
BOSTON COLLEGE NEIGHBOR

Office of Governmental and Community Affairs

Summer 2020

A message from Vice President Tom Keady

Dear Neighbor:

As we embark on academic year 2020 at Boston College, it is my sincere hope that you and your family are healthy and staying safe during the challenging times we are all facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we have been diligently planning and preparing to re-open Boston College, it is safe to say that the five months leading up to start of the fall semester were unlike any others in years past.

During the spring and summer months following the onset of the pandemic, the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs turned its attention to coordinating and funding COVID-19 relief efforts. Partnering with BC Dining Services, generous vendors, the City of Boston and community based organizations in both Boston and Newton, the University prepared food donations and delivered 1500-2000 meals a week, as well as bread, yogurt, grocery gift cards, diapers and ice cream for local youth attending summer camps. We are particularly proud of our “Eagles for Others” efforts and more detail can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.



The fall semester started with student move-in by appointment only and COVID-19 testing for over 18,000 faculty, staff, and students. Over the summer, BC secured a facility for student isolation and quarantine and established a contact tracing program operated by University Health Services with assistance from the state Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC) and local health departments. All returning undergraduate students were required to read and sign the Eagles Care Pledge which set health and safety protocols and expectations for behavior for the upcoming year. Communication reinforcing BC’s requirements for undergraduate students to wear masks, physically distance and prohibit any large gatherings either on or off-campus was sent to all students and parents.

Classes are being taught in a mix of in-person, on-line and hybrid modes using Zoom and other technologies. Classrooms have been reorganized to promote physical distancing and are limited to 50% capacity. Many University offices and departments are operating on an alternate-day or staggered work schedules and dining halls are providing meals on a grab-and-go basis. The 2020 football season includes 10 ACC games, no spectators and essential game day personnel only in Alumni Stadium. For the most current information and updates on re-opening including BC’s dashboard of tests administered and test results, please visit <http://www.bc.edu/reopen>

In major construction updates, work continued over the spring and summer months on the Institute for Integrated Science and Society (IISS) building in Newton and the Pete Frates Center in Brighton. The University is on schedule to open the new science building in December of 2021 and the new indoor practice and support facility for the baseball and softball programs in late October of 2020.

While we are not able to gather in-person this fall for special events like the POPS on the Heights scholarship fundraiser, a homecoming football game, or have a docent-led tour of the fall exhibit at the McMullen Museum of Art, I encourage you to find ways to stay engaged with BC by participating in some of our academic lectures and cultural events that are being offered in a virtual format. If you have any questions or comments regarding information in the newsletter, please feel free to contact me or a member of my office staff at (617) 552-4787.

Joy Moore named inaugural executive director of Pine Manor Institute for Student Success

Vice President for Student Affairs Joy Moore will become the inaugural executive director of the Pine Manor Institute for Student Success, which will oversee outreach and academic support programs for underrepresented, first-generation, low-income students at both Boston College and Pine Manor College, which integrated with Boston College this summer.

Key offices at Boston College engaged in supporting underserved students, including Learning to Learn, Options through Education, and the Thea Bowman AHANA and Intercultural Center, will be placed under the umbrella of the Pine Manor Institute for Student Success, which Moore will lead while continuing her duties in Student Affairs. All of Pine Manor's approximately 200 students will have access to BC's support programs through the Institute. With the \$50 million endowment established by Boston College, the Institute will also link Pine Manor College students to such BC campus programs as the Volunteer and Service Learning Center and 4Boston.

Boston College and Brookline-based Pine Manor College, a 111-year old private liberal arts college whose recent financial struggles had threatened its re-accreditation, signed an agreement on July 1 to integrate the two institutions in a common mission to serve first-generation, high-financial need students. Under the agreement, Pine Manor College students will remain at their school in a "teach out" arrangement for a period of up to two years. Students currently enrolled at Pine Manor will be able to continue their Associate of Arts or Bachelor of Arts degree programs in classes taught by Pine Manor faculty on the Pine Manor College campus. Pine Manor College students who gain admission to Boston College's Woods College of Advancing Studies can finish their Bachelor of Arts degree at Boston College.

The University's integration of Pine Manor College, which serves a population that is 85 percent students of color, 84 percent first generation, and 80 percent low income, was praised by New England Commission of Higher Education President Barbara Brittingham, who described it as "an exemplary model of what can happen when schools look to one another as potential partners in pursuit of the common good."

-Jack Dunn, University Communications



Joy Moore (Lee Pellegrini)

Community Assistance Program



Run by the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs in conjunction with the Office of Student Conduct, the Community Assistance Program (CAP) continues to enhance the relationship between the wider community and Boston College's on- and off-campus students.

Steve Montgomery, the

Off-Campus Student Community Liaison, working closely with the Boston Police, Newton Police and BC Police, responds to disturbance calls and addresses concerns of the community.

Steve monitors areas where large numbers of off-campus students live on weekend nights (including Thursdays),

and other high activity dates during the academic year. Starting this summer, Steve discussed social distancing with our off-campus students & passed out masks. This effort is ongoing.

Students needing help with city services, landlords, and their neighbors should feel free to contact

the CAP program.

To contact CAP on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday evenings, contact the Boston College Police at [617-552-4440](tel:617-552-4440). You can also contact Steve during the rest of the week at 617-552-6028 or stephen.montgomery@bc.edu

OGCA leads COVID-19 community relief efforts



Delivery to Huntington YMCA



Brazilian Worker Center Food Pantry

Shortly after the start of the pandemic, Boston College and the Office of Governmental & Community Affairs recognized the many needs in the community, in particular around food insecurity, and began a partnership with the City of Boston and local community organizations operating food pantries serving thousands of residents on a weekly basis.

Working with Boston College Dining Services (BCDS) and generous donors like Rich's Food Service, Signature Bread, Piantedosi Baking Company and Stonyfield Yogurt, the University prepared and delivered approximately 1500 nutritious meals per week, bread and yogurt donations to assist the Brazilian Worker Center, the City of Boston Shelter System via Commonwealth Kitchen, the Huntington Avenue and Oak Square YMCA, the West End House, the McNamara House, St. Anthony's Church Food Pantry, and the Grant Manor Food Pantry. Through these efforts and BC Dining's Curbside for a Cause, the University was able to assist over 200,000 community members in need, keep our employees working and put quality perishable food to good use to benefit the broader community.

Additionally, OGCA and BCDS answered the call of the Boston Fire Department to assist the Teen Fire Academy by preparing and delivering 80 box lunches (Mon-Thurs) for an eight week summer leadership/mentoring program operating at White Stadium in Dorchester and the Moon Island BFD Training facility. In Newton, the donation of tubs of cool, refreshing ice cream brought smiles to the faces of children attending summer day camps at the West Suburban YMCA and the John M. Barry Boys and Girls Club.

Working with Mayor Walsh, the BPDA and the BC Task Force, Boston College utilized \$125,000 from the University's Neighborhood Improvement Fund (NIF) to purchase food and non-perishable food products like shelf-stable milk to supplement donations, diapers and Stop & Shop grocery store gift cards, as well as made a donation to the City of Boston Resiliency Fund. After food, the largest need and most frequently requested item by the community was diapers. In response, BC purchased 161,000 diapers from Medline and had them delivered to our warehouse facility over the summer. Utilizing the Boston College Neighborhood Center (BCNC) for satellite storage, OGCA and BCNC staff have delivered over 110,000 diapers to various partners including the Allston-Brighton Diaper Pantry at PSF, the Brazilian Worker Center, the Family Nurturing Center, Charles River Community Health Center, the Martha Eliot Health Center, and the West End House.

In addition, the University announced the Community Fund Essential Services Grant round in late March. A total of \$40,300 was awarded in April to eighteen Allston-Brighton organizations providing direct services to Allston-Brighton residents. As COVID-19 continues, we are expanding our efforts to help children and families by purchasing infant formula.

BC Read Aloud, virtually

The global COVID-19 pandemic has brought disruption to nearly all aspects of daily life. For the 52 current and retired Boston College employees who participate in the University's award-winning Read Aloud program, it meant school closings and the end to classroom visits with the students at St. Columbkille Partnership School and Thomas Edison K-8 School, both in Brighton.

But Read Aloud volunteer John O'Grady, facility operations manager in the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, found a creative way to stay connected to the second-graders at St. Columbkille. On his own, he recorded a video where he read



Read Aloud volunteer John O'Grady

aloud *The Night Before St. Patrick's Day*. He sent his virtual read aloud to SCPS second-grade teacher Kaitlyn Moran who shared O'Grady's video via SeeSaw, the platform the school is using for students.

"The kids loved it!" Moran wrote in an email. Others responded by uploading videos or pictures of leprechauns and leprechaun traps—ideas from the book.

O'Grady, who has been participating in Read Aloud for 19 years, said he was inspired by his daughter Alanna, a creative director at The Paint Bar who was using Zoom and Facebook Live to reach out to children.

After learning that O'Grady had created a video, Read Aloud coordinator Laura Bitran of the Office of Government and Community Affairs

emailed all the Read Aloud participants suggesting they create videos and send them to the teachers. Information Technology Services Assistant Manager Jon McGrath held a Google Hangout to help any readers needing assistance in creating videos.

"This a terrific demonstration of how we can create new possibilities in order to curtail the fear among us while also respecting social distancing," said Bitran, who added that a number of other volunteer readers have gone on to create videos for their classrooms as well. "It's a way for us to show the children and our school partners that we have not forgotten them."

-Kathy Sullivan, University Communications

McMullen Museum update

While The McMullen Museum remains temporarily closed, please visit and learn with us online at McMullen From Home. Check out our events page for virtual exhibition tours, *Into the Collection* features, *Museum Current* lectures, and *Crash Course* workshops.

We hope to reopen to the public with Taking Shape: Abstraction in the Arab World, 1950s–1980s on January 25,

2021. This exhibit explores mid-twentieth-century abstract art from North Africa, West Asia, and the Arab diaspora—a vast geographic expanse that encompasses diverse cultures, ethnicities, languages, and religions.

For virtual exhibition tours and other features, please visit the McMullen Museum website at www.bc.edu/sites/artmuseum



The Boston College Neighborhood Center, located at 480 Washington St in Brighton, provides free educational services to the Allston Brighton community, including tutoring for school-aged children and ESOL classes for adults.

Over the summer and continuing this fall, we have been partnering with the

Office of Governmental & Community Affairs to deliver diapers to local Allston Brighton organizations.

For the fall semester, please check out our website (www.bc.edu/neighborhood) for updates about our free educational services., or call us at 617.552.0445 to make an appointment.