Advice for Grads: Focus on Today

Given the current economic outlook, MET’s 2009 graduates received unlikely advice from commencement speaker Mary Kennard (MET’76): “Live in the present.”

Instead of discussing the often material benefits of a completing a degree, such as a new job, a bigger house, or a higher salary, Kennard, who received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to the Profession, reminded audience members about the importance of successes that are more, well, human in nature.

A decorated attorney who turned her interest in community building into a multifaceted career as vice president and chief legal counsel at American University, Kennard remarked that of her many professional successes, those with an interpersonal dimension are her proudest. “I count my best works,” she said, “in the eyes of the people I know that I have helped.”

“Sure everyone needs things, homes, cars, clothes, accolades,” said Kennard. “But what we really seem to need most at the end of the day is more time with people we care for.”

Kennard suggested that by focusing on the now, rather than looking too far ahead or staying focused on the past, graduates will actually be more attuned to possibilities for making a difference in their lives and the lives of others. The reward for fully appreciating relationships with family members, friends, colleagues, teachers, classmates, or even clients, she explained, is a greater sense of purpose and fulfillment. And from there, any number of unexpected opportunities may arise in years to come.

continued on page 6 >

Two Generations of Hockey Excellence at MET

You probably know that the BU men’s ice hockey team claimed the 2009 NCAA Division 1 National Championship.

You probably didn’t know that eight of the team’s players—Matt Gilroy, Eric Gryba, Chris Higgins, Jason Lawrence, Joe Pereira, Steve Smolinsky, Brian Strait, and Brandon Yip—are MET students.

Imagine the surprise of seniors Higgins and Lawrence when they arrived at commencement to find that they would be graduating alongside Jim Craig, the legendary goalie from the gold-medal winning 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team. Craig, too, is a member of MET’s Class of 2009.

The two generations had the opportunity to meet and congratulate one another before the ceremony. Afterward, MET caught up with Craig and Higgins to ask about their mutual experiences as students and hockey champs.

continued on page 3 >

Mary Kennard, winner of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

National ice hockey champions Jason Lawrence and Chris Higgins with Jim Craig, goalie of the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team.

Two Generations of Hockey Excellence at MET
WE CELEBRATED THE GRADUATION OF A RECORD NUMBER OF STUDENTS AT OUR CONVOCATION ON SATURDAY, MAY 16TH.

This was the first time we held our ceremonies the evening before the University event, and we not only had more graduates than ever but also a tremendous number of loved ones in the audience. We filled the University’s Track and Tennis arena. It is important at these moments to appreciate what this support means to those who have completed rigorous academic degree programs at pivotal points in their lives.

I often wonder what goes through the minds of those approaching the stage to receive their diploma—perhaps how much work and effort went into their degrees, how happy (or sometimes sad) they are to finally be finished, or how this degree now alters what they think of themselves and their future. They appear so proud to be the center of attention in front of family and friends. This sense of pride is not reserved only for young students—even our students in their thirties and beyond (who often have their children in the audience) relish this moment.

I do know how this makes faculty and staff feel. This is the moment we are reminded why we chose our professions, and this is how we confirm that our work has value. Metropolitan College is the quintessential American institution. We are there for those seeking second chances, new opportunities, further personal and professional growth, and even ambitious dreams. We make attainable what might have seemed impossible, and treat our students as first-class citizens of a world-class university. We pride ourselves in how we create and deliver higher learning—and have become recognized leaders in the fields we teach and how we teach those subjects. Management gurus like to credit “disruptive technology” as a positive force in a dynamic economy; we take pride in the disruptive pedagogy we introduce in how learning occurs. MET holds traditional academic values dear, and keeps strong educational goals front and center, even as we introduce innovation—as we seek new ways to address the learning needs of our community and beyond.

This has been a great year, in an otherwise turbulent world, for both Metropolitan College and Boston University. Commencement is the validation of what we do—and simply the beginning of the next stage for our graduates and their alma mater.

I hope you enjoy reading about what is happening at this unique enterprise.

Jay A. Halfond
Dean
Hockey Excellence  continued from page 1 >

Hockey and the classroom
Craig and Higgins stressed that college athletes—despite their place in mainstream campus culture—are non-traditional students with needs comparable to working parents and midcareer professionals.

During the hockey season, for example, the team starts the day at five a.m. Together, they run five miles before squeezing in breakfast and heading off to class at eight. Until noon, when they head back to the rink for another five hours of grueling practice. Then, it’s off to class again after dinner. This all in addition to games and travel.

“We have a very limited time frame in which to actually attend classes,” said Higgins. “And it is sometimes impossible to meet degree requirements inside it. That is where MET can really make a difference.”

“Playing on a collegiate team is a full-time job with a full work load,” said Craig, “and it is vital that universities give their athletes the chance to develop academically.”

Craig and Higgins reflected that student athletes often have the drive, but not always the institutional support, to balance sports and academics.

“You are not a regular student,” said Higgins. “If you’re smart, you can balance your priorities. But you may not get to do all of the things that other students get to do.”

It is this kind of motivation, Craig argues, that professors should recognize when working with athletes as students. “These are talented individuals, with an exceptional ability to focus and to excel, and it can be channeled in the classroom,” he said.

Craig’s graduation marks the completion of the bachelor’s degree he started at BU over thirty years ago. With only a semester to go in 1979, his studies were interrupted by the demands of the sport: first the World Championship, then the Olympics and the NHL. Though he has since founded Gold Medal Strategies, a successful consulting company, he came back to fulfill a promise he made to his mother, who died of cancer during his sophomore year. “I wanted to honor my commitment,” he said. “But I never anticipated that I’d be so excited about graduating and attending commencement.”

Lessons on the ice
Higgins played a critical role in helping the Terriers come from behind to score two goals in fifty-nine seconds in the national championship game against Miami University. And if you’ve seen the movie, you know how Craig led the U.S. Olympic team to gold, upsetting all of the world’s best hockey teams: Czechoslovakia, Russia, and then Finland.

When asked about strategies for remaining cool under pressure, Higgins said, “Our confidence in ourselves was absolutely key. We knew it was our time.”

Craig emphasized focus and perspective. “It was simply my job to let in fewer goals than the other team,” he said. The political contexts of a U.S.-Soviet matchup in 1980, though inherent, were perhaps more important to spectators than the team.

“Of course in the Olympics your sport is a vehicle for representing your country,” he said. “But I think that great teams have to be young, because they don’t know any better. We were playing a game, and we met our objective, which was to win a gold medal. Though in the end, we definitely have savored that victory over the Soviets!”

On the trials and tribulations of standing in front of the net, Craig commented that “The failures are very disappointing, but they’re also very motivating. The successes are very gratifying, but they can also be very humbling. Tending a goal is a great monitor of your real confidence, your real abilities.”

“Jim Craig is a true legend at BU,” said Higgins. “It’s an honor just to meet him, much less graduate with him.”

Craig showed his school spirit, commenting that “Once you’re at BU, you’re always a BU guy.”

Though Higgins recently signed with the Columbus Blue Jackets, he’s holding on tight to his newly-minted degree. “I’m grateful to be able to pursue a game I love,” he said, “but my degree from BU gives me a backup plan.”

MET STUDENT NAMED BEST HOCKEY PLAYER IN U.S.
MET student and BU hockey defenseman Matt Gilroy received the Hobey Baker Memorial Award, given annually to the best player in college hockey. Read Bostonia’s interview with Gilroy at bu.edu/bostonia.
vision into a multidimensional course that incorporates video, audio, animation, discussion, and text. “We share the same goals as instructors on campus,” said Frey. “We are content driven, and we always begin the design process by asking what students should learn in each course, and how technology can help them learn in the most effective way.”

Senior Student Services Coordinator Elizabeth Curran additionally provided details on the support each student and faculty member can expect to receive throughout the duration of a course—from ordering textbooks to online orientations to technical support. This level of attention has become a hallmark of the BU online experience, and, Curran explained, it goes a long way to help students integrate into the BU community, even from thousands of miles away.

Professor Patrick Jones, who directs the College of Fine Arts’ online master’s and doctoral programs in music education, took time to compliment the Office of Distance Education in this regard. “I want to highlight the great work of our distance education staff,” he said. “They run a large and complex organization, and they make it very user friendly for students and faculty entering into it. We truly appreciate their support.”

Several faculty members, including MET’s Dan LeClair and June Grasso and Sally Sommers-Smith of the College of General Studies, gave presentations on how teaching online has actually translated into better classroom teaching. Throughout the day, MET’s online savvy shone through as faculty and staff delivered nuts and bolts essentials—such as how to proctor secure exams, how best to incorporate group work, and how to know what programs will, and won’t, be suited for an online audience.

The day ended with a look at the future of online education. Director of Distance Education Nancy Coleman suggested that while it may be difficult to anticipate how the advent of new technologies will alter and further enable online learning, it is clear that the online classroom is here to stay. “In five to ten years, as students currently receiving bachelor’s degrees begin to look for a professional master’s degree, they will be looking online,” she said. “We’ve seen a cultural shift in where students look for, and expect to find, resources. It is our challenge to continue raising the quality of our programs in anticipation of this upcoming demand.”

In all, the conference testified to the robustness of online education at Boston University as faculty members shared perspectives based on their experience with the impressive array of programs now offered—from MET’s graduate programs in management to Sargent College’s master in occupational therapy to the joint program between MET and the College of Communication in Health Communication. Jones best summed up the day’s sentiment by remarking, emphatically, “I am now a complete believer in online education.”

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**Distinguished Alumni Awards**
- Michael McCabe MET’87
- Mary Kennard MET’76
- Christine Ferer MET’74
- Roger Deveau Memorial Part-Time Faculty Award
  - Hal Tepfer
  - Actuarial Science

**Certificate of Undergraduate Achievement**
- Westley J. Corbin

**Alumni Student Leader Award**
- Robert Murano

**Excellence in Graduate Studies Awards**
- Elizabeth Matlack
- Actuarial Science
- Rand Ghayad
- Administrative Studies

**MET Leads University-Wide Conference**

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**Learn More**

LEARN MORE about online learning at BU: bu.edu/online.

Illustration by Hugh Syme
Dean Sessa Receives a Scarlet Key Award

What does Carl Sessa, MET’s senior assistant dean of student academic affairs, have in common with former Terrier hockey coach John Kelly, President Robert Brown, or past presidents Daniel Marsh, John Silber, and Aram Chobanian? Like all of these individuals—a list which reads like a Who’s Who of Boston University leadership—Dean Sessa has received an Honorary Scarlet Key Award from the Scarlet Key Society, one of the highest honors bestowed to distinguished members of the BU community. In May, BU’s Dean of Students Kenneth Elmore led a ceremony that celebrated an elite group of students, staff, and faculty for their outstanding contributions to the University. Sessa was recognized for his dedication to MET students. For over ten years, he has overseen, with distinction, student counseling, academic conduct, graduation events, and innumerable other pivotal College affairs. “The challenges of working with MET’s large, dispersed, complex, and heterogeneous student population demonstrates Dean Sessa’s confidence, competence, and breadth of knowledge,” said Dean Halfond.

Patent-ly Secure

In April, MET Computer Science Lecturer Stuart Jacobs earned a long-awaited nod of approval from the federal government for his work in information security. After nine years of scrutiny, his method for public key authentication received a U.S. patent. Simply put, Jacobs has identified strategies for assuring the integrity of digital signatures, the technology that allows individuals to “sign” their name to any number of electronic transactions. For the average internet shopper, e-mail user, or electronic voter, Jacobs’ work means better protection against fraud, greater security for online purchasing, and an improved ability to verify exactly who sent that suspicious message asking for your bank account number. With the right technology, digital signatures are more reliable than written signatures because they can be linked uniquely to an individual through the application of multiple criteria that far exceed the reliability of a handwriting sample.

The King (of Ghana) and I

MET Professor and Chair of Applied Social Sciences Dan Leclair recently took his expertise in the field of victimology all the way to Ghana. His travels led him to cities, rainforests, coastal areas, and agricultural regions. Throughout his journey he enjoyed the company of university students, police officers, and even royalty as he participated in conversations about how MET’s online programs in criminal justice might contribute to the country’s developing opportunities in higher education. Leclair is pictured here with Osagyefuo Amoatia Ofori Panin, the incumbent Okyenhene, King of the Akyem Abukwa Tradition in Ghana.
Leadership Circle of Giving

Boston University is proud to honor the distinguished group of contributors who have helped to provide vital support for MET’s pursuit of excellence. Leadership Circle members are alumni and friends of Metropolitan College who have made a significant financial commitment toward the needs of the College. The Leadership Circle recognizes donations within the current fiscal year to any Metropolitan College Fund.

Mr. Arthur G. Allen (MET’95)*
Mr. Wayne A. Bishop (MET’74)
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Dr. Howard E. Williams, EdD (MET’86)

*Indicates a gift to the MET/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Scholarship.

Advice for Grads continued from page 1 >

“The goal,” said Kennard, “is not really to acquire things but to acquire people—to create meaningful connections with the people who come into our lives.”

This goal has been a driving force throughout Kennard’s career, which began in urban planning classrooms during her undergraduate years at MET. “My time at MET was formative,” said Kennard. “As a senior, I took a course that involved an internship at the State House. I drafted real legislation, and I really got to witness how new laws can impact communities.”

“Working on Beacon Hill, I realized that getting a law degree would help me be a better urban planner, which would in turn make me better able to serve individual people.”

Though she didn’t set out to practice law in higher education, her work at American University has a lot more to do with her early interests in urban planning than might be assumed. “A university is like a small city,” said Kennard. “We have safety and public health concerns, we deal with criminal law and procedure, we deal with tax and estate matters, we handle international intellectual property rights. The best part of my work is the diversity of issues I get to tackle. On any given day I might work on five or six different areas of law, and the next day five or six entirely new areas. It is never boring.”

Clearly, Kennard is up to these many tasks. She has served as president of the National Association of College and University Attorneys, and in 2008 the Washington Business Journal named her a Top Washington Lawyer. Prior to her tenure at American University, she was general counsel, interim vice president for university relations, and vice president for federal relations and public policy at the University of Rhode Island. She additionally has experience in university legal affairs at the University of Pittsburgh and Howard University.

Serving as general counsel in a university setting affords Kennard one of her most valued professional perks: the chance to teach, both informally as a mentor and formally in the classroom. Which is perhaps why, at commencement, she took her own advice and seized the moment to offer one last important lesson to MET grads. “In 1976,” she said, “I think we were more optimistic about what was ahead of us. But MET students graduating in 2009 should be just as hopeful. They will achieve what it is they intend to achieve with the degrees they have earned.” While new grads may not know what tomorrow brings, they ought not miss out on what today might offer.

With degrees in hand, MET’09 grads are all smiles.
Celebrating City of Boston Scholars

MET hosted the third-annual reception recognizing its City Scholars—those students who, through scholarships awarded by the City of Boston, are pursuing master’s degrees in criminal justice, urban affairs, city planning, arts administration, and computer science. Currently, twenty-eight City of Boston employees are pursuing degrees at Boston University through MET, the School of Management, and the School of Medicine.

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino addressed the Scholars, commending their commitment to their education and, through it, the city itself. “You use your evenings and weekends to pursue your degree,” he said. “By doing so you are taking important steps to improve your career, and also to make the City of Boston a better place.” Menino also emphasized the critical importance of higher education during a time when, like most cities, Boston faces financial challenges. “This is a crucial time to be in public service. The people of Boston are counting on us,” he said. “Keep challenging yourselves to raise the bar higher. We need you to help us think differently about how to serve our citizens.”

Mayor Menino with this year’s City Scholars.

Manifestoes for a Sustainable City

Master of City Planning and Master of Urban Affairs students recently had a chance to show off their hard-earned expertise in the Spring 2009 Boston Symposium. For their final project, they tackled the challenging topic of “Sustainability and the City” by creating a set of actionable principles for each of five areas of urban planning: Housing and the American Dream; Transportation, Transit, and Built Form; Affordable Housing; Transportation Planning and Culture; and Land Use Planning.

In teams, they presented their work to a panel of field leaders, including Tom Balf, founder and principal of Nexus Environmental Partners; Musstanser Tinauli, of MIT’s SENSEable City Lab; Jennifer Raitt, chief housing planner of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council; Jonathan Tittmann, principal at Albert, Righter & Tittmann Architects and member of the New England Chapter of Congress for the New Urbanism; and climate change consultant Sonia Hamel. These experts judged and provided feedback on each team’s proposal, which Assistant Professor of City Planning and Urban Affairs Enrique Silva described as “an important milestone in our students’ graduate careers.”
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2009.
You came, you studied, you graduated. It was hard work, and now it’s time to celebrate! Here are some of the sights from the big event. For additional highlights, view our online slide show at bu.edu/met/graduation.

Christine Ferer (MET’74) received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to Community. Since losing her husband in the attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, Ferer has been actively involved in the revitalization of New York City. In addition to her involvement with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum and her service to Mayor Bloomberg as special assistant and liaison to the families of the 9/11 tragedy, she is a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

A graduate personalizes his regalia.

Honoring Part-Time Faculty
Actuarial Science Lecturer Hal Tepfer was recognized for his dynamic teaching style, his steadfast commitment to MET students since he began teaching in 1998, and his willingness to tackle a wide range of courses—all while maintaining an active and noteworthy career as an actuary. Tepfer is pictured here receiving the Roger Deveau Part-Time Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching from Associate Dean Tanya Zlateva.

Mahalo!

Hats off for MET’s graduates in Brussels.
Three generations celebrate Udo Warias’ degree.

Graduation is a family affair.

Perla Cárdenas Sangabriel, Teresa Enamorado Castaños, Ana García De Lama Aguiar, and Bianca González Olivares show BU Global pride.

Michael McCabe (MET’87) received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to Alma Mater. McCabe is a frequent host of alumni gatherings at his home in New York City. He additionally serves on the MET Advisory Board, and has worked with MET’s Outreach Department to establish Preferred Educational Partnerships with a number of companies.

BU Employees Class of 2009
Dean Halfond and Executive Vice President Joseph Mercurio (MET’81) with MET graduates who have a special relationship with BU—as both students and staff members.
New faces, new programs, and new ideas abound in MET’s Department of Administrative Sciences. Featured here are highlights of recent teaching and research activities.

Desktop Travelers

Study abroad programs typically necessitate backpacks, train schedules, and pocket dictionaries. But MET’s Department of Administrative Sciences has reinvented the foreign exchange program—by bringing it directly to students at their computers.

Through recent partnerships with international universities, students earning the online Master of Science in International Marketing Management, for example, can enroll in “Doing Business in Mexico and Latin America” through the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey. Or “Doing Business in Europe and East Europe,” offered by the University of Barcelona. And they may soon have a third option, too, with universities in Turkey.

The initiative speaks to MET’s mission to focus, and lead, in three key areas of business: technology, innovation, and internationalization. Indeed, it has made creative use of emerging technologies in order to provide a multinational experience for its students.

“These partnerships take the power of the web to where it should be,” said Department Chair Kip Becker. “Instead of just distributing content online, we’ve managed to create a whole new environment that puts students from around the world in direct contact with one another. Rather than just talking about cultural issues, students actually work on them together in the courses.”

Additionally, students earn credit from the university offering the course. “Students receive a transcript from the university abroad,” Becker said, “and that is a meaningful credential on the job market.”

This initiative is just the newest in MET’s history of innovations in teaching administrative sciences. “We were the first, and are still one of the few, offering courses in e-commerce,” said Becker. “Keeping pace with the current business climate is a demanding task,” he said. “But our department is particularly good at it because we stay focused on meaningful developments.”

You won’t find any MET courses on, say, financial disaster. “The difference between fads and trends is significant,” said Becker. “Pandering to fads is not a very mission-oriented way of operating. If your eye is on the future, you can take the lessons of the present, without getting bogged down in them. We’re working on international competitiveness by building a faculty that reflects our multinational interests, by emphasizing active research as a way of developing new knowledge, and by offering courses that have innovation and technology as a key component—whether in finance or marketing or ecotourism.”

Learn more about MET’s programs in administrative sciences at bu.edu/met.

Project Management in Practice

For the third consecutive year, MET’s Department of Administrative Sciences organized the Project Management in Practice Conference, drawing top names from top businesses and universities all over the world—including Rita F. Dillon and Allan Miller (pictured at left with Senior Lecturer Jim Cormier), who accepted the conference’s Project Management Education Leadership Award on behalf of GE Energy.
The Man without a Plan

In 1745 poet Robert Burns wrote that “the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry.” While this time-honored bit of wisdom may have been anathema to project managers in the past, Assistant Professor of Administrative Sciences Steve Leybourne suggests that a proper appreciation of the unpredictable may be a fundamental part of business success. In fact, his research has been pivotal in identifying common, and even necessary, managerial practices that textbooks have overlooked for years.

The field of project management, Leybourne explained, has traditionally been all about the plan, and success defined by executing it with minimum deviation. But the components informing a good plan—costs, competition, consumer demand, market conditions—have a way of, well, deviating independently of a company’s ability to stabilize them. In other words, plans work best in a static environment. The world of business, however, is anything but.

“There theoretically plan, in any given moment, should establish the improvisational limits. You want to creatively resolve customer concerns—without requiring them to get permission first. Only two conditions applied: the solution must not result in a loss (though it could lower profit margins), and both successes and failures were to be shared in weekly roundtables that allowed employees to benefit from each other’s experiences. Within three years, the bank was out of financial trouble and winning customer service awards.

According to Leybourne, a lack of improvisation may very well account for the current state of the American auto industry. “It’s not that these companies haven’t had plans,” he said. “It’s that they’ve been bad plans, or that they’ve been unwilling to deviate. We’ve seen the increasing price of oil coming for years, yet Detroit has insisted on its predominance as a maker of large vehicles. They failed to realize that this predominance is irrelevant if consumer demand for large vehicles bottoms out.”

On the flip side, recent turmoil in the financial services industry might be traced to overly creative lending. “Part of improvising is properly managing risk,” he said. “You have to keep an eye on the consequences of failure. If you lose a few days of work, that’s one thing. If you lose half the capital base of the business, that’s quite another.”

The trick to improvisation is to approach it as a jazz artist might—as an art, not a science. “The original project plan has to be more of a framework than an absolute,” explained Leybourne. “Yet the goals of the plan, in any given moment, should establish the improvisational limits. You want neither organizational rigidity nor anarchy, and the only way to find this balance is through trial and error.”

Administrative Sciences Feature continued on page 12 >
Teaching to the Global Standard

Having taught business courses at universities in Kazakhstan, Korea, and the U.S., Assistant Professor of Administrative Sciences Jung-Wan Lee has synthesized his worldly perspective into an elegant aphorism: “Education is a universal.”

“Wherever you live, whoever you are as a person,” said Lee, “each of us tries to learn something new to attain a better life. Our physical environments may differ, but our needs are the same.” For Lee, education is a means to attaining a success that has both material and philosophical qualities, both individual and communal significance.

When tending to matters of electronic commerce and international marketing, he explained, his role as a professor is to enable students “to rise to the complex challenges of the business world in order to be not only competent, but leading, professionals.” Yet personal progress should ultimately lead to social betterment. “There is a need for all individuals to leverage their talent in order to contribute to the community in a meaningful way. I teach different subjects, but my underlying philosophy in the classroom is to encourage students to achieve as both professionals and people.”

In fact, Lee describes his classroom as a forum for conversation between prospective leaders, which is how he refers to his students. “Most of my students, especially at MET, bring profound experience with them. My goal, and job, is to appreciate and acknowledge their expertise, and to use what I know in order to help them cultivate it into success. It is a privilege to have the chance to work with them, to have an impact on people who will change the world.”

And transformation toward a world in which ethical principles drive practices in business, personal life, and culture at large is what he identifies as the final arrival at “the global standard,” a term that is often relegated to a much narrower definition hinging on the development of uniform policies and regulations across industries in an international marketplace.

Nevertheless, Lee understands the open market as a vehicle for arriving at a global standard featuring a uniformly high quality of life. Much of his research explores cross-cultural consumer behavior—that is, how people in different countries at differing stages of capitalist development engage with, and benefit from, the market. Where he sees commonality in international motivations for seeking higher education, he documents distinct contrasts between the way consumers in emerging and established capitalist cultures understand and approach the act of purchasing.

In formerly communist Asian markets, Lee observes pleasure in the transaction itself. “Countries just entering into the open market are busy going through the motions of capitalism,” he said, “and there is a corresponding emphasis on quantity over quality of goods.” The accumulation of products, and especially global products, then, translates into a symbolic identity or status that derives its cachet simply from its affinity with the market.

Americans, on the other hand, argues Lee, are more interested in quality, a phenomenon he thinks is at least partially related to greater investment in the processes of production. The veneration of the American entrepreneur, he suggests, is based on a cultural belief not just in making money, but in making an impact through one’s work. It translates, he argues, into a phenomenon of professionalism unique to the U.S. “Americans take pride in whatever kind of work they do,” he said, “whether they work in a service role or as executives.” As a result, the act of spending money is often more personal and deliberate for the American consumer.

“These are meaningful differences in the practice of capitalism,” Lee asserts. Seeing the market as a place to contribute as well as a place to be rewarded for that contribution is precisely the kind of complete vision he instills in his classroom, where, he says, “Once I inspire my students, they begin to aspire to, and then to achieve, a better global standard.”
On Campus

A New Scholarship for Cancer Survivors

The opportunity to begin—or continue—a college education can be an important factor in healing. For this reason, fund raising efforts are currently underway in order to make it possible, through scholarship awards, for cancer patients and survivors in the care of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI) to study at Metropolitan College.

Alumnus and MET Advisory Board member Steve Garfinkle (MET’72) has played a critical role in establishing this unique collaboration between MET and DFCI, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School and one of the world’s leading cancer research and care centers.

“This is a cause that touches the hearts of the entire Metropolitan College community,” said Garfinkle. “Dean Halfond and I are proud that the College will provide these deserving individuals an opportunity to commence or renew their education.”

To learn more about the MET/DFCI Scholarship, or to make a contribution to this important scholarship fund, please contact us at metakum@bu.edu, bu.edu/met/scholarship/dfci, or 617-358-5501.

Pictured here are Janet Porter, PhD, executive vice president and COO of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; MET alumnus and Advisory Board member Steve Garfinkle (MET’72); and Dean Jay Halfond.

Here’s a brief look at the variety of events, lectures, and conferences at MET during the spring semester:

A Taste of Israel

In March, alumnus Alex Haruni (MET’95) (pictured at right) hosted an on-campus wine tasting featuring the products of his family’s vineyards in the Upper Galilee region of Israel. Local alumni, including Advisory Board member Andrei Soran (MET’92) and his wife Ilana (pictured at left), enjoyed an inside look at kosher wine making traditions—as well as samples of Dalton Winery’s Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Sauvignon Blanc, and Chardonnay.

The Internet: Coming of Age

Louis Pouzin, one of the founding architects of the Internet, discussed the possibilities, challenges, and intricacies of a mature web environment as a featured guest of the Distinguished Lecture Series, which is hosted throughout the year by the Departments of Computer Science in both MET and the College of Arts & Sciences.

Computer Science without Borders

MET’s Department of Computer Science hosted the 5th annual International Conference on Computer Science Education this May. A truly multinational event co-organized with the University of Applied Sciences in Fulda, Germany, and the New Bulgarian University in Sofia, Bulgaria, the conference took place simultaneously at three sites in Sofia and two sites in Boston through a video-bridge that linked participants in each location.

International Food Photographers at BU

The Master of Liberal Arts in Gastronomy program hosted the International Conference on Food Styling and Photography in June. From cookbooks to commercials to cooking shows, the industry’s best gathered in Boston once again—this the second time MET has hosted the conference—to explore techniques and tips for how to make food look its most delicious. Experts in attendance included the Los Angeles Times columnist and Food Network personality Shirley Corriher; 2005 Bon Apétit Writer of the Year Harold McGee; and Darra Goldstein, founding editor of Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture.

A New Scholarship for Cancer Survivors

The opportunity to begin—or continue—a college education can be an important factor in healing. For this reason, fund raising efforts are currently underway in order to make it possible, through scholarship awards, for cancer patients and survivors in the care of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI) to study at Metropolitan College.

Alumnus and MET Advisory Board member Steve Garfinkle (MET’72) has played a critical role in establishing this unique collaboration between MET and DFCI, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School and one of the world’s leading cancer research and care centers.

“This is a cause that touches the hearts of the entire Metropolitan College community,” said Garfinkle. “Dean Halfond and I are proud that the College will provide these deserving individuals an opportunity to commence or renew their education.”

To learn more about the MET/DFCI Scholarship, or to make a contribution to this important scholarship fund, please contact us at metakum@bu.edu, bu.edu/met/scholarship/dfci, or 617-358-5501.

Pictured here are Janet Porter, PhD, executive vice president and COO of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; MET alumnus and Advisory Board member Steve Garfinkle (MET’72); and Dean Jay Halfond.
Alumni Events

MET is already looking forward to this fall, and we have an array of exciting alumni events on the schedule—we hope to see you there, so mark your calendars! For updated information, visit the websites listed below, or go to bu.edu/met/news.

MET Night at Agganis Arena
Saturday, November 21, 2009
Join the MET community and root for the reigning National Champion Boston University Terriers as they take on the University of New Hampshire Wildcats. Before the hockey game, enjoy food and drinks at a reception with Dean Jay Halfond and MET faculty, students, staff, alumni, and corporate friends. A silent auction will benefit the MET/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Scholarship fund. For details, visit bu.edu/met/news.

Computer Science Turns 30
Tuesday, October 17, 2009
Join us for a dinner and reception celebrating thirty years of excellence and innovation in computer science at MET.
For details, visit http://csmet.bu.edu.

The Big Event: Celebrating 20 Years of Culinary Arts
Wednesday, October 28, 2009
Luminary chef Jacques Pépin hosts a gala event celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Certificate in Culinary Arts at Metropolitan College. Guests will have the opportunity to taste the food and wine creations of current and former culinary students and instructors. A silent auction will feature gourmet items, cookbooks, and more—with proceeds benefitting the MET/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Scholarship fund.
We’re still planning, but as details emerge, you’ll find them at bu.edu/foodandwine/bigevent.
Benjamin Bielak (MET’98) of Holliston, MA, has been named Chief Information Officer of Dovetail Health, an innovative company located in Needham, MA, that provides solutions that optimize in-home health care for older adults, their families, and their providers. Benjamin may be contacted at bbielak@dovetailhealth.com.

Raymond R. Bousquet III (MET’08) resides in Smithfield, RI, and has been promoted to the rank of Captain with the Lincoln Police Department in Lincoln, RI. Captain Bousquet is in his twenty-third year of law enforcement. E-mail Raymond at rbusq@verizon.net.

Heath “Hank” Brightman (MET’93) and Lindsey W. Howard (COM’93) have produced their first co-authored book, Today’s White-Collar Crime: Legal, Investigative, & Theoretical Perspectives, published in February 2009 by Routledge. The text, designed for undergraduate courses, provides a timely analysis of government corruption, corporate wrong-doing, fraud and its links to terrorism, and the legalistic aspects of abuse-of-trust crimes. For more information about the book, visit routledgepolitics.com.

Julie Delliquanti (MET’03) is currently director of Schatten Gallery and associate curator of library exhibitions at Robert W. Woodruff Library at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She recently completed work on the exhibition “A Keeping of Records: the Art and Life of Alice Walker” which coincides with the opening of the Alice Walker archive in Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

Alan Earls (MET’91) of Franklin, MA, is a Boston-area freelance writer focusing primarily on business and technology. His Greater Boston’s Blizzard of 1978, which includes many photos of the BU area during that storm, was published in 2008 by Arcadia Publishing. For more information about the book, visit alanearls.com.

Travis Fraser (MET’03) was just promoted to Senior Manager of Major Gifts at the United Way of New York City.


Gina Heideman (MET’07) now resides in Boise, ID, and is the Community Relations Manager for the Idaho Meth Project, a large-scale prevention and awareness campaign. Gina manages over 700 volunteers across the state and organizes community events, speaking engagements and school presentations. E-mail Gina at gheideman@dahomethproject.org.

Bill Heiser (MET’95) is seeking career opportunities in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is a PMP-certified, IT Infrastructure Project Manager. He’s also had a number of years of experience leading technical teams of System Administrators, Network Engineers, and Database Administrators. His technical background, prior to entering the management and project management arena, is primarily in the area of UNIX system administration. His most recent project experience involved Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Planning, and ITIL-based IT Change Management. He can be reached at bheiser@alum.bu.edu.

Kimberly J. Howard, CFP® (MET’86) is founder of KJH Financial Services, located in Needham, MA. Kim created this company to help individuals with financial planning and investment management issues. Visit kjhfinancialservices.com for details. E-mail Kim at kim@kjhfinancialservices.com.

Andrew Kenneally (MET’08) is running for an at-large seat on the Boston City Council. Andrew represents a new generation of leadership with the knowledge, experience and vision to make our great city even greater. Learn more about how you can help Andrew get elected by visiting ANDY09.com or e-mail him at andy@andrewkenneally.com.

John Maalouf (MET’90, LAW’94) of New York, NY, announces that Maalouf Law Firm, which specializes in international business law, recently merged with Ashford & Talbot of London. He will continue in his role as senior partner at Maalouf Ashford & Talbot, LLP, and he can be reached at john.maalouf@maaloufashford.com. Mr. Maalouf divides his time between the firm’s New York and Hong Kong offices.

Michael Mancini (MET’92) has been employed as Regional Sales Manager at Genentech, USA, a biotech pharmaceutical company, for the past 9 years. Mike lives in the Boston area. He is married and has 12-year-old twin daughters.

Tuan D. Nguyen, A.L.M. (MET’98) is chairman and CEO of the Asian-American National Committee, Inc. He is also president and CEO of the Asian-American International, LLC. He is residing in Boston and may be contacted via www.aancinc.org or info@aancinc.org. He looks forward to hearing from friends, colleagues, and others.

Marcia Mulroney Nizzari (MET’90) left the Broad Institute in September 2008 to take a new position as Director of Software Development, Biomedical Applications, at Cambridge Research & Instrumentation (CRI) in Woburn, MA. CRI creates multi-spectral imaging products for tissue and small animal imaging. Her work includes supervision of algorithm development for computer vision applications that automate identification of tissue types and morphologies, such as distinguishing cancer from non-cancer. She enjoys the mix of research, science, technology, and business at this innovative biotech company.

Jack Shippee (MET’04) is a graduate of the 210th FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA, and has been promoted to colonel. He currently resides in Westerly, RI, and serves as chief of police with the Charleston, RI, Police Department. E-mail Jack at jship2108@gmail.com.

Notes should be sent to Boston University, Metropolitan College, Alumni Office, 755 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215, or bu.edu/alumni/classnotes. Because space is limited, Class Notes are edited to include as many as possible.
MET Leads University-Wide Online Learning Conference

IN MAY, THE PROVOST HOSTED THE FIRST BOSTON UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE ON ONLINE LEARNING. Nearly two hundred BU faculty and staff joined together for a conversation about what online learning is, its role within the University, the challenges and opportunities it presents, and its relationship to classroom teaching.

Because MET introduced the first online degree program at BU in 2001, and because it is home to the thriving Office of Distance Education, the conference featured—prominently—MET staff and faculty whose expertise have come to serve as a critical resource for those at BU who are new to online course development.

Provost David Campbell began the day’s events by emphasizing that MET’s role in pioneering online education at Boston University is in line with the University’s historical commitment to increasing accessibility to higher education. “BU has continually sought out novel means of helping non-traditional students advance their education,” said Campbell. “I see the creation of online distance education programs as the most recent step in this process, a process of ensuring that high quality BU education is available to all students who are serious and eager to learn.”

In recognition of the increasing role of online education at BU, Campbell joined Dean Halfond in 2007 in creating the Provost’s Faculty Advisory Board on Distance Education. Halfond serves on the advisory board along with representatives from each of BU’s Schools and Colleges.

“We have a distance education program that is of the highest quality,” said Karen Jacobs, chair of the advisory board and faculty member in Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences. “There is none out there, even internationally, that can compete with BU.”

This quality, Halfond explained, comes from the unique investment the University has made in online education. “This is an institutional commitment,” said Halfond. “Our paradigm is very different than what you see elsewhere. At other schools, it’s really just another option for students taking courses on campus. We’ve taken the time to build an infrastructure for course development and student support. We work closely with faculty, and we reach out to new students.”

On hand to introduce online novices to distance learning was Senior Instructional Designer Jim Frey, who demonstrated how course development occurs, and the unique tools that the online environment offers. Instructional designers partner with faculty to transform each instructor’s...