Professor Michael Filippelli retires after 38 years

LIFE AND ACCOUNTING are both about checks and balances. At least that's how Professor Mike Filippelli approaches the subject. He's someone who should know — he's been a valued member of the Bryant accounting department since 1970.

FACULTY FOCUS

When Filippelli first joined Bryant, the campus was on Providence's East Side, although construction was underway in Smithfield. No matter where the campus was, though, he felt immediately comfortable at Bryant, and his students knew they were in the presence of a knowledgeable, dedicated professional. Several years after becoming a part of the Bryant family, he became department chair and sought other accounting professionals who cared as much about students as he and his colleagues did.

Professor Mike Lynch was hired by Filippelli in 1976. "It was Mike Filippelli's burning desire to teach students and prepare them for the CPA exam and a career in accounting that impressed me the most and led me to the decision to teach here," says Lynch.

Professor Filippelli's commitment to Bryant and his students is undeniable. In 1980, when Bryant first established its internship program, he worked with the Accountants for Public Interest organization to set up internships for 72 students in 29 agencies, including several non-profits.

In 1986, he received the Distinguished Faculty Award, which is given in honor of professional accomplishment, devotion to teaching, concern for students, and positive influence on students' personal and professional lives. Part of his proficiency for teaching others is his vast practical experience in accounting. A Certified Public Accountant, Filippelli knows the demands placed on
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

5 to 7 p.m.
Homecoming Buffet – Salzman Dining Hall

8 p.m.
Evening Performance – South Dining Hall
Sponsored by Student Programming Board (SPB)

9:30 p.m.
Bryant Fires and Fireworks – Bryant Center Patio

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Alumni Registration – Registration tent outside Bulldog Stadium

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Pre-game Buffet and Alumni Reunion Celebrations – Tent at Bulldog Stadium

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Loyal Guard Luncheon – 50th Reunion Tent in parking lot
11:30 a.m. – Noon: Induction of the Class of 1958
Noon – 3 p.m.: Served Luncheon

11 a.m. – Beginning of Second Half (end of halftime)
Tailgating – Reserved area in parking lot

11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Bulldog Fun Zone – Bulldog Stadium
The Chace Wellness Center Pool will be open.
Various Concessions

1 – 4 p.m.
Football: Bryant vs. Merrimack – Bulldog Stadium

3:30 – 9 p.m.
Childcare – Bryant Center, Rooms 2A & B

4 – 7:30 p.m.
Post-game Alumni Reunion Dinner with Live Music – Tent at the Bulldog Stadium

8 p.m.
Homecoming Evening Performance – MAC
Sponsored by SPB

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

10:30 a.m.
Alumni Memorial Service – Stepan Grand Hall

1 p.m.
The 8th Annual Shawn M. Nasseran Memorial Cross Country Race/Walk – Cross Country Course
It's been 50 years?

Meet your 50th Reunion Committee volunteers

Karl Ericson, Joyce (Etchells) Murphy, Edward Labrecque, Diana (Policastri) Marro, and Herbert Wienkoop are working diligently to ensure the Class of 1958 has a fabulous Reunion @ Homecoming event. Call Donna Harris at (401) 232-6375 or toll free (877) 353-5667 if you are interested in attending or helping with the plans. All members of the Class of 1958 will be inducted into the Loyal Guard at a special ceremony on Saturday, September 13, 2008.

Services that can benefit you

The Bryant University Alumni Association exists to keep alumni connected to each other and the University long after they leave campus. The Alumni Association, as represented by the National Alumni Council, a group of 26 individuals who represent the alumni body, works closely with the Office of Alumni Relations to maintain this relationship.

The benefits of membership include access to alumni discounts to continuing education programs, access to the International Trade Data Network (ITDN) hosted by the Chafee Center, and free workshops are ways that alumni relations continues to reach out.

And, of course, there are dozens of social and networking events hosted by Bryant clubs on campus and in cities nationwide. Members are encouraged to search out other alumni ideas and get involved.

All of the companies with which alumni relations form partnerships are closely examined and monitored by the NAC. “We are careful about the partnerships we develop, and we’ll only take on those that can add value to alumni,” says National Alumni Council President Ray Grigalevich ’91, ’00MBA. “Bryant doesn’t release any data on alumni without a restricted use agreement from our...
2008 Athletics Hall of Fame inducts six new members

Honored at the 2008 Athletics Hall of Fame dinner on February 9 are (L-R) Ron Renaud ’81 (contributor), Marcie Monaco ’99 (volleyball), Heather Lopes Callaham ’96 (women’s basketball), Ray Lyons ’97 (men’s golf), Jeff Renga ’03 (baseball), and Phil Goss ’81 (cross country). Nominations for the 2009 Athletics Hall of Fame will be accepted through August 31, 2008. Download a nomination form at www.bryantbulldogs.com.
In 2001, Jennifer Ptaschnik was a typical college sophomore. She was an active member of the Delta Zeta Sorority, the college cheerleading squad, and the Bryant rugby team. She was the photo business editor of the Archway and Ledger and became the publications chair for Special Olympics and Make-A-Wish.

When she started to have problems with her vision, Jennifer never suspected she was experiencing symptoms of an immune system disease that attacked her lungs and blood vessels, and that would eventually steal her vision.

It would not surprise anyone who knows Jennifer, however, that she didn’t let this stop her from excelling and enjoying her college years — her positive attitude was that strong.

“I feel all the opportunities and activities I participated in while at Bryant have made me the person I am today,” says Jennifer. “Having that social network helped me through the devastating experience that I endured and made me want to strive more to succeed in my life.” She graduated in 2003 with a concentration in financial services and a minor in communication.

Jennifer set out to be as self-sufficient as possible. She trained at the Seeing Eye in Morristown, New Jersey, Jennifer got a new set of eyes in Seeing Eye dog, Junior, a yellow Labrador retriever. And at the Lions World Services for the Blind (LWSB) in Little Rock, Arkansas, she prepared for a career with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), where she now works as a collection representative, educating others on taxes and preventing future problems with the IRS.

“Bryant gave me the skills I needed to succeed in my profession,” says Jennifer.

She is also an independent representative selling fine sterling silver jewelry with Silpada Designs. Jennifer enjoys meeting new people and sharing their enthusiasm for jewelry. “I find it very rewarding. I get the opportunity to network, have fun, and give back through charitable events.”

Jennifer makes her home in Nashville, Tennessee, but stays connected to Bryant as a member of the 2003 class steering committee for her 5th Reunion. She plans to return to Bryant in the fall for Reunion @ Homecoming to visit with her classmates, faculty members, and friends.
Nelson Castro ’97

Nelson Castro ‘97, owner of Black2o, a broadband entertainment network, tells everyone who complains about their job to do what he did: Get out of your comfort zone, find your passion, and make it a career.

He came to Bryant with an entrepreneurial spirit and a flair for comedy. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, his practical side, he says, led him to a career in the insurance and financial services.

Still, he kept up his hobby of creating and producing comedy skits, and after about five years in corporate America, he moved to New York City to pursue his dream of working in the entertainment industry.

Fast forward three years, and Castro founded Black2o, a company that creates original entertainment as a substitute for traditional network television. He credits Bryant for giving him the foundation to succeed as an entrepreneur.

“I wouldn’t be in the position I am now without a business background,” he says.

Castro started his career in the entertainment industry as an intern with Late Night with Conan O’Brien. Within five months, he landed a full-time position with NBC. It was there he met his business partners and developed the idea for Black2o, which features comedy shows and an offbeat news program geared to entertain young professionals. The network, which debuted in 2006, will soon feature a live music show.

“It is a lofty goal, but our ambition is to be a young, hip MTV for the Web,” Castro says. In an era of YouTube and other broadband carriers, it is much easier to get this content online to a larger mass of people, he says.

One of the most rewarding parts of the creation of Black2o is knowing that he and his partners created a viable business that offers employees a chance to make a living doing work they love, he says. “It is a fulfilling feeling to know we created something out of nothing.”

“Get out of your comfort zone, find your passion, and make it a career.”
Dine with Nine program brings alumni, students, faculty, and staff together

Recently, Student Alumni Association (SAA) members met at the home of Jim ’88 and Meg ’89 (Mitchell) Magee for an informal dinner with alumni, faculty, and staff as part of the Dine with Nine program. Dine with Nine brings small groups of students together with alumni, faculty, and staff to network and learn about career paths tips and for balancing work and family. If you would like to host students and faculty in your home for a dinner, you can contact SAA Advisor Donna Harris at (401) 232-6375.

Pictured here are front row (L-R), Meg (Mitchell) Magee ’89; Hannah Jorgensen ’09; Anne Koskey ’09; Stephanie Barone ’10; and back row (L-R), Tim Kundicz ’10; Donna Harris, associate director of alumni relations and SAA advisor; Kenneth Sousa, associate professor of computer information systems; Jim Magee ’88, National Alumni Council member; Mike Oliveri ’08, SAA president; Bryan Wojtowicz ’08; Laura Kopek ’11, Mike Trebing ’11. Brian Levin ’06, a member of the National Alumni Council, also attended but is not pictured.
Working to strengthen the ties that bind

A luncheon gathering at Barnum Financial Group, a MetLife affiliate, in Shelton, Conn., brought together alumni who work at the company to meet with Keith Murray, associate dean of the Graduate School of Business, Judy Clare, director of the Amica Center for Career Education, and Robin Warde, director of alumni relations. Pictured (L-R) are Ben Howarth ’92, Brian Bednarz ’00, Elizabeth (Zinkewich) Buckley ’02, Tom Recck ’87, Rudy Weiss ’80, and Adam Yorzinski ’04.
Alumni networking in Boston

(L-R) Megan Long '04 and Jessica O'Hara '04 meet and mingle with other alumni and students at the Boston Harvard Club networking event on February 19.

They still got game

Alumni from three decades returned to...
Alumni from three decades returned to campus on February 9 to participate in the annual alumni basketball game, and many brought their children to watch.

Pictured are front row (L-R), Beth (Connealy) Wandyes '96, Becky (Hall) Kirk '96, Jarred Kirk, Heather (Lopes) Callaham '96, Cameron Callaham, Sue Crisafi '84, Debbie (Voelkner) Mandeville '82, Jason Mandeville, Jessica Mandeville; and back row (L-R), Coach Charlie Mandeville, Jack Newbauer '92, Lindsay Herman '05, Ann-Marie Harrington '86, Patty (Migneault) Sanetti '86, Liz Davies '96, Donna (Cole) Schatzlein '82, Diane (Moskey) Coleman '86, Nancy Traver '85.

Register now for the 2008 PAWSOX ALUMNI AND FAMILY GAME
Saturday, June 7
4 p.m. barbecue and Bryant-only youth baseball clinic
6 p.m. game
For more information and to register, visit www.bryant.edu/alumnevents
Alumni are connecting with students, other alumni

“I like to use my Bryant connections to foster relationships between my employer and my alma mater.”

Anne Gaudet ’90
Commerce Insurance Company

Our alumni may live and work across the United States and around the world, but they find ways to reconnect with Bryant.

The Amica Center for Career Education’s (formerly the Office of Career Services) Web-based tool, the Bryant Alumni Career Link, allows alumni to use their career knowledge and experience to help undergraduate students with career plans, and to assist other alumni who may be going through career transitions.

Jennifer Gardner ’97, group director, National Television Investment, at OMD in New York City and Vincent Berarducci ’00 MBA, director of Marketing Analytics, Reliance Standard Life Insurance, in Philadelphia, Pa., joined the Alumni Career Link because they benefited from networking when they were students and wanted to return the favor. “I used the job shadowing program to get some ‘real life’ perspective when I was a student,” says Gardner. “It helped bring careers to life that I had heard or read about.”

Julio Vasquez Pretto ’88, general manager at Lampara Internacional, S.A., in Colon, Panama, had a different reason for joining the Alumni Career Link. “Bryant taught me how to lead a business from the moment I graduated, and that’s not something you learn in textbooks,” he says. “That is something I’ll always be grateful for, and I want to share that philosophy and disposition to succeed with others.”

Jeremy Stannard ’00, 2nd vice president for Travelers in Hartford, Conn., cites a mutually beneficial affiliation as a reason to join the Bryant Alumni Career Link. “I and several of my peers from Travelers wanted to build a relationship with Bryant,” he says.

It’s a concept with which Anne Gaudet ’90, assistant actuary I at Commerce Insurance Company in Webster, Mass., is in agreement. “I like to use my Bryant connections to foster relationships between my employer and my alma mater,” she says. For Gaudet, who feels she was well prepared for any career, the Alumni Career Link gives her the opportunity to advise young people just starting out. “It’s great to be able to offer words of encouragement to help students who are standing on the brink of the real world to feel more confident.”

To sign up for the Alumni Career Link, e-mail Jennifer Edwards at jedwards@bryant.edu.

Sandy Sylvia
Office Manager, Bryant Center Operations

Sandy Sylvia has lived all over the world—Maine, Ohio, Washington, D.C., Okinawa, and the Canary Islands. When Operation Desert Storm was happening in the Bryant Center, from room reservations to setup to catering, it didn’t faze her. “The students were so dedicated, and they had a definite agenda.”

Sandy also has an eye for the little boy things. She has a staff of women who work in the Bryant Center. “I am the only man, so I try to keep an eye on the boys. Two to nine years, she says. “Every chance we get, my husband and I travel to Maryland to visit.”
“Being around the students keeps me young.”

Maine, Ohio, Washington, D.C., Okinawa, and the Philippines are just a few places she and her husband, Bob, a retired master sergeant in the United States Air Force, have called home. Relocating has provided her with a varied and challenging career – she once was assigned to the President’s Wing at Andrews Air Force Base. But she says that working in Bryant Center Operations is the most rewarding job she’s ever had.

“I just love working with the kids,” Sandy says. “They are the best part of my day.”

You know Sandy enjoys her job because she’s held it for 20 years. Her office is responsible for everything that goes on in the center, from room reservations to setup to catering.

“The student managers coordinate a lot of activity,” she says. “More than 25 groups and organizations meet in the Bryant Center weekly, not to mention the dozens of other administrative meetings.” Sandy emphasizes that the students do not work for her, but rather with her.

“The Bryant Center managers are like my family,” she says. “It’s great to watch them grow and mature and come into their own.”

Speaking of family, if you’ve talked to her in the last decade, you may remember hearing about Sandy’s four grandchildren. “Their ages range from we get, my husband and I travel to Maryland to visit.”

She also sees alumni fairly regularly. “They send e-mails or visit me when they come to campus,” she says. “I’m always happy to see them.” In the last week alone, three alumni have checked in with her. “I am so proud of all they’ve accomplished, and I don’t mean just professionally. I am proud of the people they are.”

When asked about her plans for the future, she says nothing is definite. “My tentative plan is to retire in three years,” Sandy says. “I think I’ll be ready, but being around the students keeps me young, and who wouldn’t like that?”

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The Amica Center for Career Education and Alumni Relations present:

**Getting Back on the Career Track:**

A Workshop for Guiding Stay-at-Home Moms Back to Work

Author Carol Fishman Cohen will discuss women and career reentry, and offer strategies and advice to women who plan to resume their careers after extended time at home with their children. The presentation will include exploring the seven steps to relaunching a career and an interactive workshop assessing career options, readiness, and networks.

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Saturday, May 10, 2008

Continental Breakfast: 8:30 – 9 a.m.
Presentation/Workshop: 9 a.m. – noon

The $35 fee includes a continental breakfast, the workshop, a copy of the book “Getting Back on the Career Track,” and childcare.

Register online at www.bryant.edu/alumnievents
Alumni achieving greatness

Every year, Bryant honors three alumni and one faculty member for their outstanding success in business or their selfless service to their community and/or Bryant University.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2008

W. Dustin Goldstein '95 received the “Young Alumni Leadership Award” for his innovative and responsible leadership and dedicated community service. He is a member of the National Alumni Council, funds an annual Bryant Partners in Scholarship, and holds a seat on the Bryant Board of Trustees.

Andrew J. Thomas '89 received the “Distinguished Alumnus Award” for his record of outstanding personal achievement. He has conducted business in 55 different countries for several companies, most recently as president and chief executive officer for Heineken USA.

Siro T. De Gasperis '57 received the “Nelson J. Gulski Service Award” for his exemplary and long-standing volunteer service to the University and his community. He supports many charitable organizations, including Bryant, through the De Gasperis Family Foundation.

Dr. Kathleen Simons '82 M.S.T., professor of accounting, received the “Distinguished Faculty Award” for her devotion to the teaching profession and personal concern for, and commitment to, students. She has been sharing her knowledge with Bryant students for over 25 years.
Nominations for the 2009 Alumni Achievement Awards are now being accepted. You can download a form from the “Alumni Achievement Awards” page, which is found by going to the alumni “events” site.

Bryant Alumni are “Linking in” through social networking sites

Bryant’s online alumni directory is a virtual tool for nearly 7,000 alumni who have registered to use its services. Free to all of our 40,000 alumni, the online directory is easy to use and available via the Bryant Web site at www.bryant.edu/alumni. The directory is simple to register for and is completely secure. Find classmates or alumni living in your area, or use the key word search for contacts in companies and industries.

The Bryant University Alumni Association also has a group on the professional networking site “LinkedIn.” Joining will allow you to look for jobs, professional contacts, and old friends and classmates. Because “LinkedIn” is open to everyone, we have an authorization process in place for those who want to join the Bryant University Alumni Association group. The process generally takes about 24 hours.

Alumnus Tom Medico ’82 says, “I have been busy reconnecting my fraternity - Kappa Tau - through our “LinkedIn” network. So far, we have more than 30 alumni and several current fraternity members. It’s a great way for those of us who graduated to reconnect and stay in touch, but it also helps bring our present brotherhood on campus into the fold and the world beyond Bryant.”

We also have Bryant University Alumni Association links on My Space and Facebook.

Social and professional networking sites like “LinkedIn” are becoming a necessary part of doing business today.
specialists in the field, and he’s made every effort to prepare Bryant students for their futures.

Joseph Calabro Jr. ’80, ’86 MST, owner of Calabro Financial Services in Smithfield, says that Filippelli’s influence on his career was profound. “Mike described solving very advanced accounting problems so clearly and simply that my education turned out to be a most enjoyable experience,” he says. “I admired him on a professional level and respected him on a personal level. I even invited him to my home for my graduation party – which he attended because he cares about his students.”

“I have been practicing in my own firm for 22 years now after leaving Ernst & Whinney (Young),” says Calabro. “I attribute the success I have had to my Bryant professors, especially Mike.”

Professor Filippelli’s ability to develop these kinds of relationships with his students is a hallmark of a Bryant education, and his skills will be missed.

“I have enjoyed my time here at Bryant,” says Filippelli. “But I look forward to spending more time with my family, including my sweet granddaughter, who I’ll get to take to and pick up from school more often.”

He would also like to go back to Italy, the land of his ancestors, for an extended vacation. “I’ll leave that up to chance,” he says. “You never know where life will take you.”

Thank you, Professor Filippelli, for enriching the lives of Bryant students for 38 years.

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**Calendar**

**Mass./R.I. Community Service – Northern R.I. Special Olympics**
May 4, 2008
Bryant Campus

**Jason Constantino Scholarship Foundation and the Amy Chaves Memorial Partners in Scholarship Golf Tournament**
Friday, May 9, 2008

**World Trade Day**
May 30, 2008
Bryant Campus

**Conn./Mass./R.I. RAN Event**
**PawSox Game & BBQ**
June 7, 2008
4 p.m. BBQ and youth baseball clinic
6:05 p.m. PawSox Game
McCoy Stadium – Pawtucket, RI

**Washington, D.C., RAN Event**
June 24, 2008

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**ADDITIONS**
NOTICES RECEIVED BETWEEN 12/1/07 AND 2/29/08

1989
- Beckham Salvatore, born 5/14/05, and Keegan Amore, born 1/10/08, to Dawn and Paul Alderucci ’89.

1990
- Marlee Rae to Denise (Pouleson) ’90 and Raymond Diana on 10/08/07.

1991
- Samantha Jean to Barbara (Domain) ’91 and Scott Lawrence on 12/22/07.
- Kevin Tadhg to Deirdre (Curtin) ’91 and David R. Slocum on 5/22/07.

1992
- Gino Jr. to Mary-Ellen (Tinson) ’92 and Gino Gioloso on 1/07/08.

1993
- Nathan W. to Denise White ’93 and Bruce Balokin on 1/03/08.

1994
- Samara Lulu and Marcus Gregory to Brigitte (Plante) ’94 and Gregory David on 7/30/07.

1995
- Gregory Joseph to Pamela (Cyr) ’95 and Phillip Fisher II on 06/27/07.
- Cole Joseph to Jill (Pasini) ’95 and Joseph K. Fredriksen ’95 on 04/19/07.

1996
- Tenner Marie to Kimberly (Tallent) ’96 and Jeffrey M. Dufresne on 03/01/07.
- Amelia Jane Boyan born 02/08/07 and adopted to Jane (Porter) ’96 and

1997
- Reese Riley to Brooke (Barchard) ’02 and Randy R. Rossi ’01 on 12/2/07.
- Liam James to Kristin (Magnosa) ’02 and James Rosebach on 11/20/07.

2005
- Tziporeh Temar on 10/26/05 and Avraham Raphael on 10/25/07 to Jenn and Eliezer G. Chemin ’05.

**PARTNERSHIPS**
NOTICES RECEIVED BETWEEN 12/1/07 AND 2/29/08

1987
- Eileen F. Tremblay ’87 to Blaine Romero on 8/6/07.

1990
- Richard J. Donovick ’90 to Gretchen Brady on 1/19/08.

1994
- Eric J. Bertrand ’94 to Julie H. Dellinger on 11/23/07.
- Brigitte R. Plante ’94 to Gregory David on 6/24/06.
- Colleen Sheahan ’94 to Anthony Yebba on 4/21/07.

1996
- Eric A. Cohen ’96 MBA to Wendy Beyer on 7/14/07.
- Marilyn G. Gorman MBA ’96 to Thomas S. Fil on 6/2/07.

1997
- Jeffrey D. Hill ’97 to Nancy S. Huey on 9/22/07.
Washington, D.C., RAN Event
June 24, 2006
JP Morgan Private Bank
5:30 p.m.

Alumni Whitewater Rafting
June 27-29, 2008
Three Rivers
West Forks, Maine

5th Annual President's Cup Golf Tournament
June 30, 2008
Newport Country Club
For more information, contact Glenn McQuade at (401) 232-6442 or via e-mail at gmquade@bryant.edu.

Black & Gold Golf Tournament
Supporting Bryant Athletics
July 30, 2008
Crystal Lake Country Club
Burrillville, RI
For more information, contact Jason Sullivan at (401) 232-6072 or via e-mail at jsulliva@bryant.edu.

Online registration available for all Regional Alumni Network events at www.bryant.edu/alumnievents

CONTACT US
To submit personal or professional news and photographs, visit our Web site at www.bryant.edu and click on the "Alumni" and "Online Community" links. You can also update your personal and professional information via our Web site. Contact us at alumni@bryant.edu or 401-232-6040 with questions or ideas for future stories.

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CALENDAR EDITOR
Melissa Frank '99

1999
- Michael C. Drewnowski '99
to Kelly Drew on 6/15/07.
- Quan Minh Tran '99 to Penny Nickolas
- Eric T. Watt '99 to Paula Rocha
  on 10/7/07.

2000
- Terri M. Berg '00 to Dustin Schulz
  on 10/15/07.
- Meredith B. Vachon '00
to Abraham Kane on 8/11/07.

2001
- Stephen J. Elias '01 to Samantha Brown
  on 9/8/07.
- Christopher J. Knight '01
to Jennifer L. Demers on 6/22/07.

2003
- Kimberly M. Chabot '03

2007
- William F. Swanson '07
to Lauren Ridgely on 7/27/07.

2012
- Amelia Jane Byun born 02/08/07
  and adopted to Jane (Porter) '96 and Allen J. Hardy '06.