Banker named ‘Businessperson of the Year’

A Connecticut bank president and CEO is the Bryant Graduate School’s “Businessperson of the Year” for 1989.

Joseph E. LaPlume '74 M.B.A. receives the award at a dinner dance on April 15 at Holiday Inn at the Crossings in Warwick. Since November, 1986, LaPlume has headed The Bank of Southington, which opened in June, 1986 as a state-chartered, publicly owned commercial bank.

Before assuming his current position, the Bristol, RI resident served for 1½ years as vice president and manager of corporate banking for the western division of United Bank and Trust Company, Hartford. He moved to Hartford from Citizens Bank in Providence, for which he was a vice president and regional manager, vice president area manager, and branch manager for 12 years, principally in the southern part of Rhode Island.

LaPlume, who maintains a summer home in Narragansett, also has taught at the University of Rhode Island, and worked as a territorial manager for Sun Oil Company for four years before entering the banking field. In addition to his Bryant degree, he holds a B.S. from Providence College, and has completed the commercial banking program at the School of Banking at Williams College, and the banking and finance program at Fairfield University.

Sexual harassment happens on campus: professor

by Bill Rupp

You know it when you see it, but it is almost without definition, even in the courts. Almost no one is immune to it, either as a perpetrator or a victim, but it remains a silent issue that can explode at almost any time.

What "it" is is sexual harassment, an issue that marketing professor Frank Bingham has been studying and researching for many years. He talked about sexual harassment, specifically the "male-female power situation," in mid-March at a presentation in the Instructional Development Center.

Most people tend not to relate to sexual harassment, Bingham said, because there is no solid definition for it.


It can be all of the above, or none of the above, depending on interpretation. The most common description may be unwelcome sexual advances for the purpose of intimidating or gaining control or power over someone else.

Among LaPlume's community activities have been the Wakefield Rotary Club, the South Kingstown and Narragansett Chambers of Commerce, the United Way, the Cancer and Heart funds, and the YMCA. He is married with two children.

At the dinner dance, the Graduate School also will recognize 14 professors for serving up to 15 years on the faculty. Five-year recipients are Ken Fougere, Wayne Lima, Sam Mirmirani, and William Haas. Ten-year recipients are Eugene Amelio, Mike Lynch, Justin Holden, Dan Ryan, Phillis Schumacher, and Roger Francoeur. Professors giving 15 years of service are Mike Filippelli, Bill Sweeney, Peter Mini, and Wally Wood.

Sexual harassment goes on at all college campuses, Bryant is no exception.

"Professors are far from immune," Bingham said, "A reputation can follow a teacher around forever."

Whether that reputation is deserved or not, Bingham cited a number of sexual harassment cases that have gone to the courts, with a variety of results, for and against defendants, in favor of and against institutions dragged into the courts with the case.

"The courts remain very mixed up," he said.

The result of this confusion is that "sexual harassment usually is dealt with quietly in most cases, either through handling the charge quietly, or quieting the victim."

An institution like Bryant must also be concerned with a new term, "hostile environment," that has appeared on the horizon, he said. A court has ruled that an institution can be liable for operating or condoning a hostile environment.

Because of sexual harassment's ambiguity, Bingham said, he personally has resorted to dealing with students in and out of the classroom.

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in ways different now than years ago. For example, Bingham said, he will never close his door when a student, particularly a female, is in his office. And he will be careful not to use certain terms or phrases or language or examples when teaching, so that he cannot be misinterpreted.

Professor
Frank Bingham

Before he began his address, Bingham handed out a variety of myths and facts about sexual harassment, adapted from a pamphlet, "Sexual Harassment at the Workplace," published by the Alliance Against Sexual Coercion in Cambridge. A few are listed here:

MYTH: Women invite sexual harassment by their behavior and/or dress.
FACT: As with rape, sexual harassment is not a sexually motivated act. It is an assertion of hostility and/or power expressed in a sexual manner.

MYTH: Only bosses are in a position to harass women.
FACT: Co-workers and clients can also harass women at the workplace. Clients threaten to withdraw their business. Co-workers make work intolerable.

MYTH: Sexual harassment is rare on the campus.
FACT: Women have only recently begun to talk about the long-hidden problem of sexual harassment of students, staff and faculty. Fear of ridicule and a sense of hopelessness about the problem and a feeling that it's a "personal" dilemma have kept the problem concealed.

MYTH: Most charges of sexual harassment are false. Women use these charges as a way of "getting back" at a man with whom they are angry.
FACT: Women who openly charge harassment are often not believed, may be ridiculed, may lose their jobs, be given a bad grade, or be mistreated in some other way. Women have little to gain from false charges.

Oops!

Another administrator volunteering for Bryant's annual spring Phonathons was Jill Nosach. Her name was inadvertently omitted from the list provided to Bryant's Business for the story on the Phonathons in the March 13 issue.

Grad school director announced

Associate Vice President Mike Patterson announced in mid-March that the search for a new director of Bryant's graduate school has been completed.

Dr. Janet Daniels, currently directing seven graduate programs at the University of Hartford, will come to Bryant on August 1, Patterson said.

Her title will be director of the graduate school and associate dean.

Daniels has been responsible for M.B.A. programs at Hartford, including one in finance that was developed to be taught in-house at Aetna. M.S. programs in taxation, professional accounting, and organizational behavior, and a program leading to a master of science in public administration.

Daniels holds D.B.A. and M.B.A. degrees from Boston University, an M.S. in professional accounting from Hartford, an M.Ed. from the University of Delaware, and a B.S. from Tufts. Patterson announced. She also is a Maryland CPA.

Dorm 16 sights continue to change

The sights and sounds inside Bryant's new residence hall will change dramatically by next fall, when Dormitory 16 is scheduled to open.

For a curious photographer, though, construction can actually prove to provide a great many more unusual and little-seen photo opportunities—as these photographs attest.
Campus visits part of search for President winding down

The on-campus visits by the candidates to replace President O'Hara conclude this week.

Tomorrow, Dr. Robert Holmes, dean of James Madison University's College of Business, will be on campus for interviews and a reception for the Bryant community. On Friday, Bryant's executive vice president, Dr. William Trueheart, will be interviewed and received in the same way. Each reception runs from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the North Dining Room.

Candidates who have already gone through on-campus visits are Dr. Robert Taylor, dean of the University of Louisville's College of Business; Dr. Stephen Feldman, president of Western Connecticut State University, and Dr. Marvin Feldman, president of the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City.

Resumes of each of the candidates for President are available in the faculty suites and the library circulation desk. Also available there are evaluation forms, which you are urged to complete by Trustee Vice Chair Jonathan Farnum, chair of the President Search Committee. Return them to the search committee at Box 43.

Tuition, fees set for 1989-90

Bryant announced on March 1 its day school tuition and room and board fees for the 1989-90 academic year.

The new fees: tuition & fees, $8,719; room, $2,452 to $3,727, depending on accommodations; board, $2,175 for the 19-meal plan. Students living in Dormitories 14-16 and eating on the full-meal plan, thus, will pay $14,120 next year.

Announcement of the new fees was made in a letter to parents and students from President O'Hara. The letter emphasized a variety of initiatives this year and next that the President said "are designed to further strengthen Bryant and better prepare our graduates for the world beyond the campus."

Among the initiatives: hiring 10 additional faculty members for 1988-89, and recruiting 11 more next year; installing new language, business communications, and biology laboratories; starting construction of a new dormitory last fall and a new senior townhouse complex next year; adding a new hospitality marketing concentration to the marketing major; integrating international programs throughout the College and curriculum; upgrading and expanding athletic, recreational, and cultural programs and facilities.

Sustaining this progress, while at the same time maintaining the high quality that has elevated Bryant's rating by Barron's Profiles of American Colleges to "very competitive," requires tuition adjustments, the President said.

"Even with these adjustments, however," the President said, "Bryant remains an exceptional educational investment. an investment which consistently pays dividends after graduation."

He pointed to the 214 companies that sent representatives to campus last year, one of the largest numbers of recruiters to visit any Northeast college.

The President also mentioned the $5.4 million committed by Bryant to financial aid, which is $200,000 more than a year ago through gifts and grants.

"These funds help to assure that no deserving students are denied access to Bryant," the President said, "and that a Bryant education will remain valuable and affordable, not only next year, but in the years to come."

Administrator chosen Fulbright grantee

The special assistant to President O'Hara has been selected to participate in a prestigious overseas educational exchange program.

Priscilla Angelo, serving currently as coordinator of international affairs at Bryant, is receiving a grant from the Fulbright program of The Japan-United States Educational Commission. The program operates to promote mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries through the exchange of students, lecturers, research scholars, and professionals.

Angelo is participating specifically in the Fulbright Program for International Education Administrators. This short-term program is specifically designed "to introduce the higher education system and culture of Japan, with one week in Korea for an introduction to the Korean system."

Fulbright grantee Priscilla Angelo

Angelo came to the College in January, 1987 as special assistant to the president for institutional advancement, and later served as interim vice president for that division. The Schenectady, New York native was associate dean of academic affairs with responsibility for international study programs, associate director of student services, and assistant dean of students at St. Lawrence University before coming to Bryant. A 1984 Fulbright Scholar in West Germany, Angelo has traveled widely worldwide.

Angelo holds an Ed.D. from the University of Massachusetts, an M.A. from Indiana University, and a B.S. from State University of New York, Oswego.

... President O'Hara has received an honorary membership in the American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS), which operates a student chapter at Bryant. The award recognizes his support of and contributions to APICS over the years...

... Professor Burt Fischman spoke in February to two rather disparate groups but on similar topics. At a meeting of the Electrical Apparatus Service Association, his topic was "Streamlining Management Communication." As the keynote speaker at an assembly of graduate students and faculty at the University of Massachusetts-Boston, Fischman spoke on "Time Management and Communication"...

... Bryant was again well-represented by its faculty at the annual Eastern Economic Association meeting in early March. Presenting papers were professors William Sweeney, "U.S. Economic Forecast for 1989-90 Including Rhode Island Outlook"; Constantine Zlogas, "U.S. Export Sector, 1987-1986: Discriminating Between Performers and Non-Performers"; Hsi Li and Joe Ilacqua, "A Fuzzy Regression Analysis of the Nurse Shortage"; Pat Norton, "Reindustrialization and Economic Development Strategy," and Pedro Beato and Hsi Li, "Metaphysics and Rationality." Professor Richard Spivack chaired and served as a discussant in one of the sessions...

... Accounts payable supervisor Konnie Laprade has been re-elected to a second one-year term as chair of the Woonsocket Housing Authority's board of commissioners. A member for three years, she is the authority's first-ever woman commissioner...

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Cynthia I. Bonn
Assistant Director, Admissions

Cynthia Bonn, of North Solvita, came to
Bryant from the University of Rhode Island,
where she was an admissions officer and
also employed as a communications officer.
She has

been employed as an admissions officer and

an admissions officer for Johnson & Wales
College, and as a publicist assistant at Boston
University. She is a graduate of Bryant and

a B.S. in business administration. She also

served as a volunteer for the Rhode Island
Student Conference and Lunch Program. As a

member of the Rhode Island Association of
Admissions Officers, she has been active in

the Association of College Admissions
Counselors. She serves on the Board of

Directors of the New England Association
of College Admissions Counselors.

Dr. Bruce Buskirk
Associate Professor, Marketing

Bruce Buskirk came to Bryant in January
from Northwestern University, where he was an
assistant professor of advertising and direct
marketing for two years. He has taught also at
Kent State and Western Reserve, Michigan
State, and the University of South Carolina.

Buskirk holds a Ph.D. in marketing from
Michigan State, with minors in international
business and logistics management, an M.S. in
marketing from Louisiana State, with a minor
in social psychology, and a B.A. in marketing
from the University of Southern California. His

work has appeared in newspapers and magazines, and

he has given presentations on direct marketing

to corporate, educational, and professional

groups.

Buskirk has been published in marketing

textbooks and has made presentations at

advertising agencies in Jordan, working with

the Chicago office of direct marketing

agent

Koks & Brady, serving as a sales representative

for Manhattan Shirt Company and working as

general manager of a marketing and sales

technology company. Buskirk has been published and makes

speeches and presentations frequently.
W. Brett McKenzie
Computer Specialist for Faculty Support

Brett McKenzie came to Bryant from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where he specialized in interactive technology in education. He lives with his wife, Joan, an artist, in Little Compton.

Born in Auckland, New Zealand, McKenzie was educated in Beirut, Lebanon and Cranleigh, England before settling with his family in Pittsburgh. After a two-year enlistment in the Navy, he entered the U.S. Naval Academy, graduating with an English degree. McKenzie subsequently served in Newport aboard the USS Miller and later taught English at the Naval Academy Preparatory School.

John A. Rattigan
Fire Safety Coordinator

John Rattigan comes to Bryant with 19 years of experience with the Providence Fire Department, the last eight as a lieutenant, and with almost 18 years of simultaneous experience as a customer service specialist with Almacs, Inc. He also spent six years as a sergeant in the 115th Military Police Company of the Rhode Island Army National Guard.

A Rhode Island native, Rattigan is responsible for supervising all fire and safety related inspections and drills, reports, and training; keeping fire equipment maintained; investigating fire and safety hazards; and operating a fire and safety awareness program. He lives in North Providence.

March toward better health in April

Bryant's annual Health Fair can help you march toward better health again next month.

Almost 20 participating organizations will provide health screenings and information to help you stay healthy. The Health Fair runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 11 in the North Dining Room.

Among the participants will be a dentist, a podiatrist, a chiropractor, a nutritionist and representatives from the Rhode Island Group Health Association and a potpourri of state and city-run health service programs.

Information on exercise equipment, birth control, alcohol abuse, rape, and vision care will be available. And a couple of dummies from television, Vince and Larry, will teach you about the hazards of not wearing seat belts.

Employment topic of grad series

Rhode Island's employment picture is the topic of the fourth segment of a five-part luncheon speakers series titled "Looking into the 1990s: Rhode Island and the International Scene," to be held April 19.

Steven Mascena, president of Mascena, Ecker & Associates, Inc., is the speaker. Being held at the Turk's Head Club in downtown Providence, the series is running once a month through May. Sponsor is the Bryant Graduate School Alumni Steering Committee.

The final segment of the series is May 17. Ira Magaziner, president of Telesis, Inc. and Bryant's visiting scholar of global business studies, will discuss "International Trade and where America stands."

Call the alumni office for more information.

Full-time basketball coaches sought

Bryant is in the market for full-time coaches for its men's and women's basketball teams as part of a reorganization of the athletics department.

Les LaFond, vice president for student affairs, announced the searches in mid-March in conjunction with the stepping down of athletics director Leon Drury as men's basketball coach. Drury is relinquishing his coaching duties to become a full-time athletics director in an effort to upgrade Bryant's athletics and recreational programs.

The moves follow a review of the athletics department's organization concurrent with the College's long-range planning activities, LaFond said. Assisting in this review has been an outside athletics consultant. Other athletics directors in the Northeast 10 Conference also were contacted.

The findings by the consultant, in particular, LaFond said, "identified a critical imbalance in our departmental staffing..."

Over the past 10 years, Bryant's intercollegiate program has grown from 10 to 15 sports. At the same time, the number of students participating on these and other club teams has almost tripled, from 219 to 607. The number of resident students also will have grown by more than 1,000 by this fall, "significantly impacting our intramural and recreational programs," LaFond said.

Drury steps down as men's basketball coach after 11 seasons.