Boston College, Allston-Brighton Collaboration Supports Local Projects and Programs

Representatives of 19 local organizations gathered on campus in July as University President William P. Leahy, S.J. and Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh presented the Allston-Brighton Neighborhood Improvement Fund and Community Fund grant awards.

The awards support area programs, projects and initiatives that benefit the community: Among those selected for funding were a new playground at the Jackson-Mann Community School, summer teen development programs for the Oak Square YMCA, and an adaptive sports program for Boston-area children with disabilities.

The Neighborhood Improvement Fund was created by the University – along with the Boston Planning and Development Agency – as part of a public benefits package related to its Institutional Master Plan. The fund aids Allston-Brighton public and private non-profit entities undertaking projects that involve neighborhood beautification, public safety, transportation and roadway improvements, public art, and enhancements to public parks and open space.

The Allston/Brighton-Boston College Community Fund supports programs and services that are available to the people of Allston and Brighton. Special consideration is given to the benefit of the potential award on the youth, senior citizens, and the needy in the Allston and Brighton neighborhoods; beautification projects are also encouraged.

A look at the grant recipients:

- Jackson-Mann Community School and Council: $100,000
- Allston Village Main Streets Inc.: $36,000
- Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation: $59,000
- VFW Post 669 and Boston Parks and Recreation: $100,000
- Artists for Humanity: $30,798
- Allston Brighton Substance Abuse Task Force: $1,500
- Boston Police Department: $2,500
- Brighton Main Streets: $2,400
- Charles River Conservancy: $2,255
- The Civic Conservations: $3,000
- Franciscan Children’s Hospital: $3,000
- Friends of the Faneuil Library branch of the Boston Public Library: $2,100
- Horace Mann School for the Deaf: $3,000
- Jackson-Mann Community Center After School/Pre-School Program: $3,000
- Oak Square YMCA: $3,000
- Presentation School Foundation Community Center: $2,000
- Tenacity Inc.: $2,500
- West End House Camp Inc.: $3,000
- West End House Girls Camp: $3,000

-University Communications
Summer of Moving Earth

Boston College is in the midst of an extraordinarily busy summer on the construction front, with several major projects in progress. Work is underway on the Connell Recreation Center and new athletic field house – both on the Chestnut Hill Campus – and the baseball, softball and recreational fields on Brighton Campus. In addition, renovations have begun at Devlin Hall that will result in a larger, improved visitor center for the Office of Undergraduate Admission.

“The recreation center, field house and baseball-softball projects affect some 20 acres of land altogether, and involve some of the largest quantities of earthwork here on campus,” said Associate Vice President for Capital Projects Management Mary Nardone. “It takes a phenomenal amount of effort, skill and organization, but we have confidence in both our Facilities staff and the outside firms involved in the work.

“We also have confidence in the practices and procedures we follow during planning and in undertaking construction projects,” she added. “The results, we believe, are beneficial to the University community.”

Nardone and her Facilities Management colleagues recently discussed the progress of the major campus projects.

The Brighton Athletic Fields – expected to be completed this coming March – will consist of three athletics fields, situated between St. Clement’s Hall and Lake Street, and a support building.

Project Manager Michael Leone said the current phase of the project involves installation of piping and other infrastructure to ensure the fields have sufficient drainage. This will likely be finished by the end of August. “As we get toward the fall, you’ll start to see foundations rising from the ground, like the grandstands and press boxes,” he said.

On the eastern-most edge, facing toward St. Clement’s, will be the 3.5-acre baseball field, which will have a capacity for 1,000 spectators. The field will include a press box for media and public address functions, a synthetic playing surface and lighting.

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Community Assistance Program

Run by the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Students, the Community Assistance Program (CAP) continues to enhance the relationship between the wider community and Boston College’s on- and off-campus students.

Steve Montgomery, the Off-Campus Student Community Liaison, working closely with the Boston Police, Newton Police and BC Police, responds to disturbance calls and addresses concerns of the community.

The Liaison monitors areas where large numbers of off-campus students live on weekend nights (including Thursdays, holidays, and other high activity dates during the academic year).

Students needing help with city services, landlords, and their neighbors should feel free to contact the CAP program.

To contact CAP on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday evenings, contact the Boston College Police at 617-552-4440. You can also contact Steve during the rest of the week at 617-552-6028 or stephen.montgomery@bc.edu
Summer of Moving Earth, cont.

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Immediately adjacent to the baseball field will be the softball field, which is about 1.5 acres and will seat 300 spectators. The softball field will include a similar, albeit smaller, press box, and also feature a synthetic/clay playing surface and lighting.

The 115,000-square foot athletic field house, located adjacent to Alumni Stadium, will provide much-needed space for varsity football and other field sports, as well as campus recreation, club sports, and intramurals. It is expected to open in August of 2018.

Excavation at the site is currently underway, according to Project Manager Thomas Runyon, resulting into two enormous piles – each about 35 to 40 feet high – of soil that will remain on Shea Field while other work continues. Some of the soil will eventually be used as subsoil for drainage-related purposes, he said. Foundation work was expected to start this month and is likely to continue until the end of August; structural steel for the building is scheduled to arrive in September, Runyon said.

One important aspect of the project, Runyon noted, is that its proximity to a major MWRA waterline requires the University to follow strict guidelines on how work is conducted. “We are extremely careful in all phases of the construction activities.” ARC/Architectural Resources Cambridge is the architect for the recreation center project, while Suffolk is the construction manager.

In Devlin Hall, work should be finished next month on an expanded reception area for the Office of Undergraduate Admission that improves the flow of foot traffic, especially during admission tours. Another feature of the project will be the construction of a 250-seat lecture hall – in space formerly occupied by the McMullen Museum of Art – that will be used for admission programs, expected to be finished during the spring semester.

-Sean Smith, University Communications

McMullen Museum Project Earns Preservation Award

A year after the McMullen Museum of Art at Boston College debuted its new, world-class venue at 2101 Commonwealth Avenue, the building project will be recognized with a prestigious Preservation Achievement Award by the Boston Preservation Alliance. An important and critically acclaimed cultural resource, the McMullen is one of 10 projects chosen for the award, which annually honors outstanding achievements in historic preservation and compatible new construction in Boston.

“Boston College has successfully given this 90-year-old treasure a new life for the BC community and for Boston,” said Boston Preservation Alliance Executive Director Greg Galer. “Finding successful new uses for large, monumental, institutional buildings isn’t easy, and the cost to rehabilitate them and the value of the land on which they sit often leads to unfortunate outcomes for historic fabric.”

Located on BC’s 65-acre Brighton Campus, the museum is in the former residence of Boston’s Cardinal Archbishop. The architecture firm DiMella Shaffer reconfigured the space and preserved the building’s exterior façade with a design that complements the architecture of the existing building designed by Maginnis and Walsh. The new museum was funded in part by a gift to Boston College from the McMullen Family Foundation. Longtime benefactors and namesakes the late John McMullen, who served on the Boston College Board of Trustees, and his wife, Jacqueline, shared a deep interest in art and collecting

Preservation Achievement awardees were chosen across a spectrum of work from throughout the city of Boston. Awards will be presented to the teams behind these projects on September 19 at the State Street Pavilion at Fenway.

-University Communications
Mary Ellen Fulton Receives 2017 Community Service Award

Lynch School of Education Associate Dean for Finance, Research, and Administration Mary Ellen Fulton’s bond with Boston College extends far and wide, including two tours of duty as an employee. Now she has another, as this year’s winner of the University’s Community Service Award.

The award, presented by the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs, recognizes a BC employee whose actions exemplify the Jesuit spirit of community service and involvement. Fulton received her honor from University President William P. Leahy, S.J., at a May 30 reception.

Fulton’s record of service is marked by “dedication and steadfast advocacy” for quality education from the elementary to college level, according to the award citation, citing her work with two Boston-area Catholic schools, Saint Joseph’s Preparatory Academy, and Saint Columbkille Partnership School, and the Natick Education Foundation, a nonprofit in her home community.

“...I’m truly humbled by the honor,” said Fulton in a recent interview. “I feel blessed to be here: Working at BC, I believe, offers the opportunity to give back – something that is very rewarding.”

Fulton also has been involved in a joint oversight committee for Saint Joseph’s and the Saint Columbkille Partnership School. The latter school, which serves pre-K through eighth-grade children, is operated jointly by BC, the Archdiocese of Boston, and Saint Columbille.

-Sean Smith / University Communications

Boston College President William P. Leahy, S.J., with Lynch School of Education Associate Dean for Finance, Research, and Administration Mary Ellen Fulton

Photo by Lee Pellegrini

BC Neighborhood Center

The Boston College Neighborhood Center located at 480 Washington St in Brighton, provides free educational services to the Allston Brighton community, including tutoring for school-aged children and ESOL classes for adults. The Center also partners with BC’s Human Resources to provide informational workshops on employment at Boston College.

For more information about our services visit us at www.bc.edu/neighborhood, call us at 617.552.0445 or just come by our center.

McMullen Museum Fall Exhibit

Since the Renaissance, art in the region of Belgium and the nearby Netherlands has been known for innovations in realistic representation of visual appearances and for an extraordinary fluency in symbolism. The development of landscape as an independent genre was fostered by new market forces and artistic concerns in Belgium in the sixteenth century, and landscape emerged as a major focus for nineteenth-century realist and symbolist artists. Nature’s Mirror: Reality and Symbol in Belgian Landscape traces these landmark developments with a rich array of seldom-seen works.

In the Daley Family Gallery from September 10 – December 10, 2017

Football season is here! Please see the enclosed magnet for the 2017 football schedule. Go Eagles!