues and or evolves will reflect these needs and hopes.”

A member of the Society of the Sacred Heart, Sister Quinn comes to STM from the University of San Diego, where she was the founding director of the Center for Christian Spirituality.

She has previously served in a variety of ministerial roles as formation director, campus minister, pastoral associate and religious educator.

Sister Quinn earned a master of divinity degree from Weston School of Theology in 1981 and a doctorate of ministry from the Catholic Theological Union in 1998.

Contact Kathleen Sullivan at kathleen.sullivan@bc.edu

LSOE Dean to Leave for St. Joseph’s University

Continued from page 1

“Four seasons, four years, four dear,” said University President William P. Leahy, SJ. “He understands the importance of integrating intellectual and spiritual formation, and he works well with others. I know he will be missed on campus here, especially at our Lynch School. We wish him the very best in his new role as president of St. Joseph’s University.”

Fr. O’Keefe acknowledged that while he is delighted to assume the presidency at St. Joseph’s, he will miss BC, and the many lasting friendships he has established over these past 20 years.

“This is a very sad day. I will leave this place, I am so grateful for my colleagues on the faculty and staff, for the students, and for the many generous donors who have supported us and for our partners in the City of Boston and beyond,” said Fr. O’Keefe.

“God has blessed me beyond all measure during these past two decades. I am confident that the Lynch School will continue to thrive, and that Boston College’s best days are in the future.”

A native of Salem, Fr. O’Keefe graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in 1976 and joined the Society of Jesus that year. He taught at Boston College High School in Fall River before earning his master’s degree in French at Fordham University. He also taught for three years at Cheverus High School in Portland, Maine, counting among his students BC’s Vice President for Student Affairs Patrick Rombalski. Fr. O’Keefe received a licentiate in sacred theology from the Weston School of Theology and a doctorate in education from Harvard University.

Fr. O’Keefe will remain at BC until March 1. Decisions on an interim dean and the formation of a search committee to find a successor have not been announced.

Fr. O’Keefe becomes the second academic dean at Boston College to be appointed to a college presidency within the past two years, following former BC Law School Dean John Garvey, who was named president of Catholic University in June.

Contact Jack Dunn at jack.dunn@bc.edu

BC Alumnus Rev. Hines to Speak at MLK Banquet

Rev. Evan C. Hines, pastor of the Eliot Congregational Church of Roxbury and a 1990 graduate of Boston College, will be the keynote speaker at the 38th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet to be held on Tuesday, Feb. 15 in the Lexington Hall dining room.

The event will also feature the presentation of the King Scholarship, a BC junior who has excelled academically and who exemplifies the civil rights leader’s dream of social justice and harmony.

Rev. Hines is pastor of the historic Boston church that was built in 1834 and also serves as principal of the Eliot Education Center, a church-based organization that provides a multitude of programs and services to the residents of Boston’s Roxbury neighborhood.

Rev. Hines, who majored in communication in the College of Arts and Sciences, was also a member of the Boston College track team. Before accepting his current assignment at the Eliot Church, he was assistant pastor of the Keystone Baptist Church in Chicago.

For information, send e-mail to hardyem@bc.edu.

Weather Forces Cancellations

Inclement weather this week forced the cancellation of several campus events, including the colloquium “Atmospheric Aerosols: What Are They and Why Are They So Important?” with Prof. Paul Davidovits (Chemistry) at the Weston Observatory, and “The Significance of Jerusalem in Judaism” with Raphael Josep sponsored by the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning, both scheduled for yesterday, Feb. 2. The Davidovits talk has been moved to Feb. 9. See events.bc.edu for information on campus events.

Positive Signs for Campaign at Midpoint

Continued from page 1

BOSTON COLLEGE'S BEST DAYS ARE IN the future, integral to the Lynch School of Theology and Ministry’s success, and that the Lynch School’s community will continue to thrive, and that the Lynch School will continue to thrive, and that Boston College’s best days are in the future.

That has always been a strong area for Boston College, alumni, parents and friends. I think that it is spurred in part by the fact that we launched ‘Light the World’ in November of last year, that the University’s immediate response was to say that they are not going to back away from our commitment to need-blind admission and full-based need. We know that means we are going to have to augment our financial aid budget, and we are going to do that willingly and immediately.

After financial aid,” Lockeby continued, “I would put equal weight on three other areas – our academic enterprise, investments in intercollegiate athletics, and the area that I think is key to the University’s educational mission and student formation.”

Lockeby credits the collaboration and tireless efforts from the University’s top administrators, deans, faculty members and legions of generous donors who have supported the campaign co-chairs – Chuck Chung ’64, Bill Concannon ’80 and Kathleen McGcally, NC’71. They are very generous donors and tireless volunteers, but even more importantly, they are incredibly supportive and thoughtful counselors. I have worked in some pretty interesting places and pretty big campaigns, but we have never had the quality of volunteer leadership that we have here. It’s absolutely critical to our success.

Lockeby says the positive response from recent graduates and reunion class members has been equally gratifying. “Most young alumni are not in positions to give large amounts yet, but they are giving in increasingly greater numbers than we have ever seen before. We’ve seen them like a senior class gift growing to include 1,000 donors or the young alumni in fifth reunion classes breaking all kinds of participation records.

“Reunion alumni are seeing ‘Light the World’ as an opportunity to increase their gifts and make a very significant investment in both celebrating their class’s anniversary and the campaign,” he says. “Also, donors have learned that we have always been a strong source of support for Boston College, continue to be absolutely critical to our ability to succeed.

“It feels great to get this far,” Lockeby says. “The next half will not be as easy as the first half but the leadership that we have is what makes me absolutely sure that we are going to get there.”

Contact Reid Oslin at Reid_oslin@bc.edu

Scholarship Honors ’06 Campaign Effort

A $25,000 scholarship honoring the Class of 2006 has been established in recognition of that group’s record-setting participation in University Advancement’s recently completed “GOLD Rush Challenge” campaign.

More than 500 members of the Class of ’06 made contributions to University Advancement’s “GOLD Rush Challenge” campaign.

Four seasons, four years, four dear,” said University President William P. Leahy, SJ. “He understands the importance of integrating intellectual and spiritual formation, and he works well with others. I know he will be missed on campus here, especially at our Lynch School. We wish him the very best in his new role as president of St. Joseph’s University.”

A native of Salem, Fr. O’Keefe graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in 1976 and joined the Society of Jesus that year. He taught at Boston College High School in Fall River before earning his master’s degree in French at Fordham University. He also taught for three years at Cheverus High School in Portland, Maine, counting among his students BC’s Vice President for Student Affairs Patrick Rombalski. Fr. O’Keefe received a licentiate in sacred theology from the Weston School of Theology and a doctorate in education from Harvard University.

Fr. O’Keefe will remain at BC until March 1. Decisions on an interim dean and the formation of a search committee to find a successor have not been announced.

Fr. O’Keefe becomes the second academic dean at Boston College to be appointed to a college presidency within the past two years, following former BC Law School Dean John Garvey, who was named president of Catholic University in June.

Contact Jack Dunn at jack.dunn@bc.edu
Reflections of a Loving Partner: Caregiving at the End of Life [http://amzn.to/0gylO0] by Connell School of Nursing adjunct faculty member and certified hospice and palliative nurse C. Andrew Morrison is both a guide for caregivers and a personal story of caring for a loved one facing a terminal illness. According to the author, “Andrew shows us that when we are open to its possibilities, the loving and selfless act of being a caregiver for someone who is at the end of life can teach us as much about living as about dying.”

Professor of English Alan Richardson’s The Neural Sublime: Cognitive Theories and Romantic Text [http://amzn.to/0gnM8s] brings recent work in cognitive neuroscience to bear on some famously vexed issues in British Romantic studies, and demonstrates in unprecedented ways how developments in the neurosciences can transform the study of literary history. His analysis offers fresh perspectives on British Romanticism, pointing scholars to new developments in cognitive literary studies and providing an engaging introduction to this emerging field.

The above entries are excerpted from the “BC Bookshelf” blog, which includes notes on recent books by current Boston College faculty, administrators and staff. For more information, visit the blog at [http://bcbookshelf.wordpress.com].

Irish Studies Series Features Talks by Enright, Tóibín

Two of Ireland’s leading authors, Anne Enright and Colm Tóibín, will present recent readings on Boston College this semester through the BC Irish Studies Program’s Creative Winters Series.

Both events — Enright on Feb. 9, Tóibín on April 14 — are free and open to the public, and take place at 7 p.m. in Devlin 008.

A writer fellow at Trinity College Dublin whose work has been characterized as full of daring, wit and insight, Enright has earned such honors as the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature and the 2007 Man Booker Prize. Her works include The Gathering, The Wig My Father Wore and What Are You Like? and two collections of short stories, The义务教育和Pleasure and The Portable Virgin. Her writing has appeared in Harper’s, The New Yorker, The London Review of Books, The Paris Review and The Penguin Book of Irish Fiction.

Considered by some as the foremost Irish novelists of his generation, Tóibín has published six novels, two collections of short stories, as well as collections of literary and cultural criticism, travel writing, journalism and a play. His 2009 work Brooklyn was shortlisted for the 2009 Costa Novel of the Year Award, one of many honors he has earned — others include the Dublin IMPAC Prize, Priti Patel’s Love, Lu Ángeles Times Novel of the Year, the Ferro-Grumley Prize and Edge Hill Prize.

“Irish Studies continues its commitment to bringing Ireland’s best creative writers to Chestnut Hill,” said Associate Professor of English James Smith, an Irish Studies faculty member who is coordinating the series. “We are delighted to welcome back to campus two of the most prominent novelists of our time in Anne Enright and Colm Tóibín.”

“It’s worth noting that, in addition to the public readings, Anne and Colm will be working with students in creative writing workshops and Irish Studies classes. We’re very pleased to be able to offer students an opportunity to learn from such eminent writers.”

For more information, see the Irish Studies website at [www.bc.edu/irish], e-mail irish@bc.edu, or call ext.2-6396.

—Seán Smith

Rariposan Professor of English Mary Cran, director of the Institute for the Liberal Arts, wrote a piece for Inside Higher Ed that questioned whether it was in the best interests of the liberal arts to be perpetually defending them.

HOROSCOPES

While life is undeniably sweet for the Taurean Professor of English Mary Cran, director of the Institute for the Liberal Arts as she wrote the following: “Evidence from the Great Recession of 2007-8 is that the Methodological Society Association 63rd Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans.

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

Administrative Assistant, Summer School Applications Developer, Information Technology, Applications Services Applications Developer, Information Technology, Internet Strategy Associate Director, Alumni Classes, Alumni Association Assistant Director, Athletic Stewardship & Donor Relations, Athletic Association Intern, Athletic Operations, Athletic Association Intern, SWAT & External Relations, Athletic Association Intern, Media Relations, Athletic Association Intern, Athletic Administration, Athletic Association Administrative Assistant, Annual Giving, Classes, Development Intern, Ticket Office, Athletic Association Intern, Media Relations, Athletic Association Administrative Assistant, Legal Assistance Bureau Communication/Web Specialist, Student Services Financial Analyst, Auxiliary Services

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At the Crossroads

New McMullen exhibition tells the fascinating story of a long-ago, longlost multicultural city

BY ROSANNE PELLEGRINI
STAFF WRITER

The McMullen Museum of Art will be the exclusive venue for an exhibition opening this Saturday of Roman artifacts whose excavation decades ago changed views on ancient religious practice.

“Dura-Europos: Crossroads of Antiquity” will be on display from Feb. 5 through June 5. On Monday, Feb. 7, the University community and general public are invited to attend an opening celebration of the exhibition, with a coffee and dessert reception in Devlin 111. The event is free of charge.

Comprising 75 of the most significant treasures from the ancient city of Dura-Europos, located in the desert of modern-day Syria high above the Euphrates River, the exhibition tells the story of this vibrant multicultural city inhabited by both the ancient city and the French Académie des Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres uncovered buildings and made discoveries that fundamentally altered scholars’ understanding of religious and ethnic identities, as well as religious and ethnic identity, that existed in this well-preserved ancient city.

Like the ancient city, where many different cultures who interacted to create new and unexpected forms of art, architecture, and religion. “Dura-Europos: Crossroads of Antiquity” displays artifacts — like the ceiling tile with a portrait of Heliodoros (below) and a cult relief of the Gad (Fortune) tile with a portrait of Heliodoros (below) and a cult relief of the Gad (Fortune) — that changed scholarly views on ancient religious practice.

The exhibition brings objects out of the gallery’s storage facilities, many of them newly restored, to show the amazing juxtaposition of culture and objects in context, learn about life in this ancient city, and contemplate the benefits of such a multicultural society today.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue that includes 18 scholarly essays by an international group of specialists covering the Hellenistic and Islamic periods. Both exhibition and catalogue, according to organizers, encourage consideration of the tremendous range of significance that these materials have in our understanding of religious and ethnic identity in antiquity compared to the way such identities are constructed today.

Yale University Art Gallery Associate Curator of Ancient Art Lisa R. Brody, who along with Assistant Professor of Classical Studies Gail L. Hoffman is curating the exhibition, said, “Dura-Europos: Crossroads of Antiquity” brings together many of the most significant artifacts and works of art excavated at Dura-Europos, now in the Yale University Art Gallery collection. This thematic exhibition brings objects out of the contact and in communication, the publication seeks to break disciplinary boundaries and place scholars of Dura-Europos in dialogue with each other and the public. The publication is supported by the Peggy Simons Memorial Fund.

The McMullen Museum of Art and the French Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres have invited to attend an opening celebration of the exhibition, with a coffee and dessert reception in Devlin 111. The event is free of charge.

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