



*The*  
**ARCHWAY**

THE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK OF BRIMLEY UNIVERSITY SINCE 1902

2006 Commencement Issue



## From the President



May 20, 2006

Dear Graduates:

Today is a new beginning for each of you as you march through the archway on your way to Commencement exercises and proudly join the ranks of thousands of Bryant graduates. I want to express my own best wishes as well as those of Bryant's trustees, faculty, and staff as you embark on a bright future full of adventure, continued personal growth, and rewarding professional success.


Bryant has provided a stimulating and safe environment for you to grow intellectually and socially. I want to thank each of you for your important contributions to our community. I also encourage you to take all you have learned here and pursue your dreams with the same intensity you demonstrated at Bryant.

The future is full of the promise. Commit yourself to lifelong learning. Apply your skills with enthusiasm. Continue to demonstrate your concern for humanity. Make your own special imprint upon the landscape so that others will benefit from your unique talents.

Graduation is a momentous accomplishment. You are now a member of our distinguished alumni family, a network of more than 38,000 professionals throughout the world. At every opportunity you should make connections with other Bryant alumni and further enhance this powerful network. It is also our hope that you will return to campus often and maintain a lifelong relationship with the University.

Kati, I and everyone at Bryant are proud of your achievements and confident about your future. Set high standards of excellence, and we are certain that you will achieve your personal best in all that you do. We thank you for all you have brought to this University and extend our best wishes to you!

Best Wishes,

  
Ronald K. Machtley  
President

# The Honor of the Commencement Issue

In order to celebrate the 143rd Undergraduate Commencement, the Archway has created this commencement guide for the over 700 students who will graduate on May 20, 2006.

As tradition, we have compiled reflections from students who made the best of their undergraduate career, and have a memorable, insightful story to tell. Choosing the ten students to write a reflection was difficult and this year, a criterion was established during the process to help increase the number of students recognized.

A new tradition created

can be found in the pages with messages from Toby Simon and Dr. Stanley Baran. These two individuals were chosen because of the impact they have had on the lives of many of the 2006 graduates.

This guide is dedicated to each student's college experience, from the moment you first stepped on campus until you finally passed through the archway. I wish you the best of luck as you take your next steps as graduates of the Class of 2006.

Meghan Hanlon

Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

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## Walking through the archway... a Commencement tradition

Other than receiving diplomas on Commencement day, students have another way of symbolizing the completion of their Bryant education: they walk through the archway.

The story of the archway dates back to 1905. Isaac Gifford Ladd, an associate of Charles Schwabb and a famous U.S. steel tycoon, constructed a \$1 million building which contained the iron arch on Young Orchard Avenue on the east side of Providence. This building was meant to be a sign of his endearment to his newlywed wife.

However, his wife expressed hatred for the structure which was named after her. Taking this as personal rejection, Ladd took his own life. The building remained unoccupied until Thomas Marsden transformed it into Hope Hospital, which was part of the Bryant-Straton College, renamed Bryant College. To provide more space for classes, an addition was constructed and Hope Hospital was renamed South Hall.

In October of 1967, Earl S. Tupper, inventor of Tupperware, donated his 392 acre hillside estate to Bryant College for the creation of the new campus. To thank Tupper for his generous gift, Bryant named the campus after him and awarded him an honorary degree.

Four years later, in the fall of 1971, the campus moved to Smithfield. Prior to leaving the Hope Street campus, the wrought-iron arch at the entrance to South Hall was transported to the new campus.

Today, the archway remains the only physical link to the Providence campus. Frank Delmoncio, then Vice President for Business Affairs, and Robert Hillier, architect of the Tupper campus and designer of the sign for the front entrance, relocated the archway between the two ponds enroute to the Unistrustructure.

Immediately, after the archway was transferred from the old campus, students began to avoid passing through this out-of-place structure. As rumor had it, walking through the archway before graduation mysteriously jeopardized chances of graduating. Since this is quite a large price to pay for not following tradition, most students opted not to take the chance, which has resulted in worn paths around the arch.

After 17 years of worn paths, the graduating class of 1987 left a brick pathway around the sacred arch. This tradition has shaped the behavior of thousands of Bryant University students on Tupper campus for the past 30 years, and will continue to shape that of more in the years to come.



## Student Senate President: Brian Levin

For me it was the tent. The tent we are all sitting in today. That was when it finally hit me. I had seen the tent go up and come down two times prior. I had been an audience member watching friends graduate, a volunteer, I even edited a prior Archway Commencement Issue, but not until I watched the tent go up this final time, did I realize the significance of today's events. Class of 2006 the tent went up for us this year. This is our time. Congratulations my fellow graduates.

During this past year, graduation was both the forbidden conversation and the thought on everyone's mind. But why is this? Why do we fear the accomplishment that we worked so very hard to achieve? For some it is concern of change, but change is a reality of the life we lead. For others it is the thought of leaving good friends & good times,

but they say these friendships will last a lifetime, and here is the chance to test this theory.

And yet for others, myself included, it is both of those things, and a third as well. My third reason was that education, at least formally and at least for now, was ending and I was not ready to stop learning. Perhaps this sounds foolish. You are never done learning, but up until now our learning has been supported by a formalized structure and commandment marks a change in this comfort.

Education, and especially higher education is an opportunity to develop, to grow, and to do so in an academic community full of support. Sure we are here to major or to concentrate, but we have also had the opportunity to explore so much more. We have dabbled in academic minors, entertained speakers with whom we agreed and whom we dissented. We have attended cultural celebrations diversifying our understanding of world and we have become the life of this community. But ulti-

mately, and most importantly, we have developed ourselves.

Bryant, much to its credit, has prepared us well for life in a slightly larger community where our learning can continue formally or informally so long as we choose. I realized, and hope you have as well, that

education is not a means but rather an end in itself, an ultimate goal and one which we will never fully achieve. Education is more than what you learn in the classroom and, you know what? It is more than you learn outside the classroom too. Education is a mindset held by people who want to better themselves. It's an ideal and acceptance that we live in a place bigger than ourselves, and individually we must do the best we can so society can do the best it can. I hope that this notion makes you feel good about the choice you made in coming to Bryant and continuing your education, and that your experience here reinforced that every day.

So class of 2006, let's not fear the change; instead let's embrace it. Let's not let the past four years be our strongest, but let's take from our experience what we have learned and apply it to make a real difference. Let's use the foundation we have created here and change the world. And don't ever stop learning.



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*Education is not a means but rather an end in itself, an ultimate goal and one which we will never fully achieve.*

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# Student Class Charge: Daniel P. Raposo



Class of  
2006

Class of 2006:

Please join me in thanking two generations that helped us reach this point in our lives, our parents and grandparents. Our grandparents struggled through the turmoil of the Great Depression and fought during the 2nd World War. Our parents grew up in a time when the political pressure in our country was erupting over civil rights, women's rights, and the Cold War. Many of them actively protested or were overseas fighting a war in which 1 in 10 soldiers would not return. The actions of their generations defined their contribution to history. And now, we must ask ourselves, what are we defined by? What will we accomplish? I see our generation as defined by three characteristics that we must use to take action, and make our contribution to this world.

This is a time of the internet, and if knowledge

is power, we are more powerful than all those who came before us. Almost 1 billion people from outside North America access the

internet on a regular basis. Think of what we could learn from them. We have the knowledge of the world at our fingertips, and we must use this power to tear down the walls of ethnocentricity. We must build true understanding and cooperation that

benefits all citizens of the world, not just those in power.

This is a time of innovation. Yet in the past five years, our energy output from renewable resources has increased by only 12 million megawatt hours, in comparison to the increase of 150 million megawatt hours for natural gas. As we slowly deplete our natural resources, we grow more dependent on foreign oil. Innovation is needed now more than ever before, and we must find a way. We must use technology to find renewable energy sources and clean uses of our natural resources.

This is a time of general apathy. The majority of our generation did not vote in the 2004 presidential election. Now is not the time to be silent. In 1923, 500 American cities had at least two competing newspapers. Today, only 20 cities have two or more papers. We must stand up and stop the few from strangling the voices of the many. We must stand up and make our voices heard.

What is asked of our generation is a challenge, because in a world riddled with problems, what is asked of our generation, are solutions. Nelson Mandela once said "sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that generation. Let your greatness blossom." I know we can be great. You know we can be great. But starting now, on this day, we need to show the world that we are great. Our action will change the world. Our action will define our generation. Only our action will define our contribution to history.

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*What is asked of our generation is a challenge, because in a world riddled with problems, what is asked of our generation, are solutions.*

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## Kristina Antal

"It's just the beginning..."

I keep telling my family and friends that I can't believe this is it, that this is the end. A dear friend told me recently that I had it all wrong. He told me to change my attitude because it's not the end, it's just the beginning. So here we are, waiting to embark on a journey that will lead us to our futures, each of them unique and special in their own right. Thankfully, we'll never really have to leave Bryant University. It is simply embedded into our hearts and souls with the faces, the feelings, and all of the memories.

Hall 14 was where it all began for me. I made it up to the third floor but never knew that the people I would meet along the way would influence my life so very much. Have you ever heard of bed-piking? Probably not, but I made a best friend playing that game. I found out that congregating in the bathroom was the best place for a floor discussion and having dance soirées in the study lounge seemed to be normal. The next two years were spent in the "Acres" of Halls 11 and 13 where Michael Jackson songs now make me reminisce about the random things we used to do. The term "Operation Pinky" makes me giggle but only my girls know why.

It is also safe to say that my experience here at Bryant would have been drastically different had I not been involved in some extracurricular activities. The things learned inside a classroom must be challenged by the experiences faced outside of the classroom. Some people called me crazy but I called it opportunity. By my junior year, I had become a part of numerous organizations. However, the organization that challenged me most was the Student Senate. We laughed, we cried, we smiled, and we worried but most of all, we experienced it all together. Senators: You are the group of people that I admire most on this campus. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as a Senator with you all and I wish each and every one of you the best of luck.

Most notably, senior year has been one crazy rollercoaster ride. Just before I began the year, I was dancing in front of the Class of 2009 to the beat of "1, 2, Step" or in Orientation terms "Be You at Bryant U." I also found a new family within the Conference Office with Auntie Sheila, 2nd mom Sharon, my Gina, and Nino, among others. It was by far the best summer I had ever experienced. September quickly came and the townhouses became inundated with excited seniors. Our Senior townhouse living community learned that grills are a necessity, the construction behind C, D, and E blocks made sleeping on Saturday morning most difficult,

and the walk to the Unistructure seemed to go on forever.

All in all, I wouldn't change one thing about my experience at Bryant. Over the past four years, Bryant has shaped our lives to what we have become today. With a Bryant University education, I am confident that each and every senior will be successful. I encourage you all to follow your heart, dare to be different, and stand up for what you believe in.

So now we must prepare for this new beginning



in our lives. But before we all begin, we should thank those closest to our hearts for where we have been. To my parents- there are simply no words to express the gratitude I have for both of you. Without your love, guidance, and patience, I would not be who I am today. Nicholas- I couldn't ask for more in a brother. Thank you for your love, honesty, and friendship. To my family, friends, faculty, and staff, thank you for your influence and guidance over the last four years. To my second family, the U.N.- if someone ever told me you could only have one soul mate, I would tell them they were lying. Somehow, somehow, I have found a group of people that can speak to my soul. I know I have been blessed to find you all and will always keep you close to my heart.

To the Class of 2006: I'll meet you under the archway! Congratulations and good luck with all of your future endeavors.



**"Bryant: My second home...as a commuter!"**

**Andrew Bagaglia**

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." And leave a trail we did. The class of 2006 entered Bryant with the goal of graduating. Finally, that day is here.

The moment I first stepped foot on Bryant's campus was my junior year of high school, back in 2001. The Bello center hadn't been built yet. But somehow, this campus felt like a second home to me. Maybe it was the fact that I was going to be a third generation Bryant student (and graduate), as my grandfather graduated from Bryant in 1948 (instead of 1946, because of World War 2) and my father in 1976. I decided to come to Bryant because of the education and family tradition. Before my freshman year I had to make a decision. I chose to commute. It's a choice I'll never regret.

With some campuses, if you're a commuter, you never quite feel like you are part of college life on campus. It was never this way with me. From day one, I sought to get involved and did. I started by becoming a member of the Commuter Connection, followed shortly after by becoming a DJ at WJMF, Bryant's radio station.

Many changes have occurred since I first began coming to Bryant. The Bello Center, which houses the library, was a brand new structure during my freshman year. WJMF has changed since I arrived. When I first joined, the studio was housed in Hall 6, on the second floor, overlooking the pond. With the renovations over the past 2 years, the radio station has changed into something that I never thought it would be. The college feel changed into a professional feel with a new studio and new equipment.

As you may know, Bryant College changed to Bryant University before the beginning of the Fall 2004 semester. It is a change that I will never forget and I can say that I'm a proud part of the second class to graduate from Bryant University. And, to top it all off, the Red Sox captured their first World Series title in 86 years! The ultimate change in luck for Red Sox Nation at Bryant! However, with all of this in mind, it is time for us to make our change from college students to business professionals. But, before I make my change, I'd like to thank a few people.

First, I'd like to thank WJMF, particularly Adam, Jeremy, Erin, Joe, Matt, and Mike Montecalvo. You guys made WJMF fun. I've been a DJ there since I was a freshman. I also had an opportunity to be music director from February 2004 until May 2005. I've loved WJMF so much that I've considered trying to get a part-time radio DJ job.

Second, and most notably, I'd like to thank the Commuter Connection. I've been a member since I began coming to Bryant, and even had a chance to lead the organization for 18 months. I have seen a struggling group change into a thriving organization today thanks to the current leadership and the guidance that I received from Hank Parkinson while leading the group. And to Heather, Jenn, Leah, Steve, Patrick, Joel, Josh, Dustin, and George: Thanks for being there as great friends and to support the commuters on campus. I'll truly miss you all. My heart will always be with the Commuter Connection and all I can hope is that it continues to thrive under your guidance in the future. Thanks for the memories and good luck with your classes!

Brian, buddy, thanks for sticking it out beside me through Dr. Sousa's and Dr. Fougere's classes. We learned a lot and now we know that Access databases rock the free world and COBOL is one of the easiest programming languages around. (Yeah right!)

To Bryant, I thank you for these last 4 years. And to those that helped make it possible: my parents, my brother, my grandparents, my girlfriend, numerous relatives, and all my friends - I thank you for all that you have given me to succeed in life. It's been a long, tiring 4 years, but with your help, I've survived it!

Finally, as we all head to our new jobs, or continue our search for a job, just remember that we all have a certain place in this world and it is up to us to find that place. Hopefully, that certain place will make us much happier in the distant future. Congratulations and good luck to all of you in this ever-changing world!





## Ryan Donecker

### "For Good"

*"It well may be that we will never meet again in this lifetime. So let me say before we part so much of me is made of what I learned from you."*

The show is over. We take our bows, and then...the curtain falls, one final time. Four years. To anyone else it may seem like an eternity, but to a graduating senior it was faster than a blink of an eye. It seemed so cliché four years ago when everyone told you, "Enjoy them, they are the best four years of your life and they go by fast!" But they couldn't have been more right.

*"The world owes you nothing. What the world gives you is a place to live and a path to take. It is up to you to take the right one"* - Henry Albert Tienken, but without a doubt, Bryant has equipped us with one "wicked awesome" GPS system. And it is time to give thanks to those that have gotten us this far.

When I came here four years ago I didn't know what to expect. It was all new for me. No family, no friends, a new beginning. This was going to be

the biggest challenge of my life. Now I stand here on the verge of graduating and I now have a new family, new friends and a new beginning.

Bryant has allowed me to do more than I dreamt possible at college. From performing in over 11 Bryant Player productions (including Chicago, the best show Bryant's ever seen - if you missed it, you missed out!), to forming Bryant's first acapella group, The Bottom Line, to getting so involved in the leadership development program. I know I have been changed for the better because of everything Bryant has to offer. I have met so many great people that have all affected me in some way and *"I know I'm who I am today because I knew you"* - Wicked.

I owe so many thank you's to so many people. The first is my parents. I am without a doubt the person I am today because you continuously push me to be the best I can be. I would be lost without you guys. My family is my life and I owe you everything. To the "buddies": you guys have always been there for me. When things didn't go my way, you

were there to tell me things would get better. We have formed a bond that is unbreakable and even though this chapter of our lives is over we have many more chapters yet to get through. Bethany, what can I say? We have been through some rough times, but we've made it this far and it's only just the beginning. No one has given me the courage or inspiration to do better more than you. You are my life and I pray that we will never end.

To the graduating class of 2006, if I can give you one piece of advice it would be this: *"no day but today"* - Rent. Don't sell yourself short. Bryant has given us all the tools we need to succeed in the "real world" and I'm sure I will read about many of you in the newspapers in the future. I have one last thing to leave you with, *"There's only us there's only this forget regret or life is yours to miss"* - Rent.

CONGRATULATIONS!!







Class of  
2006

**"Looking Back...I Wouldn't Change a Thing!!!"**

**Charles Hill Jr.**

Wow! I can't believe that four years have already gone by and so fast. I remember coming down to Bryant as a senior in high school for Extravaganza weekend for the Multicultural Student Union. This was when they had Extravaganza in the Rotunda. After seeing one of the models walk the stage with just an American Flag on, I was sold. I remember moving in my freshmen year into Hall 14 340S. I remember going to the football game at URI and the block party. After that first weekend I knew that Bryant was going to be a great second home and I was going to have a lot of fun at this campus. Now, four years have past and I can say college has been the best four years of my life, so far. I have met the most amazing people who have made a very huge impact on my life, and I hope I have done the same.

Through the organizations that I was a part of, I learned a lot about myself and they have shaped who I am as a person today. The organizations that I have a great passion for are the Student Senate and the Delta Chi Fraternity. Both these organizations hold a special place in my heart and they always will. One of the best years that I had with both organizations was my sophomore year. I didn't feel as though the organizations were jobs, I actually enjoyed doing what I did for each. My sophomore year, both Delta Chi and the Student Senate were recognized at the Recognition Banquet. Delta Chi won Fraternity of the Year and the Student Senate won Major Organization of the Year (MOOTY). It is only fitting that my senior year, both Delta Chi and Student Senate took home the same awards. I am not going to lie, when Delta Chi was announced Fraternity of the Year, I wanted to cry. Then, when Student Senate was announced a few moments after as Major Organization of the Year, I wanted to cry even more. When you look back and think about all of the hard work that you put into an organization and then have it be recognized for all of that hard work, dedication and commitment, it is an amazing thing.

I would like to thank all of my fraternity brothers for all that they have done for me. Unlike what people may think, it isn't just about sharing the same colors, wearing the same T-shirts, or knowing the same rituals, it is a family. We are not "brothers" for just the time we are at college, we are brothers

for life: "A Brotherhood of a Lifetime." You all are truly my brothers and you all have made my Bryant experience that much better and without you guys I wouldn't be the person I am today nor would I have had as much fun at this university. And to the Student Senate, I want to thank all of the senators that I have encountered over the past four years and especially this year. I have had some good times and bad, we have agreed, disagreed and agreed to disagree, but what family doesn't overcome any adversity? And most importantly, I would like to thank my parents and my older sister for their endless support. My sister especially, for being the older sibling, because she showed me the way and I adapted to the college atmosphere a lot quicker because of her. She also made a lot of sacrifices for me and I wouldn't be able to enjoy the things I do as much if it wasn't for her. To go along with that, my parents have also made a lot of sacrifices to get me where I am today and I am truly and sincerely grateful and appreciative for what you guys have done. All of your hard work has paid off, I'm the last of your two children to graduate!!!

Commencement signifies an end and a new beginning. Although I am starting a new chapter in my life, I will miss this University so much and the people that I have met. I know that we will all be in touch but it won't be the same. I won't be able to walk to Hall 1 to see my brothers. I won't be able to randomly visit Missy Meadows at A6, I won't be able to go to D2 to harass Nino, I won't be able to take part in "Stams Day," I won't be able to go upstairs in my townhouse and try to convince Matt "Stylo" O'Donnell, Matt "Rza" Caras and Scott "Smithers" Swetz to go to Rentes, I won't have the Phi Sig girls (Hannah Deane, Carissa, Leigh and Sarah) in my backyard anymore at F9. But even though you all won't physically be within reach, I will keep all of the fun memories that I have had with all of you in my mind and know that you are only a phone call away. In closing, I will leave you all with this quote, "It takes a lot of courage to release the familiar and seemingly secure, to embrace the new. But there is no real security in what is no longer meaningful. There is more security in the adventurous and exciting, for in movement there is life, and in change there is power" - Alan Cohen. I wish the senior class the best of luck in all of our future endeavors and the new chapter of our lives.





## Parul Juneja

### "Kaliedoscopes of my Journey"

Henry Miller once said that *"Ones destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things."* When I left my home country four years ago and set forth for the United States, I looked forward to unleash my thinking and explore the world of opportunities ahead of me. I wanted my destination to be a complete experience- an experience in which I could look at the world from an entirely different point of view, an experience which would allow me to explore, dream and discover. These four years at Bryant University have made me dream beyond the boundaries set for me and discover my potential.

I started my journey as an international student at the Intercultural Center(ICC) orientation and today, when its time to embark on another journey I have managed to be a resident assistant, a Vagina Warrior, a fellow, a yearbook section editor, secretary for the International Student Organization, a dancer, a dreamer, a believer, and now a Bryant University alumna. My hope is that I was able to have a positive influence on everyone around me.

Years have gone by faster than days and each day has given me memories. The class of 2006 has persevered for these four years and together we have struggled through classes, registration, projects, papers and exams. We have waited till the last minute and pulled all-nighters, survived on food from Junction and sometimes leftovers from meals cooked by housemates, and then got woken up by the incessant fire alarms when we finally wanted to go to bed. We have brought out our alter egos by dressing up for Halloween, found oddest places to hang out like the laundry rooms and hallways and managed to travel around the world in just a weekend. Not only have we endured blizzards, Spring Weekends, and dips in the pond but we have survived senioritis.

Believe me, someday even these things will be pleasing to remember. With a few weeks to graduation I reflect on my four years at Bryant University, and I am certain I would not do it any other way.

*" We thought that we could live in that beautiful world forever,*

*But just when we felt so,*

*We realized it was a dream.*

*When we thought we could treasure it like a memory,*

*It hurt us like a wound,*

*For reality said something else.*

*When we thought we could forget it,*

*We realized it had become a part of us*

*For sometimes beautiful things are just meant to be*

*like that"*

My advice to the graduating class is that don't be afraid to take the 'road less traveled' - there will be signs along the way that will tell you if you went the right way. You will never be alone because in this world there are no strangers, only friends we haven't met yet.

I wish you all the very best in the life.

Thank you:

ICC for giving me a home away from home, Faculty for the grades that brought me so far, DPS for not letting me get out of control, Student Activities for keeping me involved on campus, Residence Life for believing in me, Office of Admissions - for allowing me to share the Bryant Experience, Post Office-for making my packages reach home, University Relations-for acknowledging my achievements, Undergraduate Advising for leading me in the right direction, Career Services for facilitating my transition from the BU world to the real world, Women's Center for making me a stronger woman, lunch ladies at Salmanson for making sure I ate well, last but not the least -my L6 ladies :- you've given me the best years of my life, I will always be there for you.

Bryant University - Thank you for everything.

To my family and friends - hope I made you proud.





Will you make a difference? This is my question for you, a professor's question for sure. Graduates' questions, your questions, are more immediate--What's next? How will I do in my career? How much money will I make? What will become of my friendships as I move away from Bryant, into the big, bad world? What new people, new adventures, new ideas are in store for me?

I asked the same things of myself at my commencement in 1970. Another similarity between my graduation day and yours is that the world I faced was not all that different from the one awaiting you--an unpopular war raged overseas, gasoline prices were rising dramatically, people were re-awakening to the need to protect the environment.

But there were indeed differences. Most significantly for a new graduate, then and now, is I was certain that I would achieve a higher standard of living than my parents'. We all were. Your generation, however, is the first in American history believing that it will not be able to surpass the quality of life achieved by those who had come before. And not to continue the "bum trip," as I might have said at my commencement, but another difference is that in 1970 we saw "making a difference" as an important, if not the central product of why we went to college--making a difference for ourselves, naturally, but equally important, making a difference for others--others with whom we "shared the planet" (another anachronistic idiom) and those yet to be born.

You have been given a gift--a Bryant University education. The diploma you receive today is the tangible manifestation of that gift. You are graduating from an excellent school, well prepared to make a difference for yourself in a world less inviting, less comforting, less promising than the one I faced back then. But if I have learned anything about Bryant students in



my brief career here, it is that they do succeed. So I ask my professor's question again, Will you make a difference? More precisely, will you use your gift--your Bryant experience--to make a difference for others? Did Bryant teach you not only to succeed, but to understand that we are all connected? Did you learn that your welfare is your neighbor's welfare?

I believe you did. Because of this, I am honored to have been your teacher.

Dr. Stanley Baran  
Professor



# Remember When...

## The Freshman Experience

Your mother/father/brother/sister/cat/neighbor and fraternity members helped you move your belongings up three flights of stairs, only to find your jail cell waiting for you.

You boarded a bus to the University of Rhode Island only to see the Bulldogs were shutout by Rams, 28-0.

The admissions tour said you got a laptop, nothing was mentioned about having to wait four days to get it.

You traveled to New York, London, Paris, Rome, Prague, Moscow, Tokyo, Sydney, Honolulu, San Francisco, Chicago, and Smithfield all in one night.

On your first day of classes the reality of college set in, this could be a long four years.

The George E. Bello Center opened and you first heard how expensive those chairs were, you had to see what the commotion was all about.

You realized the syllabus was set in stone, and the paper is due regardless of whether or not it is mentioned in class.

Thursday's 12:30pm class was equally as important as Thursday nights in Providence.

Salmanson offered a great variety; you got to live off cheeseburgers, french fries and pizza.

You were awakened by your parents at 7am just wanting to make sure you were not at the Station Nightclub. Your response, "Mom, I don't even know where Warwick is."

You realized the "Freshman 15" was becoming a reality, it's not practical to live off of cheeseburgers and pizza, time to find the Wellness Center.

You only got one of your five classes, now what? Refresh, Refresh, Refresh....

You thought it was ok to wear shorts and a t-shirt during a fire alarm in February.

You were excited to go home for the summer and see all of your old friends, but quickly realized that you missed all of you new ones.

## Surviving the Sophomore Hump

After not seeing your friends for 3 months, you found that everything picked up exactly where it left off.

You began planning your Spring Break activities the moment you arrived on campus...Acapulco, Bahamas, Cancun, Europe, or Florida.

You missed Dee, Hen and Gigi so much that you considered paying them under the table to clean your suite bathroom.

You first entered the new Salmanson and laid eyes on the 60" plasma televisions, and thought there were going to be more, but they were only cardboard cutouts.

You realized how precious a strip parking spot was, and refused to move your car for weeks.

The furniture in your common room proved to be more versatile than you first thought.

You rushed the pond to celebrate the Patriots winning Superbowl XXXVIII against the Carolina Panthers.

You spent an afternoon playing bungee basketball, and an evening rocking out to Guster during SPB's Springstock Spring Weekend.

You received a round of applause for dropping your tray in Salmanson, then tripped up the stairs on your way to class.

You were caught by your friends at 7am doing a walk-of-shame or stride-of-pride.

You received your much needed new laptop.

# Joseph Hansen & Elizabeth Maglione



Class of  
**2006**

## Becoming Junior Executives

You left campus as a college, and returned to a university.

Tree fires during "Around the World" changed Bryant nightlife forever.

When your IP phone became the new Yellow Pages.

The Bagel Cart became a la Cart.

Your e-mail was over quota because of the very informative Student Affairs emails.

You carried your open laptop from the Bello Center to your room to make sure you didn't sign off-line, isn't wireless great!

You celebrated the Red Sox World Series Victory with President Machtley by the pond.

You studied abroad and had the time of your life.

You were able to find the name of the person in front of you in class along with their date of birth, hometown, relationship status, and the mutual friend that could make the introduc-

tion...Thank you Facebook!

You brought your first 'official' business suit.

You cheered on the Men's Basketball Team while watching them on national television in the NCAA Elite 8.

The weather finally broke and you were able to lay by the pond and play Wiffle Ball, the next week it snowed.

You finally became legal, or maybe you don't.

## Livin' the Senior Life

Junction was no longer just a late night snack.

You checked BCC daily and found your dream job with the help of Shannon Finning-Kwoka, your new best friend.

Rentes was the place to be on Thursdays and Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Eating at Salmanson became a thing of the past with the introduction of your new fully equipped kitchen.

You saw Method Man and Dashboard Confessional "Under the Big Top."

You were woken up every morning by the construction of the new, new townhouses you will never get to occupy.

You could spend a whole Saturday afternoon at your townhouse Barbequing, playing volleyball, horseshoes and Wiffleball.

You became executive board member emeritus of your club or organization.

You boarded a bus for Senior Night at an unknown destination but were excited when you arrived at McFaddens, Liquid Lounge, Olives, and Tantric.

You passed in your last final exam, made your last presentation and attending your last group meeting of your undergraduate career.

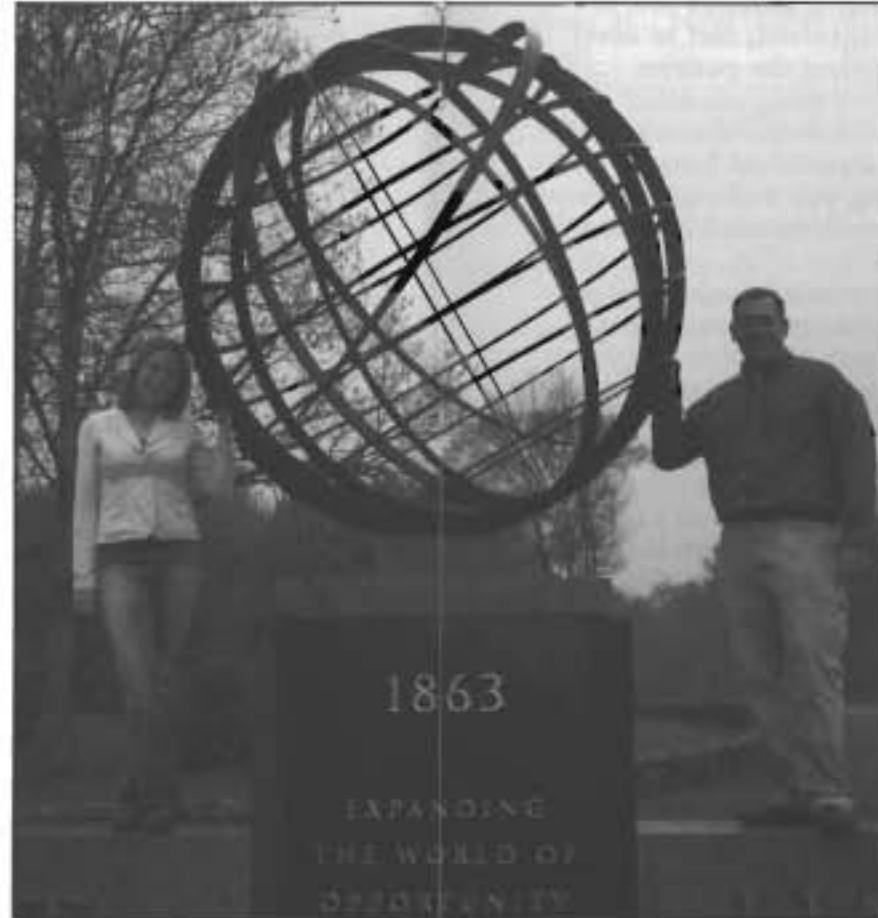
You thought you left prom back in High School, then the senior ball came around, O the Drama.

After four years of dodging the archway you finally walked through without jinxing yourself.

The picture frames that once housed High School memories became soon became filled with crazy College nights.

You were first given that ridiculous nickname because of "that thing" you will never, even four years later, live down (ie BT or John Deere).

It was last call at the four year party we call College.





## Simon Says:

"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out."



I love that quote. Former Harvard president, James Bryant Conant, said it many years ago. As soon to be Bryant grads, think about its meaning. I hope this university has been a wonderful place for you these past four or five years. For most of you, it's been a safe place, a nurturing place, and a forgiving place. Bryant has allowed you to reinvent yourself, to express yourself, to excel in the classroom, to break records on the playing fields and to hold leadership positions in student organizations.

However, for some of you in this safe environment, you've become comfortable with a level of complacency because Bryant's been too cushy, too safe, too neutral. Some of you have been less willing to take chances, to take risks, to confront your friends. Perhaps you've witnessed behaviors on the part of your peers which were homophobic, racist or sexist. But you remained silent, or worse laughed along with everyone else. Or maybe you've been in a classroom where you felt that a professor made an inappropriate comment but decided it wasn't worth the effort to inquire about it.

We tend to think of the phrase "risk taking" in pejorative terms. Risk is more frequently defined in relation to thoughts of danger, loss, threat, damage and injury; but occasionally there are positive references to accepting a challenge or opportunity in order to gain, to achieve progress and to experience the new. Often our relationship with risk is more frequently restrictive, driven more by the fear

of getting things wrong. And this fear has led many of you to avoid taking risks. Through encouragement by others and by sticking our necks out, we may find new and novel solutions to everyday challenges. Risk is a normal everyday experience but think about how often you've gone through a day at Bryant, avoiding risks of any sort and being perfectly content to do so.

Positive risk taking does require you to assess the potential benefits and harms of exercising one choice of action over another. It requires you to identify the potential risks involved, and to develop plans and actions that reflect the positive nature of the risk. It involves using available resources and support to achieve the desired outcomes, and to minimize the potential harmful outcomes. I hope it's something you will want to consider when your world expands beyond Bryant and Smithfield, Rhode Island.

I think there are some wonderful examples of positive risk taking on this campus. Everything from deciding to spend a term abroad in a country whose language you don't speak to questioning a professor about a grade to challenging campus policies and procedures are all examples of risk taking. What I've observed in my three years here is that, as time goes on, students begin to exhibit some positive risk taking. Senior women have especially impressed me over the years in their ability to confront sexist behaviors they've experienced and to speak up in classes, meetings and residence halls when someone has said something that was offensive and hurtful. This is not easy to do on a campus where men outnumber the women. I've seen women and men write letters to the Archway criticizing campus policies which they felt were not supportive of women on campus. In the last regular issue of the Archway, many students stuck their necks out in hopes of raising awareness around some campus issues.

So, congratulations to the class of 2006! Good luck and continue to make us proud. Consider the advice of Albert Einstein: "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."

Toby Simon

Director, Women's Center

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## “Today’s Gift is Tomorrow’s Opportunity” *Kevin Martin*

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Class of  
**2006**

730 days 4380 hours 262,800 minutes ago we, the class of 2006 entered the doors of Bryant College. Since that day we have all experienced a journey that will last a lifetime. Transforming from College to University, the addition of a state of the art library, and the renovations of residence halls has collectively made our experience here more memorable. I am truly honored and humbled to have this opportunity to share my gratitude and experiences on this great day of graduation.

Starting in my freshmen year it was Hall 16 that I called home. It was in the second semester of that year that a group of friends would come to fruition and last a lifetime, the Bryant UN was born. This group of phenomenal individuals has made an impact in my life and it is in part because of them that I am able to stand here today ready to embrace tomorrow. I would like to recognize these closest friends and thank them for all they have done, life wouldn't be the same without you all: Rohan, Amr, Kristina, David, Francisco, Shelly (My Belle you hold a special place in my heart), and Hassan.

Life is an amazing journey and it is only through its lessons that one can truly appreciate it. I am honored that I had the opportunity to spend four wonderful years here at Bryant. I offer my deepest thanks and love to my father and mother. It is because of their support, love and passion for my success that I am here today graduating. Dad you are the strongest man I know and if I can be at least half the man you are I will be content with myself. Mom you are sorely missed and I pray you are watching down upon me on this day, guiding me. To my brothers and sister, Michael, Brian, Cory, and Lisa you are my support and my life, thank you for all you have done for me. Lastly to my extended family, all of you have always supported me in everything that I have done, thank you and my love is with each and every one of you.

Throughout my adventure here

at Bryant I have had the opportunity to work with and for some of the most influential organizations this institution has to offer. As a member of the Student Alumni Association I have come to appreciate the role of alumni here at Bryant. Through the Student Senate I have been able to forge some of the most valuable relationships, thank you all for what you have done without your help guidance and direction I could be the person that I am.

The time that I have spent as Bryant is precious. I thank the University for all it is done for me and I hope that I have enhanced the University as it has me. I will end this article with a favorite quote of mine: "I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving; To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift nor lie at anchor." Be productive in life, do all that you can to better your community, better your self and most importantly better humanity.





## Melissa Meadows "What I really learned at Bryant"

I sat down and tried to write this address at least a dozen times, trying to create a profound literary piece that would shed light upon our future endeavors and memories of Bryant; but I decided to take this opportunity instead, to personally reflect on *my* Bryant experience. Looking back over the past four years, I'm sure you'd all agree when I say, that it went by too fast. It's hard to imagine ourselves as freshmen; teenagers, right out of high school with little idea of what college would really mean. Our hopes were high and our excitement was even higher. We introduced ourselves dozens of times to each other, exchanged screen names and began to find where we all would fit in. Soon we were seniors and now we will become alumni. Like the change from college to university, we have all made the change from boys and girls to young men and women who are prepared to move onto bigger and better things.

Looking back, I can not even begin to summarize the numerous things I have learned. I will however, share a few of them. I learned about Porter's Five Forces, balance sheets and income statements. I learned concepts, theories, and definitions. But what I really learned are the everyday things that made this University a part of my life. I learned that even after four years in the Unistructure, I still don't know which rooms are where. I learned that parking in C lot is always too far and that it's cool to jump in the pond if your favorite team wins the World Series. I learned that being part of the major organization of the year can substitute for a family and that your best friends are your biggest fans. I learned that too many parking tickets can get your car towed and that having a party on a Tuesday night in the village usually leads to DPS fines. I learned how to finish my homework by 9pm on a Thursday night, the roasting of a pig is cause for celebration, and that spring semester always goes by way too fast. I learned that it's cool to hang out and dance with an 80 year old man at Rente's and it's even cooler for Larry and Dennis to know you by name. But above all however, I learned that college becomes a part of you, it becomes your home, your family, and your life; and I learned that Bryant has become a part of me.

I was not excited to graduate; in fact I hated the idea of it. My eyes would well with tears every time the "G" word was mentioned even starting back in September. Throughout our entire senior year we experienced a lot of lasts: our last semester, our last class, our last spring break, etc. but what I just recently realized is that although we have experienced all these lasts, our lives are not over; our lives have only just begun. Because of what we've learned and what we've experienced at Bryant, the beginning of our lives are sure to be met with many doors of opportunity and for that reason I am excited to move on. I have come to accept this chapter of my life is over and I am eagerly awaiting the next pages to be turned. I will miss my days here at Bryant. I'll even miss going to class, pulling all-nighters, final exams, and group projects. I'll miss countless meetings, numerous obligations and my time on

Wednesdays always being occupied at 4pm. I'll miss loud Friday nights and quiet Saturday mornings. I'll miss most of all the many friends made here. So many people have touched my life over the past four years and the impact they have left is astounding.

I would like to thank the faculty and staff here at Bryant. I have had the honor and opportunity to work closely with many of you and you truly are mentors. The lessons you have taught me both through academics or student activities have helped encourage my development as a young adult. Your jobs are some of the most important in the world as you mold the minds of future leaders and you deserve more recognition than I could ever possibly give.

I would like to thank my roommates, Ashley, Kate, Kim and Martha for all the laughs, fights, late nights, fuzzy mornings, road trips, errands, laptop parties and memories. Thank you for always supporting everything I did, for bringing me snacks to class when I didn't have time to eat, for sitting through long senate meetings just because, and for being patient when getting ready to go out. But thank you most of all for being a part of my life. From you, I have learned more about myself than I have learned in the classroom and you continually challenged me to review who I was and who I wanted to be. I can't imagine who or what I'd be without you four amazing women and my life will never be the same.

I would also like to thank my family, your love and encouragement has shaped me and helped me to grow as a person. The true foundation of someone's life is their family, and you have been my solid ground when things around me seemed rocky. Mom, you are my best friend. I think I can look back on the past four years and count on one hand how many days I went without talking to you. I know it's your job to be there for me, but if motherhood was a paid profession, you deserve a raise because at times, I'm not the easiest person to take care of. You stuck by me in every decision I made and supported everything I did. You picked me up when I was down, wiped my tears when I cried, and smiled with me when I was happy and I thank you everyday for that and I love you.

As we embark upon our futures and walk through the Archway, we will always remember our time at Bryant and who we were on this campus and that, is priceless. Congratulations to the class of 2006, it has truly been an honor, thank you. - Missy





I have been granted my final words as I am about to end this 21 year long life in transition to an after-world otherwise known as "reality." Not to be dramatic or anything, but here we are roughly 700 of us, all who've spent 17/21sts of our lives preparing us for this day. Today we will wear funny hats that took us much too long to put on, march to that song we did four years ago (when we were more concerned with silly string than anything else), have sore cheeks from smiling at the camera's of the 324 relatives our parents invited...all to receive a piece of paper that entitles us as adults of higher education, whatever that means. Well after 4 years here I thought I'd take a stab at establishing just what it means to be a Bryant University 2006 graduate.

4 years ago we sat in that line...hazy day for about 2-3 hours most of us...you see this was before



Bryant maximized productivity in the area of freshman move-in. I remember my dad drove me, he loves the back roads so a typical 1.5 hour journey turned into 3...I think he was just trying to hold on. I remember being the little freshman like it was yesterday and we had the "4 best years of our lives" ahead of us, then what

seemed like an eternity. By the end of the first week we were all completely entrapped in the Bryant bubble. 1st of 8 times buying books...at that time all at once (silly freshmen) and lugging them back, being excited for the "organizational fair," not realizing that putting my name on the Finance Association, Peer Education, SPB, Senate, Greek Life, and Frisbee club would entitle me to 4 years of free email subscriptions.

And that is how it began for most of us...our doors mine as well been revolving as we made the friends we never knew we couldn't live without. Mine all happen to wear purple and hang out on the stairs in the middle of the Rotunda. Ahh the rotunda...the hub of our social existence. We experienced the evolution of Bryant College into University, the Station fire and the overhaul of the fire code, the emergence of Facebook (stalker.com??), the war on terror, the Red Sox winning the world series, the dynasty otherwise known as the Patriots, from Guster to Method Man. The change of seasons from the brutal wind

burning tunnel comparable with Russia...to what we thought was the Carribean...75 degrees (Wow how the mood changes around here). We grew accustomed to the climate and the natural wildlife of geese, squirrels, and cats (random). There are some things I know I have mastered such as writing 5 page papers in 2 hours or how to stretch doing the laundry to once a month. There are still a few things I haven't grasped such as the difference between the CRN and SCN, and maybe they could add a Culinary Strategy 101- Lessons in making something out of nothing; Salmanson dining into fine cuisine.

I know some of you are nostalgic today and filled with excitement and perhaps uncertainty at what the future holds. Some are accepting jobs across the country...or some, such as myself, are moving back into their parent's basement. Either way we will never have to wear shower sandals again, thank goodness. My hope for my fellow class of 2006 is that you can now fully appreciate the opportunities we have been given at this fine institution. While some of us simply chose to just experience the realm of academia, play varsity sports, or whether you were obnoxiously over involved, we share a common bond, "the best 4 years of our life" such a bold but accurate statement.

Of course since I get to write basically whatever I want, I do have to thank a few people...those that made it possible for me to be right where I am today.

First and foremost My Aunt DecDee, if not for your support and your generosity I would have never been able to come to Bryant, I will forever be grateful.

Dr. Eakin, I can not even begin to explain how thankful I am for everything you have done for me. You are an amazing administrator with a big heart, and I am lucky to have gotten to work with you throughout my college career. Thank you for taking an interest.

My sorority; individually unique, together complete. A rollercoaster of experiences...we have been through an amazing amount. You all hold a very special place in my heart and have made me the person I am today. Thank you all for your everlasting support and friendship.

Anthony Furnari, Nino, my pic; I can only hope that someday I will be able to work with someone as kindhearted and dedicated as you. As much as you like to give me credit, it was you who motivated me when my inspiration ran low. I wish upon you the best of everything.

My parents; Mom...stop crying I am moving back into the basement, you can still do my laundry and still pretend that I am only 16. You are both my #1 fans, and without your encouragement I would have never been motivated to do the things that have brought me here. I love you both and thank you for all that you have sacrificed.

To the class of 2006 dream big, work hard, and play harder.





## Saddi Williams

Learning is an ongoing process that requires a lifetime to complete. Just when you may think you have all the answers, things change and something new arises that you must learn. Being at Bryant University my learning did more than continue, but it expanded. This went far beyond the classroom to now being recognized as self truths I have picked up along the way. It was here that I was tested and challenged, not only academically but socially and personally in faith. I faced challenges of integrity and self motivation that could have easily claimed hold of my college career, just as I saw similar challenges do to others close to me.

I appreciate the football program and everything it has done for me, Coach Fine for making Bryant Football a program I will forever be proud of. Especially, I would like to thank my teammates; their support and camaraderie I will keep for the rest of my life. I like the fact that only a select few know the life as a gridiron warrior, playing football, studying the opponent, and pushing to the physical limit to win all to come back to the classroom to give a group presentation and nail it! Football gave me more than any class ever could; discipline, a will to win, leadership,

vision and team work. Life is a sport, football was my practice, and I always play to win! So to every student athlete, this is my tribute to you!

Who am I as a college student, that I can be an inspiration to people? Oddly enough I thought this of myself. I wanted to recognize my differences, my challenges, and also my gifts to show someone that may face similar challenges that they too can rise above and beyond despite their current circumstances.

Also by doing this I wanted to bring perspective to those who don't have it quite as hard. Life is what you make it! So why make your contribution to life a negative one when it is already full of enough worries? Through faith I have grown to care about

only those things I can control, and all other exterior matters are strictly in God's hands. Who am I to worry if I'm his child, right? Even now I think of those deceive points in my four years here where those lessons have been learned. Now I look forward to future endeavors but I will never leave my friends, family and memories at Bryant behind. Man, it's about time though!! Route65...OUT!!!!



**"We'll make the best of  
what's around"**

## **Matthew Willis**



**Class of  
2006**



I believe Dave Matthews said it best when he proclaimed, "I will go in this way and find my own way out." These words proclaim the essence of the college experience

and all that it has to offer, or better yet all that you make of it. As college students we have the ability to make our four years exactly what we desire. The choice is ours to take advantage of the opportunities thrown our way, or discard them in the name of entertainment and leisure.

In reality a student's four years in college are supposed to be a learning experience, contrary to some popular belief, where students can make mistakes as long as they take away those key points about life and what lies ahead. The college learning process is not always about the classroom and all that is encompassed within, but rather comes from the entirety of a student's surroundings and how they learn from the actions and experiences of others.

I personally have never had a better learning experience on this campus than working as a summer orientation leader, working with 12 other amazingly strong leaders, constantly dealing with training, difficult parents, naive high school students, and multiple 20 hour days of grueling work. But the lessons I have taken away from similar on campus opportunities are invaluable, and no loan payment in the world can ever truly reflect the experiences we have all had on this campus. I will never forget the people and the good times which have shaped this ever important stage in my life.

Members of the class of 2006 have had a very unique opportunity in our 4 years at Bryant. Two of them have been spent at "college" where we

gained our bearings for the campus life, began to get involved, struggled with increased schoolwork, and began to form bonds with friends that will ultimately last a lifetime. Our latter two years were completed at a prestigious "university" where we created resumes, received internships, visited career services along our career search path and coasted our way into senior week and graduation, a time we thought would never get here. But now all we have left are the memories. Those reminiscing stories from the people you will never forget, who will now call themselves alumni.

But I would like to think that we are all ready to enter the "real world" and all that it has to offer. But as my father has been telling me for years; "Life isn't fair, the sooner you realize that, the better off you will be!" We will all be going different directions when we graduate; some will be off to grad school, while others working full time, and even still others will be traveling and taking the summer off. But no matter where we are in life upon graduation, we can all rest assured that the learning which has taken place at Bryant has surely shaped our thoughts, values, and memories which we will take with us forever.

Coinciding with our learning experiences is always the support of your family, no matter what happens to be going on in your life. My parents especially have always given me advice, much of which I probably never agreed with until recently realizing how often they were right. My father told me a story recently about a 21 year old who said, "When I was 14 dad, I didn't think you knew anything, but I can't believe how much you learned in just 7 years."

The advice and support for all of my endeavors that I have received from my family will never be forgotten, from the letters and phone calls, to coming up and spending the day with me, all the way to being here upon receiving the Penny Stone award. My family is truly amazing and I couldn't have accomplished what I have with out all of them. I love you Wendy, Frank, Keri, Stacey, Megan and yes even you Nico!

To the Bryant University graduating class of 2006; we had the time of our lives here at Bryant and the memories we have shared will live on forever. Congratulations to each and every one of you, and I wish you all the best of luck wherever you choose to go from here. Peace out cub scouts, I'll catch you on the flipside!



## Seniors Speak Out

What will you miss most about Bryant?

"Bryant is a place where you know and recognize most people. I don't think that I will ever again be in a community where I can walk through the pathways and feel comfortable saying hello and having a conversation with almost anyone." -Bobby Brennick

"I will miss my friends and all the crazy nights we had together here and in Australia!! EM, SS, CR...Love you girls, it wouldn't have been the same without you!" -Sara Halpin

"All of the familiar faces walking to class every day. Everyone is so friendly at Bryant." -Christina Spano

"I will miss the Saturday ritual of getting up at 6:30am for track meets, listening to Nick Lahey in the afternoon and partying Saturday nights."

"My favorite thing about my time at Bryant is the friends that I have Made, and Tuesday being the new Thursday. Living in such close proximity to these people is definitely something that I will miss, especially my L2 loves, the L8ers and of course the Young James." -Colleen Ryan

"Horseshoes, grilling and beers on Friday afternoons." -Art Acry

"I will miss Professor Hebert." -Poorna Dharmasena

"The little waffle-maker. That's what I'll miss the most." -KC Handley

"I'll miss the small campus feel, recognizing so many students throughout campus everyday, and the respect that everyone has for each other...but I won't miss the 'Bryant High School' gossip!" -Peter Ziegler

"The people. My experience here at Bryant was definitely defined by the friends and relationships I've created during the past four years." -Jenna Clifford

"Looking back on my experience here at Bryant, I can honestly say that I'm going to miss my friends the most. I know I'll keep in touch with those who have become my close friends, but they'll no longer be in the room next door to me, a floor below me, or at most a five minute walk away." -Jen Millet

# Senior Contributions



Class of  
2006

## Senior Service Awards

The Senior Service Awards is a prestigious award presented to six deserving students of the graduating class to recognize their outstanding service to the student body of Bryant University. The recipients were chosen by a committee chaired by Michelle Sobol, the Student Senate Representative.

Nominees were evaluated on various criteria, such as their contributions to the overall Bryant community, their participation in clubs or organizations, athletics, community service, campus employment, or academic opportunities, and their successful academic/professional achievement while at Bryant, and any additional personal achievements throughout their time at Bryant.

Every one of these applicants were exceptionally qualified and have made lasting impacts on this campus. They all exemplify dedication and loyal service through the many committees, organizations, and projects they were involved with. Congratulations to each of the following individuals:

Rohan Shah  
Cathleen Doane  
Bethany Thornton  
Daniel Raposo  
Brian Levin  
Anthony Furnari

## Class Flag

Bryant University extends its gratitude to the late, Emeritus Honorary Trustee George J. Kelley '39, '69H for his generosity in providing ongoing support for the purchase and display of a graduating class flag.

The 2006 Class Flag was designed by seniors from the Student Alumni Association -- Kristina Antal, Joseph J. Hansen, Kevin RL Martin, Rohan Shah, and Kate Thurber. The Class Flag is being carried today by Joseph J. Hansen, Kevin RL Martin, and Rohan Shah.

The Class of 2006 has seen several changes over the past four years and has embraced these changes as opportunities. This idea served as the basis for the design, most notably the half-black, half-gold represents their first two years as a college and the latter half as a university. The over-sized archway is representative of the tradition of not walking through the archway and for the first time in four years, we did so today.

The committee proudly presents the senior class flag to the Class of 2006 -- "Embracing Change, Seizing Opportunity".

## Senior Class Gift

This year the Senior Class Gift project was an extension of a newly developed structure. Kevin Martin was selected as the Senate representative to chair the campaign and worked closely with Shannon Maldonado and the Business Development Office to ensure a successful campaign. A Steering Committee was then selected to assist in the campaign.

The committee consisted of Kristina Antal, Rohan Shah, Anthony Finari, Melissa Meadows, and Danielle Schools. Each of the Co-Chair Committee members was responsible for soliciting five volunteers each. This 35 student team would then go on to become known as the SCG (senior class gift) Team.

The SCG Team selected the class gift mid-first semester. The gift is a renovation of a current classroom in the Unistructure. This renovation consists of new projectors, chairs, boards, and information technology equipment, which will make this classroom one of the most state-of-the-art rooms on the Bryant University campus. This is a tremendous gift on behalf of the class and truly represents the character of this year's graduating class.

This year's Senior Class Gift Team has supplied students with more options to give. Students now have the ability to donate online using our secure website with their credit or debit cards. Students also have the ability

to donate using cash or check, and lastly students now have the ability to sign over their housing deposits to the senior class gift. This option is one of the greatest successes of the SCG team. With this option students have the opportunity to give a larger amount to their alma mater without having to drain out their bank account. If that isn't enough students also had the opportunity to make a five year pledge that would be paid over a span of five years, something that is more feasible for a college student. In all the SCG Team of '06 has given many more opportunities to students than ever before.

The Class of '06 gift will also be matched dollar for dollar by Mr. David Weinstein, Executive Vice President of Fidelity Investments. This means for every dollar a student donates it will be matched with another dollar by Mr. Weinstein. As of May 8, 2006, 115 students have made cash donations towards the class gift totaling \$30,000 with the match. This is the highest "real" dollar amount any senior class gift has obtained, a feat that should be recognized.

This would not have been possible if it weren't for everyone's help, hard work, and dedication. Thank you to Laurie Musgrove, Shannon Maldonado, Claudette Piette, everyone in the Business Development Office, and especially, the SCG Team. We thank the entire class of '06 and wish them the best in all that they do.



## *From the Editor-in-Chief - Emeritus, Meghan Hanlon*

May 20, 2006

Taped to my printer, is the best Chinese cookie fortune I have ever received. Rather than the usual, "You like Chinese food," I cracked the cookie to find the following message, "Stuff happens. It is your response that counts." If there is something I have learned the past year as Editor, and in fact the past four years as a student at Bryant University, it is just that. I have been challenged, pushed and complimented in every direction.

Much of what I have learned about myself has come during the past four years at Bryant. This has included an adventure to place in which I needed a passport – London and a place that should require one – the third floor of the Bryant center – my second home.

When the semester began, I wrote my first letter from the editor, beginning with the things I have forgotten. It seems my luck has changed, as my senior year there were no phone calls home about a missing item – at least nothing that I couldn't quickly replace. I also mentioned that

semester has not officially begun until you pick up your first issue of the Archway. Perhaps, for the seniors then, the end of the semester officially comes with this Commencement Guide.

The important thing to remember, it is not the end. While it may be the end of our undergraduate years, it is also the beginning of so much more. Bryant has prepared us by, "Expanding the World of Opportunities." So tell me, Class of 2006, how has your world been expanded and what will you do now?

In a classic novel, three children passed through their wardrobe to discover a life on the other side - a life full of adventure and the unknown. This leads me to wonder what I and the class of 2006 will encounter as we step through the archway.

For many of us, May 20th marks the date for which we will finally pass through the archway and not travel around it. Our steps will be taken with pride as we approach the tent that holds everything we have been working towards since we first stepped tentatively on campus as freshman.

As we take those steps, I am sure there are many of us that wouldn't change a thing. That bounce in our steps is not only full of nervousness and butterflies but of excitement for life that lies ahead of us – of an eagerness to see what is on the other side of the archway.

For me, it means California or bust – a distance of 3090.11 miles from Smithfield, Rhode Island to San Ramon, California. The steps I have taken this far in my life and the ones I will continue to take would not be possible without the support I have received from my family. To Benjamin – the title big brother does not begin to describe the many roles you have played in my life. Thank you for being there and for doing so much for which you go un-credited for.

And to my parents - who have stayed by my side through every decision I have made (thank you for not turning the car around as we approached Logan Airport for my plane ride to Heathrow Airport) and who taught me how to soar while also teaching me that I always had a place to safely land.

Best of luck Class of 2006,


Meghan Hanlon, Editor-in-Chief, Emeritus



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# From the Dean of Students

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Class of  
2006

May 20, 2006

Dear Graduates:

For most of you, the past four years have flown by. You have experienced great change personally and in our environment. The University around you has been transformed in various ways. New faculty and staff have joined the Bryant community and aided you in the learning process.

But the most change has been in you! You came here from various places and experiences. You brought with you what you had learned and experienced. Here we supported and challenged you and you built on that foundation. You leave here with more skills and greater experiences than you imagined. You are ready for new challenges and for beginning your professional life.

This is an important time to acknowledge those who have played an important role in your success. None

of us succeed without the contribution of others so don't let this time pass without thanking them. Take a moment and let them know how much their help and support has meant to you.

It has been a great honor to share this Bryant experience with you. Marj and I consider it a great privilege to live and learn with each class and each has a special place in our hearts. As you leave, we wish you the very best and hope you will remain connected with Bryant through the Alumni Association and in other meaningful ways.

Congratulations and best wishes !



Dr. J. Thomas Eakin  
Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

