Employee, Student Surveys Show Overall Satisfaction with BC

Administrators say studies help focus on areas of improvement

BY JACK DUNN
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Two major surveys that probed the attitudes of Boston College’s employees and students confirm that, overall, members of the BC community are very satisfied with their experience, despite some specific areas they believe call for improvement.

Preliminary results of the surveys, which were distributed to all (non-faculty) employees and undergraduate students in 2006, reveal that 81 percent of employee respondents feel “successful or very successful” at BC, and that 87 percent of student respondents view their overall BC experience as positive.

The surveys reflect the opinions of 1,131 employees, or 51 percent of those surveyed, and 1,102 students, 23 percent of those surveyed.

Specifically, the Employee Survey gives the University high marks on family/personal-related topics with 87 percent of employees surveyed agreeing or strongly agreeing that “BC is a family-friendly place to work,” and 80 percent agreeing that “BC supports my ability to balance my job and my personal life.” More than 50 percent of employees, however, stated that additional kinds of childcare would increase their job satisfaction.

On work-related topics, 87 percent of respondents agree or strongly agree that they like working at BC because of its mission, vision and core values, 79 percent agree that “they feel like a valued member of the community,” and 70 percent agree that they “feel free to talk up about issues that are important to them.” However, while 70 percent of those surveyed said that there are “ample diversity programs and opportunities on campus,” 33 percent responded that the University could do more “to make diversity a high priority.”

The survey, which also allowed respondents to anonymously express their viewpoints, is seen by administrators as a helpful instrument in gauging employee sentiments and in defining areas of concern. Several respondents suggested that more should be done to break down barriers between professional and support staff, while others stated that the University needed to provide more support for employees of color. Employees also suggested that BC continue to...

Continued on page 3

Warming to the Task

BC geologist Amy Frappier looks to the past to find answers about climate’s future

BY STEPHEN GANUJK
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to the weather, Ast. Prof. Amy Frappier (Geology and Geophysics) tends to have a different perspective.

While most people concern themselves with what the weather is going to do on a daily basis, Frappier, a paleoclimatologist, is far more interested in what the weather did—thousands of years ago.

“We have only a relatively short recorded history, but we can take a look back at old clues and try to use them to see what’s coming,” said Frappier, who joined the Boston College faculty last semester after completing her doctoral studies at the University of New Hampshire.

As a public debate about global warming continues and the chorus demanding legislative, political and industrial changes reaches a crescendo, it is researchers like Frappier who are working to provide empirical guidance about the planet’s always-shifting climate.

“The evidence is overwhelming,” she said. “The globe is warming and we want to know what to expect so we can prepare.”

For her part, the Rhode Island native is one of a small but growing contingent of scientists in her field—paleotempestology, the study of ancient storms—who are seeking clues about the history of Earth’s changing climate as found in certain natural “archives” such as tree rings, sea shells, polar ice cores and other places.

Frappier is credited with developing a method for decoding the record of hurricane rainfall preserved in tropical cave formations such as stalagmites. The details of Frappier’s methodology and its results will appear in a paper published in this month’s issue of Geology.

Frappier, who spent an undergraduate semester while at the University of Maine living in Antarctica, sees undeniable evidence of climate change both in her many research trips to the Caribbean—and also right here at home in New England.

“There’s no question that the Earth is warming and we’re having a role in it,” says Frappier.

Continued on page 5

Former Law School Dean
Fr. Drinan Dies at 86

BY GREG FROST
STAFF WRITER

Robert F. Drinan, SJ, a former congressman and dean of the Boston College Law School who fought for human rights abroad and promoted justice and civil rights at home, died Sunday in Washington, DC, at the age of 86.

At Boston College, Fr. Drinan is primarily remembered for his robust leadership of the law school from 1956 to 1970—a period in which he took what had been a well-regarded local institute and transformed it into one of the nation’s top law schools.

“Father Drinan was a vigorous and dynamic force at Boston College,” said University Historian Thomas O’Connor. “He attracted the kind of scholars and professors to the law school that would eventually make it one of the most significant in the country.

During Drinan’s stewardship, the school’s faculty nearly doubled in size.

John Garvey, the law school’s current dean, called Fr. Drinan one of the most influential leaders in the school’s history.

“He has been a personal hero to me,” Garvey said of Fr. Drinan. “I am constantly hearing stories from alumni who were inspired by him, who talked to him for getting them into law school and starting their careers.”

Fr. Drinan left Boston College in 1970 to run for a seat in Congress, which he won. He served five terms in the US House of Representatives as a Democrat from Massachusetts, and was the first congressman to call for the impeachment of President Richard Nixon during the Watergate crisis. He also played a central role in rewriting federal bankruptcy rules.

In 1980, the Vatican ruled that no priest could hold a legislative position, and Fr. Drinan complied, leaving Congress in 1981.

Fr. Drinan went on to teach at Georgetown University Law Center, including courses in legal ethics and international human rights. He also wrote 11 books, including Religious Freedom and World War: Can God and Caesar Coexist?

Last year, the Law School established the Robert F. Drinan, SJ, Chair, through the efforts of the Class of 1958. George Brown, who has been on the Law School faculty for 35 years, is the chair’s inaugural holder.

Brown said that Fr. Drinan was the former dean extraordinary was his excellence in so many fields of endeavor, from higher education administration to politics to scholarly research on matters of constitutional law and international human rights.

“Perhaps in a day when people in public education also for lawyers generally,” Brown said.

Robert Trevianni JD ‘58, who was instrumental in the fundraising effort for the Drinan Chair, said during his class’s three years at BC Law, Fr. Drinan “was nothing less than an energetic, dynamic leader, giving constant support and encouragement to us as we suffered the rigors of a stiff curriculum. He made it a point to know his students and it was unusual for him not to attend our social functions.”

During the 1960s, Fr. Drinan was Boston College’s leading spokesman on civil rights matters. He condemned what he called the de facto segregation of Boston public schools...

Continued on page 5
Lowell Lectures at 50

The Lowell Lectures Humanities Series, celebrating its 50th season this year, kicks off the spring 2007 slate at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Gasson 101 with a reading by prolific Irish author Colm Tóibín.

Tóibín’s latest piece, "Akin," is part of a collection of short stories that will be released this spring. It is his eighth book and his most recent, "The Master," is based on the life of Henry James. The date for this event had been erroneously given in earlier publicity as Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Devlin 101 (all other lectures in Gasson 101).


TONY JUDT PRESENTS "DISTURBING THE PEACE: AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: A HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE" — OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MCMULLEN ART COLLECTION — GASSON 100

The Feb. 13 public reception celebrating the new McMullen Museum exhibition “A New Key: Modern Belgian Art from the Simon Collection” (see page 8) will feature a musical event one of its organizers describes as an “experiment.” At the reception, Director of Boston College Bands Sebastian Bonaiuto will conduct a performance of music from the era depicted in “A New Key.” Bonaiuto arranged the compositions for modern instruments, using copings of sheet music illustrated by renowned artist René Magritte — whose works will be on display in “A New Key” — that exhibition curator Prof. Jeffrey Howe (Fine Arts) obtained last summer during a visit to Brussels.

As Bonaiuto explains, the music to be played at the concert — more heavily influenced by classical music than its American jazz counterparts — is a more appropriate complement to the exhibition. “When artists like René Magritte and others were painting, the sounds of this popular music floated in the air,” he explains.

Magritte had a special connection to this music: His brother Paul was a composer of popular music during this time, and René illustrated many editions of sheet music.

"According to Howe, a leading historian of modern Belgian art, over time much of this sheet music was considered noteworthily so because of the Magritte connection, and the music itself became secondary. So when discussions about the "New Key" exhibition began, Howe had a special project in mind. "I had wanted to locate this music and see if Seb could make something of it. Last summer when I was in Belgium, I was lucky enough to work with a gallery which had the full set of these sheets, and was willing to share them," Howe and Bonaiuto note that the pieces to be performed Feb. 13 also will release on a recording — one that is likely to draw some attention overseas.

"The scholars and curators I spoke with in Belgium are keenly interested to see how this experiment turns out, since no one over there has ever heard any of this," Howe explains. "It is a real recovery of music from that era. The performance will add much to our understanding of the period, and points out the crucial academic importance of the performing arts." —SS

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TREK TIME

Boston College students and alumni will have an opportunity to explore Silicon Valley and other West Coast locales next month — and get an inside look at one of the biggest high-tech events around — as part of the Carroll School of Management’s annual “TechTrek” program.

The two-week field trip, organized by CSOM Assoc. Prof. John Gallaugher, brings MBA students in personal enrollment management and some of the electronic and computer industries’ leading senior executives, entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. This year’s TechTrek featured a stop at the MacWorld Expo in San Francisco where the students had VIP access to the event’s keynote speech by Apple CEO Steve Jobs and a behind-the-scenes look at preparations for the firm’s annual technology showcase.

Students who apply to participate in the trips must take a three-credit course on high-tech management that includes extensive reading and case studies on the firms that will be visited. “Part of the reason for that is that they have such high-level executive access that we want to make sure that the students are prepared so that they can get the most out of the experience,” Gallaugher says.

At the conclusion of the trip, students are required to write a detailed analysis of their learning experience.

Gallaugher has enlisted the support of a number of Boston College alumni who hold top-level positions in the high tech field. “Our students are really inspired by seeing other ‘Eagles’ doing some really great things,” Gallaugher says. “All of these folks can offer an experience that we just cannot offer in the classroom.” —BO

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Celebrating pioneers

Women and sport are topics in the spotlight this winter at BC, thanks to the Heights Awards, a collaboration between the University and the Massachusetts Lottery honoring individuals who have made a contribution to women’s athletics.

Heights Awards recipients are selected by a panel of representatives from Boston College, the Lottery and the Fenway Sports Group and recognized during each BC women’s basketball home game throughout the 2006-7 season. Nominees must be residents of Massachusetts and can be living or deceased.

“This has been a wonderful opportunity for me and others here at BC to learn about all the great work individuals have been doing across the state to help girls and women in sports,” said Senior Associate Athletic Director Jody Mooradian. “The really nice part is that it is really an award that recognizes people at every level and every part of the state.”

Among those who have received a Heights Award are: Mary Pratt, who played in the All-American Girls’ Professional Baseball League — depicted in the popular film “A League of Their Own” — and went on to teach and coach at the high school level for 22 seasons; Mary Lou Thimas, who after starting the first Quincy Public School girls’ basketball team in 1968 served as coach and athletic director at the high school and collegiate levels, and later as Eastern College Athletic Conference assistant commissioner; Kevin Cummings ’83, who has been involved with the Bay State Games since 1984 — the last seven as executive director — and worked to provide athletic opportunities for tens of thousands of kids throughout the state; and deceased.

For the complete list of Heights Awards winners and more information on their achievements, see bcathletics.com/sbc-women-in-sports-winners.html.

Office of Public Affairs
A look at the 2007 Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship candi-
dates:  
Jacqueline Grant: A native of Miller Valley, California, she became interested in biology with a minor in chemistry. Grant is co-director of PACES, which organizes campus activities to promote discussion on the is-
sues of race and systems of power and privilege. A residential as-
sistant, AHANA Scholar and member of the Student Judicial Board, Grant volunteered as a research assistant to be involved in an ongoing study that explored how individuals dressed gene-environmental in-
teractions and cognitive affective neuroscience. An avid fundraiser for a Hurricane Katrina relief fund, she also is the campus campaign manager of Teach for America and recruits BC students to help end educational inequality in America.  
Brittany Macklin: Macklin, a political science major with a con-
centration in international studies, has been active in advocating on the Hill of AHC, majoring in Political Science. Her main interests, serving with the AHA-
NA Leadership Council under the Women of Color Caucus Depart-
ment. She also is a member of the BC cheerleading team. Originally from Maryland, Macklin has been heavily involved in the St. Paul Baptist Church, as a member of the Young Adult Choir — of which she is a former president — the Adult Usher Board and the HYPE ministry, which focuses on spiritual, educational, physical and emotional development of youth in the Washington, DC, area. 

Marvin Francois: A manage-
ment major with a concentration in finance at the Carroll School of Management, this Miami native also is involved in music. Francois is coordinator of the AHANA Division of the Student Admis-
sion Program and a campus guide connecting special group tours for visitors and students of color. He is a com-
poser and manager of a student jazz, R&B, and classical band, a member of the Music Guild and a frequent presenter at confer-
eges.  

Lessness unit, which focuses on helping employers diversify their workforce. As chief diversity officer, he leads the Broker’s internal commitment to diversity in all programs and communication, culture of in-
clusion, fairness and equal opportu-
unity, composition and retention of a diverse workforce, and community outreach.  

Prior to assuming this position, Pemberton was co-founder and president of Road To College, a Web-based national college admis-
sion consulting service, where he was responsible for the daily opera-
tions of the company with a specific concentration on product, sales and marketing.  

Earlier, Pemberton served as campus vice president of strategy and development for Monster.com and previously served as President of the MonsterCampus division.  

A frequent presenter at confer-
ences of the National Association of Advisors for the College of Women, the College, Pemberton was a contributor to High School Students’ Guide to Success (1999), a publication he co-authored with several colleagues.

Surveys Indicate Positive Outlook on BC

Continued from page 1

improve the climate for gay, lesbian and bisexual employees with many respondents urging the university to change its policy of non-discrimi-
nation.  

Overall, the survey indicated that white professional females were most likely to say that BC is welcoming and has a strong sense of community, while AHANA profes-
sionals were most likely to say that BC does not have a diverse staff.

Prominent themes among the respondents included calls for en-
hanced communication, improved training, and professional growth as well as opportunities for advancement for all deserving members of the BC com-

community.  

There were a number of favor-
vable responses from the survey indicating in the overall that our employees have had a positive expe-
rience at Boston College, said Pemberton, ‘an experience that is not insurmountable, and we will address them proac-
tively.’

On the issue of experiential learning, 86 percent of BC student-
Jr. King Scholarships to Mark 25 Years

The scholarship will be an-
ounced at the annual Martin Lu-

King Jr. Scholarship as a talk by

Jacqueline Grant to Mark 25 Years

The  Bos ton  College

Bass credits his acc-

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cerns, particularly among our low-

income and AHANA students.
Julie White is a first-year, part-time student in the Graduate School of Social Work. I’ve been very fortunate to have several opportunities to travel abroad, mostly through my church and also through my undergraduate school, Eastern Nazarene College. I love photography but only pretend to know what I’m doing.

The earlier of the two photos was taken in a village in Kosovo, where I spent several weeks during the summer of 2004 as part of a missions trip. It was an amazing experience, one that has stayed with me. I don’t think a day goes by when I don’t wish I was there.

When we went to Kosovo, it was about five years since the war had ended, and people were still trying to bring some kind of normalcy to their lives. One of the dangers was the landmines waiting to be unearthed; the first week we were there one of our Kosovar friends witnessed somebody step on a mine. It was not uncommon to see areas roped-off that had not yet been cleared for mines. There were social remnants of the conflict as well. We got to know quite a few teenagers and young people who were Christians, but they had to disguise their religious beliefs because they were fearful of retaliation from friends and family.

We were invited to a wedding, which is traditionally a three-day affair, if not longer. The first night, the bride — who, out of respect for her family, is expected not to show emotion during the procession or following ceremonies — and groom stay with their respective families and so I had a lot of expectations. Still, it’s not easy to leave your family and friends, and the places you’ve known all your life.

This isn’t the first time I’ve been away from Venezuela; when I was 17 I was an exchange student in Copenhagen, Denmark. But, of course, now I’ll be gone for a much longer time. I visited home recently, and it was a strange experience. It’s weird to feel like “a guest” in your own country, yet not feel completely at home at the place where you’re living now — although I do enjoy being in Boston a lot, except for the weather!

So, I feel that taking this photo was a way of saying “Goodbye,” both to my country and to my old way of life.
Past Offers Clues on Climate’s Future

Continued from p. 1

weather patterns are concerned.

“Look at how many small ski slopes have closed and look at how much artificial snow the big ones have to produce,” she said. “That was unheard of 50 years ago.

“There are more heat waves in summertime and we’re seeing a change in the growing season, the last frost comes earlier in spring, and the first frost is later in the fall.”

Frappier’s research, however, is focused on the tropics because those regions are home to most of the world’s population, and are most likely to be sharply affected by whatever climate changes are happening.

“I am exploring new Caribbean cave records of pre-historic hurricane activity to illuminate how global climate change is likely to affect hurricanes and vulnerable coastal populations in the future,” said Frappier. The more traditional method of her research, she explains, involved digging sediment cores from coastal lagoons and marshes. Stalagmites, she said, offer a differentiation more detailed “story set in stone.”

Stalagmites are mineral formations that grow up from the floor of caves as mineral-rich water drips from the cave ceiling. All cave formations are created slowly over time, at rates that vary from an inch in 1,000 years to as fast as an inch in 20 years. A change in the isotopic character of oxygen in rainfall from hurricanes alters the chemical composition of the water descending through the rock into the cave, says Frappier. Those changes are recorded as variations in the oxygen isotopic values in the stalagmite’s calcium carbonate composition. Stalagmites contain visible growth bands that can be counted like tree rings and, using a computer-controlled dental drill to collect a pie-shaped piece or “atlas” that can tell us what was happening in the past when the region experienced hurricane rains.

The number and intensity of hurricanes in the region will tell researchers something about the links between climate and storms, she says.

“As changes in the water that came through the cave result in really brief variations which we can mathematically distinguish from the rest of the record,” Frappier says. “We have cross-checked this with historical storms and the correspondence is remarkable.”

Frappier began following this line of inquiry while in graduate school as she came upon a research article that discussed the isotopic differences in rains caused by hurricanes. At the same time, she met another graduate student who was studying caves in Belize to ascertain what sort of climate the Mayan people experienced at the height and decline of their civilization. Frappier put the two pieces together and developed the methodology for indicating exactly when and with what intensity hurricanes appeared since the last Ice Age.

“I figured either this was impossible, or someone was doing it already,” she said, noting that others had attempted this research many years ago, but hadn’t have the technology required to detect individual storms. That all has now changed, she said.

For Frappier, the interplay between humans and nature has been a life-long interest. As an elementary school student in northwestern Monk also cited Garvey’s personal traits as elements that would strengthen the AALS presidency. “He is a thoughtful colleague on the AALS Executive Committee who always listens and respects the views of others. He will be an outstanding leader for the association and we are pleased he has agreed to serve the profession through this position.”

Garvey expressed enthusiasm and gratitude at the opportunity to serve the association. “I have attended AALS meetings since my first year of law teaching, when I was 28 years old,” he said. “I have made many of my best friends in the legal academy through the AALS. By participating in association meetings I have learned a great deal about the fields I teach in. And as a dean I have benefited, and our Law School has benefited, from the work of the Association.

“I am delighted at this opportunity to give something back to an organization that has meant so much to me,” said Garvey, who was appointed BC Law dean in 1999.

Asst. Prof. Amy Frappier (Geology and Geophysics)

Garvey to Head American Association of Law Schools

Boston College Law School Dean John H. Garvey has been named president-elect of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS), a non-profit association of 166 law schools that is legal education’s principal representative to the federal government and other higher education organizations.

Garvey will succeed current AALS President Nancy Rogers and assume his presidency at the conclusion of the January 2008 AALS meeting in New York City. He will be the 106th AALS president and second BC Law dean to hold the organization’s top post since Richard Huber served as president in 1988.

As president, Garvey will be responsible for upholding the AALS’s dedication to “the improvement of the legal profession through legal education.”

AALS Executive Director Carl Monk expressed full confidence in Garvey’s ability to serve as an advocate for the group’s aims. “He is a remarkable human being who has demonstrated his commitment to high standards of teaching and scholarship, as well as fostering justice and public service in the legal community.”

Monk also cited Garvey’s personal traits as elements that would strengthen the AALS presidency. “He is a thoughtful colleague on the AALS Executive Committee who always listens and respects the views of others. He will be an outstanding leader for the association.”

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Continued from page 1

public schools and openly challenged BC students to become involved in civil rights issues. “The choices we all make in the daily fulfillment of his Jesuit vocation — Law School Communications Manager Nathanial Kenyon

Collegiates Extol Legacy of Fr. Drinan to BC, Justice

Fr. Drinan grew up in the Readville section of Boston and received a BA and an MA from Boston College in 1942, joining the Society of Jesus the same year. He was ordained in 1953. He received law degrees from Georgetown University in 1950, and a doctorate in theology from Gregorian University in Rome in 1954, in addition to receiving 21 honorary degrees throughout his life.

James Woods, SJ, dean of the Woods College of Advancing Studies at BC, first met Fr. Drinan in the early 1950s when both men were studying at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology.

“His intense drive and boundless energy characterized Bob’s daily fulfillment of his Jesuit vocation,” Fr. Drinan served on the board of directors of the International League for Human Rights, the Lawyer’s Committee for International Human Rights, the Council for a Livable World Educational Fund, the International Labor Rights Fund, Americans for Democratic Action, and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

“In an amazing career that has spanned more than half a century, Fr. Drinan has never faltered in his extraordinary humanitarian ef-

nent and support for justice under the law,” the American Bar Association said in 2004 when it selected Fr. Drinan as the recipient of the ABA Medal, its highest honor.

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Continued from page 1

public schools and openly challenged BC students to become involved in civil rights issues. “The choices we all make in the daily fulfillment of his Jesuit vocation — Law School Communications Manager Nathanial Kenyon

Collegiates Extol Legacy of Fr. Drinan to BC, Justice

Fr. Drinan grew up in the Readville section of Boston and received a BA and an MA from Boston College in 1942, joining the Society of Jesus the same year. He was ordained in 1953. He received law degrees from Georgetown University in 1950, and a doctorate in theology from Gregorian University in Rome in 1954, in addition to receiving 21 honorary degrees throughout his life.

James Woods, SJ, dean of the Woods College of Advancing Studies at BC, first met Fr. Drinan in the early 1950s when both men were studying at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology.

“His intense drive and boundless energy characterized Bob’s daily fulfillment of his Jesuit vocation,” Fr. Drinan served on the board of directors of the International League for Human Rights, the Lawyer’s Committee for International Human Rights, the Council for a Livable World Educational Fund, the International Labor Rights Fund, Americans for Democratic Action, and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

“In an amazing career that has spanned more than half a century, Fr. Drinan has never faltered in his extraordinary humanitarian ef-

nent and support for justice under the law,” the American Bar Association said in 2004 when it selected Fr. Drinan as the recipient of the ABA Medal, its highest honor.

“He has demonstrated to lawyers what it means to be committed to public service and to countless law students what is embodied in the highest dedication to ethical, moral legal practice.”
Reorganization Will Boost Campus Planning

A recent reorganization of offices implemented under Boston College’s strategic plan is expected to strengthen planning and decision-making across the University. The division of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment (IRPA) combines the offices of Institutional Research and Space Management with the newly created Office of Administrative Program Review.

Administrators say the reorganization, initiated by Executive Vice President Patrick Keating, effectively blends the strengths of several offices to better position Boston College to use data and information for planning in more strategic ways.

All three areas within IRPA use data for decision-making and long-range planning. Institutional Research collects and disseminates institutional data to support managers in their decision-making. Space Planning records and manages the use of all building space on campus, including forecasts for future use.

Administrative Program Review will work with administrative departments and units as they prepare for and participate in the APR process by providing the members of the unit with orientation, training, facilitation and support. The office also is responsible for the ongoing management and enhancement of APR activities across the University, providing regular reports and feedback to senior management and ensuring that best practices are identified and shared across work units.

The University also has announced a series of administrative and personnel moves in concert with the reorganization. Appointees were: Michael Pimental ‘90, MBA ‘99, a former senior personnel officer in the Human Resources Department, as director of program review; Marie Fallon, as project manager in the Office of Space Planning; and Daniel Reis ‘86, as database and Web developer.

The following promotions were made: Jessica Greene, director of institutional research; Meg Ryan, associate director of planning and assessment; Carol Pepin, associate director of data management; and Gina Harvey, lead manager for space planning.

In addition, Christine Buscemi will be project coordinator for the new administrative program review process, Loretta Cedrone will be the unit’s research and administrative assistant for the entire IRPA group and Zigirda Krucovska as space planning support specialist.

An APR Planning Committee has been formed with representation from many of the University’s administrative functions. This group is currently creating an APR strategy, operational model and ongoing schedule. The team will soon plan and implement APR pilot programs. It will also provide guidance and oversight once the Administrative Program Review is underway.

—Office of Public Affairs

Darwish to Speak on Moderates in Middle East

Nadine Darwish, an Egyptian-born writer and public speaker who has become a leading advocate for Arab acceptance of Israel, will present the talk “Empowering Moderates in the Middle East” this Monday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m. in Devlin 008.

In the 1990s, Darwish’s father was appointed commander of Egyptian Army Intelligence in Gaza and founded the Palestinian fedayeen that launched raids killing some 400 Israelis. He was subsequently assassinated by Israeli Defense Forces and became a shahid or martyr for forces opposing Israel. Darwish has said that, as a child, she was taught to hate Israelis and Jews.

After working as an editor and translator for the Middle East News Agency, Darwish emigrated in 1978 to the United States with her husband and eventually converted from Islam to Christianity. She is the author of New They Call Me Infidel: Why I Renounced Jihad for America, Israel and the War on Terror and a former guest of the Boston College Providence College.

Her talk is presented by the Boston College Coalition for Israel along with several co-sponsors, including the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Program, BC Women’s Studies, the Center for Jewish-Latin American, Middle Eastern and East Asian, and Boston College artists-in-residence Triton Brass in concert Sunday evening, as they will continue the Triton Brass Quintet will present a concert, “Things We Haven’t Played,” this Sunday at 4 p.m. in Gasson 100. The concert will feature bellowing and instrumental music for brass by Jan Bach, David Sampson and Malcolm Aird.

For more information, call ext. 2-6004 or e-mail concerts@bc.edu.

MIT researcher to speak on “nuclear Iran”

The Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Program will sponsor the lecture “A Nuclear Iran? Energy, Weapons and the Future of the Middle East and East Asia” on Feb. 15 from 10 a.m.-noon in Devlin 008.

A native of Pakistan, Malik pursues research and writing on nuclear issues with representatives from North Korea and Iran. For more information, send e-mail to bariley@bc.edu.

Second “24 Hour Theater!” benefit

Feb. 10

Teams of Boston College students will stage short plays to benefit a local prep school when the second “24 Hour Theater!” competition takes place on Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Devlin 008.

The participants, which include theater majors and improv groups, will be judged by a panel of area theater experts. All plays must be written within 24 hours of the event. Proceeds from “24 Hour Theater!” will benefit Nativity Prep Middle School.

Admission is $15 at the Robins Theater Box Office. For more information, contact matthew porter 20 boston college.

Lecture to examine Islamic fundamentalism

The Theater Department and the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Program will present the lecture “Making Sense of Islamic Fundamentalism,” by Jamal Malik, chair of Islamic Studies at the University of Karachi, on Feb. 16 at 4:30 p.m. in the location to be announced.

A native of Pakistan, Malik pursues research interests such as Muslim minority communities in Europe, Islamic mysticism, social history of South Asia, colonialism, political Islam, and sociology of religion. He is the author of Colonialization of Islam: Dissolution Of Traditional Institutions in Pakistan. For more information, contact bai ley.k@bc.edu.

“White Privilege” discussion on Feb. 16

The Boston College Employee Development program will present a discussion of “White Privilege: Really a Privilege?” led by Learning to Learn Program Director Dan Bunch and learning skills specialist David Gert Tilella, on Feb. 16 from 10 a.m.-noon in the McElroy Conference Room. This session will explore the concept of white privilege in American culture, and its effect on personal and professional relationships.

To register, contact Caroline DiFabio at ext.6-8532 or employee.development@bc.edu.

LEADERSHIP — Long-time local politician, activist and educator Motivis H. King — a former candidate for mayor of Boston — was the featured speaker at “The Importance of Community in 21st Century Leadership,” a celebration of the life of Martin Luther King Jr. held Jan. 21 in Corcoran Commons. The event was co-sponsored by several graduate student organizations. (Photo by Joan Seidel)

4 POSTINGS

Welcome Additions

•Asst. Prof. Stephenie Berzin (GSSW)
  PhD, University of California-Berkeley
  Research interests: Vulnerable adoles-
  cents, emerging adults, foster care sys-
  tems, innovative programming in,
  child welfare, child/adole-
  scence mental health, residential
  treatment, human behavior in the
  social environment, life course
  perspectives, research methods,
  school-to-work transition.
  Courses: Research Methods, Policy
  Issues in Family and Children’s
  Services, Social Work Practice in
  Child Welfare.

•Asst. Prof. Patrick Proctor (LOE)
  Research interests: Bilingualism,
  literacy development, reading com-
  prehension, special education and
  English learners, literacy and tech-
  nology, immigration, autism and
  developmental delays.
  Courses: Bilingualism, Second
  Language, and Literacy Develop-
  ment, Teaching Language Arts.
  Proctor, who holds a doctorate in
  education from Harvard Uni-
  versity, is working on a three-year
  Institute for Education Sciences
  funded project that uses a digi-
  tal reading environment to assis-
  te word-building and reading com-
  prehension strategies for area stu-
  dents from native and non-native
  English backgrounds. His publi-
  cations include the co-authored
  articles “Native Spanish-Speaking
  Children Reading in English: To-
  ward a Model of Comprehen-
  sion,” “The Instructing Role of
  Spanish Vocabulary Knowledge in
  Predicting English Reading Com-
  prehension,” which both appeared
  in the Journal of Educational Psy-
  chology.

•Asst. Prof. Elizabeth Kensington (Psychology)
  PhD, Massachusetts Institute of
  Technology
  Research Interests: The cognitive
  and neural mechanisms through
  which emotions influence memory,
  and how these influences change
  across the adult lifespan.
  Course: Human Memory.

Among other projects, Ken-
  singer, who has taught at Harvard
  and MIT, conducted a study of fans
  who had attended a Red Sox-Yankees
  2004 playoff game to gauge how emo-
  tional memories of an event. Her
  achievements include an Outstanding
  Thesis Award from the psychology
  Department of Brain and Cognitive
  Sciences, the Hoopes Prize from Harvard
  for “outstanding scholarly work or
  research in the first year of the Dis-
  ease World Congress Fellowship.

•Asst. Prof. Cyril Opeil, SJ (Phys-
  ics)
  PhD, Boston College
  Research interests: Magnetoselec-
  trics, thermoelectrics, resonant ul-
  trasound and Barkhausen noise in
  shape memory alloys.

In 2004, Fr. Opeil became the first Jesuit physicist to work at Los Alamos National Labora-
  tory, when he began a two-year post-doctoral appointment at the famed New Mexico atomic lab. He came to BC in 1996, af-
  ter serving as assistant director of research and development, NY, follow-
  ing his 1994 ordination in the Ro-
  man Catholic Church. Fr. Opeil’s
  recent research has focused on
  the interaction between the va-
  lence electrons in single crystal
  uranium, and his BC laboratory
  work deals in low-temperature re-
  search. He has conducted consistent ultrasound measurements under magnetic
  fields.

—Sean Smith

“Welcome Additions,” an occasional feature, profiles new faculty members at Boston College.
Boisi Center Hosts Forum on Law and Religious Freedom

A panel discussion to be sponsored Feb. 7 by the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life will look at the uneasy rela-
tionship between law and religious freedom, as illustrated by recent controversies in the United States and Europe.

“Headscarves and Holy Days: Should the Law Make Exceptions?” will take place at 4:30 p.m. in Faldon 110. The event will examine issues raised by the regulation of head-
covers and other religious dress in public schools, the use of illegal drugs for religious rituals and exemptions from tax, labor and workplace safety laws granted to religious leaders and religious organizations.

Panellists are: Leah Farish, a civil rights attorney who has re-
presented Muslims in connection with First Amendment issues, and an attorney representing the United Press International.

Mary Donohue Dies; Was Development Secretary

Mary C. Donohue, whose unsmiling face and cheerful per-
sontality was a signature of the University Development Office for 36 years, died on Jan. 14 at the Meadow Green Nursing Facility in Waltham. She was 91.

Mrs. Donohue, who had lived in Watertown for most of her life, joined the Boston College De-
velopment Office — then located in the old Roberts Center — in November of 1962 as a secretary and receptionist. For the next 36 years she was one of the depart-
ment’s most popular employees, always greeting colleagues, bane-
factors, friends and students with her cheerful smile and optimistic outlook.

“For many, many years, Mary was the face of the Development Office,” recalled University Vice President Mary Lou Delong. “She was the first person you saw when you walked through the door. She had a great personality, an infectious sense of humor.

“In offices, there are certain people who are the glue,” said Delong. “Mary was that.”

In addition to her clerical du-
ties, Mrs. Donohue collected a dollar each week from fellow em-
ployees as a “Sunshine Fund.”

Donations in Mrs. Donohue’s memory may be made to the Al-
fredo G. Donohue Fund, St. Theresa Church, Watertown.

—Sean Smith
McMullen to Showcase Modern Belgian Art

BY ROSANNE PELLEGRINI

A new exhibition opening this month at the McMullen Museum of Art spotlights the dynamic modernist art tradition of Belgium, which spawned such important painters as René Magritte, James Ensor and Gustave de Smet.

“New Key: Modern Belgian Art from the Simon Collection,” which runs from Feb. 10-July 22, comprises 53 works of art from the Simon Collection, the finest collection of modern Belgian art outside Belgium. Few of these works have ever appeared in North America, and it is one of the first times this selection has been displayed together as a group.

The exhibition features works by Magritte, Ensor, de Smet, Fritz van den Bergh, Paul Delvaux, Theo van Rysselberghe, Eline Claus, Leon Spilliaert and Constant Permeke, among others.

A public celebration of the exhibition opening will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. The free event will feature music arranged by Director of Bands Sebastian Bonauto in collaboration with exhibition curator Prof. Jeffrey Howe (Fine Arts) [see “Around Campus” on page 2 for more on this project]. To arrange attendance, call ext.2-8587 or e-mail artmusm@bc.edu.

According to organizers, modernist scholarship has focused on Paris, Berlin, Moscow and New York as the centers of modern art. But to do so, they say, ignores the contributions of local traditions that produced significant works of art, deeply rooted in their cultural context.

This exhibition challenges the canon by examining Belgium, and reveals how the history of modern art looks different when viewed from the vantage point of this “marginal” center — hence the exhibition title, “A New Key.”

“This exhibition provides the exceptional opportunity to present a most well-chosen and well-considered collection of modern Belgian art for investigation by the leading scholars of the field in North America today,” said McMullen Museum Director Prof. Nancy Netzer (Fine Arts). “The results are groundbreaking, providing a new key to expanding our concept of modernisms at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century.”

Adds Howe, a leading American historian of modern Belgian art: “These works are not only extraordinarily beautiful, but they offer a fascinating window into the development of modern art. Belgium is clearly revealed as an indispensable font of Expressionism and Surrealism.”

“A New Key” provides a choice and rich sampling that epitomizes the extraordinary accomplishments of Belgian artists during a period, which defined modernism, when their country was transformed by artistic breakthroughs and cataclysmic political and social upheavals. Arranged in six themes — including “Work and Labor,” “The Impact of the First World War” and “The Fantastic and Carnivalesque” — the exhibition explores questions of meaning and identity that haunted Belgian artists.

Given Belgium’s unusually complicated history, say exhibition organizers, separating historical facts from ideology and national myths can be difficult, but “works of art may provide an ideal model for the nature of historical interpretation, because of the importance of subjective factors.”

“A New Key” has been organized by the McMullen Museum and underwritten by Boston College with major support from SV Life Sciences and the Patrons of the McMullen Museum. This exhibition is also supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

Tours are available Sundays at 12:30 p.m. and audio tours also are available. For more information, see www.bc.edu/artmuseum.

BC’s Noonan and Friends Perform Irish Music Feb. 6

Irish Studies Program faculty member Jimmy Noonan, a two-time champion flautist and tin whistle player, will be joined by fellow local musicians Dan Gurney and Ted Davis to present a concert of traditional Irish music on Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. in Connolly House.

Noonan and Davis — a highly regarded guitarist who also excels on flute and tenor banjo — appeared with other Boston area musicians on the CD “The Maple Leaf.” Gurney, an accordionist from upstate New York and winner of several prestigious Irish music competitions, has quickly become a mainstay of the local Irish music scene since his arrival in 2005.

The concert, which is free and open to the public, is presented as part of the Gaelic Room Music, Song, Dance, Workshop and Lecture Series.