

# Ex Libris

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM, BOSTON COLLEGE

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## A tribute to twenty years of dedication to the PSP



Dr. and Mrs. Sardella pose for a picture during one of their many evenings spent in Paris, France with Scholars.

By Brian Varian, *CSOM '11*

If the Presidential Scholars Program were a story, there would be two main characters driving the plot—Dr. and Mrs. Sardella. From the humble beginnings of the PSP in 1990 up through the present day, Dr. and Mrs. Sardella have crafted, nurtured, and cherished what is generally regarded as one of the most prestigious scholarship programs in the nation. Indeed, the narrative of the PSP is far from concluded, as our beloved program will surely continue to expand and develop in the years and decades ahead. But sadly, the roles of Dr. and Mrs.

Sardella in the PSP are rapidly drawing to a close. At the end of August, Dr. and Mrs. Sardella will be retiring from the Presidential Scholars Program, marking the end of an era—the end of a chapter—in a magnificent story which so many people have been privileged to enjoy.

The Presidential Scholars Program was founded in 1990 by Dr. Sardella, at the behest of then University President Father Monan, S.J. and Academic Vice President Father Neenan, S.J. The Wall Street Council has generously funded the program since its inception. After serving on the Enrollment Management Advisory Committee in the late 1980s, Dr. Sardella developed a keen interest in university administration. At the same time, Father Monan and Father Neenan were considering the formation of an academic scholarship program to attract more intellectually gifted students to the university and increase its prominence

in American higher education. Dr. Sardella expressed the desire to become involved in such a program and was appointed to the directorship of the Presidential Scholars Program in 1990.

Yet, as Dr. Sardella points out, at that time, “The Presidential Scholars Program existed on two sheets of paper.” In those early days, Dr. Sardella needed to cultivate the PSP and transform the program from two sheets of paper into a concrete reality for those Boston College students fortunate enough to partake in the academic, social, and developmental richness of the PSP. In conjunction with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, nine students from among the top one percent of the applicant pool were selected to comprise the first class of Presidential Scholars, arriving on campus in the fall of 1991.

The experiences of those pioneer Scholars were quite different from the experiences of Scholars today. Throughout its first four years, the PSP operated out of Dr. Sardella’s office in the Chemistry Department. There was an early version of an evening speaker series in which, according to Mrs. Sardella, Scholars sat in a semicircle on the floor of a classroom. But during these first few years, the PSP slowly began to take shape, with the summer programs focused on social justice, professional internship, and international experience anchoring the PSP. As Mrs. Sardella says of the program, “There was no blueprint; and there was not going to be anything like it out there.”

Over the years, the Program expanded to resemble its current form with such additions as the Presidential Scholars Program Weekend, a faculty mentor program, a weekly evening speaker series, the Thompson Island experience for the incoming freshman, opening and closing dinners, an assistant director and graduate assistant, a house for the program, an annual retreat, an

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# Evening Speaker Series

## Senior Scholars present in-depth theses

By Nadya Muchoney, A&S '13

The ten theses that were presented by senior Presidential Scholars on the nights of April 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> demonstrated not only the excellence of the individual presenters in their respective fields of study, but also showcased the incredibly wide breadth of interests and talents within the Presidential Scholars Program. In the first presentation, Caroline Beimford discussed the evolution of the “family saga” genre throughout literary history, explaining how she was able to utilize some of her favorite books and authors in order to develop her critical thesis. In contrast, Erin Groden’s presentation was based around complicated biological research that she performed throughout the school year and summers in a BC laboratory. She explained, with much excitement and enthusiasm, how her research lab is working to characterize specific protein products that are involved in the development of Human Papillomavirus, which she states to be “kind of a big deal.”

Another type of thesis presented by the senior Scholars was the formidable data thesis. Cece McDonald’s research in the field of accounting examined how a firm’s level of executive compensation and leverage can be used to predict their performance in a recession, which seemed to be highly relevant research in the context of our country’s current economic state. Next, John Pike discussed how he was able to integrate his interest in both economics and environmental studies into a data thesis that explored the relationship between a

nation’s rent dependency and the quality of its governance. He was even able to boil his thesis down into one complicated equation, through which he concluded that dependence has a negative effect on success, (with “preposterously high R-squared values” to prove it.) Chris Scullin’s thesis, on the other hand, focused on more political themes. He investigated the loss of the American political philosophy over history, and observed that a philosophical shift has occurred in how the fundamental

in order to gain insight into the concept of risk-taking as a response to alienation and uncertainty that is prevalent in the play. Similarly, Kelly incorporated her love of art in order to create an incredibly engaging “thesis through painting,” which explored the themes of emotion, sexuality and suffering through a series of paintings, which especially emphasized how these themes apply to average Boston College students. Pat Passarelli channeled yet another creative power, that of language and translation, in order

to translate some of Dostoyevsky’s works from Russian to English. Throughout this process, he was able to both hone his Russian language skills and gain insight into some of the plot details and intricacies that were lost in some other translations. Finally, Joe Zabinski’s thesis incorporated an impossible number of different fields, asserting that common threads are present in the theories behind quantum physics, atonal music, and German

literature by analyzing the works of Schrodinger, Schoenberg, and Goethe.

The presentation of these theses, which were both highly diverse and highly impressive, served to highlight the excellent work that has been done by all of the senior Presidential Scholars, not only during the last year, but over the course of all of their years at Boston College. These theses were clearly the culmination of years of hard work and dedication to the fields that the Scholars are passionate about, and create an example that younger Scholars will surely strive to follow.



Scholars pose after their senior thesis presentations to fellow Scholars.

Left to Right: Chris Scullin, Kelly McConnaughey, Erin Groden, Maria Perez, Patrick Passarelli, Joe Zabinski, and John Pike.

ideals of the Constitution are being interpreted. Next, Maria Perez showed how she used her experience as a nursing student to evaluate the interprofessional relationships between nurses and physicians, which have a large role in defining the dynamic of a medical workplace and which is applicable to the careers of all health professionals.

Finally, Sarah Lang, Kelly McConnaughey, Pat Passarelli, and Joe Zabinski’s presentations showed that not all theses are required to be based around data or research. For her senior thesis, Sarah directed the BC production of *Burn This*, a play by Lanford Wilson, and used her theatrical experience with the play



# Evening Speaker Series

## Former Amex President addresses Scholars

By Brian Varian, CSOM '11

Founded in 1850, American Express ranks among the oldest surviving companies in the United States; with a market capitalization of well over \$100 billion, it ranks among the largest. This Dow Jones Industrial Average possesses one of the most valuable brand names in the world, and its iconic head of a Roman soldier is a familiar symbol to generations of Americans. It is obvious why the Presidential Scholars Program was tremendously honored when Al Kelly, President of American Express addressed Scholars on the evening of February 16, 2010.

The surprisingly unassuming and conversational Mr. Kelly began the evening by describing his interesting career path, which started in the Reagan White House and ultimately led to a different sort of presidency—the presidency of American Express. While describing his career, Mr. Kelly strongly recommended to Scholars that they take advantage of every personal connection and networking opportunity

possible, emphasizing the strong connections among Boston College alumni.

In describing his position as President of American Express, Mr. Kelly called attention to the daily fluctuations in the extent of his responsibilities and the gravity of his decisions. He stated that a president's pay is simply an average daily pay. On days when crucial and risky decisions must be reached, the president is underpaid; on days when the president does little more than check emails, the president is overpaid. Mr. Kelly cited September 11<sup>th</sup> as a time when he made and executed some very crucial decisions absolutely necessary to ensure the survival of American Express. On the afternoon of September 11, 2001, he and his assistants began searching for new office space, as Mr. Kelly knew it would be months before any American Express employees would be allowed back into its old headquarters in Manhattan.

All the while, the focus of Mr. Kelly's address to the Scholars was leadership and the essential characteristics

underpinning it. Over the years, he has developed a ten-part model for successful leadership, a compilation of characteristics and attributes, each beginning with a "C." For example, one attribute of a successful leader is conviction, the ability to act according to strongly held beliefs. Mr. Kelly has been quite discriminating in deciding which attributes to include in his model, leaving out such "C" qualities as charisma. He noted that there are many people with charisma who are nevertheless poor leaders.

Mr. Kelly did a wonderful job offering Scholars a flavor of corporate America. At the same time, it was striking how similar the qualities for successful leadership in a giant corporation are to those on a college campus. And Mr. Kelly made this similarity explicit. On that note, Kari O'Neil, CSOM '11 states, "What was great about Mr. Kelly's presentation was that he was able to give advice that resonated with the entire program, not only the business world."

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alumni panel, a yearly day of service, full scholarships for Scholars, and ever more exciting and insightful trips to France.

And of course, no tribute to the Sardellas would be complete without briefly mentioning the France trip, which the Sardellas have fashioned to provide Scholars with the most intellectually stimulating, memorable experience. Following the signing of the Maastricht Treaty in 1993, the Sardella's considered France a natural choice for an international destination, believing that the French culture was "...familiar, but not too familiar." As Mrs. Sardella reflects, "Every year, each class brings something new and exciting to the France trip." Over the years, the Sardellas have forged connections with a network of professionals throughout France who annually address the Presidential Scholars and challenge them to grapple with the social, historical, political, and religious nuances of the culture.

When describing his vision for the PSP, Dr. Sardella says that he wanted the program to include, "...the ideals of Ignatian reflection and commitment to

service that would be identifiable across the board." On that note, Mrs. Sardella has attributed the success of the program to the fact that, "Dr. Sardella has kept it focused on Ignatian ideals." The PSP consistently emphasizes the Jesuit notion of servant leadership and using our skills to assist the underserved members of society, which makes the Presidential Scholars Program unique among scholarship programs in the country.

For Dr. and Mrs. Sardella, the PSP has been a wellspring of personal growth, which has made each and every day so worthwhile for them. According to Dr. Sardella, "The difference between being a professor and the PSP director is an intimate knowledge of students and the challenges confronting them." Dr. Sardella has savored the opportunity to guide students through difficult situations, sharing in the sorrows and joys of Scholars, during their four years here and beyond. As for Mrs. Sardella, "Because of working with the Presidential Scholars Program, I have gained confidence in myself, much more than I ever had." And of course, the Sardella's have grown in their relationship with each other, which remains as strong as

ever, even after seventeen trips to France.

In speaking for both herself and her husband, Mrs. Sardella states, "We do not look back on the program as a whole, we look back on individuals." Over the past twenty years, the Sardellas have blessed so many individuals with their wisdom, direction, and love. Both Dr. and Mrs. Sardella say that they are honored—truly honored to have been a part of the Presidential Scholars Program. And over 200 Scholars from the past two decades have been honored to know both of you. As you look back upon the countless photos that Mrs. Sardella has taken over the years, it is our hope that you will recall fondly, and with untold satisfaction, your legacy, which, as you said, has been the individuals of the Presidential Scholars Program.

*Father James Keenan, S.J., from the Theology Department at Boston College will become the next Presidential Scholars Program Director effective September 1, 2010. Father Keenan has been working and will continue to work with Dr. Sardella and Assistant Director, Jennie Thomas to ensure a smooth transition in leadership.*

# Evening Speaker Series

## Ambassador Burns sparks political discussion

By Sasha Savinkina, A&S '13

On the evening of Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, Ambassador Nicholas Burns spoke before the Presidential Scholars. Currently a professor at Harvard University, Ambassador Burns is a graduate of the Boston College Class of 1978 and has since been busy developing a highly impressive resumé. In the span of his career, he worked as a member of the National Security Council (1990-1995), as State Department Spokesman (1995-1997), as Ambassador to Greece (1997-2001), and as Ambassador to NATO (2001-2005). From 2005-2008 he worked as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and led negotiations on the US-India Civil Nuclear Agreement, a long-term military assistance agreement with Israel, and led US nuclear negotiations with Iran.

Ambassador Burns spoke to the Presidential Scholars about what he viewed as the major problems presently facing the Obama Administration, addressing the two different wars being fought at once, the global recession, and the growing nuclear powers of North Korea and Iran. He spoke of the approach that Obama was using to handle problems, such as, pulling troops from Iraq and

for a country with a military as small as that of the United States. It has also never been done before in US history. According to Burns, beginning to end the war in Iraq is the most advantageous way to handle the war in Afghanistan, which, prior to the surge, was not going in our favor.

Ambassador Burns also spoke of other important issues facing us today, issues that will need to be dealt with by our generation. He had the audience name some major problems in our world and built up a list consisting of poverty, famine, war, drug cartels, human trafficking, and much more. He then asked the question of how these problems could best be addressed. This question brought up a subject that has been debated in this country since its founding: isolationism versus engagement and the role of the US in world affairs in the near future. Of the issues listed above, Ambassador Burns said, none of them could be solved without



Photo Courtesy of: Marjorie Sardella

Ambassador Burns engages Scholars during his discussion of the problems facing the Obama Administration



Photo Courtesy of: Marjorie Sardella

Sophomore Scholar Ola Jachtorowicz asks Ambassador Burns a question after his presentation to Scholars.

surging into Afghanistan- and analyzed the effectiveness of these actions. Fighting two full-out wars, he said, was impossible

the US would remain a great political, military, economic, and democratic power, it would also have to learn to share

the participation of all nations working together. Isolationism is no longer a valid choice for the United States because it will only exacerbate the problems already present. Next, the role of America was discussed in greater detail, and though Ambassador Burns mentioned that

the limelight with upcoming superpowers such as China, Brazil, and India.

Ambassador Burns then opened the floor to questions, which included queries about his own career track, economic problems in Europe, and the dangers of Iran and how it should be dealt with. He talked in greater detail about the journey he had taken leading him to his current position and how he did so by taking every opportunity offered to him, encouraging Scholars to follow his example.

Ambassador Burns captivated the Scholars not only by his great knowledge of United States diplomacy, but also by the worlds of experience that supported his discussion. He is not just a theorist who has studied the issues he spoke on from afar, he actually experienced them directly. Ambassador Burns has led a fascinating life thus far, offering Scholars wisdom and insight drawn from these interesting experiences.



# Evening Speaker Series

## Alumni return with rich and diverse experiences

By Helen Jiang, A&S '13

On Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Presidential Scholars Program hosted its annual Alumni Panel where four alumni Scholars of diverse backgrounds shared their experiences and offered helpful insight on collegiate life and its many possible rewards. As an event that is traditionally organized by current Scholars, senior Scholar Pat Passarelli and sophomore Scholar Adi Ashok coordinated this year's alumni panel.

Michelle Knight, an alumnus from the class of 1998 began the evening by speaking about her ambitions, as an undergraduate English major, to pursue a career in journalism. A panel for English majors that she attended during her undergraduate career at BC, however, changed her mode of thinking and sparked a realization in Knight's mind that she had the skills and knowledge to pursue a variety of careers. This discovery led her to pursue a Master of Business Administration at Boston College and upon graduation, she landed her first job at the major financial corporation, JP Morgan. Although she enjoyed her time at JP Morgan, she eventually decided to pursue a new job and, Knight described the difficulty in making this decision. Her new job as the Director of Fixed Income at Atlantic Trust required a lot of time and commitment. This high-

stress environment coupled with a major crisis in which she learned that the life of her first child was in serious danger, forced Knight to reevaluate her priorities. Through a friend, she found a suitable job that let her have flexible hours. Currently, Knight is the Director of Fixed Income at SilverBridge Advisors and is a frequent columnist for a major financial publication, a perfect blend of her undergraduate English degree with her MBA. Despite her extremely successful and fulfilling corporate career, Knight ended her introduction by emphasizing that being a mother always came first.

The second alumnus to speak about his experience was Don Schuerman. A graduate of the class of 1997, Schuerman faced a peculiar problem as an undergraduate because of his unique choice to double major in Physics and Philosophy. Eventually, however, he found the perfect job that combined both of those skills—a career in technical sales. He explained that his focus in Philosophy had given him the verbal skills to communicate with consumers. On the other hand, his Physics background gave him the skills to understand and describe the technical details of the products. Schuerman reassured the Scholars that the perfect job exists out there somewhere, although it often takes quite a long time to discover. He also emphasized the importance of keeping up with hobbies.

He, over the years, has kept up with his hobby of improvisational comedy, which has led him to become the Director of Programming at Improv Boston, a career that he pursues along with his work at Pegasystems. Schuerman also noted he was unique in the fact that he has stayed with Pegasystems, Inc. for his entire career. He gained much experience with many jobs all within one company.

The third speaker, Emily Venanzi, Class of 1999, spoke extensively about her interest in Biochemistry. She explained how she came to her life as a researcher. She had conducted research during her sophomore year at BC with a professor and instantly fell in love with it. She chose to pursue a PhD in Immunology because she wanted to deal with a field of science that heavily involved human beings. Venanzi spoke of spending the first eight years of her career in research laboratories. After those eight years, she said she felt “a little burnt out” and decided to take a break. She moved on to starting a family. Venanzi, like Knight, explained how her family now takes priority over her career. She does, however, aim to pursue a career in the library system so that she can continue to be a part of her family, while at the same time pursue her passion through scientific publications.

The fourth and last speaker, Taylor Heyen, a graduate of the Class of 2006, spoke of her recent transition into the workforce. She began her studies at BC as a History and Women's Studies major. Her interest in politics, however, drove her to pursue and complete an internship in Washington D.C. the summer following her junior year at the University. The experience was disillusioning and Heyen realized she no longer wanted to pursue a career involving politics. With her career direction unclear, Taylor decided to follow the advice of a friend who suggested that she pursue a career in consulting. Her personality and outgoing manner seemed to fit the mold of the consulting world quite well. After interviewing, she accepted a job in consulting at Accenture in Boston, MA in which she stayed for two years after graduation. She has recently accepted a new job with Forrester Research as the Advisor to the Forrester Leadership Boards. Heyen emphasized college networking because of how it assisted her with pursuing a career.

A universal message was clearly established during this presentation; no matter where your major, ambitions, or personal expectations lead you in life, there will always be opportunities open to you. The evening ended with an inspiring statement from Schuerman, “You can do just about anything.”



Photo Courtesy of: Marjorie Sardella

Alumni presenters pose together after providing brief overviews of their experiences at BC and beyond to current Scholars.

# ***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.

*Scott Jelinek (Chief Marshal)*  
*Sarah Lang (Marshal)*  
*Joseph Zabinski*

### ***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.

*Kathryn Goettl*  
*Chris Griesedieck*  
*Anne Kornahrens*  
*Colleen Maher*  
*Courtney McKee*  
*Scott Molony*  
*Leon Ratz*  
*Andrew Rivera*  
*Hope Sullivan*  
*Shane Ulbrich*

### ***Sophomore Scholars***

Each year the most academically distinguished members of the sophomore class are honored as Sophomore Scholars. The young scholars 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.

*Aditya Ashok*  
*Michael Cuttler*  
*Alexander Goldowsky*  
*Samuel Hocking*  
*Karen Kovaka*  
*Abigail Letak*  
*Jessica Seminelli*  
*Christopher Sheridan*  
*Zachary Zimmermann*

## ***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 2010***

*Caroline Beimford*  
*Sarah Lang*  
*Ana Mascagni*  
*Kelly McConnaghey*  
*Cecelia McDonald – Initiated in 2009*  
*Jonathan Pike*  
*Chris Scullin*  
*Andrew Steck*

### ***Class of 2011***

*Chris Griesedieck*  
*Courtney McKee*

## ***Alpha Sigma Nu***

Alpha Sigma Nu is a national Jesuit honor society. It was started at Marquette University in 1915 and today has chapters in the 28 US Jesuit colleges and universities, Weston, and Berkeley Schools of Theology and Sogang University in Korea. Admission is based on scholarship, loyalty, and service.

### ***Class of 2010***

*Caroline Beimford*  
*Kelly McConnaughey*  
*Jonathan Pike*  
*Chris Scullin*  
*Andrew Steck*  
*Joseph Zabinski*

### ***Class of 2011***

*Kari O'Neil*  
*Jose Perez*  
*Brian Varian (BC Chapter President)*  
*Colleen Maher*

## ***Omicron Delta Epsilon***

Economics Honors Society

*Kari O'Neil*

## ***Theta Alpha Kappa***

National Honor Society of Theology

*Shane Ulbrich*

# PSP Awards

## **Stylus Award**

The Stylus is Boston College's literary and art magazine. It is the oldest club at Boston College and one of the oldest collegiate literary magazines in the country. The award is given to an outstanding contributor to the literary magazine.

*Kelly McConnaughey '10*

## **CRC Press Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award**

This award is given to two outstanding freshman chemistry students in each incoming class, based on performance in General Chemistry and in the honors course, Principles of Modern Chemistry.

*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. Grants are for student-designed projects and are awarded for summer "skill acquisition" projects that promise to accelerate the applicant's progress in the major field of study. A list of this year's PSP winners and their projects are below.

### **Michael Cuttler, A&S '12**

*Under the Sea: To support skill acquisition in instrument calibration for a study of sediment transport from the continental shelf to the Ebro margin.*

### **Elizabeth Fair, A&S '12**

*Autism Spectrum Disorder Intervention: To support a research internship at a center for specialized services for ASD children.*

### **Karen Kovaka, A&S '12**

*The Science of Hunger: To support research into agricultural development in Bangalore, India.*

### **Abigail Letak, A&S '12**

*Experience and Belief: To support research into the link between Catholic adolescents' experience and their interpretations of Catholic teachings and modern societal values.*

### **Christopher Sheridan, A&S '12**

*Translation Moments: To support advanced intensive study of German in Munich.*

## **Beckman Scholarship for Undergraduate Research Students in Chemistry and Biological Sciences**

*Courtney McKee '11*

## **Non-University Awards, Honor, Fellowships or Scholarships**

### **Fulbright Grants**

*Patrick Passarelli '10, English Teaching Assistantsip, Russia*

*Joseph Zabinski '10, Research in the Philosophy of Science & Music, Vienna, Austria*

## **Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program**

*Anne Kornahrens '11*

## **Commencement Awards**

*School of Arts and Sciences*

### **Scholar of the College**

Scholar of the College is a special designation conferred at Commencement on seniors who have successfully completed particularly creative, scholarly, and ambitious independent research projects while maintaining an overall cumulative grade point average of A- or better.

*Joseph Zabinski*

### **Mary A. & Katherine G. Finneran Award**

An award, the gift of Misses Elizabeth and Theresa Finneran, given to the student who has achieved outstanding success in studies, while also devoting time and talents to other activities for the enrichment of the College and student life.

*Scott Jelinek*

### **J. Robert Barth, S.J., Award for Excellence in the Arts**

An award in honor of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (1988-1999), who established and nurtured departments and programs in the arts. This award is presented annually to a senior who has made outstanding contributions to Boston College in the fine or performing arts.

*Sarah Lang*

# PSP Awards

## **J. Paul Marcoux Award**

An award in honor of J. Paul Marcoux, Professor of Theater at Boston College (1964-1994), presented annually to a senior Theater major for excellence and growth, both academically and artistically, over their four years at Boston College.

*Sarah Lang*

## **Richard & Marianne Martin Award for Studio Art**

In memory of Richard and Marianne Martin for their dedication to the ideals of art, and for their unstinting devotion to the goals and values of Boston College. Two awards are given by the Boston College Friends of Art: one to an outstanding scholar in Art History, the other to a student who excels in Studio Art.

*Kelly McConnaughey*

## **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.

*Cecelia McDonald*

## **John F. Norton Award**

An award in honor of John F. Norton '22, Boston College professor (1926-1965), given to the student who best personifies the tradition of humanistic scholarship.

*Cecilia McDonald*

## **Giffuni Prize**

An award sponsored by the Giffuni Family Fund in honor of Vincent Giffuni (BC '65), given to a senior who has written an outstanding thesis in economics.

Andrew Steck

## **Albert McGuinn, S.J., Award**

This award is in memory of the late Albert McGuinn, S.J., long-time Chairman of the Chemistry Department at Boston College, and presented to the senior candidate for the Bachelor of Science degree. The recipient has most successfully combined proficiency in a major field of study with achievements, either academic, extracurricular, or a combination of both, in the social sciences or humanities.

*Joseph Zabinski*

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## Scholar and Alumni Updates

**Ana Mascagni '10** was selected to present her thesis, "Youth Mentoring Relationships: Cross-Class Dynamics" at the Boston College Graduate Scholarship Symposium. She was one of fifteen students selected to present at this conference.

**Scott Molony '11** was recently awarded The INSEIT Fellowship, given to young scholars in the field of Computer Ethics by the International Society for Ethics and Information Technology (INSEIT) as a way to encourage collaboration between junior and senior scholars. Along with a \$250 grant, the INSEIT Fellowship pairs two scholars together, with the expectation that the collaborative pair will produce a paper in a year's time. Scott has been paired with Richard Spinello, his Scholar of the College Thesis advisor, and is the first undergraduate ever awarded this prestigious fellowship.

**Brian Tracz '12** is being published in Arché, Boston University's undergraduate philosophy journal. His article is titled "The Synoptic Image: Fusing the Worldview Dichotomy." He will also be attending the Illinois Summer Neuroscience Insti-

tute at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign as a visiting student.

**Patricia Noonan '07** was recently chosen as one of a handful of performers to sing at "Sondheim at 80" at the Kennedy Center. This event was a celebration of the 80th birthday of 16-time Tony Award-winning composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim and included a concert of his greatest hits. In addition, Patricia sang the national anthem at this year's Wall Street Council Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, New York.

The parents of late PSP alumni **Brian Gray '01** have established a scholarship fund in his name. To fund this scholarship, they are using the income from patents on a new chemical reagent that is finding wide use in organic synthesis reactions and that Brian established during his undergraduate years at BC.

**Zach Zimmerman '12** is a recent recipient of a Clough Center Civic Grant and an ACCIAC Research Grant.



# ***Congratulations, Class of 2010!***



On April 22, senior Scholars, PSP Director Dr. Sardella, Assistant Director Jennie Thomas, and PSP Photographer Marjorie Sardella 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 Francis C. Rooney, Jr., Chairman, H.H. Brown Shoe Co., Inc.

Front row (left to right): Peter Wojda, Cecilia McDonald, Chiara Rivas-Morello, Erin Groden, Lea Yared, Ana Mascagni, Sarah Lang, Caroline Beimford, Maria Perez, Kelly McConnaughey, Ryan Beck. Back Row (left to right): Jonathan Pike, John Flowers, Patrick Passarelli, Joseph Zabinski, Jennie Thomas, Rev. William P. Leahy, Francis C. Rooney, Jr., Frances Rooney, Marjorie Sardella, Dr. Dennis Sardella, Andrew Steck, Scott Jelinek, Chris Scullin.



Photo Courtesy of: Marjorie Sardella



On the morning of April 23, the class of 2010 and Program administrators were given a tour of the New York Stock Exchange (shown above). They then had a photo-op in front of the bull on Wall Street (pictured at left.)

BOSTON COLLEGE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM  
122 COLLEGE ROAD • CHESTNUT HILL, MA 02467



Bread for the Journey

## Opportunity & Duty

*We have before us not only an opportunity, but an historic duty.  
It is in our hands to join our strength, taking sustenance from our  
diversity, honoring our rich and varied traditions and culture, but  
acting together for the protection and benefit of us all.*

*Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, First President of Ghana*