There’s a club for that.

With 494 official student organizations (and counting), there’s a club for every student at BU.
Dear Boston University Parents,

One of the articles in this issue of Boston University Parent looks at the many programs available for overseas study, and the cover story explores the nearly 500 organizations on campus that meet the varied interests of students, from arts to zoology.

More than 40 percent of our students spend at least one semester or a summer in one of our study abroad programs, and this greatly enhances their preparation for future work or graduate study. Increasingly, businesses function beyond national boundaries, and research, scholarship, and teaching involve colleagues from around the world. Learning about other cultures, societies, and languages by studying in an international setting can only make students better prepared for the world in which they will pursue their careers.

Learning isn’t confined to the classroom, of course, and even at the university level, play helps contribute to making a person well-rounded and fulfilled. Our student organizations provide opportunities for your sons and daughters to pursue all kinds of interests, from the whimsical to the extremely serious. I am especially impressed by those who choose to engage in community service efforts, but it’s also gratifying to see the spirit of teamwork and joy that develops from some of the more light-hearted organizations.

I hope you encourage your sons and daughters to take full advantage of these opportunities during their years at Boston University.

With best wishes,

Robert A. Brown
President

Dear Fellow Parents,

Welcome to the Boston University community! It’s fall and the campus is alive with the colors of a new school year. For many of you this Boston University Parent will serve as an introduction to campus life, which is why we have dedicated much of the issue to student activities. Both of my children were deeply involved in on-campus activities while they were here at BU, and I know that a BU education is far more than what happens in our many classrooms.

The University is proud to offer nearly 500 student clubs and intramural sports teams, as well as 21 athletic teams. I hope that you and your student will quickly realize that there is a place for everyone at BU. And if your son or daughter has not found a niche yet, encourage your student to create his or her own student organization—the Student Activities Office is always looking to expand.

I am also excited to share with you the University’s commitment to building Student Affairs East, a new facility that will be located in Kenmore Square. The building will house Career Services, the Educational Resource Center, and a new dining hall. The University is supporting our students every step of the way as they follow their career paths.

In fact, the BU experience is by no means limited to Boston. In this issue, we will also explore the wealth of resources and opportunities that are available to our students abroad. From London to Australia, the possibilities are endless.

I wish you and your student a wonderful fall semester—and remember, Parents Weekend is October 22–24. I look forward to meeting you there!

Jeannie Knox
Chairwoman, Parents Leadership Council
Mother of Merrill (COM’06) and Bobby (CDS’08, SAR’10, SPH’12)
The University is planning to build a six-story, 106,000-square-foot structure housing state-of-the-art dining services and a new home for Career Services and the Educational Resource Center. Construction of the estimated $50 million East Campus Center for Student Services is slated to begin this winter, with an opening date set for fall 2012.

Preliminary plans for the center emerged from the University’s strategic planning process in 2007. University leadership wanted to better connect existing career and educational resource services, housed in separate (and relatively obscure) locations. At the same time, Dining Services knew that East Campus dining options paled in comparison with others. When they ran the numbers, says Laurie Pohl, vice president for enrollment and student affairs, they found that renovating the dining areas in Shelton Hall, Myles Standish Hall, and the Towers would be more expensive than building a new facility. So officials decided to combine the three major services under one roof, and locate that roof at 100 Bay State Road, a space that is now a parking lot.

Gary Nickas, vice president of operations, says the architects worked hard to design a building that would suit the two different neighborhoods that the center will bridge—one historic, the other modern. The result is a structure whose Bay State Road side will be brick and stand three stories tall, while the Kenmore side will have a modern façade and be six stories tall.

The center’s first two floors will be dedicated to dining facilities. (Current residence dining halls will probably be converted to study lounges and common rooms.) The center’s middle floors will be home to first- and second-year advising services for the College of Arts & Sciences and advising offices for pre-law and pre-med studies. The fifth and sixth floors will house Career Services, now at 19 Deerfield Street, and the Educational Resource Center, now at the George Sherman Union, which offers tutoring, foreign language group discussions, and writing and reading workshops.

—Leslie Friday

For years, students living on East Campus have been keenly aware of the distance to FitRec and other West Campus amenities, as well as to Central Campus niceties like the George Sherman Union. Easterners, it seemed, had no social center of gravity. That will soon change.

The East Campus Center for Student Services, to be constructed at 100 Bay State Road, will offer study lounges, a dining hall and café, academic and career counseling, and tutoring.

Web Extra
To learn more about Career Services and the Educational Resource Center, visit www.bu.edu/careers and www.bu.edu/erc.
BU international programs are helping students go global.

BY CORINNE STEINBRENNER

Benjamin Hall contributed reporting.

When Charlene Priester (COM’73) sent her son to study abroad, she worried—any parent might—about his housing accommodations and about his getting lost in an unfamiliar city. She had a chance to visit Jonathan (COM’10) during his semester in London and found she needn’t have fretted on either count. The student housing in London was beautiful, she says, and BU provided everything Jonathan needed, right down to his bed sheets. Even more impressive, she says, was the way BU’s staff helped to acclimate Jonathan to his new city. “When we got over there it was, I think visiting him in Boston—he knew where to go, where not to go.” The staff also helped Jonathan and his fellow students plan excursions to Berlin, Paris, and other European cities.

Spending an entire semester abroad—“not just being there as a tourist, but really getting immersed in the culture”—gave her son a valuable global perspective, Priester says, and she encourages all BU parents to support their son or daughter’s plans to enroll in an international program. Priester’s advice for parents who do send a student abroad: “Make sure that you have your own passport ready so, if you can, you can go visit at least once.”

A Parent’s Perspective

Spend Summer Abroad

BUIP is also known for its summer offerings, with many students enrolling in summer study abroad as a way to explore topics outside their fields of study without getting behind in their degree programs. During the summer, students can learn about Senegalese drumming and dance in Dakar, study landscapes painting in Tuscany, or try their hand at travel writing in the Australian outback. Some students opt to try something new and different every summer. Russell says, “and while it may not go toward their major, it definitely goes toward their education.”

Robin Berghaus, Devin Hahn, and Benjamin Hall contributed reporting to this article.

Web Extra

Explore BU’s world-class internships and study abroad programs at www.bu.edu/abroad.
More Than a Hockey School

Terriers dominate in the pool, on the grass, on the ice, and off the glass.

BY CORINNE STEINBRENNER

When you hear the phrase “Boston University athletics,” you probably picture the cheering crowd at a men’s hockey game—and for good reason. BU’s devoted hockey fans have rooted their icemen on to 29 Beanpot victories, 21 appearances in the Frozen Four, and 5 national championships (the most recent one in 2009). But men’s hockey players aren’t the only athletes earning bragging rights for BU. Featured here are just a few of the Terriers who’ve become involved in BU life in many ways, from providing internships to hosting events to BU’s student athletes, please contact the Parents Program at parents@bu.edu or sign up on our website, www.bu.edu/parentsprogram.

To show our appreciation, we’ll recognize you as a Boston University Parent Ambassador. You’ll join other Parent Ambassadors who’ve become involved in BU life off the ice, too, by helping with a variety of initiatives that make BU a great place to be. Watch for our updates on the Parents Program website, www.bu.edu/parentsprogram.

How Parents Can Help

Become a Parent Ambassador

Parents provide invaluable support for our teams by attending games, providing snacks for the athletes, and cheering from the stands. If you’re interested in supporting BU’s student athletes, please contact the Parents Program at parents@bu.edu or sign up on our website, www.bu.edu/parentsprogram.

A Call to Serve

Students, alumni, and parents take part in BU’s inaugural Global Day of Service.

BY VICKY WALTZ

Photos by Ann Knapp, Gail Lattrell, and Boston University Photography

Volunteers tidy up the Lawrence Corpus Christi House, don’t hole up clean diets dedicated to Bella of the Ball, and help with landscaping at Boston’s Franklin Park Zoo as part of BU’s Global Day of Service.

Umlas was particularly impressed by strong international representation. In London, volunteers picked up garbage along the banks of the Thames, and in Paris they organized a fundraiser for survivors of the earthquake in Haiti. Alumni in New Delhi hosted a carnival for more than 500 underprivileged children.

The ride home from the Corpus Christi House was quiet, Lattrell recalls. “The boys were thoughtful, reflective,” she says. “They gained a lot more than they gave. And I think they realized they have a lot of gifts to give.”

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

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The boy was 12 years old, homeless, and HIV-positive. Gail Lattrell (CAS’83) was stunned. Not even a two-year stint in the Peace Corps prepared her for this heartbreaking reality. In April, Lattrell joined thousands of Boston University students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni who took part in the Alumni Association’s inaugural Global Day of Service. The association, along with individual alumni and the BU Community Service Center (CSC), organized community service opportunities that extended coast to coast and beyond.

Lattrell, mother of Sarah Lattrell (CAS’12, COM’12), teamed up with six sophomores from Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, Massachusetts, to volunteer at the Lawrence Corpus Christi House, a shelter for people who are living with HIV or AIDS. It was here she met the boy.

“When you go to a homeless shelter,” she says, “you expect to see victims of poverty or survivors of domestic violence. You don’t expect to see children.”

The high school students with whom she volunteered (including her youngest son, Devon) were practically children themselves. They “kind of paused when they saw that boy,” Lattrell says. “They realized that AIDS and homelessness don’t discriminate; it doesn’t matter how old you are.”

The volunteers chatted with the residents while they cleaned. Residents don’t tend to stay long, they learned—many die within a few months of their arrival, although one man has lived there for 14 years. “They were shy,” Lattrell recalls. “They said they don’t get many visitors.”

A BU Sophomore, Lattrell’s daughter is following in her mother’s footsteps. An avid supporter of community service, Sarah takes part in the CSC’s First-Year Student Outreach Program, Alternative Spring Break, and Earth Day programs. As an intern in BU Development & Alumni Relations, she helped organize the Global Day of Service.

While her mother was at the Corpus Christi House, Sarah cooked and served meals for residents of Rosie’s Place, a shelter for homeless women in Boston. “Volunteering is an excellent way to get a sense of who you are,” she says. “It helps you to grow and build strong bonds with others. I’ve met most of my friends through service projects.”

Although students volunteered mainly in and around Boston—activities ranged from removing invasive plant species at the Franklin Park Zoo to building a home for Habitat for Humanity—participants mobilized volunteer stations from New York to Seattle, Madrid to Shanghai.

Meg Umlas, executive director of alumni relations, was delighted by the response. “We’re thrilled to have created a new tradition for the BU community,” she says. “More than 3,700 volunteers logged nearly 15,000 hours of community service and raised $8,528.”

Under the continuing leadership of Coach Brian Durocher, the team is expected to be among the best in the nation this year. Season Begins: October 2, 2010

FIGURE SKATING

While not a varsity sport, figure skating is a major point of pride for BU. The BU Figure Skating Club won the Intercollegiate National Championships in 2010—the second national victory in a row for the club’s coed competition team. Coach Andreas Moho-Brillaud says she’s looking forward to working with this year’s team, which includes several veterans and “many new freshmen who are very accomplished skaters.” Season Begins: October 10, 2010

MEN’S BASKETBALL

In its first season at BU, head coach Patrick Chambers propelled the Terriers to the America East finals last spring, their first appearance in the tournament since 2005. The Terriers ended last season with a 21-14 record and—with several powerful returning players—Chambers is looking forward to another winning season. Season Begins: November 12, 2010

WEB EXTRA

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

WEB EXTRA

See photos and videos from BU’s service projects across the globe—and watch for information about how to volunteer in 2011—at www.bu.edu/daysofservice.
Don’t tell John Battaglino there’s nothing to do at Boston University. Every Friday night, he walks the length of Commonwealth Avenue, ducking into the George Sherman Union, popping into BU Central. “I find at least a dozen events going on every weekend,” says the executive director of the Student Activities Office (SAO), BU’s source for extracurricular clubs and organizations.

With nearly 500 groups on campus—from sports to Greek life, international culture to performing arts—the selection can be overwhelming. But a wide variety of activities guarantees that anyone can find a niche at BU.

When Brendan Gauthier (COM’11) came to BU as a freshman, he didn’t know anyone. So he joined Stage Troupe, the University’s oldest and largest performing arts group for non-theater majors, and landed a role in the group’s fall production of The Music Man. “Between the cast and crew, I met a ton of people,” he says, “including some upperclassmen who introduced me to a lot of BU resources.”

During the first few weeks of school, Marieljane Bastien (CAS’13) joined the Haitian Cultural Association. “It helped to meet people who had similar cultural backgrounds to my own,” she recalls. By spring semester, she was ready to step outside of her comfort zone, so she joined the women’s rugby team. “No one could believe it,” she says, “because I don’t like to run. But it’s been a lot of fun, and I’ve gotten to know so many people whom I would have never met otherwise.”

While smaller, quirkier organizations tend to come and go—the People Watching and Bad Movie clubs disbanded after only a year—larger ones, such as Habitat for Humanity and Dance Theatre Group, have been around for decades. The key to club longevity, according to Jeff Murphy, SAO’s assistant director, is to involve students beyond the club’s members. “The India Club does a great job of engaging students,” he says. “Membership isn’t huge, but the club hosts events that draw big crowds from all over the University.”

Established in 1981, the India Club is the largest South Asian organization on the East Coast, and its spring and fall cultural shows, as well as its annual Garbafest, attract thousands of spectators each semester. Two years ago, British rapper Jay Sean even made a special guest appearance at its spring formal.

New clubs pop up every year. The BU Beekeepers Club installed its first hive along the banks of the Charles River in June, Boston Salsa University danced onto campus in 2009, and BU Bikes took to the streets in 2008.

“Too often, people judge a club’s success on its membership size,” Battaglino says. “But a club that has 12 members is just as influential as one that has 50. What matters is that those 12 people are connecting with one another, that they leave BU with some friends and an experience they can look back on and be proud of.”

Two years ago, a ragtag BU Quidditch team (yes, as in Harry Potter) went to Middlebury College to compete in the annual Intercollegiate Quidditch World Cup. Now in its third season, the group has more than 40 members and has exchanged its lacrosse sticks and mismatched T-shirts for broom sets and team jerseys.

“It started out as a handful of kids running with sticks between their legs and tossing soccer balls through hula hoops behind Marsh Chapel,” Murphy says. “And now look at it: BU Quidditch is a legitimate club sport.”

And Quidditch isn’t the only unusual club sport on campus. BU has a Curling Club, an International Extreme Croquet Society, and a Rock Climbing Club. There’s a Club for That

With 494 official student organizations (and counting), there’s a club for every student at BU.

BY VICKY WALTZ
a broomball team—sports “that you can only do in college,” says curler Lisi Enkine (CO’10, CAS’12), with a laugh.

Although BU isn’t known for its Greek life, the campus is home to more than 25 fraternities and sororities, many of which focus on community service projects. One of the more creative fundraisers occurred two years ago, when Pi Kappa Alpha sponsored a “car bash” to raise money for the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America. For $3, a passerby could beat a rusty Oldsmobile with a 10-pound sledgehammer.

The Greeks often join forces for large events, as do many other student groups. “Hug Don’t Hate, Project Hope, Spectrum, and UNICEF come together each year for World AIDS Week,” Murphy says. “And the Environmental Student Organization, Vegetarian Society, and Slow Food EU work together during Earth Week.”

Another example of such successful collaboration was “Boston Stands with Haiti.” Fifteen student organizations partnered with the Dean of Students Office, Community Service Center, Howard Thurman Center, and Student Production Services to mobilize a relief effort for victims of last winter’s earthquake in Haiti. The event drew thousands, including Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, and raised more than $50,000 for Partners in Health, a nonprofit health care provider.

Students interested in such activities—and the people who help make them happen—have excellent online resources to turn to. Last year, SAA launched YouDo@BU, a website that lists every student club and organization and includes a brief description and contact information for each one.

In addition, Dean of Students Kenneth Elmore, his assistant Kat Hasenauer Cornetta, and Battaglino all have Facebook pages, blogs, and Twitter accounts that they update regularly. It’s important for students to realize that BU administrators are more than just a bunch of geys in suits who show up for the occasional hockey or basketball game, Battaglino says. “We try to connect with students any way we can,” he says, “whether it be face-to-face or online.”

As the parent of three college-age children—her oldest son John (CO’09, SHA’10) graduated from BU last year, and daughters Brittaney (CO’10, CAS’12) and Anya (CO’12, BU’14) are current students—Battaglino recognizes there’s a fine line between encouragement and annoyance.

“Parents tend to force ideas on their children without realizing it,” she says. “If I tell my kids about a club I think they’ll like, it’s the kiss of death. I’ve learned to lead them to the source—in this case, SAA’s website—and let them find their own way.”

More often than not, students will do exactly that. And if they can’t find an organization that suits their interests, they’ll form one. “My son loves paintball,” Battaglino says, “so he started a paintball club.”

One night while she was out salsa dancing, Nadia Ouhib (ENG’11) looked around and realized that most of the people on the dance floor were in their thirties or older. “Salsa lessons are expensive, which turns students off,” she says. “I wanted to see people my age enjoying it as well.”

So she founded Boston Salsa University, a club that teaches weekly salsa lessons to students. Teaching is a way to give back, Bastien adds. “College is about more outside of the classroom, rugby player Aaron Horvitz has a habit of rising to the top. He joined the Student Alumni Association (SAA) as a BU sophomore and now serves as SAA president. As a freshman he got a job doing clerical work for the ice cream store chain Emack & Bolio’s and he’s now the CFO—yes, that’s chief financial officer—of the company. “It’s what I’ve always done,” says the native of Westborough, Massachusetts. “Whatever I get involved in, I try to go as far with it as I can.” — CS

Web Extra
Discover BU’s amazing variety of student clubs at www.bu.edu/prudo.

1. What is the Student Alumni Association (SAA)?
We’ve geared toward connecting students to alumni. One of our biggest events is Connect for Success, when we pair students with alumni career mentors.

2. How did you get involved in the SAA?
I got an email about the organization and noticed they were involved in Winterfest. I used to come to Winterfest with my parents, and I thought it would be awesome to get involved in that.

3. What have you accomplished as SAA president?
We’ve grown from 12 members to 32 and introduced an event with young alumni, Strike up a Conversation.

4. How did you start working at Emack & Bolio’s?
I saw the position on the BU job board.

5. What are your responsibilities as CFO?
Every week I go through the profit and loss statements for all the stores we directly own. I check accounts payable, accounts receivable, and our account balances. Something extra always gets thrown in, like creating a cash register for a new store.

6. How do you balance work and school?
I go to class, I go home, I do my homework as quick as I can, and then I go into the office. I’ve also set it up so I can do a lot of my work remotely. I can run reports and stuff from my apartment, so if I finish my homework at midnight, I can do work then.

7. Do you ever sleep?
I’ve been known to sleep an hour a night.

8. Both your parents went to BU. Did you consider going anywhere else?
My parents were great about helping me look through suggestions and college books and find out what I wanted. But what it came down to is that Boston, the city, has always been my favorite place.

9. What is your favorite thing about BU?
I’m obsessed with BU’s mascot, Rhett. Every time I see him, I try to get a picture with him.

10. What is your favorite campus hangout?
SMG Starbucks. That’s pretty much the place to be.

11. What is the strangest thing in your backpack?
I have a piece of paper that says “Belbin Bunch” on it. It’s a card that guarantees me one personal favor from my high school history teacher, Mr. Belbin.

12. What do you never leave home without?
My cell phone. It’s so important to everything I do—the student group, my job.

13. What’s your favorite ice cream flavor?
Carame! Mooe Printa from Emack & Bolio’s.

14. Do you have any hidden talents?
I’m a pretty decent dancer. My sophomore year, a couple of students and I choreographed a whole dance to Destiny’s Child for a lip-synching contest, and it was pretty good. We came in second place.

15. What’s your dream job?
I would love to be in a position where I have so many important things to do that I don’t have to do the meaningless ones.

16. What do you like to read?
I follow technology blogs: Android Central, Engadget, Gizmodo.

17. What music do you listen to?
I love anything that’s catchy. Taylor Swift, Kesha, Rihanna, Lady Gaga, Justin Timberlake.

18. What makes you laugh out loud?
It’s really easy to get me to laugh.

19. When you have extra money in your wallet, what do you splurge on?
If it’s around the time Patriots tickets go on sale, I’ll buy Patriots tickets. Otherwise, I’ll pick up the tab when I’m out with my friends.

20. If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be?
Boston. I love living here.
COM, Now in HD

An unused space on the third floor of the College of Communication building has loomed from the 1950s into the 21st century with the opening of the Eraztri Family High-Definition Editing Lab. Workmen gutted the room, redid the ceilings and floors, painted the walls, and installed a dozen new workstations with the latest Mac Pro computers that boast the newest software for editing HD video, thanks to a gift from BU Overseer Maya Eraztri (COM’88). Now, COM students are using the programs Final Cut Studio and Avid Media Composer to complete projects for their courses in film and television.

“It’s all top-of-the-line—the fastest software; the server is incredible,” says Rosenblum, who produces TV, radio, and Web commercials in her role as community relations director at O.L. Homes of Florida. “I hope this will be a venue for students to realize their dreams and create wonderful works.”

— Patrick L. Kennedy

Expanding the BUuniverse

Everyone is welcome to watch videos on the site, anyone with an active BU login and Kerberos password can upload videos and comment on existing ones.

— Katie Koch

Check out some of our favorites:

VIDEOS BY STUDENTS

“My name is Joshua, and I’m a 16 year old from New York. I was diagnosed with diabetes last year, and I love dancing. This is my favorite piece. I love watching others dance.”

— Joshua Brown

“Homeless, Not Helpless” by Kristyn Udalson (COM’10) and Max Raposito (CUS’08, COM’10)

Visit www.bu.edu/buniverse and search keyword “homeless”

VIDEOS BY BU TODAY

“One Small Step for Man,” an anthropology lesson from Assistant Professor Jeremy DeSilva

Search keyword “Dolphins”

VIDEOS BY ALUMNI

“Onion News Network: MacBook Wheel” featuring actress Kyla Grogan (COM’11)

Search keyword “MacBook”

When they need expert insight, news reporters often turn to BU professors for their views on critical issues of the day. Meet a few of the BU faculty members who’ve recently stood in the media spotlight:

Religion Professor Stephen Proctor’s latest book, God Is Not One, has received wide media attention. In addition, Proctor contributes to CNN’s Belief Blog and has weighed in on the religious makeup of the Supreme Court. Visit his website, www.stephenproctor.com, for links to recent media coverage, including articles excerpted with permission.

Sources include BU Today, arts&sciences, and COMtalk. Articles excerpted with permission.
Parents Program Events

On Sunday, May 16, family and friends filled Nickerson Field to cheer on the 4,000-plus members of the Class of 2010 and to hear U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder’s Commencement address.

Commencement 2010

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Commence...
Christy Loring, associate director of the Parents Program, calls the PLC a “vehicle to communicate with all parents,” and its members “advisors to the BU administration.” Knox describes how the PLC has “moved into the fabric of the University” since its creation seven years ago, becoming more intimately involved with the students, deans, and schools of BU, ensuring that parents have a voice in relevant campus decisions.

The group currently has 28 members, all of whom attend—in person or remotely—the twice-annual PLC meetings, dedicate their time to various projects throughout the year, and support the Parents Annual Campaign. Some help plan Summer Send-Off programs in their hometowns to welcome incoming freshmen, while others fundraise for the University. Efforts like these, according to Szujewski, “allow BU to have a closer connection to communities throughout the U.S. and in the world.”

Join Us
Please visit the Parents Program website, www.bu.edu/parentsprogram/plc.html, to learn more about becoming involved.
Be part of it, even when you’re apart.

The Boston University Parents Annual Campaign is supported by parents and friends of undergraduates at Boston University. As part of the campaign, you can help the University continue the tradition of excellence that defines a BU education.

Gifts to the Parents Annual Campaign can support a variety of areas of the donor’s choice, including:

- Specific schools and colleges
- Scholarships
- Athletics
- Student life
- The University’s area of greatest need

Why donate to athletics?

Gifts to Boston University Athletics provide our student-athletes with funding for scholarships, improve athletic and recreational facilities, and enable our athletes to compete at the highest level, which instills pride and brings recognition to the University. In addition, donations provide for key elements of the program—purchasing state-of-the-art equipment, enhancing recruiting efforts, supplying comfortable team travel, and much more.