Around the Corner

Friday, May 17
ROTC Commissioning
1:30 p.m. – Rotunda

Graduate School Commencement
4 p.m. – Gymnasium

Saturday, May 18
Undergraduate Commencement
10 a.m. – Parking lot in front of MAC

Monday, May 27
Memorial Day
No classes, offices closed

Friday, May 7 through
Sunday, May 9
Alumni Weekend

Monday, June 10 through
Friday, June 14
Orientation Leader training

Monday, June 17 through
Friday, June 28
Summer Orientation (three sessions)

President and Mrs. Trueheart
and
Interim President and
Mrs. Norton

Cordially Invite
Faculty, Administrators,
and Staff
to the

Annual Commencement
Breakfast
with the
1996 Honorary Degree
Recipients

Saturday, May 18, 1996
8:00 to 8:45 a.m.
Papitto Dining Room

BRYANT'S BUSINESS

MAY 1996 • VOL. 16 • NO. 8

133rd Commencement to be Held May 18

Wayne Yetter ’73 MBA, president and chief executive officer of Astra Merck Inc., a U.S. pharmaceutical company, will be the featured speaker at Bryant’s 133rd Undergraduate Commencement on Saturday, May 18, at 10 a.m. He will receive an honorary degree that morning, along with George E. Bello ’58, executive vice president and controller of Reliance Group Holdings, Inc.; Frederick C. Lohrum, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Rhode Island Hospital Trust National Bank; and The Hon. Bruce M. Selya, Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Robert Holland Jr., president and chief executive officer of Ben & Jerry’s Homemade, Inc., a Vermont Corporation that manufactures ice cream and frozen yogurt, will give the keynote address at the Graduate School Commencement Friday, May 17, at 4 p.m. in the Gymnasium. He will receive an honorary degree, along with Marcy Syms, president and chief operating officer of the Syms Corporation.

The ROTC Commissioning will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Rotunda. Major General (Retired) John J. Salesses, United States Marine Corps Reserve, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Salesses is vice president for academic affairs at Rhode Island College.

Six to Receive Honorary Degrees

George E. Bello ’58

George E. Bello is executive vice president, controller, and a board member of Reliance Group Holdings, Inc. Headquartered in New York City, the company has major property and casualty and title insurance operations with 1995 year-end assets of $10 billion.

Bello joined the company in 1968 as assistant controller, advancing to executive vice president and controller in 1981.

He serves on the boards of Zenith National Insurance Corporation; Horizon Mental Health Management, Inc.; and United Dental Care, Inc. He was a member of the board of trustees at Bryant from 1986 to 1989 and received the Bryant College Distinguished Alumni Award in 1984.

He holds a B.S. from Bryant.

(continued on page 2)
QUICKLY . . .

Steve Sutton, KPMG Peat Marwick Distinguished Visiting Professor of Accounting, has co-authored a paper that has been accepted for publication in *Internal Auditing*. Its title is “Performance Measures to Improve Internal Audit Productivity and Quality.”

Economics Professor Bill Sweeney spoke about the Rhode Island economy at an April 18 “Learning For Life” program, an educational and cultural program for persons of retirement age in the Blackstone Valley area.

Humanities Professor Joe Urgo delivered a paper at the British Association for American Studies Annual Conference at Leeds University in April. Its title is “Migration, Declaration, Nation: The United States as a Destination Culture.”

English Professor Jeannette White has had two articles accepted for publication: “Caribbean Revolutionaries: Trinidad’s C.L.R. James and Cuba’s Nicolas Guillen” in *C.L.R. James Review*, and “Shakespeare’s Titus Andronicus,” in *The Explicator*.

Psychology Professor Ron Deluga’s paper, “Relationship Among American Presidential Charismatic Leadership, Narcissism, and Rated Performance,” has been accepted for publication in *The Leadership Quarterly*.

Paula Iacono, director of alumni relations, presented a workshop during the 1996 Delta Chi Regional Conference in April. Topics included ways to reach out and engage alumni, peak their interest, and garner financial support. Participants represented colleges from New England, Virginia, New Jersey, and Canada, as well as national fraternity leadership.

ON THE MOVE

Congratulations to Loraine Cournoyer on her promotion to office manager/international trade assistant, through the international trade partnership between the Rhode Island Export Assistance Center at Bryant and the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation.

Commencement (continued from previous page)

Robert Holland Jr.

President and Chief Executive Officer of Ben & Jerry’s Homemade, Inc., a Vermont Corporation, Robert Holland previously served as chairman and CEO of Rokher-J, Inc., a New York based holding company participating in business development projects and providing strategic development assistance to senior management of major corporations.

He currently holds positions on the boards of Mutual of New York, TrueMark Manufacturing Company, and Frontier Corporation. He is chairman of the board of trustees of Spelman College and a trustee of Atlanta University Center, both in Atlanta. He is a member of the board of directors of the Harlem Junior Tennis Program.

Holland received a B.S. from Union College and an M.B.A. from Bernard Baruch Graduate School.

Fred C. Lohrum

Fred C. Lohrum is chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Hospital Trust National Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank of Boston Corporation. He was appointed to this position in 1992, after serving as chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Bank of Boston Connecticut.

Lohrum is active in many professional and community organizations and serves on the boards of the Providence Foundation, the R.I. Public Expenditure Council, Rethinking Government Group, Coalition for Community Development, the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, and Rhode Island Hospital, among others. He has been recognized with a number of awards.

Lohrum received his B.S. from the University of Cincinnati. After graduation, he joined the United States Navy, where he attained the rank of lieutenant and served as an operations officer aboard the Destroyer USS Rooks, based in Newport.

The Honorable Bruce M. Selya

The Honorable Bruce M. Selya has been Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit since 1996. He was United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island from 1982 to 1996. He is an adjunct professor of law at Boston College Law School and Boston University School of Law, and is a guest lecturer at both Harvard Law School and N.Y. University Law School.

Judge Selya is affiliated with numerous governmental and civic organizations. He is currently chairman of the Rhode Island State/Federal Judicial Council, serves on the board of directors of the Federal Judicial Center, and is director of both the Federal Judges Association and the American Judicature Society. He also serves on the board of Lifespan Health Systems, and is trustee emeritus of Bryant.

He holds B.A. and LL.B. degrees from Harvard University.
Getting To Know – The Office Of Undergraduate Programs

By Nicki Toler

When students come into the Office of Undergraduate Programs Betty Powers wants them to feel at home. Her goal is to create an atmosphere where any question is a good question, where good service and personal attention are the norm. “When students come here we want them to feel welcome,” she says.

It must be working. Betty and her staff have a full house no matter what the season. But then, most times of year are busy in the office responsible for course scheduling, registration, academic advising, and monitoring degree progress for all Bryant undergraduates.

Betty Powers has been director of undergraduate programs since 1983. She and her staff combine service and systems to give students everything they need to make good academic choices and to stay on track.

Betty and Assistant Director Sue McDonald, a 16-year Bryant veteran, work together on a variety of projects, including the challenging task of building the course schedule. It is a project that has many variables and involves a lot of “back and forth” work with faculty, according to Sue. “All of us want to make sure the students get what they need,” she says. “The faculty are great to work with. They play a major role in scheduling.”

Sue pinpoints one reason for the department’s success. “We are always trying something new, and we are always trying to improve,” she says. A sophisticated degree audit system is one example. The office distributes degree audits to students twice a year — giving them the chance to avoid unwelcome surprises at graduation time.

“We also use degree audits when we work with students who are considering changing their majors,” Betty adds. “It is a tremendous tool and the students have really taken to it.”

It is this blending of sophisticated technology with down-to-earth personal attention that defines the Office of Undergraduate Programs. Four academic advisors are on staff, and they work directly with students who come in with all kinds of questions — from what it will mean if they change their major or drop a course to how to apply for an internship. Advisors work with any student who comes to the office for help, but each has a particular area of specialization: Kathy Jarret works with transfers, Lynda Nagle with academically “at-risk” students, and Joanne Scuito with non-traditional students, while Sarah Levy helps international students and those who are interested in study abroad or internships.

“What we really do here is help students shape their academic careers,” says Sarah, the newest member of the advising team.

“This is not just computer work. We develop personal relationships with students. When it comes to students’ academic careers, we are the point people.”

The staff of undergraduate programs includes (sitting, l-r) Sarah Levy and Susan McDonald; and (standing, l-r) Lynda Nagle, Elizabeth Powers, Kathy Jarret, David Darragh ’96, Tina Senechal, and Marilyn Isherwood. Other staff members are Aurelie Maciejewski, Kelley Plausse, Joanne Scuito, and Alan Reyes ’98.

Joanne Scuito has been an academic advisor for 12 years. She says one of the most rewarding aspects of her job is watching how students change from freshman year to senior year. “I love this job, and I especially love the non-traditional students. Many of them are so nervous and unsure when they first start. It is wonderful to see how they develop confidence along the way.”

The academic advisors say they are constantly referring students to faculty and to other administrative offices. “Students bring us their questions about all kinds of things. We almost act like a broker for other offices,” says Sarah. “We are really one step in helping students find their way.”

Betty points out that academic advising is part of a comprehensive program that includes faculty advising, and career and personal counseling. “The students here are fortunate to have such a well developed advising program,” she notes. “I am really proud of our part in it.” She is equally proud of the effort her staff puts into making what can be some of the College’s most challenging processes, like course registration, more streamlined and student-friendly. “It is definitely a group effort,” she says.

According to Betty it comes down to building good relationships, looking for better ways to do their jobs, and most of all, keeping the needs of students in mind. “That is what is important to us,” she says. “We are always trying to do that.”
Bryant Graduates Have Lowest Loan Default Rate in Rhode Island

By Don DeMaio

Congressman Jack Reed stopped campaigning for the U.S. Senate long enough to come to Bryant for a news conference on student loan default rates. Reed wanted to hold his conference on the Bryant campus because Bryant graduates have the lowest default rate of any institution in the state.

The Congressman said the default rate among Rhode Island colleges, as well as nationally, is declining. But the bottom line is that only 21 percent of Bryant's students default on their loans.

Other institutions whose graduates approach that rate include Brown University (27 percent), Providence College (33 percent) and Rhode Island School of Design (37 percent).

The figures were compiled by several federal agencies and they show that the rate among Bryant graduates is declining. The years covered in the study were 1990-93.

Of the 20 schools included in the report, 11 had default rates in double figures. In fact, the highest default rate was 30.9 percent.

At the news conference, Interim President Dolph Norton credited the high quality of Bryant students, and their level of sophistication, with the low rate of defaulted loans. “We benefit from the character and commitment of the students who attend Bryant,” said President Norton, through his assistant, Scott Ferrin. President Norton, unfortunately, had laryngitis.

President Norton also said that “It is no surprise that our students pay back their loans. Bryant's students well know that their reputation is their stock in trade in the business community.”

Also speaking at the conference was Brenda Dann-Messier, regional administrator of the U.S. Department of Education, who credited the government's improved certification of schools with the national decline.

Bill Hurry, the new executive director of the R.I. Higher Education Assistance Authority, also spoke, pointing out that the national default rate has been reduced by 46 percent in the past four years. “This didn't happen by accident,” he said, referring to a number of bills, some of them co-sponsored by Reed, that have been passed by Congress to tighten up certification procedures.

A Perfect Landing

Cast members of Up With People received a heavenly welcome when they arrived on campus in April. A few minutes after the 180 students left their buses, they were treated to a skydiving demonstration by members of the Boston-Providence Skydiving Center. Here, Mia Astron shows off her style.

Tension Reliever

Registered Massage Therapist Raymond Morigasu got into his work at the annual health fair that was held April 2, "World Health Day." A variety of health-affiliated organizations from around the state exhibited in Papitto Dining Room.
Bryant Chosen "Outstanding" Worksite

Bryant has been selected to receive an “Outstanding” Worksite Health Award by the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce and Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island.

The Chamber’s Worksite Health Committee selected 40 area companies to receive an award. According to Bryant Health Educator Doris Helmich, Bryant was chosen for the following reasons:
- Attendance has increased at the Good Health Benefit presentations
- Bryant sponsored a Freedom From Smoking clinic
- The Health Risk Assessment Program was well attended by employees
- Bryant has an Employee Assistance Program available to its to its employees that can help resolve personal and performance problems
- The College sponsors World Health Day each year
- Bryant allows “flex” time for employees to attend programs.

The award will be presented at a “Business Over Easy” breakfast on May 16 at the Providence Marriott Hotel.

Campus Campaign Exceeds Goal

The Campus Campaign has surpassed its goal for 1995-96 with a 68 percent employee participation rate overall, a 10 percent increase over last year’s rate. A total of $34,809 showed a 10 percent increase in gifts and pledges, according to Nicole Lallier, assistant director of annual giving.

This is the first year in which four teams finished with more than a 90 percent participation rate. The Caretakers, led by co-captains Bev Daignault and Mell Mann, topped the charts with a 100 percent participation rate. They were followed by The Penny Pinchers with 97 percent; The Big Spenders with 93 percent; and The Perseverers, with 91 percent.

Along with Bev and Mell, team captains included Bob Wilks, Guismon Melo, Deanna Therien, Camille St. Onge, Deb Pasquarella, Jean Dominici, Bill Haas, Pat Keeley, Ron DiBattista, and Penny Pietraszka.

METPAY Now Available to Employees

Bryant employees can now take advantage of the METPAY program, which offers personal property insurance at special group rates not available to individual policyholders. The program is being offered by Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Affiliates (Met P&C®) in Warwick.

Coverage is available in the following areas: automobile, homeowners, boatowners, renters, condominium, and recreational vehicle. Premium payments can be made automatically through payroll or checking account deductions that spread payments evenly throughout the year. Traditional home billing is also available.

METPAY offers free insurance reviews and no-obligation premium quotes. Call 1-800-GET-MET 1 (1-800-438-6981) to speak with a consultant. For the most accurate comparison, employees should have current policy information on hand.

By The Way . . .

Carol and George Coronado would like to thank everyone who expressed their condolences on the passing of Carol's sister, Wendy. The thoughts of sympathy and flowers were deeply appreciated.

Penny Pietraszka sends her sincere gratitude for all the cards and flowers sent by so many friends from within the college community. “It is comforting at such a sad time to know that there were so many concerns and prayers for my mother and family,” she says.

Admission's Paula Mee ran in the 106th Boston Marathon on April 15 and completed the 26.2-mile course in 3:43:31. If that wasn't impressive enough, Paula was at her desk bright and early the next morning.

Maureen Duboque of counseling services wants to thank the Bryant Community for all the kind expressions of sympathy following the death of her mother-in-law, Viola Duboque. “The cards, flowers, spiritual bouquets, and donations to the Cancer Society were very much appreciated,” says Maureen. “It is great to be part of such a caring community.”

Senior Citizens’ Prom

Approximately 145 senior citizens attended the third annual Senior Citizens’ Prom. The sold-out event was held April 19 in South Dining Hall. Elliott Ypez ’97 enjoyed the company of (l-r) Peg Hyde of Greenville, Jackie Bourrier of Glocester, and Kathleen McHenry of North Providence. Sean Connolly '96 and Mary Pittino '96 served as co-chairs of the dance, which was sponsored by the Student Senate.
NEW FACES

CHRISTINE A. BIGWOOD '89
Programmer Analyst

Christine joins Bryant from Alford-Scott in New York, where she served as a systems analyst. Prior to that, she was a programmer/analyst for Carol Cable Company in Pawtucket. Christine holds a B.S. from Bryant.

KATHERINE FADER
Associate International Trade Director

Kathy has been appointed to associate international trade director through the international trade partnership between the Rhode Island Export Assistance Center at Bryant and the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation. She most recently served as an international sales representative for Cabot Systems Inc. in Lincoln and prior to that held exporting and international sales positions in two Pennsylvania companies. Katherine holds a B.A. from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and an M.I.M. from the American Graduate School of International Management, Thunderbird Campus, Glendale, Arizona.

DON FARIAS '80
Manager, International Trade Data Network (ITDN) High School Program Export Assistance Center

Don has been appointed manager of the ITDN High School Program, which is being piloted in 60 Rhode Island high schools and which will link 48,000 students to the ITDN. He joined Bryant from Metlife Property & Casualty, where he served as a senior systems analyst and prior to that was an analyst/programmer for the Foxboro Company. Don holds a B.S. from Bryant and was enrolled in M.B.A. programs at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the University of New Haven.

Commencement (Continued from page 2)

Marcy Symes

Marcy Symes is president and chief operating officer of Symes Corporation, which was founded by her father, Sy Symes, in 1958. The company presently operates 37 off-price clothing and accessory stores in 16 states.

Symes joined the marketing department of the company in 1978 and became the second spokesperson for the company, joining her father on both television and radio commercials. She was named president in 1983.

Her many professional affiliations include current memberships in the Young President's Organization, the Committee of 200, and the International Women's Forum. Since 1996, she has served as a director of the Republican Party of Lincoln and the not-for-profit Manhattan Theatre Club. She is a trustee of the Stern College for Women and a member of the Advisory Council of the Entrepreneurship and Personal Enterprise Program at Cornell University.

Symes received a B.S. from Finch College and an M.S. from Boston University. She is currently enrolled in the Owner/President Management Program at Harvard University.

Wayne P. Yetter '73 MBA

Wayne Yetter became president and chief executive officer of Astra Merck Inc. in 1984, when the company, formerly a unit of Merck & Co., Inc., became separate business entity owned jointly by Merck and Astra AB, a Swedish pharmaceutical company.

Yetter had been president of the Astra/Merck Group of Merck & Co., Inc. since 1993 and prior to that was general manager. He assumed responsibility for directing the creation of the new company in 1981, when he became general manager of Astra/Merck Affairs.

He began his pharmaceutical career at Pfizer Inc. in 1970 and joined the Merck organization as a product manager in 1977.

Yetter is on the boards of Wilkes University, the Wharton School's SEI Center for Advanced Studies in Management at the University of Pennsylvania, the American Digestive Health Foundation, the National Pharmaceutical Council, and the National Wholesale Druggists' Association. In 1995, he was named "Man of the Year" by the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America.

Yetter holds a B.A. from Wilkes University and a M.B.A. from Bryant. He served as a first lieutenant with the U.S. Army, Fourth Infantry Division in Vietnam before beginning his pharmaceutical career.

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