
BOSTON COLLEGE NEIGHBOR

Office of Governmental and Community Affairs

2025

A message from Vice President Tom Keady

Dear Neighbor:

As we embark on academic year 2025-2026, it is once again my pleasure to share the Office of Governmental & Community Affairs' newsletter providing you with information on the selection of Father Jack Butler, S.J. as the 26th president of Boston College, the construction of the Catholic Religious Archives building on the Brighton Campus, as well as the new trio of fall exhibits at the McMullen Museum of Art showcasing medieval and Renaissance Italian paintings, Belgian landscape paintings and photographs from Nobel Prize-winning theoretical chemist Martin Karplus.

Our office looks forward to working with you on various projects and hosting you at an upcoming lecture, concert, athletic event or at the annual Boston College Arts Festival showcasing student art, theater, dance and musical performances. If you have any questions regarding the information in the newsletter, please feel free to contact me or a member of my office staff at (617) 552-4787 or email the office at gca@bc.edu



Rev. John 'Jack' Butler, S.J., named 26th president of Boston College

The Boston College Board of Trustees has named John T. "Jack" Butler, S.J., Haub Vice President for University Mission and Ministry, as Boston College's 26th president. He will succeed University President William P. Leahy, S.J., who will step down in the summer of 2026.

A well-respected and trusted administrator who has served on the president's senior leadership team since 2010, Fr. Butler has played a key role in advancing the University's strategic priorities in formative education, curriculum renewal, and student wellness. He has worked closely with faculty, administrators, students, and alumni to enhance the mission, culture, and heritage of Boston College as a top-ranked Jesuit, Catholic institution of higher education.

One of the architects of formative education at Boston College, which seeks to help integrate the intellectual, religious, social, and affective dimensions of students' lives to assist them to discern their calling and develop their gifts in the service of others, Fr. Butler partners with the provost and vice president for student affairs to further this fundamental element of the BC educational experience. He also was part of the team of institutional leaders and faculty committed to renewing Boston College's Core Curriculum, and has served on the search committees for all senior administrator positions during the past 15 years.



Fr. Butler said he was humbled to be named president and honored to continue the important work of advancing Boston College as the world's leading Jesuit, Catholic university. "I am deeply honored to be named the next president of Boston College, a university that I love and have served for the past 22 years," said Fr. Butler, who began his tenure at Boston College in Campus Ministry in 2002. "I look forward to spending the coming year preparing for the presidency, and I promise to devote myself to continuing BC's upward trajectory and making this great university an even stronger beacon of light and hope for the world.. I look forward to working closely with the BC community so that together we can lead Boston College to even greater heights, ever mindful of the responsibility that has been entrusted in me as the University's next president."

-University Communications

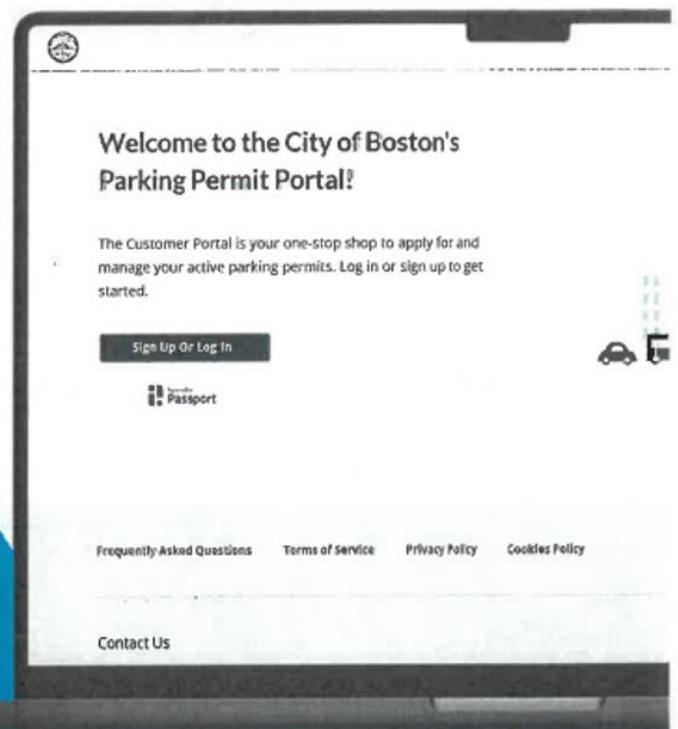
APPLY ONLINE FOR YOUR BC FOOTBALL PARKING PERMIT!

Vehicles must display a BC Stadium Walkshed Permit **or** have a valid Allston/Brighton Resident Parking Permit during enforced parking restrictions on BC football home game days.

Boston College Eagles 2025 Home Game Schedule:

- Saturday, August 30
- Saturday, September 27
- Saturday, October 11, 18
- Saturday, November 1, 8 & 15

Apply online at boston.gov/parkingpermits



Community Assistance Program

Run by the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Students, the Community Assistance Program (CAP) continues to enhance the relationship between our host communities and our on- and off-campus students.

Steve Montgomery, the Off-Campus Stu-

dent Community Liaison, works closely with the Boston, Newton, and BC Police Departments, to respond to disturbance calls and address concerns of the community.

Steve monitors areas where large numbers of off-campus students live on weekend nights (including Thursdays), holidays, home football

games, and other high activity dates during the academic year.

Students needing help with city services, landlords, and their neighbors should feel free to contact the BC Community Assistance Program.

To reach CAP on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday evenings, contact the



Boston College Police at

[617-552-4440](tel:617-552-4440).

You can also contact Steve during the rest of the week at 617-552-6028 or stephen.montgomery@bc.edu

BC to begin construction on Catholic Religious Archives

The Boston Planning and Development Agency has approved the University's plan to construct a Catholic Religious Archives (CRA) facility that will connect to the Theology and Ministry Library on the Brighton Campus. Preliminary site work on the two-story, 44,000 square-foot building began in early January, with an anticipated construction completion date of June 2026.

The CRA will store archival records of Catholic congregations and religious orders of men and women that have ceased or are planning to cease operations, providing an invaluable resource for religious scholars, researchers, and students on the societal effects of the Catholic Church, particularly in the areas of education, health care, and social services. Consisting of 100,000 linear feet of storage space, the CRA will also house limited artwork from religious sources in both the United States and Canada.

"The Catholic Religious Archives will host material that is integral to American history and the history of the Catholic Church in North America," said University Librarian Tom Wall. "We are looking to honor the contributions of these religious orders and to preserve their legacies through professional archival operations and a state-of-the-art facility. Our archives and special collections have greatly benefitted teaching, research, and learning at Boston College. We know that the CRA will offer similar benefits for scholars and students at BC and beyond."

The CRA will be directed by Thomas P. Lester, an experienced archivist who previously served as director of the Archdiocese of Boston Archive and Library. He will work closely with Michael Burns, the founding director of the Catholic Religious Archives and a special assistant to the University Librarian, who has played a key role in the project's evolution.

The University launched a Catholic Religious Archives Repository in 2019, following a 2018 conference hosted at Boston College titled "Envisioning the Future of Catholic Religious Archives," which brought together 160 archivists, historians, and leaders of religious communities to consider ways of ensuring that archival holdings of various religious orders and congregations would be maintained and available to future generations.

The new facility, privately funded by donors, will be built on the north side of the Theology and Ministry Library. It will include an internal receiving area and a holding room for collected materials and will utilize the library's research reading room and available space for processing collections. The buildings will be linked by a one-story connector

The project was approved by the City of Boston as an amendment to the University's existing Institutional Master Plan through a small project review application. Designed by the architecture firm Shepley Bulfinch, the CRA will be built by Suffolk Construction.

Associate Vice President for Capital Projects Mary Nardone said that the construction impacts on the Brighton Campus will include trucking and material deliveries, which will occur throughout the duration of the project. Trucks will enter and exit from the Commonwealth Avenue entrance and travel down the main spine road as well as the roads surrounding the library parking lot. The initial site activities will include fencing and necessary tree removals. As the site is prepared for building foundations, some hoe ramming will take place from January through March.

"The CRA itself will be constructed on an isolated knoll on the Brighton Campus that is outside of the mainstream of campus activity, though there will be limited impacts of construction noise and trucking to and from the site," said Nardone. "It is being built by Suffolk Construction, which has a very good track record on campus. We have met and will continue to meet with the abutters on the Brighton Campus to keep them informed throughout the project. Both Capital Projects and Government Affairs are available to community members if there are questions."

-Jack Dunn, University Communications



Architectural rendering of the planned Catholic Religious Archives facility on the Brighton Campus

Joshua Beekman '05 receives 2025 Community Service Award

Joshua Beekman '05, M.S.'06, the director of alumni programs and former director of football initiatives in BC's Athletics Department, is the winner of BC's 2025 Community Service Award.

Organized by the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs, the award honors the outstanding contributions of a Boston College employee whose actions epitomize the Jesuit spirit of service to others.

"It's very clear from those who nominated him that Josh's BC experiences as a student, a student-athlete and an employee have made him the man who he is today—one who truly exemplifies the credos of 'ever to excel' and 'being a man for others,'" said Vice President for Governmental and Community Affairs

Thomas J. Keady, Jr.

Keady noted that Beekman believes in using his unique talents to serve others, whether it's brightening the day of a Campus School student with a visit, assisting with a Christmas toy collection campaign or working with Catholic Charities to organize a Thanksgiving food drive and meal preparation effort during the COVID-19 outbreak.

"Due to Josh's commitment, the pandemic-driven program has now become an annual event—not just involving the football team—but it has expanded to include volunteers from across the Athletics Department," said Keady. "He also coordinates BC's involvement with the Beautiful Lives Project, which provides the opportunity for people with disabilities to actively participate in activities not previous-

ly available to them due to physical or facility limitations.

A native of Amsterdam, N.Y., Beekman served as a tri-captain of the Eagles' football team during his senior season and has worked as the director of Football. A guard for the Eagles who started 37 games from 2002-06, Beekman was named First Team All-America by the Associated Press and All-Atlantic Coast Conference First Team in

Presented with the Scanlan Award—BC's highest football honor—by the Boston College Varsity Club, Beekman was acknowledged as the senior football player who most



**President William P. Leahy, S.J., with
Josh Beekman
(Photo by Lee Pellegrini)**

embodies 1920 graduate Thomas Scanlan—a courageous athlete who played both offense and defense for the 1916-17 and 1919 Eagles teams while forgoing his 1918 season for World War I military service.

-Phil Gloudemans, University Communications

McMullen Museum Fall Exhibit

The closing centuries of the Middle Ages in Italy witnessed profound transformations in the art of painting. New techniques gave way to an expanded repertoire of formats and artistic styles; patronage systems and workshop practices evolved in tandem with reassessments of the merit of authorship; and long-standardized criteria for value and authenticity in representation were steadily redefined.

Medieval Renaissance foregrounds this distinction, exhibiting nineteen rarely shown works from the Frascione Collection in Florence, founded in 1893. Featuring devo-

tional icons, altarpiece panels, narrative scenes, and portraits from the late 13th through early 16th centuries, the exhibition charts innovations in the craft and conceptualization of painting in Italy after 1300. Curated by John Lansdowne and Stephanie C. Leone, specialists in Medieval and Renaissance art, respectively.

In the Daley Family and Monan Galleries, September 2-December 7, 2025

For more information, please visit www.bc.edu/sites/artmuseum



The Boston College Neighborhood Center, located at 480 Washington St in Brighton, provides free educational services to the Allston Brighton community, including tutoring for school-aged children

and English classes for adults.

Please check out our website (www.bc.edu/neighborhood) for updates about our free educational services for the fall semester.