



# BRYANT'S BUSINESS

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## State of the College proactive: President

President William T. O'Hara is convinced that in its progress Bryant College "is getting closer to being on the cutting edge" of new developments in higher education.

With that very optimistic statement, Dr. O'Hara summed up his "State of the College" address to the faculty in late October. Referring repeatedly to Bryant's ongoing strategic planning process, he said, "our posture is proactive... not reactive."

"The strategic planning process has anticipated many of the criticisms of higher education," Dr. O'Hara said, referring to the various reports published in the last couple of years on the state of higher education in America.

"We have set a course of renovation and renaissance," he said, particularly in the academic areas.

The President opened his address by quoting from a number of the higher education reports, all of which describe this time period as "critical" for colleges and universities, and all of which make sweeping recommendations for reform.

"I read those reports with mixed emotions and anxiety," the President said, "but also with a sense of satisfaction about Bryant College."

Bryant has already identified issues that will be crucial to current and future students and is taking actions in those areas, he said. Specifically, Dr. O'Hara pointed to several elements of the 1985-86 plan of action growing out of the second year of strategic planning, which has been re-named "Designs for Quality."

Those elements are the Freshman Center Program, which involves targeted developmental components designed to meet the academic and nonacademic needs of freshmen; a strengthened commitment to Bryant's internship and practicum programs; and the Profiles in Free Enterprise Program, which will bring leaders of the free enterprise system onto campus to interact with all members of the Bryant community.

Technologically, he said, Bryant also is responding. He pointed to the plans to convert Koffler Center into a computer center, and the plans for a media resource center.

The faculty also is taking its own initiatives, the President said, citing the ad hoc committee on academic standards that has been formed, and the faculty's response to instructional development. Response to the latter has been "overwhelming," he said.

Indeed, the President said, two of his highest

priorities right now are curriculum review and faculty development. Regarding the former, he said, the curriculum needs a greater liberal arts emphasis. This will make Bryant's graduates more flexible in the workplace, and give them the interpersonal skills, values, and ethics they need to succeed both on and off the job.

President O'Hara also revealed that he has asked the Board of Trustees to make a greater commitment to improving the ratio of full-time to part-time faculty over the next three years. He said he would like no more than approximately 20 percent of the faculty to be classified as part time.

Regarding accreditation by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, the President said, the trustees are committed to going after it. But there is no end line established yet, he said, and the final commitment will come from the trustees.

Dr. O'Hara said he plans also to ask the strategic planning committee to look at cooperative education again, which would give Bryant students another option to gain practical as well as theoretical education. And he wants the committee to conduct annual assessments in two areas: the computer field, and the higher education environment as a whole. Both are changing continuously,

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## Business fair draws crowd



*All of Rhode Island's small business resources under one roof at the same time: that was the Lt. Governor's Small Business Fair at Bryant on November 7. Co-sponsored by the Small Business Development Center, the fair drew hundreds of small business men and women to campus for the day-long exposition. Lt. Gov. Richard Licht kicked off the fair with an address in Janikies Auditorium.*





## Bob Birt's pilgrimage

*Dr. Robert Birt, professor of English, and his wife, Jeanne, along with four other Rhode Islanders, traveled for 17 days on a journey of faith in August. Flying 18,000 miles, they visited five countries: Portugal, Poland, Israel, Ireland, and Africa, where they attended the 43rd World Eucharistic Congress.*

*The following is a rewritten version of a story written by Birt for a recent issue of The Providence Visitor.*

The Eucharistic Congress was held in a Third World country and the Holy Father was present to bring the Congress to a close. There were bishops, clergy, and people from practically every country in the world in attendance. The theme of the Congress was "The Christian Family and the Eucharist."

Each day had its own specific theme. For example, "The People of God," "Bread for the Family," "The Youth and Christian Love," and "Youth for Marriage and Married Couples." Mother Teresa of Calcutta addressed the plenary session on the day for which the theme was "Sick and the Suffering People of the World."

The presence of the Pope on the last two days of the Congress was a most fitting climax. On his first day, he celebrated Mass in Nairobi Stadium and married 25 couples. In his homily he made reference to the teachings of the Church on divorce, abortion, and well-known causes of the breakup of families worldwide.

On his second day at a Mass he celebrated in Nairobi with thousands of people, the Holy Father reiterated the teachings of the Church concerning the evils that beset Christian families. Prayers for peace were offered for each continent. The one for North America was very appropriate: "Peace to you North America... land of prosperity and opportunity! May your power never make you blind! Let the spiritual values which gave you birth and identity be your most precious riches! Peace to the children within you!"

Our first stop on the way to the Congress was Santarem, Portugal, the site of the shrine of Fatima to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was an appropriate stop because in 1916 an angel, on three separate occasions, appeared to Lucy, Jacinta and Francisco by way of preparing them for the apparitions of Mary the following year in Fatima. On one occasion the angel appeared holding a host in one hand and a chalice in the other - the Eucharist. The theme of the Eucharist is associated with Fatima.

After the Congress, we visited the Upper Room in Israel, the site of the Last Supper. It enabled us to recall vividly the Gospel account of the institution of this great sacrament. Climbing the exterior stairs to the room, we could picture Peter addressing the people assembled in Jerusalem at that time.



Dr. Robert Birt

Although time was short, the group was able to trace the steps of Christ along the Via Dolorosa. The site of Calvary, the Anointing Stone, and the Holy Sepulchre brought to mind the story of the Passion. The basilica at Nazareth; carpenter shop; and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem recalled the story of the birth and youth of Jesus. Here the group attended Mass in the Field of the Shepherds.

Other holy places visited included the Mount of the Beatitudes, and in Capernaum, the ruins of the actual synagogue where Christ taught. And while at Cana, my wife bought a bottle of wine made in that district for our son and his bride-to-be to toast each other at their wedding next May.

The next stop on the pilgrimage was Warsaw, Poland. Mass was celebrated in a church dedicated to Mary, Queen of the World. The following day started off with a sightseeing tour of Warsaw and included a visit to the residence of the Cardinal-Primate of Poland.

The climax of the visit to Poland occurred the next day with a pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Czenstochowa, Queen of Poland. Here the group was greeted by Father Stefanowicz, a Pauline priest who had been stationed at the American shrine of Our Lady of Czenstochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

Still carrying out the theme of the Eucharist and its importance in the everyday life of the Christian family, our group's final stop was Ireland. Here it is evident to anyone who is familiar with the apparition in Knock in 1879 that the Eucharist is a sustaining element of life. It was during the famine of that year that Mary, along with St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist, appeared to 15 credible witnesses.

The visit to Ireland concluded the pilgrimage and the group returned to Rhode Island.

The entire pilgrimage was perhaps a once-in-a-lifetime experience, although my wife and I have hopes of revisiting some of the countries.

## Something to sing about

There's something to sing about on campus.

It's the Bryant Community Chorus, a glee club forming for all levels of interest and ability. Any member of the Bryant community with an interest in singing, directing, or playing the piano is invited to get involved.

Send your name, interests, and postal box number or mailing address to Shirly Morrison at Box 2.



## V-P search committee formed

The search committee for a new vice-president for academic affairs at Bryant has been named.

President O'Hara announced on November 1 that the committee includes three faculty members named by the Federation, two administrators, a trustee, and a student. They are Mary Lyons, associate professor of English; Michael Filippelli, professor of accounting; Hsi Li, professor of finance; Rosemary D'Arcy, assistant director of the Center for Management Development; Joseph Guay, director of academic computing; Michael Martin '72, alumni representative to the Board of Trustees, and Jeff Barovich, a senior and president of the Student Senate.

Lyons has agreed to serve as the chairperson of the committee, which has already begun its work to find a replacement for George Petrello, who resigned the post on October 6. Filling the position on an interim basis is Richard Alberg, dean of academic administration and registrar.

## Grounds crew gets game ball

Bryant's grounds crew has been presented with the official game ball from the September 8 New England Patriots vs. Green Bay Packers football game.

Robert Lawton, superintendent of grounds, accepted the ball for the grounds crew. The presentation by George Luongo, Patriots' equipment manager, was made in appreciation to the crew for the first-rate care given to the playing fields and practice facilities used by the Patriots last summer at their training camp on campus.

## Demonstration of AI software

Joe Guay, director of academic computing, is hosting a demonstration tomorrow evening of a new computer program that is already gaining national attention. It is open to the Bryant community.

The demonstration is of Paradox, a database manager that is described as "among the first of an emerging generation of software that makes extensive use of artificial-intelligence techniques." The demonstration begins at 7 p.m. in the MRC lecture hall.

A representative of Ansa Software, the Belmont, California software developer, will show off the program on the large projection screen. The demonstration is being billed as "a night for both database and dedicated spreadsheet users, or anyone interested in the use of artificial intelligence in applications software. . ."

Call Guay at ext. 6196 for additional information.

## International educators to visit

Educators from 11 countries will visit Bryant on Thursday as part of a month-long international exchange program titled "Academia and the Corporate World." They will be on campus from approximately 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Coordinated by the Academy for Educational Development under auspices of the U.S. Information Agency, the program is introducing these educators to the educational and economic sectors of this country and their growing collaboration. They are being shown some of the cooperative ventures between business and higher education and how this cooperation leads to economic development, and they are being introduced to a variety of approaches toward business education in the U.S., including college and corporate settings and training provided by third parties.

While at Bryant, the educators will be introduced specifically to the Center for Management Development and its programs. The trip to campus is part of a five-day stay in the Boston area for a look at different approaches to management training. Other stops in New England include Harvard, Northeastern, Babson, Digital Equipment Corporation, the Arthur D. Little Management Education Institute, and the American Institute of Banking.

Countries represented are Ecuador, Mexico, Hungary, Egypt, Ireland, the Philippines, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Peru, the Dominican Republic, and the United Kingdom. All of the participants are educational and economic policy leaders from higher education, national ministries of education, and public and private sector training institutions who are responsible for the development of partnerships between colleges and corporations and the training of managers.

Other cities being visited are Washington, D.C., New York, San Francisco, and Phoenix. The educators were in Washington last week and began their Boston visit yesterday.

The Academy is a private, non-profit institution active in many areas of education. Founded in 1961, it is one of the principal organizations working with nations and donor agencies seeking solutions to international development problems.

## Thanks

Harriet Farrar, secretary to the dean of the Graduate School, thanks the Bryant community for their expressions of sympathy and donations to the Rhode Island Heart Association after the death of her father.

## QUICKLY...

...**Joe Guay**, director of academic computing, shows members of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce how to make the computer a more useful business tool on Thursday at the Providence Marriott Inn. He is the featured speaker at the Chamber's Business Over Easy breakfast seminar exploring "Recent Developments in Business Software." Guay also spoke in October at a New England Regional Computer Program conference in Worcester. Topic of his talk was the academic computing resource center of the future...

...**Les LaFond**, vice president for student affairs, and Bill Phillips, coordinator of counseling services, will make a presentation at the 1986 National Conference on the Freshman Year Experience at the University of South Carolina in February...

...**A wine-tasting party** will be held in the Koffler Center on December 6. Sponsored by the Southeastern New England Alumni Chapter (SNEAC) of Bryant, it will explore chardonnay wines from Australia, Bulgaria, California, Chile, France, and Italy. Reservations are \$5 per person; contact the alumni office at ext. 6040...

...**President O'Hara** is attending an executive education program on the "information age" in Callaway Gardens, Georgia, this week. He is one of 35 corporate chief executive officers selected by AT&T to attend the exclusive program...

# CALENDAR

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

**Day student preregistration  
for spring semester  
begins today**

**Editing Workshop for Secretaries**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

**Spreadsheets and Modeling**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Roundtable Luncheon**  
Graduate School Alumni  
Providence Marriott  
noon

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

**Freshman and Sophomore  
classes present  
Quincy Market, Boston trip**  
11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

**Catholic Eucharist**  
Rotunda  
noon  
CMD Conference Room 4  
9 p.m.

**Protestant services**  
MRC Conference Room  
noon

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

**Communications Club**  
Guest Speaker  
Room 277  
3:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

**Editing Workshop for Secretaries**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Thanksgiving recess  
begins at noon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Thanksgiving

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Thanksgiving recess  
continues

## Cancellation procedure

A reminder!

With the snow season approaching once again, Bryant is putting into operation its cancellation procedure to try to avoid the confusion that can result from the closing of or delay in the opening of the College.

The procedure involves two elements: announcements called into Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts radio and TV stations; and the emergency telephone number (232-6002).

After it has been determined that classes will be cancelled or postponed, the public information office will contact all Rhode Island radio stations and WMYS, WNBH, WARA, WSAR, WEEI, WORC, and WSBM in Massachusetts, and Channels 6, 10, and 12. Listen to one of those stations after 6 a.m.

Anyone missing the radio or television announcement can get the information directly from the College emergency number. Use this number as a back-up, however; listen to the radio and television first.

## Designs for Quality

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he said, and the College must keep aware of what is happening in those areas.

"It's nice to have an end line," the President said, "I feel much more comfortable with one. But it really can't be done. It (strategic planning) is a never-ending process... and we must continue."

Other highlights of "Designs for Quality" include: establishing a process with a budget allocation to foster the generation and implementation of innovative ideas; launching a Learning for Leadership Program to provide an organized, sustained exposure to the theory and practice of leadership; designing a competency-based program of instruction for undergraduate and graduate students that is based on an annual review; developing a Faculty Advising Program that stresses career planning advice; making a reinforced commitment to lifelong learning and its integration more fully into all of Bryant's academic programs; and modifying the strategic planning process in three ways: identifying the annual theme at the start of the cycle, involving the President in a greater dialogue, and scheduling a cycle for planning for implementation.

## Reports, divestment top trustees' agenda

Bryant's Board of Trustees reviewed a variety of reports and voted to divest the College's portfolio of certain stocks at its quarterly meeting in October.

Among the reports examined were those on the ongoing marketing study, Bryant's strategic plan, campus construction, the Bryant Fund, and honorary degree recommendations.

President O'Hara reported that the marketing study is proceeding as planned. He said initial research findings have been received, with a final plan expected by late fall.

Trustees received "Designs for Quality," the 1985-86 strategic plan of the College. It has since been discussed by the executive committee, and will be a principal agenda item at the Board's December meeting.

Construction on the new dormitory and Bryant Center is progressing as planned, the buildings and grounds committee reported. In late September, the Bryant Center was slightly behind schedule.

The development committee reported that the \$700,000 goal of the 1984-85 Bryant Fund was achieved. It also recommended setting an \$800,000 goal for this year's fund.

The honorary degree committee is reviewing recommendations received for honorary degrees to be awarded at the 1986 commencement. Recommendations have come from all segments of the Bryant community.

The investment committee reported on investments in companies that do business in South Africa. The trustees then voted to instruct the endowment fund manager to divest the College of stocks in companies that do not adhere to the Sullivan Principles.

In other action, the Board reviewed a letter from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges on Bryant's five-year interim report. The letter gave a favorable reaction, citing in particular the College's improvements in academic programs and faculty.

Trustees also heard a profile of the applied actuarial mathematics major, which currently has 17 majors. And they approved the College's financial statements for the 1985 fiscal year.

The Board meets again on December 19.