



## *Financial Affairs Quarterly Newsletter*

March 2015

Volume 1, Issue 2

### Highlights:

- **Business Self Assessment**
- **My Brother's Keeper**
- **Benefits in Transition**
- **Christmas in the City**

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To opt in to receive your 2015 W-2 electronically [click here](#)

### Message from the Chief Financial Officer:

Dear Colleagues,

As has been widely reported, most professional analysts who study colleges and universities expect diminished revenue growth, coupled with increased expenses, will contribute to weaker budgetary outcomes in the fiscal year 2015. You may have noticed recent examples in the news of mergers and closures in the higher education space. Although Boston University continues to generate the resources needed to improve the quality of its core academic and research activities, we must continue our goal of being as efficient as possible with all our resources; this includes maximizing the value of each budget dollar for which we are responsible. To do this, your assistance is needed in our collective effort to identify and implement the most efficient business processes and organization structures in order to control and - wherever possible – reduce expenses.

I am pleased to report significant progress in this effort has been made by a working group composed of senior leaders and managers, together with Sourcing and Procurement management. The review included rebidding of several spend categories, combined with a re-examination and revision of existing business processes resulting in improved policy and process recommendations, as well as a more refined and lower cost set of products and/or services.

As we move forward from this early success, a much broader business self-assessment process is underway across the university. Fundamentally, this process will engage all employees charged with responsibility for managing the business processes and cost drivers at Boston University to challenge their own habits and methods and step out of their comfort zone to generate and evaluate opportunities for further improvements and efficiencies in the way we conduct business.

You will be hearing more about this exercise from your managers in the days and weeks ahead. I invite your participation and reflective input in this important exercise of challenging the status quo. Your experience and knowledge will be critical to the success of this self-assessment exercise.

Thank you for your continuing commitment to making Boston University an even stronger institution.

Sincerely,

Marty Howard  
SVP, CFO & Treasurer

### W-2 Is Now Available Electronically!

Boston University's W-2 forms are available on-line through BUworks Portal. Don't forget to opt in to receive your 2015 W-2 electronically. Contact Payroll with any questions at [bupay@bu.edu](mailto:bupay@bu.edu), or at 617-353-2270.

BU employees providing comfort during the holiday season.

**This Monday:**  
Employee Benefits  
In Transition  
Information  
Session

## Christmas in the City



Christmas in the City is an event that gives homeless families across Boston a very special day to remember. Our group assisted in the set up for a holiday party that was to be hosted the following day for children coming from these families. This year, a group of BU employees helped wrap presents in the Toy Room on Saturday, December 20th. Everyone who participated had a great time! We look forward to next year!



## SVPFast - Friday Run:

Once the weather warms up, every Friday during lunch at 12:00 P.M, a group meets at the corner of Commonwealth and Harry Agganis Way (Golden Greek) for a 3 mile run along the Charles. Switch up your daily routine and join the group!

## Save the Date:

Employee benefits in transition information session will take place on March 9 at 11:00 A.M.—12:30 P.M. in CGS Room #129.

Visit us online!

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Join us the first  
Thursday of  
every month at  
Sunset Cantina!

Meet the new  
Billing Supervisor in  
PAFO!

## Notable Departures

### **Rosalind D'Amico**

**W**alter Wickersham shares his memories of working with Rosalind:

Rosalind completed over 33 years of service to BU last month and now is sitting at an outside café in sunny Florida enjoying retirement. During her time here she was instrumental in facilitating many cost savings initiatives and mentoring a whole generation of procurement professionals. Rosalind was one of the best consensus builders I have ever worked with and I hope some of that skill rubbed off on me.

True to her character, Rosalind requested no fancy sendoff (which we honored) but she never said I couldn't write a few words in our Departmental newsletter saying she is missed by all and we hope to have her in for coffee when the weather here in Boston starts to resemble what she is enjoying in Florida.

### **Andy Horner**

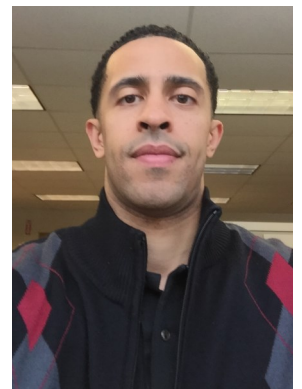
**I**n January, Andy Horner, Vice President for Research Finance and Operations, accepted an offer to become Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services at the University of Dayton. Since joining Boston University in 2010, Andy implemented best practices in building a first rate research administration support function and more recently, provided valuable guidance and leadership to the Sourcing and Procurement unit. He consistently demonstrated a collaborative leadership style in developing innovative approaches to meet challenging management and financial issues. We wish him the best of luck in his new position at the University of Dayton!

## **Financial Affairs Social**

**D**on't forget to join us the first Thursday of every month for an informal social gathering after work starting at 5:00 P.M. at the Sunset Cantina. This is a great way to network, see that person that you only correspond with via e-mail on a regular basis, or simply break away from the normal routine.

## **New Employee Spotlight: Joshua Ferreira**

**W**elcome to new employee, Joshua Ferreira, who recently joined Post Award Financial Operations (PAFO) as the Billing Supervisor. Joshua is originally from New Jersey, but currently lives in Randolph, MA. During his free time, Joshua enjoys eating healthy and working out, and living an overall healthy lifestyle. It's fitting that Joshua ended up at Boston University, as he's been told by family and friends that he should have been a professor or teacher!



## My Brother's Keeper

When Donna Lane isn't crunching the numbers for Boston University she can often be found volunteering at My Brother's Keeper where she serves as Treasurer.

My Brother's Keeper is a Christian Ministry in Easton and Dartmouth, Massachusetts that delivers furniture and food to local families in need, without prerequisite. Nobody seeking service is required to justify their need. They like to say they carry furniture and food but that they deliver Hope. The work of My Brother's Keeper is accomplished by 11 full time employees and over 3000 volunteers who work together in two facilities to make over 8,500 deliveries each year. They are the only charity in Southeastern Massachusetts that provides furniture assistance free of



charge as a core program. All furniture delivered is new or in like-new condition providing people with renewed hope and a sense of value. A strong community of volunteers and in-kind donations allows more than 90% of every dollar to go directly to program services.

At Christmas time, My Brothers Keeper turns their Easton Warehouse into Santa's Workshop and delivers personally selected gifts to 3000 families in 76 towns from the North Shore down to Fall River and Cape Cod. In addition to their presents, each family also receives a \$50 supermarket gift card to help provide a special Christmas meal.

If you are interested in volunteering, please speak with Donna. Volunteer opportunities are generally available during the work day helping with picking up and delivering furniture. Additionally, help is needed at special events like their Family Walk which occurs in June. Also, the Christmas effort operates 7 days a week and in the evenings in December.

Donna would like to put together a team to walk in this year's Family Walk which will take place on June 13, 2015 at Stonehill College. The walk is followed by Family fun activities including carnival rides, food, and music. Please email Donna if you are interested.

Contact Donna Lane if you are interested in volunteering at the Family Walk on June 13th!

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The Office of the Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer directs and oversees more than 200 employees in the day-to-day financial management functions of Boston University including the Offices of the Comptroller, Debt & Treasury Management, Internal Audit, Post Award Financial Operations, Sponsored Programs, Risk Management and Sourcing and Procurement.

For future submissions or suggestions  
please contact Erika Reardon at [ereardon@bu.edu](mailto:ereardon@bu.edu)!

For more information on Financial Affairs at Boston University, visit us online at <http://www.bu.edu/cfo/>

