

Ex Libris

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM, BOSTON COLLEGE

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Freshman Scholars Experience Italian Culture



Photo: Jennie Thomas

The Class of 2016 poses for group photos in Florence, Italy.



Photo: Jennie Thomas



Photo: Jennie Thomas

By Andrew Boyce, A&S'16

Florence is a city known for its pivotal role in the rebirth of the greatness of western culture during the Renaissance. This year, during spring break, the freshmen class of Presidential Scholars had the opportunity to experience this city and its marvelous history first-hand. Led by Fr. Keenan and Jennie Thomas, we visited many of the major sites of the city and saw

some of the famous works of the Renaissance.

The group was in awe as we visited the famous Duomo, the cathedral of Florence, which was designed by Brunelleschi. We made the trek up past the Belvedere gardens to the thousand-year-old San Miniato Benedictine Monastery, which is scenically situated in the hills that overlook Florence. We explored the Uffizi, the former offices of the Medici family and now home to one of the major art museums of the world, and the fabulous Palazzo Pitti, one time home to the Medici family. We marveled at Michaelangelo's David at the Galleria Dell' Accademia. All the while, we

experienced the richness of Italian cuisine, language and larger culture.

Our last night in Florence, Fr. Keenan called the group together to reflect on what we had experienced that week. He aptly stated that what we had experienced that week were examples of humanity's greatness. He asked us to recall the David, the masterpiece of a mere twenty-six year old, as an example of the great and miraculous potential of human beings. He also noted that we had witnessed the beauty of friendship in one another, certainly one of the greatest blessings of the powerful experiences of the week.

Inside...

Alumni Spotlight.....p.5

Social Justice Project.....P.2-3

PSP Awards.....p.9

Social Justice Project

By Alicia McKean, LSOE'15

As part of the program's focus on social justice, the sophomore Scholars are responsible for coming together as a class and organizing a series of events aimed at raising awareness about a social justice issue of their choice. Drawing from our experiences from last year's Summer Service Learning Program during which each of us volunteered at two placements in Boston for six weeks, the topic we chose to focus on was adult education. We felt that resources and attention are often directed at providing adequate education for children; however, adults who may have missed out on these opportunities are often forgotten. Many of us had personal encounters with this fact as we worked in prisons, homeless shelters, and ESL programs, all of which were working to provide adults with the support they needed



Voices of Imani perform at the benefit concert.

to reach their goals. In some cases, this involved tutoring adults for their GED; in others, it was providing English lessons so that individuals could fully integrate into this society. By working with these people, our eyes were opened up to the variety of needs that adults have and the importance of

programs that work to fulfill these needs.

In order to raise awareness about this issue on campus, the sophomore Scholars hosted two events. The first event was on March 19th and was a benefit concert to educate students about the importance of adult education and to highlight the work of one organization, the Educational Development Group (EDG). The concert featured several groups from campus including Voices of Imani, The Dance Organization of Boston College, and BC Bop. In between performances, students shared their personal experiences working in adult education centers. To close, Mrs. Francis, the head of EDG spoke about the work being done there. Her passion was evident and she shared several stories of students who had been given life-changing opportunities because of the training they had received at EDG. As a result of this event, over \$200 in donations were collected to support the work of



BC Bop plays a few jazz numbers in Gasson 100.

Social Justice Project



Photo: Andrea Gatti

The Class of 2015 thank the panelists at the Recognizing Potential, Providing Opportunities event.

this fantastic organization

The second event, entitled Recognizing Potential, Providing Opportunities, sought to inform students about current issues in adult education by bringing in four people currently involved in adult education in a variety of ways. The panel included Jim Dizio, the director of education at the Suffolk House of Corrections; Christine Montecillo, a doctoral student in the Lynch school and former ESL instructor; Prof. David Scanlon from the Lynch School; and Sara Antonelli, a 4Boston leader at Charlestown Center of Adult Education. Each of the panelists drew on their diverse personal experience with adult education to communicate the value, limits, and

needed improvements as they saw them. Although each panelist had their own perspective on the issues discussed, it was clear that they all believed that adult education was vital to providing adults with the skills and knowledge they need to reach their goals and their potential. While it may not be possible to truly understand the importance of adult education without personally experiencing its impact, it is the hope of the sophomore class that all in attendance left the events with a new appreciation for the value of adult education in today's society.

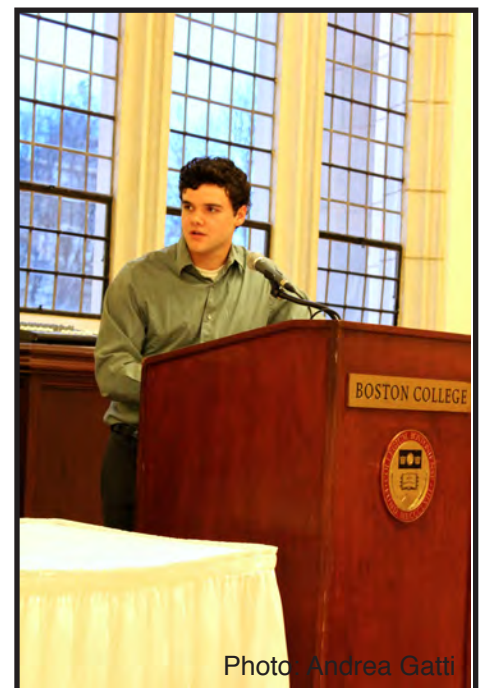


Photo: Andrea Gatti

Daniel Cattolica, A&S'15, moderates the panel.

Scholars Network with the Best

By Tony Gallanis, A&S'16

One of the benefits of the Presidential Scholars program is the vast alumni network that has been established over the past eighteen years. Numerous Scholars have excelled during their time at Boston College and their efforts are reflected in their current work titles and professional careers. As students still in the Program, it is vital to branch out to alumni and learn from their experiences.

Amy Donegan, Associate Director, Undergraduate Management Advising, The Carroll School of Management, began the night by addressing the professionalism in the work environment. Her talk brought to light the hidden intricacies

involved in presenting oneself to a potential networking connection. Everything from the proper duration of a firm handshake to the appropriate dress was discussed. Additionally, as Scholars in an age where communication is often online, accessibility through a LinkedIn page is vital in portraying an electronic resume to employers.

Following Amy's presentation, Katherine Dullea, a sophomore Scholar, introduced the Program Alumni who were present. Former Scholars Mary Lou Bozza, Elizabeth Baker, Michelle Knight, Jonathan Pike, Cecelia McDonald, Caroline Beimford, Don Scheurman, Michael Cotter, Steven Liu, and Lynne Sullivan spoke of their current occupations and what paths they have taken since

graduating. Additionally, Andrew Frey chimed in via a Skype call.

To conclude the night, the Scholars practiced their newly acquired networking skills with the alumni present at the meeting. Handshakes were firm, the conversation was provoking, and the pleasure of meeting successful alumni was unparalleled. The night was marvelous not only because of the insightful networking tips, but because it brought together both past and present Scholars to create a vibrant sense of family. The alumni's affirmed dedication to the Program though their pearls of wisdom, presence, and accessibility to current Scholars further cemented the family and genuineness of the night and our hopes going forward.

Scholars In The News

Marty Long'13, received the Atlantic Coast Conference Weaver-James-Corrigan Postgraduate Scholarship award.

Nadya Muchoney'13, presented the research she conducted in the BC Plant Biology Lab last semester entitled "Growth Response of the *Danaus plexippus* Caterpillar to Simulated Early-Season Herbivory in *Asclepias syriaca*" at the Biology Undergraduate Research Day on May 3rd, as well as her current research entitled "*Trans-Generational Medication against a Protozoan Parasite in the Monarch Butterfly Danaus Plexippus.*" She also presented her project for the senior Environmental Studies Seminar at the Senior Environmental Studies Symposium on April 30th, entitled "*Evaluating the Utility of the U.S. Small Business Administration Website in Promoting Sustainable Business Practices.*"

Joseph Manning'14, was awarded the Joseph Barbosa Award in recognition of his work at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at the Annual Meeting of The Sierra Club in San Francisco. He was also awarded the Adam Werback Award, The Sierra Student Coalition's highest honor.

Andrew Babbitt'15, has been awarded a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship for his study in China.

Daniel Cattolioca'15, was awarded the Dante Alighieri Society of Boston's Pescosolido Family Scholarship for the fall study abroad program in Parma. He also received the BC's Center for Human Rights and International Justice summer research grant.

Amanda Loewy'15, received the Interscholastic Horse Show Association (IHSA) National All-Academic Award, First Team, which recognizes her achievements as a member of the BC Equestrian Team.

Katie Martin'15, published an article entitled "A Student's Reflection" in the C21 Resources Spring 2013 Issue.

Grace West'15, gave a presentation at this year's Undergraduate Research Symposium entitled "Race and Religion in the Tar Heel State: The Afro-Moravian Experience in North Carolina."

PSP Alumni Spotlight: Marisa Cochrane Sullivan

By Marie Pellissier, A&S'15

Marisa Cochrane Sullivan, PSP '07, is a Fellow at the Institute for the Study of War in Washington, DC. During the Presidential Scholars' Summer Service Learning Program, she interned at Rosie's Place and St. Francis House, and after her junior year abroad at the London School of Economics, she interned at the Hudson Institute's Center for Future Security Strategies in Washington, DC. She wrote her thesis on international election monitoring and internal political reform in sub-Saharan Africa, a project which was awarded the McCarthy Award for best social science thesis and also given Scholar of the College distinction.

After Boston College, Marisa has conducted research at the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), focusing on Iraqi political and social dynamics. She has authored numerous publications, commented on Iraqi issues for CNN, and the New York Times, has been published in the Wall Street Journal, and has also testified before Congress. Most recently, she served as the deputy director of the ISW from June 2010 to July 2012.

She is currently pursuing graduate studies at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns

Hopkins University, where she is a Priscilla Mason Fellow. Recently, she took the time to answer a few questions about her experiences with the Presidential Scholars Program and the value it holds for her.



Photo Courtesy Of:
Marisa Cochrane Sullivan

Marisa Cochrane Sullivan, A&S'07

What was the most valuable part of your experience in the PSP, and more broadly, at Boston College?

I think the breadth of my experience as a Presidential Scholar and a BC student was especially valuable. I greatly enjoyed being able to take classes in a variety of fields--political science and international studies,

classics of western literature, philosophy, Latin, linguistics, art history, and economics, for example--and discover subjects that I didn't realize I had an interest in or passion for.

More broadly, I appreciated that as a Presidential Scholar, you are held to high academic standards and really challenged, but also given a variety of experiences and tools to help you succeed in your undergraduate and professional pursuits. I really valued being a part of a small group of incredibly talented individuals, with a commitment to academic achievement, service, and leadership.

How did your experience in the PSP contribute to your career after BC?

During the summer before my junior year, I worked as an intern at a think tank in Washington. The experience was essential for helping me learn more about the way that the Washington foreign policy community operates and begin to develop a professional network that I have leveraged in my career after BC. Without the support of the Presidential Scholars Program, it would have been very difficult to take advantage of this opportunity.

Congratulations to Ryan Polischuk, A&S'15, who received a call to suit up for the men's hockey team during a postseason run!

Alumni Announcements

Mark Noferi, PSP'96, frequently posts articles, commentary, and research on immigration and civil rights. His latest publications are listed on his website: <http://www.brooklaw.edu/faculty/directory/facultymember/Noteworthy.aspx?id=mark.noferi>

Ari Daniel Shapiro, PSP'01, recently traveled to Australia to report a series of radio stories for NOVA and The World -- everything from magnetic termites to how one community is keeping its residents safe from saltwater crocodile attacks. Available at: <http://aridanielshapiro.wordpress.com>

Taylor Heyen, PSP'06, is engaged to Leigh Tinmouth (BC '07, BC Law '10). They are planning a wedding for April 2014.

Reena Parikh, PSP'06, and her husband moved to Chicago and she recently accepted an associate counsel position in the federal government with USCIS Office of the Chief Counsel.

Kat (Wakeham) Barnes, PSP'07, was matched into a Family Medicine residency program at Group Health Cooperative in Seattle, WA. She will graduate from Harvard Medical School / Harvard School of Public Health on May 30th, and then leave for Seattle with her husband Tim.

Alex Yiannopoulos, PSP'07, will be starting a PhD program at the West and South Asian Religions program (for Buddhist philosophy) in the Graduate Division of Religion at Emory University.

Rebecca (Kraus) Izzo, PSP'07, accepted a position as an Associate at WilmerHale in Boston and will begin working there this fall.

Maggie Sullivan, PSP'08, received an Alfa Fellowship to complete a yearlong professional development exchange in Moscow, Russia, where she will be working with disability advocacy groups. She was also named a 2013 Presidential Management Fellows program finalist.

Mike Cuttler, PSP'12, will be pursuing his Masters degree at the University of Western Australia, where he was granted UWA's Scholarship for International Research Fees as well as a University International Stipend. He will be studying the hydrodynamics and sediment transport processes of the Ningaloo Reef.



PSP Alumni enjoy a reception hosted by Geoffrey T. Boisi, '69, P'11 at The Links Club in New York on April 24th. All photos taken by Scott Wynn.

PSP Awards

University Honors

Order of the Cross & Crown

The Order of the Cross and Crown is the Arts & Sciences honor society for seniors who, while achieving an average of at least A-, have established records of unusual service and leadership on the campus.

Benjamin Martin
Kelsey Swift

Deans' Scholars

Each year a select group of the brightest young scholars in the A&S junior class are honored by the Dean of A&S as Deans' Scholars. They are selected on the basis of their overall academic performance, the recommendations from their departmental faculty, their co-curricular initiatives, and the sense of purpose with which they approach their future.

Tori Luu
Francesca McCaffrey
Marye Moran
Alison Wawrzynek

Sophomore Scholars

Each year the most academically distinguished members of the sophomore class are honored as Sophomore Scholars. The young scholars listed below have achieved an academic ranking that places them in the top three percent of their class of more than 1,500 and have also received the recognition and nomination of their major departments.

Daniel Cattolica
Paul Davey
Frank DiRenno
Mary Rose Fissinger
Katie Martin
Marie Pellissier
Grace West

Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Kappa is the most prestigious academic honors society in the United States. Annually it elects to membership the most outstanding seniors (and a handful of truly exceptional juniors), based on superior scholarship and good character.

Class of 2013

Helen Jiang
Kevin Morris
Rachel Newmiller
Colleen Sinnott

Class of 2014

Brooke Loughrin

Alpha Sigma Nu

Alpha Sigma Nu is a national Jesuit honors society started in 1915. Admission is based on scholarship, loyalty, and service.

Class of 2013

Kevin Morris
Rachel Newmiller

Class of 2014

Francesca McCaffrey
Nicholas Moffa
Maggie Scollan
Alison Wawrzynek

Omicron Delta Epsilon

Economics Honors Society

Colleen Sinnott, A&S '13

Brian D.A. Hall Award

To the senior who demonstrated a deep level of commitment to a student program or organization, and whose leadership advanced the mission of the organization and enhanced the quality of student life.

Rachel Newmiller, A&S '13

PSP Awards

Momentum Award

At the end of each academic year, the editorial board of *The Heights* selects six winners of Momentum Awards and one Person of the Year award. The awards are given to students, faculty, or other members of the Boston College community who have given back a great deal to the University throughout the year, and in some cases for many years beforehand. The awards are meant to highlight the contributions of individuals at various levels of University life, from academics, to culture, to athletics, etc. These awards recognize the accomplishments and contributions of seven members of the BC community who have made the biggest contributions to the University.

Rachel Newmiller '13

Advanced Study Grant Winners

The Boston College Advanced Study Grants were established to encourage, support, and give visible recognition to first and second year students who have that special spark of scholarly initiative and imagination. Advanced Study Grants are for student-designed projects and are awarded for summer “skill acquisition” projects that promise to accelerate dramatically the applicant’s progress in the major field of study.

Lucas Allen, A&S '16

To support research on patient interventions in underserved populations.

Frank DiRenno, A&S '15

To support research on chemical analysis of historic skeletal remains in a paleopathological context.

Katherine Dullea, A&S '15

Empowering Women through Microfinance: To support research on the role of women and microfinance in developing economies.

Tate Krasner, A&S '16

How to Plan a Line: To support analysis of the development and demographic impacts of light rail transportation.

Amanda Loewy, A&S '15

Language and historical learning intertwine at the Sorbonne.

Daniel Lundberg, A&S '16

Exchanging their Stories: Children with neuromuscular disease in Ghana and Minnesota.

Marissa Marandola, A&S '16

Ahlquist v. Cranston: To support research on the Establishment Clause and public school prayer.

Patricia Owens, A&S '15

Identity in Diaspora: Modern Tibetan literature in translation.

Marie Pellissier, A&S '15

Savoring the Past: To support French language immersion and culinary skills acquisition in Paris.

Nathan Schwan, A&S '16

Tracked but Equal: To support research on the German secondary school education.

Andrew Skaras, A&S '15

To support German language acquisition.

Grace West, A&S '15

To support research on the Unitas Fratrum in East Africa.

Non-University Awards, Honor, Fellowships or Scholarships

Marshall Scholarship

Aditya Ashok '12

Fulbright Grants

Colleen Sinnott '13, Ecuador

Kelsey Swift '13, Mexico

Lilly Graduate Fellowship

R.Brian Tracz '12

Weaver-James-Corrigan Postgraduate Scholarship Award

Marty Long '13

Udall Scholarship

Joseph Manning '14

PSP Awards

Commencement Awards

School of Arts and Sciences

John J. Neuhauser Award in Computer Science

An award given to the senior in the College of Arts and Sciences who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in computer science.

Helen Jiang

Thomas I. Gasson, S.J. Award

An award in honor of Thomas I. Gasson, S.J., President of Boston College (1907-1914), given to the graduating senior with a distinguished academic record over a four-year period

Colleen Sinnott

Albert J. McGuinn, S. J. Award

This is an award in memory of the late chairperson of the Department of Chemistry and brother of the founder of the Graduate School of Social Work. This award is intended for Bachelor of Science graduates who have most successfully combined proficiency in his or her major field of study with achievements--either academic, extra-curricular, or a combination of both--in social sciences or humanities.

Rachel Newmiller

Alice E. Bourneuf Award

In honor of Alice E. Bourneuf, Professor of Economics at Boston College (1959-1977), this award is given to an outstanding senior in Economics based on achievement in both major and non-major courses, strength of curriculum, quality of written and creative work, and attitude toward the study of Economics.

Colleen Sinnott

Harry W. Smith Award

An award, the gift of the Smith Family, in memory of Harry W. Smith, a leader in corporate and community philanthropic work, to honor a member of the senior class who has used personal talents to an exceptional degree in the service of others.

Kelsey Swift

***Congratulations to all
award recipients!***



The Class of 2013 celebrates with family and friends at the PSP Senior Reception on May 19th at Barat House. All photos taken by Andrea Gatti.

Wall Street Council Tribute Dinner

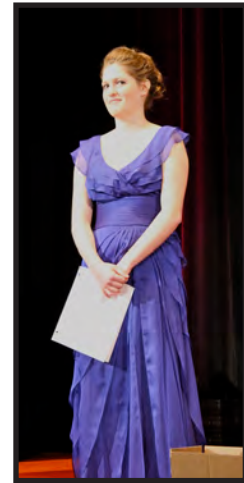


Photo: Jennie Thomas

On the morning of April 26th, the Class of 2013 and Program Administrators enjoyed the city by walking to lunch at *Brasserie*. Photos taken by Andrea Gatti.

Congratulations, Class of 2013!

On April 25th, senior Scholars, PSP Director Fr. Jim Keenan, Associate Director Jennie Thomas and Administrative Assistant Andrea Gatti attended the annual Wall Street Council Tribute Dinner in New York City. Joining the Scholars at the Waldorf Astoria were Fr. Leahy, major donors, and this year's honoree and his wife Geoffrey T. Boisi, Chairman & CEO, Roundtable Investment Partners LLC and Rene Isacco Boisi.



Photo: John Raiola

Front row (left to right): Nadya Muchoney, Aleksandra "Ola" Jachtorowicz, Alexandra "Sasha" Savinkina, Shannon Cook, Colleen Sinnott, Kelsey Swift, Helen Jiang, Rachel Newmiller.

Back row (left to right): Jennie Thomas, Steven M. Barry, Kevin Morris, Joseph Baron, Fr. Leahy, Geoffrey T. Boisi, Rene Isacco Boisi, Fr. Keenan, Benjamin Martin, Marty Long, T.J. Maloney.



Photo: Andrea Gatti

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