



**OFFICE OF  
COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIPS**

Annual Report

December 2005 – June 2006

Submitted by

Susan McCombe, Director

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Announcement	
Summary	2
Partnerships	3
Committees and Organizations	5
Events	8
Referrals	9
Miscellaneous	10
Future Projects	11
Appendix	
A	Program Evaluation
B	Index Card Project
C	Articles

## **SUMMARY**

The Office of College and Community Partnerships was established in December, 2005 within the division of External Affairs. The Office of College and Community Partnerships is responsible for linking college resources with community needs while building partnerships and fostering relationships between the college and the communities of southeastern Massachusetts. To provide more comprehensive coordination of all college activities related to community relations and to help expand our efforts in this area, the Office of College and Community Partnerships provides a more comprehensive coordination of the College's external initiatives with the towns, cities and agencies of southeastern Massachusetts. The director works with local governments, communities, environmental agencies and regional organizations to connect them to appropriate college resources.

The main focus of the Office of College and Community Partnerships is the relationship between the Town of Bridgewater and Bridgewater State College. The director works to identify the needs of the town and the college and to form partnerships that will benefit both the college and the town, creating a true “collegetown” environment.

***Susan McCombe, Director, Office of College and Community Partnerships  
(B.S., Bridgewater State College, M.P.A., Bridgewater State College)***

Ms. McCombe has worked at Bridgewater State College since October 1991. Most recently she served as the Special Assistant to the President from June 2002 until taking the position of director in December 2005. As the vice-chair of the College and Community Relations Council, Ms. McCombe has been working closely with town employees and citizens and with college faculty and staff to find ways in which the town and the college can work together. She will bring this expertise to this new position and carry on the work that began in the president's office.

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

### Community Read

In October 2005, Susan Brougham, director of library services at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School (BRRHS) approached the chairperson of the College and Community Relations Council (CCRC), Ursula Garfield, with the idea of the Community Read. The program discussed at the next CCRC meeting and the Senior Center and Public Library responded with interest. Faculty and staff from the college were also interested in this new program. A steering committee made up of representatives from BRRHS, the Senior Center, the Public Library, the CCRC and faculty and librarians from the college was formed. The steering committee met monthly to discuss the events that would take place around the common theme of the book, *Nickel and Dimed*, by Barbara Ehrenreich. The Community Read events and projects included a panel discussion, a play, an art exhibit, an essay contest and group discussions at the Public Library, and finally, a lecture by Barbara Ehrenreich. The events took place during the months of January through April 2006 at various locations including the high school, public library and the college. A program evaluation was performed to see if this had been an effective program and to determine improvements for next year. See Appendix A: Program Evaluation of the Community Read Program.

### Natural Resources Trust of Bridgewater

In November, 2005, BSC students helped to clean the Town River Landing near the BTV cable station across from Stiles and Hart park site. The NRTB, BSC, the Town of Bridgewater, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Taunton River Wild and Scenic and the National Park Service have partnered on a project to build a canoe launch and pedestrian bridge at the Town River Landing. This project will expand the greenway from Stiles and Hart through the college to Carver's Pond. Phase 1 of the Town River Landing Project is the canoe launch. This phase will be presented to the Board of Selectmen this summer. The second phase will include fundraising for the pedestrian bridge and should begin next academic year.

### Massachusetts Department of Corrections

CCP director, along with Kitty Doherty the current president of the Natural Resources Trust of Bridgewater, Tim Hall from the Massachusetts Department of Corrections (MDOC), Bill Davis vice president for Finance and Chief Information Officer at BSC, Scott Lussier from Envision Graphics met to discuss the possible transfer of DOC property to Bridgewater State College. The MDOC does not see any value in transferring the property. The college is allowed to use the land as an outdoor classroom on an informal basis and Tim Hall sees no reason that should end. A letter of agreement would not be binding as the Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM), has authority over state property. If the purpose is to protect the land from being developed, Tim suggested that Kitty Doherty go through the process of having the piece of land in question added to

the 425 acres that has already been protected as conservation land. This land is important as it connects a corridor for animal habitat and travel and it will connect a greenway from Carver's Pond.

#### Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences

CCP director and James Hayes-Bohanan, chair, Geography Department met with Beth Brazil, Community Outreach Specialist, and Paul Cavanaugh, Program Director both from the Regional Conservation Planning Office at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences to discuss partnering with the Center on their outreach to towns in the region assisting them with their open space plans. We hope to find ways to integrate the program into courses at BSC and to get students and faculty involved. While this project is in the beginning stages, Dr. Hayes-Bohanan is making arrangements to include some of this work in one of his courses in the Fall semester. This partnership is ongoing.

#### Bridgewater Coalition Against Community Violence (BCACV)

Robert Haynor of the Counseling Center at BSC was involved with this group and on his departure shared information about the BCACV with the CCP director. Members of this group include individuals from the Bridgewater Police Department, the District Attorney's Office, Brockton Family and Community Services and the Bridgewater Senior Center. This group plans one or two events a year that bring awareness to the community on issues of community violence. They are planning to sponsor a White Ribbon campaign at the high school next year. CCP director will work with Student Affairs to identify appropriate representatives, possibly from the Counseling Center and/or the BSC Police Department for this group.

#### White Ribbon Campaign

A number of the people who are involved with the above mentioned BCACV are also involved with the White Ribbon Campaign. This is a campaign against violence towards women. In the past student groups along with Robert Haynor had worked on campus to promote this campaign. CCP director will share information with the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership about this campaign so they can inform the student groups.

#### Taunton River Watershed Study

Senator Marc Pacheco secured \$250,000 for a study of the Taunton River by the Nature Conservancy, Old Colony Planning Council, Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District, Bridgewater State College and the Department of Environmental Protection. He is working to secure another \$250,000 in the next fiscal year. The comprehensive study of the watershed is helping local communities, state agencies, regional planning agencies, water supply planners, and river and land use advocates determine how to manage additional waste water and storm water, as well as sustain river flow and water supply. The study will also produce a report describing data, work plans, modeling needs, and other inputs to develop and implement a long-term, detailed management plan at watershed scale. The college is the fiscal agent for the appropriated funds.

#### Scleroderma Foundation

CCP director was contacted by Suzanne Lovell a town resident who has been living with scleroderma for thirty-nine years. She asked if our students would be interested in doing a walk-a-thon for the Scleroderma Foundation. Diane Bell, director of the Community Service Center, Marylou Frias, director of Health Services, Cynthia Svoboda, from Library Access Services, met with Suzanne Lovell and Tom Curran the executive director of the Scleroderma Foundation Northeast Region. The next step is for Diane to discuss the possibility with Student Involvement and Leadership and to plan a day and time this Fall for Suzanne to talk with student groups about scleroderma and to see if they would be interested in the walk-a-thon to raise money and awareness. Included in this group is Cynthia Svoboda because she was very close to the former Maxwell Library director, Ratna Chandresekhar who passed away from the scleroderma disease. Cynthia and Ratna's family are interested in the walk-a-thon and would like to be involved should it come to fruition.

#### Bridgewater Business Association

The CCP director is now a representative from the college on the Bridgewater Business Association, along with Margarida Vieira, director of Administrative Support Services (Connect Card). We are working to enlist more involvement with the businesses in town to offer Connect Card services to our students. CCP director is working with the BBA to promote Autumnfest to the campus community, especially involving BSC students. There are many ways that members of the BBA and the college can partner and the CCP director will be exploring all of the possibilities. The BBA will also help to support the One Book One Community program.

#### College and Community Relations Council (CCRC)

Ursula Garfield, chair, and Lorraine Carrozza, director of Elder Affairs, were involved with the Community Read and will continue to be involved with One Book One Community next year. Kitty Doherty, president of the Natural Resources Trust of Bridgewater, is involved with the partnership between the college and the NRTB and will continue her involvement. Members worked to identify town groups and organizations in which BSC students, faculty and staff could become more active.

### **COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

#### Beautification and Landscape Committee

The CCP director will continue to be a member of the Beautification and Landscape Committee. This committee is chaired by Professor Emeritus Wayne Phillips. Ms. McCombe has been a member of this committee for the past six years. This committee is an important part of the college as it defines and oversees a campus standard for beautification that has resulted in the beautiful campus our community enjoys. Other

members of this committee include William Smith, Tony Esposito, Candace Maguire, and Keith Macdonald. We are supported by Laura Machado, President's Office. The budget for this committee is part of the president's office and Wayne reports as a consultant to the president.

#### Hall of Black Achievement (HOBA)

CCP director facilitated the installation of the HOBA Gallery display that is located on the main floor of the newly renovated Maxwell Library. This display makes public a gallery that once was cloistered in the Martha Dennison Rondileau Room in the library a room that was accessible mostly to college employees for meetings.

#### Art Committee

CCP director continues as chair of the Art Committee. Members include Roger Dunn, Brenda Molife, and Rob Lorenson faculty from the Art Department, Mike Gomes, associate vice president for facilities management and planning, Mike Somers, director of the Maxwell library, and Larry Doherty, town resident and art collector/dealer. A student was hired to catalogue the artworks on campus. He also has been documenting the maintenance needs of the pieces. And he will be working on labeling each piece in every building. The Art Committee is developing a loan agreement. The college has a donation agreement but does not have a policy in place for the loaning of artwork. The budget for the Art Committee has been \$1500 and has been under the president's office purview. Even though the budget is \$1500 the president has been generous in paying more to the student worker than what has been budgeted each year. After the 2006-2007 fiscal year the president would like the budget moved to External Affairs. This committee has made the recommendation that a curator of art needs to be hired either part-time to start or full-time. As we increase our holdings which are already substantial we need a curator who is able to devote time to documentation and maintenance of artwork on campus.

#### Conference and Events Task Force

This committee was created by the president to study issues around room reservations and event services on campus. The committee met every two weeks during the spring semester. The committee will continue to work during the summer and into next year to submit recommendations to the president by the end of this calendar year, 2006. Members of this committee include Catherine Morgan, chair and dean, school of business, Cathy Holbrook, associate vice president for student affairs, Heather Smith, associate vice president for enrollment services, Karen Jason, director planning and construction, and Pat Cronin, associate vice president for telecommunications.

#### Programming for First Year Students

This group met once this semester. It was initiated by Nancy Kleniewski vice president and provost for academic affairs. Members include Arthur Lizzie, Ann Doyle, Sandra Neargarder, Peggy Smith, Helena Santos, Shelly Kenniston, Shawn Edie, Rita Camara, Colleen Gallagher, Beth Moriarty and Jodi Cohen. We talked about First Year Seminar Programming, what is already in place, and how to integrate student affairs programs with academic affairs programs. We did not make plans at that time to meet again.

### Bear Statue for Tinsley Center

In conjunction with the Beautification and Landscape Committee, CCP director initiated a discussion about having the artist chosen to create a bear mascot statue for the Tinsley Center and create a prototype. The cost of the prototype was \$1,000. A number of people, Candace Maguire, John Harper, David Ostroth, Cathy Holbrook and Molly Williams agreed. A prototype was made. Currently the SGA has donated \$10,000, Alumni Foundation has donated \$10,000 and Athletics has donated \$5,000. Still needed is \$10,000 more dollars and because we do not have it, plans are being made to change the bear from bronze to sheet metal and have it painted. This subject was broached at the last Beautification and Landscape Committee meeting.

### HERS at BSC

CCP director currently serves as the liaison to the president of the college for HERS at BSC. Adrian Tinsley and Ms. McCombe developed the proposal and by-laws for a chapter of HERS at Bridgewater State College. The executive committee was made up of Susan Holton, president, Helena Santos, president-elect, Barbara Knox, secretary, Cathy Holbrook, treasurer and Susan McCombe, liaison to the president. Susan Holton has stepped down after one year as she is taking a leave of absence from the college. The executive committee met through the year and held facilitated discussions to find out what programming we should offer to the campus community. A conference was held on May 15, 2006, at the Moakley Center. The entire campus community was invited to this event as well as HERS alumni no longer employed at BSC. Helen Giles-Gee the president of Keene State College in New Hampshire was our keynote speaker. There were break-out sessions in the morning and discussions in the afternoon related to the keynote speech. The event was extremely successful according to the evaluations. We will continue to improve our programming and stay connected to the main office in Denver. We will be electing a new president-elect as Helena Santos has taken over the presidency a year earlier to accommodate Susan Holton's leaving.

### Massachusetts Women in Public Higher Education (MWPHE)

CCP director has completed her term as president of MWPHE. For the next year she will be the past-president. Responsibilities include chairing the nominations committee and handling evaluations of the Fall and Spring conferences. The keynote speakers at the Fall and Spring conferences were, Chancellor Judith Gill from the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education and Dr. Cynthia Secor from Higher Education Resource Services (HERS) respectively. Our attendance at each conference increased considerably. I attribute this to the speakers and to the newsletter and brochure that Eva Gaffney and her staff now produce for MWPHE. For a number of years Eva and her staff have taken over the printing of the newsletter and conference brochure. They produce an extremely professional looking publication for MWPHE and I believe this has made a great difference in our attendance and getting more people interested in serving on the executive board and as campus coordinators.

## **EVENTS**

### NRTB Tour of Parklands

On January 28, 2006, twenty-five members from the college and the town boarded a college bus and took a tour of the six park sites in Bridgewater. Kitty Doherty was the narrator and she explained the history of the park sites to the group. It was very informative and those attending enjoyed it immensely. The student driver was an excellent representative of BSC. The event created a great sense of community among the participants.

### Barbara Ehrenreich Lecture

On April 12, 2006, as part of the Community Read, Barbara Ehrenreich lectured in Horace Mann Auditorium. The lecture was preceded by a reception and dinner. Invited to the reception and dinner were all individuals who were involved with the Community Read including faculty, administrators, teachers, town members and the Steering Committee as well as, Bridgewater-Raynham School Committee, BSC Trustees and Foundation Trustees, the President of BSC, Vice Presidents, Associate and Assistant Vice Presidents and Deans. The reception was held in One Park Avenue and the dinner was held in Council Chambers both located in the Rondileau Campus Center. The lecture was held in Horace Mann Auditorium which seats 550. The auditorium was full and a few people were standing. Ms. Ehrenreich was extremely engaging and entertaining. She was available for a book signing after the lecture. Her fee, the reception and dinner were funded by the president's office.

### Earth Day Celebration

This past year the college partnered with the Natural Resources Trust of Bridgewater and members of the Town of Bridgewater and BSC, including BSC students and Bridgewater Boy Scouts and the Parkland Stewardship Council. A group of 60 people in all helped to clean the six park sites in town and build a small bridge at one of the sites on Earth Day in April. A cookout at the college was held afterwards. A BSC student designed the earth day t-shirt that was given to participants. Everyone benefited from the experience and the park land stewards were especially pleased with the results. The shirts for the event and the cook-out were funded by the president's office.

### College and Community Partnerships Dinner

The first annual College and Community Partnership Dinner (formerly the Neighbors' Dinner) was held on June 13, 2006. There were approximately 270 people in attendance. Invitees included college employees that live in Bridgewater, town employees, college retirees, CCRC members, extended cabinet members, BSC students on campus working at orientation, BSC Trustees, Senator Marc Pacheco, Representative David Flynn, Representative Christine Canavan, Board of Selectmen, neighbors of the college and External Affairs directors. Invitations were professionally designed, printed and mailed

by a mail house. The event went smoothly and we have heard positive feedback. The dinner discussion resulted in the receipt of 56 index cards that have multiple entries pertaining to partnership ideas from the audience. See Appendix B: Index Card Responses.

## **REFERRALS**

### Digital Dimensions Science Conference

Nick Micozzi of the Plymouth School District in conjunction with Gerald Thornell, Elementary and Early Childhood Education, were in the planning stages of the Massachusetts Science Education Leadership Association (MSELA) Digital Dimensions Science Conference to be held at BSC in July 2006. In the Fall 2005, then special assistant to the president was asked by the president to be involved in this conference. It was thought that the new science building would be showcased at this conference and president's office involvement would be important. This event was scheduled through the graduate school as credits will be given to participants. CCP director stepped out of the planning for this event early in 2006.

### North River Collaborative Internships

John Paganelli, Career Services

A representative from the North River Collaborative was referred to the Career Services to discuss internships with BSC.

### Cultural Grant Survey

Jen Reid, Institute for Regional Development

Ursula Garfield was referred to Jen Reid for help with a survey for the schools about cultural resources in the area.

### Tutoring Needs Bridgewater Citizen

Sonia Soloway, Student Employment

A town resident was referred to the Student Employment web site where she could post a request for a student worker to tutor her son.

### Computer Training at Senior Center

Lisa Grosshart, Information Technology

Lorraine Carrozza from the Senior Center asked if a student would be interested in training the seniors on computers at the Senior Center. She was referred to Lisa Grosshart and she worked out a program that will enable a student to go to the Senior Center each semester to train the senior citizens.

### “New Deal” Art/History Project

Michael Ierardi, History Department

Michael Ierardi, History professor, contacted CCP director about the “New Deal” painting that is hung in the Maxwell Library. He would like to do some research on the painting and include a student or two on the project. A meeting was scheduled between Dr. Ierardi and Faye George Hennebury a member of the family that donated the painting to the college.

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

### Meeting with Students

On one occasion CCP director met with a group of students and I asked them, “In a perfect world, living on campus in the Town of Bridgewater, what would you like to see in town?” The students expressed their concern about the impression that townspeople have of college students. They were worried that a number of incidences and things that occur on certain nights of the week by a portion of students made the majority of students who do not cause trouble look bad. They said they wanted to get more involved in town. They said they’d flip burgers at little league games, coach, and be umpires. They’d like to be hired by businesses and get more involved in the community. This was an enjoyable meeting and very enlightening. A number of students expressed, afterwards, that they were so glad someone was asking their opinion.

## **OFFICE**

### Renovations

In May 2006 the CCP, IRD, ORO and Continuing and Distance Education office suite in Moakley 211 was renovated and included renovations to conference Room 213 which now is used by the Institute for Regional Development.

### Clerk IV

Applications continue to be received on People Admin. The job will be posted until July 14, 2006. The expected start date is the first or second week in August.

### Planning Meeting with IRD and ORO

The offices of College and Community Partnerships, Institute for Regional Development and Office of Regional Outreach meet regularly. It is important for us to coordinate our efforts and to be able to promote our collective activities. The new academic year will bring a new focus for the three offices working together with faculty and staff on campus and others in the community and region.

## **ARTICLES**

Appendix C includes articles related to the Office of College and Community Partnerships.

## **FUTURE PROJECTS**

### Autumnfest

CCP director is currently working with the Bridgewater Business Association and Nick Palmieri the president of the BBA to involve the campus community in Autumnfest. It is held on School Street and Boyden Quad and typically the campus community has not been involved to a great extent. There are a number of ways students can be involved, by volunteering, presentation of dance, performances, Hall of Black Achievement traveling portrait gallery, entertainment for small children including face painting, etc. The BBA is planning a “Best Pizza in Town” contest. The date for Autumnfest is Saturday, September 30, 2006.

### Alcohol Awareness Week

A student representative from Sigma Pi Fraternity International has contacted the CCP director to discuss sponsoring an alcohol awareness week in Spring 2007. This is an opportunity to form many partnerships between the college and the town such as the college and town police departments, MADD, and other groups. The fact that a student group wants to organize this week of events will help improve student image with townspeople.

### Television Program

Working in conjunction with Jim Moore at the BTV cable station, the CCP director and Larry Doherty are developing a television program. Susan McCombe and Larry Doherty will be a co-hosts on the program. Larry has lived in town most of his life and is a well-respected community member. He is on the Bridgewater Foundation Board of Trustees and on the Art Committee. The program will feature interviews on location with people who are involved in collegetown partnerships. The first program will air in early October. The first program will feature One Book One Community, the Town River Landing and the Senior Center.

### Campus and Community Connections Newsletter

This publication has been sent once a semester over the past year and a half. It has featured programs and events that the college is involved with in towns in the region. The focus now will be on the college and the Town of Bridgewater. The look of it will change a bit as it will be smaller, 8 1/2 x 11 from 11x17. Most of the columns will stay the same although there will be a column titled “The Director’s Desk” written by the CCP director. Also, the header will say that it is “A publication of the Office of College and Community Partnerships.” This will be a great way to communicate collegetown partnerships and events to our community.

### INDEX CARD PROJECT

Annual Report  
December 2005 – June 2006

Information collected on index cards at the College and Community Partnership Dinner will help to guide the planning and implementation of programs and partnerships for the next academic year.