From brooms to bytes: Charlotte Moskalenko

by Gloria Yahn
Assistant Editor

From mops and brooms to keyboards and bytes. That's the route Charlotte Moskalenko took to get to where she is today—a lab supervisor in the Koffler Technology Center.

Divorced with a teenage daughter to support and no job, overweight by 60 pounds, and feeling very insecure in 1979, she said: "I decided to go to work."

Having worked as a hospital lab technician many years before, Moskalenko tried that. But she found that many things had changed. And to get back into that field required schooling. There was no time for that.

"I needed a job right away," Moskalenko said.

A newspaper classified ad for an office position brought her to Bryant. She nervously went to human resources, filled out an application, took a typing test, flunked, and was told she wasn't qualified. She came back for a second typing test and flunked that one, too.

"But they did tell me of a custodial position that was vacant if I had an interest," Moskalenko recalls. "so I decided to take it."

More insecure than before, she began her new job. Because one of Bryant's benefits is free tuition, Moskalenko did muster enough nerve after a year to enroll in her first college course, Computer Science 102. That was the beginning of a new Charlotte Moskalenko.

Charlotte Moskalenko in Koffler Center

Seriously looking at school as a way to develop, a determined Moskalenko mapped out her future. Halfway through her course work, while still working full time, she put more pressure on herself. To lose weight.

The idea to change her appearance came from a glance in the mirror and a comment of a co-worker.

"I didn't like myself at all," she said. "I didn't wear make-up. I didn't like my hair. I was fat and Continued on page 4

Carlin, Neal UnHomecoming hits

Comedian George Carlin (left) does "his thing" and mentalist and hypnotist Eugene "The Astonishing" Neal entertained with help from some friends at Bryant's UnHomecoming '87 in mid-November. The four-day event also included a cheering competition, bonfire, and eight-team intercollegiate flag-football tournament won by Bryant's intramural champs.
And a Ball was had by all...

Scottish pipers greeted more than 275 guests arriving for Bryant's 125th Anniversary Ball at Rosecliff Mansion in Newport on November 14.

Bobbi O'Hara grabs the spotlight from the President as she does the honors at the Anniversary Ball cake.

Anniversary Ball chairs Nicholas '57 and Margaret '57 Janikies (center) lead the way on the dance floor as they enjoy music by the Duke Belaire Orchestra.

It's holiday party time!

Bryant's annual Holiday Party is Saturday, December 19. And it promises to be better than ever during this 125th Anniversary year.

But you better make your reservations now. Deadline is Wednesday. Guest tickets are $12.50.

The party begins with a champagne reception at 6:30 p.m. in the Rotunda. You can also take a nip of cider with cinnamon sticks and nibble on cheese, chestnuts, and stuffed mushrooms. A horse and carriage begins transporting guests from the parking lot to the Unistructure at 6 p.m.

Dinner in Salmanson Dining Hall follows at 7:30 p.m. And what a menu it is: pumpkin soup, salad, steamship round, stuffed filet of sole, popovers, wild rice, green beans, buttered carrots, scalloped apples, cornbread and dinner rolls, Indian pudding, apple-cranberry pie, spice cake, assorted pastries, and a beverage.

"Horizon" begins playing at 8:30 p.m. with dancing until 12:30 a.m. Finger sandwiches and beverages will be served at 11:30 p.m.

Festival of Lights tonight

Bryant's annual Festival of Lights is tonight. The all-college ecumenical holiday service begins at 9 p.m. in the Rotunda. It will show off Bryant's holiday spirit and light up the Rotunda with hundreds of hand-held candles.

Clergy and students representing the Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths will lead the ceremony. President O'Hara will deliver the holiday message, begin passing the candle's flame, and light the college Christmas tree in the Bryant Center Commons after the service.

A reception in the Bryant Center follows the ceremony.

Alumni House 'opens' Friday

End your week Friday at Bryant's Alumni House.

The Office of Alumni Relations is hosting a "country holiday open house" for all faculty and staff. It begins at 4:30 p.m.

Old-fashioned holiday cheer is on the menu.
The Bryant College Forum

Robert Reich

“Entrepreneurship Revisited”

December 7, 1987
Smithfield, R.I.

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Bryant Forum today; top political economist speaks

Robert Reich, one of the foremost authors on political economy, speaks today at 4 p.m. in Janikies Auditorium for the third Bryant Forum—a series bringing some of America’s leading business writers to Rhode Island’s business leaders. Reich, a professor at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, is the author of several influential books on political economy, including his latest, “Tales of a New America.” He will talk on “Entrepreneurship Reconsidered: The Team as Hero,” a look at “why in this new economy it’s often more important to have leaders who can create entrepreneurial teams than cowboy entrepreneurs capable of inventing brand new products”; the “new process of invention and innovation”; “how entrepreneurial teams function,” and “how to create and sustain entrepreneurial teams.”


20th tax symposium to focus on year-old reforms

Income tax reform a year later.

That is the focus of the 20th annual symposium for income tax practitioners at Bryant on Saturday. Hundreds of accountants and attorneys again are expected to attend the day-long symposium in Janikies Auditorium.

Titled “Income Tax Symposium for Practitioners, The Tax Reform Act of 1986 Revisited: Applications and Implications a Year Later,” it runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is $95, including a luncheon, refreshments and materials for each session that will serve as a reference tool after the program.

AIDS not a work-place threat, says public health educator

If you know the risks and then take the necessary precautions, you have almost no chance of contracting AIDS in the work place.

Norma Farone, public health educator for the state health department, delivered that message to Bryant employees in mid-November. She spoke and showed slides in Janikies Auditorium as part of the AIDS-education program on campus.

Even though the virus is found in all body fluids, casual contact appears to be completely safe, Farone said. With no exchange of body fluids (particularly blood and semen), activities such as shaking hands or hugging one another is safe.

Injuries are another story, however, she said. If an injury that causes a laceration does occur, you should treat the wound with gloves on your hands, Farone said, so that blood does not make contact with your skin. Take that precaution even at home, she said, if you must treat an injured neighbor or friend or friends of your children.

Because the virus that causes AIDS is very fragile, Farone said, you should not become alarmed even if AIDS-contaminated blood gets on your hands. Washing your hands as soon as possible after treating the laceration should wash away all the blood and the virus, which will die soon or may have died already after being exposed to the air.

Health-care workers should always wear gloves, Farone said. They must be especially careful with open lesions on the skin of patients, particularly if workers have breaks in their own skin.

How to stop from getting AIDS is relatively simple, Farone said. Don’t have sex with multiple partners, infected persons, or intravenous-drug users, and use condoms with an approved spermicide when having sex. Don’t use intravenous drugs, but if you do, don’t share needles. Try to use your own blood withdrawn in advance of elective surgery for transfusions. Avoid deep kissing.

“The only safe sex is abstinence,” Farone said. So the health department stresses “safer sex” controls, such as the use of condoms.

If there is good news in this epidemic, Farone said, it is that Rhode Island has a low rate of AIDS among all carriers except IV drug users. But that good news must be tempered with the knowledge that the rate has been rising each year since 1983, she said. The number of diagnosed cases since then is 127.

Presidential address Tuesday

President O’Hara presents his State-of-the-College Address tomorrow in Janikies Auditorium.

All faculty and staff are invited to attend. The President’s address begins at 3:30 p.m.
...The Bryant and University of Rhode Island student chapters of the American Marketing Association held a holiday dinner-dance together last Wednesday evening in Pawtucket. The semi-formal affair also included guest speakers...

...Careers in marketing was the topic for Judy Clare, assistant director of career services, who spoke at the annual meeting of the Rhode Island chapter of Distributive Education Clubs of America in early November. Her audience was high school juniors and seniors...

...Professor Janet Morahan coordinated a lecture on "Sexual Abuse of Children and Its Long-term Effects" in Jenikies Auditorium last Monday. The speaker was Jackie Jackson, of the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center...

...Assistant director of residence life Bob Stoss is president of the College Personnel Administrators of Rhode Island (CPARI)...

...Area director Jamie Birge presented a workshop at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Region I fall conference in Burlington, Vermont in early November. It was titled "In Search of... Academic Advising in the Residence Halls"...

...Professor Judy Litoff presented a paper and professor Jim Ingraham chaired a session at the Northeastern Popular Culture Association meeting in Portland, Maine in mid-November. Litoff's paper is titled "Will He Get My Letters?: Popular Portrayals of Mail and Morale During World War II." Ingraham's session looked at "Lines of Communication in Wartime: Popular Culture and the Two World Wars"...

...The Journal of Occupational Behaviour has accepted for publication a paper by professor Ron Deluga. It is titled "The Politics of Leadership: The Relationship Between Task-People Leadership and Subordinate Influence Strategies"...

...The November-December issue of Harvard Magazine carries an article by professor Pedro Beade. It is titled "Vita: Roger Williams. Brief Life of a Principal Dissenter: 1603?1683"...

...Professor Jim O'Neill will serve as the moderator for a day-long session of the annual conference of the Northeast Victorian Studies Association in April. It will be held at the University of Scranton, Pennsylvania...
CALENDAR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

"Advanced LOTUS 1-2-3
a "Hands-On" Approach"
2-Day Seminar
The CENTER
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

"Finance and Accounting for the
Non-Financial Manager"
2-Day Seminar
The CENTER
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Bryant Forum
Robert Reich
Jankies Auditorium
4 p.m.

Festival of Lights
Rotunda and
Bryant Center
9 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Feast of the Immaculate
Conception
Auditorium
Noon & 3:30 p.m.

State of College Address
President O'Hara
Jankies Auditorium
3:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

"Introduction to LOTUS 1-2-3
a "Hands-On" Approach"
2-Day Seminar
The CENTER
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

“How to Plan Effective
Presentations”
Seminar
The CENTER
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

“How to Deliver Effective
Presentations”
2-Day Seminar
The CENTER
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Council of Administrators
MRC Dining Room
3 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

Country holiday "open house"
Alumni House
4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

Eucharist
Bryant Center Room 2A-B
Noon & 9 p.m.

Protestant Services
Bryant Center Chapel
12:30 p.m.
From brooms to bytes

Continued from page 1

just plain frumpy. When I decided to do something about it, it was because one of my peers said to me amusingly, 'When you walk down the hall, Charlotte, I can't see the light because you're so broad.'

'That was the straw that broke my back.'

Moskalenko heard of Dr. Augustus Marsella, a bariatrician (a doctor who treats obese people) with whom she immediately made an appointment. Taking vitamins and learning when and what to eat, beginning with a light breakfast, was the start of her weight loss. And as the weight came off, her confidence built up ever so slowly.

People began noticing. She had her hair styled. She bought new clothes. She started wearing make-up. She made the Dean's List.

"With all these wonderful things happening to me I felt I was on my way," Moskalenko said. "To where, I didn't know."

Receiving her degree in 1987 was another milestone in her climb. Much more comfortable with herself now, she decided it might be the time to test her new attitude and confidence. Hearing of a new position in the Koffler Technology Center, she decided to apply for the position of lab supervisor. She was interviewed, and hired.

"It's people like Joe Guay (director of academic computing) who have played an important role in my life," she said. "He took a chance on me. I had a degree in computer information systems, but no experience. I guess Joe saw something. I'll always be grateful to him."

Moskalenko assists students, faculty, staff, anyone in the computer lab who has questions or needs help.

According to professor John Zeiger, "I knew there was such a thing as a personal computer, but that is all I knew. Charlotte took me step by step through the process and put up with my mistakes. She is pleasant, very helpful, and also gives you a feeling that you're working together. She is really involved with your learning."

Indeed, all her hard work seems to have paid off. But would she put herself through the last eight years again? "Knowing the results of my education, the friends I've made through the years, having got to know who I am and where I'm going, yes, I'd do it all again," she said. "You see, I haven't reached my goal yet. You could say I've only just begun."

By the way...

by Gloria Yahn
Assistant Editor

- Junior Craig Bennett and senior Ann Richards have been selected as the 1988 Northern Rhode Island Special Olympics director and assistant director, respectively. Our warmest congratulations!

- The secretarial advisory board sponsored two events on campus recently: a color fashion analysis with Joan Anderson, of IMPACT; and a presentation by professor Chantee Lewis on the new tax laws.

- A fond and sad farewell to Nancy Brown, institutional advancement. Nancy left last Friday, leaving not just Bryant, but Rhode Island. She is taking up residence in Naples, Florida, with her entire family. The best of luck to her!

- Gail Valentine, business affairs, returned from a six-month leave last week. Gail was busy playing Mom to son John, and her new daughter, Julie. It's nice to see you back, Gail!

- Linda Asselin, The CENTER, returned to work last month after seven weeks of recuperation from surgery. She has asked me to pass along her thanks to all of you for your kind thoughts and cards.