Dear Friends,

It has been an exciting time of growth and transition for Boston University and Sargent College. In July 2013, I was honored to take on the Sargent deanship when Gloria Waters stepped down to assume her new role as vice president and associate provost for research for the University. In this challenging environment for funding, Gloria’s leadership and experience as a researcher is an asset in exploring innovative ways to translate our research into life-changing reality. At the same time, we’ve continued to enhance and expand Sargent’s facilities and academic offerings—introducing an undergraduate degree in behavior and health, growing our research faculty, and renovating our teaching lab space with state-of-the-art technology.

Our peers and prospective students are taking notice. Sargent had a 67 percent increase in undergraduate applications for the Class of 2017 and an admission rate of just 22 percent, one of the most selective in the University. Our faculty continue to be recognized by professional associations and selected for prestigious fellowships—recent accolades include honors from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the American Public Health Association. Additionally, BU joined the Association of American Universities, an invitation-only organization of leading public and private research universities in the United States and Canada.

Our work, like our world, doesn’t operate in a vacuum. We’re proud to be part of a broader research enterprise that spans institutions and disciplines. Consider our cover story: a physical therapy professor using his biomechanics expertise to fill in the missing piece of his former student’s anthropological puzzle, leading to a widely publicized article in Science. Our students, too, use the knowledge they’ve gained at Sargent to propel them into a wide range of diverse experiences and careers. Recent graduate Kristen Wihera (’13) used the skills she learned as a human physiology major to fulfill her dream of joining the Navy as part of the highly selective Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

So, what’s next?

In this issue of Inside Sargent, we feature the College’s cutting-edge research: a visually guided hearing aid that amplifies sound based on eye movement, the use of brain imaging to detect the symptoms of ADHD, and a novel stroke treatment that patients can do at home using an iPad. You’ll no doubt be hearing about these advances in the media soon. High-tech health care innovations of the future are being developed at Sargent today.

I’m pleased to be a part of the exciting changes taking place at BU and Sargent, and I look forward to continuing to promote and advance our mission of research and clinical excellence.

With warm regards,

Kathleen G. Morgan
Dean ad interim and professor

“OUR WORK, LIKE OUR WORLD, DOESN’T OPERATE IN A VACUUM. WE’RE PROUD TO BE PART OF A BROADER RESEARCH ENTERPRISE THAT SPANS INSTITUTIONS AND DISCIPLINES.”
BU RESTRUCTURES RESEARCH

Gloria Waters, former Sargent dean, has been appointed Boston University’s vice president and associate provost for research as part of a restructuring of the University’s research enterprise as dean ad interim at Sargent. In her new position, Waters will streamline research functions, expand BU’s research portfolio, and oversee the increasingly complex and challenging sweep of research administration. Waters plans to “expand the breadth and depth of research on campus by institutionalizing research as part of a restructuring of the University’s research enterprise, her own and colleagues’ research, and the comprehensive literature on cognitive therapy to determine the tasks that are most effective in helping those who have had a stroke recover their language and cognitive processing abilities.”

“We can adapt the therapy based on what our patients want and need, and the app gives them control over their therapy.”
—Swathi Kiran

Associate Professor Swathi Kiran (see above) has been named a fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, two occupational therapy assistant professors, Simone Gill and Jessica Kramer, have been awarded Comprehensive Opportunities in Rehabilitation Research Training fellowships, and Kee Chan, assistant professor of health science, has been honored with the American Public Health Association’s Young Professional award.

WEB EXTRA

Visit www.bu.edu/aphasiaresearch to learn more about the Aphasia Research Lab and find links to a free trial of Constant Therapy.

TOP AWARDS

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IN PICTURES

A Glimpse into Life at Sargent

Clockwise from top left:
Eating Well Sargent Choice makes healthy eating easier at BU.
Getting Stronger The Ryan Center for Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation provides a real-world classroom.
Catch! Students can learn from research studies featuring the old, young, and very young.
Helping Boston Students learn about community needs at BCYF Blackstones, a neighborhood health center.
Don’t Survive, Thrive The 2013 Dudley Allen Sargent Lecture, author Joffy Rosenberg, shares his journey from amputation to extreme sports.

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