



BOSTON COLLEGE ANNOUNCES \$1.6 BILLION STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN FACULTY, ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES
Strategic Plan Calls for up to 100 New Faculty, New Academic Centers, and \$800 Million in Construction and Renovation to Elevate BC to Highest Echelon of Premier National Universities

CHESTNUT HILL, MASS. (December 5, 2007)--Boston College will invest \$1.6 billion in its future through a 10-year Strategic Plan that will add up to 100 additional faculty, create new academic centers and institutes, allocate \$800 million for construction and renovation--including \$300 million for academic facilities--and provide an increase in on-going support of academic programs and initiatives by \$43.5 million annually, the University announced today.

In its Strategic Plan, Boston College sets seven strategic directions that call for the University to become a national leader in liberal arts education and student formation, and to enhance its research initiatives in select natural sciences and in areas that address urgent societal problems. The plan also supports leadership initiatives in BC's graduate and professional schools, expands the University's international programs and partnerships, and commits Boston College to becoming the world's leading Catholic university and theological center.

"We realize that we have set an ambitious agenda for ourselves," said BC President William P. Leahy, SJ. "But Boston College has always strived to live up to its motto of 'Ever to Excel,' and as we approach in 2013 the 150th anniversary of the founding of Boston College, this plan will help a great university to become even greater."

This public announcement comes after a two-year self-study involving more than 200 BC faculty, administrators and students.

Specifically, the seven strategic directions will:

- 1. Commit Boston College to Becoming the Leader in Liberal Arts Education Among American Universities** through the establishment of the *Institute for Liberal Arts*, which will support interdisciplinary teaching, research and programming, a *Humanities Colloquium*, to encourage interdisciplinary dialogue and further collaborative research among the humanities departments, and the *Center for Undergraduate Advising*.
- 2. Develop and Implement a Student Formation Program That Will Be a Contemporary Model for Colleges and Universities Committed to Student Formation** through the creation of the *Center for Student Formation*, which will build upon BC's nationally recognized strength in student formation and will enrich the intellectual, social and spiritual development of students and promote residential learning.
- 3. Identify and Support Selected Research Commitments That Will Achieve Excellence and Distinction in Addressing Urgent Societal Problems** through the establishment and support of such programs as the *Institute on Aging in the 21st Century*, which will convene national and international meetings to set the agenda for research on aging, and *The Center for Catholic Education*, which will become the nation's think tank for exploring the challenges facing Catholic education in the United States, among other initiatives.
- 4. Commit Targeted Resources to Natural Science Emphases That Will Establish Boston College as among the Leaders in Select Areas** through the establishment of the

Institute for Integrated Sciences, which will enhance interdisciplinary collaboration among physics, chemistry and biology faculty.

5. Build on the Strengths and Reputations of Boston College Professional Schools to Establish Leadership in Critical Professional Areas through the *Winston Center for Leadership and Ethics* in the Carroll School of Management; the Connell School of Nursing's *Nurse Leader Program*; the Lynch School of Education's *Teachers for a New Era Program*; the *Global Practice Initiative* of the Graduate School of Social Work, and the *International Program in American Law* at Boston College Law School, among other initiatives.

6. Become a Significant Intellectual and Cultural Crossroads by Leveraging BC's International Resources and Partnerships and its Jesuit and Catholic Networks through the *Society of International Fellows*, the *Center for Human Rights and International Justice*, and increased support for the *Office of International Programs*.

7. Commit Boston College to Becoming the World's Leading Catholic University and Theological Center through the creation of the *School of Theology and Ministry*, which will include Weston Jesuit School of Theology, the Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry and the online programs of the Church in the 21st Century Center, and the *Institute for the Advancement of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition*.

To support the Strategic Plan, the University is proposing the construction of four new academic buildings, including the establishment of a new Institute for Integrated Sciences, new facilities for fine arts, a university center, a recreation complex and 610 additional beds of undergraduate housing, as well as new intercollegiate and intramural athletics fields and recreational facilities. (See separate release)

"BC students and faculty are at the forefront of this exciting strategic vision for the future of Boston College," said Patrick Stokes, chairman of the board of Anheuser-Busch and chairman of the BC Board of Trustees. "This plan will enhance our academic strength and research capacity and advance our leadership in student formation and liberal arts education both nationally and internationally."

Cutberto Garza, BC Provost and Dean of Faculties, added, "Boston College is one of the most remarkable success stories in higher education. This plan places the next phase of Boston College's great history within our grasp. Its realization will transform the campus, enabling ever-higher levels of excellence in undergraduate and graduate teaching and research, while serving as a fitting tribute to the visionary alumni, faculty, staff, university trustees and friends who have stewarded and inspired the University through the years."

Boston College, currently ranked 35th among national universities by *US News and World Report*, receives the fourth-highest number of applications among American private universities with 28,800 applicants for the 2,250 seats in its freshman class. It attracts students from all 50 states and more than 80 countries. The rise in the quality of its student body has enabled BC students to earn more than 200 major national fellowships in the past 10 years, including two Rhodes Scholarships, three Marshall Scholarships, 117 Fulbright Grants, 14 Goldwater Scholarships and 10 Truman Scholarships.

In addition, BC's endowment has grown to \$1.75 billion, annual sponsored research grants have risen to \$52 million and student financial aid has reached \$107 million annually. Minority student representation has climbed to 25 percent and annual gifts from alumni, parents and friends have risen to \$95 million.

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