



BABSON/OLIN/WELLESLEY THREE COLLEGE COLLABORATION

Annual Report

2014

Special points of interest:

- New BOW Programs
- BOW Social events
- Special Section: Faculty Connections Testimonials
- Cross-Registration
- Student Ambassadors
- Faculty Fellows

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BOW Leadership Welcomes New Faces in 2014

BOW governance includes a Joint Faculty Steering Committee that saw a change of the guard in 2014. The Committee meets regularly with the provosts, administrative director and program coordinator to assure continuity and institutional support. Each committee member serves as the point person on their respective campus for communication and dialogue about the Collaboration.

In its inaugural year, the FSC was made up of Babson's **Vikki Rodgers**, Olin's **Jean Huang**, and Wellesley's **Ted Ducas**.

In 2014, the FSC spearheaded the Faculty Connections Program, approved nearly \$20,000 in Innovation Grants, helped to develop the Curricular Innova-

tion Fellows Program, and participated in a historic Conversation with the BOW Presidents and Provosts.



Babson's Fred Nanni and Rick Cleary

In June, BOW saw the departure of longtime Collaboration promoter Dennis Hanno as he assumed his new role as president of Wheaton College. In the Fall, we welcomed Babson Provost **Fred Nanni**. His experience, combined with his enthusiasm for the Collaboration and its work, allowed him

to quickly impact BOW initiatives alongside Provosts **Vin Manno** (Olin) and **Andy Shennan** (Wellesley).

In December, Vikki Rodgers stepped off of the BOW FSC to grant her the ability to share her expertise with other committees and to assist with the development of courses. Her efforts, insight and commitment are certainly missed by all members of the BOW leadership. Fortunately, Vikki knew of colleague **Rick Cleary's** commitment to BOW, recommending him to Babson Provost, Fred Nanni.¹ Rick's face has been a familiar one at BOW events throughout his time at Babson—we welcome his enthusiasm and experience to the Steering Committee.

New BOW Cross-Registration Webpage

After a year-long process of collecting information and feedback from various BOW constituents including Registrars, Provosts, students and faculty, a new BOW Cross-Registration page is available.

The site includes college-specific information for stu-

dents seeking to cross-register at a BOW school. Among the features of the website is a **BOW mini-course catalog** which outlines the most popular courses students cross-register for at BOW schools.

Also available are other supplemental resources like [academic calendars](#), a list of [FAQs](#), the BOW [shuttle schedule](#), campus [maps](#) and information about BOW certificate and degree [programs](#).

[www.bow3colleges.org/
BOWCrossReg](http://www.bow3colleges.org/BOWCrossReg)

1. Effective 7/1/15, Fred Nanni will return as Professor of Management Accounting. Professor Emeritus Gordon Prichett has agreed to serve as Acting Provost.

Innovation Grants Awarded



BOW was pleased to offer two rounds of Presidential Innovation Grants in 2014-15—one in the Fall, the other in the Spring.

All proposals were reviewed by the three college Provosts, BOW administration,

and the BOW Faculty Steering Committee.

A total of \$20,098 was awarded.

Projects ranged from student initiatives—club funding and shuttle hours; to academic projects—

development of a GPS system for blind sailors; to cultural events—a collaborative musical event.

For a full list of projects and their descriptions, please click [here](#).

Are you a club leader? Collaborate with clubs from the other campuses and you can receive extra club funding! More info here: <http://tinyurl.com/bowclubs>

BOW Grant Funds Club Events

Olin's **Shane Skikne** '15 applied for an Innovation Grant in January 2015. Seeking to offer a way for clubs at individual BOW schools to come together for joint events, Skikne hoped to provide a simplified way to distribute funds for that purpose.

The following BOW events were funded by this grant:

- Kickoff event to unite club presidents
- SLACfest at Olin
- Intercollegiate Adventurers Conference
- Screening of The Hunting Ground at Wellesley
- Planning meeting for joint BOW Model UN
- Gathering of eTower and The Foundry

BOW Shuttle Changes

Recognizing that access to reliable transportation is an essential building block for collaboration between the three colleges, BOW approved a pilot program to increase shuttle hours for Tuesday and Thursday evenings and approved an

Innovation Grant to offer Saturday shuttle hours.

The [increased hours](#) were implemented to help facilitate academic pursuits (study sessions, group project meetings), extra-curricular activities (orchestra, clubs), and

social events (e.g. BOW-entire's Day Party).

At BOW's final administrative meeting in May, BOW approved funding for these additional weekday and weekend hours for the 2015-16 Academic Year.



BOW Student Ambassadors

One of the main goals for BOW during the 2014-15 academic year was to seek out feedback from the BOW student body.

In October 2014, a group of students interested in BOW issues met at Olin for a brainstorming session to identify the ways that BOW is serving its students and the ways in which BOW could further meet student needs. After this meeting,

BOW began a pilot program aimed at identifying a student ambassador from each school in order to continue to facilitate communication between all three colleges' student bodies and the BOW administration.

Babson's **Arjun Rajesh** '18, Olin's **Ian Hill** '17, and Wellesley's **Katherine Tran** '15 served as the first-ever BOW ambassadors for 2014-15. Under their guidance,

BOW students met once again in the April at Wellesley College to continue the discussion about building upon the strengths of BOW students and improving infrastructure in order to allow BOW to thrive.

The 2015-16 BOW student ambassadors are Babson's **Christina Xiao** '17, Olin's **Maggie Jakus** '18, and a Wellesley representative that will be named in the Fall.

Wintersession 2015: Acera School

The BOW Wintersession Project is a chance for students to work intensively with other students from Babson, Olin, and Wellesley on a project for a non-profit client.

The participants are housed at Babson College and work space is provid-

ed by Olin College. Wellesley College pays for the coordinators stipend, which is \$500.

The 2015 Wintersession program took place from January 5th-16th.

Wintersession Coordinators Olin's **Ariana Chae** '15, Babson's **Manusha**

Cherreddy '16, and Wellesley's **Elena Shaw** '15 worked with nine fellow BOW students on an intense two-week project for the **Acera School**, a K-8 school in Winchester, MA that emphasizes collaboration, creativity, leadership, critical thinking and problem solving.

Participants worked to create a plan for a new high school.

For more details about the project and a video of their presentation to BOW Faculty and Staff, click [here](#).

"Though initially very difficult, it was an experience that taught me the different ways of effective communication and collaboration with people from other colleges/backgrounds. Being in a pseudo-professional role of a consultant also gave me a taste of what this field of work can be like and that was very helpful in preparation for my future career plans."

-Wintersession Participant



BOW students present their work to Acera and BOW faculty & staff



Curricular Innovation Fellows Program

The Fellows Program goals are to cultivate creative and collaborative teaching across Babson, Olin and Wellesley Colleges with the ultimate goal of generating innovative new courses and teaching formats across the three insti-

tutions.

The program is open to faculty from Babson, Olin and Wellesley Colleges who want to take advantage of the schools' complementary curricula to create innovative approaches to student learning and

problem solving and to provide students with the tools to work across disciplines.

Faculty who participate in this program will be known as BOW Curricular Innovation Fellows.

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Are you offering an event that is open to the BOW community?

Use [#BOWevent](#) when advertising on social media.

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

Faculty Social at The Local

BOW hosted it's first-ever off-campus Faculty Social this Spring at The Local on Forest Street in Wellesley.

Attended by over 30 faculty members from all three BOW schools, faculty had the opportunity to engage in casual conversations and connect over beverages and tasty d'oeuvres.

Feedback from those who attended was overwhelmingly positive and has resulted in the planning of another, larger event that will include BOW staff.



Staff Connections Program

Modeled after our successful Faculty Connections Program (see pages 6-7), the Collaboration has begun collecting requests for participation in a [Staff Connections Program](#).

together for informal gatherings over lunch or drinks at a college venue of their choosing. Groups will be formed based on common interests such as outdoor enthusiasts, book club, sports enthusiasts, and more.

Interested in joining?

Fill out this [questionnaire](#)

The program will allow staff from the three colleges to come to-

Perhaps most enticing: the Collaboration will buy your lunch!



Curricular Fellows, cont.

BOW Curricular Innovation Fellows will be awarded a \$3,000 stipend for their curriculum development work which will, in most cases, occur over the summer.

The first round of applications has been reviewed and the BOW Provosts have awarded funding to two proposals:

Wellesley's **Veronica Darer** and Olin's **Yevgeniya Zastavker** for *Diverse Learners, Diverse Teachers: The Effect of Cultural Variables on Learning and Teaching*

and Olin's **Jonathan Adler** and Babson's **Beth Wynstra** for *Constructing and Performing the Self*.

Visit the BOW Webpage for more information about becoming a Fellow or click [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE

BOW FACULTY & STAFF SOCIAL AT The Local

SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 5:00-7:00 PM

Watch your email and the [BOW Webpage](#) for RSVP info in August.

Sustainability Certificates Awarded

The Sustainability Certificate Program seeks to educate students to make use of the skills, tools, and concepts from the liberal arts, business,

and engineering to address environmental challenges and work to move individuals and society to more sustainable practices.

This year's recipients were:

Babson: Hannah Elisabeth Esberg

Olin: Elizabeth Séllos-Moura Mahon

Huanzhen David Zhu

Riva Kahn Hallock

Sharon Elizabeth Grimshaw

David Pudlo

Wellesley: Ji Qing Jeany Wu



As part of the BOW Faculty Connections program, **Rebecca Christianson** (Applied Physics, Olin College), **Katie Goodall** (Environmental Studies, Wellesley College) and **Dessi Pachamano** (Operations Research and Business Analytics, Babson College) have been meeting over lunches to help develop closer connections between the three schools. They have found through their conversations that they have much in common. Discussions have ranged across varied topics including children and work-life balance, job search and promotion processes, and class design and student assessment. These meetings have allowed these three faculty to help each other and develop friendship and understanding which spans the three campuses.

Interested in forming your own Faculty Connections group?

Email Jessica McCarthy

“The BOW faculty connections program has been a great way to keep in touch with faculty from the Three Colleges. We find a time to meet at least twice a term to catch up over lunch. Often times we’ll end up sharing anything from successful teaching strategies to the challenges in teaching and research that we are all facing. It’s a fun way to maintain a network across BOW, which is an amazing network of colleagues and scholars.”

—Jean Huang, Olin College



Thanks to the BOW collaboration, **Yevgeniya Zastavker** (Associate Professor of Physics at Olin College) and **Verónica Darer** (Senior Lecturer in Spanish at Wellesley College) have been working together on various research projects. Their projects have included discourse analysis studies of classroom interactions and teamwork, the results of which were pre-

sented at the two latest FIE Conferences in Oklahoma City, OK, and Madrid, Spain. Their latest longitudinal study of teamwork is currently underway and a work-in-progress paper entitled **Using Discourse Analysis and Self-Reflection to Improve Undergraduate Engineering Team Experiences** will be presented at the Annual National Association of Research on Science Teaching (NARST) Conference in Chicago in

April. Over the course of last two years, Zastavker and Darer advised 6 students from Olin, Wellesley, and the Cooper Union. Their partnership has been a rich learning and teaching experience. In the very near future, Professors Zastavker and Darer, with support of other BOW faculty, plan to co-teach a course that allows students to glean the exciting possibilities of understanding educational challenges through multiple perspectives.

Special Section: Faculty Connections Program Update

BOW Writing Group

Junior faculty from Babson College, Olin College, and Wellesley College have formed a BOW Writing Group for the purpose of supporting their scholarship. Members meet at least once a

month over lunch to discuss their progress, offer support and encouragement to one another, and to set research and writing goals for what they hope to accomplish before the next meeting. The group has created a shared docu-

ment that it uses to keep a collective record of each member's research and writing goals, to track progress toward these goals, and to share tips and resources.

Because we are at different colleges we bring insights to one another that we wouldn't have had access to otherwise. And we are building personal relationships; this makes the time together productive and fun!

“The BOW writing group is helping me to stay focused and positive about my research and writing goals. There are so many stressors and pressures associated with being a junior faculty member. It's very encouraging to have a supportive environment of colleagues with whom to discuss the challenges we face and to use our collective experience and resources to solve the problems we may be facing. Talking about my research with colleagues from other disciplines is useful to me because it forces me to articulate the goals and findings of my research in a new way, and this reminds me why I'm so excited about the work that I am doing.”

—Angela Bahns, Wellesley College

“Meeting with my BOW group gives me an opportunity to work on my scholarship in a very supportive environment. We are able to exchange tips (e.g., add this type of reference; use this software; have you thought about engaging students in this way?) that have enhanced my research and teaching in a short period of time. Because we are at different colleges we bring insights to one another that we wouldn't have had access to otherwise. And we are building personal relationships; this makes the time together productive and fun!”

—Wiljeana Glover, Babson College

“With the three-hour window of time that we had [during our meeting], I decided to work on an article abstract submission. I was able to spend the time refining my topic, editing the abstract, and I, ultimately, sent the abstract to the editor *that afternoon*. The editor contacted me just a few days later requesting that I submit the article. I now have a plan to submit the full article, "Arresting the Spirit: Renée Stout's *Point of View*, Gun Violence, and the Black Male Stereotype," to *Nka: The Journal of Contemporary African Art* for the Spring 2016 issue. It's helpful to get together with the goal of writing. Not too much talking once it's time to write, but we are together supporting our efforts to *maximize* our time--no matter how long.”

—Nikki Greene, Wellesley College

Association for Collaborative Leadership Regional Meeting

Each spring, BOW Administrative Director, **Joanne Kossuth**, and BOW Program Coordinator, **Jessica McCarthy**, travel to the regional meeting of the Association for Collaborative Leadership. This year, the meeting was hosted at HECCMA in Worcester, MA.



Representing the BOW Collaboration in Worcester—March 2015.

An opportunity to network with and share best practices for area Collaborations, the event always proves to be a clear marker for progress that has been made

and inspiration for future developments.

This year's topics included discussions about cross-registration, communication, transportation, marketing, student activities and plans for future collaboration amongst ACL members.

Next year's meeting will be held in Brooklyn, NY at ACL's newest member's Downtown Brooklyn Consortium.

BOW CONTACT INFORMATION

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