Opening a Path to the Heights
Donors make the dream of BC a reality.

My Beacon
The University continues to light the way for families.

Giving with Purpose
The Morses’ philanthropy impacts the Heights.

On to Greater Heights
Athletics plans for new levels of excellence.

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BC welcomes a state-of-the-art rec center.

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The inspiration behind the Lynch Leadership Academy.
WHERE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT MEETS BC VALUES

THE STRAKOSCH VENTURE COMPETITION INSPIRES AND SUPPORTS UNDERGRADUATE ENTREPRENEURS.
To Boston College Board of Regents members Greg ’84 and Peggy Strakosch ’85, BC’s motto, “Ever to Excel,” and entrepreneurship go hand in hand. “But an innovation ecosystem requires nurturing,” says Greg, executive chairman and cofounder of TechTarget, a leading online information technology media company.

Ardent supporters of the Carroll School of Management, the Strakosch family have made a significant gift to name the Strakosch Venture Competition, a University-wide business plan competition designed to promote and support entrepreneurship, in perpetuity. The Strakosch family were among the first alumni to invest in entrepreneurship in the Carroll School of Management.

“Students are running viable businesses out of their residence halls—the 2018 winner just took a $50,000 order from his dorm room,” says Greg. “This kind of activity is important for the local economy, and it’s vital for our country as a whole.”

Over the last five years, the vast majority of participants in the venture competition have scaled up their ideas into actual companies. What makes the BC entrepreneurship ethos so powerful, as the Strakosch family see it, is the integration of Jesuit, Catholic values into the DNA of ventures launched by alumni.

“BC entrepreneurs treat their employees with respect, they interact productively with the community, and they drive innovations that make positive contributions to society,” says Greg. “None of that happens by accident,” he says. “It flows from BC’s distinct tradition of educating the whole person and exhorting students to be men and women for others.”
OPENING A PATH TO THE HEIGHTS

THE ROGERS FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP MAKES THE DREAM OF BC A REALITY.

The gift of hope is a powerful one. This rings especially true for Boston College Board of Regents member Mike Rogers ’79 and his wife Janet ’79, MSW’84, who say they were fortunate enough to graduate from BC without a single student loan. And to them, no student should be denied that opportunity.

“I would have been heartbroken if I had had to go to another school because I couldn’t afford BC,” says Mike, former president and chief operating officer at State Street Corporation. Mike fondly remembers cheering on the Eagles from Chestnut Hill with his father, who was also an alum. “I really never wanted to go to college anywhere else,” he says.

But the math of higher education has changed drastically, he says. Today, the average need-based financial aid package exceeds $40,000 per academic year at BC, and nearly seven out of 10 undergraduates receive some form of financial aid.

“Higher education is a great equalizer, and Boston College has a very special role in that project,” says Mike. “We want to create every possible opportunity for kids who wouldn’t otherwise be able to afford it to excel at BC.”

So when the Rogers family found themselves in a position to give back, they directed one of their multimillion-dollar gifts to initiate the Rogers Family Cornerstone Scholarship at BC, which has secured the BC experience for students like Gabby Hart ’19.

“I feel blessed to walk this campus and to have the opportunity to use what I learn at BC to help the world in many different ways in the future,” says Gabby. “My four years here would not have been possible without [the Rogers].” To date, the Rogers have funded 27 scholarships.

“We know that every student we support will have the opportunity to make a difference in their field thanks to their BC education,” says Mike.

Below: Each year, BC brings student scholarship recipients together with BC philanthropists for an evening that celebrates the power of financial aid.
The Parents’ Leadership Council (PLC) is a group of deeply engaged parents who have distinguished themselves as leaders at Boston College through their annual philanthropic support of the University. Members of the PLC connect with one another and with BC’s academic and administrative leaders through special communications and campus and regional activities grounded in our Jesuit, Catholic mission.

MY BEACON

MEMBERS OF THE PARENTS’ LEADERSHIP COUNCIL REFLECT ON HOW BOSTON COLLEGE CONTINUES TO LIGHT THE WAY FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

JEANNINE AND B.J. AGGUIGLIO’86, P’21

“We’ve always supported Boston College with our time and treasure, but having our son at BC has deepened our connection even further. Faith, family, and intellectual rigor combined with a drive to serve—it all comes together in a way that makes us grateful to be engaged at this level.”

TANYA M. COZZARELLI AND JUAN PABLO BENAVIDES, P’22

“By being part of the PLC, you really understand what Boston College is about—its philosophy, programs, and goals—and that gives us the ability to better communicate with our son and guide him. And as our involvement with the school grows we, too, grow as parents.”

LIZANNE ’86 AND JOHN KENNEY ’87, P’18, ’22

“Our son and daughter cherished the depth of engagement with professors and the passion for service to others that’s integral to the BC experience. BC is an ideal place for young people to mature and set their course for life.”

Lizanne and John Kenney also serve as Board of Regents members.

PEARL WU AND JAMES YAN, P’21

“We’re continually inspired by the dedication of our fellow council members, and we treasure the lasting bonds we’ve forged through our work together in support of transformative educational opportunities.”

TANYA M. COZZARELLI AND JUAN PABLO BENAVIDES, P’22

“By being part of the PLC, you really understand what Boston College is about—its philosophy, programs, and goals—and that gives us the ability to better communicate with our son and guide him. And as our involvement with the school grows we, too, grow as parents.”

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

We invite you to learn more about the benefits of joining the Parents’ Leadership Council.

BC.EDU/PARENTS LEADERSHIP
GIVING WITH PURPOSE

NEAR OR FAR, THE MORSE FAMILY KEEPS BC AND ITS STUDENTS CLOSE TO THEIR PHILANTHROPIC MISSION.

Tim ’91 and Julie Skalinski-Morse ’91 approach every single one of their philanthropic efforts with one question in mind: “Where can we make the biggest difference?”

And for this, they say they have BC to thank.

“BC opened our minds to exploring the world, exploring ourselves, and seeing how we fit into it all and how we could add value,” says Tim.

LEFT: Surrounded by Eagles and parents of Eagles, Tim Morse interacts with his guests.
With great determination to “set the world aflame” after graduation, the couple embarked on travel across North America, Europe, and Asia in pursuit of making the most significant philanthropic impact possible. Tim says his Jesuit, Catholic education gave him the soft skills that helped him rise to lead Bay-area tech startups and industry giants like Yahoo! and General Electric Company. In 2015, he was named CEO of Ten-X, an online real estate marketplace, where he oversees transforming the buying and selling of real estate.

“BC had prepared me without my knowing it,” says Tim. “Looking at the world with an open mind, always asking ‘How can I add value to this situation?’ is a perfect mindset for the leader of a tech company.”

Deeply motivated by BC’s mission and its Jesuit, Catholic heritage, the Morses knew the greatest philanthropic impact they could make would be back home at the Heights.

To invest in the transformational experience BC offers its future leaders, the Morses established a fund in partnership with the University’s Montserrat program, a keystone initiative that provides students who face financial hardship with equal access to the plethora of formative BC opportunities often not covered in a financial aid package. Montserrat breathes life into cura personalis, care for the whole person, by empowering its more than 1,400 students with emotional, social, and academic counsel and access to formative service, reflection, and socialization opportunities that are “integral to a holistic educational experience because they open students’ minds,” says Tim.

“We love BC’s worldview, its guiding principles, the people it produces, and the good they are doing in the world,” he adds. “It’s the full BC experience that produces well-rounded, creative, and collaborative individuals who light the world.”

BC opened our minds to exploring the world, exploring ourselves, and seeing how we fit into it all and how we could add value.

Tim Morse ’91

LEFT: Julie and Tim Morse in their garden in Pleasanton, California. TOP RIGHT: Julie and Tim Morse met at BC during their freshman year. RIGHT: The Morses (right) sit with guests. BELOW: Tim Morse addresses a gathering of BC alums and parents at his Pleasanton home during an Always an Eagle event.
ON TO GREATER HEIGHTS

BC Launches $150 Million Campaign that will Propel Athletics to New Levels of Excellence.
In every game, every match, and every event, Boston College William V. Campbell Director of Athletics Martin Jarmond wants opponents to know they will have a fight on their hands.

“We need to vigorously pursue the resources necessary to boost our competitive excellence,” he says. That starts with a “world-class infrastructure and support systems for athletics—physically and programmatically” to develop Boston College Athletics into an elite contender.

And for Jarmond, there’s no better day to start than today. On September 27, 2018, together with Boston College President William P. Leahy, S.J., Jarmond announced the University’s first-ever strategic athletics plan and the largest athletics campaign of any ACC institution, Greater Heights: The Campaign for Boston College Athletics.

The announcement comes after two major program upgrades: the 100-percent donor-funded Fish Field House, named in recognition of a leadership gift from former BC Board of Trustees Chairman and current Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Board of Regents Chairman John Fish, and the 244,000-square-foot Margot Connell Recreation Center, named in recognition of a leadership gift from BC Trustee Associate Margot C. Connell, H’09, which will open in the summer of 2019.

“Our time is now,” said Jarmond. BC is one of only four NCAA Division I institutions with more than 25 sponsored sports, an athletics budget of at least $50 million, and an enrollment of more than 5,000 students.

“If we want to take BC Athletics to even greater heights, then we need to build on the current energy and momentum and get the buy-in of our alumni, parents, former athletes, and corporate partners to support our efforts.”

The strategic plan aims to further develop academic support programs for student-athletes; expand athletic, academic, and personal growth opportunities for student-athletes; and utilize BC’s extensive alumni
network to facilitate career readiness and postgraduate opportunities.

“We want to provide experiences that will develop them into great citizens and leaders and prepare them for life after BC,” says Jarmond, “with the goal of placing 100 percent of our student-athletes upon graduation.”

In addition, the strategic plan seeks to strengthen competitive excellence by setting high goals for all 31 of BC’s varsity teams; recruiting and developing the best coaches and student-athletes; achieving top-25 rankings in football and men’s basketball; and building sports analytics capabilities that utilize data and insights to improve performance.

The strategic plan also calls for enhancing facilities in Conte Forum to address the needs of BC’s men’s and women’s basketball and hockey programs; adding additional space for player development for baseball and softball within the Harrington Athletics Village on the Brighton Campus; and renovating locker rooms and enhancing strength and conditioning, sports medicine, and nutrition areas for BC’s Olympic sports.

And most importantly, for donors and fans, the plan aims to elevate the game-day experience for all BC venues.

“Outside of our student-athletes, our fans are our most important asset,” said Jarmond. “Our focus is on how we make things easier for our fans to be engaged and create a deeper connection.”

Jarmond says: “It is a new day for BC Athletics, and I am very excited about our future.”
On game day, you’ll often find BC Trustee Associate Margot C. Connell, H’09, and three generations of Connells rallying at the BC tailgate, filled with spirit, pride, and support for Eagles athletes. “BC is a special place that has a warmth, a charisma, that you don’t feel anywhere else,” Margot told BC.

A mother of six BC graduates and grandmother of 17, which include two current BC students, Margot wanted to provide an outlet for students engaged in the rigorous demands of a BC education. In honor of her family and her late husband, William F. Connell ’59, Margot bestowed on BC a gift of $50 million to construct the Margot Connell Recreation Center, a 244,000-square-foot, four-story facility, which will open in the summer of 2019. The new center will replace the Flynn Recreation Complex.

“Our family is delighted that the new center will embody the inclusive spirit of the BC community,” Margot told BC. “Sports have always been a big part of our family, and Bill and I always felt that sports and recreation provided a physical outlet for students that is very important.”

Key features of the Margot Connell Recreation Center include:
- Individual and group training areas
- Aquatics center with lap and instructional pools
- Three-sided climbing wall and bouldering wall
- Gymnasium for basketball, volleyball, badminton, fencing, and general recreation
- Tennis courts
- Multi-activity courts with recessed goals and player boxes for club and intramural matches
- Indoor jogging track
- Mind-body studio
- Multipurpose rooms for group fitness classes
- Spin studio

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED
We invite you to explore more than 25 naming opportunities at the Margot Connell Recreation Center and other ways you can make an impact. BC.EDU/MARGOTS

A GAME CHANGER
THE MARGOT CONNELL RECREATION CENTER WILL BE STATE OF THE ART.
Why have you targeted pre-K through 12th-grade leadership with your philanthropy?
My late wife, Carolyn, and I were greatly concerned by the enormous quality gap between preschool and undergraduate-level education. Our country has world-class colleges and universities, but there are more than 45 million children in our public elementary and high schools today, and only half are getting a decent education.

The vast majority of these students receiving a poor education are from urban settings. Carolyn and I both went to public schools and received excellent educations. Carolyn’s father was a teacher, principal, and superintendent of public schools. Public school leaders are talented, passionate individuals, but the poor support, inadequate resources, and lack of guidance they receive set them up for failure.

What do you consider to be the signature achievement of the Lynch Leadership Academy (LLA)?
We believe that quality public education is a critical civil right. We cannot guarantee that civil right to all children unless we improve the capabilities of school leaders.

In the first eight years of the academy, we have mentored 171 leaders across three sectors—59 percent district, 18 percent parochial, 23 percent charter—who are responsible for 70,000-plus students in under-resourced communities. Five sitting superintendents in the Greater Boston area are alums of the program.

Since 1988, LLA has supported more than 80 organizations that help disadvantaged young people, and our foundation is in the top 5 percent of all these highly efficient organizations.

How can the Leadership Academy fulfill Ignatius of Loyola’s call to “go and set the world aflame?”
We have a critical shortage of school leaders, and many will retire over the next two to 10 years. The LLA has committed to creating a leadership pipeline—35 percent of all the principals trained by the academy have been aspiring principals who have now taken on leadership roles—and LLA alumni are outstanding principals. What we are doing works, but it must be executed with precision.

Training and supporting high-performing principals is not just a Massachusetts solution; it should be replicated across the country in cities such as St. Louis, Miami, Cleveland, New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, Indianapolis, and dozens of other places.

The Lynch School of Education and Human Development and the Carroll School of Management gave us the ability to prove the concept, and every grant has the potential to improve the lives of thousands of students in areas of greatest economic need.