

He's Key

Master locksmith is still opening doors at BU

"I REMEMBER ONCE, in West Campus, two boys were supposedly locked in a room with two girls," says Gerard D'Arcy, lead locksmith at Boston University. "I went over and knocked on the door. I just opened it, and the girls looked at the boys and said, 'Hey, you told us you couldn't get out.'"

D'Arcy has been repairing, replacing, installing, and popping locks all over BU for the past thirty years. "Ninety percent of all the lock information on campus is in Gerry's head," says William Walter, BU's assistant vice president for facilities management. "Before there were computers, there was Gerry."

D'Arcy was just two weeks off the boat from Galway, Ireland, when he started at BU as a custodian in 1958.

The introduction of swipe-card locks was a big change on campus, D'Arcy says, but what staggers him most is the University's growth. When he started, BU had only a half-dozen or so buildings. Today, almost 400 structures are scattered over both campuses, and BU houses some 11,000 students and rental tenants.

"Think of it as two-and-a-half to three locks per person," he says. "Each person on campus has a door and a desk. The students have a door and a mailbox. That's a lot of locks."

CALEB DANILOFF

Gerard D'Arcy has been fixing BU locks for thirty years.

KALMAN ZABARSKY

Student ID



JESSICA SHARP (COM'08)

NAME:
Fang Yuan

AGE:
18

SCHOOL:
CAS'12

MAJOR:
Undeclared

HOMETOWN:
West Roxbury,
Massachusetts, by
way of Zhengzhou,
Henan Province,
China

What did you do this summer?

I went to Montreal with some friends, and I went to Six Flags. I played a lot of volleyball. I worked at State Street Corporation.

What's your favorite class so far?

I like world literature the most so far, because the conversations we've had are really engaging. We'll read Chinua Achebe, Franz Kafka, and Pablo Neruda.

As a freshman, what are you most anxious about?

Managing my time. There's so much to do here. I'm anxious about making good friends. Also, even though I'm only twenty minutes away from home, I'm still nervous about living on my own.

What are you most excited about?

I'm excited about all the

activities I can join, all the clubs. I know I'm going to try out for club volleyball. I love the pep bands here. I want to try things I never even thought of in high school.

What do you like to do for fun?

I used to play competitive Ping-Pong, and I played for a Chinatown club volleyball team called the Boston Knights. We went to New York to play in a tournament this past summer. Next year we will be going to L.A.

Who is your favorite musician?

Craig David, an R&B pop singer. My favorite genre is R&B, but I listen to everything.

Do you play a musical instrument?

I've been playing the trumpet for five years. I also played classical piano for eight years, but

I just recently dropped it. I used to be in a ska-punk band in high school.

What's your favorite electronic device?

My Zune, a music player made by Microsoft. It's my favorite, because I don't like to go with the flow, since everyone has the iPod. I like to be different.

Favorite book?

The Fountainhead by Ayn Rand.

Favorite movie?

The Lord of the Rings trilogy.

Where would you recommend that your new out-of-town friends visit?

Faneuil Hall, Revere Beach, and JFK Beach. I love the beach, so I play beach volleyball. Also, Six Flags. Superman — it's the most intense three minutes of your life.

DAVIDE NARDI (CAS'11)