



The Student Voice of Bryant University since 1946

THE ARCHWAY

2009 COMMENCEMENT ISSUE



From the President



Dear Graduates:

Your Commencement ceremonies will mark the beginning of a new and transformative chapter of your lives. It is a time to take the knowledge, leadership skills, and passion you have gained at Bryant University and apply them for the greater good. It is also a time to step up and demonstrate tangible evidence of the personal and professional growth you've achieved during your years with us, and I am confident that you will find your time at Bryant has prepared you exceptionally well for the opportunities ahead.

Each of you has contributed something distinctive to enrich Bryant's vibrant community, making this a better place for all of us to live and learn together. I hope you have found your experience to be challenging, exciting, and rewarding. As you embark upon the next stage of your life's journey, commit yourself to continuous lifelong learning and intellectual curiosity. Apply your talents and skill with enthusiasm. Demonstrate your concern for humanity. Make your own imprint on the world's changing landscape so that others will benefit from your contributions.

Today's graduation makes you a member of the Bryant alumni network, and you are joining a family of 40,000 accomplished and distinguished individuals throughout the world. For 145 years Bryant alumni have set high standards of achievement, and they proudly pass that tradition on to you. As part of the Bryant family, it is our hope you that will return to campus often and enjoy a lifelong relationship with the University.

Kati and I and everyone at Bryant – our faculty, staff, and trustees – are extremely proud of your achievements. As you depart from campus and move ahead in your career and life, I know that you will build upon the extraordinarily solid foundation Bryant has provided. We thank you for all of the richness and vigor you have brought to this University, and we extend our very best wishes for your success and happiness in the future.

Sincerely,

Ronald K. Machtley
President



The Honor of the Commencement Issue

In order to celebrate the 146th Undergraduate Commencement, The Archway has created this commencement guide for the over 700 students who will graduate on May 16, 2009.

Following traditions, we have compiled reflections from students who significantly impacted Bryant during their undergraduate career and have a memorable and insightful story to share. Choosing ten students to write a reflection was difficult and with the help of a committee of underclassmen students from all walks of college life, the recipients were selected for this honor.

In addition to the students, we selected one faculty and one staff

member to write a final message to the graduating class. This year's contributors are Professor Mike Roberto and John Lindsay, Director of the Center for Student Involvement. These two individuals were chosen because of the lasting impact that have had on the lives of many of the students of the Class of 2009.

This guide is dedicated to each student's college experience, from the moment you first stepped on campus until you finally passed under the archway. I wish you all the best as you start the next chapter of your lives as graduates of the Class of 2009.

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Walking through the archway... a Commencement tradition

Other than receiving diplomas on Commencement day, students have another way of symbolizing the completion of their Bryant education: walking through the archway.

The story of the archway dates back to 1905. Isaac Gifford Ladd, an associate of Charles Schwabb and a famous U.S. steel tycoon, constructed a \$1 million building which contained the iron arch on Young Orchard Avenue on the east side of Providence. This building was meant to be a sign of his endearment to his newlywed wife.

However, his wife expressed hatred for the structure which was named after her. Taking this as personal rejection, Ladd took his own life. The building remained unoccupied until Thomas Marsden transformed it into Hope Hospital, which was part of the Bryant-Straton College, renamed Bryant College. To provide more space for classes, an addition was constructed and Hope Hospital was renamed South Hall.

In October of 1967, Earl S. Tupper, inventor of Tupperware, donated his 392 acre hillside estate to Bryant College for the creation of the new campus. To thank Tupper for his generous gift, Bryant named the campus after him and awarded him an honorary degree. Four years later, in the

fall of 1971, the campus moved to Smithfield. Prior to leaving the Hope Street campus, the wrought-iron arch at the entrance to South Hall was transported to the new campus.

Today, the archway remains the only physical link to the Providence campus. Frank Delmoncio, then Vice President for Business Affairs, and Robert Hillier, architect of the Tupper campus and designer of the sign for the front entrance, relocated the archway between the two ponds en route to the Unistructure.

After the archway was transferred from the old campus, students immediately began to avoid passing through this out-of-place structure. As rumor had it, walking through the archway before graduation mysteriously jeopardized chances of graduating. Since this is quite a large price to pay for not following tradition, most students opted not to take the chance, which has resulted in worn paths around the arch.

After 17 years of worn paths, the graduating class of 1987 left a brick pathway around the sacred arch. This tradition has shaped the behavior of thousands of Bryant University students on Tupper campus for the past 30 years, and will continue to shape that of more in the years to come.



Student Senate President: Whitney Blatsos

When I was a little girl I dreamed of being an opera singer. I used to sing on the top of my lungs around the house turning it into my very own opera house. I'm sure my dad can remember me standing at the bottom of the stairs singing in my best opera voice seeing how long I could go before he yelled at me. I assure you all it didn't take long, sorry mom and dad, I'm sure those were a rough few years.

Though I no longer have plans to become an opera singer, the thought of it brings me back to my freshman year at Bryant. I was sitting in Professor Adam Rubin's Business 101 class and he told us he wanted to have a more serious talk with us. For those of us who know "Rubin", serious talks aren't a common thing in his class. This isn't to demerit him, he is an incredible mentor and teaching professional, of which I'm sure many of my classmates would agree. What we learned from him in this more serious class was a lesson I will remember forever. He asked us "what did you want to be when you were little?" We were given time to think back and later discuss our young ambitions amongst one another. When the exercise was finished he noted that none of us planned to live out our childhood dreams any longer.

He later told us that he had wished to be a teacher as a young child. After graduating he had several jobs in his life, and finally realized he lacked passion in them. He eventually came back to his almer mater, Bryant where he now lives out his childhood dream of teaching. He has an amazing passion for his job, and his energy is contagious.

What I want us all to remember from Rubin's lesson is change is inevitable. Though change is undoubtedly inevitable, also remember your passions and find happiness in all that you do. As we reach the culmination of our time here at Bryant we must be prepared for the many changes ahead of us. Although to many of us change is a scary thing, think back to your freshman year. As freshman we all sought to find our place on campus. Who were going to be our friends? What were classes going to be like? Would anything ever be better than high school? When would we get all our work done with all these parties? And how were we going to avoid those awful geese? Slowly but surely we answered these questions through our experiences and carried on. Though many challenges have been presented to us whether it be academically through those painful group projects and exams, physically through athletic practice or after a rough night at Rente's, or mentally through that awful ex boyfriend or girlfriend that wore you down, we all made it and will say goodbye to all of those challenges as we walk in unison to that one special place—the Archway.

Though at the time these challenges made us feel



inferior, we became better men and women from them and will be better leaders of the future for enduring them. And finally the question we have been asked our whole lives, "what do you want to be when you grow up?" must be answered. I am confident that our experiences here at Bryant both in and out of the classroom have prepared us to fulfill that question and duty. Although we may not become firefighters, ballerinas, racecar drivers, veterinarians, or opera singers keep those dreams dear to your hearts. Go out into this world and give it all you've got. Be open-minded to others and the world around us, but most importantly be open-minded to change.

Many of us will become accountants, managers, financial analysts, journalists, advertisers, or move on to become lawyers. Remember to always consider the lessons we were taught on ethics and diversity, and live out the Bryant motto of the "Character of Success." Margaret Mead once said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Let's be that group of citizens and change the world. Let's go into the workforce and prove the merits of a Bryant degree so our almer mater can thrive for years to come. And let's be proud to be bulldogs, because although we are graduating we will forever be Bryant Bulldogs. Class of 2009, it has been an amazing four years. I hope that at our reunions to come we can toast to living our dreams and laughing about our wonderful memories of the past. Cheers everyone, and thanks for the time of my life.

Student Class Charge: Brianna Mahan

Class of
2009

I could stand in front of you and recite all the bad things going on around us and tell you we will easily overcome the challenges of life because we are 22 and have the world in the palm of our hand. But I won't because it isn't true. The future isn't going to be easy, and we will have to work hard—really hard—to stay afloat. A college degree shows we are ready to enter the workforce and take on the world. A Bryant University degree, however, means that for the past four years we have been taught to think of others around us.

We have all seen significant changes made to this University during our stay here. For the first time in Bryant's history, there was a 300+ student March for Acceptance, rejecting any form of discrimination on this campus. There are entire weeks dedicated to educating the student body about reducing our footprint on the world. Every organization and Management 200 group is required to complete a service project. We now have a Community Service Office on campus. We have established programs in Women's Studies, Africana/Black Studies, Biotechnology, Latin American Studies, and Political Science, as well as Service Learning programs – all while obtaining one of the best educations in the Northeast.

A Bryant University degree means we are taught to use our business knowledge to better the world, not just ourselves. Our future is only as bright as we make it. Our impact on the world is only as large as the energy we put toward others. There are brilliant minds here today, and those minds can do more than make money. Those minds can establish a non-profit organization, organize a charity run, lead a local chapter of Habitat for Humanity, or be a Big Brother, Sister, troop leader, or advocate.

A Bryant University degree says we will succeed as long as we apply the lessons given to us. Our professors may teach us about trade-offs, poetry, women's history, budgets, anthropology, the present value of an annuity due, and political science in class, but they also teach us patience, humility, strength, and acceptance outside class. I encourage you all

to thank every one of your professors today, whether you loved them or not, because they taught you something about yourself in the process.

There are brilliant minds here today, and those minds can do more than make money.

On this day, we are handed a diploma, but we are also handed the responsibility of changing the world. We are the generation who elected the first African American president. We are the generation who has forced companies to go green or go home. Our generation has already shown how great this world can be. With hard work, who knows what more we can accomplish?

I encourage you all to take time this summer to travel the world, country, or even just your state. Go help rebuild in New Orleans, volunteer at a homeless shelter, animal shelter, or food pantry. Volunteer to read books at a library to children, or help in the relief effort in Darfur, Rwanda, or Jamaica. Do something with your life so others can have a better one. After all, that is what a Bryant University degree is all about.





Steven Branch

First and foremost I would like to thank God for the opportunities provided to me in this lifetime, for there are people who never even get to experience college life, so I am grateful to my eternal father. Secondly I would like to say to my mother and father thank you, and that I have made it past the first checkpoint and will continue to push forward to others. To my brother and sister, anything in life is possible through faith, hard work, and proper preparation. I'm always there for you two. To my family, you are my passion for success, and as long as I have anything, you will want for nothing. To my friends, there was a reason for us to have met, may we continue to positively contribute to each other's lives.

The end of one period means the beginning of a new period in our lives. We have just ended a wonderful and joyous period in our lives, where I have personally met some of the best friends that I can ever have, the list of names is far too long to fit into this reflection. To the 14 out of 46 to make it through four years of football, we laid down the framework for others to follow in future years of Division I football. To be able to do what we have

done in our four years as students and as athletes that represent this campus is a feat in itself, and we should be proud of ourselves. I have had the greatest time of my life getting to know each and every one of you. To every person that I have met throughout my Bryant Experience, I hope that I have been able to give you something positive, just as you have contributed something positive to my life.

Class of 2009, our time to shine is now, whether you are going out into the working world or continuing your education, show this world what you have to offer. Don't be afraid to "go in" on this world, take advantage of every opportunity that you can get. Opportunities that you neglect to expand upon today become dreams and fantasies later on down the road. So, Class of 2009, let us not dream of change, job promotions, vacation, family, life, and happiness, let's go out there and get it. I don't want to dream that I made it, I want to experience it. Let's not just settle for a small glow of success, let's illuminate this world with our success and help other's light shine.

Lastly I would like to say thank you to President Machtley and Mrs. Machtley: from the moment that I stepped on this campus I felt your welcoming spirit.

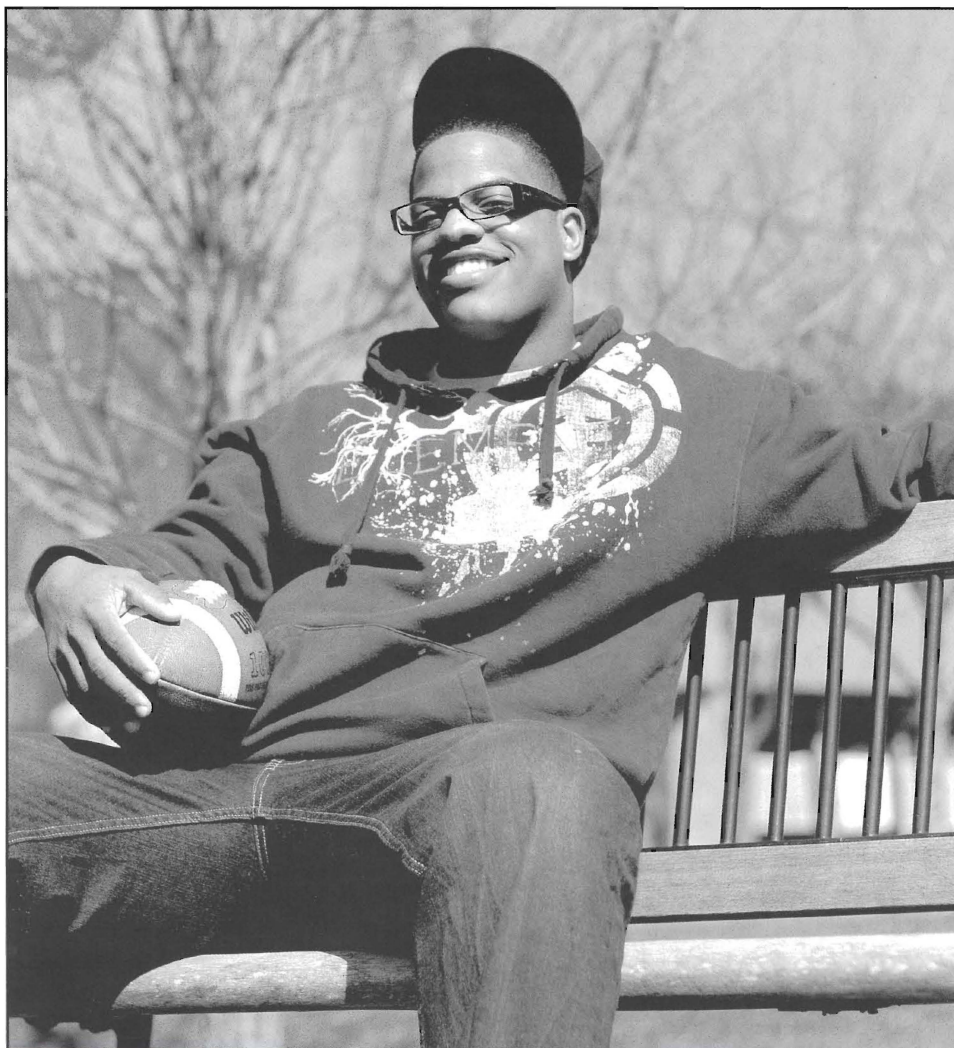
Thank you for your work here and your contributions to my life. I have been able to come to Bryant, this foreign place, as a freshman and now regretfully, I must leave, but I have left with lifelong friends and maybe god-parents to my future children. The people that I have met will now become a staple in my life for the present and years to come.

I guess I can only end this reflection with a quote, and since time is way too precious and unfortunately waits for no one, I'll speak about time. "If you continue to treat tomorrow like the future, today will be yesterday before you know it." Basically if you are continuously looking ahead, you will miss out on the benefits of the present. Enjoy your circumstance, love your family, and live this life to the fullest. May God bless you, Class of 2009, and go do some damage on this world.

Thank you Bryant University.

Signing Out...

Steven Branch ~ Mr. Bryant ~

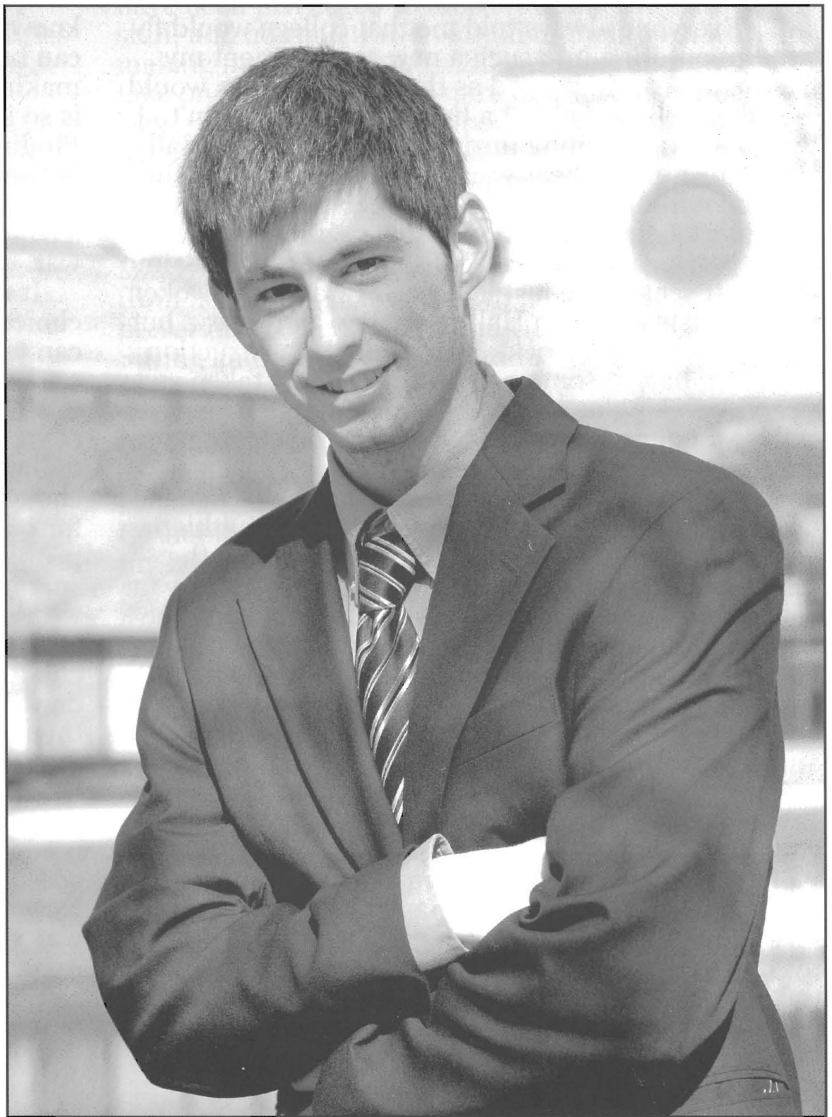


The fact that I was a graduating senior did not entirely hit me until I was presented with the honor to write this senior reflection article. The attempt to compress four years of phenomenal experiences into an 8x11 sheet of paper proved to be an impossible task, but it allowed me to think about the main cause of my growth and development. I came into Bryant unsure of myself and what I wanted to do. I was extremely reserved and was terrified of public speaking. Although my competitive nature derived from high school sports provided me with leadership capabilities, I was hesitant to apply these in an academic setting.

There are two crucial components of my educational experience which have helped me overcome my fears. One of the biggest benefits that Bryant has to offer is the quality of extracurricular activities. With over 80 clubs and organizations there is something for every student regardless of their interests. For me, that organization was Bryant University Students in Free Enterprise. One of my personal goals was to find an organization that allowed me to practice my marketing skills, and at the same time, have a positive impact on campus life as well as the community at large. SIFE allowed me to do just that.

Another essential aspect of Bryant however, is in the quality of the faculty and administration. Not only have the professors here provided me with meaningful insight into core business theories, but the good ones have found a way to use their personal anecdotes to demonstrate the importance of core concepts. Some of the best at this that I have met at Bryant are Professor Rothelein and Professor Coakley.

It is the organizations I have been a part of and the intelligence of my professors that have had a significant impact on my transformation. However, it is a combination of the two that has helped in making me the person I am today. SIFE faculty advisor, Professor David Greenan, is one of the best that Bryant has to offer. His determination to improve our organization by utilizing his skills is truly inspirational. Professor Greenan's excitement, energy, passion and determination to make a difference in the lives of others were something that I have attempted to emulate over the years. I have had Greenan for a 400-level management class where he was an exceptional teacher, and what he taught me in the classroom cannot compare to what he taught me about life in



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general. He has helped me go through the process of making ethical decisions, career decisions, and has served as my mentor and friend for three years. I cannot imagine getting to graduation without him.

In closing, Bryant's commitment to develop "the character of success" in all students holds true. Bryant University and especially David Greenan are responsible for changing me from a shy and unsure freshman into a confident and driven graduate. Although I will miss this, I am prepared, excited, and confident about my future. I hope my fellow graduates do the same, and I wish you all the best of luck.



Jessica Clark

Everyone always told me that college would fly by. But entering into such a new environment my freshman year, it seemed as though four years would feel like, well, just about a half a decade. It didn't. I feel like I was running through the hallways of Hall 15 having gummy bear wars and tutoring half of the freshman football squad in microeconomics just last semester. I can remember vividly organizing dinner times between my suitemates so no one was at Salmo alone. It seems like just last week I was being woken up by construction on Hall 17 ... oh, wait, I was... but it was for O and P block. Even though construction at Bryant has, at some point, undoubtedly taken away sleep by waking us all up at hours of the morning college students were just not meant to be conscious at, Bryant has given us so much more.

Bryant in some form or another has helped shape us all. Whether it was the academics, clubs, athletics, parties, special events, or all the opportunities the school offers to growing adolescents, pieces of Bryant will always be with us. I almost feel like I should be writing to the incoming freshmen and attempting to impart some advice to them for their years here. All you seniors know this school as well as I do. You know what it has meant to you, what it has given you, and what you will remember it for. Keep those memories, they are all we'll have left of our time at Bryant... not to mention they'll be great stories for your grandkids.

I heard many stories from my grandparents about their pasts and I remember many things they told me. When my grandpa, or Poppop as we called him, lived with my family for a summer I was always on the go with jobs and friends. As I would fly in and out of the house, Poppop would always ask me his tagline phrase, "Working hard or hardly working?" Jokingly, I would always answer, "Ohh, hardly working as usual" and he would smile. Although it is a simple, lighthearted phrase I think it sums up life at Bryant pretty well. There were times when everyone has crammed for exams, sat in the library for hours working on papers, tried to find an open classroom in the Unistructure to study late into the night, or worked tirelessly on one of the 3,000 group projects we have all had throughout the years. But, there were plenty of days when work just wasn't a priority and fun came first. There were countless nights when that case due Monday just wasn't on the to-do list right then.

"Working hard or hardly working" represents, to me, balance and choice. Balance between buckling down and getting what needs to be done accomplished and foregoing responsibility to relax and have fun in life. I have learned that the work that needs to get done will always be there so pushing it off too much is like trying to win a soccer game in the last 2 minutes – doable but a nail-biter. Learning to pace yourself throughout that 90 minute game and throughout life is a valuable lesson. And a lesson that I know I am still very much a novice in learning. But,

knowing when work can be put off and making time for fun is so important too. Finding balance between life's work and life's pleasure is a continual tug of war.

It represents choice. My friends can tell you, I always say "Life is all about choices." So much of who we are is defined by the choices we've made for ourselves. The people you choose to surround yourself

with and the experiences you endure shape your character. Joining that club or team, or taking the challenging professor over the safe instructor, or deciding what is the next step after we walk through the Archway – all these choices define who we are. So, make choices you believe to be best for you and be content with them. Regret is the worst way to live your life. You may look back and wonder if you have made the best choice, but it's the one you made so accept it, make it work for you, and learn from it. Never regret. I've told my best friend, Kay, since I was young that I don't have regrets and I never will. I challenge you all to do the same.

So, at a particular time, whether you're workin' hard or hardly workin', live your life and be yourself. Live life for you, no one else. Listen to people's advice but make decisions for you. Be proud of what you accomplish but work hard to achieve them. Love those around you and don't be afraid to tell them. Take care of the people in your life, they are what really matter. Keep a broad perspective: no problem you encounter is the end of the world and nothing is more important than the people you care about. Try not to take life too seriously because sooner than we think, it could be over.

Thank you to my Mom, Dad, Vanessa, Nathan, Aunt Rica and Uncle Rob for supporting me so much. K8 ladies, thank you for putting up with me for 4 years, I know it wasn't easy and I love you all. Bean and Kay, I literally could not ask for better friends. To my all the friends I've made at school, too many to mention, you made my life at college some of the best years I'm sure I'll ever have. Thank you to all of the faculty and administration that supported me, pushed me, and honored me with their valuable advice; I am a better woman because of each and every one of you. I genuinely appreciate you all, thank you. Congratulations Class of 2009, the future is a scary and precious thing. Take advantage of it and enjoy the ride.



In four years, I've successfully avoided walking through the Archway. I've splashed through puddles and slipped across ice, all to avoid stepping through the open black iron gates in fear of the campus superstition of not graduating on time. Today, it is hard to believe that after four years of so diligently finding paths around our Archway, I will finally be setting foot through the structure as a Bryant graduate. While this monumental moment marks the end of an important and rewarding chapter in my life, it also begins a new and exciting future of opportunities.

As an incoming freshman, I was told by family members, school counselors and various teachers along the way to "make the most of my education." I expected to spend most of my days focusing on textbooks and homework, achieving high grades and learning lessons for my future career. Never did I dream to have as many life changing experiences as I have had here at Bryant. Whether it was directing Relay for Life, starting Colleges Against Cancer or serving as a member of the 2008 Leadership Council, I have learned the importance and power of having dreams. I have been inspired by faculty, staff, and students to reach new levels of achievement. After four years of challenging myself to become a better leader, a better role model, and a better person, I am confident in leaving Bryant with the desire to change lives and leave an impact on the world around me.

In preparing for graduation, I am overwhelmed by a mix of emotions. I feel the weight of knowledge gained from some of the finest faculty members I

have been privileged to meet. I thank the faculty, staff, and administration for all of their hard work in making my success a possibility. I feel empowered to take on new tasks and inspire new leaders along the way. The CSI staff has helped me to realize the magnitude of impact that simple actions can have on everyday lives. I feel an insurmountable pride that comes with being a Bryant University alumnus. I am honored to have been a part of this campus – this family – for the past four years. As a home away from home, Bryant has shown me the importance of preserving both tradition and culture. I feel love. Sitting amongst my fellow graduates, I smile thinking of the friendships and bonds created during my time as a Bryant student. To my F2 girls, you have all become the sisters that I never had. Our late nights of movies, ANTM, karaoke, dancing, and games of kartenpusten will never be forgotten. To the 2008 Leadership Council, you each hold a special place in my heart and have truly shaped the person that I am today. To my boyfriend, Joe, I am thankful to have met you early on in my Bryant years. You have had a tremendously positive influence on my life.

Perhaps most of all I feel blessed. I am blessed to have had this amazing opportunity and to have been a part of a remarkable community. I am thankful to all those who have supported me throughout my four years here at Bryant. Most importantly, I am thankful to my family. Matthew, you have always been an amazing brother and an even better best friend. You have inspired me to always reach higher and set new goals. Now as you begin a new chapter in your life, I pray that you too may find the same success and pride within your own college experience. Mom and Dad, each of you has served as my motivation to succeed. Your endless love and support has strengthened me into the person that I am today. I have you both to thank for my morals, my ambitions, and my success. I can only hope that as you are reading this right now, that each of you is smiling...that you both know how hard I have worked to make you proud. You are the reasons I have been able to find the joys in life.

Today, as I take part in the long awaited Bryant tradition of walking through the Archway, I will do my best to hold back tears of sadness to be leaving such a wonderful place. Instead, I will smile remembering each of the memories that I have created here. A wise author once said, "Don't cry because it's over...smile because it happened." Although these four years have come and gone in the blink of an eye and are now part of a cherished group of memories, Bryant University will forever be a special part of my life on which I can look back and smile. Congratulations, Class of 2009! May each of you always smile when you think back to your years here at Bryant University!





Amber De Angelis

Well rounded. That's what I can say about my education at Bryant. Beyond the books and the classrooms, I gathered valuable skills that I know will help me have a successful career. The one thing I can take away from Bryant is that everything is a learning experience. I challenged myself and did things that I never thought I would do.

For instance, I never thought I would direct a play in my entire life. This past October I had the pleasure of directing the Parents and Family Weekend show, *The Perfect Idiot*. I had an amazing cast to work with and an awesome Assistant Director who kept me motivated. After my four years with the Bryant Players I have to say my proudest moment was watching my cast perform on opening night. I had been the Assistant Director of two other shows and acted in a variety of roles but none of that comes close to the laughter and applause from that night.

I never would have been able to direct that show without all the skills I learned from the leadership development program. I completed all three leadership institutes. I had the opportunity be invited on the Emerging Leaders retreat and the

Established Leaders retreat. I also participated in Bridges. Through these retreats and institutes I gained insight and perspective. I was able to identify weakness but also work on my strengths. I came out of my shell, met new people, and took on new initiatives. I was a part of the Emerging leaders

LEAD Team and along with the eight other members I was able to help inspire a group of freshmen and sophomores to get involved on campus.

Moreover, I have held a variety of jobs on campus. For the first one and a half years I worked from the library in the technical services office. This job later inspired me to apply to graduate school at Simmons College for their Library Information Science Program.

For one semester I was Teacher

Assistant for the Graduate school. I got to work in a virtual classroom setting and support distance learning for the MPAC Program. This year I worked for audio visual and through this job I learned so much about technology that I can apply later. For the past year and a half I have worked for the Junction. Boy, have I seen some strange things.

Throughout all my experiences at Bryant I have met so many people especially through the Intercultural Center. I have been exposed to many different kinds of people and ideas. I originally went to all the events just for the food and to hang out with my friends. Sophomore year I found myself involved with ISO because of my passion to travel and explore the world. And this year I was honored to serve as Webmaster/Historian and work closely with the members.

I'm glad I had the opportunity to write this reflection. As I approach Commencement, it was nice to sit down and look back at my time at Bryant. Though I have only covered some of what I have done, I can say that I feel accomplished. As cheesy as it sounds, the first thing that popped into my head was, "How have I grown?" The answer is: in many ways. I still have much growing to do but Bryant has helped me grow in the right direction.

I would like to take this time to thank Mom, Dad, and Ant for being supportive. I would also like to extend a thanks to all my friends and to all the faculty and staff who helped me throughout my time here at Bryant. Good luck everyone! Peace!

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You will fail! Everyone does at various points in their lives. As you leave Bryant, I encourage you not to simply dream of the success you wish to achieve in your lives. I hope that you will dream big dreams and pursue them with invigorating passion. However, you must also consider the role of failure in a successful person's life. How will you react when you stumble and fall? You will stumble after all. We all do. Great innovators encounter failure numerous times. The most successful people exhibit remarkable persistence and resilience in the face of failure. They pick themselves up, learn from their mistakes, and move forward. Thomas Edison failed many times in his career. Reflecting on his missteps, he said, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

Consider the case of James Dyson. Described as a "tireless tinkerer," he perfected his revolutionary bagless vacuum cleaner after years of trial and error. Today, Dyson ranks as one of the richest men in the world. Despite all that success, Dyson loves talking about the importance of failure in his life. "I made 5,127 prototypes of my vacuum before I got it right," said Dyson. "There were 5,126 failures, but I learned from each one. That's how I came up with a solution. So I don't mind failure." He argues that we often fool ourselves into believing that successful products emerge from a moment of "effortless brilliance." To him, failures provide keen insights that enable invention. Dyson explains, "We're taught to do things the right way. But if you want to discover something that other people haven't, you need to do things the wrong way. Initiate a failure by doing something that's very silly, unthinkable, naughty, dangerous. Watching why that fails can take you on a completely different path. It's exciting, actually."

Maxine Clark founded and continues to serve as chief executive of Build-a-Bear Workshop. Clark has built an incredibly successful company. She has done so by delivering a world-class customer experience in her stores. Clark credits her store associates, who constantly find ways to innovate and improve. How do the associates do it? For starters, they tend not to fear admitting a mistake. Clark's attitude toward mistakes explains her associates' behavior. She does not punish people for making an error or bringing a problem to light; she encourages it. Clark credits her first grade teacher, Mrs. Grace, for instilling this attitude toward mistakes in her long ago. As many elementary school teachers do, Mrs. Grace graded papers using a red pencil. However, Mrs. Grace gave out a rather unorthodox award at the end of each week. She awarded a red pencil prize to the student who had made the most mistakes! Why? Mrs. Grace wanted her students engaged in the class discussion, trying to answer every question - no matter how challenging. As Clark writes, "She didn't want the fear of being wrong to keep us from taking chances. Her only rule was that we couldn't be rewarded for



making the same mistake twice."

Clark has applied her first grade teacher's approach at Build-a-Bear by creating a Red Pencil Award. She gives this prize to people who have made a mistake but who have discovered a better way of doing business as a result of reflecting upon and learning from that mistake. Clark has it right when she says that managers should encourage their people to "experiment freely, and view every so-called mistake as one step closer to getting things just right." Of course, her first grade teacher had it right as well when she stressed that people would be held accountable if they made the same mistake repeatedly. Failing to learn constitutes the bad behavior that we should deem unacceptable.

At Bryant, you have not only learned many ideas and concepts. You have learned to think more critically. You have learned how to learn. The faculty has tried to nurture and develop you so that you can become effective lifelong learners. We hope that you will not fear failure in your lives. Embrace it and learn from it. Even in his later years, after remarkable accomplishments, the great Renaissance artist and sculptor Michelangelo used to say, "I am still learning." I hope that you will maintain that attitude throughout your lives, particularly in those moments when you stumble and fail. Pick yourselves up and move forward, with confidence that you have the ability to fulfill your dreams. Remember that failing to learn represents the only true failure in our lives.



Remember when...

Orientation

- You had a stranger sit in your lap and then fell in love
- You actually thought Salmo had good food and you didn't think "all you can eat" could catch up to you
- You danced like no one was watching...only to realize these people were watching and would be with you for the next four years of your life

Freshman

- You thought DPS were actual cops
- You figured out Salmo wasn't as good as you originally thought...within the first 2 weeks
- You realized PPS was just like typing class in middle school
- You never realized how such a fake ID could work at a very local family restaurant
- You realized Bryant wasn't anything like Animal House
- You found out how important a 19th birthday could be.

Now there is something you can never have again

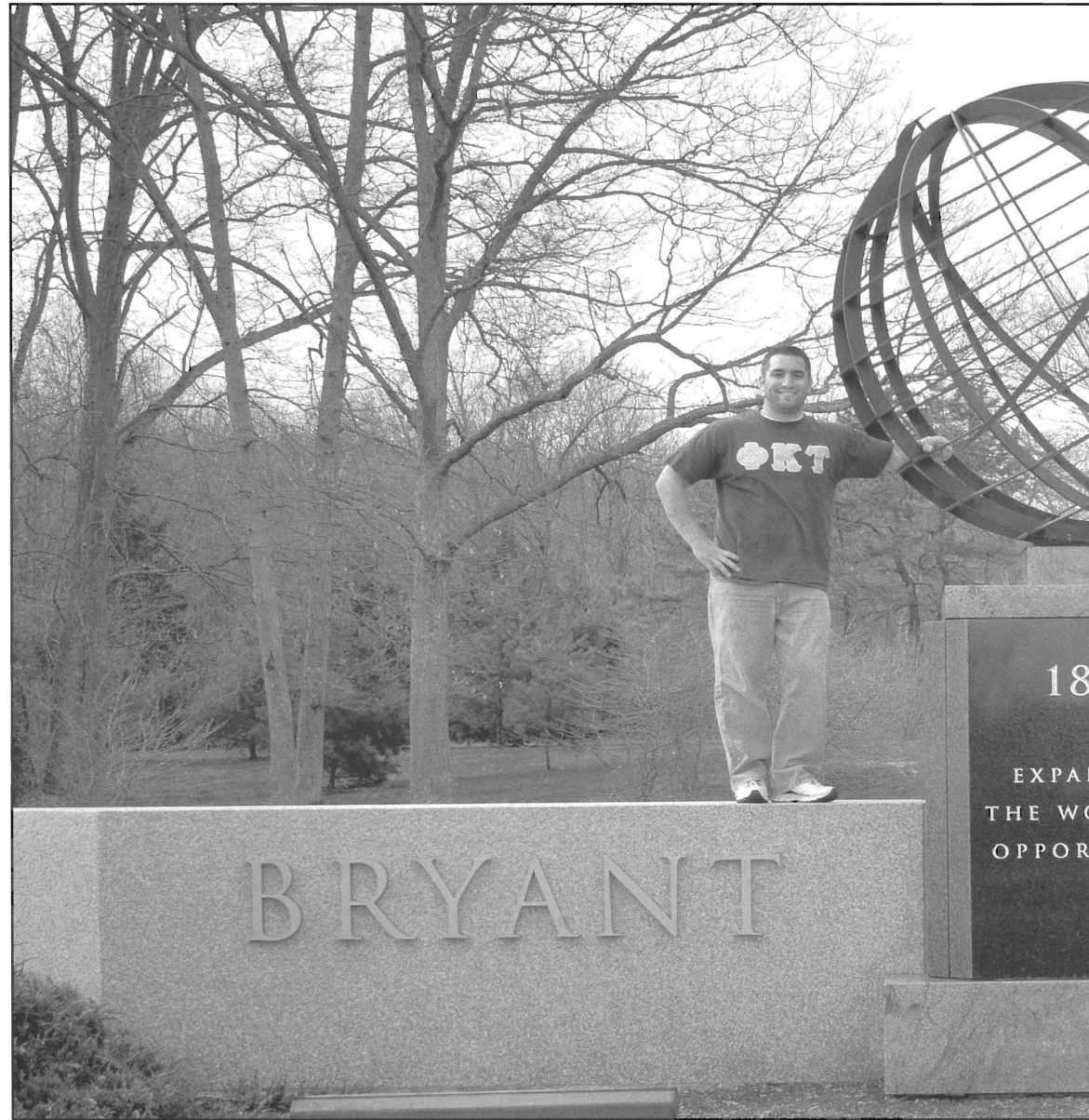
- Fire Alarms actually had a meaning, even at 4 AM
- That kid got stabbed on campus, and somehow he and the knife slipped away with one way in and one way out
- All the townhouses opened their doors for a night of "free samples"

Sophomore

- You realized there was a 7:00 am Friday morning...thanks Hall 17 construction
- You received your last good piece of pizza on Bryant Campus...RIP the Junction
- You noticed a man somehow got stuck inside the globe at the entrance to school
- You celebrated "Love and Memories" with O.A.R.
- Your management 200 class turned into a service learning project...making you actually do work
- We all moved in with who we thought were our 5 "best friends" ...little did we know

Junior

- You thought scoring Hall 17 in the lottery was a blessing...until you got your damage bill that summer
- There was a river right next to the Bryant Center via a water main break
- You noticed that the new pizza place wasn't good and they didn't have old rickety wooden tables outside



Shannon Wheeler and Alex Weiss

Class of
2009



that you could lounge on weekend nights
-Smithfield lost all power...rumors had it that this was because of a helicopter crash
-You thought it would be 86 more years until you jumped in the pond because the Red Sox won another World Series, but it wasn't... and how did the New York Mets blow it again!?
-Yung Joc took the stage...only to sing every song but his own
-Your actual ID worked just as good at a very local family restaurant
-The infamous Bill Clinton came to talk to us about supporting his "wife"...I think they called her Hillary

Senior

-You realized DPS were actually your friends-- they just wanted everyone out of your townhouse, which is exactly how you felt
-You knew all the pitcher specials at Rentes for each day of the week...and only get the special no matter

how much you hated the beer even though it was only \$1 less

-Construction of the Interfaith Center affected your daily walk to class/townhouses

-You realized that moving home and not having a job was the social norm

-We went to Rentes on Tuesday and Wednesday nights and on Thursdays it was Effins with a side of Asia Grille

-We went Division 1 and people FINALLY tailgated for football games

-Homecoming Weekend was like a real college

-Fabolous came to perform during Spring Weekend...oh wait a second...did he really?

-Spring Break '09: 7 days will be paid for over the next 3 years

-Townhouses O and P became an alarm clock every single morning at/or before 6 am. Who even knew that time existed senior year?

-We said goodbye to the best four years of our lives

Love Shannon and Alex



John D. Lindsay

Dear Friends,

In the words of Elisabeth Foley, "The most beautiful discovery true friends make is that they can grow separately without growing apart." As you cross through the Archway and step onto stage to receive your diploma, remember those sentiments as you depart Bryant University.

Friends, I am filled with excitement and emotion for all of you today. I am so lucky to share in your collective accomplishments and success!

You are the class that has helped me connect to Bryant and I thank you for that. Your passion, dedication, enthusiasm, drive and civic minds have impacted this institution and my life.

In the past few years, we have often heard the word, 'change.' "Work for change. Advocate for change. Change can happen." Many might feel the concept is belabored. I am inspired by it; and that is what you all represent to me. You are CHANGE— not the change we should fear, but change we embrace and nurture.

Find your passion. As Kouzes and Posner refer to in *The Leadership Challenge*, you as a class have enabled others to act by challenging the process and modeling the way. Please continue to challenge the world in that same way. Do not just set your sites on changing the world through your chosen profession, find your passion and continue to volunteer or get involved with organizations as you have done at Bryant for the last four years.

You make me laugh: sometimes out loud and not always at the most appropriate times. You are the types of students who know how to have fun. We have laughed through major programs, talents at competitions and just eating lunch on campus. You have helped us all deal with change and development sometimes using humor to soften the

blow. Together friends, we truly have had some fun together.

You inspire me: by letting go of leadership roles and transitioning others to continue to help Bryant change and grow. You have mentored and led by letting those students you worked with act and not just be directed. You were not always looking for the spotlight.

You've made me proud: by always showing your collective class spirit. You have such a passion for Bryant and for one another. As a class, you think of one another, nominate one another and recognize one another for success. To me, this is amazing. Your service efforts to the community through your classes, your organizations, your trips and your projects also stand out as another example of how you think of others.

You have made friendships that will last forever; you have demonstrated class spirit; and you have made impactful change on campus; now, "Be the change you want to see in the world," as Gandhi said. It is your time to make our global community better as you become a part of it!

Congratulations Graduates of 2009! Tears will be shed today because you all will be missed. I could not be more proud of the people you have become and I am anxious to see what you will achieve as you write the next chapter of your life..

Always,

John D. Lindsay



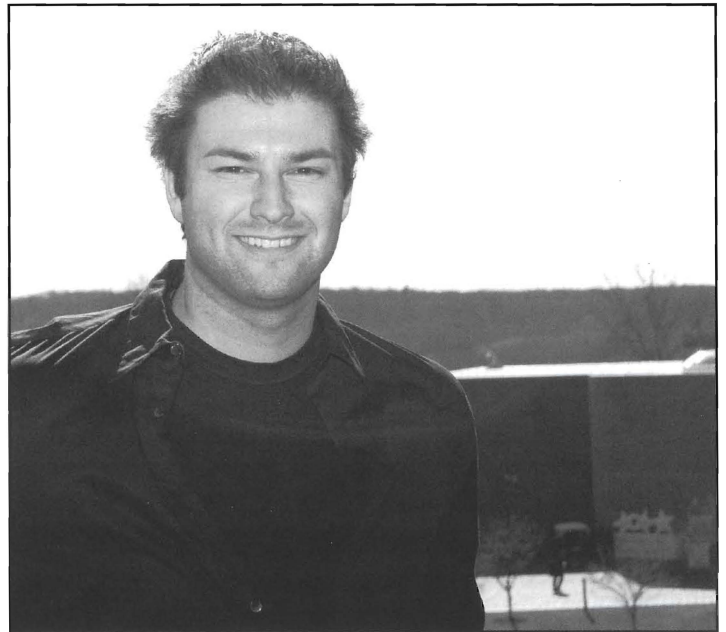
The first thing I would like to say is thank you. Thank you to my family, thank you to my friends, thank you to the faculty and administration, and thank you to everyone that I have met, even just briefly, over the past four years I have been at Bryant University. Whether you know it or not, you have impacted my life and helped me grow into the person I am as I walk through the Archway today.

As you sit in your chair under the big Commencement tent, trying to get a seat with a view of the stage rather than a tent pole or the back of a DPS officer, and read through these senior stories, you may forget what the college experience was all about. When I first received the email asking me to write this reflection and tell my “story” I was honored. After that feeling subsided, I realized that I had no clue what I wanted to say. I immediately employed one of the first things I became a master of at Bryant: procrastination. I think the main reason I avoided writing this until the day before it was due is because I didn’t want to face the fact that I am graduating. I also figured the more people I could talk to about it, the easier it would be to write. The suggestions I received were to “be funny” and “have a sarcastic flare.” These suggestions added the pressure of not only providing an inspirational senior story, but a funny one at that.

I could say that it’s not at every school that the President knows you by name and eats with you in the cafeteria, or that you can wake up at 11:50am and have no problem getting to class for 12pm, but I won’t. What I will say is that without a doubt, my experience at Bryant has shaped me into the strong person I am today. I started my freshmen year off slow, getting involved in a few activities but really focusing on my academics and having a smooth transition to college life. It wasn’t until my sophomore year that I found my two true callings: the Student Programming Board and the Leadership Development Program.

SPB was not only the organization that provided the greatest opportunity for free prizes, entertainment, and especially food (something that was of great importance during senior year when deciding whether I had to cook dinner or not), but it was an organization that opened many doors for me. Who could ask for more than working Spring Weekend concerts at zero dollars an hour and dealing with every possible problem and complaint? But seriously, this organization gave me the unique chance to plan events for the entire student body and gain an understanding of how things are run behind the scenes.

The Leadership Development Program was the other key to my Bryant career. As you look at the studly and confident person overlooking upper campus in this picture, you may not believe that I started the first level of the program as a shy and insecure sophomore. With the guidance of my peers, I learned how to be the student leader that I am



today; so I thank them for laughing at my sarcastic jokes and encouraging my extroversion. Taking advantage of everything the program had to offer, I eventually became a part of the Leadership Council. Probably the most enlightening position I held at Bryant, I was able to begin passing my experiences on to underclassmen while developing a relationship with the rest of the Council that was stronger than anything I had ever experienced. It is hard to say what brought us so close, but if I had to guess it would either be sleeping in tents every chance we had or the countless teambuilders we encountered.

As I step onto stage today, ready to step into the real world of graduation parties and having to travel more than across the street to visit a best friend, I have mixed emotions. Although I am excited to begin a career and put all the things I’ve learned over the past four years into practice, I am not looking forward to leaving daily campus life. As someone that regularly refers to Bryant as home and someone that leaves for class at least 15 minutes early just so I have enough time to talk to all the familiar faces on the way, Bryant is a place that I will truly miss. But if there is one thing that the past four years has taught me it is this; build relationships and stop at nothing to maintain them. Anything life throws at you can be overcome with the help and support of your friends.

Whether it is a freshmen year roommate turned lifelong friend who believed in you enough to spend his study time making workout plans to help you lose 50lbs during one year when you didn’t even believe in yourself, or an advisor and friend who constantly challenged you to improve, these people will do anything for you. I know that I put the needs of others before my own, but my time at Bryant has taught me that others will do the same for me. It’s hard to fit a reflection on four years in a single page, so I would like to conclude by saying thank you again, and good luck to the Class of 2009!



Amanda MacKay

Good morning Class of 2009 and guests! As we sit here and think about our future and what the next chapter is going to bring for us, I would like to pause and think about our past and the route we have taken to get us to these seats today.

At Bryant, we met the people “we couldn’t believe we ever lived without”, which for me was the girls of Tri Sigma and N8. We sang along with Mike Colletta at Rentes and made our own senior nights Thursday’s at Effins. We will never forget going around the world every year and spring weekends. We had Spring Breaks we will remember for the rest of our lives and a senior week that brought us all together to celebrate these four years.

However, I can’t help but think back a little further, to my parents, my grandparents and beyond. All hard workers and laborers, my grandfather who retired at 70 from the T, my grandmother who still gets up every morning to work at a deli, my father who built an entire construction company with nothing but hard work and determination, a brother that follows in his footsteps, and a mother who has dedicated her life to her children and raising them. Today I can’t help but be overwhelmed with gratitude and excitement as I acknowledge and pay tribute to the hard work it took so many MacKay’s to get me, the first one to receive a college diploma, to this point and yet even more emotions knowing that I will not be the last as my younger brother is preparing for his first semester this fall.

I would be lying if I were to say that the only way to be a success is to have a college degree, my family is living testament that that is just not true. But I’m going to let you in on a little secret, one that I learned years ago because of where I come from. And that is: what you are about to receive is not a right of passage, something we just deserve because everyone seems to be getting one now, it is so much more than that. This degree is a key. A key we have earned and worked hard for no matter what your individual path was to get here. And it’s not a key to success or fortune, though those may come, but to doors: doors to your passions, desires and dreams. It does not matter if you are like my roommate Alex, who will graduate here cum laude and wants nothing more than to be a stay at home mom, Court who wants to be an event planner, or a teacher- like myself. I say to them and the rest of you- go and do it, and do it to the best of your ability. Because the point is not what you want to do, but it’s that you can do it. The point is you now have the choices, options, and opportunities to make your wildest dreams come true- no matter what they are. In an economic time



where we are told to take whatever we can get and do whatever you are offered, I hope you don’t. I hope you hold tight to those dreams and don’t loosen your

**...you now have the
choices, options,
and opportunities
to make your
wildest dreams
come true...**

grip. I hope you take those passions and desires and you fulfill them to the fullest extent of your imagination. Realize that they are no longer just a far off dream but a reality.

Throughout our experience at Bryant we have learned a lot: how to deliver an e-pitch to investors, write a business plan, balance credits and debits, and much more. However, it is what I’ve learned outside the classrooms that I am truly grateful to Bryant for. Within our little Bryant

bubble we were able to grow and transform, pushing ourselves to our limits by taking on leadership roles, studying abroad, joining different clubs or teams, and writing essays for our entire graduating class to read. Through these things I hope you have learned what your passions are and I hope you let nothing stop you in the process of living it. Thank you and congratulations Class of 2009.

I still remember the day in middle school when our teacher asked us: "Who here thinks they will stay in Balatonfured for their entire lives?" I was one of the kids who raised a hand. I could not have been more mistaken. America was always just a fancy country far-far away on TV, a dream that seemed unreachable. We all heard about baseball, saw lacrosse the first time in the movie "American Pie" and wanted to play the strange game of American Football (we actually play football with our feet over the other side of the Atlantic). By today I know what "bunting" is, that a "long-stick middle" is not something dirty and I have run a flea-flicker play on the beach. As you can see, my journey has been long but educational.

From 2005 to 2009, Bryant was my home. Yes, officially: even my American license says so. It has been an amazing ride, and I am extremely glad to be part of Class of 2009. There are so many cliché sayings about college life, what you will remember and what you will not, how fast it is going to go by and how every moment should be experienced to the fullest. As a freshman I just nodded and let it go, thinking at the age of 18: come on, 4 years is more than 20% of my current lifetime. Well it has gone by really fast, but as Indiana Jones so eloquently put it: "It is not the years, it's the mileage."

And mileage we got. I cannot really see any other 4 year part of my life where I will grow this much academically, socially and emotionally. College is the only place where you can go to 3 classes, hopefully learning a bunch of new things, go to 3 parties, meeting a bunch of new people, sleep a little and do it again the next day. And what a great place Bryant was for this. And what makes this place so special is the people.

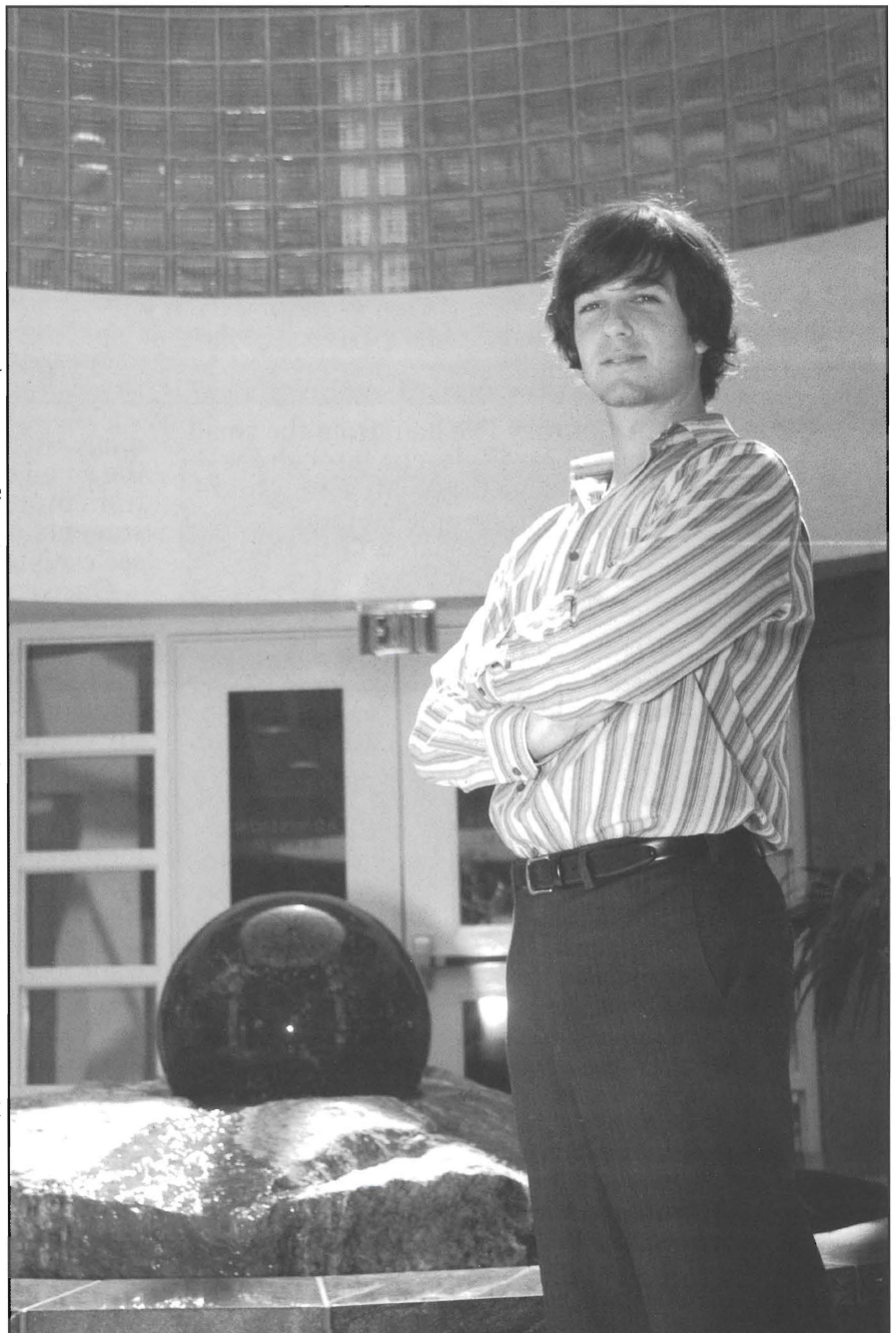
I have to thank a lot of people who made this experience so unique and rewarding for me. THANK YOU: Ramesh Mohan for not giving up on me; Laurie Bates for making me realize how much I love economics; Mike Roberto and Ken Sousa for the "road less travelled"; Michael Botaish for being the most annoying roommate and the best friend I could ask for; Delta Chi for true brotherhood; Lauren for teaching me that the world is not all about me (a lesson I've learnt too late); my American parents, Robin and Jim, for their never-ending support; Kristin for that cheerful smile that made my day so many times; my Mother, Ildiko, for preparing me to take on anything in the world; and of

course my Father, Laszlo, for the opportunities and supporting all my crazy endeavors.

To end, I'll just share one of the biggest lessons that I've learned during my college career (and from watching Forest Gump). The secret to succeeding in our personal and professional life is listening. Listen to what people tell you and take action accordingly. I do think it's that simple. Congratulations Class of 2009, the world will hear about us!

Live easy, love easy,

Nemo





Elizett Pires



What an amazing journey I've had, from the small islands of Cape Verde to my first steps through the Archway and across the stage today. My family and I came to America because of the opportunities available here, and now, 18 years later, I can truly say that I have been blessed with some great opportunities. Bryant has been the reason for some of the biggest ones I've had thus far. For this reason, I thank my family who sacrificed so much in order to help me get to where I am today.

The first of the many opportunities I've had at Bryant was to attend the Intercultural Center's 4MILE program. It was during those four days that I was challenged to get involved and not just be a "regular student." I'm proud to say that I rose to the challenge and found myself quickly jumping into the life of an extremely involved student.

As many of you may have done, I chose to dedicate most of my time to one organization at Bryant, MSU, serving as secretary for two years. The experiences I had and the relationships I formed within this organization led me to other opportunities such as serving as both a Bryant Experience Leader and an Orientation Leader. These positions taught me the importance of becoming a mentor and role model to fellow classmates so they can one day do the same for others.

To my amazement, there was still more that Bryant could offer me, the Leadership Development Program being one of the many things. This program has become the thing most dear to me here at Bryant

and what I owe the greatest thanks to. It was through my participation in this program and my time serving as a Leadership Council member that I realized what I really want to do in life. Now, I can go out and start a career I truly love rather than getting a job that I can just get by with.

As we are about to graduate, I still remember the first time I ever visited Bryant as if it were yesterday. I managed to show up on what was at the time the warmest day of the year. The bus pulled into campus and I gazed out the window noticing that everything just seemed to have a special glow to it. I went on a tour and I

remember passing so many welcoming smiles while being impressed with the small classrooms and the individual attention from professors. We passed the hundred or so students on the "Bryant beach" and continued on to see everything else Bryant was offering me.

Once it came down to decision time I chose Bryant thinking it would be the better decision for me, despite my years of planning to attend Northeastern. Looking back on all I've accomplished I know that the decision I made was definitely the right one. If I had the chance I would do it all over and am proud of myself for doing all that I could. I hope that you all can say the same.

I want to thank my fellow 2008 council members for making my time on council so special. I have learned so much from each one of you. I will always cherish you all for contributing to the growth I have experienced throughout these past four years. I also want to give a special thanks to Rich Hurley! Without your guidance, mentoring, friendship and so much more I would not be the young woman I am today. In the short time I've known you, I have grown to respect and admire you for all that you do. Bryant is really lucky to have you!!!

Lastly, I would like to thank all my friends, faculty, staff and administrators who have been here for me during my time at Bryant. Congratulations Class of 2009 and best of luck with all that you do!!!

I put off writing my senior reflection as long as I could. I even used my connections at The Archway to buy some time. In the end, I stopped worrying about leaving parts of my four years out and realized no one wants to read about every waking moment of your life. Instead, here's what my Bryant Experience has given me:

It's a fitting end to my Bryant career for me to be fortunate enough to appear in the Commencement Issue. I spent many long Wednesday nights in The Archway office, first as a writer, then as a copy editor, and finally as Editorial Assistant. Regardless of my role, I was always impressed by not only the efficiency but also the camaraderie on display each week.

When you're a member of a campus organization, it becomes a major part of your daily schedule. You work so closely with other students and understand them on a personal level. People often complain about their co-workers and even come to dislike them. Fortunately, my experiences with The Archway and Communication Society are two notable exceptions. I need to thank you for the countless ways you enhanced my life at Bryant. I wish you all the best and know we will stay connected.

I don't think I was completely ready for everything Bryant had to offer me when I started in 2005. More than most, I struggled with the idea of leaving my comfort zone and the only place I'd ever called home. But little did I know I would soon get a crash course in college life when I had the privilege of living with five upperclassmen football players. They taught a withdrawn freshman too worried about grades how to loosen up and live a little. From that point on the phone calls home and weekends off-campus grew further apart.

My eighth grade health teacher once told us, "High school will be some of the fastest four years of your life, and college will go by even faster." I didn't take him seriously then, but as I write this today I realize he proved me wrong. Recently I've found myself wondering what it would be like to be a sophomore again; whether I would do things differently if I knew then how quickly the years would pass. However, I'm not sure how much I would change.

As a class we've formed lifelong friendships, made a positive mark on campus life, and left an enduring impression on others along the way. This legacy and the growth we achieved will unite and carry us well beyond this four-year snapshot we spent at Bryant.

We came here as a diverse group of individuals. Today we continue our journeys as that same group of diverse individuals, only now we place our collective stamp on history as Bryant University's Class of 2009.

It always amazes me how life's random twists turn an uncertain situation into one of the greatest. Unexpected circumstances introduce you to people you may have otherwise never known. These people

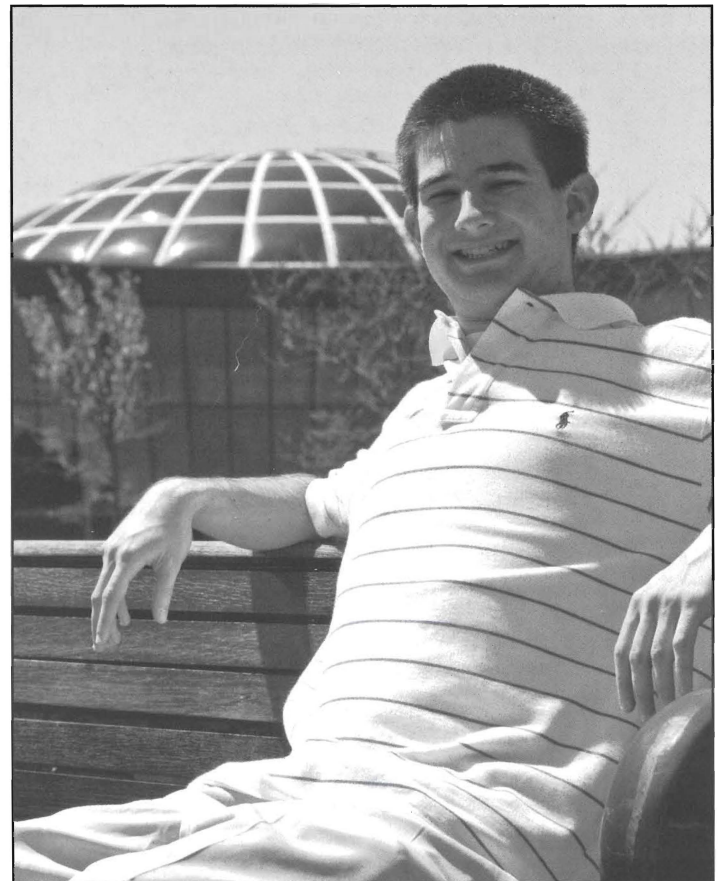
remain some of my closest friends. Such experiences showed me how rewarding it can be to step into the unknown – something I never thought possible before Bryant.

To my friends, friends who became roommates, and roommates who became friends – THANK YOU for keeping me laughing and accepting my (sometimes) ridiculous comments. I will cherish our time together and truly learned some of life's greatest lessons from you.

I lost someone immeasurably close to me this semester. Dr. Lee Birk was a central father figure to me. His guidance was absolutely critical to my development and success. While it hurts to know he can't watch me cross the stage at graduation, dedicating this reflection to him provides one way to say thanks. Lee's love for life and immense generosity will serve as a permanent fixture wherever life may take me.

Mom – you've given so much. Know that I appreciate your incredible advice and endless encouragement. To my sister, Lindsay – you know me better than I know myself. I am forever grateful for your companionship. To my Grandparents, Aunts, and Uncles – each of you has profoundly shaped my character for longer than I can remember through tireless positivity and pride. All my love and thanks.

Congratulations, Class of 2009! WE DID IT.





Seniors Speak Out - Your Favorite Memory

"My favorite memories of Bryant are when I was playing volleyball. My friends and teammates have always been there, no matter if I am playing on the Women's Volleyball team during our undefeated season, having fun during intramurals, or laughing in the sun on the beach courts. Without my friends, the memories and my Bryant experience would not have been the same."

~Maureen Atkins

"My best memory at Bryant are the friendships that I have made throughout my four years. I have had the opportunity to form friendships with some of the most amazing people, people who have made me who I am today. I will always remember all the great times we shared together."

~Matt Buttaro

As president of the Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization (CEO) I have been able to develop my leadership skills and embrace the true meaning of 'Character of Success.' This organization has had a profound effect on me and my time here, especially winning two national titles in Chicago, IL. The long lasting friendships and unforgettable experiences at Bryant University will be cherished for years to come.

~Tyler Fishback

"A quote by Jawaharlal Nehru, "Time is not measured by the passing of years but by what one does, what one feels, and what one achieves" which is why I can say I have made the most of my time here at Bryant. It has been through the friendships I have made and my involvements both in and outside the classroom that have shaped me to be the graduate I am, who will walk through the Archway on graduation day. I would like to conclude by saying thank you for the lessons learned, the friends made and the memories had that I will cherish forever."

~Danielle Malatesta

"Students have the unique opportunity to build their own business from the ground up with a team. Freshman year we create a business plan and use it as a tool to change our business from an idea to a reality. The company my team created, Future Stars LLC, is an educational magazine focused toward developing young minds in elementary school."

~Brian Robinson

"My favorite memory at Bryant was getting to connect with different students and administrators. Every one of them has had a different impact on my life. I will never forget what they have taught me and the lessons I have learned from them."

~Normand Duquette

"My favorite memory at Bryant happened my Freshman year during the senior night basketball game, the last home game of our season. This game was not just any game, but my good friend and teammate Pamela Malcolm's first and last college basketball game. Before coming to college Pam, a high school all-American athlete, was injured in a car accident which left her unable to walk, never mind play basketball again. Pam defied all odds and doctor's predictions by not only walking again but registering one minute and 2 points on the stat sheet in her senior game. In that moment I and the sold out crowd realized that life is precious and to live every minute to its fullest. Pam is and has been an amazing inspiration to my life and thinking about her story continually inspires me push myself in ways I could of never imagined, as well as achieve things I once only dreamed of. Thank you Pam."

~Stephanie Fontaine

"Designing, building, painting, stress, music, laughter, teamwork, friends. Working until the wee hours of the morning with the Bryant Players to produce a great show was not a chore, but the working of a dedicated group of friends having a good time."

~Del Gagnon

"My most memorable times at Bryant were spent on the set of i 2 i - cultural show. While overseeing the creation of i 2 i I met some of the most amazing people, learned how to put my creativity to work, make executive decisions and enjoy spending time with people from all walks of life. The friendships formed will never break and the memories will stay with me forever."

~Maria Musarskaya

Senior Service Awards

The Senior Service Award is a prestigious award presented to six deserving students of each graduating class. This award is designed to recognize students who have left an impact on the Bryant community through their outstanding service. A committee of peers chaired by Student Senate representative Jordan Letendre chose the recipients.

Nominees were evaluated on various criteria including; their contributions to the overall Bryant community, their participation in clubs or organizations, athletics, community service, campus employment, and/or academic/professional goals, as well as any additional personal achievements throughout their time at Bryant.

The six seniors selected to receive this years Senior Service Awards were among an exceptionally large, qualified pool of applicants. Furthermore each individual selected has and will continue to make lasting impacts on this campus. Each one of them exemplifies the award through their dedication and loyal service to the many committees, organizations, and projects with which they were involved. Congratulations to the 2009 Senior Service Awards Recipients:

Sasha M. Batista
Kimberly A. Franklin
Steven N. Branch
Samuel R. Schultz
John M. Crisafulli
Kelly Ann O'Connell

Senior Class Flag

Bryant University extends its gratitude to the late, Emeritus Honorary Trustee George J. Kelley '39, '69H for his generosity in providing ongoing support for the purchase and display of a graduating class flag. The 2009 Class Flag was designed by seniors from the Student Alumni Association – Hannah Jorgensen, Anne Koskey-Wagoner, Matthew Moore, Joseph Pelletier, and Hassan Zawawi.

The Senior Class Flag represents three themes the Class of 2009 was privileged to experience during their four years at Bryant. These themes exhibit highly unique attributes of Bryant University with special consideration towards Division I athletics, the growth of international programs, and the continued success students display in their personal and professional lives.

The bricks represent the strong connection students have at Bryant, linking all three major aspects: Character, Opportunity, and Success. The bulldog symbolizes character by representing the rise to Division I athletics and the merits associated with teamwork and camaraderie. The globe represents opportunity in conjunction to the newly founded Sophomore International Experience as well as the growth of our study abroad program. Lastly, the Archway and its tradition symbolize continued lifelong success.

The Senior Class Flag Committee chose to incorporate the theme they had entering Bryant University as freshman: "The World Will Be Mine in 2009". This statement encourages graduates of the Class of 2009 to seek new opportunities and to enter the world upon graduation prepared to make an impact.

Senior Class Gift

The Senior Class Gift Committee experienced an exciting year and shattered many University records. With the purpose of building lifelong connections between Bryant and its alumni as well as fostering philanthropy between the senior class and the University, the committee raised over \$30,000 with over 29% participation. History was made with the Class Gift Kick-Off Event on October 30th, 2008. Surpassing the event goal of \$7,000 and the University record of most money raised at a kick-off event, the committee raised over \$12,000 that night alone.

Going with the theme of the 2008 Presidential Election, donating seniors were allowed to vote for one of three choices for the class gift. The Class of 2009 chose to give two additional bronze bulldog statues to complete the entrance to the football stadium.

This year's theme "Expanding Our Horizons" encompasses the class of 2009's pioneering of the Sophomore International Experience program and the rise to Division I athletics. This year's Champagne Toast, the final event for the Class Gift Campaign,

was held at President and Mrs. Machtley's new residence, the Callahan House.

The committee was co-chaired by Normand Duquette, Hannah Jorgensen, and Anne Koskey-Wagoner, and consists of Jenna Coates, Christine Lorefice, Maria Musarskaya, Joseph Pelletier, Del Gagnon, Rachel Martinich, Kevin Douglass, Jillian Emma, Matthew Moore, Aisha Whichard, Jason Hurtubise, Sasha Batista, Hassan Zawawi, Craig Namerow, Benjamin Healy, Alyssa Quattropiani, Kevin Douglass, Elizett Pires, and Alicia Haelen.

Our advisors, Susan Detri-Souve and John Lindsay, put many hours into our campaign and it would not have been successful without them. Thank you to the entire class of 2009 for your support and donations. We wish everyone the best of luck in all your future endeavors. See you at the class gift dedication!



From the editor's desk: John Crisafulli

Who knew four years would go by so fast?

Four years – it seems like an eternity as you embark on your college career. Plenty of time to do all the things you want to do, to meet all the people you want to meet, and have all experiences you have been looking forward to.

Freshman year arrives and you join a few clubs, read a few books, learn a few things (or more we hope), make a few friends, and have a whole lot of good times. The year flies by before you even know it. Sophomore year, you up the ante, get more involved, maybe branch out and make some new friends, maybe plan a semester abroad. The year flies by again, you wonder where the time goes. You start to sound like your parents.

Junior year hits and now it is time to get down to business. You start to really concentrate on your major, start looking for internships, maybe take a leadership role. You may even be starting think “post-grad.” You feel yourself “growing up” but still the time flies. Your last summer break hits. The realization that your senior year is upon you hits - time is flying.

You come back to campus one last time. You make big plans, study hard, celebrate, take in every moment, and start looking towards the future. People start to ask what your plans are. What's next? Time is flying and it is time to make some decisions. You come back from winter break to roller coaster through the spring semester. Hang on for the ride – it's not stopping until May. There's not enough time! Awards ceremonies, senior week, and Commencement – all in a flash. The next chapter begins.

An advisor and dear friend once gave me a card at my birthday with a quote by John Burrows which states, “I still find each day too short for all the



thoughts I want to think, all the walks I want to take, all the books I want to read and all the friends I want to see.” I have kept that card on the bulletin board above my desk since it was given to me. It speaks to me, as I am sure that it does to many of you as you look back on your time at Bryant and prepare to start the next chapter of your life.

**Time may be
money but time is
yours to control -
make the most of
it.**

You may look back and think about all the things you didn't do. But regret gets you no where. Instead, think about all the great things that you accomplished, all the great people you met, and all the memories that you will take with you for the rest of your life.

Time may be money but time is yours to control – make the most of it. Take time to do the things you want to do, spend time with the ones you love, and constantly

reflect on your accomplishments and growth. Make time for the small things, the moments that give your life purpose and meaning and I assure, at the end of each chapter, you will never look back and wonder where the time went – you will know, and you will be at peace.

From the Dean of Students

Class of
2009



Dear Graduates:

Congratulations on achieving the goal of completing your Bryant degree. It has required a huge investment of time and money and it is a real prize. You have reached a valued goal. You have developed academically and socially, and your class includes pioneers in the Sophomore International Experience. In addition to a great education, I hope you had a good time.

This is also a great time to acknowledge one of the great realities of life; our best work is never ours alone. In most cases, there are others who assist us. Now is the time to say thanks and show your appreciation to all of those who have played some special role in your time here and in reaching this goal.

Commencements are times when we celebrate the great accomplishments. You came here one person and are leaving another. You have skills and qualities which will support your personal and professional success, but you must continue to grow. Find friends and colleagues that will help and challenge you. My guess is that some

people who championed your efforts here will continue to support you as you move on. Lifelong learning is essential for all of us.

You have been at Bryant during an exciting time. Keep in touch. We want to know how you are doing and we want you to know what is going on here. The Alumni Association provides a means to that end through its publications, programs and events.

As you leave, Marj and I wish you well and thank you for enriching our lives and helping us keep learning in this great community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. T. Eakin". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Dr. J. Thomas Eakin
Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

