

Commencement Memories



Four presidents take time out for a photo.



Senator Pell is honored for a lifetime of public service.



Confetti cannons add a festive touch.

BRYANT'S BUSINESS

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COMMENCEMENT '96

Raindrops were falling on mortarboards as students lined up to process through the Archway. But the rain stopped as quickly as it started, and 659 graduates and their guests enjoyed a dry and comfortable Commencement on May 18, the 133rd in the College's history.

Wayne Yetter '73 MBA, president and chief executive officer of Astra Merck Inc., a U.S. pharmaceutical company, gave the keynote address. He received an honorary degree, 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.

Yetter's address focused on individual values in an international world. "If you choose to listen, you will understand the concerns that face your global peers," he said. "If you choose to be respectful, you will be treated with respect in return. If you give sustaining attention to the hard-to-solve matters, you will leave the world a better place. If you celebrate the diverse and work outside your natural comfort zones, you will not look back with regret."

The morning held a number of special moments. Senator Claiborne Pell was recognized by the College with a Lifetime Achievement Award. At their final Bryant Commencement, President and Mrs. Trueheart were made honorary members of the Class of 1996. President Trueheart also received an Honorary Degree and was cited for 15 years of service to Bryant that resulted in an enriched curriculum, diversified student body, expanded endowments, and financial stability.

Robert Holland Jr., president and chief executive officer of Ben & Jerry's Homemade, Inc., a Vermont Corporation that manufactures ice cream and frozen yogurt, gave the keynote address at the Graduate School Commencement held the previous day. He received an honorary degree, along with Marcy Syms, president and chief operating officer of the Syms Corporation.

Holland told graduates that as business leaders, they have a responsibility to look out for workers' welfare and to do good for society. He also spoke about his disappointment in what he sees as the loss of support for the country's affirmative action programs.

Cherry Garcia bars were a hit as graduates were treated to a variety of Ben & Jerry's ice cream products at a reception outside the Gymnasium.

QUICKLY . . .

Judith Clare, director of career services, was a guest speaker at the State House where she addressed 60 college seniors who were participating in the 1996 Rhode Island State Government Internship Program. Her topic was "Resources for an Effective Job Search in 1996."

Bill Phillips, director of counseling services, was an invited speaker at the 2nd New England Conference on Compulsive Gambling, which was held April 24-25 in Hartford. The topic of his presentation was "Correlates of Gambling Among College Students and Campus Response."

CIS Professor Ken Sousa recently conducted a session on "Careers in Computer Information Systems" at Smithfield High School. He discussed how to make well-informed career choices, the educational options associated with information systems, and various positions and careers in the information systems field. Ken also presented a seminar on the "Use of Information Technology for Student Organizations" at the Delta Chi Region VII Conference in April.

Steve Sutton, KPMG Peat Marwick Distinguished Visiting Professor of Accounting, has co-authored a paper that has been accepted for publication in *Research on Accounting Ethics*. Its title is "Toward a Philosophical Foundation for Ethical Development of Audit Expert Systems: A Contractarian Approach." Steve was also a co-presenter at the Critical Perspectives on Accounting Symposium in New York. His topic was "Toward a Framework for a Corporate Single Audit: Meeting Financial Statement Users' Needs."

CIS Professor Richard Glass, a fellow of the John Hazen White Sr. Center for Ethics and Public Service, recently acted as facilitator and session leader in a three-day ethics and public leadership forum attended by the top administrators in Rhode Island government. He previously facilitated a similar seminar for the Rhode Island cabinet.

Management Professor Harsh Luthar lectured recently at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, on Eastern philosophies of Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Taoism and compared them to the Judea-Christian traditions. He also presented an evening seminar on meditation to students and faculty.

Chairman Says Thanks

To the Bryant Community:

I would like to express my thanks to everyone involved in the Bryant Commencement. Commencement honors Bryant graduating students, and you honored them well. From my viewpoint, things went very smoothly, and I know that is due to the careful preparation that all of you provided. If I list names, I am sure to miss someone and thus offend; let me not do so, but let me note a few things that stood out.

First, the campus, as always, looked beautiful. There are lots of ways to judge this, but the quality of the grounds, the general appearance of beauty and neatness, and the impression of a well-maintained facility all added significantly to a successful Commencement.

Second, Honorary Degree recipients and their guests were treated with great courtesy and sensitivity. I had a very nice note from the Honorable Bruce Selya expressing his thanks for the special attention that you provided. From my conversations, all of our recipients felt highly honored and extremely well treated. Obviously, Trustee Ernie Almonte and all of the Honorary Degree Committee deserve our heartiest thanks.

Third, the honors for Bill and Carol Trueheart were well done, heartfelt, and clearly deserved. To all involved in the planning and execution of this part of our Commencement program, many, many thanks.

Fourth, the general level of organization was high. Recognizing that this is the first year without Dick Alberg, I think our new Commencement team deserves great accolades for all of their work in providing a beautiful and timely ceremony.

Last, on a personal note, all of you worked hard to ensure that your "Trainee Chairman" made few gaffes. If any gaffes occurred, they are my responsibility.

To everyone involved, many thanks!

Sincerely,

Jack Wolfe
Chairman of the Board



Nobody Does It Better

President Emeritus William O'Hara presents the Richard M. Oster '91H 1996 Family Business Alumni Award to (l-r) Nick, Ron, and Pete Cardi, owners of Cardi's Furniture. The award, given annually to a Bryant graduate who has distinguished himself or herself in operating a family business, was presented at the 5th annual R.I. Family Business Conference luncheon in May. Both Ron and Pete are Bryant alumni.

Getting To Know – The Office Of Alumni Relations

By Nicki Toler

The Alumni House is a short walk from the main campus. The house itself, all dark wood and interesting angles, was built in 1708, and is full of colonial atmosphere. But what happens there is very central to Bryant's past, present, and future. On any given day - no matter what time of year - the second floor Office of Alumni Relations is a beehive of activity.

"The perception is that we plan Alumni Reunion Weekend, and send out some invitations and letters throughout the year," says Paula Iacono '69, director of alumni relations. And although this gala weekend campus event, which hosts hundreds of alumni each June, is a highlight of their year, it is only a part of this busy department's work. Among their major goals are to make connections for the College and to make sure alumni stay connected to Bryant and to each other. And with 36,000 Bryant alumni out there, that is a big job.

Of those 36,000 Bryant alumni, there is a mailing base of 30,000, according to Paula. She estimates that 20 percent of that number are active alumni, with varying levels of participation. Her goal is always to increase both the percentage of alumni involved and their level of participation.

One way to get alumni involved is through their regional chapters. There are currently 11 active Bryant alumni chapters, and the development of new ones is an important objective of alumni relations. To this end they work with the National Alumni Council, which has representatives from each chapter.

"The goal of the National Alumni Council is to have a chapter in every state," says Paula. This puts both Paula, and Assistant Director Susan Detri-Souve, on the road. Susan focuses on New England, which includes the Boston, Fairfield County, Rhode Island, and Hartford chapters, while Paula's areas of responsibility include New York to California and everything in between.

Alumni needs in each region are different, according to Paula. "You can't go in with a template," she says. "You have to listen to what each particular group of alumni says. You have to look at what they are doing and what they are interested in, and then make your program relevant to them."

Once involved, alumni can contribute in many ways - from calling a prospective student in their area to sponsoring a Bryant intern to encouraging their company to recruit on campus - all increasing Bryant's visibility and strengthening the connections. Making those kind of connections is what alumni relations is all about. "We do a little bit of everything - recruiting, fund raising, and friend raising," adds Paula.

Everyone on the staff agrees that one of the most interesting parts of their job is getting to know the variety of alumni, who can be new graduates or those celebrating the 60th anniversary



The alumni relations staff includes (standing, l-r) Vicki Paquin, secretary; Susan Detri-Souve, assistant director; Donna Harris, program coordinator; and Marcia Beaulieu, secretary. Seated is Paula Iacono, director.

of their Bryant degree. "They are really a good group. They feel comfortable calling us, asking us any kind of question. And we really develop some nice friendships with them," says Program Coordinator Donna Harris.

In addition to her work as managing editor of the "Bryant Review Alumni Update," a quarterly publication for and about alumni, one of Susan Detri-Souve's favorite activities is her work with the Student Alumni Association. "Our goal is to have the students become active alumni," she says. This group of 20-25 students gets involved in all kinds of activities.

A big hit was last fall's Alumni Day, a kind of "reverse shadowing program," in which returning alumni were hosted by students and attended classes with them. "We are always trying new things," says Susan. "Alumni Day was very well received by faculty and alumni, and the students got a lot out of it. It was such a success, it will be an annual event."

New ideas, an emphasis on personal attention, and high energy are what characterize the Office of Alumni Relations, which will start working on next year's Reunion Weekend this July. It is a busy place, but the staff like it that way.

"We work well together. We all have that Type A personality - and that helps," says Secretary Marcia Beaulieu. "There is so much variety here. It's fun, different every day. You never know what to expect."

She Has the Spirit

Information Technology's Charlotte Rodericks is the recipient of this year's Bryant Community Spirit Award, given annually to employees who go above and beyond the call of duty and make their presence felt in the Bryant Community. Charlotte's selection was announced at the service awards reception in May.



A 16-year Bryant veteran, Charlotte is a user support assistant which, roughly translated, means that she is a technology consultant on software such as WordPerfect or Word. She maintains the database for the approximately 300 calls per month received by the Technology Support Center. Charlotte is also the editor and desktop publisher of the newsletter "BITS" (an acronym for Bryant Information Technology) and has authored several articles for that newsletter.

On her own time, Charlotte has gone to the Smithfield Police Department to help them install and learn software programs

donated by the College. She has also visited the homes of faculty and coordinators to familiarize them with new software.

Charlotte serves on the Executive Committee of the Secretarial/Clerical Council and was one of a number of faculty and staff who helped get the organization, "Students for a Safer Campus" up and running.

"Charlotte is someone we are all very proud of," says Eileen Chekal, a member of the Spirit Award Committee. "She comes in early each day and helps faculty and staff from every department, so her presence is felt all through the Bryant College community."

Other committee members were Kathy Albanese, Vicky Atkins, Bill Baker, Ginny Bowry, Judy Clare, Francine Pink, and Nicole Lallier.

Officer is Outstanding



Officer Robert L. Holmes receives the Distinguished Service Award from (left) Vice President for Business Affairs Joe Meichelbeck and Director of Public Safety George Coronado.

Officer Robert "Bob" Holmes is the recipient of the second annual Distinguished Service Award, given to the state's outstanding public safety officer. He was honored at the recent graduation of officers from the second Rhode Island College and University Public Safety Training Academy, which was held at Bryant again this year.

Bob has been employed by Bryant's Department of Public Safety (DPS) since 1993. His involvement with the DPS goes back even further - he was also a student patrol officer while an undergraduate at Bryant.

Although a public safety officer assigned to the patrol division, Bob has made quite an impact in the area of telecommunications, and serves as radio services coordinator for the DPS. His impressive knowledge of electronics has kept the department radio systems and components up-to-date and has eliminated the unnecessary hiring of outside contractors to install cable television, telephone equipment, and radio equipment.

Bob was nominated by DPS Director George Coronado for his consistent, faithful, and dedicated service. "There is no better way to distinguish oneself than by consistently performing in an exemplary manner. Officer Holmes has done that and much more," says George.

Professor Awarded Fulbright Grant

Management Professor Bob Conti has been named a Fulbright Scholar for 1996-97. He will teach at the University of Malta.

Bob joined Bryant in 1991 and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in operations management. He was named Outstanding Graduate School Professor in 1993.

Bob spends summers in England at the Judge Institute of Management Studies at the University of Cambridge, where he conducts research on British manufacturing. He and his wife, Eleanor Hospodor Conti, will move to Malta in September.

The Fulbright program, now in its 50th year, is administered by the U.S. Information Service to promote the international exchange of scholars.

Fidelity's Plans for Smithfield Come Into Sharper Focus

By Don DeMaio

On June 10, a historic meeting took place on campus, as representatives from the College and from mutual fund giant Fidelity Investments sat down together for the first time to discuss possible cooperative ventures.

Two weeks earlier, Gov. Lincoln Almond announced at a news conference that Fidelity plans to invest about \$75 million - more than twice what it had originally announced - in its proposed Smithfield office complex, across the highway from the Bryant campus. The complex of four buildings is now being projected at more than 1.1 million square feet in total area.

Almond's economic director, Marvel Valois, told reporters the "whole idea of this project is to keep our college graduates in Rhode Island." Fidelity's decision to locate 2,500 highly paid financial industry employees in Smithfield should go a long way toward retaining Rhode Island graduates.

Officers from the company have already said that the proximity of the office park to Bryant was one of the factors that led to its decision to build here. Valois expanded on that remark at the

news conference in a list of organizations he thanked for helping lure Fidelity.

"We want to thank Bryant College," he said. "It's nice to have a premier business college so conveniently located [to the industrial park]."

Valois also said that Fidelity's new complex will be first rate in many respects - "one of the nicest office parks in all of New England, with the highest possible environmental standards."

Considerable wetlands on the site will be left undisturbed, except for one wetlands crossing," said Valois. And, in terms of parking, "You can imagine the size of the parking lots needed for 2,500 employees," he said, but Fidelity scrapped the idea of so many lots and is going instead with parking garages.

No one can predict the impact of these developments on the local area, but Gov. Almond offered one vision. He said he jokingly told Bryant President-Designate Ron Machtley, "You're living in the high-rent district now."

A New Business Center for a Community in Need



Gov. Lincoln Almond addresses a crowd in front of a new Business Information Center on Broad Street in Providence. This BIC, which is administered by Bryant's Small Business Development Center, is the first in the nation to be located in an enterprise community, which is an area with a distressed poverty level. It will serve seven of the city's neighborhoods including Smith Hill, with free information on running a business. Looking on is Evette McCray, the new center's program director. Sixteen people, including Mayor Vincent A. Cianci Jr. and a representative from Vice President Al Gore's office, spoke at the center's opening in May.

Senior Class Gift a Shoo-in



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held recently for the 1996 Senior Class Gift, a picnic area built between the old and new townhouses. More than \$3,800 was raised for a large grill, four picnic tables, and two horseshoe pits. Interim President Dolph Norton has the honor of tossing the first horseshoe after he and Senior Class Gift Chairperson Chris Warner '96 (at left), cut the ribbon.

NEW FACES



FRANK E. STANGL
Database Manager,
Export Assistance Center

Frank most recently was an electrical support technician at Kaman Industrial Technologies in Warwick. Prior to that he was an electronic technician for F.E.S. Electronics Services in Rumford. Frank holds an A.S. from the New England Institute of Technology and a B.S. from New England Technical College.

Coffee, Anyone?



"The Junction," Bryant's new student coffeehouse, had its grand opening on May 3. Cutting the ribbon are (from l-r) Diana Beaudoin, interim vice president for student affairs; Coffeehouse Committee members Tara Bourgois '96; Francis Doehner '98; Joe Finocchiaro '96; and Scott Rattigan '97; and Rich Paola '92, Junction manager. In the forefront is Jean Stone, mother of Penny Stone '99. The coffeehouse was dedicated to the memory of Penny, who died in March from an apparent allergic reaction to a food she had eaten. She had been a member of the Coffeehouse Committee.

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ON THE MOVE

Congratulations to the following individuals on their recent promotions:

- Linda Asselin:** Secretary to the Director of the Center for Management Development (CMD)
- Dianna Larosee:** Secretary to the Director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
- Paula Mee:** Associate Director of Admission, Internal Operations

Faculty Authors

Faculty who published in the last year were honored at a Faculty Recognition Day reception in May. The event was hosted by Vice President of Academic Affairs/Dean of Faculty Michael Patterson. Published faculty are:

Accounting:

Lucia Arruda
Dennis Bline
Charles Cullinan
Tim Krumwiede
Dana Lowe
Michael F. Lynch
Saeed Roohani
Kathleen Simons
Steve Sutton
Larry Witner
Gail B. Wright

CIS:

Robert Behling
Kenneth Fougere
Laurie MacDonald
Harold Records
Wallace Wood

Economics:

Laurie Bates
John Elder
Hsiang-Ling Han
Joe Ilacqua
Peter Mini
Sam Mirmirani
Joe Shaanan
William Sweeney

English:

Nora Barry
Pedro Beade
Tom Chandler
Terri Hasseler
Stanley J. Kozikowski
James Marsden
Paulo de Medeiros
James N. O'Neill
Mary Prescott
Joe Urgo
Jeannette White

Finance:

Arthur Gudikunst
Hsi C. Li
David Ketcham

David Louton

Joe McCarthy
Elizabeth Yobaccio

Management:

Lori Coakley
Robert F. Conti
Ron DiBattista
Harsh Luthar
Margaret Noble
Hinda Pollard
Thomas Powell
J. Christopher Sandvig
Shirley Wilson

Marketing:

Joseph Bonnicci
Frank Bingham
Thomas Leonard
Shirley Miller
Keith Murray
Elaine Notarantonio
Charles Quigley

Mathematics:

Kristin Kennedy
Alan Olinsky
Martin Rozenzweig
Phyllis Schumacher

Science/Technology:

David Betsch
Gaytha Langlois
Douglas R. Levin
Jerome Montvilo

Social Sciences/History:

Glen Camp
Gregg Carter
Ron J. Deluga
Judy Barrett Litoff
David S. Lux
Judy McDonnell
Marsha Pripstein Posusney
W. Jay Reedy
William Scheibal
Nanci Weinberger