Hire Education

A student goes to Career Services to show you how BU can help.

Page 8.
Dear Boston University Parents,

In just a few short weeks, the spring semester will conclude and our graduating students will celebrate their achievements at our annual Commencement ceremony on May 10th. I look forward to seeing those of you who will be on campus that weekend, and I share in the pride all of you must be feeling for your sons and daughters. Our students are a remarkable group of young men and women, and I am constantly impressed with their drive and their accomplishments.

As a major research university, BU offers students the opportunity to study under the direction of faculty members who are engaged in groundbreaking research and scholarship. The mixture of faculty and students pushing back the frontiers of knowledge while simultaneously engaging in classroom education makes Boston University an exciting and dynamic community for young people preparing to set out on their careers or graduate study. Opportunities to study abroad and to live and work with international students and scholars here in Boston also greatly help prepare our students to flourish in an increasingly global society.

While students are here, and after they leave campus, our Career Services center stands ready to help them prepare for life after BU. Indeed, many of our alumni make use of our Career Services office long after they graduate, as they look for guidance, explore new opportunities, or consider a change in their career paths. You can read more about this office, and one graduating student’s successful job search, in this issue of Boston University Parent. You also will hear more about our increasing investments in student services, including a new modern facility for Career Services.

Whether your sons or daughters are graduating this spring or returning next fall, I urge you to encourage them to take full advantage of all the resources and opportunities available—to students and alumni—at Boston University.

With best wishes,
Robert A. Brown
President

Dear Fellow Parents,

It seems as though my son, Bobby, just began his college career and yet the four years have sailed by. It’s amazing how quickly time passes when you’re having fun. This May, Bobby will graduate from Sargent College and he will be welcomed into the alumni community. Boston University has been such a positive experience for him that I am sorry to see these years end. However, I know that he will continue to be a part of this great University. I am sure that many of you, like me, are worried about your child’s job prospects after graduation, which is why we have dedicated much of this issue to BU Career Services. The center should be a resource for all of our children, regardless of their graduation year—it is never too early to begin thinking about one’s career. I am so pleased to introduce you to the center’s new director, Kimberly DeGuzio, who arrived at BU in June 2009.

In this issue, you’ll also meet some wonderful international families, as well as a proud BU parent and a dedicated alumna—Debrah Goldfarb (’97, COM’78), mother of Benjamin (COM’97, SMG’09) and member of the Parents Leadership and Boston University Alumni councils.

I want to congratulate all students in the Class of 2010 on graduating, extend a heartfelt thank-you to all the parents who supported them, and wish the entire BU community a happy, healthy, and safe summer!

My best wishes,
Jeanne Knox
Chairwoman, Parents Leadership Council
Mother of Merrill (COM’06) and Bobby (COM’08, SAR’10)

About This Magazine

The Boston University Parents Program links parents and other family members of BU students with the University. We encourage your participation and welcome questions and comments. Please write to the Parents Program, Boston University, 595 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 700, West Entrance, Boston, Massachusetts 02215; call 617-358-1137; or e-mail parents@bu.edu.

Please recycle
BU Parent: What challenges did you face in planning and promoting the game? Stephanie Gurtman: Balancing the project with other classes and an internship was hard, because I was really on call for 15 weeks. If something had to get done, it had to get done, whether I was at my internship or had a huge assignment due. I was the media relations team leader; we were in charge of preparing news releases and fact sheets that went out to engage local media. Altogether, there were four different groups: Guerrilla marketing got students involved, community relations reached out to engage nonprofit and schools, in-game promotions handled game-time events—half-time performers, the anthem, things like that.

What did the game-day event line-up look like? Pregame, Dean of Students Kenn Elmore spoke to middle-school-aged students about the importance of college and his experience growing up; the BU Dance Team taught a Brookline youth dance troupe a routine that was performed at half-time; the Boston City Singers sang the anthem; the first 300 fans received BU basketball water bottles and rally towels; and we raffled off four BU jerseys. Postgame, there was a meet-and-greet and signing with the coach and players and the big draw; a championship trophy showcase. People could take pictures with the Red Sox, Celtics, and BU men’s ice hockey championship trophies.

What did you enjoy most? Sunday, when it all came to fruition—to see that the blood, sweat, and tears paid off! I also really enjoyed the camaraderie that our class developed. It was not a typical class where you show up, you see people, you smile, you say “hi.” It was more than that. It was a whole new experience.

—Rachel Johnson (MET’12)

Web Extra
For the latest BU Athletics news and video highlights, or to buy tickets, visit www.goterriers.com.

Did You Know?
BU boasts 504 student-athletes competing in 23 NCAA Division I varsity sports. And while student attendance has jumped threefold in recent years, let’s not forget our parent fans: These mom and pop Terriers work hard to support their children, as well as their teammates, by organizing pregame parties and cheering from the stands. To all parents of student athletes—thank you for being such great ambassadors for the University!

—Lorna Kany (CAST’11)

Your student’s gift helps build BU’s future.
It’s amazing what $20.10 can do.

Each year, members of Boston University’s graduating class join together at www.bu.edu/classgift to help support, enrich, and enhance the experience of current students. Now it’s the Class of 2010’s turn. With a gift of $20.10—or even $201.00—your graduating senior can support an area of BU life that matters to them, from financial aid to student life. Students can personalize gifts, too, by choosing to donate to any BU school or college—and in honor of any mentor—of their choice.

See how much $20.10 can achieve at www.bu.edu/classgift.

When Stephanie Gurtman (COM’10) entered her media relations course last September, she had no idea she’d be one of the first students to help plan and promote a BU men’s basketball game. Gurtman’s class was chosen to run every marketing initiative and event for the December 6 game against Bucknell, from involving local media to finding singers for the national anthem. The semester-long project, which reached out to the BU and Boston communities, culminated with flawless event timing and a BU victory on the court. It was, says Gurtman, “A lot of fun, but quite exhausting.”
Parenting From Across the Globe

(And you think the drive from New Jersey was bad.)

BY CORINNE STEINBRENNER (COM’06)

Mamta Gupta remembers how hard it was to watch her son leave home nearly four years ago to begin his freshman year at Boston University. “It was a very sad day,” she recalls, “but I had to hold back my emotions. I didn’t let him know. You have to let your children find their own path in life.”

While this scene surely sounds familiar, Gupta’s situation is different from that of most BU parents: her son’s path took him not simply across the state or the country, but across a continent and an ocean—more than 7,000 miles from home.

Gupta lives in New Delhi, in northern India, and she and her husband Prem Kishan had originally planned to send their son, Ishaan (SMG’10), to an Indian university. “But after seeing the conditions at the college where he got admission and after evaluating the value of the degree he would get there, we decided it was a much better choice to send him abroad,” she says of the family’s decision.

ONE BU, MANY NATIONS

The Guptas are not alone in making that choice. BU’s international student population has grown by 78% over the past 10 years, according to BU’s International Students & Scholars Office (ISSO), which assists the University in its efforts to attract and retain international students. ISSO serves more than 7,000 international students annually.

The popularity of Boston as a college town is part of what convinced the Guptas to send their son to BU. “There are so many students going from India to the U.S., and especially to Boston,” says Gupta. “It seems like a very student-friendly place.”

Thanks to its large international student population, BU sustains an African Students Organization, a Caribbean Culture Club, a Japanese Student Association, and other groups that enable foreign students to meet others who share their culture. BU also has club teams in rugby, cricket, table tennis, jujitsu, and other sports that enjoy most of their popularity outside the United States.

BU’s international diversity offers an advantage to American students as well. Interacting with students from other countries and cultures—or trying out new sports and activities—helps to broaden the perspective of domestic students, says Kelley. “I think international students contribute as much as they gain from being in an American classroom,” she says.

MODERN TECHNOLOGY

While studying abroad used to be isolating for some international students, modern technology has made keeping in touch with family and friends back home infinitely easier. “One of our big services used to be helping international students figure out how to call home to say they got here okay,” says James Leck, associate director for student services at the ISSO. “Now they pick up their cell phone, or they send an e-mail—or they Tweet.”

Advances in communication technology have made international parents’ lives easier as well. Despite being 6,000 miles away in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, Maen Snaobar speaks to his daughter, Haifa (SMG’10), nearly every day. “My father is a very early riser,” Haifa says. “He wakes up around 4 a.m. in Saudi Arabia, which is 8 or 9 p.m. Boston time. So if the phone rings at that time, I know who it is.”

Gupta talked to Ishaan nearly every day when he first arrived at BU, and now that he’s a busy senior, she gets cell phone calls from him a few times a week: “The only real communication barrier is the 10.5-hour time difference (India uses an offset time zone, placing it a half-hour off of the world’s standard time zone). To figure out what time it is at home in New Delhi, Ishaan says, he subtracts 2.5 hours from Eastern Standard Time and then switches a.m. to p.m. The calculation changes a bit during Daylight Saving Time, which isn’t observed in India.

Technology also helps international parents keep up with campus news. While printed publications can take weeks to arrive in foreign countries, Mamta Gupta receives BU’s monthly e-Home to newsletter (subscribe at www.bu.edu/parentprograms/newsletter) in her e-mail inbox on the same day that American parents do. “Parents—foreign and domestic—who want more than a monthly update can also check out the University’s daily news site, www.bu.edu/today.”

BU’s increasing global presence allows today’s international parents additional opportunities to connect with campus life. BU’s Parents Program has a tradition of organizing receptions around the United States where BU families can meet University personnel. With President Robert A. Brown and other administrators now traveling abroad on University business on a regular basis, the Parents Program is able to schedule these receptions in other countries as well. The Guptas, for example, hosted high tea for other BU families in their home while Brown was in New Delhi for the BU India 2010 Global Leadership Summit (www.bu.edu/india2010).

Even with so many opportunities to keep in touch with globe-trotting children, however, parents of international students—just like American parents—are often eager to have their kids back after graduation. Haifa Snaobar says she’s considered moving to Los Angeles after graduation, but her parents are rooting for London, which is 5,000 miles closer to them. They urged her to choose Boston for her studies, she says. “But now that it’s time for me to graduate, they say, ‘You have to come back closer. It’s been four years, and now we want you closer to home.’”

The Wonders of Webcams

Haven’t seen your son or daughter in a while? Give this a try:

1. Find out when your child will be passing through the GSU Link (the main hallway of the George Sherman Union) and ask him/her to give you a wave.
2. Log onto BU’s webcam page (www.bu.edu/today/web-cams) at the appointed time and click on “The Link.”
3. Search the crowd for that darling face.

Web Extra

Get expert advice on visas, travel, and adjusting to Boston life at www.bu.edu/issop
Welcome to Costume Production II, a required course for both undergradu- ate and graduate costume design and costume production majors. Students taking the course construct a three-piece men’s suit from the 19th or the 20th century—in the fall semester, the jacket, spring semester, the matching pants and vest.

The class is tucked away in the costume shop in the Boston University Theatre on Huntington Avenue, a 10-minute bus ride from the Charles River Campus. Nancy Leary, a College of Fine Arts assistant professor of production and design, walks us at 2 p.m.—on the dot. Most students have been there since 1:30 or earlier, getting a head start.

At the beginning of the course, the class studied different kinds of men’s suits. Some decided to create the traditional pach, while others aimed for a military or a Victorian look.

“Today, we’re working on the structure for our jackets,” Leary tells the class. They are working with haircloth fabric, that creates the interlining of a fine suit, the layer underneath that supports the exterior.

Leary draws a large rectangular outline on the board, demonstrating where proper cuts should be placed in the fabric. “Now take your fabric, and cut it half an inch bigger around—half inch, half inch,” she says, making notches on the board.

There’s a fluster as students begin measuring and cutting. Questions range from where to begin to where the pockets go. Most students have a pair of scissors draped across their chest on a string, like tailors, always ready to make a cut.

Leary tells everyone to do a pad stitch to combine different layers of fabric, working right to left. The class looks at her blankly: “No one knows what a pad stitch is?” she asks. “I’ll show you.”

She grabs her materials: thread, fabric laying on the nearby table, a cardboard cylinder salvaged from a lumberyard, cut in half to mimic a shoulder. She demonstrates a stitch that to the untrained eye doesn’t look different from any other. But it serves a distinct purpose: holding multiple layers of fabric together.

Everyone seems engaged in what they’re doing. With plenty of tangible materials to work with, there is no text messaging, no Sudoku being played under notebooks.

Graduate student Erik Teague (CFA11) is creating a double-breasted, 1930s-waisted suit for himself. After working on a 1930s-themed theater pro- duction, he became engrossed in the period. “We worked off of vintage drafts,” he says. “There were lots of math and measurements.”

The fit of a suit from a previ- ous century is different from that of a modern suit. For example, the seat of the pants wasn’t as snug then. Teague must take this into consideration when he calculates his measurements. If Teague was designing for the movies or the stage, his precision would be critical—good costume design can lend authenticity to a production or help ac- tors get into character; a precise suit cut can even ensure an actor walks or stands with period accuracy.

Designer Fabrics or New York Elegant Fabrics, the same places the crew on hit TV fashion show Project Runway goes. Every suit needs between six and seven yards of fabric.

After the tutorial, students keep working until class is over. They still have to make arms and pockets, but that’s for another week.

“It’s kind of like a little puzzle,” Leary says. “It’s not too hard once you take all the mystery out of it—it’s just a matter of cutting a few pieces and put- ting them together.”

Class by class, lecture by lecture, question asked by question answered, an education is built. See more in BU Today’s series of visits to classes across BU at www.bu.edu/today/node/9821.

Web Extra

Designer Fabrics or New York Elegant Fabrics, the same places the crew on hit TV fashion show Project Runway goes. Every suit needs between six and seven yards of fabric.

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Designer Fabrics or New York Elegant Fabrics, the same places the crew on hit TV fashion show Project Runway goes. Every suit needs between six and seven yards of fabric.
As an aspiring journalist, I once thought my job prospects in this economy were vanishingly small. Whenever a mighty newspaper or magazine went out of business, I would sigh, watching opportunity slip away over the digital horizon.

But that all changed when Boston University Parent asked me to write a story about Boston University Career Services. “Go down to its office,” my editor said, “and get your résumé critiqued, ask for some job-hunting tips.” Maybe I would even get a job out of it.

If there is a perfect test of Career Services’s mettle, helping a journalism student find work must surely be it. But with college nearing an end and jobs in short supply, I figured getting some professional help couldn’t hurt.

The first person I turned to was Kimberly DelGizzo, director of Career Services since June 2009. DelGizzo has a way of making students believe in themselves. Her first lesson to me was that students are the engineers of their own future.

“We encourage people to be entrepreneurs of their lives,” DelGizzo told me. “We encourage them to respond to how they change and how the job market changes.”

That message—and the steps being taken by DelGizzo and BU to revamp Career Services into a more visible, effective campus instrument—caught my attention and made me eager to step up my job hunt. After fifteen minutes in her office, I began to realize that maybe I wouldn’t have to move back in with my parents after graduation.

“What we’re hoping to do is begin to really market to students, communicate to them much more successfully than we have in the past,” says DelGizzo. “We are being granted resources that are going to help us increase the size of our staff and enhance the programs that are offered to students.”

NEW-LOOK SERVICE

First among those changes is increasing cooperation between BU’s central career office and career centers at individual schools and colleges. A relaunch of the BU CareerLink website in July 2010—check www.bu.edu/careers—will establish a campuswide platform for employers, parents, and alums to post internships and job opportunities. BU has also committed to building a new home for Career Services. The new space, which will also house the Educational Resource Center and a dining hall, is slated to open in 2012.

Until then, students at every stage of their BU experience can take advantage of a number of services through DelGizzo’s office. Eager job seekers can make appointments with counselors (continued on next page)
for quick 15-minute résumé critiques or hour-long career counseling ses- sions. BU’s experts can discuss graduate school and career decision making, job search strategies, and even help prep- aration and conduct career assessments to develop tailored action plans. Younger students can receive help in finding internships and learn how choosing a particular major will impact their career plans. Throughout the year, all students are encouraged to attend a variety of career expos and networking events across campus.

I was able to get a hold for those services, and there, the others being offered, during my visit with DelGioso, who listened intently as I described my strengths, likes and dislikes, and career goals. On the practical side, DelGioso was also able to show me around, which she tore apart—constructively, of course.

GETTING PARENTS INVOLVED
Career Services isn’t just about the students; there are also ways for parents to become involved. Though DelGioso has a policy of not discussing students’ confidential career conversations with parents, she encourages mom and dad to lend their support, even if it means help- ing other people’s children.

One BU parent, David Buttrolph (COS’77, CAS’79), has already done so. As the managing director of Brookside Mezzanine Partners, a Connecticut- based investment group, Buttrolph has come to realize that offering jobs and internships to fellow Terriers is good for his company, and his conscience.

“These internships from BU are very articulate; they’re able to stand in front of people,” says Buttrolph, whose daugh- ter, Kristen (COS’10, BU’12), is at BU. “I think if all alumni could help out by offering internships and hiring BU alumni, it would be a huge pay-it-forward.”

But Buttrolph warned me that in the current tough economy, I’ll have to do what I can once I graduate, even if that means working without pay for a while.

“Why’s it just tough right now? There are just very few companies that have open positions. Very few people are expanding,” Buttrolph says. “If you can get an unpaid internship with the poten- tial for a job, you’ve got to go for it.”

Good advice, but what if a student can’t find a job on- or off-campus?

Mike Younis (SMG’09) has contacted businesses and set up infor- mational interviews—a networking strategy suggested by DelGioso. For Younis, who prefers to network and apply for jobs through e-mail, cold-calling businesses has been rough. But it’s given him some solid leads, including a recent meeting with a BU alumnus at an environ- mental consulting firm, and he credits DelGioso—and his father—for getting him up from his computer and out the door to keep his job search going. Younis has continued to turn to Career Services since leaving BU— a warranty DelGioso emphasizes is good for life.

“Today’s graduates are going to change jobs or industries 5 to 12 times on average,” she says. “That’s why it’s so important to be well prepared for successfully navigating the job search process.”

Knowing my career will likely change was oddly comforting, and even liberating. That, along with the support of Career Services, was enough to convince me that job opportunities have not disappeared— DelGioso confirms BU has hundreds of openings at www.bu.edu/careers/ bu-careerlink.html—they’re just a bit harder to find. For those whose own chil- dren might be losing hope, take my advice and don’t let them give up, even after graduation, they can still get some profes- sional help from BU Career Services.

Editor’s note: Since writing this article, Greg (accompanied by his freshly reupholstered recliner) has secured a position with New Hampshire’s venerable Union Leader newspaper. Congratulations, Greg!

20 Questions with Tyler Adams (SMG’10)

Since winning a coveted spot in the School of Management’s Sydney Manage- ment Internship Program in 2008, Tyler Adams (SMG’10) has had one eye on the globe: “I know that I want to travel and see as much of the world as I can,” he says. With his life as a student about to wrap up, Adams sees nothing but endless possibilities, whether it’s a future overseas or the childhood dream he just won’t shake: basketball superstar. — BJ

How Parents Can Help Become a Parent Ambassador

We realize parents have wonderful connections, excellent resources, and expert knowledge to share with our students and we encour- age you to become involved. If you, your company, or even your employer is interested in offering internships or job opportunities to BU students, please contact Career Services Recruiting Manager Heather Reginotto at har@bu.edu.

To show our appreciation, we’ll recognize you as a Boston Univer- sity Parent Ambassador. You’ll join other Parent Ambassadors who’ve been involved in BU life in many ways, from hosting students on Alter- native Spring Break to cheering on our athletics teams. For more information about the Ambassador Program, please visit www.bu.edu/ parentsprogram.

We thank you in advance for your willingness to support our students.

—Christy Loving, Associate Director, Parents Program

1. What are your favorite topics of conversation? Talking about business ideas. My friends and I are trying to come up with the next big idea.

2. What would your dream business be? Something that means we don’t have to get jobs and don’t have to worry about the job market!

3. What books are you reading now? My grandfather’s autobiography. He’s not famous or anything, he just wanted to write down his life.

4. Whom do you admire? I admire my parents. My mom’s the strongest woman I know and my dad taught me a lot about how to live.

5. Who or what makes you laugh out loud? Justin Greco (SMG’10), my roommate. He can make me laugh every single day.

6. What are your most marked strengths? I’m an optimistic guy; I look at everything as posi- tively as I can.

7. What are your hidden talents? Food challenges. I once ate three pounds of apple- sauce in two minutes.

8. What’s your greatest achievement? Leaving the country and seeing other cultures and other ways of life.

9. What was it like studying in Sydney? It’s a completely different university scene. Part of it was the distractions that came along with it—the warm weather, the beach right there—but the class structure and the interaction with professors were completely different.

10. Did you get a chance to travel beyond Sydney? Once our program in Sydney was over, I went to New Zealand, Thailand—where I posed with Meatball the tiger—and then back to Australia and worked on a vineyard for a while.

11. If you could live anywhere else in the world, where would it be? I’d go back to Sydney. Just an unbelievable city. I’m considering moving back there after graduation; if I could get a cool job out there, I’d definitely go back.

12. What do you enjoy most about BU? The quality of the professors I have had.

13. Where do you get your news? I live in an apartment with 10 guys, and we get a ton of news and knowledge from one another.

14. What’s your favorite campus hangout? My apartment. With all of our friends, it’s always packed and there’s always something going on.

15. What do you do to relax? At home [Cape Coral, Florida], I get out in the warm weather. Here, it’s fun to play in the snow and act like a kid.

16. Who will you play in the movie of your life? Will Smith. I want to play the role of Beatty.

17. What do you never leave home without? Fruit. I normally always have some sort of food or fruit in my backpack. I never know when I’m going to get stuck at SMG working on a project all day.

18. What humanitarian cause interest you most? Habitat for Humanity. Being able to give someone a home is unbelievable.

19. What do you splurge on? Trips. I’d rather save my money now, and then be able to spend it to experience something new.

20. What’s your dream job? I want to be a basketball player. Even if that sounds like a little-kid answer, it’ll be my dream job forever.
Athletes Are Getting the Real Win: Diplomas

Boston University’s athletic teams are scoring big where it matters most—off the field, in classrooms, earning diplomas.

According to the NCAA, which tracks graduation rates of students in athletic scholarships at Division I institutions, BU’s Athletics Department earned an overall graduation success rate of 94 percent for students intending to graduate in the classes of 2003 to 2006. Women’s basketball, golf, rowing, soccer, tennis, and men’s and women’s swimming put up perfect scores.

Nationwide, the graduation rate for Division I students receiving athletic aid during the same period was 79 percent, although the national figure factors in sports such as fencing, gymnastics, bowling, skiing, and football, which BU doesn’t offer.

“It’s another indication of the quality of student-athletes we have here at BU,” says Mike Lynch, assistant vice president and director of athletics. “They’re focused on achievement in school as much as they are on the playing field, on the ice, on the tennis court. Our student-athletes graduated four percentage points better than the University’s general student population, which I’m really proud of.” — Clay DiNapoli

You can read the full story at www.bu.edu/today/2009/12/04/athletes-are-getting-real-win-diplomas.

News Bites

Space for Music to Soar

The College of Fine Arts has transformed its music practice and teaching spaces, giving students facilities worthy of their talents.

The newly opened Judith R. Harris Center for Music Teaching & Learning includes a fully equipped music studio, ethnomusicology classroom, piano lab with networked electronic keyboards, and soundproofed practice studios.

“There’s really been a shift in the attitude of the students,” says flattat Caitlyn Perry (CFA’06), ‘10) of the new basement facilities, which replace aging practice and teaching spaces. “Before, people weren’t thrilled about practicing. We’d still spend a ton of time down here, but it wasn’t enjoyable. There’s been a change; people are a lot more upbeat, they’re happier.” — Andrew Thurston

A violin student puts one of CFA’s new, state-of-the-art practice rooms to the test at www.bu.edu/today/2009/11/24/practice-made-perfect.

Honors College Unveiled

Boston University has launched a new four-year undergraduate program. University Honors College will offer students the opportunity to pursue a broader degree, combining the requirements of their existing majors with cross-disciplinary classes, intensive seminars, and independent study. The College will not grant separate degrees, but will bring together students in existing liberal arts and professional programs whose additional work will be noted on their diplomas.

“It’s important for institutions of higher learning to be continually developing the best and most innovative ways to reach their students,” President Robert A. Brown told BU Today. “The University Honors College allows students to have an interdisciplinary perspective while maintaining focus on one of our excellent existing schools and colleges.”

This spring, a select group of incoming 2010 freshmen was invited to join the program based on “their interest and drive to understand issues from multiple perspectives,” according to Laurie Pohle, vice president for enrollment and student affairs. — AT

Find out more about University Honors College at www.bu.edu/uhc.

LAW Ranks High

BU School of Law has been ranked number 13 in the first ever Super Lawyers list of U.S. law schools. Unlike many other ranking systems, Super Lawyers marked schools only on the success of their practicing graduates.

Each year, the magazine picks the top 5 percent of lawyers in each state according to peer rankings and publisher research; its 2010 list of schools is based on the number of graduates from each school to make it onto the honor roll of top lawyers. — AT

BU Expertise Helps Haiti

Maps produced by BU students and faculty in the aftermath of Haiti’s January earthquake are helping the Caribbean nation rebuild its devastated capital.

In the weeks after the quake, a team from BU shared the maps with Haitian President René Préval to illustrate how immediate construction decisions could affect the country’s long-term future.

Faculty from BU’s Center for Remote Sensing and the College of Arts & Sciences joined with colleagues from Harvard to oversee a student team producing more than 60 maps detailing the destruction. The maps called data from traditional and unconventional sources; from private satellite firms to social networking sites, to show surviving hospitals and water supplies and chart early camp settlements. The team’s recommendations included over 80 suggested temporary shelter locations and sites for permanent rebuilding away from fault lines and the waterfront.

The wider BU community also came together in February for a fundraising event, Boston Stands with Haiti. The student-run benefit, which featured live music, a silent auction, a live video link with Haiti, and an appearance by Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, raised $85,000 for Partners in Health (you can see a slideshow of the event at www.bu.edu/today/2010/02/28/haiti-benefit).

The non-profit’s experts are providing health care and disease prevention services throughout Haiti. — AT

You can read more about the work done by BU to help Haiti rebuild at www.bu.edu/today/node/10210.

Rwandard’s President Joins Class

“Everyone will have a chance to ask their question,” Stephen Kimmer asserted his students. “They can be sharp and focused as long as they are respectful, as a head of state deserves.”

Minutes later, students in Kimmer’s international relations seminar on Rwanda took turns engaging the African country’s president, Paul Kagame, via teleconference. Topics ranged from women’s rights to trade relations, rural development to nuclear energy.

Kimmer (CAS’73), a College of Arts & Sciences visiting professor of international relations, says the three-hour seminar often features a guest speaker with deep knowledge of Rwanda, but having Kagame participate was a major coup.

“I tried to do this in early autumn [of 2009], when the president was at the United Nations, but it didn’t work out and I thought that was the end of it,” Kimmer says. “But I kept writing e-mails and eventually got back a note saying he was willing to do it.”

The longtime New York Times correspondent, who has reported from around the globe, established a connection with Kagame after interviewing him for A Thousand Hills: Rwanda’s Rebirth and the Man Who Dreamed It (Wiley, 2008). — Edward A. Brown

You can see a video about the class at www.bu.edu/today/node/9936.

LipDub: 120 Students, No Edits

Georgia Poirve (COM’10) was determined to leave a legacy at Boston University. So, one month before her January 2010 graduation, amidst finals and research papers, the film student took on an enormous project—the first ever BU LipDub.

For the unintentional, LipDub combines lip-synching and audio dubbing to create a music video. Filmed in a single take, a video features hundreds of students who dance, wear outlandish costumes, and carry props to illustrate song lyrics. The trend started through European colleges earlier this year.

“I always wanted to do a big production,” says Poirve. “Something that represented all aspects of student life.”

The finished product, filmed at the George Sherman Union, is one of the first of its kind in the United States. It features about 120 students dancing to a mashup of the Jackson 5’s “ABC” and “I Want You Back.”

Poirve hopes LipDub will become a BU tradition. “Even though people didn’t know one another,” she says, “they were still singing and dancing together. I think that really says something about the spirit of BU.” — Vicki Wilczynski

You can see the extraordinary one-take video at www.bu.edu/today/node/10096.

Sources include: BU Today and Express. Articles excerpted with permission.

The long time New York Times correspondent, who has reported from around the globe, established a connection with Kagame after interviewing him for A Thousand Hills: Rwanda’s Rebirth and the Man Who Dreamed It (Wiley, 2008).

— Edward A. Brown

You can see a video about the class at www.bu.edu/today/node/9936.

LipDub: 120 Students, No Edits

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Summer Send-Offs

Not so much a send-off as a welcome Summer Send-Off receptions, hosted by parents and alumni, give us a chance to welcome incoming freshmen and their families to BU, wherever they are in the U.S. or the world.

1. Los Angeles, CA: A large group of incoming freshmen attend a Summer Send-Off.
2. Minneapolis, MN: (from top r.) Dan Soloworth of the Dean of Students office, Daryl DeLuca, Howard Thurman Center Director Katherine Kennedy, University Trustee Sharon Ryan (SAR’70), Lauren Kuebler (CAS’08), and Dean Elmire.
3. Minneapolis, MN: Incoming freshmen at the residence of University Trustee Sharon Ryan (SAR’70) and her husband Bob.
4. San Juan, PR: Alumni help welcome new students to BU, (from l-r) Julian Sánchez (COM’09), Daniel Ramirez (SMG’09), Daryl DeLuca, Luis Miguel Peltol (CAS’09), and Luis Vélez (SMG’09).
5. San Francisco, CA: Dale and Deborah Tilley with son, Zachary (MET’13) at a Send-Off hosted by Sam Nachor (COM’95, SMG’97).
6. New Canaan, CT: P&Q member Kim Buttolph and David Buttolph (CSS’77, CAS’79) with their daughter Kristen Buttolph (CGS’10, BU’12).

Photos 1-5 courtesy of Daryl DeLuca
Photo 6 courtesy of Kim Buttolph

Parent Receptions

We bring BU to you. The Parents Program, Dean of Students Kenneth Elmire, and Assistant Dean of Students Daryl DeLuca travel around the country to meet with parents and give them an update on what’s happening in Boston.

Want to know when BU is coming to you? Visit www.bu.edu/parentsprogram.

You at BU: Parents Weekend 2009

Every year, thousands of parents hit the BU campus to check in on their children and get a taste of Boston. At Parents Weekend 2009, they took in hockey games, live comedy, PittRec tours, the Head of the Charles Regatta, and student life expos. Don’t panic if you missed it, there’s another one around the corner: Parents Weekend 2010 will be October 22–24.

Photos courtesy of Daryl DeLuca

Top right: Dean Elmire’s Jazz Brunch at the House of Blues.

Let’s Go Boston!

We’re already planning for Parents Weekend, 2010. October 22–24. Here are some websites to get you prepped and excited for your visit.

Tips for being a Bostonian.
Get to know Boston as well as your kids do at www.bu.edu/orientation/families/parents-weekend.

Get booked.
Maps, directions, hotels, and other travel info to help you plan your trip at www.bu.edu/infocenter.

A student’s take.
A junior remembers the ups and downs of her parents’ first visit to campus at www.bu.edu/today/2009/10/15/parents-weekend-redux.

If your kids won’t friend you on Facebook, we will.

We know how our students roll: Not every kid wants to friend mom or dad on Facebook and not all students are great at keeping their parents up-to-date with the latest news.

That’s why we’re on Facebook. Become our fans (we won’t turn you down) for the latest campus happenings, event updates, photos, and useful links.

www.facebook.com/BUParents
Getting More from BU

Being involved in life on Comm. Ave. has its perks. Just ask Parents Leadership Council member Deb Ralph Goldberg: she’s been invited to hockey triumphs, heard mind-blowing lectures, and made friends for life. “I get back,” she says, “way more than I give.”

Goldberg is big into life at BU. As well as being a generous donor, she’s also on the BU Alumni Council, the College of General Studies Dean’s Advisory Board, and “every single e-mail list.” If BU sends it, she receives it: “I might delete it, but some of it’s fascinating,” she says.

Part of the motivation can be found in her affiliation with BU—Goldberg graduated from CGS in 1976 and CAS in 1978—and some in helping her son Ben (CAS’07, SOM’09) get more from his time at the University.

Subscribing to daily news updates from www.bu.edu/today meant she could help close Ben in to campus life, even when she was home in Toronto and he was all about class deadlines. Signing up for events and committees with other parents gave her an unofficial support group for sharing advice on everything from student experiences of moving off campus to finding summer jobs. Goldberg says it all allowed her to be a better resource for her son “because I understood the University better.” Plus, she gained some good old-fashioned reassurance.

“I really liked to know what other kids at the University were doing because you don’t necessarily get that from your child,” says Goldberg. “It made me understand that Ben wasn’t alone.”

Ben may’ve just graduated, but that doesn’t mean Goldberg is ready to sign off.

“To give of your time is wonderful and very fulfilling,” she says. “To be giving in a place that has benefited your child and your family is a real honor.

“Once you’re no longer a parent of a student, it doesn’t mean you have to get off of these committees. You’re always going to be a parent of a child who has graduated from Boston University”—AT

Make a Gift

Please visit the Parents Program website, at www.bu.edu/parentprogram, to make a gift today. Together, we can prepare our students for success.

Photo courtesy of Deb Ralph Goldberg (CAS’76, CAS’78)

BU Bookmarks

Resources@www.bu.edu

BU’s website is packed with resources for you and your student. Here are our picks from www.bu.edu to help you become an expert on all things BU, learn more about campus life, and find out where to turn for help and advice.

www.bu.edu +

/answers/bookstore
Links to BU’s bookstores for gifts, clothing, and school supplies. And, of course, books for fun and study.

/calendar
Event listings and key dates, from admissions deadlines to vacations.

/careers
Career advice and tools for students at every stage of University life.

/comp/soweb
Advice on University payments, including tuition fees and medical insurance.

/csc
Information on student-run community volunteering programs.

/dos
Programs and services from the Dean of Students to enhance your child’s personal and academic growth.

/financialaid
Comprehensive information on financial aid support for undergraduate students and their families.

/housing
Everything you need to know about living on campus, from dining options to summer housing.

/infocenter
Maps, directions, and other info to help you plan your trip to BU.

/life/student
There’s more to BU than our classrooms—get a taste of the other opportunities offered.

/parentsprogram
Just for parents event listings, resources, giving information, and volunteer opportunities.

/reg
The Registrar maintains student records and tuition information, issues transcripts, verifies attendance, produces the class schedule, and more.

/shs
The home of Student Health Services: see who’s taking care of your students and the health resources available to them.

/today
BU’s news and information website—you can sign up for a daily wrap of all the news from BU or just dip in to see what’s happening today.
Picture what a million dollars could do for BU students.

Now double it.

The Cohen Challenge

Gifts to the Parents Annual Campaign support Boston University classes, faculty, and student activities every day. This spring, however, your contribution will do twice the work. For every new or increased donation to the campaign, University Trustee Richard Cohen (CGS’67, SMG’69) will make an equal contribution—up to $1 million in additional support!

Please help BU raise $2 million for students in less than three months. But act quickly: Mr. Cohen will only match gifts until June 30th!

Give today at www.bu.edu/doubleit.