



The Office for Commuter Services

THE OFFICE FOR COMMUTER SERVICES

FALL 2007

Highlights

- How to be a successful commuter
- FAQs
- Commuter Life at BSC
- What's new on Campus?
- Take a Zip Trip
- Commuters Can Week



Table of Contents

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Welcome Back | 1 |
| Be a Successful Commuter | 1 |
| FAQs | 2 |
| Commuter Life at BSC | 2 |
| Meet the Staff | 2 |
| Connect Off Campus | 2 |
| Zip trip/What's new | 3 |
| Did You Know? | 4 |
| How to... | 4 |
| Commuter Lounge | 4 |
| Commuters Can Week | 4 |

Welcome Back Commuters! From the Office for Commuter Services

Welcome back to Bridgewater State College, commuters! We know that you're all very excited about the start of the semester, and at the Office for Commuter Services, we're here to make your college experience a fun and fulfilling one.

Being a commuter is a unique and individual experience for everyone. Some of you are close enough to walk to campus, others have a substantial commute to get here.

No matter what distance you travel from, one thing that you all have in common is that you're not alone! In fact, **you are the majority** here, accounting for roughly 66% of the population who attend BSC.

While many commuters face different challenges daily, there are common concerns shared across the board, from balancing time between home and

family obligations to becoming more independent and involved on campus. Since there are many opportunities to get involved and make the best of your college experience, we encourage all commuter students to find something here at BSC that adds to your daily routine.

The Office for Commuter Services is a great place to find out how to accomplish your goals here. The Office for Commuter Services is here for commuter students and provides support, resources, services, and advocacy for commuter students at Bridgewater State College.

In addition to The Office for Commuter Services, we have created something even more inviting for our commuter population, our newly renovated Commuter Lounge.

In the Commuter Lounge you will find couches and computers. You will also find a book swap

and information and resources from all areas of campus. The Commuter Lounge is a great place to come in and relax. You can read one of our magazines or newsletters, do some homework, and make new friends.

The Commuter Lounge is located in room 005 of the Rondileau Campus Center and is full of lots of information, both informative and recreational.

Bridgewater State College will offer you a myriad of enjoyable and engaging experiences that will fulfill your collegiate experience.

Whichever path your journey may take you on, we hope that Commuter Services can provide you with the support, resources and services you need in order to make your BSC experience a positive one.

5 Helpful Hints on How to be a Successful Commuter

1. Rent a Locker

For just \$1.00 per year, you can rent a locker in the Commuter Office where you can drop off heavy books and items that you don't wish to carry throughout campus.

2. Commuter Lounge

If you have time between classes and don't know where to go stop by the Commuter Lounge. We have everything from computers, resources, couches and newspa-

pers and magazines. Sit back, relax and make some friends.

3. Get a meal plan

This year we are offering a meal plan designed especially for our commuters. For more information visit the Parking Services and Connect Card Office.

4. Carpool

What better way to save some gas

money and enjoy your ride than to carpool. For more information stop by the Office for Commuter Services.

5. Spend time in the Residence Halls

If you have friends that live on campus, be sure to spend some time in their neck of the woods. Even our commuter students can spend a night in any of our residence halls as long as you are properly signed in and following the guidelines. Spending a night on campus can really help you get a feel for life at BSC.

FAQ's**What line is the MBTA?**

The MBTA rail stops right on campus and is the Old Colony Line

How do I rent a locker?

You can rent a locker in the Office for Commuter Services for \$1.00 for the year.

How do I find a roommate?

Commuters looking for a roommate can register for a roommate matching database in the Office for Commuter Services

Do the buses go off campus?

There are Bat buses that run throughout campus each day free of charge to all students. In addition, one bus leaves campus and goes to the Shaws Plaza in Brockton on Rt 28 three times per day. The schedule can be found by visiting www.bridgew.edu/transportation.

Commuter Life at BSC

Each day thousands of people are commuting to and from our campus. It's important to know what resources are available to you as well as some helpful ways adjust and deal with the added pressures or stresses from your daily commute.

Driving and Parking

Most of our commuter population drives to campus. While it can be frustrating at first trying to predict traffic patterns and locate convenient parking; driving allows for the most freedom. We recommend that all commuters arrive to campus a half hour to an hour early, especially during the first two weeks of class when new students are trying to find convenient parking and traffic is particularly heavy.

In addition to arriving to campus early, we also strongly recommend that during peak arrival times (between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.) you choose a parking space in the first lot you encounter on your way in. It may not be your ideal parking spot, but it is better than wasting time driving around looking for a spot you may think is better but may not be available.

Carpooling

Don't want to endure the heavy burden of gas prices on your own? Not only will you reduce your gas costs, but you can also waive the annual \$100 parking decal fee, as

Meet the Staff

- Colleen Gallagher — Coordinator
- Maureen Johnson — Clerk
- Jason Cahoon — Commuter Services Events Manager
- Mabel Colon, PJ Leary, Kerry Fitzgerald—Commuter Assistants



well as have the option of parking in the more convenient Chapel lot! This program is sponsored by the Parking Services and Connect Card Office. For more information stop either there or the Office for Commuter Services

Trains and Buses

Some commuter students find it more convenient to use alternative means of travel. The MBTA's Old Colony line runs through the Lower Great Hill parking area and provides an affordable alternative to driving. Visit www.mbta.com to view an updated schedule and student rates or stop by our Commuter Lounge for a pocket schedule.



Also, our [Transit Office](#) on campus provides the BSC population with a series of shuttle buses that navigate throughout campus daily and well into the evening at no cost to passengers. Additionally, bus service extends to the Shaw's Plaza in Brockton via Route 28 three times daily, Monday-Friday during the academic year. Plus, there is a connecting service available for the greater Brockton area. For more information call BAT at 508-580-1170. Be sure to visit the transit web page or call 508-531-1319 for more information on our buses.

Connect Off Campus

In addition to returning favorites, such as Friendly's, Subway, Papa Gino's, and Domino's, students will now be able to use flex dollars on their connect cards at a variety of off campus merchants.

Bridgewater Fitness, Bridgewater Square Chiropractic, Central Square Computer Repair, and Debbi's Tanning and Boutique have all started accepting flex dollars on the connect card as a form of payment. For a full list of off campus vendors accepting the connect card please visit:

http://www.bridgew.edu/pscc/oc_merch_list.htm

Students can add flex dollars to their connect card via "cash to card machines" located in the campus center, east campus commons and in the library. Students can also add flex dollars to their account by using the online card office. A link to the online card office can be found through the Parking and Connect Card Office website.



Take A Zip Trip

Zipcar is a membership-based carsharing company providing automobile rental

to its members, billable by the hour or day. Zipcar was founded in 1999 by Cambridge, Massachusetts, residents Robin Chase and Antje Danielson.

While per day car rentals can cost more than traditional car rental rates, zip cars are available to rent by members 21 and up, a stark contrast to the 25 and up age requirement set by most standard car rental companies.

The process for reserving a zip car is quite simple. Once someone has signed up to become a member (called a "zipster") they can then reserve a car by calling a telephone



zipcar

reservation line. When the date and time of the zipster's reservation comes around, they go to the car's home location (where it is parked upon pick up and return) and scan their membership card against the windshield sensor, which then unlocks the car. Members are charged for the time they use their car (cars can be rented either hourly or for the whole day) and for mileage, gas is paid for by zipcar. Zipsters can either pay for the gas themselves and seek reimbursement, or can use the special gas card found inside the car.



For more information on zipcars including rates, locations, and membership benefits please visit www.zipcar.com

What's New On Campus?

Returning students will see a new and improved Maxwell Library this fall after the library underwent extensive renovations to the third floor.



Among the improvements are a new lounge feel to the space complete with new tables and chairs for studying, research and homework, as well as new chairs in common areas for student use between classes, for reading, or just when someone needs a quick sit to rest their legs.



Further improvements consist of newly renovated classrooms, all equipped with the latest technology and similar style furniture found in classrooms in Harrington Hall and other newly renovated campus buildings. These new designs are part of Bridgewater State College's ongoing commitment to adapt and grow to meet the needs of the students.

If you have some time between class and you haven't gone up to the third floor you should, the change is refreshing and the lounge feel is perfect for commuter students.



Campus Connections



Contacts

Campus Police:

(508) 531-1212

Class Cancellations: (508) 531-1391

Commuter Services: (508) 531-1275

Financial Aid: (508)531-1341

Health Services: (508) 531-1252

IT Services: (508) 531-2555

BSC Main Line: (508) 531-1000

Parking and Connect: (508) 531-2897

Registrar: (508) 531-1231

Safety Escort: (508) 531-1745

Student Accounts: (508) 531-1225

Student Affairs: (508) 531-1276

Student Employment: (508) 531-1232

Student Involvement: (508) 531-1273

Dining Hours:

The Commuter Cafeteria:

Monday - Thursday:

7:30a.m.-10p.m.

Friday: 7:30a.m.-6:30p.m.

Saturday: 8a.m.-5p.m.

Sunday: 1p.m.-6p.m.

The East Campus Commons:

Monday-Friday: 7a.m.-7:30p.m.

Saturday and Sunday:

10a.m.-7:00p.m.

The Flynn Dining Commons

Monday-Friday

7:00 a.m - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday

8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

New Dining Hall

Monday - Wednesday:

11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Thursday - Friday:

11:00 a.m - 12:00 a.m.

Saturday - 2:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Sunday - 2:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Did You Know?

If you are looking for a property, or even a room to rent, or if you have an apartment or room that you'd like to post for rent, the Office for Commuter Services can help you!

The Office for Commuter Services maintains an Off Campus Housing Database to serve that purpose.

Visit www.bridgew.edu/commuterservices and click on Off Campus Housing

The database is updated regularly, so whether you are a landlord or a potential renter, assistance is a click away!

The Commuter Services Center is now the Commuter Lounge.

Stop in to check out the new renovations.

**Commuter Lounge Room 005
Rondileau Campus Center**



**How To:
Prepare yourself for your future**

CAREER SERVICES

WORKPLACE PROTOCOL DINNER



Thursday, October 11, 2007

5:30 pm—7:30 pm
Council Chambers

Learn the principles of social and business protocol needed for success at school and in the workplace. This program is designed for **ALL** majors!

You will receive:

Life-long social and professional skills

Complimentary copy of "*The Concise Guide to Executive Etiquette*"

Free four-course meal

Certificate of Completion

Space is limited so register today at:

www.bridgew.edu/CareerServices/onlineworkshops.cfm

COMMUTERS CAN WEEK

Commuters Can!

October 1-5 2007

Monday 12-2 BBQ Campus Center

Join the Office for Commuter Services staff for a free BBQ in the Campus Center Fountain Area

Tuesday 11:30-1 Pizza Social One Park Ave, Campus Center

Bring your friends and get to know your fellow commuters at this pizza social

Wednesday 8-3 Field Day East Campus

Relive your childhood. Bring your friends with you and join in on some "commuter vs resident" tug of war, water balloon fights, potato sack races and other fun games. Co-Sponsored by Athletics

Thursday 9-10 Coffee Hour Moakley

Rushing around campus? Commuting from here to there? Well don't bother stopping for coffee, grab a free cup of java in the Moakley Foyer and start your day off right.

Friday 8-10 Breakfast One Park Ave, Campus Center

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day so why not start your weekend off right by stopping by for a free hot breakfast on the bottom floor of the RCC.