



# BRYANT'S BUSINESS

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## Cal State dean and professor named VP of Academic Affairs



"I love to teach. As a faculty member, it's invigorating to see fresh faces, to hear students generate new ideas. It's what has kept me continuously on the job."

V.K. Unni, Bryant's new vice president of academic affairs, made the right decision when he chose teaching as a profession 30 years ago, though it met with some skepticism from his family.

"My dad thought I'd be better suited for the corporate life," says Unni with a smile.

In fact, Unni has helped to shape corporate life as business education has undergone many changes. Now, as Bryant's new vice president for academic affairs, he is responsible for developing and implementing all business and liberal arts academic programs and standards as the college prepares business professionals for the new millennium.

"It is not enough for students to be aware of their specialty only. A strong background in the liberal arts helps mature people to understand so many things that will impact them as business professionals," Unni says. "Bryant has done a very good job of educating the whole student, not just the business student, and I want to see that continue."

Unni comes to Bryant from the California State University at Bakersfield, where he was dean of the School of Business and Public Administration and a tenured professor of management. He has also served as associate dean of the College of Business at Indiana University in Pennsylvania and in teaching positions at Illinois State, North Carolina A&T State, Grambling State and Louisiana Tech universities, as well as at Andhra University in his native India. In the spring of 1986, he was a visiting associate professor of management at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

One of the vice president's responsibilities is to ensure that Bryant continues to meet or surpass accreditation standards set by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), which frequently change in the interests of

maintaining the highest principles of business education. Unni will engage the entire Bryant community in the process in which he is well versed: he has been an AACSB advisor at Jacksonville University and helped prepare accreditation plans on two campuses of Texas A&M University. From 1996-97, he was member of the AACSB Peer Review Team that conducts accreditation visits.

In addition, Unni will spend much of his first year on campus learning about the Bryant culture and understanding people's functions. "I am not here to make dramatic changes right away," he says.

Unni says he was attracted to Bryant by the size and location of its campus, the college's consistently high ratings, and the school's academic programs and strategic initiatives. "I was very impressed with the commitment that President Machtley and the trustees have made to the college – and to this position," says Unni.

"Dr. Unni's entrepreneurial knowledge and teaching experience will be invaluable as Bryant educates the new-century business person and reaches new levels of academic excellence," says President Machtley. "We are fortunate to attract his leadership to the Bryant campus."

A former Fulbright scholar, Unni's teaching and research interests are in the areas of strategy, entrepreneurship, and international business. He says he would like to teach at Bryant in the future because it is the "only way to be with students and to truly know what is going on in the classroom."

Unni is currently president of the U.S. Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship and a member of the editorial review boards of the *Journal of Business Strategies*, the *Journal of Business and Entrepreneurship*, and *Competitiveness Review*. He was recently selected as a Malone Fellow by the National Council of U.S.-Arab Relations.

He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting from Kerala University in India; a master's degree in marketing from Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University); and a doctorate in business administration from Louisiana Tech University.



## QUICKLY . . .

Professor Paul de Medeiros has been invited to be one of the keynote speakers at the first New Jersey conference devoted to the exploration of literatures produced by the Portuguese-speaking countries. The conference is being organized by Rutgers-New Jersey and will take place in the spring of 1998.

Professor Neal Hannon, who has written a monthly column for *Controller Magazine* for the past year, has had part-one of his series on virtual private networks published on-line at the magazine's web site ([www.controller-mag.com](http://www.controller-mag.com)). The article, which appears in the May and June issues, explores virtual private networks, which are created when two businesses agree to exchange business transactions over the Internet.

Professors Joseph Ilacqua and Judy Barrett Litoff traveled to Kiev State University of Economics in Ukraine this past summer to deliver lectures on labor and American culture. In addition, they presented a paper on teaching Western business practices to managers in the former Soviet Union, at a NATO research workshop in Budapest.

Professor Ilacqua has also been appointed director of a grant from the United States Industry Association to develop an accounting systems training program for scientists and engineers in the former Soviet Union. The grant will allow a team of six Bryant faculty members to conduct an October training program in Minsk.

Four members of the Bryant community – Professors Jack Keigwin and Judy Barrett Litoff, CIBED Director James Segovis, and Bryant student Erin Sisco – spent two weeks in the Republic of Georgia in June lecturing at the Tbilisi Business School and meeting with government and business leaders in the Republic of Georgia.

Professor Kathy Simons attended a two-day "Financial Accounting and Reporting Question Development Workshop" at the Jersey City offices of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). Using a copy of the "Uniform CPA Examination Preparation Guide," the group first discussed the history and contents of the new CPA exam and the criteria for good multiple choice questions. The participants then wrote and critiqued possible exam questions.

If you have information for "Quickly," please send it to *Bryant's Business* Editor Janet Proulx or e-mail to [jproulx@bryant.edu](mailto:jproulx@bryant.edu).

## Women's Summit, Sept. 15, to explore workplace challenges

Work-related stressors disproportionately affect women, many of whom must successfully negotiate a delicate balance between work and family needs. In responding to this concern, Bryant College will present a Women's Summit on Sept. 15, focusing on issues of working women. Sen. John Chafee, the conference chair, will deliver the opening address. The summit runs from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

"The Women's Summit: Rising to Workplace Challenges in the Next Millennium" will offer presentations, workshops and breakout sessions that examine such topics as mentoring, integrating work and family, and diversity in the workforce.

Among the featured speakers are Hazel Henderson, a futurist and author of six books, including *Building a Win-Win World*; Sue Herrera, anchor of CNBC's *"Business Tonight"*; and Joanna Lau '97H, president of LAU Technologies.

Coordinated by The Public Forum Institute, the summit is free and open to the public. Registration deadline is Sept. 5, and seating is limited. For information, call Ext. 6565.

## Convocation welcomes first-year students

Law and culture in international business; computer decision support systems and liberal education and the corporation do not sound like topics generally covered on the first day of classes for new college students.

They are for 645 first-year students, however, who will attend academic sessions as part of Convocation activities on September 2. "These sessions are designed to let our students know that they are now full members of a vibrant academic community," says Professor Joseph Ilacqua, who organized the morning sessions.

Following a luncheon for the students and faculty, President Machtley will deliver the keynote address during the formal afternoon Convocation ceremony. After the ceremony, faculty will meet with students in small groups to answer questions.



## Grand opening links five global sites

A news conference was held on June 27 to announce the opening of Bryant's new interactive videoconference facility in the Unistructure. It uses advanced video technology and digital telephone lines, allowing companies to conduct face-to-face meetings simultaneously at multiple locations, eliminating the burden and expense of travel. "Interactive videoconferencing gives Bryant College a critical tool to use in interacting in the global marketplace," says President Machtley, pictured at right.



## Math book helps to create math whizzes

Raise your hand if math was not your favorite subject in school. Math is one subject many of us shied away from and, for some of us, it was a cause of embarrassment and anxiety.

For many of us, it's too late. But Professor Rick Smith, chairman of the mathematics department, may have a cure for the math ills of today's high school and college students. His book, *Mastering Mathematics: How to be a Great Math Student*, now in its third edition, offers ways to improve study techniques, test preparation, and classroom performance, turning marginal math students into math "whizzes."

"A lot of students don't do well in math because they get discouraged," says Smith. "But students can do well if they are willing to work and prepare themselves properly. This book helps them reach a point where they have a positive attitude toward math and can become successful at it."

*Mastering Mathematics*, available in the Bryant Bookstore, provides useful, practical tips for improving performance in math (and other subjects). Its larger print, information boxes, and cartoons make it easy to read, eliminating the intimidation factor students may fear in a book about their least favorite subject.

## Motivational speaker to address students

Bryant students can start off the academic year on an inspirational note when Patrick Combs – motivational speaker and author – comes to campus on Sept. 9. From an ice-breaking, audience participation version of the Family Feud, to the use of giant, computer-generated graphics, Combs drives his points home and gets students excited, involved, and confident about getting the most out of college.

Combs fires up his audiences with a powerful blend of enthusiasm, sincerity, and smart advice about career planning, extracurricular involvement, mentor relationships, and universal success factors.

Combs has been nominated as Speaker of the Year by *Campus Activities Today* magazine and is the author of *Major in Success: Make College Easier, Beat the System, and Get a Very Cool Job*. He has been a featured guest on national television programs, including "Good Morning America" and "The Late Show."

Faculty and staff are also invited to attend this free program. It begins at 8 p.m. in Janikies Auditorium and is co-sponsored by the Office of Public Relations and the Student Programming Board.

## LITE program lets area students test international waters

Sixteen northern Rhode Island high school students participated in Bryant's Linking International Trade Education (LITE) summer program, an innovative educational and employment program sponsored by the Export Assistance Center and the Northern R.I. Private Industry Council.

Using the college's International Trade Data Network, the students provided information on global marketing prospects to three local companies. They also examined the effects of industry on water quality in the Blackstone River; their findings will be shared with British high school students in the future.

The students received certificates at graduation ceremonies held August 7. Pictured are (l-r) Donald Smail Jr., president and CEO of the Northern R.I. Private Industry Council; Sid Okashige, program coordinator; Corinna Scurry, a Woonsocket High School student; Lt. Governor and Bryant Trustee Bernard Jackvony '67; and Don Farias '80, manager of the ITDN High School Program.



## On the Move

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions:

**Linda Asselin:** Faculty Services Coordinator, Suite C

**Louise Lecours:** Information Services Manager

**Naurene McDermott:** Administrative Secretary to the Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students and Immigration Processor

**Carol Platt:** Coordinator, Development Information Systems

**Paulette Rattigan:** Director of Purchasing and Support Services



## Four trustees named to board

The summer issue of the *Bryant Review* details information on the following new trustees, elected in May.



**Robert D. Graybill '97**  
Andersen Consulting  
Recent Graduate Trustee



**Thomas S. Marotta '67**  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Marotta Scientific Controls, Inc.



**Frederick C. Lohrum '96H**  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Rhode Island Hospital Trust National Bank



**John K. Welch**  
President  
General Dynamics Electric Boat Division

## Bryant in the News

Bryant College faculty and staff serve as expert sources for various media stories on a regular basis. Selected news stories from this summer follow.

- **Jim Miceli's** hiring as Bryant's first football coach received widespread attention in the sports pages of the *Providence Journal-Bulletin*, *The Call* (Woonsocket), *Boston Herald*, *Boston Globe* and various other newspapers throughout New England via wire services. Local television stations WJAR-TV, Channel 10; WLNE-TV, Channel 6; and WPRI-TV, Channel 12 also featured the story.
- **President Machtley** was featured in a *Providence Monthly* question-and-answer piece with Rhode Island School of Design President Roger Mandle. The two schools have formed a joint partnership with the establishment of the Center for Design and Business, which trains artists to run businesses and educates business people about the importance of design in developing and packaging products.
- A press conference announcing the opening of Bryant's new interactive videoconference facility was covered in *Providence Business News* and the *Providence Journal-Bulletin*, which quoted Ray Fogarty, director of the Export Assistance Center.
- Academic Dean **Roger Anderson** was quoted extensively in a *Providence Journal-Bulletin* story on Bryant's joint graduate degree program with the Naval Undersea War College. The *Newport Daily News* and *The Observer* also ran stories on the program. "What we are doing is developing an MBA program which combines both on-site programming, here at Bryant, joined by distance delivery..." said Anderson.
- The *Providence Journal-Bulletin* ran a story on the LITE (Linking International Trade Education) Program that pays local teens to learn what it takes to be international business consultants. The newspaper's "Quote of the Day" was attributed to one of the students in the program. *The Observer* also ran a story.
- The career of **President Machtley** was profiled in *The Newport Chronicle*.
- **Adjunct Professor Neal Hannon** was profiled in a *Providence Journal-Bulletin* Continuing Education Supplement. Hannon started an Internet consulting company and is currently writing a college handbook, *The Business of the Internet*.
- **Adjunct Professor Robert Burns'** presentation skills and communication training company profiled in *Providence Business News*.
- The Entrepreneurship Training Program was featured in a page-one story in the Northwest section of the *Providence Journal-Bulletin* and also appeared in *The Observer*.
- **President Machtley** was quoted in a *Sunday Boston Globe* article on challenges face by the new presidents of Babson and Bentley colleges.
- Professor **Ron Deluga's** research on "kissing up to the boss" received renewed interest among the news media. The story was picked up by the wire services, resulting in feature stories in newspapers across the country.
- Hundreds of hometown newspapers mentioned 1997 Bryant graduates, Commencement award winners, and spring Dean's List recipients.



## Bryant's Business scouts out Football Coach Jim Miceli

Bryant College took an ambitious step last spring when it announced the addition of five sports programs by the year 2002, as part of the New-Century Plan for Excellence. The most captivating of the additions is football, which will play its first varsity game in 1999. On that September afternoon, Jim Miceli will lead the Bulldogs onto the field as the first football team in school history.



Miceli recently gave Bryant's Business some insight into his coaching philosophy and what lies ahead for Bryant football.

◆ Give us a scouting report on Jim Miceli. What can Bryant expect?

JM: I guess you could characterize me as a low-key guy. As far as my teams go, they have always been very aggressive, especially on defense, which is where I believe games are won and lost.

Many coaches have a different philosophy than I do. They come in with a system and they'll do it that way, no matter what. I tend to be more flexible. I'll evaluate the type of student-athletes who are attracted to the college and mold the plan around them.

◆ What is your vision of Bryant football?

JM: I expect to see a competitive program that brings nothing but positives to Bryant. I will encourage my players to become an active part of the campus environment.

It will certainly be exciting. Football tends to be different than other sports. A football weekend can be the first event of the academic year. The first game we play on campus will be a big deal; football will also add a new dimension to Homecoming.

◆ You turned down a job with the Baltimore Ravens of the National Football League to come to Bryant. What was so attractive about this job?

JM: What attracted me was the prospect of building a program from the ground up. I'll be in on decisions as to where the field will be, where we will practice, what the uniforms will be like – all the things that are usually in place.

There are also family considerations. We love the area and hope to be here for a long time.

◆ What are your top priorities in Bryant football?

JM: First, I have to learn as much as I can about Bryant. I will also meet area high school coaches and talk to college coaches who have recently put together successful programs. I will be hiring a coaching staff. I want to have a lot done this fall because, when December 1 rolls around, I'll be on the road recruiting.

I'll be looking for people who will fit into the college community. That is easier said than done. It takes a long time to get to know a young man, his background, his family, and determine if he will be a good fit for Bryant.

## Alumni Day/Homecoming slated for September 26-27

Bryant's third annual Alumni Day will be held Friday, September 26, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by Homecoming festivities, which continue through Saturday, September 27.

During Alumni Day, a number of alumni will "shadow" students in the classroom and discuss their experiences after graduation. Alumni will attend classes with their host students from 8 a.m. until noon and then enjoy a luncheon with hosts and faculty.

"Alumni Day has proven to be a great success," says Alumni Director Paula Iacono. "It gives some of our alumni the chance to get back into the classroom and to meet some of their former professors. And it gives our students the opportunity to discuss the real-world experiences of our alumni."

For more information on Alumni Day, contact Paula Iacono at Ext. 6040.

Among Homecoming '97 highlights:

### Friday, Sept. 26

- Comedian Michael Winslow: 9 p.m., Salmanson Dining Room
- Homecoming Bonfire: 10 p.m. on the front athletic fields
- Fireworks: 11 p.m. on the front athletic fields

### Saturday, Sept. 27

- Free golf clinic: 8:30 a.m. on the back field
- Alumni Games: Men's and Women's Basketball: 10 a.m.  
Women's Soccer: 10 a.m.  
Volleyball, Baseball, Softball: 11 a.m.
- Men's Soccer vs. St. Anselm College: 1 p.m.  
Women's Tennis vs. St. Anselm College: 1 p.m.  
Halftime: Introduction of Jim Miceli, Bryant's new football coach; Homecoming King, Queen, and Court; contest winners
- Campus-wide barbecue: 4 to 7 p.m. on the front athletic fields; entertainment includes laser tag, velcro wall climbing, inflatable sumo wrestling, and music by bands Harvey Doesn't Know Me, and Settie

Throughout the week prior to Homecoming, each residence hall and town house block will work on a banner with the homecoming theme – "There's no place like home." The banners will be judged on Saturday morning; winners will be announced at the barbecue.

For more information on Homecoming '97, contact the athletics office at Ext. 6071 or student activities at Ext. 6160.



## NEW FACES



**Jennifer Bell**  
*Advertising Manager*  
*Institutional Advancement*

Bell is responsible for creating and placing display advertising for the college. Since 1994, she served as vice president and director of new business for Primedia, Inc., and prior to that she was vice president and media director. She holds a bachelor's degree from Rhode Island College.



**Phoebe D. Butlin**  
*User Services Technician*  
*Information Technology*

As a user services technician, Butlin will provide general software and hardware support for the college. She is a 1995 graduate of Roger Williams University, where she most recently served as an admissions counselor.



**Joanne Ferchland-Parella**  
*Executive Director of Development*  
*Institutional Advancement*

As executive director of development, Ferchland-Parella is responsible for the operations of the development office and the college's fund-raising programs. She previously served as associate vice president for development at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota and as director of development for major gifts at Villanova University. She holds a master's degree from The Johns Hopkins University, and a bachelor's degree from Loyola College.



**Marc Furtado**  
*Interim Vice President, Student Affairs*

Furtado, appointed executive assistant to the president in July, has been appointed interim vice president for student affairs during the search to replace F.J. Talley Jr., PhD., who left Sept. 3 to accept a position at Rowan College. Furtado holds a master's and bachelor's degree from the University of Rhode Island and undertook doctoral studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His extensive academic and administrative experience was outlined in the president's memo of July 8, welcoming him to Bryant.



**Philip Lombardi**  
*Classroom and Laboratory*  
*Services Manager*  
*Information Technology*

With a broad background in both hardware and software, Lombardi is responsible for the daily operations of the computer systems in the classrooms and labs, as well as collaborating with faculty in the development and utilization of this equipment. Prior to joining Bryant, he co-founded and operated Test Point Enterprises, Inc., in Cranston.

## Around the Corner

September 2: Convocation ceremony - 3:30 p.m. - Gymnasium  
September 3: Undergraduate and graduate classes begin  
September 5-6: SPB Welcome Back Weekend  
September 8-12: Greek Week 1997  
September 9: Motivational Speaker Patrick Combs 8 p.m. - Janikies (Free)  
September 15: The Women's Summit: Rising to Workplace Challenges in the Next Millennium 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. - Various locations Call Ext. 6565 for seating availability  
September 22-26: Commuter Week

September 24: Blood drive - 11 a.m to 5 p.m. - Rotunda  
September 26: Alumni Day  
September 26-27: Homecoming '97  
October 2: Rosh Hashanah  
October 5: Admission Open House 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
October 11: Yom Kippur  
October 13: Columbus Day  
October 24-26: Parents' and Family Weekend '97  
October 26: Daylight Saving Time ends Turn clocks back  
October 31: Halloween