Soon after Professor Frank Beltran passed away in December, members of the Business Administration and Economics Department established the Frank Beltran Scholarship Fund to honor Frank’s life. To raise money for the scholarship fund, many people throughout the department stepped up. Professor Melissa Waite’s Management Skills students set up various businesses, the proceeds of which were contributed to the fund, while the International Business Club, the Finance Club, and the Business Department secretaries also made efforts to raise money.

Waite’s Management Skills students established their own businesses and have been selling their products around campus. To date, the proceeds of their businesses amount to over $800 for the Frank Beltran Scholarship Fund.

The International Business Club, which is a new club this semester after getting passed through BSG in March, has also contributed to the fund. With the help of members from the Finance Club, they held a spaghetti dinner that raised $250. Kevin Lindsay, president of the International Business Club, said, “We waited on the tables, made salads, played host/hostess, and even washed the dishes!”

Mary Derleth and Mary McGonigal, secretaries for the Business Administration and Economics Department, said, “In the beginning we provided all the food, but there were many generous individuals in our department that also wanted to contribute. So, through time it has become a departmental effort.” She added, “I’m sure Frank would be proud!”

Deeply moved by the generous outpouring of support, Marie Beltran, Frank’s younger sister, expressed her gratitude to all who have contributed their efforts to the scholarship fund, in a memorial service honoring Frank’s life at the Newman Center on Thursday, May 4.

Mary Derleth and Mary McGonigal, secretaries for the Business Administration and Economics Department, helped with cooking for the event as well as coordinating Department faculty and staff lunches to help raise over $500 for the fund. Derleth said, “In the beginning we provided all the food, but there were many generous individuals in our department that also wanted to contribute. So, through time it has become a departmental effort.” She added, “I’m sure Frank would be proud!”

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Brockport’s “Big Dig” by Domenic Siracusa

March 22, 2006 was the official date for the start of Brockport’s new and exciting project. This day marked the beginning of construction on the new on-campus townhouses for Brockport students. Many people came together to share in this momentous event. They included the President of SUNY Brockport (John R. Halstead), the President and Vice President of the Brockport Student Government (JJ Brice and Frank Guidice), officials from Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY), Christa Construction LLC, and members from all around the Brockport community.

These new townhouses will be located on New Campus Drive. The project is expected to cost approximately $18 million and will house 208 students. This complex will consist of 50 townhouses. These town homes will each be equipped with a full kitchen, dining room, living room, four bedrooms, two full baths and a washer and dryer. Each will come complete with all furnishings, and equipped with must haves such as Internet connection, air conditioning, cable television and most importantly, access to convenient parking.

The College has partnered with DASNY to oversee the entire project. They feel strongly that this addition will be well worth it and will broaden the housing choices for students. The town homes are expected to be ready for students beginning fall semester, 2007.

International Business Club Off to Strong Start

by Melissa Waite

The International Business Club, authorized by Brockport Student Government in March of this year, is off to a great start.

Members of the International Business Club attended a seminar on forging business relations with Canada at The Grill at Strathallan on April 25. The fifteen students that attended had the opportunity to network with prominent local and Canadian businesspersons. A table of International Business Club members placed first in a trivia contest of knowledge pertaining to international trade and Canada, beating out company officers that routinely do business with Canada.

The Club also hosted speaker William Graff, Economic Development and Trade Director for the Rochester Business Alliance. A standing room only crowd of about 40 enjoyed his discussion on diversity and multiculturalism. The Club looks forward to hosting more speakers in the fall semester.

As mentioned in the front page article of the Beacon, the International Business Club, in conjunction with the Finance Club, and with the help of Department secretaries Mary Derleth and Mary McGonigal, hosted a spaghetti dinner to benefit the Frank Beltran Scholarship Fund. Students waited on tables, made salads and even washed the dishes. Their collective efforts contributed $250 to the scholarship fund.

Anyone interested in the International Business Club can contact Kevin Lindsay at klin1108@brockport.edu. Also, check out the community group on Angel (under International Business Club).

Kevin would like to thank the staff of Business Administration and the members who have contributed to the Club’s many accomplishments over the past two months.

Best wishes to the Class of 2006. Congratulations!
The Corner Office — Nurturing Alumni Relations

As graduation approaches, many of you are going to be starting a new phase of your life. As an alumnus of the Department of Business Administration and Economics, you will be forming a new relationship with our department. We hope to make this a rewarding and beneficial relationship, and we are excited about the potential opportunities.

We rely on our former students staying involved in our programs after they graduate. There are many opportunities for you to contribute, even if you move out of the area. Please keep the following in mind as possible ways to give back to your institution.

· Alumni Surveys – We regularly survey our alumni to gather program-specific feedback and to assess your views on overall program quality. As you know, a major focus of the AACSB accreditation standards requires continuous improvement and a systematic process for soliciting input from our key stakeholders. Our alumni are a crucial part of this effort. Each year we conduct an alumni satisfaction survey with our most recent graduates. The survey provides us with program-specific feedback, including alumni views on various aspects of overall program quality, satisfaction with resources and services, and perceptions of program improvement. When you receive this survey, please take a few minutes to complete it and return it to us.

· Alumni Events – We generally hold two alumni functions per year. Sometimes these are strictly social events, for example, a happy hour or picnic. We have also hosted open houses, guest speakers, etc. These events offer great networking opportunities for you, and a chance to catch up on what has been happening with the Department and the College.

· Alumni Advisory Council – This group was established in January 2003 to provide advice and counsel to the Department. The Council provides leadership, influence, and support among and between the stakeholders of the Department. Specifically, the Council provides input and support regarding alumni events, fundraising, corporate and community relations, and career opportunities for students. All interested alumni are encouraged to participate in Council activities.

We also encourage you to informally keep in touch with faculty and staff. We love getting e-mails telling us what is happening in your life, whether it be a new job, a move to a new city, etc. We also are interested in knowing if you would like to become involved in our programs as a guest speaker, a provider of feedback on student presentations, a sponsor of a student intern, or in some other way.

The strength of our program and its reputation with employers is partly a function of the relationships we develop with alumni, so please stay in touch and stay involved.

Xerox Exec Named Commencement Speaker

Graduation is just days away and SUNY Brockport is proud to have Ursula Burns, President of Business Group Operations at Xerox, as this year’s commencement speaker. Burns has been honored as one of the most powerful women in business today by FORTUNE.

Burns oversees a $12 billion piece of Xerox’s business, including the firm’s research and development, engineering, manufacturing and marketing of Xerox technology. A Xerox employee since 1980, and instrumental in Xerox’s recent turnaround, she will no doubt draw on her life experiences and successes to motivate all those in attendance at the College’s 139th commencement ceremony.

By admirably serving on many professional and community boards she shows her overwhelming commitment to helping the community and can serve to be an inspiration to those who are soon beginning their professional careers.
Department Students Recognized for Excellence

On Thursday April 27th 2006, the Honors and Awards Ceremony was held in the Seymour College Union. Throughout the event, many students from all different departments received recognition for excellence. The following students from Business Administration and Economics were recognized for their success.

The Advantage Professionals Scholarship was established by Mr. Mark G. Pautler, president of Advantage Professionals, in recognition of the strong relationship between the College and Advantage Professionals. This scholarship provides financial assistance to an accounting major who exhibits excellence in the classroom and high potential for success as an accounting professional.

~ Martha Kopcienski

The Allen V. Upton Award honors the memory of a 1979 graduate of the business administration and economics program who worked at Cantor Fitzgerald and died in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. This award, established by Mr. Upton’s family and friends, is intended to help a student gain the SUNY Brockport education that was so important to Mr. Upton.

~ Ryan A. Brand

The Barbara E. Kowalczyk Memorial Award in Economics established to honor the memory of Ms. Kowalczyk, provides an annual award for a business administration and economics major who evidences financial need.

~ Kevin Lindsay

The Charles J. Ashworth Memorial Scholarship in Business and Economics recognizes outstanding departmental majors who strive for excellence and high personal standards in academic, social, and professional environments. It is given by Mrs. Ashworth in memory of her husband, a local and national businessman.

~ Kimberly Michelle Thrun

The Louis R. Desfosses, Sr. Scholarship in International Business was established to recognize an outstanding student in the SUNY Brockport International Business program who has demonstrated commitment to and potential for excellence in a career in international business. Dr. Desfosses served on the faculty in the Department of Business Administration and Economics from 1979 to 2000.

~ Ines Erika Nam

The Raymond C. Shaheen Award in Business was founded by Mr. Shaheen, a member of the College Council since 1974 and a member of the Brockport College Foundation Board of Directors from 1977 to 1987. It recognizes a student showing academic excellence who has demonstrated an interest in a career in marketing.

~ Tsvetomira Dobrinova Gerova

The Schmitt Foundation Scholarship in Business is awarded to an incoming third-year student accepted in the baccalaureate program in accounting, international business and economics, or business administration who has completed an associate’s degree at an accredited college.

~ Lyndsey Joette Oliver

The Shannon Adams Scholarship in Accounting was established by classmates and friends of Shannon Adams to recognize a student in the SUNY Brockport accounting program who has demonstrated commitment to and potential for excellence in the career of accounting. Mr. Adams worked for the firm of Cantor Fitzgerald at their offices in the World Trade Center. Mr. Adams died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

~ Talya Rachel Horowitz

The Business Administration and Economics Department would also like to acknowledge the accomplishments of Departmental Scholars Kristin Lee Whittaker from Accounting, Dijana Delibegovic from International Business and Barry Hettler from Business Administration.

Congratulations to you all for your great success!
Learning Business in Britain by Jeff Taylor, Business Career Services

Ask yourself these two questions: How will you make your resume stand out from dozens of other applications received by the prospective employer? What unique perspectives, skills and life lessons position you as a superior job candidate? If answers don’t readily come to mind, perhaps it’s time to begin thinking about how you will differentiate yourself from the crowd. One approach highly valued by employers is to study abroad. A semester overseas conveys a great deal about a student’s maturity, willingness to take risks, adaptability, and openness to try new things. With that in mind, the following letter from Dr. Dave Jewell of SUNY Brockport’s Office of International Education, shares information about exciting study abroad opportunities in England.

Dear Brockport Business Students:

I am pleased to advise you of some exciting opportunities to study and work in England. The Office of International Education has entered into agreements with some of the most renowned universities in England that also happen to have outstanding academic programs in Business. In the immediate London area you can choose from either Middlesex University, Roehampton University, or the University of Westminster. If residing outside of the London area has more appeal you can choose from either the University of Portsmouth (about 1 ½ hours south of London) or from Leeds Metropolitan University (about 2 ½ hours north of London). Regardless of your choice you will have the opportunities to partake in exciting and relevant coursework and to build your professional resumes by affiliating with a business concern within convenient commuting distance of your campus. In addition, all five schools are located in communities that offer you ample opportunities for travel, shopping, theatre, and other social and cultural events. All five schools will also give you the chance to meet students from throughout the world. For example, the University of Portsmouth enrolls students from eighty other countries.

While you need to be either a Junior or Senior to participate in the program, it isn’t too early to start planning if you are not so far along in your academic career. Since there are GPA requirements, this may be the reason to start studying or to study harder. You will also need letters of recommendation from one of your department’s faculty and from someone who has supervised you in either a paid or volunteer work setting. Finally, pay attention to your writing skills, since a statement of interest is also part of the application process.

If you are interested in learning more about the program feel free to contact me at djewell@brockport.edu and I will be happy to make an appointment for us to meet. We are still taking applications for Fall, 2006, but time is running short.

Dr. Dave Jewell
Program Advisor
Office of International Education

As Commencement Approaches... by Amy Nickich

Commencement will be held Saturday, May 13th in the Special Olympics Stadium. The ceremony will take place outdoors, rain or shine, so come prepared! Parking is permitted anywhere, but allow at least 60 minutes to get into the stadium and be seated.

Graduates should assemble inside the Tuttle South gym at noon, family and guests should be seated by 12:15 pm. Seating will be in the bleachers, so be sure to dress for the weather and be prepared for a two hour ceremony. The ceremony will be televised live on Time Warner Cable channel 4, and can be viewed on campus in Edwards Hall.

Students’ names will be read as they cross the stage and receive their diploma cover. If you have not yet purchased your cap and gown, you can do so at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Seymour College Union. Sets are $33.98.

If you wish to make arrangements for special accommodations (for the hearing impaired) please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at (585)395-5409.