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Boston University Medical Center

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Boston University
Open enrollment for benefits now under way

The open enrollment period for health insurance and personal and family accident insurance plans available to eligible employees of the University is under way, and will run through April 29, 1994, with new coverages taking effect May 1, 1994. All eligible employees who wish to change coverages in a health care plan should submit an enrollment form to the Office of Personnel by April 29, 1994.

Employees with questions about the various plans may contact Joanne Fay, manager of benefits, or Sheri Richardson, benefits specialist, both in the Office of Personnel at 638-4610 (8x4610).

Employees honored for service

The University's annual Employee Service Recognition Dinner, held to honor those members of the Boston University community who have served the institution for 10 or 25 years or are retiring, will take place on Tuesday, April 19. The event will be held in the George Sherman Ballroom of the Charles River Campus.

In honor of their distinguished service and contribution to the University, those employees who have served for 10 years will receive Paul Revere bowls. Twenty-five-year veterans will receive clocks, while those retiring will receive either Boston University rocking chairs or captain's chairs.

In total, 71 employees from the Medical Campus will be recognized. Coverage of the event will be presented in the next issue of Campus Update. See page 4 of this issue for a list of the employees being honored.

Vending machines

Just a reminder, in light of the closing of the gift shop on Evans 1, vending machines carrying candy bars, sodas, fruit drinks, ice cream, fruit and assorted other foods are located in the L Building basement, near Chequer's Cafe.

And while the stormy elements affected many of our weekday mornings and evenings, they were, for the eight members of the Medical Campus's buildings and grounds crew, the central focus of many a day from January through March.

Lead by seasoned veteran Dick McHugh, the team took a resolute stance against the elements, keeping clear all of the sidewalks and small parking lots in the Medical Center area, up and down Harrison Avenue and Albany Street from the Boston City Hospital steam station to the Flower Market, up and down East Concord Street and East Newton Street, day in and day out.

Elaine Ullian takes helm at BUMC

Elaine Ullian, the new president and chief executive officer of BUMC Hospital, came on board full time on April 1, acknowledging that the Hospital faces a major fiscal challenge but adding confidently that "our future is going to be bright."

In a Town Meeting held in March, she presented the data on admissions and staffing that will drive the "downsizing" of BUMC and presented her general strategy for boosting the Hospital's position in the evolving and highly competitive Boston academic medicine environment.

The bottom line, Ullian said, is that the Hospital must lower its prices to be competitive in the Boston area. To this end, she said, some type of merger or consolidation with Boston City Hospital will take place. The two institutions together have 700 hos-
New state medical examiner’s building to be built on Albany St.

Another significant building project is commencing in the medical area, this time the construction of the state’s new morgue, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. The facility, which will be located on the north side of Albany Street, at the corner of East Concord Street, will replace the state’s existing morgue in the Mallory Building, at the corner of Albany Street and Massachusetts Avenue.

The Mallory Building will continue to house the Mallory Institute, which is the Department of Anatomical Pathology for BUMC Hospital and Boston City Hospital. A large proportion of the faculty in the School of Medicine’s Department of Pathology works in the institute’s facilities.

The new building is expected to be completed by March 1995. The project has been under consideration for 10 years, said Roseanne Pawelke of the state’s Department of Capitol Planning and Operations.

The 28,000-square-foot, two-story building has a brick and precast concrete exterior. There is a third level elevation in one portion of the building for the mechanical room tower.

The $6 million project will include state-of-the-art autopsy rooms and equipment, a public lobby and private waiting spaces for people receiving news about the death of their loved ones. The Mallory Building does not have either a public lobby or private waiting spaces. The building will also include offices and support space for the chief medical examiner.

McHugh’s crew works until the job’s done – in any weather

Heroes

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at 3 a.m., 6 a.m. 10 p.m., weekday and weekend, shoveling, plowing, sanding and salting. Outside contractors stepped in to plow the large BUMC parking lots.

"We do the job until it’s done," said McHugh. "That can mean coming in at 2 a.m. to clear the place and then coming back in later in the day. We make sure this place is accessible all the time."

The crew, also responsible for driving the Medical Center shuttle buses, battled the elements on the road, as well, safely transporting members of the BUMC community to the Broadway T station and Lot C under often treacherous conditions.

Whatever the job is, McHugh said, "We are determined to get the people into the Medical Center and out safely. If a storm occurs during the daytime, it’s a nightmare. If it’s the weekend, it’s beautiful."

The crew assaulted the winter storms with a well honed strategy, each member of the team being deployed to carry out the task that he has become the resident expert in, but also being prepared to switch off and help out wherever else was needed. "As far as I’m concerned, my guys are a fantastic group," said McHugh. "They’re ready to team up, change roles, anything to get the job done. We know each other’s moves. We’re together. Everybody helps. No one can beat ‘em. We’ve had breakdowns with equipment, and we know how to work in a piecemeal way until after the rush."

The crew’s ammunition against the winter storms is a Bob Cat, a Walden tractor, a Ford front-end loader, a blower, shovels, and a sand/salt mixture. "It helps to have a boss who understands," said McHugh, referring to John Clift, manager of operations and maintenance in the Medical Campus Office of Facilities Management. "He’s fair with us, and if he sees something we’ve missed, he tells us, as he should."

For his part, Clift said, "The men are performing at the highest standard they ever have, under the toughest conditions they’ve faced."

The crew is made up of a blend of seasoned veterans and some new recruits. Anthony Campbell and Neil Baldner have been on board for 21 years, Tyrone Crumble and John Pender for 15 years, Don Moody for 11 years. Two recent additions, from the Charles River Campus, are Frank Tibbetts, who’s been at the Medical Campus for two years, and Wayne Ring, who’s been here for a year and a half.

Now, the crew’s thoughts have turned to spring upkeep. With 500 tulip and daffodil bulbs planted by the men last fall, it’s getting to be time to "fertilize, cut, lime and seed," said McHugh.

When you see the tulips in front of BUSM, on the Evans Walk Way and in the BUMCH Atrium planters, think of the hands that planted them, and think of the men who helped us all get through the winter to enjoy this spring.

World Class Commuting Day set

Medical Center employees are urged to turn out for World Class Commuting Day on Friday, May 13, on the BUMC Hospital H-2 Bridge. The theme of this fourth annual event is "The Less Stress Commute." Drop by between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to find out how to save time, money and stress.
New biosafety director takes helm

In an appointment that reflects the increasingly voluminous and complex nature of biosafety issues and enforcement, BUMC has named Daniel Liberman, PhD, the Medical Center's new director of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, formerly known as the Office of Safety. The title change reflects the broadened and expanded role of the office.

Liberman, who held a similar position at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and has taught at both Boston University School of Public Health and Harvard School of Public Health, is an acclaimed expert in biosafety and general safety matters. He is an active member of such organizations as American Industrial Hygiene Society Biosafety Committee, American Chemical Society, Society for Industrial Microbiology, National Institute of Environmental Health and Safety and the National Toxicology Program Advisory Group.

"Liberman's appointment resulted from our discussions with the faculty and principal investigators, which made it clear that the nature of the research being done today and projected for the future requires a very aggressive, sophisticated approach to monitoring activity from a biosafety standpoint," said Michael Donovan, the executive director of the Medical Campus Office of Personnel and Administrative Services.

John Clemons will maintain his responsibilities as safety officer, and will be assisting Liberman as an Associate Director of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

"There is a much greater awareness of the importance of health and safety in the research laboratory, hospital and professional workplace," said Liberman. "We will be responsive to the needs not only of the faculty, staff and students of the Medical Center but also to the patients of BUMC Hospital. We will serve the work/hospital environment in a very unified fashion and will respond to issues as quickly as possible, building on the strengths that exist within the current office."  

Ullian sees changes ahead

Ullian continued from page 1

With the demolition of the principal Boston City Hospital tunnels (A corridor, B Corridor, A/B Connector) under way, the tunnel running from the Silvio O. Conte Medical Research Center (K Building) to BCH will be closed indefinitely. The demolition of the tunnels is the first step in the process of clearing the BCH campus of its former inpatient facilities. Access to the main area of the new inpatient facility can be made from Albany Street and from Harrison Avenue. For safety, people are urged to enter the inpatient facility through the Albany Street entrance in the evening, as it is well lit. The Maternity department can still be entered from East Concord Street.

The lobby of the School of Medicine was filled with animated fourth-year medical students on Wednesday, March 16, as most of the 142 members of the class turned out at their mailboxes to learn where they'd be selected to complete their residencies.

Of the 125 students participating in the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP), 113 were matched, and nearly half of those (60 students) received their first choice of residency program. Another 14 percent, (17 students) received their second choice. Seven students matched through the U.S. Armed Services and five matched outside the NRMP and the U.S. Armed Services.

Internal medicine was the top choice of specialty for the class, with 36, or 25 percent, of the total class selecting this area. Massachusetts will be home to 58 of the future residents, while New York will host 15 of the students and California another 14.

There was a significant increase this year in the number of BUSM students choosing residencies in primary care, up from 37 percent in last year's fourth year class to 44 percent in this year's. "This shift toward generalist careers is consistent with our efforts here to produce medical classes in which 50 percent of the students enter primary care medicine," said Arthur J. Culbert, PhD., the associate dean of student affairs at the School of Medicine. Primary care medicine includes general internal medicine, family practice and pediatrics.
Employees honored for years of service to Boston University

Retiring
Sheila M. Scully
Clinical Operations Mgr., Financial Office, GSGD
Michelle Sheff
Assoc. Clinical Professor, Ped. Dentistry, GSGD
Gordon L. Snider
Assoc. Professor, VA Hospital, BUSM
Robert F. Troxler
Professor, Biochemistry, BUSM
Valerie Verbitzki
Research Lab Supervisor, Biochemistry, BUSM

10 Years of Service
Thomas A. Armstrong
Clinical Assoc. Professor, Operative Dentistry, GSD
Nargess Ashayeri
Clinical Asst. Professor, Operative Dentistry, GSD
Nancy J. Battinelli
Project Coordinator, Medicine, BUSM
Vidya Beepath
Security Officer II, Security, Medical Campus
Robert A. Bencale
Asst. Mgr. Custodial Services, Medical Campus
Jeffrey S. Berman
Assoc. Professor, Pulmonary, BUSM
Fred G. Bousanny
Professor, Oral Diagnosis, GSGD
Denise D. Boyd
Admin. Asst., Facilities Mgmt., Medical Campus
Dick A.J. Brown
Adjunct Asst. Professor, Ob/Gyn, BUSM
Carlo Castellucci
Clinical Asst. Professor, Endodontics, GSGD
Patrice R. Darden
Admin. Coordinator, Surgery-Otolaryngology, BUSM
Joline E. Durant
Asst. to Director, Public Health, SPH
Cheryl A. England
Laboratory Supervisor, Biophysics, BUSM
Malissia Evans
Admin. Asst., Public Health, SPH
David Felson
Assoc. Professor, Medicine, BUSM
Matthew J. Fenton
Asst. Professor, Medicine, BUSM
Patricia L. Foster
Assoc. Professor, Public Health, SPH
Donald S. Gar
Professor, Psychiatry, BUSM
Linda Grant
Asst. Professor, Pediatrics, BUSM
Linda K. Green
Secretary/Receptionist, Prosthetics, GSGD
Doris Gutierrez
Medical Technician, Ob-Gyn, BUSM
Mohamed Adel Hamid
Asst. Professor, Ob-Gyn, BUSM
Nancy Helm-Estabrooks
Professor, Neurology, BUSM
Susan S. Jick
Research Assoc., Drug Surveillance, BUSM
Joan Judge
Admin. Asst., Surgery, BUSM
Dan K. Kiley
Research Assoc., Neurology, BUSM
Janice E. Knoefel
Asst. Professor, Neurology, BUSM
Peter S. Kulka
Clinical Asst. Professor, Operative Dentistry, GSGD
Wande Li
Research Assoc., Biochemistry, BUSM

25 Years of Service
Edward A. Alexander
Professor, Medicine, BCH, BUSM
Leonard Bernstein
Clinical Professor, Orthodontics, GSGD
Sati C. Chattoraj
Professor, Ob/Gyn, BUSM
Kenneth B. Drizen
Clinical Assoc. Professor, Orthodontics, GSGD
Joseph Harris
Sr. Security Officer, Security, Medical Campus
Herbert M. Kagan
Professor, Biochemistry, BUSM
Jon T. Kapala
Professor, Pediatric Dentistry, GSGD
Ida J. Lawrence
Patient Coordinator, Financial Office, GSGD
Howard H. Lebowitz
Professor, Surgery-Orthopaedics, BUSM
Weldon Lloyd
Research Assoc. Professor, Predoctoral Admissions, GSGD
John F. O'Connor
Professor, Admissions Office, BUSM
Carole Lee Palumbo
Research Analyst, Neurology, BUSM
Janet R. Peters
Assoc. Professor, Dental Care Management, GSGD
Sonia Plummer
Physician Billing Asst., Pediatrics, BUSM
Charalabos Pothoulakis
Research Assoc. Professor, Medicine, BUSM
Alison Primavero
Asst. Director Academic Services, Public Health, SPH
Patricia Rando
Sr. Admin. Secretary, Public Health, SPH
Geraldine M. Rankin
Sr. Admin. Secretary, Medicine, BUSM
Wayne Ring
Track Driver, Facilities Mgmt., Medical Campus
Richard Rosen
Clinical Assoc. Professor, Prosthetics, GSGD
Alan Sager
Professor, Public Health, SPH
David Segal
Professor, Surgery-Orthopaedics, BUSM
Cecelia E. Slavter
Admin. Asst., Pathology, BUSM
Sergei P. Sorokin
Research Professor, Anatomy/Neurobiology, BUSM
Lee Strunin
Asst. Professor, Public Health, SPH
Rhonda L. Thomas
Library Asst., Library, BUSM
Richard Vezina
Project Coordinator, Slone Epidemiology Unit, BUSM
Robert M. Weisbrod
Research Technician, Medicine, BUSM
Linda L. Wright
Assoc. Professor, Anatomy/Neurobiology, BUSM

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