

→ Students interested in BU, and their parents, tour the Charles River Campus.



CYDNEY SCOTT

Introducing the Class of 2016

IT'S BECOMING INCREASINGLY difficult to gain admission to BU, as the students accepted to the Class of 2016 make clear. This year, a record-breaking 43,979 students applied for 3,900 spots, and the University offered admission to only 45.5 percent, the lowest percentage in BU's history. (Last year's admission rate was 49 percent.)

"It's been an extraordinarily competitive year," says Kelly Walter, an assistant vice president and executive director of admissions. "This class is obviously quite impressive."

In many ways the Class of 2016 looks much like the Class of 2015. In both, students finished in the top 9 percent of their high school class and had a GPA of 3.7. But this year's accepted freshmen have slightly higher SAT scores—an average of 2005—than last year's, which averaged 1993.

Walter says that what makes this group stand out is the applicants' wide-ranging accomplishments. One student has performed at the Kennedy Center, another volunteered at a school for autistic children in China, while yet another interned at

Most competitive year to date

the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Several students have started their own nonprofits.

"These students are not only accomplished academically," Walter says, "but they've made significant contributions to the world at large."

The Class of 2016 is 5 percent African American, 10 percent Hispanic, and 20 percent Asian. That last figure is down slightly from last year despite the fact that the majority of BU's international students come from China, followed by Korea and India. In total, international students account for 11 percent of the admitted students, and they hail from 103 countries.

Accepted applicants come from all 50 states, with the highest number from New York, followed by California and Massachusetts.

One thing that hasn't changed about this year's class is the ratio of women to men: 62 percent are women and 38 percent men. It is a trend many universities and colleges are experiencing, Walter says, although it may be more pronounced at BU. AS

Kilachand Professorship for Charles Dellheim

Historian **Charles Dellheim**'s book-in-progress will explore a largely ignored aspect of the plunder of great art by Hitler's henchmen. "I am less interested in how and why Nazis ransacked Jewish-owned collections—a tragic but well-known story—as in how Jewish outsiders acquired so much great art in the first place," he says.

Honors College director is first holder of new chair

Illuminating history's murkier corners requires financial support, and finishing the book just got a

little easier, says Dellheim, thanks to a generous research stipend accompanying his appointment in March as the University's first Arvind and Chandan Nandlal Kilachand Professor. The newly created academic chair recognizes his status as the founding director of the Kilachand Honors College.

"I am thrilled to receive this honor, which recognizes the tremendous collaborative effort that has gone into creating" the college, says Dellheim, a College of Arts & Sciences professor of history.

Like the college, the chair is named for the parents of BU trustee Rajen Kilachand (GSM'74), whose \$25 million gift supports the Honors College. RB



She plans to use her fellowship award to hire another graduate assistant and to buy equipment for her lab to study the DNA of bacteria found in these different areas.



Beck (GRS'06), an assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, studies partial differential equations, which are used to mathematically model a wide array of phenomena.

She plans to use her award to pay for travel expenses to visit with collaborators around the country and in England.

← Margaret Beck

Bose, an assistant professor of physics, has been working since last fall in Switzerland at the Large Hadron Collider, located outside Geneva. An experimental particle physicist, she is among a number of physicists at the world's largest collider, many from BU, pursuing fundamental questions about how the world

is constructed. Her research examines how particles gain mass and why some are heavier than others. She will use her fellowship to help fund travel



expenses to Geneva during the next year.

Past recipients of Sloan Research Fellowships have gone on to win a total of 38 Nobel Prizes.

The fellowships are granted by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, which was founded in 1934 to support research in science, technology, and economics. AS

← Tulika Bose