

Expect More. Achieve More.

## Calendar of Events

- Annual Job Fair**  
Wednesday, April 8
- Senior Expo**  
April 15
- Experiential Learning Symposia**  
April 16, 2009
- Parent Association Mtg**  
April 8, 6 pm
- Springfest**  
April 20-26
- Undergraduate Research Symposium**  
April 24
- Spring Commencement**  
May 16, 2009

## What's Inside:

- Understanding Dorm Damage **2**
- Parent Association News **3**
- Student Celebrate Commuter's CAN **3**
- Residence Hall Closing Information **3**

## Volume I, Issue I

Spring 2009

### Students Learn Leadership at BSC



by *Cindy Kane, Director Student Involvement and Leadership*

Whether your student joins the BSC community with extensive high school leadership experience or none at all, BSC believes that gaining leadership skills should be an important part of your student's experi-

ence while enrolled in college. Numerous sources, including the Department of Education's recent "21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills" report, call for the emphasis on preparation of today's students to be leaders of tomorrow and reference the need for specific focus by students on enhancing leadership skills to gain market ability in their chosen profession.

Bridgewater State College wants to offer your students the chance to explore their leadership potential through various opportunities on our campus. A number of campus depart-

ments and student organizations offer a way for students to explore their leadership capabilities.

If you hear us use the term "experiential learning," it means that we believe students will learn a great deal from the opportunity to experience what they want to learn about. Just like students gain career skills through internships, a student can gain significant leadership skills through gaining experience leading their peers. Whether your student chooses to pursue leadership in a group like  
(Cont. next page)

### Career Services Launches Senior Job Search Boot Camp

by *Laurent Troland Career Counselor*

This year, Career Services is offering a **Senior Job Search Boot Camp**, developed to provide 2009 graduates with the professional skills and ability to build a strong job search campaign in a difficult economy. The program includes workshops such as *Salary Negotiations and Job Offers*, *Working a Job Fair* and *Managing Your Debts* as well as an afternoon of mock interview sessions with



professionals and the Workplace Protocol Dinner program. All programs are only offered this March and April 2009. More information and registration details is available on the Career Services Web site.

Career Services is available to help your son/daughter at all levels of their college experience. We provide assistance in choosing their major, to finding an internship and giving them the tools they need to successfully find a full-time position or attend graduate school. Career Services has a broad spectrum of events, services and programs!

More information at:  
[www.bridgew.edu/careerservices](http://www.bridgew.edu/careerservices)



Learning Leadership through service

**“Just like students gain career skills through internships, a student can gain significant leadership skills through gaining experience leading their peers.”**

## Leadership at BSC (conti. from page 1)

student government, on the athletic field, in a fraternity or sorority, or through community service activities, getting involved in leadership and service is a key way to develop these crucial skills. Students who then progress to significant leadership responsibilities may have the chance to extend their roles even further, as some students take on responsibilities for leading groups of up to 100 volunteers, balancing a budget of significant dollar value, or developing an events calendar that will bring over 100 campus events to the BSC community.

In addition to these volunteer roles, students also learn leadership through campus employment. Skills that your student can acquire by working on campus differ from typical hourly jobs, because on campus we know that education is one of your student's most important priorities. Through jobs like managing the Campus Center Information Desk, driving a

BAT bus, or working as an Orientation Leader, your student can gain critical leadership skills and also take home a paycheck.

In addition to learning leadership “on the job,” BSC offers numerous ways for your student to take the time to study leadership. There are courses offered through a number of departments, leadership programs like the First Year Residential Experience and various leadership training programs associated with leadership positions such as resident assistants, orientation leaders, and leaders of student organization.

One of BSC's signature programs is called the Leadership



Learning Leadership as an Orientation Leader

Institute, where students explore leadership as focused on developing their individual leadership skills. Students do not have to be members of student organizations on campus or even involved in leadership positions yet. All they need to have is an interest in developing their leadership skills and studying what makes leaders successful. BSC is proud to host this program in an innovative way as students have many choices as to their level of participation and the program is delivered primarily via a series of podcasts and interactions on an electronic classroom site on the web.

The next Leadership Institute will take place in Fall 2009 and we hope your student will think about participating in this and other leadership programs. The best way to keep up with what is available is to visit our Involvement Network site at [www.bridgew.edu/IN](http://www.bridgew.edu/IN). Announcements for program sign up will be posted there!

## Understanding Dorm Damage Billing

by Jen Paulin  
Housing Coordinator

At the end of each semester some resident students will receive a bill for “dorm damage”. Billing occurs when damage, vandalism, or a lack of cleanliness occurs in the residence halls or apartment communities. This includes both student rooms and common area spaces. Billing is assessed by the Resident Directors. There are two types of damage billing:

• **Individual billing:** One or more specific individuals have been found responsible for damage in a student room or common area. The damage is beyond “normal” wear and tear. The charges are assessed to the account(s) of responsible individuals.

**Community billing:** When no individuals can be found responsible for damages in a common area, such as entryways, hallways, bathrooms, elevators, lounge spaces or stairwells; damage costs are equally pro-rated among the

residents of the floor/wing/building and assessed to students' accounts.

Students who feel that some or all of the individual billing charges are incorrect have the opportunity to appeal. They will receive information about the appeals process in their damage letter. However students who choose the Express Checkout option waive their right to appeal any charges less than \$50. Common area billing is not subject to appeal.

You will find more information on the Residence Life &



Housing Web site at [www.bridgew.edu/RLH](http://www.bridgew.edu/RLH). If you or your student have further questions about damage billing, contact either the student's Resident Director or the Office of Residence Life and Housing.

**Get More  
DORM DAMAGE FAQ'S**

## Message from the Parent Association



*Diane Barletta  
President, Parent Association*

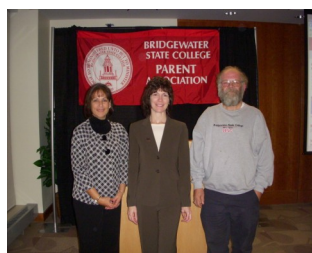
This academic year has been an exciting one for the Parent Association. In the fall, the mission of the Association was clarified and parents learned that, unlike PTAs of past experience, the BSC Parent Association's purpose is to share information between the college community and parents through informal dinner meetings that are concise but valuable.

We were fortunate to have

had President Dana Mohler-Faria and other representatives of BSC share their expertise and insight into both current and future opportunities at the college. In addition to the ongoing Parent Association Scholarship Fund, a new student emergency fund was established to help students during extenuating circumstances, such as significant illness. Members volunteered during Parent & Family Day to welcome family members to BSC, reviewed and made recommendations on scholarship applications, and shared ideas to help meet the demands of a tightening budget and its impact on the dinner meetings.

It has been an honor to meet other parents, discuss similar concerns and share ideas that make the college experience better for both parent and student. I will soon be ending my term as president of the

BSC Parent Association and extend to incoming president, Annette Slattery, best wishes in continuing the endeavors of the Association. A call for nominations for open officer positions (Vice President, Secretary, and Fundraising Chair) for 2009-2010 is in effect. Parents may submit an online [nomination](#) at or cast a vote at the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday April 8th. Self-nomination is encouraged. I hope you will consider this opportunity to get involved!



**Parent Association Officers:**  
**Annette Slattery, VP**  
**Diane Barletta, Pres.**  
**Richard Tingblad, Sec**

**Opportunity for  
BSC Parents to  
Get Involved!**

**Consider a leadership  
position by serving on  
the Parent  
Association Executive  
Board.**

**Complete a  
[nomination form](#) by  
April 1.**

## Students Celebrate Commuters CAN Week

*By Colleen Gallagher  
Coordinator, Commuter Services*

During the week of February 9-13 the Office for Commuter Services sponsored the annual Commuter's CAN Week. This is a weeklong series of programs and events designed specifically for commuter students. This week not only celebrates commuter students at BSC, but also provides them with opportunities to connect with other areas of campus, meet new people, and learn more about what Bridgewater has to offer. Commuters CAN Week occurs twice every year, October and February.

The week began with the Half Ton Ice Cream Sundae



**Frank Goulart, BSC mechanic does check on commuter student cars during Commuter CAN Week**

event which also raised \$150.00 for the UNICEF foundation. Tuesday was spent at the BSC Children's Center. Commuter students and the staff of the Office for Commuter Services worked with the children to make valentines for their families. This was a

great way for Commuter Services to connect with the Children's Center as some of the parents with children attending are commuter students. Wednesday a brown bag luncheon was held so that commuters could connect with commuter leaders on campus. This Commuter Leadership panel was intended to provide commuters with the opportunity to connect with an involved commuter to learn how connecting to campus changed their college experience.

The Bridgewater State College mechanics offered their services to commuter students on Thursday by opening up the garage for students to have their cars checked out. This

allowed commuter students to find out how their cars were running, get some mechanical advice and even have air added to tires and fluids topped off. The week was wrapped up in typical fashion with a free hot breakfast on Friday.

This April commuter students will have an opportunity to play in the annual Commuter vs. Resident Mud Volleyball competition, "Mud Bowl". Mud Bowl and is an opportunity for commuter students to take on resident students in this fun and messy Springfest event!

**BRIDGEWATER  
STATE COLLEGE**

Office Of Student Affairs  
Boyden Hall, Rm 106  
Bridgewater, MA 02325

Phone: 508.531.1276  
Fax: 508.531.6107

E-mail: [parents@bridgew.edu](mailto:parents@bridgew.edu)

[www.bridgew.edu/  
parents](http://www.bridgew.edu/parents)

**Links to Resources,  
Opportunities &  
Newsletters:**

**[Parent Blog](#)**

Discussions from campus staff  
on a variety of campus topic

**[Campus Link Newsletter:](#)**

**April Issue now available**  
Newsletter for parents featuring  
articles about today's college  
student . . .

**[Healthy Habits Newsletter](#)**

Newsletter for students pro-  
moting healthy behavior

**[April Issue](#)**  
**[March Issue](#)**

**[Jumpstart Newsletter](#)**

What's it all about . . .

**[Career Services](#)**

Resources for Parents on career  
exploration, internships, job  
outlook and much more.

**[Residence Life &  
Housing](#)**

Recommended Reading re-  
sources . . .

**Expect More. Achieve More.**

**MESSAGE BOARD**

**Registration begins  
April 21**

- Students are encouraged to check their account on Info Bear for holds that will prevent them from registering prior to April 21.

**Parents Wanted!  
Welcome Team**

The Family Orientation Committee is seeking family members to assist in welcoming families of new students during Freshman Orientation in June. If you are interested in becoming a part of Welcome Team, contact us at [parents@bridgew.edu](mailto:parents@bridgew.edu).

**End of Semester Residence Hall Closing Information**

*By Jen Paulin  
President, Parent Association*

The close of the spring semester is fast approaching. **All residence halls and apartments will close on Wednesday, May 13 at noon.** Students are required to move out of their residence hall or apartment on the day of their last final exam. All residents must move out by noon on May 13th and should plan accordingly and are required to check out with an RLH staff member through either regular or express check out.

Don't let moving out weigh you down! Here are a few tips to make your student's move out go smoothly:

- Encourage your student to bring home items that are no longer needed (such as books from the fall semester or winter clothing). Move out can be less daunting (and tiring) when



spread out over the course of several weeks rather than one day.

- Bring a hand truck to move boxes and larger items. Unlike freshmen opening, hand trucks will not be available for use.
- When taking apart tables, bookshelves, or other furniture pieces, label each part. This will make re-assembly a much simpler process.
- Your student is responsible for cleaning his or her room before checking out.

Limited cleaning supplies may be available for student use. Your student can find out what is available by asking their RA or RD. Remind your student to plan accordingly though, as many buildings have limited supplies available and there may be a wait.

RLH does offer Summer Housing for students who are taking classes or working on campus during Summer Session I and Summer Session II. Further information will be available on the application process on the RLH website at the end of March. **Please note: There is no housing or storage provided between May 13th and summer housing check in.** If you have any questions regarding move out or the closing of the residence halls, please feel free to call us at 508.531.1277 or e-mail us at [reslife@bridgew.edu](mailto:reslife@bridgew.edu).

**Attention First Year Students!! Career Smart Program**

**Did your son or daughter have their CareerSmart appointment in Career Services yet?**

**The Career Services Office wants to help first year students start navigating their career path early in their college experience. Have your son/daughter make an appointment before the end of this semester.**



**Career Services • 508.531.1328 • Campus Center Rm 008**