International students find warmth, hospitality here

by Cynthia G. Smith
Contributing Writer

International students come to Bryant from places such as Zimbabwe, Kenya, England, and Botswana in search of a business education to help them forge careers in the world marketplace. What human warmth and hospitality do they find in Rhode Island? More than you might realize.

The International House, on Stimpson Avenue on Providence’s East Side, is a “house of hospitality” where international students cultivate friendships, learn about American culture, and share their own with others. This interchange helps to ease the initial fear and “culture shock” that accompanies a foreign student’s trip to the United States.

Bryant’s own International Social Organization (ISO) was re-established two years ago. It provides opportunities for Bryant’s 40 international students to mingle with other international and American students in ISO-sponsored dinners, parties, and informal gatherings.

Victor Kibe, a junior from Kenya, chose a Bryant education on the advice of a good friend who “told me that it was a good business school. ‘Also,’ he said with a smile, ‘it is relatively inexpensive.’”

A management major who plans to become an entrepreneur, Kibe said that the natural beauty surrounding the Bryant campus also played a part in his decision to attend college here.

Scarlett Lear, an economics major from England, said that two brothers who attended Bryant encouraged her to pursue a business education here. While Lear’s high school education focused on liberal arts subjects such as history, art, and literature, she feels that “a good business education is a valuable foundation for any career.” Lear hopes to one day become “a journalist and even, perhaps, a famous writer.”

Grajina Eich, a finance major now living in Zimbabwe though originally from West Germany, said that life overseas is very different from life in America.

“People become more intimately involved with each other overseas,” she said. “Also, we don’t eat as many fast foods, and families sit down to dinner together almost every night at home. Not so in America.”

Mitchell “Rocky” Moncho, a finance major from Botswana, agreed that friendships are more difficult to cultivate in America.

Nevertheless, he said, “being a foreign student enables me to escape many of the causes of social tension that afflict American students. I simply act as though certain tensions don’t involve me.”

Each of the students, who serve as ISO club officers, agreed that business education in America lacks, as a whole, the “international scope” particularly essential for students who will, in all probability, work in countries other than America.

“In other cultures, there are business customs, as well as gender customs and habits, that are impossible to understand unless one studies them,” Eich said.

The students added, however, that Bryant’s awareness of the importance of interculture study is reflected by the revised liberal arts curriculum.

Eventually, the ISO hopes to see an even wider range of multi-cultural studies available at Bryant in addition to the European cultural studies already offered.

English professor Linda Nagle, ISO adviser, said that ISO meetings are held Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. in Room 244. Everyone, including American students, is welcome.

ISO also is sponsoring a variety of activities this week and next:

• Wednesday: Discussion titled “Cultural Dating Relationships and Family Relationships,” co-
'Model 86' lays out Bryant's financial future

The number "86" joined the number "125" as prominent numerals at Bryant this year. But for very different reasons.

The latter, of course, refers to the Anniversary celebration. The former will never achieve this type of recognition, although it refers to the most comprehensive "financial planning" effort ever made at Bryant—an effort that rests solidly on the "strategic planning" initiatives.

Number "86" is the numeral of the computer model chosen to determine tuition and fees over the next five years. "Model 86" was selected from among more than 200 economic models that were evaluated in hundreds of hours of intense and sometimes hot debate and in hundreds more hours of week-by-week preparation over the past two years.

The 88-89 rates are the first to result from Model 86. It was selected by a committee that came to be known as the "tuition pricing group" on campus. That group involved a changing cast of key administrators over two years, but almost always included Executive Vice President William Trueheart, who chaired the group; the four vice presidents; Howard Kay, executive director of corporate and community affairs; Jo-Anne Lema, director of institutional research, who designed the models and developed all the cost estimates, and President O'Hara's assistants. The President also was always aware of and involved in the planning process at appropriate stages.

Together, in more than 100 meetings and a day-long workshop with Trustees, the tuition group extensively examined "every single anticipated cost of the college until 1992," said Lema, who was a group member for the entire two years.

The tuition group's analysis went far beyond "the previous business-as-usual approach," she said. "It was the first serious hard look at the cost of providing the highest-quality education possible, which market research shows students want and are prepared to pay for... while handling the (usual) increases."

The keys to these analyses, of course, are the projected costs of the "strategic planning" initiatives.

"Nearly all of the most significant changes taking place on campus have come out of strategic planning," said Jim Robinson, vice president for academic affairs and current chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. "So we needed the financial planning to go with it."

The costs of enhancing Bryant's quality through the most vital of these initiatives were combined with normal operating expenses estimated for each year through 1992. This determined the amount of revenue needed annually.

In assessing operating costs, Lema said, "nothing was sacred" as the group worked to trim costs wherever it could. These meetings may have been the most intense.

The tuition pricing group also decided "it is wise for Bryant to maintain economic stability by not running deficits," Robinson said. Deficits would hurt, in particular, Bryant's bond ratings at a time when it will need to market bonds to construct capital additions, such as new living space.

The financial planners also committed themselves to keeping Bryant's future rates "affordable" and competitive with similar institutions. So the estimated rates for Bryant's chief competitors over the next five years were compared with Bryant.

Model 86 ultimately "won the day," said Lema, because it retains the most vital strategic planning initiatives, shows no deficits, reflects reasonable tuition increases in the years to come, doesn't jeopardize the bond rating, and provides funds for scheduled maintenance of facilities.

The 1988-89 rates, thus, are calculations of Model 86, and the first to reflect this comprehensive, longer-term look at Bryant's costs in today's marketplace. The rates show also that Bryant will remain one of the most affordable of all private, selective colleges.

"The end result is a mechanism we can go back to now each year to determine rates," Robinson said. "With no unexpected costs and stable enrollments, we have a good handle on the next five years."

Engineers probing oil leak

An environmental engineering company is investigating the subsurface heating oil leak discovered beneath Bryant's mechanical room in late February.

And residents of John Mowry Road near the campus who are concerned about contamination of their well water are being kept informed of efforts to rectify the problem.

Lincoln Environmental, of Manville, has dug three test wells outside the Ustructure and six wells inside the mechanical room. The wells will determine the possible spread of the spill, if it has seeped into the ground water, and if it poses a hazard to area wells. Contamination of well water is the principal concern of Bryant and John Mowry Road residents right now.

Approximately 15 of those residents attended a meeting set up by the Offices of Public Information and Physical Plant in mid-March to describe the situation, answer questions, and explain the investigation and clean-up process. The residents were assured that Bryant is doing everything it can to rectify the problem. They will receive frequent reports on the progress of the investigation and its findings from the public information office.

Whether the oil poses a problem for well water is a question without an answer until the investigation is completed, according to Gary Ezovski, president of Lincoln Environmental. He expects the probe to take at least four to six weeks. If necessary, additional wells will be dug to determine if and where the oil has spread.

The smell of oil in water is as good an indicator of contamination as a chemical test, according to the engineers. None of the residents at the meeting
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sponsored by Office of Residence Life, Dorm 14, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, ISO dinner in the Heritage Room, Bryant Center.
- April 20: Informal tour of career services, hosted by Judy Ballante, followed by a pizza party.

Club officers for 1988-89 are Eich, president; Kibe, vice-president; Karen Starkus, of Holden, Massachusetts, secretary; Lear and Moncho, advertising.

Throw out those butts and make a “FreshStart”

Have you tried to quit smoking, but without success? Or, maybe you’ve never tried before but want to quit now. Either way, Bryant and the American Cancer Society want to help you throw out those butts and make a “FreshStart.”

The Office of Human Resources now has the American Cancer Society’s “FreshStart” program on videocassette. This smoking-cessation program has already helped thousands of smokers around the country “put it out” for good. By arming you with knowledge, confidence, advice and pride as you progress, this modular approach reinforces the nonsmoking habit.

Actor-comedian Robert Klein is the host of the “FreshStart” video. In daily three to four minute “chapters,” he coaches you through the most difficult first three weeks of nonsmoking.

Fifty-four million Americans still smoke. Of these smokers, 35 percent would like to quit and a great many have tried, according to the cancer society. If you are one of these people, you can break the habit by filling out the coupon below.

The human resources office will be offering the “FreshStart” program on campus, or you may borrow the tape free of charge to use at home. This is your chance to spend less than five minutes a day to gain freedom from smoking.

“FreshStart” Quit Smoking Video

Complete and return this form to Denise in the Office of Human Resources, or call ext. 6013 for more information.

— Yes, I want to participate on campus.

My best days are __________________________
My best times are __________________________
— I want to participate but would like to borrow the tape and follow the 21-day program at home.

Name: ________________________________
Tel. #: ________________________________

complained about an aroma in their water, although several indicated that they have smelled an oily aroma on campus from time to time in the vicinity of the spill on the south side of the Unstructure.

This smell appears to have come from oil that has leaked into a small stream on campus that discharges water from storm drains under the Unstructure, according to Brian Britton, physical plant director. But the oil does not appear to have flowed a long distance from its source, said Britton, who has walked downstream to try to determine its spread. Any additional oil that may be seeping from this outlet is being caught with filters laid in the stream.

Cause of the leak appears to be faulty installation of a line that carries oil to and from the 10,000-gallon tank to the boilers. It is not known how long oil has been leaking from the half-inch separation near a joint or how much has been lost. But most of the oil appears to have settled under the mechanical room in a “pocket” formed by the French drain system, which had become partially blocked, said Britton. When that pocket filled, oil began seeping up into the mechanical room through the concrete floor.

Continuous pumping out of an oil and water mixture through a hole bored in the floor is draining this pocket. The mix is then being separated by a series of filters, with the oil transported off campus by a waste oil treatment company.

The state Department of Environmental Management (DEM), the Smithfield Town Council, and the Smithfield Conservation Commission all were contacted about the spill, and are being kept informed of the situation. Town council and commission members also have toured the site with Britton.

DEM has indicated already that there does not appear to be any environmental damage.
...Professor Burt Fischman spoke at the 1988 Tire and Automotive Trade Show sponsored by the New England Association of Independent Tire Dealers at Boxboro, Massachusetts. "Motivating Employees: Plain Talk" was the title of his presentation...

...Purchasing director Bill Baker has been elected president of the New England chapter of the National Association of Educational Buyers...

..."Sustaining Each Other 'For the Duration': War Brides and World War II" was the topic of a presentation made by professor Judy Litoff at the Missouri Valley History Conference in Omaha in March. She also spoke on "Will He Get My Letter?: Popular Portrayals of Mail and Morale during World War II" at the American Culture Association’s annual meeting in New Orleans in March...

...Trustee Nelson Gulski was the principal speaker at the New England Luncheon at the Seven Seas Restaurant in Bradenton, Florida in March. He spoke on one of his favorite topics: "The Joys of World Travel"...

...Professor Gerhard Ditz has been notified that the German translation of his article, "Smith and Keynes: Religion in Economics," was published in Sociologica Internationalis, Berlin, 25 Band, 1987 Heft 2...

...Corporate giving director Homer Shirley has been appointed to the board of directors of the Festival Ballet of Rhode Island for a two-year term...

...The American College Personnel Association (ACPA) has elected Les LaFond, vice president for student affairs, as professional liaison to the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). LaFond also will be a panelist at the AACRAO annual meeting in Nashville. The topic: "Affirmative Action in the '90s"...

...Bryant was well-represented again at the annual convention of the Eastern Economic Association in Boston last month. Professor Richard Spivack chaired a session on "Impact of Government Intervention on Local and Regional Markets." He also was a panelist discussing "Studies on Labor Unions." Professors Hsi Li and Pedro Beade presented a paper, "Rationality, Indeterminism and Multivalent Logic," at a session on "Economic Methodology"...
April is Alcohol Awareness Month

Is alcohol a problem for you?
To answer this question, ask yourself the following questions and answer them as honestly as you can.

1. Do you lose time from work due to drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
2. Is drinking making your home life unhappy?  ___ Yes  ___ No
3. Do you drink because you are shy with other people?  ___ Yes  ___ No
4. Is drinking affecting your reputation?  ___ Yes  ___ No
5. Have you ever felt remorse after drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
6. Have you gotten into financial difficulties as a result of drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
7. Do you turn to lower companions and an inferior environment when drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
8. Does your drinking make you careless of your family's welfare?  ___ Yes  ___ No
9. Has your ambition decreased since drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
10. Do you crave a drink at a definite time daily?  ___ Yes  ___ No
11. Do you want a drink the next morning?  ___ Yes  ___ No
12. Does drinking cause you to have difficulty in sleeping?  ___ Yes  ___ No
13. Has your efficiency decreased since drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
14. Is drinking jeopardizing your job or business?  ___ Yes  ___ No
15. Do you drink to escape from worries or trouble?  ___ Yes  ___ No
16. Do you drink alone?  ___ Yes  ___ No
17. Have you ever had a complete loss of memory as a result of drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
18. Do you resent the advice of others who try to get you to stop drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No
19. Do you drink to build up your self-confidence?  ___ Yes  ___ No
20. Have you ever been to a hospital or institution on account of drinking?  ___ Yes  ___ No

If you have answered YES to any one of the questions, there is a definite warning that you have an alcohol-related problem.
If you have answered YES to any two, the chances are that you do have an alcohol-related problem.
If you have answered YES to three or more, you definitely have an alcohol-related problem.

(The foregoing Test Questions are used by Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore.)
Fun on the phone: spring Phonathons

"Fun Ways to Fundraise these Anniversary Days."

That's the theme for Bryant's spring Phonathons beginning tonight in Rooms 386 A&B. Volunteers are always welcome.

Phonathons will be held Monday and Tuesday nights this week and next (April 11, 12, 18, 19) and April 25 from 6:45 to 9 p.m. Also, April 17 is Super Sunday, with four three-hour sessions beginning at 11 a.m. And a special session will be held Tuesday night, April 26 for top callers from each of the Phonathons.

A buffet will be served before each session, and a variety of prizes from local businesses will be awarded nightly. All volunteers will receive a free Phonathon T-shirt printed with this year's slogan.

For more information on the spring Phonathons or to sign up, contact annual giving officer Ruth Alberg at ext. 6252.

For the health of it, go to fair

Bryant's annual Health Fair tomorrow gives you a chance to get an early spring checkup. It runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the North Dining Room of the Bryant Center.

A few of this year's attractions: cholesterol screening - $5 for a finger prick with results in three minutes; glaucoma test - free; foot screening - free, by a podiatrist; dental screening - free, by a dentist; blood pressure test - free; the convicer - free, simulated car collision; ecolyzer test - free, measurement of carbon monoxide in exhaled breath; posture screening - free; CPR demonstration - free, by Bryant's Emergency Medical Technicians; nutrition counseling - free; vision screening - free.

Also, a variety of educational exhibits will be set up, including those by the Rape Crisis Center, the Anorexia and Bulimia Society of Rhode Island, the Good Hope Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Weight Watchers, American Heart Association, and American Cancer Society.

AIDS literature will be available, and a quit smoking video can be seen all day. You can also take three computer tests on smoking, stress, and nutrition.

Thanks

Elaine DiCandio thanks the Bryant community for the many prayers said and cards, baskets, and flowers sent to her during her hospitalization.

By the way...

By Gloria Yahn
Assistant Editor

- Jean Dominici, Bryant's first roving secretary, can be seen in any office in any building on any day. Jean began last month to cover offices in need of short-term secretarial services. See you around, Jean!

- Laurie Buckley, CMD, will not be seen around campus for a while. No! She hasn't left us. She is taking a three-month leave of absence to care for her seriously ill mother.

- Sandy Beaudry, development office, tells me to pass along her thanks to everyone who sent well wishes to her on her recent illness. She also assures everyone that she'll be back very soon.

- The executive committee of the secretarial/clerical staff is now an official college committee. Executive committee members are Loraine Cournoyer, Maureen Dubuque, Joyce O'Neill, Helen Senecal, and Sue Wandyes.