You went to Bryant, and got a degree in what?

BRYANT CONSTANTLY EVOLVES
If you graduated from Bryant in the 1950s or later, you might not realize that Bryant once offered majors and concentrations such as secretarial studies, criminal justice/law enforcement, and teacher education, among others.

“Bryant is constantly evolving,” says Professor Mary Lyons, chair of the curriculum committee. “When those programs were offered, they were the best available, and there was a real need for graduates in those areas.”

In fact, Bryant has transformed from a chain of commercial colleges geared toward teaching Civil War veterans penmanship and bookkeeping to a university with a College of Business and a College of Arts and Sciences.

PROGRAMS DON’T DISAPPEAR
Bryant is tuned to the emerging needs of industry and society. “We innovate to meet the demands our graduates will face in their careers,” says President Ronald K. Machleit. “We challenge ourselves to always improve, knowing our students and alumni want and deserve nothing less.”

What’s most important, emphasizes Professor Lyons, is that programs don’t disappear—“they become the basis or the core of new areas of study.” If a program, such as law enforcement, hadn’t been done, and done well, we could not have sociology, psychology, communication, and politics and law majors,” says Professor Lyons.

Pursuing Her Dreams
Donna Jo (Tortorella) Kahl ’75

If you graduated from Bryant in the 1950s or later, you might not realize that Donna was a former Bryant major, and one faculty member.

Donna enjoyed a successful career in law enforcement because I knew it would get me to my goal the quickest.”

Though a birth defect in her eye prevented her from achieving that high school dream, Donna enjoys a successful career on the West Coast. “I’m the principal director for security and safety with The Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo, CA.”

What’s most important, emphasizes Donna, is that programs don’t disappear—“they become the basis or the core of new areas of study.”

New Venture competition and Achievement Awards deadlines are due December 1, 2010

The deadline to enter the Alumni New Venture competition and/or to nominate someone for an Alumni Achievement Award is December 1. These two events will highlight an exciting day of competition and celebration of successes on March 25, 2011.

We will begin with lunch and presentations by the finalists in the Alumni New Venture competition. The day culminates with a dinner and recognition of at least four alumni and one faculty member for their contributions to business, the community, and Bryant with the annual Alumni Achievement Awards. The New Venture competition winner will be announced at the Alumni Achievement Awards dinner.

ALUMNI NEW VENTURE COMPETITION
Joesl Maza ’95 (Glastonbury, CT) saw the announcement for a new business plan contest in the July Alumni Bulletin and thought this was the perfect time to harness the idea he'd been cultivating for the past few years. “The timing was really good for me,” he says. “I’d been thinking about the new business idea, but I hadn’t been able to gauge interest or need.”

Bryant has a strong history of entrepreneurship, including our many graduates who are affiliated with BRYCOL and, more recently, our outstanding College Entrepreneur Organization and our award-winning Students in Free Enterprise Organization. Our contest, which is coordinated by the Office of Alumni Relations, the Management Department, and the Entrepreneurship Program is designed to spotlight alumni enterprise, support promising new ventures, and award a $50,000 cash prize to the winning team.

Terry Bishop ’65 (New Smyrna Beach, FL) is excited to have a forum to finally present his business idea—one he’s thought of while flying helicopters in Vietnam. “My product is game-changing,” he says, “and it has world-wide applications.” Terry’s fluoride-enhanced chewing gum has already received FDA approval. Now he just needs the capital to get started.

If you’ve always wanted to launch your own enterprise, DO NOT DELAY! Business plans for the 2011 Alumni New Venture competition are due December 1, 2010.

For more information, go to www.bryant.edu/alumninewventure

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Nomination forms for the 2011 Alumni Achievement Awards are now available online. The Awards Selection Committee, which comprises members of the National Alumni Council, students, and faculty, review all nominations and vote on the winners. Deadline for 2011 nominations is December 1, 2010.

For more information, go to www.bryant.edu/aaa
Biology major
A major in Biology provides excellent preparation for careers in the health sciences, biomedical research, physical therapy, biotechnology, pharmaceutical science, and more! Bryant builds upon its long-standing background in science to establish this major.

Human Resource Management concentration
Long an area of study and a minor at Bryant, Human Resource Management is now a concentration offered by the Management Department. Many firms now recognize that human capital is a source of competitive advantage in the global marketplace, and the HRM concentration prepares graduates to make strategic decisions.

Added concentrations in International Business major
Bryant’s Bachelor of Science in International Business has added two concentrations – Accounting and Entrepreneurship – to the four existing: CIS, Finance, Management, and Marketing. The program is one of the few in the country that offers concentrations, resulting in students who have broad exposure to international business issues as well as a depth of understanding of a particular field.

Biology as a major and minor are timely additions as the world is poised on the precipice of unprecedented biological and technical innovation.

Regional Alumni Network (RAN) events

June 3 – Monica Muello Mawhinney ’89 and Michael Langlois ’96 along with 45 other Connecticut area alumni enjoyed trying the micro beers at the Thomas Hooker Brewery in June.

June 13 – Among the guests for a Chicago wine tasting hosted by alumnus Dustin Goldstein were (l-r) Erica and Erik Zipp ’05, Tracey and Jay Weinberg ’85, Marcus Lindsey ’08, Bunmi Akinmussotu ’03, Inma Morales and Dustin Goldstein ’95, Tiffany Garry ’08, and faculty member Jack Trifts.
In April 2009, Don Lariviere ’89 led a team of Staples employees to Amsterdam, where he discovered the benefit of internal communications for Europe. Although his business-travel has mainly been to the United Kingdom and France, he still enjoys sightseeing at Amsterdam’s many attractions. “I dove in headfirst and took advantage of the fantastic curriculum,” he says.

At the end of the day, my former manager at Staples translated into as many as 15 languages. “Some of those are presented to Bryant students is relevant to them in any field they may choose to enter.”

As he begins her 41st year of teaching at Bryant, she is still evolving along with the courses. “Right now, I’m thinking about working with the Entrepreneurship and Marketing departments to create a course on social environments in which students become working professionals before they ever leave campus.”

At graduation Christina was presented with the George J. Kelley Award for having the highest cumulative grade point average. She was also named as the Class of 2010’s Recent Alumni Trustee to serve on the Bryant board of trustees.

What she’ll remember most from her time at Bryant, she claims, is the support she received from her mentors and peers. “All of them were so encouraging,” says Christina. “They each demonstrated that they genuinely care.”

Read Don’s full profile at www.bryant.edu/donlariviere

Read Mary’s full profile at www.bryant.edu/maryl Lyons

Read Christina’s full profile at www.bryant.edu/christinashaw
THE AMICA CENTER FOR CAREER EDUCATION: A VALUED PARTNER FOR ALUMNI

Bryant’s award-winning Amica Center for Career Education is committed to the University community. Even in the difficult economy, Bryant graduates enjoy a stellar employment and graduate placement rate.

96 to 98.5% of graduates of the classes of 2005 to 2009 were employed or enrolled in graduate school within six months of Commencement. Mean first-year compensation is $50,160 for graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Business.

As an alumnus/a, whether you are just starting out, thinking about your next career move, or in a position to help Bryant students with their professional development, the Amica Center has programs that may be of interest to you. Did you know that 500+ alumni offer students career advice and networking opportunities as part of the Amica Center Career Link?

Students report they learned so much from the 100+ alumni who introduced them to their field of expertise and places of employment as part of the Alumni/Student Shadow Program.

Career panels on campus are enriched and enlivened by the dozens of alumni who share their knowledge and experience with Bryant students. Bryant students make a positive impression on the alumni who participate in the Annual Career Fair or our Corporate Recruiting or Academic Internship Programs.

Our Student/Alumni Networking Events are among our most popular programs. 100+ alumni networked with students at recent Student/Alumni Career Nights in NYC, Boston, and Hartford. Save the dates for this January’s programs: Thursday, January 6, in Boston at PwC, and Wednesday, January 12, in NYC at Oppenheimer.

Other Amica Center resources available to alumni include a variety of workshops, programs, and special events in addition to an expansive collection of online and library career-related resources.

Did you know that 1,500+ alumni receive The Job Source, a weekly e-mail newsletter of full time employment opportunities?

For more information about the Amica Center for Career Education, go to www.bryant.edu/career, e-mail careers@bryant.edu, or call (401) 232-6090.

To register for the January Student/Alumni Career Nights, visit www.bryant.edu/alumnievents.

Regional Alumni Network (RAN) events

August 25 – A sold-out crowd packed Tavolino’s following a great tour of the Patriot’s Hall Museum in Foxboro. Back row left to right: Chris Pintarich ’02, Justin Puhlick ’01, Michael Aud ’04, and Robin Richardson. Front row left to right: Kaitlyn (Spinelli) Pintarich ’03, ’09 MBA, Laura Carneiro ’01, and Christina Ferrari ’97.

August 26 – Standing room only at the well attended AVA Garden Rooftop Reception in Manhattan, NY. The abundance of blue shirts was a coincidence not a requirement.
1. In the mid-thirties, Bryant students hailed from 36 states and several foreign countries. Though the number states represented by students remains about the same, Bryant’s push for internationalization and diversity in its student body has resulted in students from 54 countries coming to the University.

2. James Cash Penney, the founder and chairman of the board of the J.C. Penney Company, received an honorary degree in 1935. Nearly 450 honorary degrees have been awarded since 1900. Other prominent recipients have been George H.W. Bush, Bill Cosby, Alan Greenspan, and Rosa Parks.

3. Professor Wallace Camper organized Bryant’s first study-abroad program in 1963. Students boarded the SS France for 41 days in Western Europe to learn about international trade and European businesses. Today, Bryant students can study in 46 countries.

Part of her success, says Donna, is due to a course she took outside her major: Introduction to Management. As a director with nearly 100 employees reporting to her from a dozen offices around the U.S., she uses managerial skills constantly.

“Managing is the same whether you are managing a business or a law enforcement agency,” says Donna.

DODGING THE BULLETS
Charlie Boklan ’73 (Ardsley, NY) spent 23 years in the United States Secret Service and 10 more in combined local, county, and state law enforcement positions after receiving a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. What he’s noticed is that most law enforcement positions now require a college education not limited to the law enforcement/criminal justice areas of study.

“The Secret Service purposely keeps its degree and experience requirements open ended,” he says. “Federal law enforcement agencies such as the Secret Service, FBI, ICE, and DEA would be interesting careers for any major.”

Charlie advises that careers in law enforcement are more “bullet-proof” than those in for-profit companies. “Most Bryant law enforcement and criminal justice graduates that I remain in contact with did very well in their chosen careers,” he says, “effectively dodging the bullets of economic downturns and mergers and acquisitions that dot the career paths of many of my friends in corporate America.”

WHAT’S NEXT FOR BRYANT ALUMNI
Bryant continues to build on existing programs to create innovative programs in the College of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Recently, Bryant introduced new concentrations in entrepreneurship and human resource management. In the College of Arts and Sciences, students gain hands-on experience studying environmental science and biology in a new, nearly 10,000-square-foot lab space that features teaching labs and more than $500,000 worth of equipment. (See “What’s New” on p. 2 for more new programs.)

Director of Alumni Relations Robin Warde encourages alumni to find the similarities in their Bryant experiences. “I think alumni will find that sharing stories of their time at Bryant will yield a camaraderie they may not have thought they had,” she says. “We hope Bryant alumni from all years will stay in touch with classmates through our online directory or by attending RAN events.”

Both Donna and Charlie stay involved as much as time and distance allows. “I would like to see more West Coast alumni attend events,” says Donna. Charlie adds, “I’d love to participate in a project to bring law enforcement/criminal justice graduates together.”

To see a list of Bryant’s current majors, concentrations, and areas of study, go to www.bryant.edu/undergradprograms.

September 21 – Manny Samaniego ’94, Kathi (Jurewicz) Puishys ’81, Eleni Liapakis ’97 and Ed Capasso ’77 were among the nearly 20 alumni who gathered in Newport Beach to reconnect and network at Sol Cocina overlooking the marina.

September 16 – Jack Cutlip ’74 with Ann-Marie Carroll, were among the more than 60 guests enjoying the private tour and tasting at the RI RAN Sakonnet Vineyards event in Little Compton, RI.

August 26 – Ann and Art Kukla ’54 were greeted by the Bridgeport Bluefish mascot at the Connecticut Regional Alumni Network event game and BBQ held in a luxury box at the stadium.
Gregory Fiske ‘77 chose to attend Bryant because he wanted a business education, commuting to keep the cost down and to be able to keep working through college. Joining the U.S. Navy after graduation, Greg attended Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI, and was commissioned a Supply Corps Officer. He graduated from the Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, GA, in June 1978.

“My Bryant education in business management and accounting was very helpful in my Navy career, especially as being a Supply Corps officer is like being a business person,” Greg says. “We are responsible for inventories, food service, procurement, payroll, all sorts of logistics and the like.”

The Supply Corps motto, Greg notes, is “Ready for the sea,” and a popular expression for the corps’ mission is “Beans, bullets, and black oil,” basic logistics for serving the feet.

“During five years on active duty, I learned a lot, saw the world and had huge responsibilities and experiences I would have never had in a typical career,” says Greg. “I stayed with the reserves for 17 more years, and retired as a Commander.”

After leaving active duty in 1982, Greg went to work for his father, Fred Fiske, at Anchor Insulation, which was a two-year-old startup. Today, Anchor, which provides thermal, acoustical, and structural insulation for industrial, commercial, residential, and marine industries, employs more than 100 people with two branches in Connecticut, one in Rhode Island, and one in Massachusetts.

Anchor is a family company. Greg works with his brothers Jerry and Eric, and his sister Kim Whyte. Greg also works with his wife Terrie, her brother Gary and Kim Whyte’s husband Doug. Greg and Terrie’s son Tyler works in Connecticut for Eric. Anchor is also a company with multiple Bryant connections.

Eric Fiske ‘81 graduated from Bryant in 1981 with a marketing degree. His wife Marsha (Anderson) Fiske is a member of the class of 1980. Eric joined Anchor in 1985. Eric, a company vice president, runs the company’s Connecticut operation.

Greg and David Oberg ’78 have been friends since junior high school when they worked together in their teens in a family business. Dave joined Anchor about 13 years ago, after a varied career in retail accounting. He is a vice president and the company’s chief financial officer.

Greg, Anchor’s president, says his Bryant education continues to help him in business, where understanding accounting statements, banking, cash flow, and planning, are critical.
Two couples who graduated from the East Side campus visited the Smithfield campus this September for the first time and passed through the Archway.

Be sure to contact the Office of Alumni Relations if you plan to visit. We will do everything possible to make your stopover a memorable one.

E-mail alumni@bryant.edu or call (401) 232-6040 with your expected date of arrival.

Alumni abroad

Ni hao, Bryant University
Alumni, faculty, and students traveled to the other side of the world with the Bryant alumni and U.S.-China Institute trip in June. They visited Beijing, Chengdu, Yangtze River Cruise, and the World Expo in Shanghai, China. Here the group poses in Tiananmen Square in Beijing. (L-R, kneeling): Professor Judy Barrett Litoff, Maggie James ’77, Jason Forlin ’12, Professor Caytha Langkos, and Tom Pagliarini ’71; (L-R, standing): Rita Williams-Bogar ’76, Bryant trustee; Annette Iacono; Daniel Del Regno ’05; Mimi Zeng; Barbara Anderson ’79, ’85 MBA; Sarah Shea, Ed Shea ’70, ’74 MBA; E. Gardner Jacobs, Jr.; and Donna Harris, associate director of Alumni Relations.

Cheerio, Bryant University
Bryant students interning in London gathered at a local pub with Bryant alumni. Pictured in front are Judy Clare, director of the Amica Center for Career Education, and Dawn (Generous) Kelly ’93 along with daughter Ruby.

June 23 – Bryant President Ronald K. Machtley lines up in Washington, D.C., with former football players Shanel Anthony ’02, ’03 MBA, Saddi Williams ’06, and Barrington Little ’08.

June 23 – Bryant students Spencer Pace ’11, Meaghan Delaney ’11, and alumnus Garrett Goldstein ’93 were among 35 guests in Washington, D.C., at an event hosted by alumnus Tom Hewitt ’68.

June 12 – Rain delays didn’t stop the fun for Bryant alumni and their families gathered for the Bryant BBQ at the Paw Sox in June. Raymond DeLauriers ’68 brought his son, David, and grandsons, Jason and Adam, out to the ballgame out to the ballgame at McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket, RI.
Former Bryant classmates celebrated their 40th birthdays this year with a reunion on Cape Cod. This group renewed the tradition of going to the Cape Cod house of John Cirello ’92 every September for an overnight stay. The seven friends, all members of the class of 1992, came up with this idea and photographs, visit our Web site at www.bryant.edu and click on the “Alumni” and “Alumni News” links.

www.bryant.edu

Contact Us

To submit personal or professional news and photographs, visit our Web site at www.bryant.edu and click on the “Alumni” and “Alumni News” links. Contact us at alumni@bryant.edu or (401) 232-6040 with questions or ideas for future stories.

Stay In Touch

Find us on LinkedIn and Facebook by searching “Bryant University Alumni Association” or “Bryant alumni” and selecting the option that suits your situation on the left bar of the Web page.

Alumni mini reunions on the Cape

The Sigma Lambda Theta “girls” 40+ years held their third Theta-Harriett Hall Reunion last August on Cape Cod. Getting ready for a night of rocking to the Beach Boys music, the 1967-1968 sisters gathered for a photo op: Back row: Joanna (Orzech) Reed, Judy (Kripp) Heath, Laurie (Mandi) Shifrin, Fran (Valadi) Brewer. First row: Linda (Skogoss) Hoefel, Doris (Thompson) Lindgren, Karen (Paclat) Johnson. Missing from this photo is Joyce (Monteiro) O’Connell who joined the group on Sunday.

Alumni Weddings

It was nothing but alumni as far as the eye could see at the wedding nuptials of Stephanie Pavone ’09 and Scott Swetz ’07 on June 12.

Submit your “Partnerships” and “Additions” to the Office of Alumni Relations by e-mailing alumni@bryant.edu or by entering a class note via our online directory at www.bryant.edu/alumni. Send wedding photos that feature a group of Bryant alumni to alumni@bryant.edu. Resolution of photos should be “print-quality” (generally 300 pixels/inch).

Alumni Bulletin staff

MANAGING EDITOR
Robin Torbron Warde

LEAD WRITER
Tina Samuelsen ’95, MBA

DESIGNER/PRODUCTION
Coulter + Bass

EDITORS/WRITERS
Dave Cramshaw ’08 MBA
Robin Torbron Warde
Karen Maguire
Stasia B. Walmsley

CALENDAR AND RAIN LASON
Kathleen Brown

LOYAL GUARD LASON
Dorrie Harris

ALUMNI WEBMASTER
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PARTNERSHIP/ADVERTISING
Vido Pappin
PROOFREADER
Claudette Pietro

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