Sherwood Leaving ODSD for Post in Alumni Affairs

BY JACK DUNN
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

After 20 years as dean for student development, Robert Sherwood, a popular, hands-on administrator and student advocate who built the Office of the Dean of Student Development (ODSD) into an integral component of student life at Boston College, has announced his decision to accept a new role in Alumni Affairs, effective this week.

Citing stress-related health issues that caused him to miss several weeks of work this fall, and a desire to seek “a change and a new challenge,” Sherwood said he decided this past semester to explore “other areas within Boston College where I might be able to contribute.”

With Executive Director of Alumni Affairs John Fedele looking to expand his office’s outreach to young alumni, Sherwood — given his connections to and popularity with students and recent graduates — was seen as an ideal candidate to lead this new initiative.

“Given all of the students I have come to know over the past two decades, it made sense that I work with young alumni in an effort to maximize the programs and services provided by the Alumni Association and to help improve our recent graduates’ sense of community with Boston College,” said Sherwood. “I am very pleased that I have been offered a new position as special advisor to the Boston College Alumni Association.”

Associate Dean of Student Development Paul Chebator has agreed to serve as acting dean. A search for a new dean of student development will be announced shortly.

Sherwood began his career as a university dean 36 years ago at Salem State College before accepting a position as dean of residence programs and campus activities and associate dean for student affairs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1978.

He arrived at Boston College in August of 1986, the university’s first lay dean, and has served ever since, overseeing an office of 25 professional staff members who advises the Undergraduate Government of Boston College and 230 diverse student organizations, and adjudicates disciplinary issues for BC’s 14,500 students.

During his tenure, students and colleagues say, he developed a reputation as a trusted, fair-minded dean who encouraged responsible self-governance with accountability, and who sought to arbitrate student issues with both firmness and compassion.

“Bob Sherwood has dedicated his career to students by providing the resources and support needed to increase their learning as individuals and in their community development opportunities,” said Vice President for Student Affairs Cheryl Presley.

“He has been an integral part of the university’s mission to facilitate leadership opportunities in which students actualize their beliefs in justice and equality. I have valued his leadership and we are fortunate that the Boston College community will continue to benefit greatly from his experience and expertise in the Alumni Association.”

It is a sentiment shared by ODSD colleague Katherine O’Dair. “Bob possesses such a unique combination of compassion, humor, perspective, and a sense of reality that have made him a role model and mentor for me, my colleagues, and most importantly, the students here at Boston College,” says O’Dair, associate dean for graduate student life.

“Rarely have I seen a dean of students so committed to doing what is right by the students, to making sure that their voices are heard and that they in turn understand the whole picture. Bob is someone who will find a way to go the extra mile for a student who has found no other avenue of support. He understands that not everyone is going to be happy with every decision he makes, but he stands by those decisions — at times under great duress. I think the best quality about Bob is that...”

Continued on page 4

Dean for Student Development Robert Sherwood will join the Alumni Association administration this week. (Photo by Lee Polfotopis)

Nanocoax Research Could Lead to New Technologies

BY GREG FROST
STAFF WRITER

Physicists at Boston College have beamed visible light through a cable hundreds of times smaller than a human hair, an achievement they anticipate will lead to advances in solar power and optical computing.

The discovery, details of which appear in the Jan. 8 issue of the journal Applied Physics Letters, defies a key principle that holds that light cannot pass through a hole much smaller than its wavelength. In fact, the BC team forced visible light, which has a wavelength of between 380–750 nanometers, to travel down a cable whose diameter is smaller than even the low end of that range.

The researchers say their achievement opens the door to a wide array of new technologies, from highly efficient, inexpensive solar cells to microscopic light-based switching devices for use in optical computing. The technology could even be used to help some blind people see, the physicists say.

The advance builds upon the researchers’ earlier invention of a microscopic antenna that captures visible light in much the same way radio antennas capture radio waves — a discovery they announced in 2004. This time, the BC physicists designed and built a tiny version of the coaxial cable — the Information Age worldview that carries telephone and Internet service along with hundreds of television and radio channels into millions of homes and businesses around the world.

“Our coax works just like the Continued on page 6

COMING UP@BC

“Jags” takes football coaching reins (page 4)

Heights of Excellence: Francine Sherman (page 5)

TONIGHT-SUNDAY: “Three Tall Women,” Robsham Theater

SUNDAY: Women’s Basketball vs. Clemson, 2 p.m., Conte Forum

SUNDAY: “The Importance of Community in 21st Century Leadership,” 7 p.m., Corcoran Commons

See page 8 for more, or go to events.bc.edu

Continued on page 6

Chronicle

January 18, 2007 • Vol. 15 No. 9

The Boston College Chronicle

UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE — Members of the Boston College Dance Ensemble take flight during a performance last month in Robsham Theater. (Photo by Chris Huang)
A party to remember

A 90th birthday party is supposed to be pretty special, and that was certainly the case last Thursday for Francis Brennan, who was honored at a dinner in the Yawkey Center marking the official establishment of a fund in his name at the Carroll School of Management.

A revered leader in the Massachusetts banking and financial communities and chairman of the board of the Massachusetts Business Development Corporation, Brennan — the son of Irish immigrants who earned a Bronze Star medal in World War Two — has credited hard work and his Jesuit education in enabling him to rise beyond his humble roots to become an icon in local business development and philanthropy.

Many of Brennan’s friends and colleagues attended the birthday dinner, at which it was announced that half of the planned $1 million Francis P. Brennan Fund in Leadership and Ethics has already been raised. The fund will provide for an annual student leadership and ethics symposium within the Winston Center for Leadership and Ethics at BC that will reinforce the importance of building leadership skills and developing personal ethics in business and life.

“Frank Brennan is the type of Boston College graduate who, after serving his country with great distinction in World War II, went on to personify, in both his personal and professional career, those moral values and ethical principles for which the University so proudly stands,” said Jack Joyce ‘62, managing director of Deutsche Bank Alex Brown, and chairman of the event. “There are few better examples of how Ignatian values can be integrated into the complexities of our modern society than in the human work and positive achievements of Frank Brennan.”

Echoing Joyce’s praise, Herald Media Inc. President and Publisher Patrick Purcell said, “Frank Brennan’s character, leadership and principles have inspired legions in our community for many, many years, and I am thrilled that his beloved Boston College will now share in his remarkable legacy.”

Added Robert Sheridan ’72, president and CEO of SBLI, “Frank Brennan is an iconic figure in the Boston banking and business landscape who exemplifies what business should be about in terms of financial, ethical and community bottom lines. He is truly deserving of this honor.”

Among those in attendance were BC Carroll School Dean Andrew Byington, financier Thomas L. F. Hood CEO John Kaneh, and former University of Massachusetts President William Bulger, who served as master of ceremonies.

Props for Productivity

The Lynch School of Education Counseling Psychology Program earned the top spot in the 2005 Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index compiled by Academic Analytics.

The index ranks 7,294 individual doctoral programs in 104 disciplines, and in broader categories such as the humanities and biological sciences, at 354 institutions. Each faculty member’s productivity is measured through criteria like publications, which can include the number of books and journal articles published as well as citations of journal articles; federal-grant dollars awarded; and honors and awards.

The Carroll School of Management Finance Department also appeared in the top 10 of the survey.

“This ranking really reflects the hard work of our faculty,” said Prof. Elizabeth Sparks (LSOE), chair of the program. “We do make research and publications a priority, but I also think that an important part of our productivity comes in speaking to the field in a particular way, dealing with cutting-edge issues that involve school, families and social justice.”

Said LSOE Dean Joseph O’Keefe, SJ, “A ranking like this has to do with the quality of recognition among one’s peers in the field. That’s how academia functions. It’s fair to say that there is great respect for the Lynch School’s work on counseling psychology, a field that has become increasingly important in the past decade or so.”

Walk this way

Vice President and Special Assistant to the President William B. Neenan, SJ, left, and Flynn Recreation Complex Senior Fitness Trainer Sara Lang led 50 Boston College employees on what organizers dubbed “The Father Neenan Walk” Dec. 15 to complete the University’s “Walk Across Campus Challenge” program sponsored by the Recplex.

Participants in the challenge had to track the amount of walking they did during an eight-week period; they also were allowed to count other exercise activities toward their overall total. Almost 220 employees registered for the program, either individually or as part of a department or office.

According to the challenge organizers, the Custodial Department came in first place among the team entries, followed by the Connors Family Retreat and Conference Center and the Theology Department. Individual winners were, in order, Mary Pohlman (Controlle’s Office), Richard Newton (Custodial Department) and Gloria Rufus (Theology).

A “Walk Across Campus Challenge” for the spring semester will start on Feb. 5 and run until April 22. It is free of charge and all is required is a pedometer. Contact the RecPlex at ext.2-3035 for more information.

Correction: Breaking the Barriers Photo

The caption for the photo of the Breaking the Barriers Ball that appeared on page 8 of the Dec. 14 Chronicle misidentified the student singing group. The BC Sharps. Chronicle regrets the error.
The University has moved forward in the process to renew its accreditation, having completed a self-study in preparation for a formal visit by NEASC in May or June by representatives of the organization that is performing the 10-year review.

Special Assistant to the President Robert Neenan, who is chairing the reaccreditation effort, said the self-study will be sent later this month to the reviewing team and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. The team, and then NEASC, will evaluate BC’s compliance with 11 standards, including institutional mission and purpose, strategic planning, evaluation governance, as well as the academic program, students and faculty.

The self-study report, written by a committee of faculty and administrators, is central to the reaccreditation process, said Newton. “The response to each standard starts with a descriptive section, followed by an evaluation of how well BC complies with the standard, and finally a projection of changes that we intend to make regarding that standard.”

In addition to responding to the standards, the self-study includes major sections on BC’s strategic plan and the campus master plan. The visitors will be asked to give their reactions to these major initiatives.

That is why the visit by the NEASC representatives would be viewed as an opportunity,” added Newton, noting that the group will be led by Wake Forest University President and former Notre Dame Provost Nathan O. Hatch. “We will be hosting a group of respected educators who will give us a very helpful perspective — and perhaps even some advice — on our current and future prospects.”

Newton said the NEASC representatives, as part of their visit, will hold open meetings to provide opportunities for faculty, undergraduates and graduate students to give their perspectives on BC. Dates, times and locations for these events will be announced at a later date.

NEASC recently released a formal announcement of the impending visit and an invitation for public comment [at right].

---Office of Public Affairs
Sherwood Steps Down As Dean of Student Development

For Cooper, Art and Education Are (or Should Be) Inseparable

New book stresses value of collaboration, community support

When school budgets are cut, it’s often art projects and programs that are first to go. But part-time faculty member Mark Cooper (Fine Arts) believes educators can, and should, make art a firm part of the curriculum — and involve the community as well.

In his new book, co-authored with Lisa Sjostrum, Cooper draws on his extensive experience conducting collaborative art projects in classrooms around the country, including at Boston College, to guide and inspire educators to become “master artists” and lead young people in the creation of their own large-scale, community-supported projects.

Making Art Together: How Collaborative Art-Making Can Transform Kids, Classrooms, and Communities includes more than 90 illustrations of Cooper’s most successful collaborative endeavors and an eight-page, full-color photo insert.

Cooper and Sjostrum, founder and director of the educational cooperative group Helping Kids Thrive, offer personal anecdotes, inspirational ideas and practical instructions.

“Art is one of the building blocks of a whole and fulfilling education,” they write.

Cooper has been a fixture on the Boston art scene for decades, as a successful exhibiting artist and veteran leader of the arts community who coordinates collaborations — ranging from decorative sculptures to anti-violence billboards — have been featured in numerous venues.

At Boston College, he has led collaborative sculpture projects with students on campus, notably for a special exhibition during the University’s annual spring Arts Festival.

In addition, last summer he worked with 24 teachers from the Middle East and North Africa to create a sculpture themed “Where We Are From.” Representing eight countries and a range of religious and educational backgrounds, the teachers spent a month this summer at BC to attend the Teacher Education Institute — hosted by BC’s Irish Institute, part of the University’s Center for Irish Programs — of the University of the Middle East Project.

Cooper, who also teaches at the School of Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts, spearheads a campaign to bring collaborative art into the classroom, and into the community. “The key is making a case for art, and making it in a memorable, public way.”

Making Art Together addresses issues critical to getting large-scale projects off the ground: inspiring youth, identifying key supporters, tying the project to the curriculum, courting funders, garnering community support and hosting a celebratory closing event. Cooper stresses the importance of ensuring that participants are aware of their role in a collaborative art project: the key is feelings of belonging, democracy and community.

“As your students debate and vote on what to make and how to make it, they’re developing and trusting their own ideas — about how to rally as a group, and about the democratic process,” Cooper explains.

Part-time faculty member Mark Cooper (Fine Arts), above, says art “is one of the building blocks of a whole and fulfilling education.” At right, some of Cooper’s students work on one of his collaborative sculpture projects.

Discussions of the role of parents and other stakeholders, he says, “Present these projects as win-wins because they are win-wins. I’ve found that most people are eager to connect with ambitious projects by kids.

“These projects are double, the experience is powerful for everybody involved, the art objects are amazing, and this approach has tremendous potential for changing the place of the arts in education,” Cooper adds. “When a community gets involved, art stands the most chance of survival in our schools.”

—Office of Public Affairs

“With each passing year, BC students become more and more interested in retreats and volunteer activities, and passionate about their commitment to social justice issues...Our students are exceptional young adults, and it is very gratifying to witness the personal growth they experience during their tenure here at BC.”

—Robert Sherwood

Sherwood was a recipient of the Mary K. Waldrum Award from UGBC for demonstrating commitment to Boston College, the Rev. John Tirazuka SJ, Award by the BC Jesuit Community for support and guidance of BC students and the “Person of the Year Award” from The Heights.

He also participated in several spring break volunteer service trips with BC students to Jamaica, Antigua and Cape Verde and traveled to Rome and the Vatican with the University Chorale. He was also a frequent participant in 48 Hour and Halftime student retreats.

“I am honored to have served the past 20 years as Dean for Student Development at Boston College,” said Sherwood. “Our students are exceptional young adults, and it is very gratifying to watch the personal growth they experience during their tenure here at BC. I am also extremely fortunate to have worked with outstanding colleagues at ODSD, Student Affairs, the faculty, and with others across the University. It has been a privilege to be part of this great University, and I look forward to my next venture with much enthusiasm and commitment.”

Continued from page 1

he is just so likeable — his ability to find humor in every day situations and to make others feel connected is a wonderful trait.

Adds Thomas McGuinness, director of University Counseling Services, “It has been a privilege to have Bob as a colleague for 18 years. He is dedicated and committed to students and he approaches his work with extraordinary integrity. He has dealt with the most difficult of situations involving students. We could always count on Bob to struggle through those difficult issues with a sense of balance, fairness and honesty.”

Looking back on his 20 years as dean, Sherwood cites the Emerging Leaders and Global Proficiency programs and the establishment of the student Judicial Board, Sexual Assault Network and Senior Week programming as among his office’s proudest accomplishments. He also found satisfaction in his day-to-day interactions with UGBC, student organization leaders and faculty, despite the long hours and sometimes heated deliberations.

“With each passing year, BC students become more and more interested in retreats and volunteer activities, and passionate about their commitment to social justice issues,” said Sherwood. “I have always tried to empower them to develop their leadership skills and to pursue organizational change within an atmosphere of mutual respect for themselves, their fellow students, faculty and administration.”

Said former UGBC President Grace Simmons ’06, “Dean Sherwood will be remembered as an exceptional advocate for students. He came to know us through collaboration and outreach, not from any vantage point. Dean Sherwood taught me the values of patience and understanding. He was our steady leader and, for that reason, I always looked to him for advice. I know he will continue to do great things for BC in his new role in Akamai Affairs. As a young alumna, I look forward to working with him.”

A graduate of the University of New Hampshire with a master’s degree from the State University of New York at Albany, Sherwood and his wife Marsha are the parents of Gretchen, a 1997 BC graduate, and Brad, who graduated from Loyola University in Chicago in 2001.
A Staunch Advocate

For more than a decade, Francine Sherman has fought to make the justice system work better for juveniles

“Height of Excellence” profiles faculty members who, through their exemplary teaching and research, contribute to the intellectual and spiritual life of Boston College.

“Protecting theジュネーブル’s interests is a primary concern for the Justice Department, and theジュネーブル’s actions are guided by the principles of sound public policy.”

BY STEPHEN GANUK
STAFF WRITER

If there was ever someone whose life appeared beyond hope or redemption, it was the young woman known as “Client Z,” says Adj. Assoc. Prof. Francine Sherman (Law).

Born to a mother who was a drug addict and prostitute, “Z” was separated from her siblings and dropped out of school after the sixth grade. She got pregnant, only to lose her baby after a boyfriend assaulted her, and spent most of her teenage years in and out of juvenile custody, recalls Sherman.

But her uphill battle didn’t stop “Z” from turning her life around.

“She was always curious, she always wanted to read books and it was obvious that she was bright,” says Sherman.

“Z,” scored top marks on a high school equivalency test, and, with the support of the Massachusetts Department of Social Services she eventually enrolled in a degree program at a public university.

“It goes to show you what you can accomplish with a little help and some motivation,” says Sherman, founding director of BC Law School’s Juvenile Rights Advocacy Project (JRAP), that represented “Z” for many years and worked both inside and outside the legal system to help her.

“When you have people constantly telling you that you’re worthless you eventually believe it. We work to show these kids that they’re not.”

“Z,” whose name is kept secret to protect her identity, is one of many dozens of young people who have been aided by Sherman and JRAP since its inception in 1994. JRAP is a curriculum-based legal clinic providing comprehensive representation and policy advocacy to youth, and particularly to girls, in the juvenile justice system. Sherman, two supervising attorneys, and second and third year law students staff the program.

JRAP was Sherman’s brainchild, the outgrowth of a decade of law practice following her graduation from BC Law in 1980.

For Sherman, the years spent fighting for at-risk girls like “Z” have brought hard-earned satisfaction. At the same time, Sherman has developed some disdain for what she says is an unforgiving justice system that sometimes acts based on faulty policy and, in doing so, fails to serve the young people for which it is responsible.

But when she talks about her research and programming initiatives, Sherman, a mother of three who is married to attorney Scott Tucker, JD ’78, does not sound bitter or jaded. As long as there are success stories like that of “Z” — and there are many, Sherman says — the fight is worth it.

“The system needs to get better at letting the good stuff in these kids develop,” says Sherman. “These young women have many different types of intelligences and can be quite savvy and you have to learn to work with them. They can’t be immediately discounted because they are lacking formal education.”

“I am a big fan of Fran Sherman and this program for all they do,” says Middlesex County Juvenile Court Judge Jay D. Blitzman, who has known Sherman for more than 15 years.

JRAP is important, Blitzman says, because the attorneys and students involved have gone well beyond simply representing clients, engaging families and home life situations to the point where they can take into account all the troubling issues in at-risk girl’s life.

“It’s clear that they care, they’re involved and they’re engaged,” he says. “While our probation officers don’t know the name ‘JRAP’ they are always requesting ‘that BC program’ for their cases.”

Blitzman adds that JRAP has developed an esteemed reputation in the Lowell courtroom in which he presides with two other judges. Over the years, Lowell’s Cambodian population has exploded and various language and cultural issues have put some stress on the city’s courts. Sherman and her associates have exceeded expectations and proven that the sort of attention JRAP offers its clients can transcend those cultural barriers.

“They have a powerful presence when they walk in to the courtroom,” Blitzman said.

Besides advocating for delinquent girls, and helping to create and research programs to assist them, Sherman has done her part to inspire and mentor a number of BC Law students who have gone on to make their own mark as juvenile advocates.

“I think it’s pivotal to have Fran at the Law School as a mentor and teacher to all these students who want to get into public interest law,” says Barbara Kahan, JD ’98, assistant director of the Children’s Law Center in Lynn.

“There aren’t many people who are doing this type of work and her successes have been incredibly important.”

Vincent Herman, JD ’04, now a staff attorney at the Children’s Law Center in Washington, DC, thinks that Sherman’s place in the field of juvenile advocacy plays a critical role that forms a bridge between theory and practice.

“There’s a gap between the everyday work of a public interest lawyer and academic big picture thinking and she fills that,” said Herman.

Missouri to Massachusetts

Sherman may move comfortably in the Greater Boston legal environment, but her roots are considerably further west. She was born and raised in Missouri and did not travel far when it came time to go to college, attending the University of Missouri. Still, Sherman felt a calling: “I came out of college in the 1970s when a lot of things were changing and I wanted to be a part of that.”

Among her influences, two stand out for Sherman: One is her father, a professor who studied the psychology of policewomen, which included topics like domestic violence and other issues. “I think there was a piece of his work that I was really interested in.”

The other was Rev. Robert Drinan, SJ, widely known for his work as a human rights activist and, briefly, as a Massachusetts congressman, but also for his role in shaping the BC Law School, where he served as dean from 1956-70.

“He inspired me and I was very attracted to BC’s social justice mission,” says Sherman. “That was why I came here.”

Sherman found her niche in public interest law and after graduating from BC Law went to work for the Department of Social Services, where she began to cultivate her interest in juvenile advocacy.

Clearly, says Sherman, the kids she and her colleagues encounter are not perfect angels, but neither are they lost souls: “They have a lot more resilience than a lot of people think.”

The root causes for most of these juvenile offenders’ problems may constitute a familiar refrain — poverty, illegal drugs and troubled family situations — but they don’t make them any less virulent, she says. Unfortunately, these are compounded by a justice system that, however one may wish otherwise, is influenced by social, economic and racial characteristics, according to Sherman. Minor offenses that earn you jail time in one community aren’t even considered crimes in another.

“In Newton when girls get in a fight, it’s seen as a behavioral issue — but in city neighborhoods it’s seen as criminal assault,” she explains. “Is that fair?”

“The number of serious violent crimes is actually very small. But you wouldn’t know it considering the media attention that it gets.”

The ‘Super Predator’ myth

Sherman claims that particularly egregious examples of policy failure in juvenile justice can be seen in the 1990s when police departments and prosecutors across the nation braced for a phenomenon known as the ‘super predator’ myth. Continued on page 8

Sherman works with BC Law students involved with the Juvenile Rights Advocacy Program (JRAP). “She has boundless energy and was very enthusiastic about our work,” says a former JRAP participant.

Photos by Lee Pellegrini
James Co-Edits Book on Retirement Myths, Trends

Jan. 23 forum examines corporate responsibility

The Winston Center for Leadership and Ethics will sponsor “Partner- ships, Power and Profits: Global Vi- sualizations of Corporate Responsibility” on Tuesday, Jan. 23, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Gasson 100.

Prof. Charles Derber (Sociology) will be part of a panel, moderated by Boston College Leadership for Change Program Director Rebecca Rowley, which will discuss issues involving business, politics and social justice.

Joining Derber will be corporate- social responsibility experts Larry Hammer, David Halley and Luca Maccio.

Admission is $15 for the general public, and free for students and fac- ulty, and members of the Responsible Business Association of Greater Bos- ton. Send e-mail to carney@bc.edu for more information.

Workshop offers resources on group-based fundraising

The Institute for Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry will host the workshop “Grant Writing and Fund- raising for Ministry” on Jan. 27 from 9 a.m.-noon.

Workshop participants will learn about the fundamentals of proposal writing, and find resources to help them search for funding agencies with Catholic interests, identify and articulate their fundraising needs and priorities, and create a plan for non- profit contexts.

For more information, contact Maureen Lamb at ext. 2-8067 or mlambm@bc.edu. Admission is free but class size is limited to 25.

Jan. 27 event to celebrate memory of Martin Luther King

Boston College will honor the leg- enary of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. with a special commemo- ration and worship service on Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Heights Room of College of Charleston.

The event will feature music by “The United Voices of Freedom,” the combined music ministries of Against the Current, Liturgy Arts Group and The Voices of Imani.

For more information, contact Cam- pus Ministry Office, at ext. 2-7273 or mciermon@bc.edu

Publishers to discuss state of children’s books

A panel of senior editors from major publishing firms will gather on cam- pus Jan. 30 to reflect on the chang- ing nature of books for children.

“What Happens Next in Children’s Books?” will be held at Vanderslice Hall beginning at 7:30 p.m. Admis- sion is free with a Boston College ID, $5 for college students with ID and $15 for all others.

From Book magazine Editor in Chief Roger Sutton will moderate the panel, which includes Judy Mallory of Charlottesville Publishing, Elizabeth Bicknell of Candlewick Press and Mia Pinckney of Viking Children’s.

Topics will include the reign of fat fantasy, the decline in picture books and the future of the increasingly popular graphic novel.

For more information, contact Sadie Northway at northway@bc.edu.

Welcome Additions

PHYSICISTS IN NANOCOAX PROJECT

The physicists designed their nanocoax so that the center wire protruded at one end, forming a light-transmitting element. “This allowed the scientists to measure the light received by the antenna and transmitted through the medium.” The researchers were able to transmit both red and green light into the nanocoax and out the other end, indicating that the cable can carry a broad spectrum of colors.

“The beauty of our nanocoax is that it lets us squeeze visible light through very small volumes. It also allows us to transmit light over a distance that is at least 10 times its wavelength,” says Prof. Kim Kempa (Physics), a co-author of the article.

Other co-authors include BC Physicists Professors Michael Naughton and Zhongfen Ren and Laboratory Director and Lect. Andrej Herceznyk, as well as graduate student Yang Wang of BC, Zhongpeng Huang and Dong Cai of Nanolab Inc. in Newton, and Michael Giurgi of the Center for Advanced Eu- ropean Studies and Research in Bonn, Germany.
Newsmakers
Facilities Services Assistant Director for Administrative Services Paula Freiger was featured in a Boston Herald story on her efforts to collect and distribute gifts to needy children at Christmas.

The Boston Globe published a feature on Prof. Emeritus John Dacey (LSOE) who, after suffering a family tragedy years ago, has helped families and children cope with their own phobias.

Adj. Assoc. Prof. Laura Garcia (Philosophy) and Lonergan Institute Administrative Editorial Assistant Kerry Cronin were highlighted in a report in The Pilot at the recent meeting of “Women Affirming Life.”

Adj. Associate Professor Richard McGowan, SJ (CSON), was quoted by the Boston Herald regarding planned expansion of the Mohegan Sun casino, and by the Providence Journal about the selling of Harriri’s Casino.

Prof. Marc Landy (Political Science) discussed the life and legacy of the late US President Gerald Ford with New England Cable News.

Prof. Dwayne Carpenter (Romance Languages) was interviewed by the Boston Globe regarding the Modern Language Association’s recommendations for tenure and promotion.

Psychology Department Research Associate Billie Louise Bentzen, MD ’71, PhD ’91, who has worked on behalf of people with visual disabilities for more than 40 years, was featured by the Boston Globe for her efforts to help the first blind student of a Himalayan orphanage.

Flattery Professor of Theology David Hollenbach, SJ, director of BC’s Center for Human Rights and International Justice, and Assoc. Prof. Kenneth Himes (Theology) each wrote on aspects of the recent international conference on “Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church” organized by Prof. James Keenan, SJ (Theology), for America magazine. Fr. Hollenbach wrote on “Human Rights, Justice and the World Church,” while Fr. Himes addressed “Hard Questions About Just War.”

Prof. Juliet Schor (Sociology) discussed the environmental and financial impact of the holiday season with the National Public Radio Program “Here and Now.” Schor also penned an op-ed for the Boston Globe on the same subject.

Environmental Studies Program Director Research Assoc. Prof. Eric Strauss (Biological Sciences), who took a unique path on his way up through the academic ranks, was profiled by the Boston Globe.

Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life Director Prof. Alan Wolfe (Political Science) published the op-ed “Two Parties in the Pews” in the Boston Globe.

Prof. Paul Lewis (English) offered a review of humor in 2006 in a Boston Globe op-ed.

Honors/Appointments
O’Neill Library Instructional Services Manager Kwasi Sarkodie Menia has been appointed to the Founding Council of the Archdiocese of Boston.

Publications
University Professor of English Paul Mariani published the poem “The Fathers” in America.


Grants
University Professor of History Thomas Hachey: $799,960, US State Department, “FY 2007 Exchange Programs for Northern Ireland and Ireland.”

Prof. Lawrence Scott (Chemistry): $461,330, National Science Foundation, “Biomimetic Chemistry Relevant to Photonsys tem II.”

Prof. Thomas Chiles (Biological Sciences): $310,505, The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, “Molecular Determinants of B-1 and B-2 Cell Responses.”

Center on Wealth and Philanthropy Director Prof. Paul Schervish (Sociology): $200,000, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, “Creating a Culture of Philanthropy.”

Morgan Professor of Education Philip Altbach: $178,000, Ford Foundation, “Core Support for the Center for International Higher Education at Boston College.”

Institute for Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry Director Prof. Thomas Groome (Theology): $65,872, Salakas Foundation, “Program of Studies Scholarship.”

Assoc. Prof. Johannes Gubbels (Biology): $65,000, American Heart Association, “Genetic Dis section of Heart Cell Inversion by Tetraspama Gandolfi, a Pathogen Causing Infectious Myocarditis.”

Prof. Michael Naughton (Physics): $50,000, Atomic-Ordered Materials, “Sponsored Project Agreement Between Atomic-Ordered Materials and Boston College.”


Graduate School of Social Work Director Judith Casey: $42,000, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, “FlexNet.”


Prof. June Horowitz (CSON) and doctoral student Margaret Hayes: $27,919, National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Nursing Research, “The Lived Experience of Mothering After Prison.”

Prof. John Michalczyk (Fine Arts): $17,818, Various Donors, “St. Otilien Orchestra Documentary.”

Assoc. Prof. Alan Kafka (Geology and Geophysics): $3,363, St. Peter’s School, “Inquiry-Based Learning Through Recording Earthquakes in the Classroom: Inviting Students into the World of Science Research.”

Prof. Donald Cox (Economics): $301,739, National Institutes of Health, “Biological Basics and Intergenerational Transfers.”


Assistant Dean for Student Development Rhyn Priest selects colors of chenille sticks that she will use to build her “culture sculpture” as part of a diversity workshop sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League. She was one of some 60 administrators and staff from the offices of Student Development and Residential Life who attended the special training session Jan. 9 at the Yankey Center. Participants in the day-long workshop discussed their attitudes on diversity and on diversity-related issues at Boston College. (Photo by Leo Pellegrini)
Continued from page 5 as the “Super Predator Theory,” which held that if an amoral and ruthless generation of adolescents would cause a major crime spree within the nation’s inner cities. “That never happened,” she says. “Sure, there were a few really scary cases, but those are the exception. But it scared people and so we are still dealing with a decade of bad criminal justice policies.”

JRAP seeks to counter such negative trends, by using the legal system to access social and community services and hold public accountable for juveniles, with the goal of reducing the use of incarceration and supporting the girls in their communities, says Sherman. In addition to individual representation, JRAP is involved in ongoing research and advocacy to develop and model programs for delinquent youth. BC Law students interested in working with JRAP must sit for a juvenile advocacy seminar while they are working in the clinic. This affords them the opportunity to help manage programs and assist with legal representation before the courts, says Sherman. Along the way Sherman has produced no shortage of scholarly papers on the topic of juvenile advocacy and public interest law. Her latest include the JRAP Guide, Medical Consent for Minor in Massachusetts Systems (published with JRAP staff and students), and Pathways to Detention Reform, Detention Reform for Girls: Challenges and Solutions, which was funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Two additional papers on detention reform and gender and racial issues will be published in 2007.

When she’s not in the classroom, courtroom, or lock-up facility, Sherman spends much of her time writing grants, raising money and working to help develop programs and partnerships in which JRAP law students and staff attorneys can make a difference. These programs are administered alongside the project’s legal representation duties.

“Her boundless energy and was very enthusiastic about our work,” said Herman, who served in the Department of Youth Services before the courts, says Sherman. “If we put them in touch with health care providers that can help them we might solve a lot of problems.”

Another unique JRAP project is HUMAN (Heal Our Minds, Artistic Noise), a design, graphic arts and entrepreneurship program which provides girls in DYS with an opportunity to document their lives and experiences using visual art. HUMAN operates in a DYS residential facility and Community Health Centers of Dorchester in Massachusetts Health Passport Project. “So many problems for these girls come from a lack of access to health care and part of it is because they don’t trust the system,” said Sherman. “If we put them in touch with health care providers that can help them we might solve a lot of problems.”

Another unique JRAP project is HUMAN (Heal Our Minds, Artistic Noise), a design, graphic arts and entrepreneurship program which provides girls in DYS with an opportunity to document their lives and experiences using visual art. HUMAN operates in a DYS residential facility and Community Health Centers of Dorchester in Massachusetts Health Passport Project. “So many problems for these girls come from a lack of access to health care and part of it is because they don’t trust the system,” said Sherman. “If we put them in touch with health care providers that can help them we might solve a lot of problems.”