



BRYANT ALUMNI BULLETIN

Vol. 17 | No. 2 | April 2014

Alumni Achievement Award recipients honored

Bryant University's Office of Alumni Engagement recognized seven recipients of Alumni Achievement Awards for excellence on March 28, 2014. Although more than last year's number of recipients, Director of Alumni Engagement Robin Torbron Warde says, "Really, there is no 'right' number of awards – especially with the strong pool of outstanding Bryant alumni. With so many highly qualified nominees, it seemed fitting to honor them all this year."

The secret to a successful nomination lies in being engaged with Bryant. "While distinguished careers are an important consideration, alumni who have stayed involved with Bryant today or are very willing to reengage with students, faculty, and other alumni in some capacity are usually pulled to the top of the list," says Warde.

This year's awards recipients are:

The Distinguished Alumna Award was presented to **Diane A. Kazarian '83**, CPA, CA (Toronto, Canada), senior partner and the National Financial Services Leader for PwC Canada, a job that includes



Diane A. Kazarian '83

banking and capital markets, insurance, asset management, private equity, and real estate businesses of the firm. She was recently named to the Women's Executive Network's 2013 Canada's Most Powerful Women:

Top 100 Awards. Kazarian says, "The relationship-building skills I learned early in my childhood and further developed at Bryant are the key to my success."

David N. Ricchiute '70, DBA (Granger,

IN), Deloitte Professor of Accountancy, University of Notre Dame, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. Three time recipient of the Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher of the Year and two time recipient of the Master of Science in Accountancy Outstanding Teacher of the Year awards through Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business, Ricchiute says, "Bryant awakened me to a professional career that became my life's work, and exposed me to teachers who were as good as any I've witnessed since."

Receiving the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Graduate School of Business was **Joseph R. Beretta '78**



David N. Ricchiute '70, DBA

MBA (Lincoln, RI), president and Chief Financial Officer of Robinson Green Beretta (RGB), one of Rhode Island's most prestigious architectural, engineering, and interior design firms. He credits his success to the credo he lives by, "Always be honest with everyone in your business and professional life, and stay close to your family."

Honored for her active alumni volunteer participation with a Nelson J. Gulski Service Award was **Carol (Carlson) Shibley '73** (Coventry, RI), sales manager, Providence Biltmore. She has



Joseph R. Beretta '78 MBA

continues on page 7

Inaugural Alumni Engagement Day proves educational, informative

Alumni Engagement Day featured free panels and seminars presented by alumni experts in finance, marketing, and general business.

The morning sessions addressed finance issues such as the impact of changing interest rates and the latest market trends.

What do rising interest rates at banks mean for investors? A panel of alumni discussed that topic with finance and business professionals, as well as students in the Archway Investment Fund classes.

Market trends

Thomas Tzitzouris '99, director and head of fixed income research at Strategas Research Partners in Washington, D.C., moderated the panel on market trends. "The Fed will be pulling back on the quantitative easing it's been doing to help stabilize the economy," he says. "I think what we'll find is a volatile swing in equity and bond prices – a lot of down and eventually up in risk assets before asset prices eventually stabilize."



Big Data Gets Real panel with Scott Millard '95, '05 MBA, Ivan Toro '96, and Jay Weinberg '85.

"The bigger question is: Will companies then find any incentive to invest in themselves and if so, will banks have the appetite to lend for this business investment? If neither of these come to fruition,

we have to ask is it because current regulations are making it undesirable for businesses to invest and impossible for banks to loan money?"

continues on page 6

These entrepreneurs are all winners

Miguel Dominguez '10, senior marketing manager at Trufoods, won the \$20,000 first-place prize in Bryant's New Venture Competition for Clique, his latest business endeavor.

The University's version of "Shark Tank," which drew 25 entries, is designed to spotlight enterprising alumni and students and to support promising new ventures. This is the fourth year the Bryant competition is held by Bryant's Office of Alumni Engagement in coordination with the University's Entrepreneurship Program.

On March 28, the six finalists made their pitches to a panel of alumni judges, all of whom are successful entrepreneurs. The winners were announced during the 2014 Alumni Achievement Awards Dinner that evening.

"This year we had some of the best entries we've ever seen," said **Brian Cowley '82**, CEO of CompareNetworks, Inc. One of Bryant's most accomplished entrepreneurial alumni, and a competition sponsor and judge from the start, Cowley noted, "It was hard to pick a winner,

continues on page 7

See alumni on campus and around the world
Alumni travel to China, Sicily, and Norwegian fjords
Alumni profiles
Inside this issue:

BRYANT ALUMNI BULLETIN
Bryant University
1150 Douglas Pike
Smithfield, RI 02917-1284

Periodicals
PAID
at Providence, RI

WHAT'S NEW

New School of Health Sciences prepares Bryant students for emerging career opportunities

In business, healthcare is huge. There's the supply side. Healthcare is the fastest-growing sector of the U.S. economy, employing over 18 million people. And there's demand. Americans in 2012 spent a collective \$2.8 trillion on healthcare, from hospital stays to prescription drugs. Because healthcare makes such an impact on society and the economy, Bryant University is making a bold move into the sector. Under the strategic direction set by Bryant President Ronald K. Machtley, the University has announced a new School of Health Sciences. "We leverage what we do well for emerging market needs," says President Machtley, "That's been the hallmark of our success for 150 years."

Inaugural program: Physician Assistant Studies
A state-of-the-art addition to the Unistructure will house the School of

Health Sciences' inaugural program – the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies – which will train the next generation of physician assistants, or PAs, to serve on the primary healthcare team. A master's degree in business administration with a healthcare concentration and a center for economic policy in healthcare will also be established. PAs practice medicine under the direction of doctors, and take medical histories, conduct physical exams, prescribe medications, and perform other tasks done by doctors. That's why they're in demand. Because PAs extend the medical care that doctors give, they make healthcare more accessible. They're also uniquely qualified to offer preventive care and to care for the underserved – key goals of healthcare reform. Currently in the process of accreditation, the PA program will begin accepting applications in April. The inaugural class will begin the program in January 2015.



Architectural rendering courtesy of LLB Architects

Architect's rendering of the patient examination lab, part of the addition to the Unistructure currently under construction.

For more information, go to: bryant.edu/wearthewhitecoat

BY THE NUMBERS | Alumni Connections

378*

ALUMNI CAREER LINK MEMBERS

*We need YOU! Email alumni@bryant.edu for instructions/more info.



40,000+

ALUMNI WORLDWIDE



7,351

MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LINKEDIN GROUP



Regional Alumni Network (RAN) and other alumni events



December 4 | New Haven, CT
Bryant Bulldogs vs. Yale Bulldogs
Jeff Swan '85, Shawn Gale '82, David Donahue '84, and Adam Barkin '85 enjoy a pre-game reception before cheering on Bryant to victory over Yale.



December 5 | Boston, MA
Bringing lots of warm layers for kids in need and enjoying some cheer, alumni say our holiday reception held at Legal Seafoods was a great night! Shown here (L-R) are Nick Puniello '80, Denise Lovett '85, Kimberly (Starrett) Knous '87, and Jeff Ferrante '81.



December 9 | South Bend, IN
Bryant Bulldogs vs. Notre Dame
Alumni from as far away as New Jersey catch up before rooting for the Bulldogs vs the Fighting Irish. Pictured (L-R) are David Pierce '90, Kate Murphy, Denise (Martin) Murphy '81, Lisa (Conde) Pierce '91, Jay Weinberg '85, Steve Tully '98, Jeremy Blum '85, Tiffany Garry '08, Director of Athletic Communications Allie Crandall, Kimberly Cogswell '09, Jake Chadwell, and Robin Warde P'17.

CATCHING UP WITH...



Deborah-Lee (Dupointe) Gollnitz '76, '82 MBA
K-12 curriculum coordinator, Birmingham, MI,
school district

Deborah-Lee (Dupointe) Gollnitz '76, '82 MBA, accomplished a lot while at Bryant. She received an undergraduate degree in business education, which Bryant offered through 1982. She then went on to pursue a Master's in Business Administration.

She launched her early career in finance and administration, as well as advertising and marketing organizations, until her strong interest in education drew her to teaching. In the mid-1990s, Gollnitz taught business and English for Birmingham Public Schools in Michigan. For the past four years, she's been the k-12 curriculum coordinator for the district.

"As a supervisor of teachers, I draw on skills I learned at Bryant, including how to work with a team, how to develop individual talents and raise people up in leadership, and how to organize and lead for the realization of a goal that is built around a vision," she says.

Gollnitz earned her Ph.D. in Education from Oakland University in Michigan. "My studies at Bryant taught me how to ask good questions about educational and institutional practices, and that skill became very important in my doctoral research."

She also says that Bryant helped her understand the importance of maintaining strong programs in business education in public high schools.

It was during one of her final MBA classes that she met **Bill Gollnitz '82 MBA**. When he missed a class, she had an excuse to call him. They've been married for 20 years.

When she retires, Gollnitz hopes to pursue her passion for writing. She has written a professional article and has started working on a novel. Gollnitz attributes part of her interest in writing to Dr. Burt Fischmann's New Directions in Literature course, which not only gave her a new perspective on reading and a love of literary analysis, but led her to pursue credentials in teaching English.

Since leaving Rhode Island in 1982, Gollnitz has not had many opportunities to stay in touch with Bryant. After recently connecting with Director of Alumni Engagement Robin Torbron Warde, she looks forward to helping plan an alumni event near Detroit.



Jason Madson '98
Photographer, teacher

When Jason Madson's brother jokingly asked if he was taking photos of travel postcards while he and his wife were living in Dublin and traveling through Europe, something "clicked" for him.

After 10 years not completely fulfilled on Wall Street – including work as an investment bank accountant at Goldman Sachs – the management graduate decided to start his own business. In 2006, he began working as a self-taught commercial, portrait, and fine art photographer.

"I had to let it all go to realize and embrace my natural calling," he says. "I hope my work brings peace into people's homes and workplaces. It certainly has done that for me."

Madson's work has been juried at art festivals and featured in a solo exhibition at the Northern Lights Gallery in Racine, WI, where he was a permanent gallery artist. He also crafts handmade wooden frames.

Online, he operates The Adelaide Gallery (Adelaide-Gallery.com), named after his Dublin address, where he was inspired to capture the beauty of the world around him. Madson says Bryant taught him how to pull together research and resources. He also uses skills learned during the Personal Selling elective class he took in his senior year as he approaches current and prospective clients.

While he keeps in touch with his Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity brothers, Madson would like to expand his network to connect with, and perhaps develop a separate online group of, alumni working in the business or artistic side of creative industries, such as entertainment, media, public relations, and advertising companies.

"We [Bryant alumni] could benefit from talking shop with similar folks, sharing tips and techniques, and swapping client war stories. And, we all have different skills and might be able to help each other."

These days, Madson is located in the Bay Area, San Francisco, and in addition to continuing to operate his online gallery, he spends his days teaching 20 10-year-olds the "finer art" of reading, writing, and 'rithmetic – a vocation he is happy to have realized. "I LOVE it," he says, "and I hope to continue next year."



Kristin (Anderson) Fraser '94, '99 MBA
KPMG managing partner

Traveling around the world to counsel clients is standard operating procedure for Kristin (Anderson) Fraser '94, '99 MBA.

Fraser, who has more than 19 years of audit experience, is now the managing partner of the Providence office of KPMG LLP, one of the world's largest professional services firms.

Admitted to partnership in 2006, she provides professional audit services to a diverse cohort of large multinational companies. A 2012 graduate of KPMG's Lead Partner Academy, Fraser is a current member of the Partner Insight Committee.

Crediting Bryant for her solid accounting and business foundation, Fraser says that two graduate-level entrepreneurial classes "helped shape my understanding [of] the inherent challenges of startup businesses and what's needed to succeed." As such, she better understands the mindsets of all C-level executives, not just those with finance and accounting backgrounds.

Bryant's appreciation of and respect for multicultural differences in business conduct and communication also helped her succeed in a field traditionally dominated by men, she says when speaking to students about her college experiences, as she did recently during Research and Engagement Day in April 2014. After earning her CPA, Fraser returned to Bryant as an evening student to complete her MBA, while working full-time at KPMG, a "Big Four" firm.

The Rhode Island native and mother of one daughter was named a "40 Under 40" in 2005, "Business Women to Watch" in 2008, and "Financial Services Industry Leader" in 2012, all by *Providence Business News*.

A former board chair of Dorcas Place Family Literacy Center and former board member of the Rhode Island Society of Certified Public Accountants, Fraser now sits on the boards of American Heart Association of Southern Rhode Island, the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement of Rhode Island, and the Providence Foundation. Her work with Dorcas Place earned her a KPMG Community Involvement National Award in 2004.

"While your education provides you with your foundation, how you leverage and apply that knowledge ... will ultimately determine if you are successful," she says.

View more pictures at www.bryant.edu/alumniphotos

December 11 | Providence, RI
John Garcia '02 and **Alicia (Robbins) Chevalier '05** were among the early risers attending our Bryant 2U Breakfast Series featuring Professor Mike Roberto.



December 11 | Columbus, OH
Bryant Bulldogs vs. Ohio State Buckeyes

Bryant alumni from the classes of 1963 through 2013 gathered in Columbus to network and cheer for Bryant against OSU. Pictured (L-R) are Brady Frey, **Kimberly (Rekart) Frey '05**, Skip Whitney, Rose Farago, **Stephen Howington '03**, Bryce Howington, **Stanley Yenkin '63**, **Bill Siemon '67**, **Robin Warde P'17**, **Sandy (Blair) Reddig '73**, Tom Reddig, **Sarah (Krabbe) Sweitzer '13**, **Spencer Sweitzer '12**, **Mike Kelly '79**, **Will Stark P'15**, and Connor Ruppert (front).



December 11 | Smithfield, RI

Festival of Lights is a 37-year campus tradition for students, alumni, and their families that celebrates faith and diversity. **Matt Moore '09** attended with his mom Danielle and sister Lilly.



Letter from Dustin Goldstein '95, NAC president

With more than 40,000 alumni worldwide, Bryant graduates form a powerful network of leaders, doers, and influencers. I am honored to serve as president of the National Alumni Council (NAC) and the Alumni Association through 2015. My goal as president is to strengthen our network and expand the benefits available to all Bryant alumni wherever you live and work.



Bryant's National Alumni Council, the leadership group for the Alumni Association, serves as an important voice to University leadership, and we work actively to engage alumni in meaningful ways with one another and with Bryant. Our mission is straightforward: To provide opportunities for professional and personal fellowship among alumni, and to engage alumni in programs, activities, and endeavors that advance the name, prestige, and educational excellence of Bryant University.

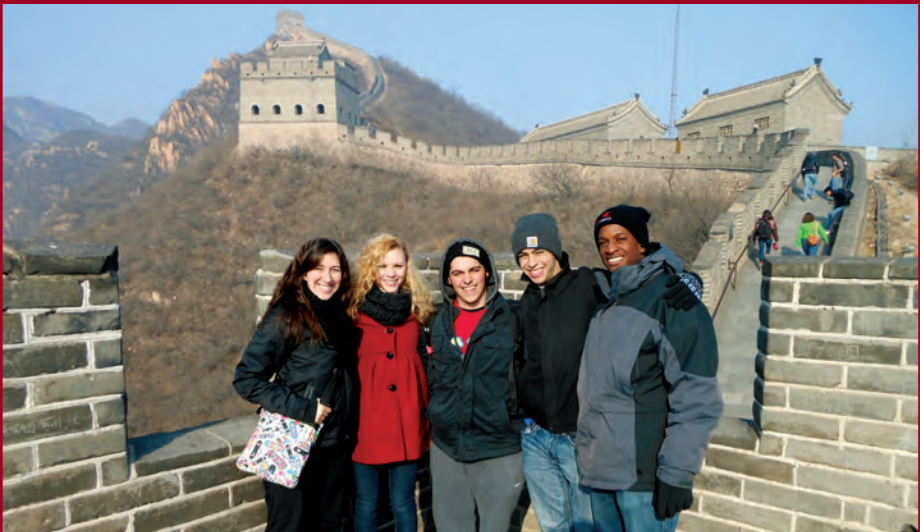
Opportunities for connection have never been more plentiful. Where there were a handful of networking events less than a decade ago, in 2013 there were 65, including gatherings in most regions of the country, as well as in international settings from Haiti to London. On-campus events such as Reunion @ Homecoming and Alumni Leadership Weekend (now Alumni Engagement Day) bring alumni back to campus and provide opportunities for professional development and for fun.

Just as Bryant plays an important role in the life of alumni, so do alumni have a crucial role in the life of Bryant. You inspire students by sharing your expertise on panels and in classes. You open doors for them by offering internships and other opportunities. You give generously of your time and money, and for all of this, you have our sincerest thanks.

Stay tuned for regular updates – and don't hesitate to contact me at dustin.goldstein@gmail.com with your ideas and suggestions for ways that the Bryant Alumni Association can best serve you – and Bryant University.

— DUSTIN GOLDSTEIN '95

The Bryant Alumni Travel Program



China | October 13–23, 2014

Ponder the legends and myths of the Forbidden City, rediscover your sense of wonder on the Great Wall or attempt to fathom the timeless expressions of the silent Terracotta Warriors...Beijing packs in more world-class sites than many whole countries are able to offer: The Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, majestic imperial parks...the list goes on and on. We'll tour a jade carving workshop, meet adorable pandas at the Beijing Zoo, relax in the peaceful Summer Palace, and learn about Chinese artistry with a private lesson on Chinese calligraphy. Travel to the Stone Forest, an extremely rare geological phenomenon dating back 270 million years. We finish up just across the bay from Hong Kong in Zhuhai for a visit to Bryant's Zhuhai University.

FUTURE DESTINATIONS

Sicily | March 7-14, 2015 (expected dates)

London and Norwegian Fjords cruise | August 20-30, 2015



Visit www.bryant.edu/alumnitravel or contact Kathleen Brown at (401) 232-6041 or kbrown@bryant.edu for more information or to register.



February 8 | Smithfield, RI
The 2014 Basketball Reunion brought both the men's and women's former players back to campus. Pictured here are **Jessie (Weber) Shearer '05** with Eric Jr., **Megan Peper '06**, **Pam Malcolm '07**, and Women's Basketball Coach Mary Burke.



Regional Alumni Network (RAN) and other alumni events



December 21 | New York, NY

Nearly 200 alumni and friends came to Madison Square Garden to watch the Bryant Bulldogs vs. Delaware Blue Hens. Pictured are (L-R) Jennifer O'Donnell, **Tov Birke-Haueisen '00**, **Justin Stein '01**, and Danielle Stein.

January 8 | New York, NY
Student Alumni Career Night

(L-R) **Victoria Royals '11**, **Tiago Machado '10**, **Trevor Hambricht '08**, and **Bill LaChance '85** were among the intrepid New York area alumni who braved an arctic night to meet with students.





VIP section

On January 21, Bryant hosted a VIP (Very Important Pooch). (L-R) **Butler Blue III (Trip)** and Bryant University's mascot **Ironclad Tupper I (Tupper)** held a Mascot Summit in the Fisher Lobby of the Chace Center. Trip, English bulldog mascot of Butler University in Indianapolis, IN, visited Rhode Island to help promote the Butler University Bulldogs' first season in the Big East conference and cheer his team on as they played the Providence College Friars. Among the topics of importance the mascots discussed: How to get the community fired up, how to best make bulldog snow angels, and how to get more bacon from their handlers.



SEPTEMBER 12-13 REUNION @HOMECOMING

Make plans now to attend Reunion and enjoy a full schedule of fun.

Schedule highlights include Alumni Golf, Wine Tasting, Dinner, and Fireworks on Friday.

Start Saturday with our annual Memorial Service, followed by the Bryant Bulldogs vs. Maine football game and a special post-game celebration featuring a traditional New England lobster bake.

Reunion class festivities are being organized. Visit www.bryant.edu/reunion for details.

Bryant makes
NCAA Elite Eight®!

In January, the NCAA launched an online contest, "NCAA 6th Fan," that challenged every Division I college to show its school pride.

The Bryant Dawg Pound stepped up, and Bryant made it to the Sweet Sixteen®. Thanks to students, alumni, and faculty/staff voting online, **Bryant was awarded \$10,000** in general scholarship dollars.

But Bulldog fans weren't done yet. Bryant made it to the Elite Eight, where we were, unfortunately, defeated by Arkansas State University fans.

Out of 345 NCAA Division I member institutions, Bryant beat 337 other schools to prove that "It's not the size of the dog in the fight; it's the size of the fight in the dog."



Bryant cracks top 50
in Businessweek rankings



Bryant's undergraduate business program is ranked among the Top 50 in the country, according to the 2014 *Bloomberg Businessweek* rankings, released April 4. The University moved up 14 places.

"Businessweek's recognition of the excellence of our programs highlights our leadership role in delivering an innovative education that stands out among those of the top elite business schools in the country," said President Ronald K. Machtley.

"The University's distinctive offerings and nationally recognized curriculum, which integrates business and the liberal arts with a global perspective, distinguish Bryant from other universities. This accomplishment could not have been achieved without the expertise and dedication of our faculty, the hard work and diligence of our students, and the

leadership of our entire academic team."

The schools were ranked by a combination of academic quality indicators, student surveys, feedback from employers in the business community, and median salaries. The employer survey ranked Bryant 18th out of the 132 undergraduate programs reviewed, affirming Bryant's strength in preparing students for success.

"In 2013, more than half of our students had job offers before they even walked on the stage at graduation," said Madan Annavarjula, Ph.D., associate dean of the College of Business. More than 98% of the Class of 2013 were employed or enrolled in graduate school within six months of commencement.

View more pictures at www.bryant.edu/alumniphotos



**January 15 | Hartford, CT
Student Alumni Career Night**
At the Connecticut State House, **Lawrence Brouder '88** and **Joseph Muraca '85** share insightful career advice with current students.



**January 16 | Boston, MA
Student Alumni Career Night**
A great crowd of alumni gave their time and advice at the Boston Student Alumni Career Night. Pictured (L-R) are **Kenny Fraser '08**, **Renee Dunstant '02**, and **Derek Vallerand '07** with a current student.



January 23 | Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Atlantic Resort & Spa in Ft. Lauderdale was the setting for our East Coast Florida reception. Some of the attendees were (L-R) **Dr. Frank Pontarelli '68**; Mike Lukat; **Monte Kosoff '85**; **Robin DeMattia '85**; **Dr. Frank Bingham '61, '72 MBA**; **Dr. Elaine Notarantonio '75**; and **Steve Lazarus '99**.

What’s the big IDEA?

The benefit of years of experience is what alumni bring to the table during Bryant’s one-credit Innovation and Design Experience for All (IDEA) program, an intensive immersion into the phases of design thinking: inspiration, ideation, and implementation. For three days before the start of the spring semester, all first-year Bryant students work in groups guided by alumni, staff, faculty, or upper-class mentors.

“The questions that I’m asking are tough questions...I don’t know if I would have been able to answer them when I was in my first year,” says **Vinton South ’10**, executive team leader of logistics for Target, of his experience mentoring as a judge for the IDEA program. “By challenging them, I’m setting them up to succeed.”

A presentation without PowerPoint

Imagine this scenario: You’re a freshman assigned to a team of other equally inexperienced first-year students and given a real-life business problem. You have 36 hours to devise a solution that you have five minutes to pitch, without props, and that needs to impress judges – many of whom are alumni – whose experiences range from starting their own companies to the regional head of sales at RBS Citizens.

Bryant’s IDEA program “is not about memorizing from a book – which is how we learned 30 years ago. This is about how to think through an idea, how to critically think, how to make judgments...how to work as a team,” says

Jay Weinberg ’85, president of The Jay Group in Chicago – one of 36 alumni who returned to campus to impart their real-world knowledge and challenge the next generation of Bryant graduates.

Neither snow, nor sleet, nor freezing rain . . .

Not even winter storm Janus, which dumped more than 12 inches of snow on some parts of Rhode Island on the second evening of the program, could cool the students’ creative energy.

“To overcome snow storms, time constraints, and inexperience in such a short period of time the way these students did was more than impressive to me,” says South. “This is the future of the University, and this program and these future alumni add value to my degree. It’s very cool to see where Bryant is going.”

“When these young people come into the field and people know they’re from Bryant, they make me proud,” says **Steve Berman ’68** who, as a mentor, shared with students what he’s learned in more than 45 years of success in the food industry with organizations such as Pepsi-Cola, ConAgra, and Tribe Mediterranean Foods.

IDEA is a feature of Bryant’s nationally recognized First-Year Gateway Experience, which focuses on encouraging innovation and entrepreneurialism and is just one facet of the University’s Vision 2020 strategic plan. If you’d like to be involved January 19-20, 2015, contact Robin Warde, rwarde@bryant.edu, with the subject line “2015 IDEA.”



Share your passion Impact generations Build your legacy

You are an important part of Bryant’s legacy, and we can help you make Bryant a part of your legacy. Visit Bryant’s new planned giving pages online, at www.bryant.edu/plannedgiving, to learn more about estate planning and gift planning options and to download free estate and gift planning guides.

For more information or to make a gift, please contact Executive Director of Development Ed Magro, J.D., at (877) 353-5667 or emagro@bryant.edu. Build a legacy that will make a difference in the lives of generations to come.



Inaugural Alumni Engagement Day proves educational, informative

continued from page 1

Business exposure through social media

Afternoon sessions tackled the roles social media and big data play in the changing way we do business. Founder of Crystal Clear Digital Marketing in Orlando, FL, **Tim Sawyer ’91** says of social media, “During The Oscars, host Ellen DeGeneres tweeted a selfie using her Samsung Galaxy phone. That photo was retweeted almost two million times THAT NIGHT, and crashed Twitter’s servers.”

The business ramifications: “At one point Samsung was getting about 900 mentions a minute on social media, according to Kontera, a company that tracks content on social media sites. Talk about exposure. Content sharing, consumer interaction, and user reviews play a significant role in the ability of a campaign or a business to gain exposure on the web. I think we can all agree that the modern consumer is connected 24/7, is extremely mobile-reliant, has a shorter attention span and an endless stream of content to engage, interact with, and share. Businesses that understand this will be successful in their efforts to gain market share, regardless of industry. We call it, ‘fishing where the fish are!’”

Making sense of Big Data

“Big Data has never been well defined,” says **Jay Weinberg ’85**, president of The Jay Group, an integrated marketing services firm based in Chicago, IL. “Ask five people their definition, and you’re likely to get six different answers!”

For Weinberg, Big Data is trying to make sense of huge amounts of data that not in a traditional ‘row and column’ format. “Think of a square mile of empty land with a grid of roads and traffic lights. Place a thousand cars on the roads and ask the drivers to make their way out of the grid. Pretty easy. Now take away those roads and traffic lights so you have just a big paved surface. Park those same cars randomly in the middle and ask the drivers to find their way out. Not as easy.”

With the advent of social media, the Internet has turned around, asserts Weinberg. “The people who were consuming all the content previously provided by organizations are now creating the content,” he says. “We are now creating as much content in the world every three months as was created from the beginning of time up to the year 2000. Big Data is helping us make sense of that content.”



Steve Berman ’68 works with students as a mentor in the IDEA program.



Regional Alumni Network (RAN) and other alumni events



January 26 | Sarasota, FL

Karen and **Joe LaPlume ’74 MBA** hosted our West Coast Florida alumni reception in their Frank Lloyd Wright home on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. Pictured are (L-R) Ed Magro, Executive Director of Development; **Janet (Swartz) Watson ’79**; **Lorrie (Fain) Pead ’78**; and **Gregg Pead ’74**.



January 28 | Naples, FL

In Naples, FL, **Roger ’61** and **Jeannine Plante** visit with **Mike P’85** and **Janet P’85 DeMattia** at the Tarpon Cove Yacht and Racquet Club for our annual alumni reception.



February 6 | Chicago, IL

Felipe Ruiz ’09 and **Diana Rostkowski ’09** were among the Chicago alumni catching up with Coach Marty Fine at the East Bank Club

Felix (Phil) Swintak '65 (North Providence, RI) visited on March 7 to look at photos from his class yearbook – and the surrounding years – and reminisce about his days on the Bryant basketball team. Phil's basketball team photo shows him on the far left, front row.

A proud Bryant graduate, Phil was happy to have his picture taken under the traditional Bryant Archway.



Be sure to contact the Office of Alumni Engagement if you plan to visit.

Whether living near or far, alumni are encouraged to come to campus and tell us about their Bryant experiences. Email alumni@bryant.edu with your expected visit date.

Alumni Achievement Award recipients honored

continued from page 1

worked on National Alumni Council committees, hosted job shadowing students, served as a mentor in the IDEA program, and organized and hosted Regional Alumni Network gatherings at her places of employment, which also included Hotel Providence. "I'm very proud of what I learned at Bryant, and I enjoy helping students see that their Bryant education can take them where they want to go," she says.



Carol (Carlson) Shibley '73

Julio Vasquez-Pretto '88 also received a Nelson J. Gulski Service Award. A lifetime resident of Panama, Vasquez-Pretto has recruited more than two dozen



Julio Vasquez-Pretto '88

Panamanians on Bryant's behalf, including the son of Panama's first female president. In addition to his recruitment efforts, he has shared his connections and expertise with students in the Sophomore International Experience since its inception. He happily makes the real-life connection between international business theory and practice for Bryant students in Panama. "Anything I have here [in Panama], I owe to Bryant," Vasquez-Pretto says.

John F. Del Vecchio '98 (Dallas, TX), co-founder and co-manager of Active Bear ATF and author of *What's Behind the Numbers? A Guide to Financial Chicanery and Avoiding Huge Losses in Your Portfolio*, accepted the Young Alumnus Leader Award. "At Bryant, I received a well-rounded education in business, science, and the humanities," he says. "I didn't realize it at the time, but knowledge of history is very helpful to business as it provides you with a sense of human nature."



John F. Del Vecchio '98

Professor of Management **Madan Annavarjula, Ph.D.**, was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Award. Annavarjula, an eight-year member of Bryant's faculty, has been a driving force behind the successful performance of the International Business program. The program was ranked 16th in the nation by *Bloomberg BusinessWeek* in 2013, a jump from 27 in 2012, and 41 in 2011. Now associate dean of the College of Business, Annavarjula says of teaching, "This is a profession where you can see the fruits of your labor double in front of your eyes."



Madan Annavarjula, Ph.D.

These entrepreneurs are all winners

continued from page 1

because every one of the finalists' plans has a shot."

The \$5,000 second-place prize went to **Marisa (Nocera) Banigan '07** for Raina to the Rescue! "Get out there and raise more money," Cowley told Banigan when he presented the award.

Steven Brodeur '17 won the \$5,000 student award for Winsulate. "You guys are on to something really neat," Cowley said to the freshman finance major and his team.

This year's sponsors and judges more than doubled the prize money for the contest. Additional in-kind services and mentoring will also be provided to the top six finalists, which also included **Salvatore Galbo '11**, Vbout; **Conor McCarthy '14**, Sports Video Partners; and **Jacob Radler '13**, Living My Dream.

A DIFFERENT LEVEL

The grand prize this year doubled last year's cash award, and judges and sponsors are looking to increase next year's prize to \$50,000.

Special thanks to Platinum sponsors **Eric Bertrand '94** (Eyeball), **Brian Cowley '82**, and **Joanna Lau '97H**; Gold sponsors **David Cooley '82**, **Scott DePasquale '94** (Utilidata), **David '84** and **Jeanne '85 Donahue**, and **Jay Weinberg '85** (The Jay Group); Silver sponsors **Jose Buenaga '82** (EIG Group Corp), **Colby Butler '09**, **Edward Capasso '77**, **David Pogorelc '85** (Core Investments, Inc.), **Tyler Ray, Esq. '09 MBA** (Duffy & Sweeney, LTD), and **Jay Sperco '79**; and faculty and alumni mentors **John Ayers '91**, **Jennifer Schwall '11**, **Sandra Potter '76 MBA**, Mark Feinstein, **Ken Sousa '87 MBA**, and Joe Santarlasci.



New Venture Competition winners **Marisa (Nocera) Banigan '07**, second place; **Miguel Dominguez '10**, first place; and **Steven Brodeur '17**, student plan first place, proudly display their checks.

View more pictures at www.bryant.edu/alumniphotos



February 20 | Boston, MA

Alumni laced up their skates and enjoyed a night out at the Frog Pond. Pictured are (L-R) **Nicole White '07**, **Bryan Morrell '07**, **Naomi Kamiya '11**, **David Santore '07**, **Kerry McKinney '06**, **Kevin Martin '06**, **Bianca Camasso**, and **Derek Vallerand '07**.



February 26 | New York, NY

Bowlmor Lanes was the site for a fun alumni gathering in New York.



February 27 | Atlanta, GA

Atlanta's One. midtown kitchen was an ideal setting to bring together alumni. Enjoying the view are (L-R) **Josh Berger '94**, **Derek Boudreau '95**, **Eric Slater '10**, **Mark Hinkley '13 MBA**, and **Michael Howard '89**.

Calendar

April
Raleigh, NC
April 23, 6-8 PM
Oro Restaurant
Charlotte, NC
April 24, 6-8 PM
Ruth's Chris

May
New York City, NY
May 15, 6-8 PM
Standard Biergarten
Smithfield, RI
May 17, 10 AM
Undergraduate
Commencement
Naples, FL
May 18, 11 AM
Olde Cypress Golf Club
Miami Beach, FL
May 21, 6:30-8:30 PM
Smith & Wollensky

Pétionville, Haiti
May 22, 6-8 PM
Karibe Hotel
Alumni Travel Program
May 22-28
Cuba Alumni Trip
Boston, MA
May 30, 5:30-10 PM
Red Sox v. Tampa Bay
5:30 PM Pre-game cocktails
7:10 PM Game

June
Manchester, NH
June 5, 6-8 PM
Manchester Country Club
Detroit, MI
June TBD
Bloomfield Open Hunt Club
Boston, MA
June 19, 7 PM
Sunset Sail

Oakland, CA
June 22
Red Sox vs. Oakland A's
11 AM pregame brunch
1:05 PM game
Newport, RI
June 23, 11 AM
President's Cup Golf
Tournament
Glastonbury, CT
June 26, 6-8 PM
Glastonbury Country Club

July
Portsmouth, RI
July 19, 4-7 PM
Newport Polo
September
Smithfield, RI
September 12-13
Reunion @ Homecoming
Weekend

New alumni events are added weekly. Check alumniconnect.bryant.edu/events for the updated calendar and to register. Check www.bryantbulldogs.com for athletic contests in your area.

Alumni Weddings



May 4, 2013 | Millis, MA | Jillian (Baker) Gould '08, '09 MPAC and Graham Gould '08, '09 MPAC
(L-R) On stairs: Cliff Ammann '08, '09 MBA, Mark Hartry '08, Blaine Flore '08, Michael Dee '08, Graham Gould '08, '09 MPAC (Groom); Front row (L-R) Christopher Brown '08, '09 MPAC, Kelly Crane '08, Kate (Remick) Ammann '09, Jillian (Baker) Gould '08, '09 MPAC (Bride), Daniel Loureiro '94, and Steve Godaire '08.

Partnerships

Notices received from 12/7/13 and 3/11/14

- 2008**
Jillian (Baker) '08, '09 MPAC and Graham Gould '08, '09 MPAC on 5/4/13
- 2009**
Kara (Plourde) '09 and Stephen Virta '09 on 11/10/13
- 2013**
Sarah (Krabbe) '13 and Spencer Sweitzer '12 on 6/29/13

Additions

Notices received from 12/7/13 to 3/11/14

- 1999**
Ryan Timothy to Timothy '99 and Melenie Magnotta on 11/20/13
- 2001**
Quinn Josephine to Bree (Dillon) '01 and Eric Previti on 10/9/13
- 2003**
Nolan Dennis to Melanie (Parciak) '03 and Dennis Goggin on 1/14/14
- 2005**
William Brixton to Stefanie (Mello) Baker '05 and Scott Baker '05 on 11/24/13



June 29, 2013 | Portland, ME | Sarah Krabbe '13 and Spencer Sweitzer '12
(L-R): Jessalyn Gingras '13 MPAC, Shannon Sweitzer, Angela Angers '13, Jessica Woodacre '13, Emily Groves, Emily Krabbe, Sarah (Krabbe) Sweitzer '13 (Bride), Spencer Sweitzer '12 (Groom), Hunter Canning, John Centonze '12, Riley Krabbe, Colin Krabbe, Andrew Hallmark, Sam Wroblewski, and Alex Russo '12.



Last fall, alumni members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., gathered on campus for a reunion. The first Zetas at Bryant were members of the Sigma Nu Chapter in Providence, RI. Thanks to them, the Kappa Omicron Chapter was chartered on May 17, 1993, at Bryant College.
Chapter Members in the photo (L-R) are Jenee Walker '12, Sherika Nicholas '14, Sherri Lowe '12, Christina Lee '11, Keshia White '11, Camille Bouknight '10, Cynthia Birdsong '11, Keisha Gaillard-Alleyne '96, Judy Rodriguez '93, Katrina Gathers-McKelvin '96, Fanny Peralta-Martinez '01, Adekemi Oyalabu '12, Bianca Clark '15, Jessica Escobosa '99, Jennifer Carvalho-Bailey '98, Tangular Irby '92, and Cristine Cox '11.



November 10, 2013 | Hartford, CT | Kara Plourde '09 and Stephen Virta '09
(L-R) Brendan Paras '09, Brendan Yaworksy '09, Emily Siedlik '08, Stephen Virta '09 (Groom), Kara Plourde '09 (Bride), Shannen Tack '09, Stephen Borgatti '09, Kevin O'Neill '09, James Karr '09, and Danielle Krajewski '09.

Contact Us

To submit personal or professional news and photographs, visit our website at www.bryant.edu/alumninews.
Contact us at alumni@bryant.edu or (401) 232-6040 with questions or ideas for future stories.

Stay In Touch

Find us on **LinkedIn**, **Facebook**, and **Twitter** by searching "Bryant University Alumni Association." On Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/bryantalum. Join Bryant's secure online community by going to alumniconnect.bryant.edu and selecting the gray "Bryant Online" tab at the top of the page.

Alumni Bulletin staff

MANAGING EDITOR Robin Torbron Warde P'17	EDITORS/WRITERS Kathleen Brown Robin DeMattia '85 Donna Harris P'03 Nancy Kirsch Paige Lacasse '10 Karen Maguire Robin Torbron Warde P'17	CALENDAR AND RAN LIAISON Kathleen Brown LOYAL GUARD LIAISON Donna Harris P'03 ALUMNI WEBMASTER Eileen Deary '79 PARTNERSHIPS/ADDITIONS Vicki Paquin
--	---	--