

Expanding the BUUniverse

BU's new video-sharing Web site wants you

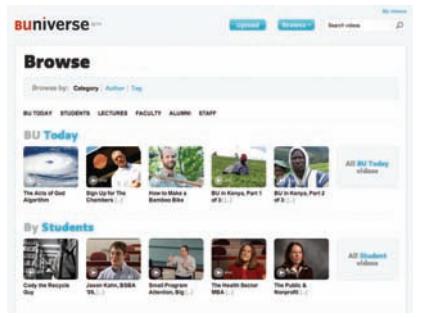
NOAM CHOMSKY lectures. Cooking lessons by BU's executive chef. Testimonials from Alternative Spring Break volunteers. All are part of the new BUUniverse, BU's one-stop repository for video content and a kind of YouTube for students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

The site, which launched in April, is the product of a year-long collaboration between BU's New Media and Information Services & Technology departments. Their aim: corral BU-related content from around the Web — from *BU Today* videos to taped School of Medicine lectures to student video blogs on YouTube — in a single, easy-to-use place.

Ultimately, creators say, the success of BUUniverse is in the hands of users. Anyone with an active BU log-in and Kerberos password can upload videos and comment on existing videos.

For example, a couple who work at BU could post a video of their wedding in Marsh Chapel. Broadcast journalism students can upload the newscasts they produce for class; a cappella groups can

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post their concerts for the world to see and hear.

Justin Hook (COM'09, CAS'09) recently uploaded episodes of "Microwave Tin-foil," a series of comedic Web shorts he created while at BU. He's already received feedback from viewers on the videos, he says, and he's confident that more interested viewers will discover the show on a BU-specific video site.

"I've tried to post videos from the *Bostonia* Web site to my blog before, but you can't embed them," Hook says. "To be able to just go to BUUniverse and know that all BU videos will be there — that's pretty handy."

In its first incarnation, BUUniverse posted lectures by BU professors and guest speakers on campus. The new BUUniverse will still offer lecture-taping services, but unlike the old site, it will include user-submitted content and allow video sharing.

While BU isn't the first university to launch an online video repository — across the river, MIT hosts TechTV — it is the first to give users free rein in posting content, according to Ben Agoes, a lead designer at New Media.

As with YouTube, videos uploaded to BUUniverse will not be prescreened, although the site's administrators reserve

the right to remove offensive or illegal content or videos that violate copyright. KK

BU Provost to Step Down

David Campbell plans to return to research

UNIVERSITY PROVOST David Campbell will step down to return to teaching and to focus on the research projects he set aside more than five years ago when he assumed the position of chief academic officer. Campbell, a well-known scholar and theoretical physicist, who specializes in nonlinear phenomena and condensed matter physics, received the American Physical Society's 2010 Julius Edgar Lilienfeld Prize, awarded for "pioneering new approaches to the study of complex systems and for communicating the excitement of this new field to diverse audiences." He will continue as University provost while an international search is conducted for his successor.

"Over the past year, I have had many conversations — with President Brown, my family, and others — about my own long-term goals and plans," Campbell wrote in an

→ Poet Robert Pinsky, whose first ambition was to be a jazz saxophonist, has performed readings on the stages of New York's Jazz Standard and the Regattabar in Cambridge.

e-mail sent to faculty in April. "After much careful thought and deliberation, I have concluded that I cannot in good faith make the long-term commitment that Boston University needs from those going forward in senior leadership roles.

"These last five years have been fast-paced and exhilarating," he wrote. "Together we have accomplished much. In the last year alone, we have seen the implementation of key recommendations of the report of the Council on Faculty Diversity and Inclusion, the issuance of the task force report "One BU: Unlocking the Undergraduate Educational Experience," the completion of the report of the task force on non-tenure-track faculty, and most recently, the successful launch of the University Honors College. We are well placed to follow through on these and other important initiatives that will forge the future of Boston University."

Brown, writing in the same message, thanked Campbell for his tireless efforts "to make Boston University a better institution and for doing so with unfailing good humor and generosity of spirit.

"The commitment and sacrifices a faculty member makes to an institution to serve in a leadership role is larger than many of us can imagine," said Brown. "This is especially true of the role of



WEB EXTRA Watch Ben Agoes, a lead designer for New Media, demonstrate how to upload your videos from YouTube to the new BUUniverse at bu.edu/bostonia.