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# BRYANT 360°

360° NEWS AND VIEWS  
FOR STUDENTS AND  
FAMILIES  
FEBRUARY 2010



Nobel Prize-winner Elie Wiesel spoke to students about hope and making a difference.

## Author, activist, and Holocaust survivor

**E**lie Wiesel, the Nobel Prize-winning humanitarian whose gripping memoir, “Night,” described his experiences as a young Jew in the infamous German concentration camps of Buchenwald and Auschwitz, spoke at Bryant on December 3 as part of the Student Arts and Speaker Series (SASS). Only 15 when he and his family were deported to Auschwitz, his mother and younger sister died there, while two older sisters survived. He and his father were later transported to Buchenwald, where his father passed away just days before the camp was liberated in 1945.

“Indifference,” Wiesel told the 1,000 in attendance, “is the greatest sin.” Although the Bible has 10 commandments, he said, there is one more that all people should incorporate into their lives: “Thou Shalt Not Stand Idly By.”

Wiesel, now 81, went on to prominence as the author of nearly 60 books, and as an esteemed professor and a political activist. He and his wife started

the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity in 1986.

“To see the man who had endured so much tragedy and to hear him speak about hope for the future was truly a fantastic opportunity,” says Trevor Dumont, a sophomore management major from Rehoboth, MA, and a SASS member.

“To be in his presence was a once-in-a-lifetime experience,” adds Jennifer Sherman ’10, a management major and history concentrator (Framingham, MA), who serves as Hillel vice president.

### Speakers, events feed the mind, body, and spirit

At Bryant, guest speakers, special events, and co-curricular programs regularly inspire, educate, and open minds to new ways of thinking. Following are a few highlights from the fall semester:

- Students took part in the eye-opening **Oxfam Hunger Banquet®** organized

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## An inspirational place

**C**ollege students nationwide increasingly seek opportunities for spiritual discovery during their first three of years of college, according to a recent UCLA study.

At Bryant, students’ quest for the spiritual dimension is now reinforced by the Interfaith Center, which was dedicated in October 2009. The facility provides students, faculty, staff, and alumni from all faith perspectives with a place to come together to express their spirituality and learn from one another. Designed by the award-winning Gwathmey Siegel & Associates, the 10,000-square-foot building incorporates three symbols common to most, if not all, religions –

light, water, and the eternal circle – and is designed to inspire all who enter.

Bryant students participate regularly in on-campus religious services and a variety of faith-based organizations.

“To me, the Interfaith Center is where I can go to reflect, to regain my faith. It is so easy to get lost in the day-to-day bustle of being a student,” says Kati Sojkowski ’10, of Easthampton, MA.

“My hope is that our campus will be seen as an example of how all religions can coexist peacefully,” adds Andrew Youman ’12, of Medway, MA.

► **FOR MORE ON THE INTERFAITH CENTER, VISIT [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/CAMPUSMINISTRY](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/CAMPUSMINISTRY)**



The Interfaith Center at dusk

ADMITTED  
STUDENT OPEN  
HOUSE  
April 10, 2010



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# Sharmin Attaran

Assistant Professor of Marketing

Professor Attaran, who joined Bryant University's College of Business in 2009, teaches courses in Consumer Behavior and Retail Management and believes that teaching should be a collaborative effort between students and faculty. She encourages her students to work as a community to better themselves and their peers and to create an engaging learning environment.

She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Business Administration (Marketing) at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

We asked Professor Attaran to complete a number of sentences for us. We're pretty sure you won't find any of this information in her "curriculum vitae."



When I was in high school, I wanted to be a reconstructive plastic surgeon.

In my spare time, I analyze advertisements, travel, and pretend I'm a DJ.

The last CD I bought was Lady Gaga – great music for a workout.

My students would say that I'm young, therefore I present material with examples they can relate to.

If I wasn't teaching, I would be saving the rainforest in Costa Rica.

I was attracted to Bryant because of the collegiality of the faculty and Bryant's commitment to success, which I find motivating and inspiring.

I think the students here are enthusiastic, hard working, and quick learners.

➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/SHARMINATTARAN](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/SHARMINATTARAN)

## ACE is the place

The rigor of college-level coursework can be a challenge for many first-year students. For example, the average Bryant student is assigned 600 pages of reading each week!

The University has the perfect place for students seeking the help they need to navigate their academic programs. The Center for Teaching and Learning, which is conveniently located in the Unistructure, houses the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE), The Writing Center, and several study areas and academic labs.

ACE is dedicated to helping Bryant students become more self-reliant and confident learners. A myriad of services – such as peer-tutoring and learning labs in math, economics, finance, and accounting – go a long way to support academic progress and help students discover which study strategies work best for them. According to Laurie Hazard, director of ACE and The Writing Center, students who use ACE services five times or more typically see a .3 to .5 increase in their GPAs.

Alexandra DiGregorio '12 (Charlton, MA) uses the Center's study labs and takes advantage of regular one-on-one tutoring appointments. "ACE is a great resource available on campus for extra help, advice, or some guidance," she says. "Questions always arise while doing work, so why not seek help rather than remain confused?"

The ability to write clearly and effectively is a critical skill in any professional field and is key to success in many courses. The Writing Center offers one-on-one service with professional writing specialists and student writing consultants, who work with students at all stages of the writing process, including brainstorming, outlining, thesis development, and draft editing.

Throughout the semester, both ACE and The Writing Center also hold workshops on issues such as time management, prepping for finals, and writing a research paper.

➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/ACE](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/ACE)



Students who use ACE services five times or more typically see an increase in their GPAs.

## BRYANT BY THE NUMBERS | Each week in "Salmo" Dining Hall



#1

CEREAL IS RICE CRISPIES



36,250

FOOD PORTIONS ARE SERVED



8,500

CHICKEN NUGGETS ARE DEVoured



1,500

BANANAS LOSE THEIR PEELS



15%

OF STUDENTS GO ECO-FRIENDLY BY NOT USING TRAYS



# Bryant grad takes the Pepsi challenge

You could say that 2009 grad **Christine Lorifice** has a thirst for her work. As a pre-sell account manager for Pepsi Bottling Group in Taunton MA, she is on the road at 6:30 a.m., serving 20 to 25 accounts daily. Her responsibilities include up-selling, marketing, signing/stickering, merchandising, ordering – and lots of small talk. Fighting the clock is a constant battle because the company’s ordering system shuts down at 4:30. Despite the grueling days, she is loving every minute. “The highlight of my job is its independence,” she says. “I get to organize my day and build and maintain customer relationships, and that gives me a great sense of accomplishment.” Lorifice landed an interview with Pepsi through the campus recruiting program, and felt confident as she went through the process. “Bryant prepares you to think and act on your feet, and encourages students to be team players and problem

solvers,” she says. “Some of my classes truly gave me the confidence to be a self-starter and self-motivator, skills that are highly valued in the workplace.” Lorifice added Bryant to her “ridiculously” lengthy list of potential colleges when a recruiter visited her high school in New Windsor, NY. She toured the campus on a rainy, spring day and immediately knew it was the place for her. “No other college has the mix of academics, student activities, a beautiful campus, and close-knit feel that Bryant has,” she says. “I believe that a Bryant education is invaluable, or, as MasterCard would say – priceless,” she says. “From academics to the social interactions, the University “secretly” prepares you for the real world. I’m so proud to say I am a graduate.”



## Faces in the Bryant crowd



**Jessica Komoroski '11**  
West Islip, NY

As editor-in-chief of the student newspaper, *The Archway*, a resident assistant, and an orientation leader, Komoroski challenges herself daily to make a difference. It was during her honors history class, though, that she realized she is also making history by adding to the legacy of influential women at Bryant. “I learned that even back in 1863 when the school was founded, Bryant was ahead of its time, opening its doors to both men and women, says Komoroski. “Without the work of these women, many of the opportunities that exist today would never be possible.” Komoroski plans to work as an actuarial consultant after graduation.

➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/KOMOROSKI](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/KOMOROSKI)



**Kristen Legier '10**  
South Windsor, CT

As the executive director of the St. Jude Up 'til Dawn letter-writing campaign at Bryant, Legier brought together more than 215 fellow students with one goal: to help find a cure for cancer. “Up 'til Dawn is the ultimate collegiate fundraiser,” says Legier, “With every letter, students are helping to raise awareness and money that will directly benefit the amazing work taking place at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.” A finance concentrator, Legier is also active in Bryant’s Greek Life as vice president of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority. After graduation, she hopes to use her leadership skills in the non-profit sector.

➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/LEGIER](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/LEGIER)



**Adrian Fowler '10**  
Lumberton, NJ

An accounting concentrator, Fowler spent last spring living and studying in the West African country of Ghana. He was the first Bryant student to receive a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to fund the trip, which was facilitated by Bryant’s Study Abroad program. Fowler immersed himself in the culture, sampled local delicacies, and even petted an unchained crocodile. He also developed a more worldly outlook on life – one takeaway that he says will remain with him forever. “Don’t be afraid to leave the comforts of home to study abroad,” he says. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.” Fowler hopes to work for the global accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers after graduation.

➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/FOWLER](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/FOWLER)



**Rev. Joseph Pescatello**  
Catholic Chaplain

Every Sunday evening, Bryant’s Catholic chaplain celebrates Mass for more than 100 students. “It is refreshing to see the Spirit working in their lives and their response to God – especially because no one is forcing them,” says Fr. Joe. He has worked with Bryant students for more than a decade, teaching a Foundations for Learning class, taking part in Alternative Spring Break programs, and joining students on a Sophomore International Experience trip to Italy. “There is a real sense of community here,” says Fr. Joe. “Faculty and staff members make genuine attempts to connect with their students, and that’s one of the reasons I’ve enjoyed being part of the Bryant community.”

➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/FATHERJOE](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/FATHERJOE)



# BRYANT U





# NIVERSITY



[admission.bryant.edu](http://admission.bryant.edu)





Field hockey posted an impressive 4-4 mark in the fall sports season in their second year of Division I competition.

## On the field, on the court, and on tv

There were plenty of positives to look back on as the Bulldogs completed the fall sports season in their second year of Division I competition. Football tied for fifth in the Northeast Conference (NEC) standings, and field hockey team posted an impressive 4-4 mark. Men’s soccer shut out a very good Army squad at home, while the women’s team picked up four wins on the season. Cross country, golf, and tennis also boasted some great victories.

Fans could watch men’s basketball on regional television as part of the Northeast Conference television package. The Bulldogs made appearances on Fox College Sports (FCS), Madison Square Garden TV (MSG), Fox Sports Network-Pittsburgh, the Big Ten Network, ESPN, and more. In addition, all men’s and women’s home games were streamed live on PackNet and available on [www.Bryantbulldogs.tv](http://www.Bryantbulldogs.tv).

### Time well spent

Bryant student-athletes work hard to balance the rigors of academics with

the realities of playing team sports. It’s not unusual to see students heading to class with backpacks, water bottles, and bags of ice taped to sore body parts.

Despite their hectic schedules, they find time to make a difference in younger students’ lives. Recently, members of the football team helped a local high school senior with a final paper. The student, who is in a specially designed wheelchair, was treated to a tour of the football facilities, interviewed several members of the team during position meetings, and concluded the day by attending afternoon practice as the athletes prepared for the season finale at Duquesne University.

Meanwhile, the baseball team took part in the Celebrity Readers Program at a local elementary school, reading in various classes and spending time with students during recess and lunch.

At Bryant, student-athletes hold themselves to high standards of success and regularly serve as role models within the community.

➤ [WWW.BRYANTBULLDOGS.COM](http://WWW.BRYANTBULLDOGS.COM)

## BRYANT HAS HISTORY

**Henry Ford** was awarded an honorary master’s degree from Bryant in 1931.

The first **women’s basketball team** was established in 1964, though women were excluded by tradition from varsity sports until federal legislation in the mid-seventies.



Mr. Henry Ford  
Master of Business Administration  
August 14, 1931  
Chairman of the Board  
Ford Motor Company  
Detroit, Michigan



**Sororities and fraternities** have been part of Bryant since the early 1930s.

## Class of 2009: Where are they now?

Accounting major **Christine Cassidy** (Feeding Hills, MA), currently enrolled in the Bryant MPAC program, has joined PricewaterhouseCoopers, Boston, as a tax associate. While an undergraduate, Cassidy was a member of the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma and served as president of the Accounting Association. She was also a Commencement Award recipient.

**Phil Cherok** (Harrisville, RI), an International Business major, is enrolled in the Bryant one-year MBA program and expects to graduate in May 2010. He aims to work in the medical device industry or with alternative energy, specifically wind turbines. As an undergraduate, Cherok studied abroad in Spain and was an Ambassador in the admission office. His favorite part of the IB program was a globally-focused business simulation in which he competed against his classmates.

Finance major **Joe Pelletier** (Newburyport, MA) is a systems analyst for Fidelity Investments, Boston. At Bryant, he served as director of CEO Consulting, a committee within the Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization that creates business plans for actual companies. He won the prestigious “Editor’s Choice” award for his work on *The Archway*, Bryant’s student-run newspaper, and was also a member of the Senior Class Gift Committee.

Sociology and Service Learning major **Erica Spiegel** (Stratford, CT) is a Level 1 teacher at the New England Center for Children, which provides a full range of



Phil Cherok '09

programs for children with autism and other developmental disabilities. At Bryant, Spiegel helped to develop and present a series of workshops that helped managers at a local community agency implement change and improve low morale caused by significant budget and staffing cuts. Next semester, Spiegel will begin a graduate school program in special education.

**Hassan Zawawi** (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia), a management concentrator, is currently a student at Cardiff University, a widely recognized law school in the United Kingdom. After graduation, he plans to work for an international law firm in London. At Bryant, Zawawi was a member of the International Student Organization, the Student Senate, and the Student Alumni Association. He was also a Resident Assistant.

## ADVICE4U

“Make sure to stop by during your professors’ office hours as often as you can – they are always willing to help.”

**ALICIA KENNEDY '12, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS  
BURLINGTON, CT**



## INTERNSHIP ZONE

# Bryant intern is tops at Northwestern Mutual

Imagine interning for a company that employs 2,100 interns nationwide each summer. What would you do to stand out and get noticed?

It's apparent that **Jacob Bruschi '10** (Ludlow, Mass.), a finance concentrator, did all the right things. He approached his internship at Northwestern Mutual, the nation's largest provider of individual life insurance, with passion and conviction, working 50 hours a week over the summer and 15 to 20 hours per week throughout the school year. For his efforts, he recently ranked second among the company's interns nationwide – no small accomplishment given that Northwestern has been named to the list of "Top 20 Internships" by "Vault's Guide to Internships" for the past 13 years.

For daily inspiration, Bruschi looked no farther than the next cubicle occupied by **Matthew Raposo**, a 2009 Bryant graduate. Raposo served as an intern before being offered a full-time job; now, he's



Bruschi's college unit director at Northwestern.

"I believe that Jacob's entrepreneurial spirit and ambition to succeed are the

important attributes that set him apart," says Raposo.

Bruschi feels his time at Northwestern Mutual has been an ideal opportunity to test drive a potential career.

"Working at the company allowed me to make sure this type of work is something I will enjoy doing full time," he says. "It also gave me a head start building a client base and learning the ins and outs of the business. I can really hit the ground running after I graduate."

► [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/JACOBBRUSCHI](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/JACOBBRUSCHI)



## CAREER CENTRAL



# Government Fair at Bryant

By fall of 2012, it is estimated that the federal government will hire nearly 273,000 new workers in the United States and abroad for mission-critical jobs – positions considered crucial by agencies to fulfill their essential obligations to the American people. These jobs cover almost

every occupational field including law enforcement and immigration personnel, accountants, auditors, lawyers, information technology specialists, program managers, and more.

In November, Bryant students from all majors had the opportunity to learn about various types of careers and internships by networking with agencies at the 2009 Government Fair on campus. Among the 31 agencies were the FBI, State

Department, FDIC, Secret Service, Vermont State Police, Peace Corps, Social Security Administration, Federal Highway Commission, Boston Fire Department, Customs and Border Protection, Federal Bureau of Prisons, IRS, Securities and Exchange Commission, and Drug Enforcement Administration.

Agencies gave high praise for the number and quality of students who attended the fair, according to Kelly Kochis, assistant director of the Amica Center for Career Education at Bryant. Bryant played a lead role in organizing this statewide fair.

► [LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AMICA CENTER FOR CAREER EDUCATION AT WWW.BRYANT.EDU/CAREER](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/CAREER)



"The combination of state-of-the-art facilities, a unique integration of business and liberal arts, and an in-depth knowledge of global perspectives give Bryant graduates a competitive advantage in their careers."

MADAN ANNAVARJULA, PH.D.  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, MANAGEMENT



# IMPORTANT ADMISSION DATES



## Ladies' Night

Wednesday, February 17  
Tuesday, February 23

## Transfer Information Session

Saturday, February 27

## Bryant 101

Saturday, March 20

## Admitted Student Days

Monday through Friday  
April 5 – April 9  
April 12 – April 16

## Admitted Student Open House

Saturday, April 10

➤ [ADMISSION.BRYANT.EDU](http://ADMISSION.BRYANT.EDU)

# Author, activist

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- by **Chris Brida '12** (Southampton, MA).
- More than 90 students participated in the **Leadership Development Program** sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement.
- **The Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival** celebration featured a dragon dance (by Bryant's very own dragon dance team) and tea ceremony demonstrations by members of the China National Tea Museum.
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority sponsored **Domestic Violence Awareness Week**.
- History students lunched with and learned from local World War II veterans.
- **Judy Shepard** shared the story of her son Matthew, the fatal victim of an anti-gay hate crime.
- Psychology students were enthralled by the stories of paranormal researcher **Andy Laird**.
- Students in Lecturer Mary LaMarca's French course took part in a traditional **French Waiters' Race**.
- **A chamber ensemble, a French Cajun band, and a classical guitarist** were just some of the musical genres featured.

➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/ELIEWIESEL](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/ELIEWIESEL)  
➤ [WWW.BRYANT.EDU/FALLRECAP](http://WWW.BRYANT.EDU/FALLRECAP)

# Visit Bryant and see for yourself

**A**t Bryant University, 12 miles outside Providence, Rhode Island, seeing is believing...." according to Barron's "Best Buys in College Education."

A campus visit is the best way to make an informed decision about college. Prospective students who visit Bryant's campus usually apply – evidence that our friendly atmosphere, beautiful campus, and high-quality academics are best experienced in person.

- Take a **Student Guided Tour** (Monday-Friday and most Saturdays).
- Attend an **Info Session** presented by a member of the admission staff (Monday-Friday and most Saturdays).
- Spend a **Day With Class**.
- Schedule an **interview** with an admission counselor or a student fellow.
- **Fly-in** and you may qualify for a reimbursement.

Can't make it to campus? Take a **Virtual Tour** at [admission.bryant.edu](http://admission.bryant.edu).

➤ **CHECK OUT THE FULL CALENDAR OF ADMISSION EVENTS AT [ADMISSION.BRYANT.EDU](http://ADMISSION.BRYANT.EDU), CALL US AT (800) 622-7001, OR E-MAIL [ADMISSION@BRYANT.EDU](mailto:ADMISSION@BRYANT.EDU) FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

