Creativity expands Becker

Dear alumni and friends,

Creative expression is a vital part of college life. I believe that it stands on level ground with academic excellence. You will be pleased to know that with a number of new clubs and activities, creativity is thriving at Becker College!

The fine arts club, a brand new student-initiated organization, has set forth a mission to create positive imagery on campus as well as to develop and showcase the rich variety of students’ works of art. The club has proudly displayed an assortment of original paintings, drawings, digital media and other art forms outside of the Fuller Dining Hall on the Worcester campus. The group plans to regularly update and display new pieces on a monthly basis to maximize the discovery of talent within the student population. The club has also proposed an extensive mural project in a common area on campus that will seek to capture the creativity and imagination of the Becker community.

Students involved in the theatre arts club presented their original production, entitled Traveling Soldier, this past fall, which highlighted the writing and performance talents of our students. The production intertwined popular Broadway show tunes with a heartwarming tale of love and friendship that both touched and entertained its audience.

In addition to their key role in the theatre production, students in the dance club have been actively engaged in learning various styles of dance, including tap, contemporary, jazz, hip hop and lyrical, in preparation for choreographing several spring semester events. Dancers will also have the opportunity to try out for the College’s first-ever competitive dance team, scheduled to take the stage in spring 2011.

A strong passion for music has allowed the music club to gain momentum, resulting in the creation of a rock band. Plans for future gigs on campus are in development, along with the formation of an a cappella singing group. The music club will also join forces with the theatre arts and dance clubs to produce a College-wide Talent Show Extravaganza during the spring semester, showcasing an array of talent within the Becker College community.

Faculty and students in our video game design program are preparing for the second PAX East Convention taking place in Boston, Mass. this March. Capitalizing on the success of their booth last year, Becker faculty and students have been actively working together to create an even larger and more impressive booth for this year’s conference. A number of our video game design faculty and students will be on hand at the convention to promote Becker College, as well as to invite attendees to play original video games at the Becker booth.

With the continued growth and development of Becker’s clubs and programs, we can look forward to an even more creative and exciting 2011.

Ken Cameron
Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

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BECKER COLLEGE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Help Build a Better Becker

Based on projected growth of the College and need for additional space, the Capital Campaign has been increased from $7.5 to $9.25 million. Now more than ever, your support is vital in helping to achieve our Capital Campaign goal. More than 1,800 alumni, trustees, friends and foundations have already contributed a total of $6.25 million toward meeting our campaign objectives.

Your contribution is crucial in assuring that Becker has the necessary resources to break ground in spring of 2011 for our new Leicester campus center.

For more info, please call 508.373.9533 or visit www.alumni.becker.edu

The 35,325 sq. ft. campus center will provide our current and future students with many additional academic and student life options, guaranteeing an exciting college experience that positions Becker College as a leader in higher education.

Transforming Lives Through Education
ABA Prepares Students to Change the Lives of Families Living with Autism

Accelerated program offers educational foundation that balances practice and theory in the field of applied behavioral analysis (ABA).

Making a MASS Impact

Becker capitalizes on potential economic impact and builds momentum behind the burgeoning game design industry in Massachusetts.

Homecoming & Family Weekend

Alumni, students, family and friends come together for a day of celebration and fun.

Alumna Sets Goals and Scores Big

Julie Arroyo ’07 demonstrates her determination to succeed both professionally and athletically.

Turning a Passion for Animals into a Lifesaving Mission

Alumna Christine Peters ’10 harnesses her Becker education and passion for horses.

Becker Student Rises Above and Beyond

Meagan Cross ’14 leads by example and emerges as a campus role model.
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed legislation to require private health insurance plans to provide coverage of evidence-based, medically necessary autism therapies for people of all ages. When Governor Deval Patrick signed the bill into law earlier this year, Massachusetts became the 23rd state to enact such insurance reform.

The new law was the hard-fought result of lobbying from parents with children on the autism spectrum, advocates and service organizations. According to the advocacy organization, Autism Speaks, “one in every 110 children [in the U.S.] is diagnosed with autism, making it more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes and pediatric AIDS combined.”

With the new ability to have autism services covered by insurance, and the increase in autism diagnoses over the last few years, the demand for qualified therapists is

“One in every 110 children [in the U.S.] is diagnosed with autism, making it more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes and pediatric AIDS combined.”
higher than ever, says Nina Mazloff, director of Teacher Education and Family Studies Programs at Becker.

In 2006, Becker added a program within its psychology department to offer courses, and the required practical experience, that prepared students for certification in applied behavioral analysis (ABA). With pressure to fill the need for still more therapists, Becker expanded access to the ABA program by offering an accelerated track for working adults, many working as special needs instructors in public school systems.

“One student was working with a really young child with autism, and over the course of three months, the child developed language skills for the first time.”

Behavior analysis is most commonly applied today to modify the behavior of children on the autism spectrum or with other developmental disabilities. ABA examines behavior in a systematic way, in children and adults, in order to determine the environmental causes of negative conduct as well as any limitations in skill sets that may need to be addressed. ABA is among the few proven interventions that provides results for children on the spectrum. Becker’s program challenges students to observe children’s actions, understand the causes, and assist children in need.

Becker partners with HMEA, a company dedicated to serving children with developmental disabilities. HMEA assists the College in providing the training and practical experience needed to enter the field as a board certified assistant behavior analyst (BCaBA).

This specialized partnership was created to guide students through both theory and practice, in order to provide the necessary experiences to successfully pass the national certification exam. Becker is one of only six colleges in New England to offer a program leading to BCaBA certification and one of only three colleges in the region to offer both the courses and practice.

Jan Bolton is a board certified behavioral analyst with HMEA. She has taught ABA courses for Becker College students and currently coordinates the practicum necessary for program graduates to sit for the BCaBA certification examination.

“Students make a large commitment of time, 24 hours weekly, to gain the supervised practicum experience required to sit for certification,” says Bolton. “They are placed into programs doing actual work in ABA, implementing an array of projects.”

In practicum, students’ course work begins to make sense in a new way. “One student was working with a really young child with autism, and over the course of three months, the child developed language skills for the first time.”

Students also find that practicum can serve as a career pathway, says Bolton, which places them in a variety of settings, including public schools and HMEA’s Darnell School for Educational and Behavioral Services. “They are developing skills that are very marketable.”
Making a MASS Impact

Following in the footsteps of other successful industry groups within The Commonwealth, a new one — Video Game Design and Development — is rapidly forging ahead.

On October 19, 2010 Becker College President Robert E. Johnson and Massachusetts State Representative Vincent Pedone co-hosted “MASS Impact — Video Games, Economic Development and Job Creation,” a leadership forum that brought together members of the video game industry, government leaders and academia for a discussion intended to promote the growth of the video game industry in Massachusetts.

President Johnson touted Becker College’s recent ranking in The Princeton Review, as the number one game design school in New England — and fourth in the nation — in his opening remarks to more than 125 event participants. The forum, held at Becker’s Weller Academic Building, consisted of three panel discussions: “Industry Cluster Creation: Success Stories and Lessons Learned,” “Games and Business: Opportunities and Challenges,” and “Games and Government: Job Creation and Economic Development” all of which sparked great interest within the Becker College community. The three panels provided informative and tangible answers to questions posed by inquisitive audience members.

Moderator Michael Cavaretta, an attorney with Morse, Barnes-Brown & Pendleton and founder and chair of the MIT Enterprise Forum Games Special Interest Group, addressed the issue of video game technology reaching far beyond entertainment to include employee training and product testing. President Johnson has often made the same point when discussing Becker’s video game development programs, that many graduates and students of the Becker programs are doing work in the fields of health care and education, as well as working for video game companies in Massachusetts and other states.

Also on hand were several Becker Game Design students showcasing their work. Students Adam Dezago ’11, Sean Dutton ’11 and Torrey Kimball ’11 demonstrated their Governor’s Race game, a road race that pits Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick against his challengers in last November’s election, along with foes Red Tape and Pork Barrel Spending.

Representative Pedone strongly noted that “the video game design and development industry not only deserves but requires our attention.” He went on to recognize Massachusetts’ ability to identify fruitful partnerships as its greatest strength and the key to moving the industry forward. The MASS Impact Forum brought about the successful creation of strong partnerships between the three key groups: government, business, and academia.

In its efforts to continue to advocate for the video game design and development industry within Massachusetts, Becker College has formed a goal-oriented working group. To learn more about the activities of this group or to sign up for enewsletters, please visit www.becker.edu/massimpact.
Register online today!
www.alumni.becker.edu


We have launched the new and improved alumni website to ensure that Becker alumni are well-served and informed about the pulse of campus life.

Register online and submit a class note by September 1, 2011 and you will be automatically entered to win a FREE iPod Touch!

Already registered?
Send us a class note by September 1, 2011 to also be entered to win the iPod Touch!

We want to hear from you!
email alumni@becker.edu
While most of the weekend’s events took place on Saturday, Family Weekend kicked off Friday evening with a sibling sleep-over that included a “Friday night flick” drive-in movie style on the Leicester campus. Both campuses were abuzz as students introduced their brothers and sisters to college life for the night.

The activities continued Saturday, as potential Becker students headed out on campus tours, which also included informative presentations and discussions with faculty, staff and current students. Guests also had the opportunity to meet Becker’s new president, Robert E. Johnson.

Hawks’ fans showed their pride and cheered on Becker’s field hockey team, women’s soccer team and men’s football team during their games held on Alumni Field throughout the day. The hard work and determination of every player, supported by an enthusiastic crowd, led to wins for each of the Becker teams, a very proud moment for the Becker community.

Women’s Field Hockey vs. Bay Path College W, 8-0
Women’s Soccer vs. Bay Path College W, 2-0
Men’s Football vs. Anna Maria W, 43-32
Activities continued throughout the afternoon, offering something for everyone. A Southern style BBQ lunch, compliments of the Alumni Association of Becker College, was enjoyed by all. Guests were also invited to play a few rounds of pumpkin bowling, pose for an old time Western portrait, enjoy entertainment provided by street performers and listen to the musical stylings of Worcester’s best new pop act, Soulstice. Bungee jumping and rock wall climbing were provided for the more adventurous visitors. Youngsters and the young at heart loved the face painting and bouncy houses.

This event was a resounding success and will continue to be an annual Becker pride event, combining Family Weekend, Homecoming and Open House. Becker looks forward to even more participants next year.

SAVE THE DATE!
You are invited to Homecoming/Family Weekend 2011 October 14 - 16
On Sat., Oct. 15 enjoy fun, food, games and entertainment for all ages!

Students and Parents, contact: michelle.fatcheric@becker.edu
Alumni and Friends, contact: caitlin.visscher@becker.edu
Julie Arroyo ‘07 has taken advantage of the opportunities that came her way throughout college, and now recognizes what a strong sense of commitment they have instilled in her when it comes to both her professional and athletic career.

A native of Westfield, Mass., Julie attended Becker with a mission to further her education in the field of psychology, crediting the commanding teaching approach of her professor, Dr. Kerry Augusto, for her success in graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in the field.

During her junior year of college, Julie began working in the psychology field at Burncoat Family Center in Worcester, Mass., where she learned first-hand what it takes to be a successful individual/family clinician. Burncoat Family Center came to rely heavily on Julie. The challenging position required her to collaborate with multiple providers, including the Department of Children and Families, Department of Mental Health, Department of Special Education and the Children’s Behavioral Health Initiative, on the case management of their clients. In addition she planned, organized and directed recreational therapy groups for Burncoat’s residential facility. Julie also managed short-term caseloads for children and adolescents with mental and emotional disorders, providing supportive counseling while maintaining clinical charts and assessments, treatment plans, and discharge summaries required to meet strict regulatory standards.

The inspiration provided by Dr. Augusto, along with the hands-on experience Julie received at Burncoat Family Center, enhanced her dedication to psychology.

In addition to her academics, Julie was also a three-sport athlete at Becker, participating in women’s tennis, soccer and basketball. It is soccer, though, that Julie has always been the most passionate about. In 2007, she was team captain for the Lady Hawks, and while the women’s soccer team did not always achieve favorable outcomes, Julie was still recognized for her leadership, academic achievement and athletic excellence when she received the NCAA Woman of the Year Conference Award. Through two seasons of play, Julie honed her skills as a goalkeeper, ultimately preparing her to take her soccer career to the next level.

Upon graduating from Becker, Julie was hired by the College to serve as an area coordinator. Her responsibilities in this role involved implementing College policies and procedures, while serving as a liaison between the residential students and the Student Services Department. At the same time, Julie continued to work full-time at Burncoat Family Center as a case manager and group facilitator, and successfully earned her master of arts degree in rehabilitation counseling from Assumption College. She also joined the Intruders Eastern Women’s Soccer League, Division I, in order to stay active in athletics.

In May 2008, Julie tried out for the Puerto Rico Capitals Women’s Premier Soccer League and was chosen to play for the Capitals, which she did for a number of months, staying with her family in Puerto Rico. The opportunity allowed Julie to learn more about her Hispanic heritage, as well as the culture and lifestyle of Puerto Rico.

While with the Capitals, Julie received two Most Valuable Player Awards, an Honorable Mention, the All-Sunshine Conference Award and the Women’s Premier Soccer League Player of the Week in recognition of her strong athletic abilities. She was also recruited by the president of the Puerto Rico Soccer Federation to try out for the 2009 Women’s Puerto Rico National Soccer Team. Once selected to play for the Puerto Rico national team, Julie reached out to the owner of the New England Mutiny, a team affiliated...
with the Women's Premier Soccer League, requesting to train with the team in preparation for playing at the national level. Not surprisingly, after a number of practices, Julie was asked to sign on with the New England Mutiny Team. This was a team she had wanted to be a part of since graduating from Becker, so she had no problem saying yes.

When it came time for Julie to return to Puerto Rico to play for their national team, she realized just how much all of her hard work and dedication had paid off. She had fulfilled her dream of becoming a national women's soccer player, and would suddenly be playing against some of the most talented athletes from Haiti, Cuba, Guatemala, Trinidad and Venezuela, to name a few. Playing for the Women's Puerto Rico National Team was an experience Julie will never forget. Julie not only had the chance to represent Division III athletes, but also made friends with many of her teammates and competitors.

Although Julie's soccer playing days have now ended, she recently started assistant coaching. This past fall, Julie was named the women's soccer assistant coach at Bentley University.

Professionally, Julie recently began a new position in the field of psychology as a mental health clinician and in-home therapist with the Counseling and Assessment Clinic of Worcester. In this position, Julie provides counseling to clients and their families, allowing them to increase their independence within their own environment.

And, as if that was not enough, Julie is also planning to pursue a doctorate degree in clinical psychology.

Utilizing her talents, perseverance and extraordinary ability to follow through with her goals, Julie continues to achieve a successful balance of work and play.

By Caitlin Visscher
Christine Peters ’10 made the decision to redefine her life and embark on a career path that originally began as one of her passions — a love for animals. As a kid, “I was the one in my family who was always bringing home an injured turtle or a bird that had fallen out of a nest to try to nurse them back to health,” Christine shares.

As an adult, Christine took up horseback riding as a hobby. She now volunteers much of her time to the stable where she had been taking lessons, even helping to establish an equine rescue organization called Lucky Horse. The mission of Lucky Horse Equine Rescue is “to protect unwanted, abandoned, neglected or slaughter-bound horses by saving, caring for and rehabilitating these equines in need, as well as placing them in compatible, loving homes where they can lead contented and productive lives,” Christine explains.

At the age of forty-one, while working full-time as an IT team leader at Rohm & Haas (now Dow Chemical), Christine enrolled in Becker’s accelerated program to study business. With the marketing courses included in Becker’s business curriculum, Christine soon realized that the bachelor’s degree she would earn would not only further her success in her day job, but would also help her in marketing Lucky Horse to the community more effectively.

Due in part to Christine’s efforts in bringing awareness to the equine rescue mission, the Becker Equestrian Center has arranged to foster several of Lucky Horse’s rescues. The Equestrian Center will work with the horses during its lesson program. Christine was very excited to learn about Becker’s generous offer. “This is great for the horses because they are in a place where they are working and may have the chance of being adopted,” Christine shares. Becker students have also supported Lucky Horse’s mission by volunteering their time to assist with several fundraising events organized by Lucky Horse.

In addition to marketing Lucky Horse, Christine recently took over as their adoption coordinator, making her responsible for matching the right horse with the right family. Becker’s equestrian coach, Trina Baker, appreciates the importance of Lucky Horse, not only to the horses and horse lovers, but to all who feel compassion towards animals. Baker said, “Lucky Horse gives animals a second chance. Given these challenging economic times, there are many more horses than homes. All of the volunteers are easy to work with, incredibly enthusiastic and committed to the mission of the organization. They are all about doing the best thing for the animals they work with in making certain that there is a perfect fit between horse and owner, and are very careful about how they adopt out.”

Christine’s education at Becker helped to lay a foundation that has allowed her to succeed at something she loves — rescuing horses. Beyond her academic achievements, Christine also values the lasting friendships she has made at Becker.

Christine Peters considers herself to be very fortunate, as she has been able to put her passion into practice. For more information, visit www.luckyhorse.org.
I’m looking forward to seeing all of my old friends at the first Alumni Spree Day. It will be great to share some laughs and reminisce about the fun times we had at Becker College!

- Corey Rodrigues ’02

Help spread the word about Alumni Spree Day by inviting your Becker friends on Facebook.

Email alumni@becker.edu to share your favorite Spree Day memories. Good, bad or ugly, we want to hear about them!

Call 508.373.9527 or email rsvp@becker.edu to reserve your space now!

Visit www.alumni.becker.edu for more information.

ATTENTION:

ACCELERATED ALUMS!

Great way to celebrate the 10th anniversary of your program!

Save the Date!

Relive the Memories!

Alumni Spree Day!

July 16, 2011

(Farewell Breakfast - July 17)

$25 per person registration fee includes:

• BBQ dinner w/live musical entertainment and classic Spree Day activities
• Beer garden & wine tasting
• Overnight accommodations in residence halls on Saturday, July 16

*Activities include outdoor games, caricature artists, balloon toss, bouncy house and more!

Call 508.373.9527 or email rsvp@becker.edu to reserve your space now!

Visit www.alumni.becker.edu for more information.
Meagan Cross ’14 has a natural gift for getting involved and making a difference. Since her arrival on campus in the fall of 2009, her leadership and seemingly effortless knack for making things happen has already made an impact throughout the community.

“When I came to Becker, I was determined to be the person I wanted to be. I love being around people, I love talking to people, I love being active and I love having fun. I wanted to become involved because that’s who I am, and previously, I wasn’t able to do that,” Meagan explains.

Despite growing up in a challenging home environment, she managed to leverage her work ethic and skills in order to rise above. “In high school I worked a full-time job and a part-time job,” Meagan shares. “On top of my academic course load, I’d work every weekend to help support my mom and stepfather who struggled with substance abuse. I was always more of the grown-up at home. I’d work every day after school until 11 at night, and come home just to get up, go to school and do it all again the following day.”

As she started getting older, it became increasingly clear that addiction was at the root of her dysfunctional family life. According to Meagan, “I knew I didn’t want that lifestyle for myself and all the baggage that comes along with it.” At the age of 17, she made the decision to move out of her house in search of a healthier path. With no place to go, and too young to sign a lease on an apartment, Meagan was forced to live out of her car for several months.

“Becker was my escape from all of that and it really gave me the clean slate to do what I wanted. I needed the opportunity to have a fresh start, and that’s what Becker provided.”

According to Dr. Betsy Fuller, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College, “Meagan stands out among her
peers as a leader and role model. She celebrates her classmates’ accomplishments and assists them in their learning. She currently balances work, school and residence life as she works toward her goal of acceptance into the nursing program."

Meagan is no stranger to demonstrating engagement as she was class president for three years in high school, graduating with a 3.7 GPA. At Becker, her natural talents have revealed themselves through an impressive range of activities that include serving as president of the Music Club, vice president of the UNICEF Club, working with Habitat for Humanity, writing a column for The Becker Journal, being a resident assistant, tutoring in the Collaborative Learning Center, assistant teaching for First Year Experience, singing the national anthem at home sporting events and lending her voice to the Student Government Association.

Meagan’s presence can also be felt off campus. Her dynamic range of experience also includes representing Becker at the Worcester Consortium’s ‘Worcester’s Got Talent’ competition recently held at the The Hanover Theatre. Somehow, she has found a way to manage all of the above in addition to her academic workload and her job as a certified nursing assistant.

While working as an in-home personal care attendant in 2008, she met a quadriplegic, Cindy, who changed her life by welcoming Meagan into her home, offering her guidance and assuming the role of a foster parent. This special relationship has provided Meagan with a solid source of support and inspiration to follow her goals. “One of my biggest motivators has been my foster mother, Cindy,” she said. After a short period of time getting to know each other, they developed a mutual respect for one another. “I quickly learned what kind of a person Cindy was,” Meagan explains. “She works a full-time job as a counselor [at Mass. Rehab], has a family and is extremely involved with many local boards and organizations. She ended up adopting me and has always been there for me since we met over two years ago. Whenever I’ve needed help, she’s been there. Despite having a limited range of motion, she does more than anyone I know.”

Meagan also credits the faculty and staff at Becker for encouraging her to strive for her full potential. “Roger Vasas, Betsy Fuller, Frank Millerick — there are too many people to name, but these people really care and are totally different than what I was used to before coming to Becker,” she said. “I talk to the maintenance men and people in the cafeteria all the time, too. People here are so friendly and I love it.”

All who know Meagan can agree that she has a bright future. So far, she has shaped a successful path for herself, and she has mapped her future out as well. After earning her bachelor’s degree, she plans to work for City Year and go on to join the Peace Corps. Eventually she will pursue a master’s degree in nursing while seeking employment in the emergency room, psychiatric or neonatal wards at a big city hospital. Not content to stop there, she says that she also sees herself getting into politics.

True to her nature, Meagan has set her sights on going above and beyond. Professor Roger Vasas responded enthusiastically when asked about his impressions of Meagan; “Meagan characterizes the ideal college student. She has been well placed in the Collaborative Learning Center as a tutor and role model for many of her classmates. She has adapted well by identifying the need to apply herself more to meet, no surpass, the standards required to succeed. I am proud of Meagan and to be part of her experience here at Becker.”

“Becker was my escape from all of that and it really gave me the clean slate to do what I wanted. I needed the opportunity to have a fresh start, and that’s what Becker provided.”
On October 22, Becker College held a cocktail reception and dinner at Wachusett Country Club in West Boylston, Mass., to honor and induct six new members into its Athletic Hall of Fame. Representing the College and Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee was Ken Kaufman ’65LJC, who welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced the master of ceremonies, Tommie George ’67LJC.

Inductees for the 2010 ceremony included:

Catherine Chambers ’77LJC – an outstanding three-sport athlete at Leicester Junior College during its formative years in women’s sports. She was the pitcher/outfielder for the 1976 softball team that finished 16-1. Cathy’s .667 average and 5-1 pitching record helped the Minutemen win the program’s first New England Regional softball crown. She was selected to the All-Region team as an outfielder and in her sophomore year repeated as an All-Region selection after batting .639. Cathy also starred as both a field hockey and basketball player for the Leicester Minutemen.

Zoe (Hines) Morelli ’93 – played on the Becker field hockey team from 1991-92. Under Coach Ginger Daly, the teams compiled a 32-2-2 record. Zoe was part of a milestone event in 1992 when she scored two goals in a 2-1 win over Mitchell College, to lead Becker to the program’s first-ever national crown, as well as its first-ever undefeated season (15-0-2). She was a two-time NJCAA All-American during her two-year college career, and a two-time, first team All-New England selection. Zoe played in 35 career games and graduated as the school’s second highest leader in points (86), goals (31), and assists (24).

Linc MacDonald ’64LJC – an exceptional two-sport athlete at Leicester Junior College, playing baseball and basketball for the Minutemen. He was a solid baseball player, both on the field and at the plate. His strong athletic abilities helped the team advance to consecutive New England Junior College (NEJC) baseball championship games in 1963 and 1964. A 6’2’’ power forward for Coach Paige Rowden’s 1964 basketball team that captured the school’s first regional championship and finished fifth out of 16 in the NJCAA National Tournament in Hutchinson, Kansas, Linc received the school’s 1964 Outstanding Student Athlete Award for achievement in athletics and academics.

Bonnie (Rich) Jones ’92 – defined her basketball career at Becker College with a New England title, a national championship and 43 victories. During her two years, Bonnie, a 6’ center, was an outstanding rebounder, scorer, and defender for Coach Bill Messier. In 1992, she helped the Hawks win the school’s first national championship in any sport. Bonnie finished with the third-highest two-year career point total (710) and was also ranked among the leaders in rebounds (489), blocked shots (60), and trips to the free throw line (250).

Lewis Scott V ’92 – an outstanding 5’7” scoring guard in basketball for two seasons and co-captain for the 1992 team that finished 22-5 and shared first place in the Colonial States Athletic Conference (CSAC). Lewis was a two-time, first team All-New England selection and a two-time CSAC All-Star. He led the team in scoring each year and totaled 1,058 points in his 52 career games for a 20.3 average, making him just the third player, following Paul Deignan ’54LJC and Bob Vartanian ’71LJC, to score more than 1,000 points. From the three-point range, Lewis hit 108 of 251 attempts for 43.0 percent, and made 77.2 percent of his 277 free throws. He was the recipient of the 1992 Van Buskirk Award for dedication and contribution to Becker athletics.

Kathleen Sibya ’83 – a dynamic athlete who played softball, basketball and volleyball from 1982-83. In softball, Kathy earned NJCAA Division I second-team All-America honors as an infielder. In her sophomore year, her .315 average and 19 RBIs helped the team make the regional playoffs. In 1982, as a sophomore co-captain, Kathy received All-New England honors in volleyball, after helping the team, coached by Ed Lucier, to a 17-2 record.

Tommie George closed the ceremony by inviting all of the inductees to stand, while officially welcoming them into the Becker College Athletic Hall of Fame.
For the first time, the College presented the Gabe Simon Award for distinguished service and support of Becker College to 1984 graduate, Len Gengel of Holden, Mass. Len has given back to his alma mater, as a member of the Becker College Board of Trustees, a philanthropist and a passionate advocate for the College. He has established two scholarships honoring Becker faculty members, Carlton Perry and Larry Spaulding. Additionally, his family and friends, led by longtime business partner, Robert Lord, established the Gengel Family Scholarship in 2007. Over the years Len has employed Becker graduates and paid for several of his employees to attend the College. In addition to Becker College, Len and his wife, Cherylann, are benefactors to many other worthwhile organizations. Most recently, Len and Cherylann have been recognized for the “Be Like Brit” foundation they established in memory of their daughter, Britney, and for their efforts to establish an orphanage in Haiti.

As a Becker athlete, Len played first base and catcher under Coach Walt Morin in 1983 and 1984 and served as co-captain his sophomore year. His batting average hit .333 in his freshman year. He graduated with a .291 career average. Len was also a standout performer as a freshman with the Becker junior varsity basketball team.
The Ice Hawks, Becker’s ice hockey team, led by head coach Steve Hoar, set the standard high, participating in four different volunteer events. The first took place just a short walk from Becker’s Worcester campus at the Elm Park Community School where they helped the staff prepare for the start of the academic year by moving and organizing school supplies and painting the gymnasium.

The Ice Hawks later returned to the Elm Park Community School to do what they do best, play hockey. The players spent time teaching elementary students the basic fundamentals of the game. After their lesson, the students were given the opportunity to play in a game of street hockey, followed by a competition shootout. This marks the second year that Becker’s hockey team has held this event at the Elm Park Community School.

The hockey players continued their impressive community service when they helped refugees move into a new apartment complex near Worcester’s Kelly Square. The team spent several hours moving boxes and furniture and cleaning the grounds around the new complex.

While the Ice Hawks may have led the way, they were by no means the only Becker athletes to step up to improve the community. A number of student athletes participated in the Day of Caring event, spending time at the Rainbow Child Development Center in Worcester, assisting in several projects that included painting bookcases and picnic tables. Once they finished there, the students volunteered at the Worcester Housing Authority where they put a fresh coat of paint on the exterior walls of the housing complex.

This year also marked the second straight year that coach Andrea Belis and her volleyball team held their “Dig Pink” Game to support the battle against breast cancer.

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee, led by head women’s soccer coach Samly Phonesavanh, spent the month of October collecting non-perishable food items for the Worcester County Food Bank. Committee members challenged their teammates to see which team could bring in the most food donations for their Thanksgiving Food Drive. The women’s soccer team beat out the baseball team by a mere seven canned food items.

Upon learning of the “Be Like Brit” foundation, created by Len Gengel ’84 and his wife, Cheryllann, in memory of their daughter, Britney, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee distributed fliers and sold wristbands at the Worcester City Basketball Tournament hosted at Becker in November. In doing so, the committee helped to create awareness of the foundation’s initiatives, which include plans to establish an orphanage in Haiti.

Becker’s student athletes plan to continue their community involvement throughout the rest of the school year. The women’s basketball team hopes to participate in the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Pink Zone in February, an event that helps raise money for the Kay Yow Cancer Fund. The baseball team has plans to work with the Jimmy Fund, by visiting young cancer patients at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston and trading in their Becker blue uniforms for orange jerseys to wear in a game to support the battle against leukemia.

Becker College is very proud of its student athletes and the efforts of the athletic department in enriching the Worcester community.
Sports

HAWKS HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to the following players who were All-Conference selections this fall.

Women’s Tennis:
- Danielle Stryker ’11 ........................................ 1st Team All-Conference Singles
- Shauna McNally ’12 ....................................... 1st Team All-Conference Doubles
- Laura Mimms ’14 ........................................ 1st Team All-Conference Doubles
- Megan Nessen ’12 ........................................ 1st Team All-Conference Doubles

Men’s Soccer:
- Aldo Karkanjozi ’12 ..... NECC Rookie of the Year, 1st Team All-Conference
- Luis Cipriano ’11 .......................................... 2nd Team All-Conference

Women’s Soccer:
- Keri Richardson ’13 ....................................... 1st Team All-Conference
- Caroline Plunkett ’13 ..................................... 1st Team All-Conference
- Alysha Giulietti ’13 ...................................... NECC Honorable Mention

Field Hockey:
- Victoria Sirchia ’12 ........ NECC Player of the year, 1st Team All-Conference
- Brooke Cote ’13 ........................................ 1st Team All-Conference
- Carly Barone ’13 ......................................... 1st Team All-Conference
- Michelle Griczika ’14 .................................. 1st Team All-Conference
- Nakita Gosselin ’11 .................................... NECC Honorable Mention
- Jessica Provencher ’11 .................... NECC Honorable Mention

Football:
- Jake Bateman ’11 ........................................ 1st Team All-ECFC
- Joe Thomas ’13 ........................................ 2nd Team All-ECFC
- Chris Williams ’14 .................................... 2nd Team All-ECFC
- Melvin Booker ’14 .................................... 2nd Team All-ECFC
- Mike McCarthy ’11 ................................... ECFC Honorable Mention
- Eric Glynn ’13 ........................................ ECFC Honorable Mention

As part of an effort to make this trip more affordable for participants – alumni, family, friends, faculty, staff and students are invited to attend:

Honduras Service Trip Fundraising Dinner
Friday, April 8, 2011

Worcester Campus Dining Hall
Honduran Happy Hour & Appetizers 6-7 p.m.
Dinner and Entertainment 7-8 p.m.

$50 per person ($25 w/valid student ID)
$80 for couples

Donations graciously accepted

Visit www.becker.edu/servicetrip for more information and a full dinner menu

For more information on how you can help email raffi.dersimonian@becker.edu or call 508.373.9533

Fundraising effort underway to support Volunteer Trip to Honduras
May 20-30, 2011

This cross-cultural trip is aligned with Becker’s mission in preparing students to be tomorrow’s leaders and responsible citizens in a global economy while providing them with an appreciation for diverse cultures and societies.

Students and alumni are welcome to participate in this ten day, all-inclusive learning opportunity.

Visit www.becker.edu/servicetrip for more information
Governor Timothy P. Murray revealed job creation in this burgeoning sector to bolster economic development and government, and academia together. Much work has been going on, drawing leaders in the video game industry, state and federal government, and academia together to bolster economic development and job creation in this burgeoning sector.

In an important step on this path, Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray revealed the designation of the Massachusetts Video Game Institute (MassVGI) at Becker College. Lt. Gov. Murray made the announcement at MASS Impact 2.0, held on December 21 at Becker’s Accelerated Learning Center in Southborough, Mass. Serving as the center of coordinated industry activities, details of the Institute will be developed in the spring and officially launched in fall 2011.

The Becker College chapter of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) conducted “Treats in Tins for Troops,” a drive for tins of homemade sweets, magazines and other items that filled more than 30 care packages for the 150 troops of the Bravo Company of the 181st Army National Guard Infantry in Afghanistan.

Many friends and strangers answered the call to send the troops a slice of home for the holidays. In addition to the nursing department, donations were made by faculty and staff across campus, community organizations in Northborough and Southborough, Mass., maternity nurses at St. Vincent’s Hospital and the Girl Scouts. Nursing alumna Diane O’Connor ’10 contributed 20 tins herself. Family friends such as Marie Mangan of Hudson, Mass., also helped spread the word by baking with friends in the neighborhood. Professor of Nursing Maggie McNeil even inspired a stranger to get in the act; Georgia Delude of Dedham, Mass. decided to contribute after an impromptu conversation with the very persuasive professor.


Earlier in the fall, Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo, and a number of State House colleagues, visited Becker for a demonstration of video game technology, featuring students and faculty.

Ultimately, the College and the working group hope that future legislation, and the work of the MassVGI, will allow the state to more effectively create opportunity and compete for — and win — jobs in this growing sector of the economy.

The Becker Hawks equestrian team continues to be a competitive force and played host to more than 140 riders at the center for an Intercolligate Horse Show Association competition where Hawks riders earned several ribbons, including five for first place.
Historic Leicester campus began as Leicester Academy

19th

Oldest campus in America

2

Revolutionary war heroes, John Hancock and Samuel Adams, credited with signing the Institution’s original charter

1887

Worcester campus was founded by E.C.A. Becker

Becker Junior College & Leicester Junior College began working together to expand academic offerings and provide broader social and recreational opportunities for their students

1751

Total number of students enrolled at Becker today

1979

Becker’s Game Design program ranking in New England and the United States respectively, according to The Princeton Review

142

Total number of alumni and friends who supported the 2010 Becker Fund

394

Total number of faculty and staff

$6,250,000.00

Total raised towards Becker’s Capital Campaign, Transforming Lives Through Education

$9,250,000.00

Capital Campaign goal that will enable the ground-breaking of Becker’s new campus center

27

Top-quality, degree programs offered at Becker today ranging from equine management and business management to forensics and nursing

18:1

Student/Faculty ratio

$89,781.00+

Average annual salary for employees in the game design industry

$10,500,000,000.00

Amount generated in 2009 by the computer and video game software industry in the U.S.
1950s

Clifford Hager ’58 attended two Becker reunions this past fall with his wife, Patricia. At Homecoming/ Family Weekend, Cliff was excited to learn just how much the athletic program had grown since his days as a student and was impressed by the turf field on the Leicester campus. He had a delightful time at the Golden Years Luncheon, where he reunited with former classmates and friends. He and his wife also had the privilege of sitting with President Robert Johnson and his lovely wife, Michelle, during lunch. He had a great experience at both events and was glad to see that Becker is doing so well.

Julie (Bombard) Conte ’59 celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary with her husband, Robert, in 2009 with a trip to Cape Cod. They have three sons and five grandchildren. Julie enjoys reading and painting with watercolors.

1960s

Fred Spennachio ’61 attended Becker when it was still a junior college. At that time, Becker was working to establish a transfer program so its students could successfully continue their education at four-year colleges and universities. During Fred’s second year at Becker, he applied to several universities, but in most cases discovered they would not accept all of his course credits. He shared his frustration with then Dean of Students George Aziz, who offered his help. As a result, Fred was able to successfully transfer to Bowling Green State University. It is no wonder that he extends his sincere appreciation for all that Becker College did for him while he was a student.

1970s

Andy Mazur ’72LJC is still very close with his LJC roommate, John Leahy ’72LJC, so much so that he is the godfather of John’s oldest daughter. Andy and John both attended the LJC All-Class Reunion in 2010. As the president of the Alumni Association of Becker College, Andy encourages all grads of the class of ’31 (410.643.6701). Andy encourages all grads of the class of ’31 (410.643.6701).

1980s

Laurie (Gramith) Wosleger ’85 lives in East Hampton, Conn. She has a husband of 22 years and their three sons. Laurie is a math tutor at the local middle school and also runs an after-school program in her town.

1990s

Jessica Spencer ’96 recently moved back to Rhode Island after spending 14 years in Tampa, Fla. Her dissertation proposal recently passed IRB approval, allowing her to begin her studies. She is a student assistance counselor at a local high school in Rhode Island and is happy to be back in New England.

Symonds Hall Reunion 2010

Recently, a group of Symonds Hall residents reconnected online through Facebook. Following months of planning, nine Becker alumni successfully reunited after not seeing one another in over three decades.

Over a long weekend in September, the group rented a house on the eastern shore of Maryland, where they caught up and reminisced about their memories as Becker students. They all agreed it was as though no time had passed at all.

Wrapping Party

Members of the Alumni Association Board gathered the Saturday before Christmas for a gift-wrapping party. Thanks to the generosity of our alumni leadership (and Santa of course), several local families in need experienced a brighter holiday this year. For more information on how you can get involved with alumni activities, call 508.373.9533 or email alumni@becker.edu.
2000s

Ivey Blount ‘04 is a newly-elected member of Becker’s Alumni Association Board of Directors. She is part of the events committee and is assisting with the planning of Becker's Alumni Spree Day, which will be held on the Leicester campus July 16 and 17. She and her dog, Hercules, welcomed Zeus, the kitten, to their growing family.

Eshwar Shanker ‘05 graduated in May 2009 with a master’s in college student personnel administration from Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y. Eshwar currently works as an admissions officer/academic advisor for Quincy College in Quincy, Mass.

Becker College offered its first accelerated class in 2001. Ten years later, the College is thriving and now offers accelerated bachelor's degree programs in nursing, as well as business, elementary education, and psychology and an associate's degree in early childhood education.

Our Programs Offer:

- A supportive learning environment
- A relevant blend of theory and practice
- Convenience

For adults looking to enhance their careers, Becker College offers new certificate programs such as applied behavior analysis and post-baccalaureate certificates in game design. If you want to sharpen your current skills, Becker also offers a number of non-credit online courses.

IN MEMORIAM

Eileen Scott Leach ‘32
Jacquelin Elliott Rossi ’36
May Bridges Stone ’36
Ralph C. Croteau ’39
Ann Marsello Pagano ’39
Ruth Crabtree Gregory ’40
Myrtle Thomas Marenghi ’40
Pehr Ellner ’41
Shirley Lawrence Gustafson ’41
Edward Balchunas ’43
Marion Woodward Sullivan ’43
Lucille L. Burnap ’44
Richard H. Howard ’48
Audrey Krauss Kaufmann ’48
Paul D. McShane ’49
Wenola Nadeau Guerin ’50
Edward T. Harrity ’50LJC
Nancy Donelson Hebard ’50
Roy A. Weaver Jr. ’50
William A. Bilouris ’51
Wynson Sharby Lamoureux ’52
Judith Bowers Latourette ’53
Lois Wilson Payson ’53
Joanne Ricker Milton ’54
Allen P. Strickland ’56
Angela Molinaro Smolley ’57
Robert J. Mastrosimone ’66LJC
Judith Natonski Cossart ’69

Janis O’Brien Mitchell ’73
Laura Durand Russo ’75
Judith McNamara Soucy ’82
James P. O’Leary ’89
Lorna Crichton ’90

Unknown Class Year

Carl T. Bernart
Antoinette J. Bongovio Burke
Howard T. Carney
Robert F. Lutz
Eleanor Furphy O’Toole
Robert J. Wisniowski

Fee Waiver Authorization:

As a representative of Becker College (alumnus/a, employee, sibling, other) please complete the information below.

NAME: __________________________

RELATIONSHIP TO BECKER COLLEGE: __________________________

SIGNATURE: __________________________

This fee waiver entitles the student to submit an undergraduate application to Becker College without cost. This waiver is not valid without the signature of a Becker representative.

NAME: __________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________

SIGNATURE: __________________________

Becker College – Application Fee Waiver

61 Sever Street • Worcester, MA 01609 • Phone: 508-373-9400

This fee waiver entitles the student to submit an undergraduate application to Becker College without cost. This waiver is not valid without the signature of a Becker representative.

NAME: __________________________

RELATIONSHIP TO BECKER COLLEGE: __________________________

SIGNATURE: __________________________

The applicant must complete the information below and submit this waiver with a completed application. (If applying online, include code BRD111.)

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NAME: __________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________

SIGNATURE: __________________________

The applicant must complete the information below and submit this waiver with a completed application. (If applying online, include code BRD111.)
1. Barbara (Tirrell) Parker ‘59 and Stanley Skamarycz ‘50
2. Patricia and Cliff ‘58 Hager
3. Richard Bergquist ’49 speaking with President Robert E. Johnson and his wife, Michelle
4. (l-r) Angela Rushford ’11, Professor of Nursing Carole Howe, Brianna Grover ’11, Stacey Burgess ’11 and Stacey’s mother, Catherine Burgess
5. (l-r) first row) Claudia Dondzik ’75LJC, Carl Rowley ’75LJC, (second row) Marion (Delaney) Driscoll ’80, Heather Noel ’04, President Robert E. Johnson, Lea Ok ’84, Jack Driscoll, (third row) Brian Ingram ’98, Caitlin Visscher ’08, Andy Mazur ’72LJC, Dean Hickey ’83, (fourth row) Bob Martin ’01
6. Becker’s Walk to Cure Cancer team
Blackstone National Golf Club will host the 19th Annual Llew Evans Scholarship Golf Tournament Monday, June 20, 2011

All proceeds benefit the scholarship fund.

227 Putnam Hill Road
Sutton, Mass.

For detailed information, call Cheryl Zukowski at 508.373.9531 or email cheryl.zukowski@becker.edu

RED SOX GAME

7. Laurie (Stevens) Borski ’85 and family, Ray, Eric and Chad
8. (l-r) Luke Buotte ’06, Tyler Roser ’08 and Alexis Agrinsoni ’09
9. Denise Marlborough and Beth Potvin ’81
Leave a legacy and provide opportunity to tomorrow’s leaders.

The Order of the Elm honors the important legacy that alumni and friends of the College establish when they make a planned gift.

You can provide educational support to future generations when you create a personal legacy.

Gifts made through annuities, charitable trust arrangements, estate plans or wills offer a lasting opportunity to make a major contribution to Becker College.

Structuring your planned gift deserves time and careful thought. As you explore the many available options for such a gift, we welcome the chance to work with you and your legal and financial advisers to develop a carefully-crafted gift plan. The established plan will provide a financially secure future for you, your family and Becker College.

To learn more about creating your personal legacy, contact:

Mary Maloney
Major Gifts Officer
508.373.9525 or mary.maloney@becker.edu

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BEQUESTS
Designate Becker as a beneficiary in your will or trust.
- Leave a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate to Becker.
- Retain unlimited access and control of your assets during your lifetime.
- Reduce estate taxes and possibly increase the inheritance of your heirs.

LIFE INSURANCE
Designate Becker as the beneficiary of your policy; the death benefits and the premiums are considered a gift to Becker College.

LIFE INCOME GIFTS
Choose from a charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust or charitable lead trust, depending on your estate-planning goals.
- Receive an income-tax deduction in your lifetime and possibly increase the inheritance of your heirs.
- Receive guaranteed cash payments in your lifetime.
- Reduce or eliminate capital gains taxes on appreciated property.
- Reduce or eliminate estate taxes.

GIFTS OF RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS
Designate Becker as the beneficiary of retirement accounts to avoid income and/or estate taxes.
Johanna LeClair ’00

“My recurring gift to support Becker’s annual fund is an easy and simple way to demonstrate my commitment throughout the year towards bettering the College. I am proud to be able to give back and provide opportunities for young people who seek to improve their lives through education.”

Can we count on you to support The Becker Fund?

Each gift to The Becker Fund, regardless of its size, matters greatly. Your contribution, large or small, is critical to the College’s ability to leverage additional funding such as government and corporate grants. When you make a gift to The Becker Fund you are supporting scholarships, as well as the College’s overall mission to provide superior career-oriented learning opportunities.

To make your gift or pledge, or for more information, contact Raffi Der Simonian, Director of Alumni Relations & The Becker Fund, at 508.373.9533 or make a secure gift online by visiting www.alumni.becker.edu.

www.alumni.becker.edu. Thank you!
The Franklin M. Loew Lecture Series is a public forum that invites scholars and professionals to present lectures on topics of interest and importance to the Becker College community.

All lectures will be held at:
Becker College | Borger Academic Center | Daniels Hall | 9 Washburn Square, Leicester, Mass.

Visit www.becker.edu for more information.