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Boston University Medical Center

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Boston University
Event celebrates new shuttle bus, other gains

Don Gitter, the leader of the Interinstitutional Transportation Management Association, spoke at the event about the Medical Center's effort to encourage the use of public transportation to the medical area.

Employees turned out on BUMC Hospital's Atrium Pavilion plaza on Sept. 8 to celebrate the Medical Center's new shuttle bus and to recognize the numerous other achievements made here during the last two years on the transportation, and other, fronts. Following the ceremony, all attendees were treated to cake.

During the event, the speakers emphasized the effort on the part of Medical Center leadership to improve transportation options here.

"This new shuttle bus is a symbol of the Medical Center on the move," said Bill Gasper, associate vice president for business affairs at the Medical Campus. "It's just one of the many important improvements we've made," he said. Amongst others he pointed to was the recent addition of a new telecommunications system at the Medical Center.

As for the significance of the shuttle bus, he said, "it's not the bus itself that's important. It's the people who ride the bus. They are our greatest resource, and we can't forget that."

The shuttle bus, known as Event continued on page 2

BUMC's new phone, voice mail system installed

BUMC's new digital telephone system became operational, as scheduled, on Tuesday, Sept. 7. Many people worked long hours—specially over the long Labor Day weekend—to convert 4,000 existing lines here to a new AT&T system and to install voice mail.

The Department of Telecommunications' Help Desk, established to deal with the new system, handled many calls on the first day, but few had to do with phones not operating properly. Most calls concerned the process of call-coverage routing established during the phone equipment review and inquiries about the

Health Care Task Force consultant visits the SPH

A senior consultant to Hillary Rodham Clinton's Task Force on Health Care Reform provided a spirited start to the School of Public Health's new Public Health Forum series on Sept. 14, giving an outline of the proposed national health care plan a week before President Bill Clinton unveiled the official version.

Characterizing the plan as an attempt to address the current system's "paradox of excess and deprivation," Richard Kronick, PhD, an adjunct assistant professor of public health (health services) at the SPH, urged the packed audience of students, professors, nurses and social workers to put aside the graduate student's tendency to automatically dissect and critique every element of a plan before studying its larger picture.

But while he said it was "a pleasure to be out of Washington," Kronick had a taste of some of the skepticism he said he knew awaited the plan in Congress. Following his presentation, some members of the audience shot back lively questions challenging the plan.

The proposed strategy, said Kronick, is intended to reduce the spending on health care that is draining the funding of such other important publicly funded sectors as education and infrastructure.

The backbone of the new plan, he said, would be the creation of "health alliances," agencies run by the states that would oversee all providers and health plans. These agencies would serve as the equivalent of "enlightened health

Center for Advanced Biomedical Research grand opening set

Ribbon-cutting ceremony to take place on Thursday, Oct. 14, at 11:30 a.m., 700 Albany St.

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Bakst Auditorium's major renovation provides state-of-art hall

A full-scale renovation of Bakst Auditorium was completed in August, marking the third substantial renovation made to a School of Medicine lecture classroom in the last year. Auditorium room L-110 was also upgraded in August, while auditorium room L-112 was renovated last winter. "This effort to provide the best possible educational facilities for our students underscores the School's commitment to its instructional mission," said School of Medicine Dean Aram V. Chobanian.

Bakst auditorium has improved acoustics and lighting, new audiovisual equipment, full handicapped accessibility, new chairs, increased seating capacity and improved control of the heating and air conditioning system. It also has new carpeting and walls, as well as a new ceiling. The room looks completely new.

The lecture hall provides a handicapped accessible ramp to the outside of the building. Lecture hall L-110 also received a substantial upgrade this summer, receiving a new, state-of-the-art audio-visual system, newly upholstered seats, some new carpeting and modifications of the lighting system.

A significant upgrade of auditorium room L-112 was carried out last spring. The renovation was made possible by a donation by alumnus Frank J. Miselis '45, and the auditorium has been named in his honor. The renovation included installing a computerized lighting control system and a new audio-visual system, refurbishing the seats to increase comfort and to be in compliance with new fire codes, and installing new carpeting.

New shuttle bus one of many advances on BUMC's transportation front

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the "Connection," was wheeled onto the road in July to great acclaim by the people who ride it each day. The spacious, air conditioned and handicapped-accessible vehicle provides transportation between the plaza of BUMC Hospital at 88 East Newton St. and the Broadway T station. It replaced an old vehicle.

The purchase of the new bus and other recent advances on the transportation front can be attributed to the efforts of a group of representatives of the Medical Center and Boston City Hospital who, together, make up the Interinstitutional Transportation Management Association (ITMA). Their goal is to make commuting to the medical area more comfortable and convenient, and to encourage employees to use public transportation for their commutes, in order to reduce traffic congestion and reduce air pollution in the area.

Thanks to the group's advocacy, a number of changes have been made. Earlier this month, the MBTA increased the frequency of service of the #10 bus on a trial basis. This bus provides transportation between Copley Square and City Point. In addition, BUMC has initiated a program that gives preferential parking in Lots A and C to commuters who carpool with one or more passengers. Drivers must register for this program in the Office of Parking and Transportation Services, located in the School of Medicine, (R-102), behind the mailroom. For further information, contact Parking Transportation Coordinator Maureen Flaherty, at 8-7430 (638-7430). Last year, new bike racks were installed around the Medical Center.

"We hope people will take note of what's happening [in terms of improvements in public transportation to the area] and we encourage them to give more of a try to public transportation," said Don Giller, vice president for regional operations at BUMC Hospital, speaking at the event. Giller spearheads the ITMA.

Additional improvements made during the last year on the transportation front have included improved lighting in the parking lots and the creation of small parks outside of the lots.

Health Science bookshop to open in new research building

The Campus Shop at the Medical Campus, currently located in the basement of the Instructional Building of the School of Medicine, will merge with Charlesbank Bookshops and move into the Medical Center's new biomedical research building on Albany Street on Oct. 12.

The shop, which will be known as the Charlesbank Health Sciences Bookshop, will offer an array of medical, nursing, dental, public and consumer health titles, spanning all available publishers in the field. Charlesbank Health Sciences will become one of the most complete medical bookstores in New England, and one of the largest college medical bookstores in the country.

In addition to its book selection, the new store will carry a wide assortment of medical diagnostic instruments, general merchandise and supplies. Several types of equipment and replacement parts, scalpel blades, school and office supplies, lab coats, gloves and goggles are examples of some of the products the store will carry.

The store will be managed by Dorothy Matsik, currently manager of the Campus Shop.
Move into new Albany Street research building begins

Center for Advanced Biomedical Research
The move into the Center for Advanced Biomedical Research has begun. The entire Department of Biophysics is currently being relocated into the new building on Albany Street, while the move of a portion of the Department of Cardiology is underway.

"We're working hard to get these two departments moved in by the Oct. 14 dedication of the building," said Craig Lazenby, director of the Medical Campus Office of Facilities Management.

Following the dedication, the process of moving the remaining departments and sections into the building will begin, and continue through Dec. 20. These departments include the Center for Human Genetics, more sections of the Department of Cardiology, the Department of Urology, the Animal Laboratory Science Center (ALSC), the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry's Division of Oral Biology and Department of Periodontics, as well as the new medical campus bookshop.

General overview of health care plan stirs reaction from audience

Health care

Health insurance organizations of all types, according to the federal regulations. These regulations would be enforced; participants would pay into the health alliance. A "global budget" would be instituted, and there would be a limit on the rate of increase in health insurance premiums.

The proposed health care plan would be "technically easy," but "politically difficult," to institute, acknowledged Kronick. The fiercest attack is expected to come from trade organizations, particularly the National Federation of Independent Businesses, he said. These organizations, he said, "will say that the program will lose jobs for Americans, when, in fact, it would create jobs and be good for American business."

Kronick added that if the president's plan is not accepted in some reasonable form, the failure "would chill the resolve of future leaders to try again any time soon."

Kronick, an assistant professor in the Department of Community and Family Medicine at the University of California, San Diego, is a nationally recognized expert on health care financing and the co-author of a proposal to achieve universal health insurance in the United States with Alain Enthoven. He was previously the director of Policy and Reimbursement in the Massachusetts Medicaid program.

A number of Boston University leaders representing diverse areas of expertise will speak at the Society of Research Administrators' annual meeting Oct. 2 through Oct. 6 in New Orleans.

This 27th annual meeting draws professionals from throughout the country who oversee the funding proposals submitted by their institutions to government agencies and industry. The meeting, whose theme this year is "Strength through Diversity," is co-chaired by Anne der Hagopian, director of the Medical Campus Office of Sponsored Programs. Anita King, a financial coordinator in the Medical Campus School of Public Health, is on the planning committee of the newcomer's reception.

The Medical Campus Office of Sponsored Programs works to ensure that the research, training and other grant and contract proposals submitted to government and other funding agencies, as well as the resulting award documents and contracts entered into, are in a form that will make them legally compatible with the School's policies, government regulations and funding agency requirements.

This year's annual meeting is designed to recognize and foster an understanding of the role of diversity in people's professional and personal

Research administrators

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lives. The meeting will draw a wide range of professionals in research and research administration, including those representing colleges and universities, hospitals and medical research centers, industry or other for-profit organizations, non-profit research organizations, government agencies and voluntary groups.

Richard Towle, vice president for administrative affairs for Boston University, will speak at a session on planning for financing and building research facilities, including environmental impact studies.

Elizabeth Stengel, director of government relations for the Medical Center, will speak at a session on fostering productive interaction between the offices of research administration and government relations. Susan Frey, JD, associate general counsel for Boston University, will speak about legal liabilities in grants administration, as well as about patent law, patent policy and practice.

Chiriatti, of sponsored programs, earns administrator certificate

Richard Chiriatti, an awards specialist in the Medical Campus Office of Sponsored Programs, is the second person from the Medical Campus to have obtained the title of "Certified Research Administrator." This certification, established by the Society of Research Administrators last year, is obtained in part by passing a four-hour exam given by the Research Administration Council. Chiriatti was a member of the first group of candidates to take the test.

Voice mail system installed in many offices at Medical Center

Telecommunications
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voice mail system. If the call coverage patterns are not meeting department needs, changes can be made by notifying the Department of Telecommunications, located on H-4000, in writing.

The system will be expanded to include additional users once the new phone and voice mail systems are working smoothly. Please submit written requests, with departmental approval, to the Office of Telecommunications. The setup of additional voice mailboxes is planned to begin around the first of November.

For those already assigned voice mailboxes, a few reminders:

The voice mail system is easily accessed from outside the Medical Center by dialing 638-6565, pressing the # key, entering your box number (your phone extension) and your password. You can listen to your messages by pressing 1, or, to leave messages for your colleagues with voice mailboxes, by pressing 2.

From within the Medical Center complex, to receive your voice mail messages, dial 8-6565, enter your box number (your phone extension) and your password, and press 1 to listen to messages and press 2 to send messages.

The tutorial or the diagram in your Octel pocket guide will direct you through the options once you are in either of these main menu choices. Changing your greeting on a daily basis is as simple as pressing 4-3-1-2 once you have gained access to your mailbox. All callers should be able to access a person, in the event that they do not want to leave a message in a mailbox. You can indicate that extension in your greeting, or you can ask the telecommunications department, in writing, to have your mailbox programmed so that callers can press 0 to reach a designated extension.

A third party can transfer a caller directly to the voice mailbox of the person he or she is trying to contact, should that person be unavailable at the time. This process can be done by the third party pressing the Transfer button on a multline set or pressing Recall or R or Flash on a single line phone, dialing 8-6565 (to enter the voice mail system), pressing **, then dialing the extension of the mailbox holder, and pressing Transfer or Recall or R or Flash or switch hook.

Celebrate the autumn season
Under the Apple Tree,
as Chequers presents a
variety of delicious apple
features the week
of Oct. 18 - 22.
Also, enter our raffle to win
a bag of fresh, crisp apples.