The University has a new men’s basketball head coach in the estimable person of Joe Jones, who as associate head coach at Boston College helped lead BC to a 21-13 record last season and the second round of the National Invitation Tournament. Former BU coach Patrick Chambers left the University for Penn State in June.

“We are thrilled to have Joe Jones take over the reins of a BU basketball program that is on the rise,” says Michael Lynch, an assistant vice president and director of athletics. “Joe comes with impressive credentials and past head coaching experience that will help take the program to the next level.”

President Robert Brown says he is very pleased that Jones decided to accept the head coaching position.

“I am truly honored to be named the next basketball coach at Boston University,” says Jones. “We are going to play an exciting, up-tempo brand of basketball.”

Before coming to BC, Jones was head coach at Columbia from 2003 to 2010. There, he took the team from a 2-25 record the season before his arrival to a 10-17 record the following year, marking the third-best single-season turnaround in Ivy League history.

In 2006–2007, the Lions captured 16 wins, the best performance by a Columbia squad since 1992–1993, and the class of 2010 claimed 26 Ivy League victories, the most conference wins by a Columbia team since 1994.

Jones previously spent six seasons as an assistant coach at Villanova and was named one of the nation’s top recruiters by Eastern Basketball magazine in 1999. During his tenure, the Wildcats advanced to postseason play in five of six seasons and compiled a 105-83 record.

BU Wins Sixth Straight America East Commissioner’s Cup

Boston University swept the America East conference awards this past spring, capturing top honors for its athletic program, sportsmanship, and community service.

This marks the 6th straight year and the 11th time in its history that BU has received the Stuart P. Haskell, Jr., Commissioner’s Cup, which recognizes the strongest athletic programs in America East as determined by a scoring system that allocates points according to a school’s success in the regular season and championship competitions across the conference’s 20 sports. Earning this year’s cup makes BU the winner of the most Commissioner’s Cups in America East history.

In addition to the Commissioner’s Cup, women’s coxswain Alex Thornton (CAS’11) was honored with the America East/College for Every Student (CFES) Service Award, and BU’s swimming and diving teams shared the Sportsmanship Award with all the conference swimming and diving teams for their support of BU diver Bailey O’Brien (SAR’12), who is battling lymphoma. During the February championship, held at UMBC in Baltimore, Md., athletes raised more than $1,500 for the Bailey O’Brien Fund, set up to help Bailey’s family pay for her medical care.

O’Brien is now in remission and returned to BU this fall. The Terriers won conference championships this past season in men’s basketball, women’s soccer, women’s tennis, and men’s cross country and took second place in six sports: softball, women’s basketball, men’s and women’s swimming and diving, and women’s indoor and outdoor track.