

Chronicle

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INSIDE: 3 Walk for Water; Menino visits BC 4 Roundtable: The Middle East 8 Gospel Showcase at Robsham

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Winter of 2011 (80 Inches and Counting) a Tough Test for BC

BY REID OSLIN
STAFF WRITER

Boston College's three campuses have 215 staircases, 40 acres of parking lots and 11 miles of sidewalks — all of which, thanks to a dozen substantial storms this winter, have been covered with a total of 80 inches of snow.

That adds up to a major challenge, a major expense — and sometimes a major headache — for the crews from the University's Facilities Services grounds maintenance and custodial teams assigned to clear and remove the tons of white stuff that

has fallen from winter skies.

The nasty stretch of snowy weather has meant long hours for the plowing, sanding and shoveling crews, who have worked up to 30 consecutive hours during the biggest storms to keep campus roads and walkways clear, safe and accessible.

"The guys are exhausted," said Associate Director of Facilities Services Gina Bellavia, who heads up the snow clearing operation, in an interview after yet another recent storm. "There have been at least five times when we have had to keep everyone overnight. When the snow starts, we have them going right

through the end of evening classes so that everything is safe for the people leaving campus. They might catch a couple of hours of sleep and then they'll be out at 5 a.m. getting right back at it."

This year, Facilities Services has borrowed emergency cots from University Director of Emergency Management and Preparedness John Tommaney, along with bedding and pillows from the Office of Residential Life, to provide a clean and comfortable resting place for the bone-weary crews. A temporary rest area has been set up in the lower level of the former Cardinal's Resi-



Facilities Services custodians and housekeepers pause while clearing up after a recent snowstorm. (Photo by Gary Wayne Gilbert)

dence on the Brighton Campus and another in the workmen's lounge in the Service Building on the Main Campus.

The grounds crew is assisted in their work by equipment and operators hired from four local contract-

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T-shirts are one of many ways Agape Latte organizers promote the series — and the results have been positive. (Photo by Kathleen Sullivan)

Brewing Up a Good Conversation

Students are warming to the Agape Latte series on faith and spirituality

BY KATHLEEN SULLIVAN
STAFF WRITER

For the past five years, Boston College undergraduates have gathered at Hillsides Café on the first Tuesday night of the month for sustenance — both physical and spiritual.

At Agape Latte, co-sponsored by the Church in the 21st Century Center and Campus Ministry, students are offered tasty desserts, coffee, and an opportunity to hear from a BC faculty member or administrator about issues of faith, religion and spirituality. The free events regularly draw crowds of 100-300 students, who also can participate in a Q&A session with the featured speaker.

"I think the relaxing environment and broad topic range has made Agape Latte a very popular event for students," said John Kelly '12, an accounting and theology

double major. "It's an opportunity for students to take a break from their hectic schedules and listen to how professors and staff members on campus have become who they are today: both as a professional and as a person. The talks also bring up a lot of great issues into conversation facing us as BC students."

Adds Meghan Wegner '13, an international studies major, "The speakers are engaging, honest and personable. They tell their story without bias and allow conversation to flow from there. Personally, this is my favorite part—the genuine sharing of people's stories."

"Through Agape Latte, BC is sending a message that critical reflection on faith life and how it works with daily life is important," said Campus Minister Rick Rossi, who oversees the program with C21's Karen Kiefer and Paul

Wendel.

Agape Latte was founded in 2006 by then-C21 Director Tim Muldoon, now assistant to the vice president for University Mission and Ministry, and former C21 Assistant Director Dawn Overstreet. The event name comes from the Greek word *agape* — love that seeks nothing in return.

In addition to Muldoon, the series' first speaker, other Agape Latte speakers have included Philosophy Adjunct Associate Professor Brian Braman; Monan Professor of Theology Lisa Sowle Cahill; Theology Associate Professor Fr. Ken Himes; Founders Professor of Theology James Keenan, SJ; Director of Undergraduate Admission John Mahoney; Adj. Associate Professor of Economics Richard McGowan, SJ; Campus Ministry Director Fr. Anthony Penna; Volunteer and Service Learning

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Grant Will Aid Study on Housing and Children

BY ED HAYWARD
STAFF WRITER

Lynch School of Education Associate Professor Rebekah Levine Coley is part of a team of researchers who have been awarded a \$900,000 grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to examine the role that housing plays in the development of children in low-income families.

Coley, with Tufts' Tama Leventhal and Duke University's Linda Burton, will study how housing influences children's well being between infancy and the middle school years. The funding for the project comes from the MacArthur Foundation's \$25 million How Housing Matters to Families and Communities initiative.

"We're trying to understand

how parents with limited economic resources make difficult choices about housing within the context of economic and social constraints," said Coley, a developmental psychologist. "Many low-income families have to make decisions between access to quality housing and access to decent medical care or to adequate food. We hope to learn more about how they make those decisions."

The role of housing in childhood development has never been studied in as comprehensive a fashion as proposed by the research team of Coley, Burton, an urban sociologist, and Leventhal, a developmental psychologist.

"There is a fair amount of research on housing contexts and housing policy," said Coley. "But relatively little of it has focused on

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Assoc. Prof. Rebekah Levine Coley (LSOE). (Photo by Lee Pellegrini)

Wandering mind

O'Neill Library patrons who seek a study break will find a whimsical distraction in the Level One Gallery — one that's literally over their heads.

On display in the gallery through March 24, the BC Art Club's exhibition "The Mind Often Wanders: A Floating Show" comprises small drawings, paintings, sculptures, paper objects, collages, dream catchers and mobiles, all suspended from the ceiling, with twinkle lights and confetti among adornments on cork boards and walls.

The work of 23 student artists is featured in the exhibition, sponsored by the Art Club and Boston College Libraries. Its concept, according to the Art Club's description, is to "create a 'dream space' out of what is normally regarded as a 'think space.'"

"Art Club wanted students to be reminded that intellectual stimulation need not negate the wandering of the mind. We sought to create a space to contemplate, to dream, to allow the mind to wander. Ours is a space where curiosity roams free."

The week prior to the exhibition's Feb. 3 opening, club members gathered for an evening of art making to create the pieces from such supplies as paint, inks, wire, yarn, glass and recycled materials.

Art Club President Lauren Gomez '11 said the opening reception for "The Mind Often Wanders" — which featured artfully presented colorful candy treats and a display bowl of five live goldfish — was met with positive



A sampling of items on display at the Level One Gallery exhibition "The Mind Often Wanders: A Floating Show." (Photo by Caitlin Cunningham)

response. "Students seemed to really like the varied nature of the show."

Although "The Mind Often Wanders" represents a departure from previous Level One exhibitions — displaying works hung from the ceiling rather than on the walls — it has helped to continue raising the gallery's profile, according to O'Neill Senior Library Assistant Kevin Tringale, who spearheaded the effort to create a venue to highlight campus creativity and showcase the art work of BC community members.

To date, the gallery has presented works from students in studio art courses taught by Fine Arts Department faculty member Karl Baden, creations by members of the BC Libraries staff and the photography of international students, among other exhibitions.

—RP

Hard sell

Red Bull's red and gold logo can "give you wings" — for better or worse — even if consumers don't know it, according to a new study by Carroll School of Management faculty members S. Adam Brasel and James Gips, who found the brand's edgy marketing efforts have sold a heavy dose of attitude to consumers.

Researchers put subjects at the controls of a car racing video game, supplying each with functionally identical racecars, but each car decorated with a different brand logo and color scheme.

Players put in control of the Red Bull car displayed the characteristics often attributed to the brand — like speed, power, aggressiveness and risk-taking — and the results were both positive and negative, Brasel and Gips reported in the *Journal of Consumer Psychology*. In some cases, the drivers sped around the game course. In others, their recklessness caused them to crash and lose valuable time.

"In a performance context, what we see is that people racing the Red Bull car race faster and more aggressively, sometimes recklessly, and they either do very, very well or they push themselves too far and crash," said Brasel, an assistant professor of marketing. "They tend to do great or they tend to do horrible. There's very little middle ground."

All this took place without the consumers being aware of their own behavior, said Brasel. These changes are a result of "non-conscious brand priming," according to Brasel and Gips, who is Egan Professor of Computer Science and chairman of the Carroll School's Information Systems Department. It appears that the personality of a brand can non-consciously "push" or "nudge" a consumer to act in ways consistent with that personality when exposed to brand imagery. The study shows that this priming affect can extend beyond how we think into areas of actual consumer performance, with both positive and negative consequences.

In a world where ambient advertising swaddles buses in wrap-around billboards and product placements in TV, movies, Internet, videogames and other media topped \$3.6 billion last year, the Red Bull effect shows advertising and marketing programs can push beyond simply making a sale. They can have a behavioral influence that consumers don't expect.

Red Bull has built their brand identity by sponsoring promotions such as street luge contests, airplane races, and a full-contact ice-skating obstacle course known as "Crashed Ice." At the website brandtags.net, where users enter words or phrases they associate with brands, words like "speed," "power," "risk-tak-

ing" and "recklessness" occur 10 times more frequently for Red Bull than the other 14 most common brands.

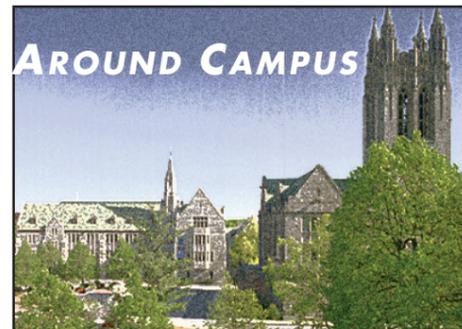
So while the research subjects knew the cars were identical in performance and differed only in paint jobs — also representing prominent brands Guinness, Tropicana, and Coca Cola — Red Bull's brand identity of speed, power, and recklessness worked both for and against the players.

"This highlights some unintended consequences of ambient advertising and product placement," said Brasel. "It's an effect that we as advertisers have not been aware of or have been ignoring. All of these brands that surround us are probably having a greater effect on our behavior than most of us realize."

—EH

Correction

A story in the Feb. 3 *Chronicle* about a joint meeting of the University's student leadership programs incorrectly identified the AHANA Leadership Academy. In addition, the list of participating programs did not include Sankofa Leadership Program, through the Office of AHANA Student Programs. *Chronicle* regrets the errors.



New and improved

The Boston College community will have a better way to keep tabs on upcoming student organization events, thanks to a newly launched portal, MyBC [<http://bc.collegiatelink.net/>].

MyBC and its virtual bulletin board, recently added to the Student Programs Office website [<http://www.bc.edu/offices/studentprograms.html>], is the latest upgrade to the revamped

Student Affairs division's online presence [<http://www.bc.edu/offices/dsa.html>].

Student Programs Office Associate Director Mark Miceli said the office worked with all official student clubs and organizations last semester to ensure each were represented on, and could contribute to, the new site.

"As an institution, there was never a single place to go to view all the student events. This was needed for the community to see what is happening on campus," said Miceli.

MyBC is run on CollegiateLink, a platform design by StudentVoice, a private company that boasts more than 400 universities in North America among its clientele.

Besides a new look, MyBC has a new administrative function that allows administrators to streamline the event approval and posting



process. Club and student organization leaders have access to the sites,

which include club rosters, photo galleries, events and news tabs. Everyone can access club pages and event listings.

The online flyer board also provides a unique — and environmentally friendly — way for students to promote upcoming shows, meetings and speakers.

"This management system provides a really robust event calendar that we hope everyone on campus will use as a resource," said Miceli.

—MB

The Office of News & Public Affairs has added to its offerings of social media and information resources with the Boston College Blog [thebostoncollegeblog.com].

Check the BC Blog for news and other items about Boston College people, programs and activities.

In addition, blog readers can e-mail questions about BC. News & Public Affairs Director Jack Dunn will answer the most common questions in the blog.



THE BOSTON COLLEGE

Chronicle

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Going the Distance

BC freshmen are hitting the road from Newton to Main Campus to raise awareness of water crisis

BY MELISSA BEECHER
STAFF WRITER

Each day, dozens of children at the Longa Secondary School in the Ruvuma Region of Tanzania face a two-mile walk to get water — a journey that takes time away from the classroom and often brings to the community water that is contaminated because of poor sanitary conditions.

This week and next, 30 Boston College freshmen are walking the roughly two miles between the Newton and Chestnut Hill campuses to raise awareness of the world water crisis that affects Tanzania and other countries. Proceeds from the Walk for Water — a goal of \$2,500 has been set — will be used to help the children of the Longa Secondary School by purchasing rain catchment systems and hand washing stations.

The BC-Longa School connection was established by H2O for Life, a Minnesota-based nonprofit that links schools in the United States with schools in develop-

ing countries. Freshman Chris Olmanson took part in a similar event while a junior at Wayzata High School in Minnesota to benefit a school in the Philippines.

“When I started learning about the world water crisis in high school, it came as a complete shock to me,” said Olmanson. “In talking with a group of friends here at BC about the issue, we decided it would be great to continue the effort.”

According to the World Health Organization, 1.1 billion people in the world — one out of six people — lack access to safe drinking water and an estimated 2.6 billion lack adequate sanitation.

Through Feb. 25, freshman organizers Kelsey Stuart, Jon Geary and Du Park will join Olmanson in leading two groups of students the symbolic two miles. The walks — which began on Monday — will take place at 7 a.m. and 8 a.m.

Organizers say students are undeterred by the prospect of cold temperatures, slippery sidewalks



Students during the Walk for Water earlier this week. The two-mile trek they cover is equal to the distance school-children in Tanzania must travel to get clean water, according to walk organizers. (Photo by Christopher Huang)

and large snow banks.

“We were hoping to do it when it was a little warmer, but realized that it really couldn’t wait,” said Park. “People are used to turning on the faucet and having clean, safe drinking water come out. That is not the reality for millions of children in developing countries.

“Many of the students who at-

tend the Longa School miss classes because of the long journey to get water. Female students usually drop out once they hit puberty due to a lack of proper hygiene available to them,” he said. “We should do everything in our power to help provide clean drinking water for people, especially the

children at this school.”

For more information, to donate or participate, visit the event website www.bcwalkforwater.com. For more information on the world water crisis, visit www.h2oforlife-schools.org.

Contact Melissa Beecher at melissa.beecher@bc.edu

Education Is ‘Most Important Thing We Can Do,’ Menino Tells Students



Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino told a gathering of top Boston College scholars that “education is the most important thing we can do in our society” and urged the undergraduates to use their own academic skills to help others do well in school.

Menino, who has been Boston’s mayor for the past 17 years, spoke on Feb. 9 at a gathering of students from the University’s Presidential Scholars Program, which enrolls undergraduates chosen on the basis of academic excellence, demonstrated leadership ability and significant community service involvement.

“Our children’s future depends on their ability to have a chance to improve their education,” Menino told the group. “Our city’s future also depends on that. Great cities need great economic diversity and great public schools to build it.

“We, as a city, have to work with [our children] to give them opportunities,” Menino said. “I take it as my obligation.”

-Reid Oslin



Photos by Lee Pellegrini

March 3 BC Law Forum Will Honor Fr. Drinan

BY MELISSA BEECHER
STAFF WRITER

The life and work of Robert Drinan, SJ, the accomplished Boston College Law School dean who became the first priest to serve in the US Congress, will be celebrated at a BC Law event next month.

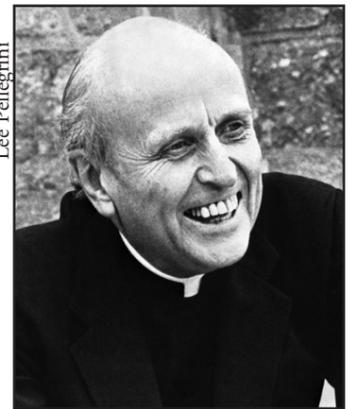
On March 7, the school will host a panel discussion featuring Raymond Schroth, SJ, author of the first comprehensive biography on Fr. Drinan, *Bob Drinan: The Controversial Life of the First Catholic Priest Elected to Congress*.

Also scheduled to take part in the panel: US Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), who in 1980 assumed the seat held by Fr. Drinan and in 2009 received a human rights award named for him; BC Law Associate Professor Gregory Kalscheur, SJ, who will discuss Fr. Drinan’s impact on younger Jesuits; and Jerome Grossman, who chaired Fr. Drinan’s congressional campaign committee. Darald and Juliet Libby Professor of Law Sanford Katz will moderate the panel.

The discussion, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 7 p.m. in East Wing, Room 120.

Katz, who was recruited to BC Law by Fr. Drinan himself, said the event will both reflect on the life of Drinan and introduce a new generation to the important work of one of BC Law’s brightest stars.

Fr. Drinan, who graduated from Boston College in 1942 and joined the Society of Jesus that same year, served as BC Law dean from 1956 until 1970. He was widely credited for BC Law’s emergence as one of the nation’s top law schools.



Lee Pellegrini

Robert Drinan, SJ

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

Fr. Drinan was elected to Congress in 1970 on an anti-Vietnam War platform. During his 10 years on Capitol Hill, he was often a lightning rod for controversy, notably his disagreements with Catholic Church leaders over his political support of abortion rights.

He was the first member of Congress to file a resolution calling for the impeachment of President Richard Nixon — not for Watergate, but for his ordering of the secret bombing of Cambodia in 1969 and 1970.

In 1980, when Pope John Paul II demanded priests withdraw from election politics, Fr. Drinan opted not to seek reelection instead of renouncing his priesthood. He taught at the Georgetown University Law Center until his death in 2007.

To read more about Fr. Drinan, see the Law School tribute at <http://bit.ly/gWNOQS>

A reception and book signing will follow the March 7 panel discussion. Registration is available at www.bc.edu/lawalumnievents

ROUNDTABLE

Turmoil (and Hope?) in the Middle East

As anti-government protests swept Egypt — forcing the resignation of Hosni Mubarak — and similar activism flared in Tunisia, Jordan and Yemen, Chronicle asked several members of the Boston College community to offer their thoughts on the latest upheaval in the Middle East: Assoc. Prof. Jonathan Laurence (Political Science); Islamic Civilization and Societies Program Director Prof. Ali Banuazizi (Political Science) and Associate Director Adj. Assoc. Prof. Kathleen Bailey (Political Science); Ast. Prof. Franck Salameh (Slavic and Eastern Languages); and Alexander Guittard '11, senior editor of *Al Noor*, Boston College's undergraduate Middle Eastern and Islamic studies journal.

Read more comments at the *Chronicle* website [www.bc.edu/chronicle]

What's your reaction to Mubarak's departure? Will it have any effect on the other countries where there have been recent anti-authoritarian demonstrations?

LAURENCE: Each country has its specificity, but this has been a wake-up call for regimes in the region. Most have initiated new consultative measures but it's too soon to say if these will amount to substantive democratic reform.

SALAMEH: I am both elated and frightened. Elated at the thought of Egyptians throwing off the yoke of servitude, but frightened for what lurks ahead for them.



What remains to be seen is how this amazing energy is going to be harnessed and turned into a democracy. Democracy is not about processes (e.g., elections), it is about attitudes and principles — freedom of opinion, freedom of conscience, minority rights, individual rights, compromise, respect for others, respect for those with contrary views, power-sharing, checks and balances, multiple power centers, independent judiciary and so on. Free fair and transparent elections are an element of democracy, but they are not democracy itself, and indeed, in the absence of the attitudes, institutions and principles mentioned above, elec-

tions can lead to non-democratic and anti-democratic results: Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in the Palestinian Authority, the mullahs in Iran. I would say that it is not Egypt that should be viewed as the wave of the future in the Middle East. The nascent Republic of Southern Sudan should — the most recent state in the Arab-defined world, a remarkable sea change that has, unfairly, been overshadowed by the events in Egypt.

BAILEY: The difficult part for Egypt is just beginning. They will need to change the constitution, vote on a new one, and install a transitional government. They will have to call for new presidential and parliamentary elections, allow time for candidates to develop platforms, and organize elections. We'll have to wait and see if this results in liberal democracy in Egypt. It may end up looking more like Turkey, with the military as the guardian of democracy. I don't see this having an effect on the Gulf states, but it may have an impact on Jordan and Syria, where conditions are more similar to those of Egypt, with population pressures and poverty. I don't see the snowball effect of 1989 Soviet bloc regime change though, because in that case, the USSR's withdrawal from Eastern Europe was the critical factor.



Lee Pellegrini

GUITTARD: While Mubarak's resignation is certainly a momentous occasion, it will not lead to democracy overnight. The institutions Mubarak left in power are very much part of the old guard. The most immediate effect of Mubarak's departure is that it will lead to direct talks between the government and the opposition leaders, who had been refusing to negotiate until Mubarak stepped down. It is likely that, over the coming weeks, we will see an interim government comprised of opposition and military leaders end the 30-year-old state of emergency, reform the constitution, and hold open elections. The United States has incredible influence with the Egyptian military and needs to pressure that institution to work with the opposition to open Egypt to democratic processes.

These uprisings seem to have taken many in the West by surprise.

Were there signs or precursors that perhaps were overlooked?

LAURENCE: Tension has been building for years in Egypt over who would follow 83-year old Mubarak. His son Gamal never won over public opinion or the military. Nobel laureate Mohamed ElBaradei's return to Egypt in February 2010 was the first overt and concrete challenge to dynastic succession. The timing of Khaled Said's death, Ben Ali's flight and the annual Jan. 25 anti-government protests all worked to light a fuse.

BANUAZIZI: Although the current wave of protest, starting with the "Jasmine revolution" in Tunisia and the "Nile revolution" in Egypt, erupted suddenly, there were, particularly in Egypt, two or three previous instances of popular uprisings over the past decade, which were brutally put down by the regime.

The parallels between these uprisings in the Arab world and Iran are quite interesting and somewhat contentious. The clerical rulers in Iran want their own people and the rest to the world to believe that what is happening in Egypt and other parts of the Arab world represents, much like the 1979 revolution, an Islamic movement against the secular, autocratic regimes and their Western supporters. In reality, it is the so-called "Green Movement" of June 2009 against Iran's own theocratic and authoritarian rulers that brought some three million people to the streets of Tehran that should be regarded as a precedent for the current wave of Arab uprisings.

SALAMEH: Certainly what is happening in Tunisia and Egypt today is a clear departure from the business-as-usual of the past 60 years of Middle Eastern history, and they are certainly events worth waxing lyrical about. But their assumed "novelty" is over-exaggerated. Hardly anyone in the media has mentioned Lebanon's 2005 Cedar Revolution against Syria, which was a resounding success: Within a month, the Syrians withdrew their 30,000 troops from Lebanon, liberal, free, democratic elections free from Syrian meddling were organized, and a hated order was overthrown. Yet this did not open the floodgates of a "coming Arab revolution," and certainly did not capture the attention of Western media.

GUITTARD: These protest movements are the result of demographic shifts, technological empowerment, and economic stagnation throughout the Middle East. In 2009, Lydia Khalil '02 pub-

lished an article in *Al-Noor* in which she pointed out that youth were making an increasingly large percentage of Middle Eastern populations. Although many of these young people have had access to education, the growth of their demographic has placed incredible strain on state-dominated stagnant economies. Without jobs, many are forced to delay marriage. Increasing numbers of frustrated young men are rarely a harbinger of social stability.

What are the most important things Americans need to understand about what's going on in the Middle East?

BANUAZIZI: I think the Obama administration has so far handled the crisis with caution and prudence. They obviously understand that over and beyond our strategic interests and concerns in the region, what is also at stake are our values and commitment to democracy, freedom, and rule of law. The transition from a revolutionary movement, no matter how popular, to a democratic and pluralistic polity is a tortuous path, which has often led to disastrous ends. One could only hope that the case would not lead to the rise of either Islamic extremism or the continued rule of the military. A democratic Egypt, as the most populous and strategically important country in the Arab world, can have a profoundly positive impact on the rest of the Middle East.

BAILEY: Some people are frightened of the prospect of an Islamist regime in Egypt led by the Muslim Brotherhood. But the Brotherhood is a very diverse group that spans the political spectrum. I think they will be, and have been, very cautious because they will not want to provoke a military coup and derail the entire process of change and democratization. A democratic government in Egypt may not be as supportive

of the United States as the Mubarak regime was, and this is something we have to be prepared for. Egypt's relations with Israel could be problematic at best, for instance.

SALAMEH: We are used to "instant gratification" in the United States. Our tradition tells us that "revolution" is always for the best, and we might be justified in our optimism. But this uniquely American optimism might be setting us up for big disappointments in the Middle East.

What Americans need to understand is that the Middle East is not a monolithic Arab world where what's good for the goose is good for the gander, or where a simple sneeze in Tunisia might cause Syria to catch a cold. What we need to understand is that the Middle East is a complex universe of exceptionally varied cultures, histories, languages, and traditions that we can only continue to slot under a single, politically soothing label to our own — and to the Middle East's — peril.

GUITTARD: The most important thing for Americans to understand about these movements is that greater democracy in the Middle East is not a threat to American security. The fear of an "Islamic boogeyman" hijacking the protest movements does not justify ignoring legitimate democratic demands. In my experience, young people in the Middle East are no different from their counterparts at Boston College. We share the same professional goals and lofty ideological aspirations. Maybe someday, we can also share the same level of responsive government and economic opportunity.



Gary Gilbert

mands. In my experience, young people in the Middle East are no different from their counterparts at Boston College. We share the same professional goals and lofty ideological aspirations. Maybe someday, we can also share the same level of responsive government and economic opportunity.

BC Biologist and Research Team Aiding World-wide Genome Project

BY ED HAYWARD
STAFF WRITER

Analyzing billions of pieces of genetic data collected from people around the world, Associate Professor of Biology Gabor Marth and his research team are playing an integral role in the global effort to sequence 1,000 genomes and move closer to understanding in fine detail how genetics influence human health and development.

The most comprehensive map to date of genomic structural variants — the layer of our DNA that begins to distinguish us from one another — has been assembled by analyzing 185 human genomes, Marth and co-authors from the 1000 Genomes Project team reported in the Feb. 3 edition of the journal *Nature*.

The complexity of the 1000 Genome Project draws on a range of expertise in the Marth bioinformatics lab, which receives volumes

of data produced by other project teams using DNA sequencing technology, stores the data, and then analyzes it using proprietary computer software programs the Marth lab has developed.

"The tools we have developed are being used to discover a biological reality that we could not see before," said Marth, whose group is one of the lead analytics units taking part in the 1000 Genomes Project. "There are many challenges and the work is very exciting."

The goal is to understand the genetic make up of the world's people by analyzing genome data from as many as 2,500 individuals in order to provide new insights into the development of the human race, and to assess the links between the genome and human health.

"We are working with some of the world's best research groups," said Marth, joined as a co-author on the paper with his BC colleagues



Assoc. Prof. Gabor Marth (Biology) talks with postdoctoral researcher Wen Fung Leong, a member of his bioinformatics team.

Research Assistant Professor Chip Stewart and doctoral candidates Deniz Kural and Jiantao Wu.

"There are engineering, mathematical, and algorithmic challenges at every level," Marth added. "We work to make sure our computational tools are performing well, make continuous improvements

and process data in a timely fashion to send to our colleagues around the world."

The researchers report in *Nature* the generation of a map of structural variants — those pieces of genetic code that are the base layer of instructions, also known as the genotype, that ultimately de-

termine our outward appearances and characteristics, or phenotypes. The new map is built upon a range of structural variants, including 22,025 deletions, or missing pieces of DNA, and 6,000 insertions, pieces of DNA that have been added along the evolutionary journey, and tandem duplications.

The analysis has produced new insights into genetic selection, the introduction of large structural variants into DNA and structural variant "hotspots" formed by common biological mechanisms, the team reports in *Nature*. The map will play a crucial role in sequencing-based association studies, where this new understanding of human variation is applied to unlocking new ways to use the genome to understand the world's population and to inform the life and medical sciences.

Contact Ed Hayward at ed.hayward@bc.edu

“When you are working on the stairs and students are walking by, almost to a one, they will say ‘Thank you.’ One day, I was doing the O’Neill Library stairs with another guy and it was really coming down. Two kids who had just walked by us came back with hot chocolate for us. That was pretty nice.”

—Groundskeeper Steve Kewley



BC groundskeepers are the University’s first line of defense against winter weather. (Photo by Reid Oslin)

Groundskeepers Keep Snow, Ice at Bay

Whenever a major snowfall hits Boston College, you can count on a stoic and sturdy group of groundskeepers ready to accept the daunting challenge of keeping Lower Campus sidewalks and stairways – notably the 128-step Higgins stairs – clear and safe for students, employees and visitors to the University.

Groundskeepers frequently seen at work in this most challenging sector are John McGovern, Bernard “Smokey” Hoffman, Barry Bennett, Dennis Benway and Steve Kewley – all battle-tested veterans of rugged winters in Chestnut Hill.

“It’s been a long winter,” sighs Bennett, who like his co-workers alternates between shoveling and operating a plow or sanding truck.

“I’ll admit, I’m tired,” he says, after cleaning up from 12 storms that have dumped more than 80 inches of snow on the region through the first week of February.

But as tiring as the work is, the crew takes enormous pride in their accomplishments in battling a major storm. “At the end, the grounds crew here puts out a pretty good product,” Bennett says. “If you walk around Boston College and then walk around one of the towns in the surrounding area, you’ll see the difference between how we do it here and the way the average town does it.”

Other snow workers say the University community generally shows them appreciation for their efforts, sometimes in unlikely ways.

“When you are working on the stairs and students are walking by, almost to a one, they will say ‘Thank you,’” says Kewley, who also is a part-time student in the Woods College of Advancing Studies. “One day, I was doing the O’Neill Library stairs with another guy and it was really coming down. Two kids who had just walked by

us came back with hot chocolate for us. That was pretty nice.”

Bennett and Kewley also praised BC mechanics Jim Casey and Mike Franks, who keep BC’s snow removal gear up and running through any storm.

Not only do crew members have to deal with the falling snow, Bennett points out, but can expect to spend the ensuing three or four days chipping away at the ice that forms when the original snow begins to melt and refreezes at night, or clearing the landslides of the white stuff that cascades off of building roofs.

Once the snow is finally gone, groundskeepers expect to find a larger than usual number of damaged trees, shrubs and turf that will have to be repaired or replaced in the spring to ready the campus for University Commencement.

“Then, it’s time to cut the grass,” Kewley laughs.

—Reid Oslin



University Strives to Weather the Winter

Continued from page 1

ing firms. A welcome boost also comes from BC’s team of 160 custodians, many of whom use shovels and snow blowers to clear entranceways, stairs, plazas and handicap entrances to all academic buildings, dormitories and offices.

“We actually have a third shift that works Sunday through Thursday nights,” notes Associate Director for Housekeeping Gerry Boyle. “So, if you have a snowstorm at night, we already have a labor force right on campus. They are out at 5 a.m. shoveling the doorways and building stairs, so if the storm has stopped during the night we have a good start on the entrances.”

Custodians also help to clear crosswalks and provide curb access near their assigned buildings. “We will sometimes hold people over to get the work done,” Boyle says. “And sometimes, we will chip in people to assist the grounds crew during a

major storm.

“This has been a pretty challenging winter, but we have got it in a pretty good groove,” Boyle says. “There’s a lot of pride in what they do.”

Snow removal is an expensive undertaking. “We have already used 735 tons of road salt, 112 tons of environmentally-friendly Eco-Melt on sidewalks and stairs, and have hauled more than 1,600 tons of snow off-site,” says Bellavia. That’s enough snow to cover the three-acre field off Foster Street at the Brighton Campus to a height of 10 feet.

“There’s not a lot of room on campus, so when you get piles that are 10 feet high, you can’t see people walking. Once you start having piles, you start taking up parking spaces as well.”

Bellavia says that crews have also cleared massive snow banks from the crosswalks along Beacon Street. “We

hauled 10 feet back so that you could see pedestrians.”

Like every municipality, Boston College’s snow removal budget – originally set at about \$250,000 – has been devoured by the angry winter weather. Final costs will not be determined until the “all-clear” signal goes out in the spring, Bellavia says.

“The guys have risen to the occasion and recognized the significance of what they do,” notes Grounds Superintendent Scott McCoy, who is the on-site supervisor of the snow removal effort. “We have clearly raised the standard in the snow removal business as it relates to BC. These guys know that when we have snow like we have had this year, they need to be there and complete their mission before anyone is comfortable that we can open the campus up.”

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Mauro Is New Head of University’s Irish Institute

BY SEAN SMITH
CHRONICLE EDITOR

Robert Mauro, a political scientist and academic administrator who has done extensive work in Irish social and political relations, is the new director of the Irish Institute at Boston College.

Mauro will oversee the design and implementation of the institute’s highly acclaimed political, educational and corporate exchange programs for leaders from Ireland and Northern Ireland, offered as a means of helping build lasting peace and prosperity. Headquartered at BC’s Center for Irish Programs, the institute holds conferences, seminars and meetings, supported by funding from Congress, and in collaboration with the US State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

A native of Medford, Mauro recently completed a post-doctoral research fellowship in the Institute for British-Irish Studies at University College Dublin, where he helped build an archive of interviews with more than 90 key contributors to the Northern Ireland peace process and the ratification of the Good Friday Agreement.

University Professor Thomas Hachey, executive director of the Center for Irish Programs, praised the talent and experience that Mauro brings to the job, and credited former director Niamh Lynch “with having ensured a seamless transition from her own remarkably successful tenure.”

Added Hachey, “Boston College and the Irish Institute have been abundantly well served over the past decade by five previous directors whose legacy has been to make this University renowned for its contribution in promoting peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland via the networking accomplished by the institute’s wide ranging programs.”

“I am continually impressed and inspired by the work of both the Irish Institute and Boston College,” said Mauro, who also has served as a visiting research assistant in political science at Trinity College Dublin and regional conference coordinator for the Political Studies Association, a leading UK-based academic organization.

“I have worked at many universities in several countries on two continents, and I do not believe I have ever been at an institution where the staff has had as genuine a sense of excitement and pleasure to work and to work very hard as the staff at Boston College and the Irish Institute.”

Mauro pointed to his University College Dublin fellowship as a critical experience in his professional development. During that time, Mauro participated in workshops designed to develop a more sophisticated understanding of conflict development and resolution through direct comparisons of the Northern Irish conflict with conflicts in Eastern Europe, Central Africa, and Southeast Asia.



Robert Mauro

“Historical and developmental studies have given me, I believe, a keen sense that beliefs, institutions, and processes have a logic, which is critical to their meaning,” he said. “Understanding the history and development of Irish and British politics, therefore, helps me to explain contemporary conditions in Northern Ireland and Ireland and to orient my behavior to those conditions in appropriate ways.”

Mauro identified three areas of potential growth for the institute. “Questions surrounding the legitimacy and effectiveness of political institutions, especially legislatures, are of major importance, and developing programs that address these issues would be hugely beneficial to many in America, Ireland, and Northern Ireland.

“Problems related to coordination and control in markets, specifically real estate and financial markets, are of obvious international concern, and exchanging ideas on these problems should also be of high importance to the institute.”

Mauro also said capitalizing on educational exchanges and transatlantic network development will be an important future role for the institute.

While the economic situation in Ireland and Northern Ireland is “very serious” and has led to major political difficulties, Mauro said the peace process “appears to be firmly in place and the devolved institutions embody willing, popularly supported participants.

“These circumstances, I believe, will help promote greater cooperation between Belfast and Dublin in the near future. The serious, transnational character of contemporary economic, political, and social problems, and the possibility of increased cooperation between authorities across the island of Ireland, present complex challenges to Irish and Northern Irish political actors. Helping those actors navigate and resolve those challenges is precisely the kind of thing the Irish Institute does without equal.”

Mauro holds a doctorate in political science from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the State University of New York in Albany, where he completed a dissertation investigating the functions of Northern Irish ideology. He also earned degrees from McGill University and the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.

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BC faculty, administrators and staff — including Campus Minister Tammy Liddell, above — are the featured speakers at Agape Latte events. (Photo by Frank Curran)

Students Enjoy Agape Latte

Continued from page 1

Director Dan Ponsetto, and Men's Ice Hockey Head Coach Jerry York, among many others.

"The best talks are part personal story, part intellectual component and relative to the undergraduate experience," said Rossi.

"I really enjoyed [O'Neill Library Instructional Services Manager] Kwasi Sarkodie-Mensah's talk," said Wegner. "He spoke about his experience with the Church in Ghana compared with his experience of the Church in America. The contrast of cultures and ways of praying were striking and intriguing, but it really showed that the Church is universal even if practices differ."

Lauren Conti '13, a double marketing and communication major, was impressed by Vice President for University Mission and Ministry Jack Butler, SJ: "He has such a natural story-telling ability. He said that 'life is a dance' and that we have to dance the dance of life in order to feel more fulfilled. Simply, his talk was inspiration at its finest."

"Agape Latte is really a kaleidoscope of faith," said Kiefer, who is C21 associate director. "Each event has its own feel to it, depending on who is speaking, demonstrating that every faith journey is unique."

Kiefer emphasized that much of the credit for the enduring success of Agape Latte can be attributed

to the work that is done by the C21 Student Advisory Committee. The group, which includes Conti, Kelly, Wegner and several others, makes posters and banners promoting the events on campus. They use email and social media tools such as Facebook, and also hold "Coffee in the Quad" the day of an Agape Latte, passing out coffee with flyers reminding students of the event.

At this month's Agape Latte, Theology Associate Professor John McDargh, a faculty member at BC for more than 30 years, shared his faith journey. He spoke of times he felt on the margins, such as growing up Catholic in the Protestant South, and about turning points in his life, including the late 1960s, when the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Vietnam War and other occurrences loomed large.

He urged the students in the audience that in their own search for the right faith community, "You need to find a community you can live in and a community you can die in."

Other Agape Latte speakers this semester will be Campus Minister Sister Mary Sweeney and Associate Professor of Philosophy Marina McCoy.

A video archive of Agape Latte events can be found at <http://bit.ly/hHq810>.

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Grant to Aid BC Study

Continued from page 1

children and how housing choices influence children's development. Of that research, none has studied housing and related contexts in a really comprehensive way."

The researchers will draw on data from the massive Three-City Study, which tracked 2,400 low-income children and their families from poor urban neighborhoods in Boston, Chicago and San Antonio between 1999 and 2006. Coley and Burton were part of the team that collected the Three-City Study data.

The researchers will be examining the trade-offs low-income families must make when considering housing options by weighing factors such as physical quality, crowding, stability, homeownership, subsidies and affordability. Where housing falls as a priority among other needs — such as neighborhood safety, food and medical care — is another point

of inquiry. The team will ultimately develop a conceptual model that explains how children's physical, cognitive and socio-emotional development is influenced by housing.

Through the three-year project, the team plans to work closely with housing policy makers and professionals in the field in order to improve housing policy, build better supports for low-income families, and explain to a broad audience the connections between housing and issues such as nutrition, health care and employment.

For Coley, the project will dovetail with another study, which recently received \$324,000 from the W.T. Grant Foundation. That research will examine the role housing plays in influencing the well being of low-income youth as they transition to adulthood, using Three-City Study data collected on individuals between the ages of 10 and 21.

BC Theatre Students Earn Honors

BY SEAN SMITH
CHRONICLE EDITOR

Discovering you have a hidden talent can be very satisfying — and earning recognition for it even more so, as Boston College junior Florence Hudson can relate.

Hudson and fellow junior Nzinga Williams were honored earlier this month at the Region 1 section of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, which promotes excellence and diversity in undergraduate theater. Hudson won second place for her regional entry in costume design, while Williams received an honorable mention for her national entry in stage management.

A double major in theatre and human development from Nashville, Hudson created costume designs for "The Magic Flute" as a class project (entries for regional competitions don't have to be part of an actual production). While she had taken part in school theatrical activities prior to arriving at BC, Hudson had little behind-the-scenes experience. Desiring to become "a more well-rounded theater student," she took classes in directing and costume design and did a work-study stint in costume design at Robsham Theater.

Hudson says her design for "The Magic Flute," Mozart's famous opera, was inspired by her love of fantasy and fairy tales. But the actual process involved far more than simply dashing off drawings on a whim, she notes: "You have to think, 'How does the costume move on the character? How does the costume affect his or her presence?'"

For the comic Papagena, for example, Hudson designed a bird cage-like dress, "something big, fluffy and bouncy, so that it rocks back and forth on her. I thought the costume helped create the right overall look for her, and could be incorporated into her actions and movements."

Hudson was pleasantly surprised at her second-place finish in the festival competition, especially given the judges' professional credentials. "Two of them were costume de-



Juniors Florence Hudson, left, and Nzinga Williams won recognition from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. (Photo by Lee Pellegrini)

signers from Las Vegas — very strict and hard to please," says Hudson, who hopes to work as an adolescent counselor while continuing to pursue her passion for theater.

Williams, a native of Cambridge who also has lived in Trinidad and Florida, began working on the "tech side" of theater as a fifth-grader and has cultivated a solid background in stage management at BC.

"It's a lot of fun, but also a lot of work," says Williams, a theatre major with a minor in sociology. "As a stage manager you start working on the production aspect with the director in the summer. I've been involved in organizing auditions, all scheduling, taking notes on blocking, props and other things. I am also the liaison between the actors, director and designers, which means you have to communicate effectively with everyone."

As stage manager for last fall's production of "She Stoops to Conquer" at Robsham, Williams found the rapport she established with her assistant stage managers and the cast put to an unexpected test when, during the all-important tech rehearsal, the play's director had to attend to a family emergency. Williams and her colleagues "put our heads together" to make things run as smoothly as possible until the director returned — "he really only had to adjust one or two things."

As part of her evaluation for the Kennedy Center competition, Williams was interviewed by a professional stage manager who also

assessed the note-taking and records Williams kept for the play.

"I was really shocked and honored to have gotten an honorable mention," says Williams, who plans to work in stage management and production and hopes to someday open her own theater company. "Out of 39 stage managers competing, I was one of four people to get any sort of award. Stage managing is not like nursing or math or science — I cannot take a test to evaluate my skill or knowledge level. And because of the nature of the job there is often not much feedback. So it was nice to get some sort of positive reinforcement."

The honors for Williams and Hudson marked the latest success at the Kennedy Center festival for BC's Theatre Department, which in the past several years has garnered awards in both the festival's regional and national competitions. These include a national award for dramaturgy won by Megan Rulison '06 in 2005 and a Region 1 Directing Fellowship Award earned by Anthony Nunziata '06 in 2006.

"It's incredibly exciting for students to be awarded for their hard work," said Associate Professor of Theatre Crystal Tiala. "This annual event has grown significantly over the past decade, bringing in schools from New York to Maine to compete in events such as acting, directing, playwriting, dramaturgy, design, technology and administration."

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NEWLY ARRIVED—The Lynch School of Education welcomed the inaugural group of Lynch Leadership Academy Fellows on Feb. 8. The academy prepares leaders from Catholic, district and charter schools to lead urban schools toward greater effectiveness and success. (L-R) Sean Shirley-Davidson, Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester; Thabiti Brown, Codman Academy Charter Public School, Dorchester; Monica Haldiman, Sacred Heart School, Roslindale; Eileen Morales, Joseph P. Tynan School, South Boston; Walter Henderson, Winthrop Elementary School, Dorchester; Maura Bradley, OLPH Mission Grammar School, Roxbury.

Clough Events Focus on Immigration, Partisanship

Two compelling topics — immigration courts and partisanship in American politics — will be the subject of upcoming events sponsored by the Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy.

On Feb. 23, Boston College faculty members Professor of Political Science Peter Skerry and Law Professor Daniel Kanstroom, who is director of the International Human Rights Program, will be joined by US Immigration Board of Appeals member Edward R. Grant and Russell Wheeler, a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution, for a roundtable on US Immigration courts. The event will take place at 4:30 p.m. at a location to be announced.

Skerry was the co-convenor for the Immigration Policy Roundtable, which in 2009 produced a report recommending major reforms of US immigration policy. Kanstroom was the founder and is current director of the Boston College Immigration and Asylum clinic, in which students represent indigent noncitizens and asylum-seekers.

Grant is a former counsel to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims in the US House of Representatives, and served as a deputy associate general counsel for the US Citizenship and Immigration Services Refugee and Asylum Law Division. Wheeler is former deputy director of the Federal Judicial Center, research and education agency for the federal court system.

On March 2, the Clough Center will host “Is Partisanship a Bad Thing?” at 4:30 p.m. in the Murray Room of the Yawkey Center. The discussion will feature O’Neill Professor of American Politics R. Shep Melnick, Harvard University Department of Government Chair Nancy Rosen and Russell Muirhead, the Robert Clements Associate Professor of Democracy and Politics at Dartmouth College.



Faculty members Peter Skerry, above, and Daniel Kanstroom will take part in a panel discussion on US Immigration courts next Tuesday.



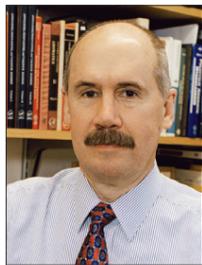
Melnick, who has been O’Neill Professor since 1997, researches and writes on the intersection of law and politics. Rosen, the Senator Joseph Clark Professor of Ethics in Politics and Government at Harvard, is considered one of the country’s leading scholars of the history of modern political thought, contemporary political theory, and constitutionalism. Muirhead, author of numerous articles and of *Just Work*, is currently writing a book titled *A Defense of Party Spirit*.

For information about the Clough Center and its events, see <http://www.bc.edu/centers/cloughcenter/> or e-mail cloughcenter@bc.edu.

—Office of News & Public Affairs

NOTA BENE

Louise and James Vanderslice & Family Professor of Chemistry **Larry Scott** has been named winner of the American Chemical Society’s George A. Olah Award in Hydrocarbon or Petroleum Chemistry. In the 1990s, Scott developed a groundbreaking approach that cut from 17 to three the steps to synthesize corannulene, a bowl-shaped hydrocarbon and a potential building block of the carbon molecule buckminsterfullerene. Today, his research is paving the way toward using larger “buckybowls” as “seeds” from which to grow long, uniform, carbon-based nanotubes.



Kristin Sorota, a graduate student in the Earth and Environmental Sciences Department, has received a \$7,500 ExxonMobil Geoscience grant, which will support her master’s thesis project studying the origin and age of the Merrimack terrain in southern New Hampshire and central Massachusetts. Sorota was one of 10 recipients selected by ExxonMobil’s chief geoscientists from a pool of 137 proposals from students at 20 different universities.

NEWSMAKERS

Members of the Boston College community offered the media their perspectives on the recent anti-government activity in Egypt, Tunisia and elsewhere in the Middle East:

•Assoc. Prof. **Jonathan Laurence** (Political Science) spoke with Radio France Internationale about the impact of democratic pressures on the region’s leaders.

•Islamic Civilization and Societies Program Director Prof. **Ali Banuazizi** (Political Science) discussed American media coverage of the events in Egypt as a guest on Al Jazeera’s “Inside Story.”

•Asst. Prof. **Franck Salameh** (Slavic and Eastern Languages) wrote about perceptions of a “monolithic ‘Arab world’” in a piece for *The National Interest*.

•Graduate School of Social Work student **Stephanie Butler**, who had been working on a Habitat for Humanity project in Egypt, spoke with KNXV-TV in Phoenix upon her return home.

•**Jessica Sobrino ’10**, who has been living in Cairo for several months, offered a personal perspective on the turmoil there to CNN’s Anderson Cooper.

Boston.com ran a feature on Applied Power Innovations, a start-up created by BC sophomore entrepreneurs **Kevin Driscoll, C.J. Reim and Rich Rines**.

CBS MoneyWatch cited results from a study by the **Center**

for Retirement Research that showed how marital status affects one’s cost of living.

An essay published in *America* magazine included Asst. Prof. **Nancy Pineda-Madrid** (STM) in its list of “most promising” Catholic theologians.

Prof. **Carlo Rotella** (English) discussed the works of Charles Portis on WNYC-FM’s “Leonard Lopate Show.”

Literature and Film.

Prof. **Jeffrey Cohen** (CSOM) published “Perceptions of Retail Investors of the Decision-usefulness of Non-financial Information” in *Behavioral Research in Accounting*.

TIME AND A HALF

Prof. **Maxim D. Shroyer** (Slavic and Eastern Languages) gave a lecture at the inauguration of the

Holocaust and Genocide Studies program at the College of New Jersey and presented “Jewish-Russian Poets Bearing Witness to the Shoah” at Princeton University.

Adj. Assoc. Prof. **Joseph Nugent** (English) presented “Ulyssesean Architecture” at the “Portrait of the City” Conference in Dublin Castle.

Prof. **Carlo Rotella** (English) presented “The Rust Belt Canon” and led a faculty seminar on urban literature and culture at McGill University in Montreal.

Music Department chairman Prof. **Michael Noone** was guest conductor of a concert given by the Excelentia Choral Academy in Madrid’s National Theater and presented “Vicente Lusitano et le contrepont improvisé à la Renaissance” at a conference convened by the Université de Toulouse, France.

Send items to: people.chronicle@bc.edu

BC BRIEFING

PUBLICATIONS

Cawthorne Professor of Teacher Education for Urban Schools **Marilyn Cochran-Smith** (LSOE) was among the scholars who contributed to the American Educational Research Association’s new volume, *Studying Diversity of Teacher Education*.

Prof. **Emeritus J. Enrique Ojeda**, (Romance Languages and Literatures) published *En Pos Del Minero de la Noche* (On the Steps of the Night’s Miner), a collection of essays on Ecuadorian writers.

Prof. **Christopher Wilson** (English) published “Risk Management: Frank Abagnale, Jr. and the Shadowing of Pleasure” in *Crime Culture: Figuring Criminality in*

OBITUARY

Rita Leonard; IT Administrator

A memorial service for Rita L. Leonard, systems program administrator in the University’s Information Technology Services division and a Boston College employee for nearly 44 years, will be held on campus later this spring.

Ms. Leonard died of lung cancer at her home in Littleton on Feb. 3. She was 61.

A native of Somerville who grew up in Jamaica Plain, Ms. Leonard graduated from St. Joseph’s Academy in Roxbury in the spring of 1967 and immediately began working as a payroll clerk in the University Treasurer’s office. In 1974, she was promoted to financial systems supervisor and joined the staff of the University’s new computer center in 1978. She earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the Woods College of Advancing Studies, and held various administrative and supervisory posts in the expanding IT department. Ms. Leonard was named IT’s systems program administrator in 2001.

“Rita was very proud of Boston College,” said Vice President for Information Technology Michael Bourque. “That was very evident in her com-

mitment and contributions to the University. She took a special pride in doing things that were related to students and spent a huge amount of time through the years working on projects such as the student orientation programs, move-in weekend and graduation. She was incredibly hard working and very much focused on the ‘customer.’”

“Rita was a good mentor – for me and for everyone who worked for her,” added IT’s Director of Systems Management Leo Chaharyn. “She also organized and oversaw the department’s ‘pot luck’ Christmas celebration every year, even in recent years when she became ill. She mobilized the department around those types of things.”

Ms. Leonard was well-known for her dry sense of humor, co-workers said. She was also an avid quilter and seamstress.

Ms. Leonard is survived by her husband, Raymond Bresnick and her sister, Jean E. Leonard, both of Littleton.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Lung Cancer Society, Boston College’s “Light the World” campaign or Nashoba Nursing Service and Hospice.

—Reid Oslin

JOB LISTINGS

The following are among the most recent positions posted by the Department of Human Resources. For more information on employment opportunities at Boston College, see <http://www.bc.edu/offices/hr/>:

Applications Developer, Information Technology, Internet Strategy

Senior Associate Director, Gift Acceptance, Finance and Analysis, Development

Accounting Manager, Endowment & Restricted Funds

Publications & Exhibitions Administrator, McMullen Museum of Art

Statistician/Programmer, TIMSS (Trends in Mathematics & Science Study)

Assistant/Associate Director, Alumni Classes, Alumni Association

Assistant Director, Athletic Stewardship & Donor Relations, Athletic Association

Administrative Assistant, Annual Giving, Classes, Development

Administrative Assistant, Legal Assistance Bureau

Administrative Assistant, Theater Collection Maintenance and Delivery Assistant, O’Neill Library

LOOKING AHEAD

Gospel Showcase an Event Not to Be Forgotten

BY ROSANNE PELLEGRINI
STAFF WRITER

In celebration of Black History Month, the Multicultural Christian Fellowship will present the first annual Gospel Showcase, "Not Forgotten," tomorrow, Feb. 18, from 6-8 p.m. in Robsham Theater.

The event will highlight the black Christian experience through dance, singing and drama, according to organizers, who note that "talents within the black church have evolved over the years, and this event will make sure that these treasures are 'Not Forgotten.'"

"I want the audience to not only experience the celebration of the black church through dance, song, and spoken word, but to participate in the various forms of worship," says MCF Artistic Director Jamila Jones '11.

Jones is founding director and one of the five members of MCF's liturgical dance group, Moving Forward, which will perform as part of the Gospel Showcase.

The evening also will feature performances by campus groups including the Voices of Imani Gospel Choir and the hip-hop dance ensemble Phaymus, as well as by poet Terry Carter and others.

Established in 1977, the Voices of Imani — "Imani" is the Swahili word for "faith" — began as a small group of black students who met to encourage and support one another by singing the songs of their religious tradition. In addition to making numerous campus appearances, including at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Banquet, the Voices



The Voices of Imani Gospel Choir, above, and hip-hop dance ensemble Phaymus will be among the performers at tomorrow's inaugural Gospel Showcase, "Not Forgotten," in Robsham Theater. (Photos by Lee Pellegrini)



of Imani has toured various parts of the country during the spring break period, including Tennessee, Florida, Texas, California, Washington, DC, Virginia, and Atlanta. The group is directed by Chauncey McGlathery, who last year succeeded Rev. Hubert E. Walters, who had served since 1982. [For more on the group, see <http://www.voicesofimani.com>]

Phaymus, founded in 2004, incorporates jazz, tap, modern and cultural dance as part of their hip-hop style. The group has performed at the BC Arts Festival and other campus events; their off-campus appearances include "Blaze the Stage" in New York City. [See <http://www.bc.edu/clubs/phaymus/>]

According to Jones, there also will be an art gallery, for viewing during intermission, showcasing the work of black students.

The showcase, she adds, "is distinguished from other events by connecting the arts and worship, giving everyone something to identify with."

Tickets for "Not Forgotten" are \$10. For information on the show, contact jamila.jones@bc.edu.

The Gospel Showcase is among a number of Black History Month events being held this month on campus — organized by the Office of AHANA Student Programs and the Black History Month Planning Committee — on the theme "I Am History." A full calendar of events is available at <http://tinyurl.com/45bmgn7>

Contact Rosanne Pellegrini at rosanne.pellegrini@bc.edu

DATE & TIME

Tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. in Higgins 300, the Albert J. Fitzgibbons Lecture Series will host Princeton University Professor of History of Science **Daniel Garber**, who will present "Hobbes vs. Spinoza on Human Nature: Political Ramifications." For information, e-mail byrne@bc.edu.

The **University Wind Ensemble** will perform dance-inspired music, including "Yiddish Dances" by Adam Gorb, "Greek Dances" by Nikos Skalkottas, and "Armenian Dances" by Alfred Reed, on Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. in the Heights Room of Corcoran Commons. See www.bc.edu/offices/odsd/bands.



Pulitzer Prize-winning *Washington Post* columnist **Eugene Robinson** (above), author of *Disintegration: The Splintering of Black America* and political analyst for MSNBC, will give a talk on Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. in Lyons Dining Hall. E-mail munden@bc.edu.

"Resistance in Nazi Germany," a panel discussion on the spiritual, military and philosophical struggle against the Third Reich, will take place Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in McGuinn 121. E-mail michalcj@bc.edu.

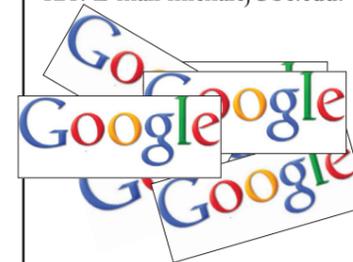
BC SCENES

MAGICAL MOZART

Photos by Caitlin Cunningham



Boston College and high school students and schoolchildren — and even a few audience members — performed in a production of Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute" that was held in Lyons Hall this past Sunday. The adaptation was directed by Music Department faculty member Barbara Gawlick.



University of Virginia cultural historian and media scholar **Siva Vaidhyanathan** will present "The Googlization of Everything" — based on his forthcoming book of the same title — on Feb. 24 at 4:30 p.m. in Cushing 001. E-mail harrislo@bc.edu.

Associate Professor of Romance Languages **Franco Mormando** will speak about his most recent book, *Domenico Bernini's Life of Gian Lorenzo Bernini: An English Translation and Critical Edition with Introduction and Commentary*, on Feb. 25 at 3:15 p.m. in Lyons 315. E-mail rll@bc.edu.

For more on Boston College campus events, see events.bc.edu or www.bc.edu/bcinfo.