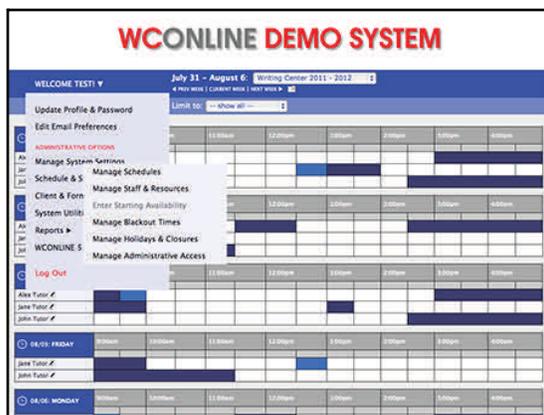# Academic Research & Resources

**The Division of Research and Academic Resources**

## Coming this Fall: Tutor Scheduling Software!



*A screenshot of a demo for the new tutor scheduling software*

Beginning in the fall 2013 semester there will be a new method for students to schedule appointments with tutors. WCONLINE is a scheduling software which will allow students to see a "master schedule" for each week. The schedule can then be narrowed down by subject or by a specific tutor. Students can then schedule an individual appointment with a tutor based on their needs.

The software will also allow students to let tutors know ahead of time if they have any specific concerns they would like addressed in the tutoring session, allowing each tutor to provide a more personalized approach for each student requesting tutoring.

In addition to these benefits, the software will also allow for easier tracking of tutoring needs. Utilizing WCONLINE, the Bashevkin Center will be able to provide more comprehensive tutoring coverage in the subjects most needed by students. Ultimately this will lead to a more efficient and effective tutoring center.

## New Membership for Bay Path:
## The Council on Undergraduate Research

**The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) seeks to support and promote high-quality undergraduate student-faculty collaborative research**

### How does CUR accomplish this?

- CUR works with agencies and foundations to enhance research opportunities for faculty and students. CUR provides support for faculty development.

- CUR provides publications and outreach activities designed to share successful models and strategies for establishing and institutionalizing undergraduate research programs.

- CUR assists administrators and faculty members in improving and assessing the research environment at their institutions.

### What will this mean for Bay Path?

Becoming a member of CUR will open up Bay Path faculty and students to a multitude of new research related experiences. By providing faculty support and an increased number of outside research opportunities, it will now be possible for students to conduct research in a wider variety of academic areas. In addition, CUR will be able to provide Bay Path with a deeper understanding of research best practices and of the long term benefits of undergraduate research.
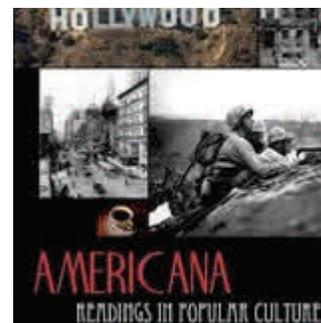
**In this Issue:**

## Congratulations Rich Murphy!

Congratulations are in order for Professor Rich Murphy! In addition to his tireless effort in fostering the writing skills of Bay Path students, he has also been recognized for his own writing skills. "Americana," Rich's book-length manuscript of poems, was recently selected as the winner of the Prize Americana 2013 by The Institute for the Study of American Popular Culture. The manuscript will be published by Press Americana in the near future.

In addition Rich has been invited to be a Fellow at the Bard College Institute for Writing and Thinking. This program has long been considered one of the best institutes for writing in the country and we congratulate Rich for his achievement.

*The American Popular Culture Institute*

## Hatch Library Update

In April we were happy to welcome Susan Tower as the Hatch Library's new Library Associate for Acquisitions, after Eleni Hogan vacated that position and moved across Longmeadow Street to begin a new position in the Bay Path College HR department as Human Resources Coordinator.  Susan is no stranger to Bay Path, as she worked in a more part-time version of her new position here at Hatch between 1998 and 2000.  Before that she worked for several years in a similar position in the library at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington, and after leaving Bay Path, she worked in several roles at the West Warren (MA) Public Library, a small part-time library (open 25 hours per week), including, most recently, library director.

This semester Reference and Instruction Librarian Rachel Alter was accepted as one of only 45 people in the U.S. to participate in ACRL's annual summer immersion program for information literacy librarians.  This program takes a "blended" approach that consists of an initial day-long face to face workshop at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago on June 28, followed by four weeks in an online environment.

Other Hatch librarians also took advantage of various professional development opportunities this semester.  In January Mike Moran attended the ALA Midwinter Conference in Seattle, and in April he served on a NEASC evaluation team at Pine Manor College.  Also in April, Technical Services Librarian Kathleen Staron attended the annual meetings of the New England Technical Services Librarians roundtable and the Massachusetts Library Association.  In June Systems and Reference Librarian Sandy Cahillane will participate in the first WMS Northeast Regional Community Meeting at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA.

### In Case You Missed It...

The video of this year's T. Marc Futter Ethics Program is available for viewing!

♦   DVD available in Hatch

♦   YouTube Link

♦   iTunesU Link

As coordinators this year of Bay Path's T. Marc Futter Program for Ethics in Leadership and Integrity in Action, Hatch librarians were pleased to organize the college's annual spring ethics lecture, which, for the first time, took the form of a panel discussion among three local educators about "Preventing Violence in Our Schools and Beyond."  A modest but enthusiastic audience was very impressed with the contributions of Deanna Suomala, principal of the Washington Elementary School in Springfield, Charlene Korza, school social worker at Granby Junior-Senior High School in Granby, MA, and the Honorable Judith Phillips, Associate Justice of the Hampden County Juvenile Court in Springfield and adjunct faculty member in Bay Path's Legal Studies Department.

The Hatch Library conducted a needs assessment survey of all Bay Path students during the month of April.  We had 227 responses, including 112 traditional undergraduates, 54 One Day undergraduates, 54 graduate students, and 13 undergraduates enrolled in the online degree completion program.  A combined total of 95% of respondents rated the library's overall performance as "excellent" (54%) or "good" (41%).  Most respondents in all groups said they use the library primarily for "research" (80%), and rated the "research databases" as our most valuable service (62%).  When asked if our building "has enough of the right kind of space to meet your needs," only a slight majority (58%) said "yes," and many added comments recommending changes which library staff are already considering and will address in our upcoming (May 17) annual staff retreat, which will focus this year on library space issues.

## General Title III Updates

Throughout the Spring 2013 semester, Bay Path's Title III teams have met on a regular basis developing plans for grant implementation.

Catok has been selected at the home for our new Learning Commons with renovations to begin this summer.

Our Title III External Evaluators visited the college in April to examine the progress we have made and to offer suggestions on how to proceed. Both External Evaluators were impressed with the progress made thus far, finding our implementation "masterful."
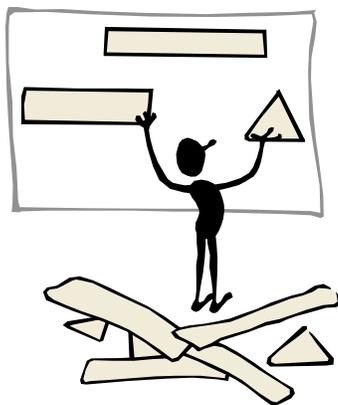
## Title III Update: WELL

The WELL/Leadership & Career Planning sub-committees continue to work towards the goals of designing the introductory WELL class, beginning to infuse career planning throughout the Bay Path undergraduate experience, and creating a leadership model. The first WELL course (WEL100 for traditional students and WEL220 for SPAS students) is tweaked, and accompanying WELL experiences, including lectures, workshops, and other supplemental activities are designed to foster the acclimation to college academics, enhance learning, and prime students for ongoing leadership development.

The leadership model, like the WELL program, is structured to provide various opportunities at developmentally-appropriate stages for both traditional or One Day learners. Leadership opportunities, such as mentoring, tutoring, service learning experiences, and career exploration opportunities are available to students to enable them to envision themselves and develop as leaders of self and leaders of others.

The Advising & Retention Sub-committee narrowed down the search for the Coordinator of Advising & Retention to two finalists. A Coordinator should be selected by early June.

## Title III Update: Course Redesign



Course redesign teams focused their efforts in April and early May on outlining plans to pilot sections of their courses in Fall 2013. In total, ten course sections of Math 104, Math 120, Bio 109/111, Psych 101, and Eng 114 will participate in redesign pilots. Piloted sections will be led exclusively by full-time faculty members who will conduct formative evaluation of their plans and make improvements to them before training adjunct faculty in the new approaches.  All pilot sections will make use of iPads, and will therefore be limited to first-year traditional students as part of Bay Path's iPad mobile learning initiative.

Biology 109/111, Psychology 101 and Writing 114 will all adopt electronic textbooks that can be accessed in class via iPads, and will implement class assignments using iPad apps. Math 104 and 120 will integrate MyMathLab and MyStatsLab apps for the iPad as soon as they become available, which is anticipated to be late in 2013. All teams are creating electronic learning resources and/or online resource repositories for their faculty.
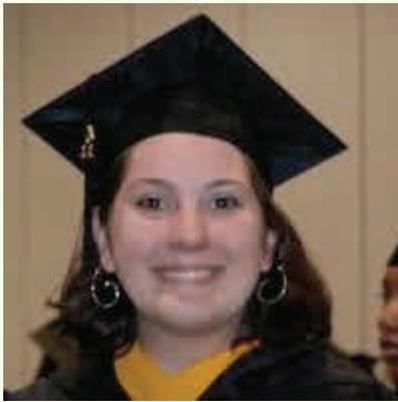
Psych 101 and Eng 114 will incorporate Learning Commons lab sessions supported by student learning assistants (SLAs), while Eng 114, Bio 109/11, and Math 104 will integrate student learning assistants into regular class sessions. Psych 101 and Bio 109/111 will significantly change their class schedules and formats in order to "flip" their courses to enable increased classroom discussion and hands-on activities.

## Title III Update: The BPC iPad Initiative

Beginning in February, Bay Path College began training a group of faculty and staff on the use of iPads in higher education. This initiative, part of our Title III grant, directly relates to Bay Path's commitment to reforming the general core curriculum, specifically by introducing faculty and staff to alternate active-learning methods. The first 20 faculty and staff members selected for training are part of either the first year course redesign teams or instructors in the WELL Program. 20 more faculty and staff members related to the second course redesign cohort will receive iPads and will be trained by EdTech Teacher beginning in August 2013. The workshops include 3 days of hands-on workshops, online courses, and synchronous webinars.



*Photo from EdTech Teacher iPad Summit USA 2012*

## Congratulations Kristen!

It is with great pride and considerable sadness that we bid goodbye to our Graduate Assistant, Kristen Elsner, as she receives her Master's Degree in Forensics this year.

Kristen has been our Division's Graduate Assistant for two years. During that time she has proven herself to be an indispensable asset to the Division. Her understanding of research and her attention to detail has been crucial in developing the research application process. Kristen was responsible for single-handedly creating and maintaining the original Division website  When the Division site was revised this year Kristen played a major part in this revision. Kristen's cheerful demeanor and infectious laugh will be greatly missed next year.

The entire Division wishes Kristen the best of luck in the future!

*Kristen Elsner*

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# Congratulations Bay Path Class of 2013!!

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