

# BDIC

**Bachelor's  
Degree with  
Individual  
Concentration**

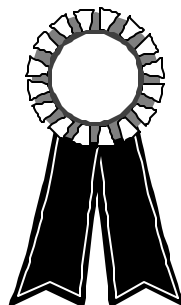
Fall Newsletter 2000

## DEAN'S LIST SPRING 2000

**Congratulations to all of our  
students on the Dean's List!**

Erik Becker  
Phillip Blue  
Timothy Dalton  
Shireen Deen  
Elizabeth DeFeo  
Laura Donahue  
Danielle Ducharme  
Jake Eisenstein  
Jessica Fink  
Sarah Fulham  
Jus Crea Giammarino  
Christopher Halloran  
Allan Hatta  
Wendy Hernandez  
Elizabeth James  
Dawn Kennedy  
Mark Kirshteyn  
Sam Kirshteyn  
Rui Kotani  
Michael Kubo  
Juliana LaBoube  
Ross Lemenille  
Robert Libfeld  
Mali Lipchik  
Tucker Litchfield  
Joylyn Lombard  
Lilach Manheim  
James Marchetti  
Sean McElroy  
Leah McKeand  
Eddy Mejia  
Aaron Messelaar  
Brian Moses  
Sharif Muhammad

Iris Nason  
Jennifer Nesbit  
Moira Noonan  
Andrew Pasquale  
Ashley Rose  
Katherine Silva  
Lydia Silva  
Pamela Smith  
Megan Snyder  
Elliana Spiegel  
Jessica Suraski  
Brian Surette  
David Swiderski  
Benjamin Swire  
Andrea Themistos  
Jason Tocci  
Sara Varvaro  
Damon Waitkus  
Veronica Webb  
John Wilson



## The Director's Corner



As I sat in front of  
the computer  
trying to write the  
Director's Corner

for the fall issue of the BDIC Newsletter, I felt very uneasy. There were no burning issues to deal with, and worse still, I could not come with a topic that I felt would catch the attention of BDIC students. This had never been the case in the past. As the Director of BDIC, I had always found a myriad of issues to deal with that were relevant to the well-being and the direction of the Program. I had focused so much on these fundamental issues in my Director's Corner, in previous issues of the BDIC Newsletter, that I felt that I was beginning to repeat myself. I could already hear echoes of my bureaucratic voice resonating through the halls of Goodell. Those echoes made me realize that I had to change the focus of my Director's Corner or I would be persecuted by my own voice. However, before the echoes got any louder, Vickie Moreland, our Office Manager, came to my rescue. She suggested that I write about myself for this issue of the BDIC Newsletter. In her suggestion, I could hear echoes between the lines, to give an old expression a new twist, that she too felt that I was playing the same note over and over again. Vicky, being such a sensitive and polite person, would never suggest that my voice was a broken record, but she was hinting at it in her own way. My first reaction to her suggestion, of course, was to say "No way, José!" I also thought "Why

## Director's Corner (continued from page 1)



should I bore everyone with a narrative that would be as exciting as listening to the current presidential debates where one of the candidates is constantly beating around the bush without making much sense and the other is being a bore with his detailed description of complex policy issues?"

The more I pondered Vicky's suggestion the more sense it made.

Fortunately for me and probably for all BDIC students, as I sit in front of computer trying to construct a personal narrative, I am beginning to realize that I have been beating around the bush through a very extensive paragraph and, consequently, I will not have much space left to bore anyone with details about my personal life. Indeed, this is the most fascinating aspect of what I am trying to do, that is, write something without saying much about myself.

By now you are probably really wondering whether I will even say a word about myself. If you can listen to the echoes between the lines that I have written above, you will realize that I have already laid bare part of my personality. However, it would be unfair to all concerned if I did not make an attempt to go beyond the playful and write a few words about who I am and how I came to be at the University of Massachusetts. I did arrive in New York City, like many other immigrants to this country, in April of 1961. I arrived in Idlewild, now Kennedy airport, not in Ellis Island like the majority of immigrants. I came from Madeira, a small Portuguese island off the coast of Morocco. In an instant I had replaced the tranquility and the almost eerie silence of a little village by the bustling and rustling noises of a huge and chaotic city. Did I feel daunted or scared by the new place? Naturally, I did. Any insinuation, in my part, that I did not would be a big lie. It was hard to negotiate New York City, but it was also exciting to create a new self there during the tumultuous 60's. I was part of the lore of the period. I did what everybody else did—protest the Vietnam war (skipping classes to protest the war was fun), go to the Filmore East to hear rock bands, and suffer through and never really understand the assassination of Jack and Robert Kennedy and also Martin Luther King. I also lived the hippie life and dressed like those degenerates of the 60's who were supposed to be only interested in pot and sex. That was the media portrayal of my generation and what our parents believed we were doing. Naturally, all these claims were wildly exaggerated. We were just trying to create our space like every new generation does. There is nothing wrong with it, and since I am addressing BDIC students I know that you are aware of what I am talking about. For all of you, academic life means creating new spaces of knowledge and blurring the boundaries that exist between disciplines.

In spite of all the temptations of the 60's I survived the decade without any visible scars. For that I have to thank my cautious nature, I told you I was a bore and had a strict upbringing based on strong family values. My four years in a seminary back in Portugal probably had some impact on the person that I was during the 60's or still am today, but more than anything else my seminary life gave me, I believe, the opportunity to get an education in Portugal, a country where only the very rich had that opportunity. In the United States, once again, I had the opportunity to pursue the education that I desired and that my folks felt was the only inheritance they wanted to leave to their kids. They did realize their dream, although my father was not around to see it.

In New York City, after finishing high school, I decided to attend Queens College where I got my BA and MA in both Spanish and Portuguese literature. Not only was I the first one in my family to go to high school (and I am talking about all my extended family) but also I was the first to finish college. When I went to college I never had any intention of becoming what I am today, a college professor. However, life sometimes takes many strange twists and turns and you end up doing something that you had never planned to do. I wanted to be either an engineer or a lawyer. Queens College, my choice of college, did not have an engineering program and in the 60's if you wanted to go to law school you majored in Political Science. My first experience in Political Science was a disaster. I disliked the professor viscerally. He simply turned me off to the subject with his very condescending attitude. To my rescue came a Portuguese and Spanish Professor who suggested that I major in Portuguese and Spanish. My first gut reaction to this guy was: "He has probably gone over the deep end." "What could I do with languages, especially Portuguese?" I remember telling him: "I know Portuguese, I speak it fluently, why





## Director's Corner (continued from page 2)

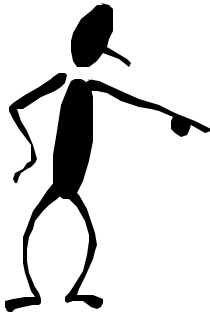
should I study it?" He explained all the pros and cons of studying foreign languages and cultures and he was able to convince me to do something that was beyond my wildest imagination when I decided to enroll in college. Eventually, I did go on to get a Master's and a Ph.D. in Portuguese and Spanish literatures. I guess Professor Raymond Sayers was indeed very convincing in that my second year in college. If he had not come into my life in the middle 60's, I am certain that I would not be here today doing what I doing, that is, recreating myself in paper and enjoying myself in the process. The roads that we travel in order to feel part of the large constellation of human beings are strange indeed. The echoes of those roads remain in our memory bank, but unlike the words that continuously reverberate, those roads cannot persecute us for we will never be able to travel through again. There are only new roads to travel in the world!



### !!! Study Carrels !!!



We have many study carrels in the library available for BDIC students for the Fall semester. If you are interested, please see Vickie at BDIC.



## BDIC PEER ADVISOR NEWS

There are some changes among the peer advisor population this fall since many of our last year's peer advisors graduated last May. Ashley Rose and Jen Nesbit are the only "old" peer advisors continuing. All the others are new, yet they already seem so proficient in their advising it seems like they've been here for many semesters. In case you've never met Ashley, her concentration focuses on holistic approaches to health. She became inspired to go in this direction after volunteering at an

orphanage in the Dominican Republic. She will travel to Nepal over winter break to do research on Tibetan medicine. Jen Nesbit also became inspired to pursue her chosen field of social work when she was volunteering at the same orphanage in the Dominican Republic. Jen plans to attend graduate school for social work after completing her BDIC degree. Brian Surette joined BDIC over the summer as both an office assistant and peer advisor. He helped to put together our alumni newsletter and other publications. Brian is a double major in English and BDIC with a concentration in Integrated Economics. Megan Snyder began her work as a peer advisor this fall. Through her concentration in Sustainable Building Design and Energy Conservation Strategies, Megan is focusing on the environmental impacts of architectural design, construction, and performance. Moira Noonan is also a new peer advisor. She is concentrating through BDIC on the subject of Social Change. Moira has worked extensively with the Alternative Spring Break program helping to construct dwellings in

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**BDIC**  
**University of Massachusetts**  
**608 Goodell**  
**Amherst, MA 01003**

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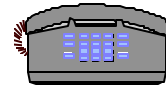
**Fall 1999 Newsletter**

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**BDIC**

## **Spring, 2001 Pre-Registration**



Spring 2001 telephone pre-registration extends between November 9 and 21. All BDIC students must pick up a RAC code by meeting with Linda Roney in order to pre-register. Students planning to graduate in May, 2001 and anyone who has been notified of a credit hold need to make a personal appointment with Linda. A sign-up sheet will be posted inside the BDIC office at 608 Goodell, or if it is more convenient, you can call 545-2504 and ask to be added to the appointment list.

For those students graduating after May, 2001, there will be pre-registration advising sessions on Thursday, 11/9 and Monday, 11/13 at 4 p.m. in 608 Goodell. It will be possible to pick up your RAC at that time. If you wish to have an individual advising appointment, you are encouraged to schedule one as well.

No RACs will be given out over the phone. The reason we have them is to ensure you the benefit of proper advising help.

# BDIC Scholarships and Research Awards



Thanks to the generous gifts of our alumni, BDIC has set up a scholarship and research fund for qualified students. There are also some funds available for study abroad. Recent grants have included an award to Peer Advisor Michael Kubo who went to Amsterdam to complete an architecture study. Another BDIC student, Robert Pagliuco, received a grant to fund his geology project on diamonds. Damon Waitkus and Anna Feder (another Peer Advisor) received awards to help them with the production of film projects. If you wish to apply, please stop by the BDIC office to pick up an application. Deadlines for applications are May 15 (for Summer and Fall study/projects) and October 15 (for Spring projects).



## Late Adds & Withdrawals

Withdrawal period ended Monday, October 30. If you need to add or drop a class, please arrange to see Linda Roney in the BDIC office. All late add and drop requests after October 30 must now be appealed through the deans at Pre-major Advising Services in



## BDIC IS ONLINE



Have you been to BDIC's new and improved web site yet? It can be accessed at the following URL:

<http://www.umass.edu/bdic>

General program information can be found here and students can access and download most BDIC forms and handouts. Please be aware that this site is in the process of being updated by BDIC student Alan Hatta.

\* An updated alumni listing has recently been added to the site.

# Congratulations to Our May and September 2000 Graduates, the first BDIC students to graduate in the year 2000!

## May 2000 Graduates:

**Anthony Addonizio**  
*Business and Entrepreneurial Studies*

**Michelle Archer**  
*Environmental and Civil Rights Law*

**Erik Becker**  
*Earth Living Education and Therapy*

**Melanie Beherrell**  
*Environmental Elementary Education Focus Using  
an Interdisciplinary Science and Art Curriculum*

**Aaron Brandes**  
*Understanding Thought and Expression to Shift  
Paradigms of Conformity*

**Joseph Chaves**  
*Computer Information Systems*

**Jeremy Copeland**  
*Entrepreneurial Studies / Spanish*

**Shauna Dillard**  
*Eastern Medicine and Philosophy*

**Anna Feder**  
*Film Analysis and Technique*

**Jaime Flores**  
*The African Diaspora*

**Jeremy Gaucher**  
*Arts Administration*

**Emanuela Giangregorio**  
*European Political Economics, Languages and  
Law*

**Sarah Willow Hall**  
*Non-Fiction Writing*  
**Wendy Hernandez**  
*Human Resource Management*



**Matthew Jimenez**  
*Landscaping and Garden  
Center Management*

**Dawn Kennedy**  
*Art, Art Education, Women's Studies and  
Psychology*

**Michael Kubo**  
*Architecture*

**Jeremy Lakota**  
*Technical Writing*

**Edward Lanza**  
*Creative Composition*

**Mali Lipchik**  
*American Studies*

**Monty Mack**  
*Secondary / Urban Education*

**Brendan Mahan**  
*Creative Writing*

**Elena Maltese-Blount**  
*Project and Stage Management*

**Damon Maulucci**  
*Filmmaking*

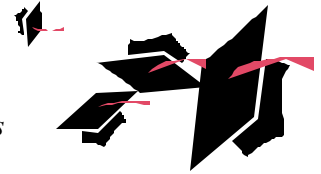
**Michelle McDonald**  
*Performing Arts Therapy*

**Eddy Mejia**  
*Management Information Systems Technology*

**Aaron Messelaar**  
*Ethnomusicology*

**Lawrence Muhammad**

## More 2000 Graduates



*Exercise Management*

**Andrew Pasquale**  
*Biogeography, Ecology, and Sustainability*

**Vincent Pepi**  
*International Business with a Focus in East Asia*

**Kendra Porter**  
*Promotional Marketing Management*

**Lauren Radovich**  
*Language and the Body*

**Daniel Sigel**  
*Theater Marketing*

**Benjamin Swire**  
*Media Arts*

**James Tamis**  
*Film Production*

**Garvin Tran**  
*Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science*

**Jacqueline Truckey**  
*Creative Writing in Multi-Genres*

**Sara Mae Varvaro**  
*Creative Writing as a Reflection of American Society*

**Candice Wagner**  
*Psychosomatic Medicine*

**Damon Waitkus**  
*Text in Music Text: Creative Writing with Music Composition*

**Christa Wurm**  
*Outdoor Education*

**Huan Zhang**  
*Computer Graphics and Animation*

**September 2000 Graduates:**

**Marshall Coffy**

*International Business*

**Susan Day**  
*Outdoor Education*

**David Katzoff**  
*Business Communication*

**Sam Kirshteyn**  
*International Business*

**Lindsay Kleeman**  
*Holistic Health: Cross Cultural Health and Alternative Medicine*

**James Marchetti**  
*Political Ecology*

**Jason Martisauskas**  
*Golf Course Management*

**Brian Moses**  
*The Praxis of Innovation*

**Daniel Roelofs**  
*Environmental Film and Video Production*

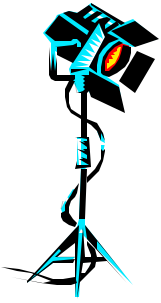
**Emily Servizio**  
*Pre-Naturopathy*

**Dorothy Texeira**  
*Health and Fitness Management*

**Garvin Tran**  
*Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science*

**Lisa Yeisley**  
*Cultural Journalism*





# SPOTLIGHT ON OUR STUDENTS

## Tucker Litchfield and the Art of Glass

By Brian Surette

Tucker Litchfield, a current BDIC student majoring in Glass Design and Culture, first became involved in glass-blowing when Robert Dane, a family friend, hired him to help complete a job for the elementary school in Tucker's hometown of Heath, Massachusetts. Together, Tucker and Robert created glass artwork for the school out of hand-castings and stencils made by the students. Seeing Tucker's skill at working with the glass, Dane took him on as an apprentice, starting Tucker down a path towards being a talented glass-blower in his own right.

Upon entering UMASS, Tucker attended an informational session for undeclared students and had a serendipitous meeting with Linda Roney, the coordinator of BDIC, who encouraged him to pursue his artistic interest through the BDIC program. Deciding that he would like to learn about incorporating cultural forms into his artwork, Tucker designed a concentration entitled 'Glass Design and Culture' that would allow him to study art, the craft of glassblowing, as well as take classes in anthropology, archaeology, and management. In the spring, Tucker will study abroad in Venice, learning more about Italian language and culture studies in the foremost glass-blowing country in the world. He feels he can learn a lot from the original masters of this difficult, and often dangerous, craft.

For those of us unfamiliar with the intricacies of glass-blowing, the process usually involves a team of three expert glass-blowers, furnaces and blowtorches with temperatures ranging up to 2700 degrees Fahrenheit, strong lungs, and an incredibly delicate hand at working the glass as it nears completion. The glass is formed from a carefully measured mixture of sand, lime, and soda-ash, and different chemicals are added to the glass to give it different properties such as lead, which makes the incredibly clear and crystalline glass often seen in jewelry. If you talk to Tucker, he'll seem nonchalant about his skills as a glassblower as he tells you that "Just about anyone can learn it," grinning before he adds, "if they can handle the heat." Tucker certainly seems to be handling himself very well so far, planning after graduation to pursue a career as an independent glass-blower with a shop of his own. We here at BDIC wish him well and hope everyone will get a chance to see Tucker's work at BDIC's first annual holiday art fair on December 7<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00am to 4:00pm, in 608 Goodell.



## Holiday Craft Festival

Come to BDIC's first ever craft festival on Thursday, December 7, 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., in the BDIC Office in 608 Goodell! Many of the students from our arts cluster will be exhibiting their work. There will be a gala atmosphere with music and refreshments.

If you would like to display your art, or you know of another BDIC student who might like to, please let us know. We'd love to have you, either way.