

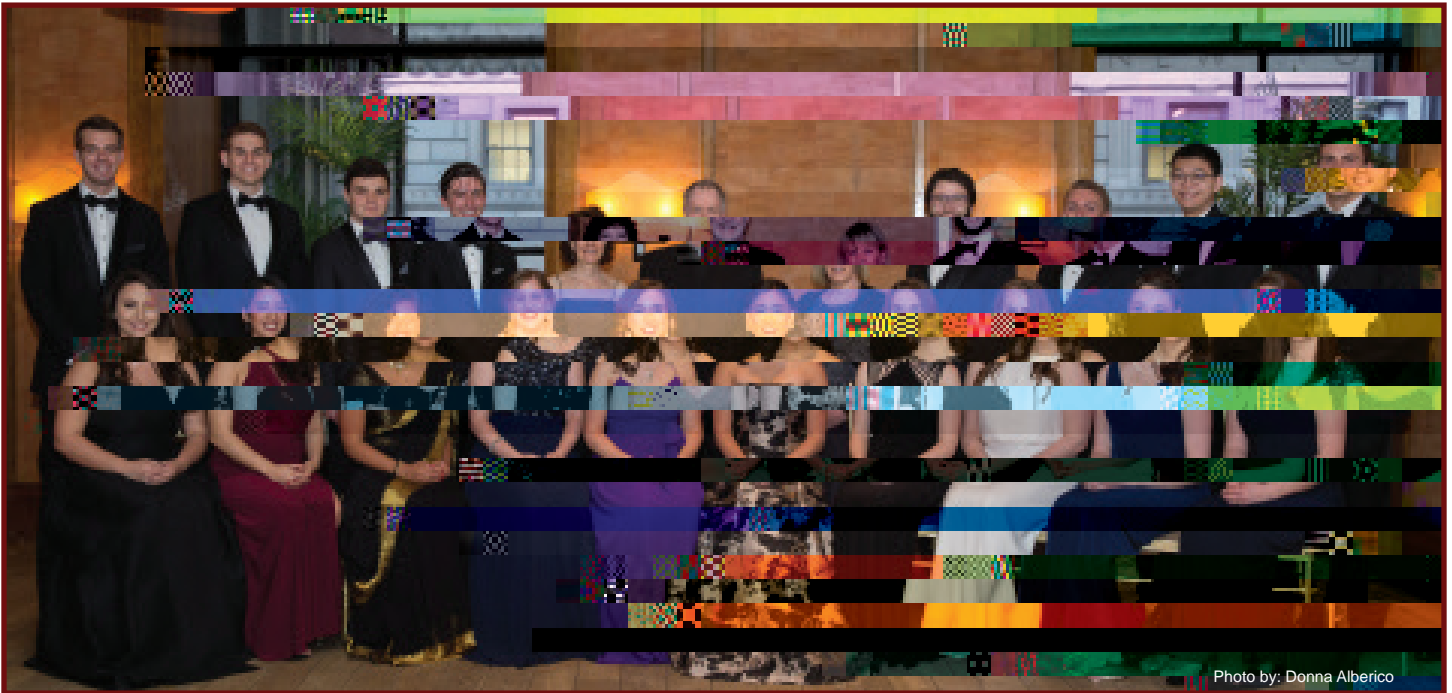
# Ex Libris

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GABELLI PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM, BOSTON COLLEGE

Volume XXI, Issue 3

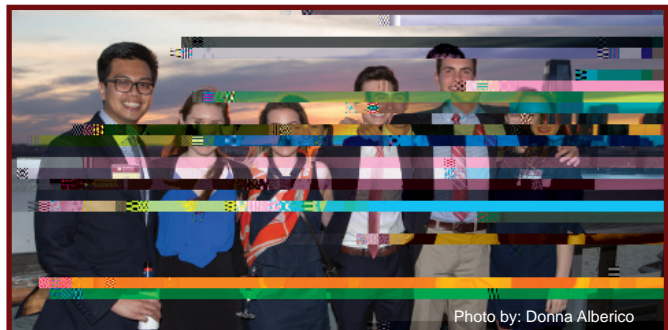
Spring 2017

## The Graduating Class of 2017



Photographed with the Scholars above are: Jennie Thomas, Fr. Keenan, and new GPSP Co-Director Professor Kathy Bailey.

On April 17th, the senior GPSP Scholars, Co-Director Kathy Bailey, Co-Director Jim Keenan, S.J., and Associate Director Jennie Thomas traveled to New York City to attend the annual Alumni Reception at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. The following night, April 18th, they attended the annual Wall Street Council Tribute Dinner at the Cipriani Wall Street. Joining the Scholars were Fr. Leahy, major donors, many alumni and this year's honoree General Electric Chairman and CEO Jeffrey R. Immelt, H '10.



# *Overlooked and Overdosed*

By: Jaq Pyle MCAS '20

On April 4th, the sophomore class of the Gabelli Presidential Scholars Program presented the second part of their two-part Social Justice Project: “Overlooked and Overdosed: The Opioid Crisis in Boston.” The opioid epidemic that is currently devastating communities across the United States, and kills ninety-one people every day across the nation according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The spring event, titled “A Nation in Recovery: The Opioid Crisis Under the Trump Administration,” was intended to complement the sophomore’s fall event, which consisted of a photo exhibition featuring photos and stories of those embroiled within the crisis along with a presentation from a Brendan Little, the policy director at Boston’s Office of Recovery Services. To this end, the spring event was designed to offer attendees an even broader spectrum of perspectives on the opioid crisis. Along with a second exhibition of the image gallery, the spring event featured a panel of four individuals with a wide array of personal and professional experiences surrounding the opioid epidemic: Police Chief Fred Ryan of Arlington, Massachusetts; Allison Bauer, the director of the Commonwealth’s Bureau of Substance Abuse Services; Kaynaz Mehta, a mental health counselor with experience in dealing with substance abuse patients; and Neil Duggan, an outreach coordinator for Wicked Sober, an addiction recovery network in Massachusetts, that was founded by his son Michael Duggan.

With Shaan Bijwadia '19 as the moderator, the four panelists

responded to a variety of questions involving each individual’s experiences with the opioid crisis in both their personal and professional lives. While the panelists gener

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By Jake Ciafone MCAS '18

# Bosnia and Herzegovina



Photo by: Harrison Tune



Photo by: Harrison Tune



Photo courtesy of: Jennie Thomas



Photo by: Harrison Tune

# *Bosnia and Herzegovina*



Photo by: Fr. Keenan



Photo by: Fr. Keenan



Photo by: Harrison Tune

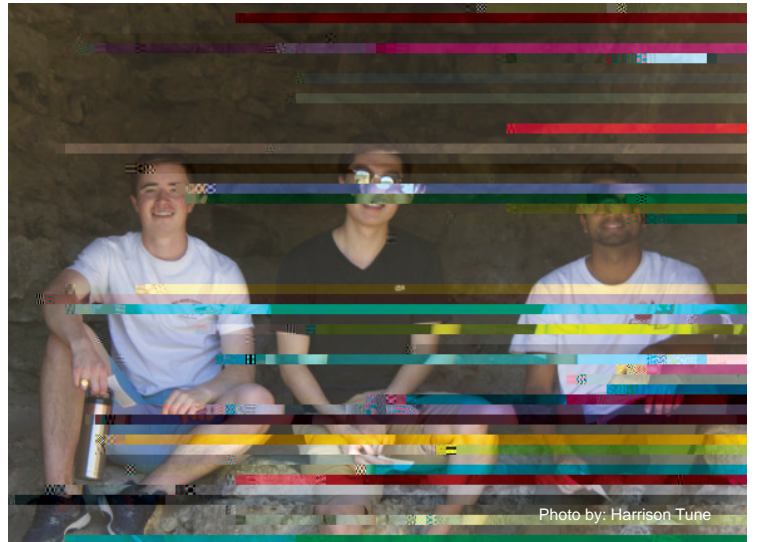


Photo by: Harrison Tune

Photo courtesy of: Jennie Thomas



This is to ensure that all people have access to, and feel safe pursuing, the resources they need to escape opioid addiction.

Ms. Mehta provided a more clinical and psychiatric perspective on the opioid crisis. Additionally, she contended that the recent legalization of marijuana would not help but perhaps would worsen the epidemic due to its properties as a gateway drug for those who are trying to remain sober.

Mr. Duggan shared his intimate personal understanding of the realities of addiction and discussed

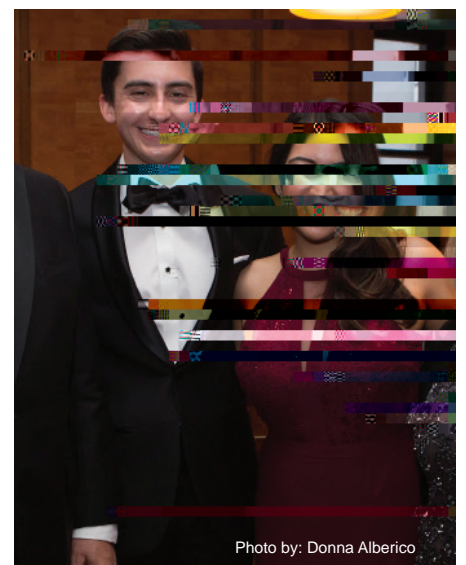
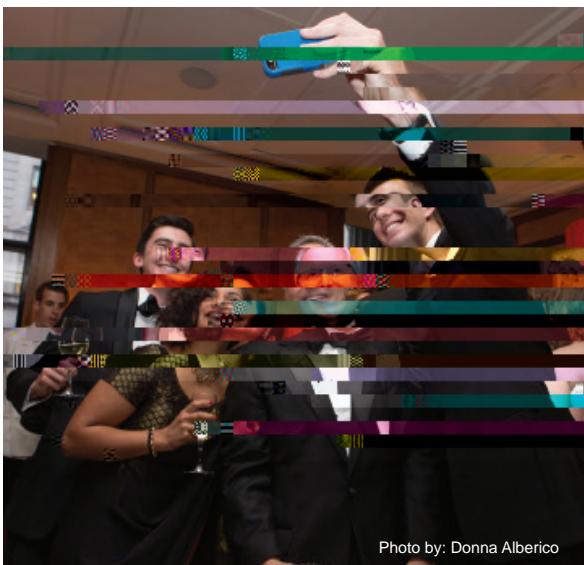
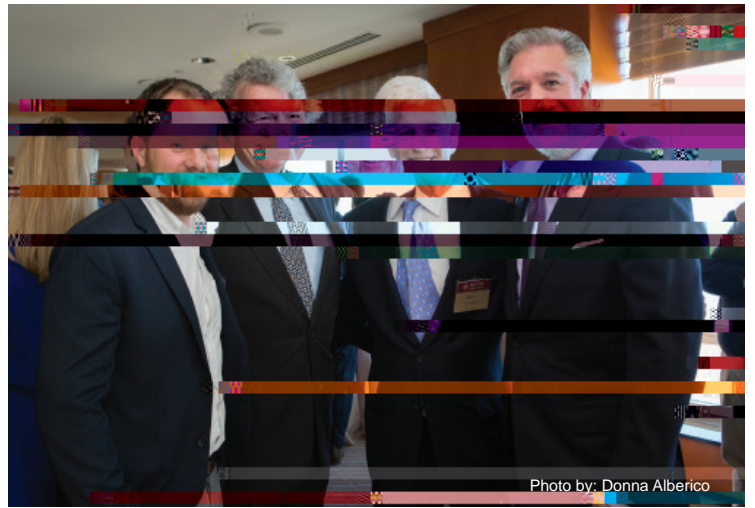
the work that Wicked Sober does to connect victims of the opioid epidemic to treatment options and other support mechanisms. Using his personal knowledge and skill as an interventionist, Mr. Duggan both helps victims and their families see the practical steps they need to take in order to escape addiction and offers emotional support to those who have been hit the hardest by the epidemic.

The final installment of the class of 2019's Social Justice Project helped attendees grasp the seriousness of the opioid crisis, which can often seem far removed from

lives that remain unaffected by the epidemic. However, the panelists generally agreed that, despite the current presidential administration's controversial policies surrounding drug addiction, and despite the huge amount of work which must still be done to help those affected by the epidemic, there is hope that the opioid crisis will be curbed in the future through a concerted, coordinated effort by



# Wall Street Alumni Event and Dinner





# **Awards**

## ***University Honors***

### **Order of the Cross & Crown**

*The Order of the Cross and Crown is the Morrissey College of Arts & Sciences honor society for seniors who, while achieving an average of at least A-, have established records of unusual service and leadership on the campus.*

***Russell Simons (Chief Marshal)***

### **Dean's Scholars**

*Each year a select group of the brightest young scholars in the MCAS junior class are honored by the Dean of MCAS as Deans' Scholars. They are selected on the basis of their overall academic performance, the recommendations from their departmental faculty, their cocurricular initiatives, and the sense of purpose with which they approach their future.*

***Austin Bodetti***

***Jake Ciafone***

***John Knowles***

# **Commencement Awards**

*Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences*

## **George F. and Jean W. Bemis Award**

*This award was established in memory of George Fisher Bemis (1899-1971) and Jean Wilmot Bemis (1903-1987) of Milton, Massachusetts, a devoted couple quietly of service to others and with whom it was a delight to work. The award seeks to single out a member of the senior class distinguished for service to others.*

*Mackenzie Arnold*

## **Donald S. Carlisle Award**

*An award established by the Department of Political Science in memory of Donald S. Carlisle, Professor of Political Science at Boston College (1968-1997), given each year to a graduating senior for outstanding achievement in political science.*

*Mackenzie Arnold  
Hagop Toghramadjian*

## **Mary T. and Kathleen S. O'Connell Commencement Award**

*An award, the gift of Misses Elizabeth and Theresa Finneran, given to the student who has achieved outstanding success in studies, while also devoting time and talents to other activities for the enrichment of the College and student life.*

## **Scholar of the College**

*Scholar of the College is a special designation conferred at Commencement on seniors who have successfully completed particularly creative, scholarly, and ambitious independent research projects while maintaining an overall cumulative grade point average of A- or better.*

*Chrissy Lorica  
Liza Magill  
Hagop Toghramadjian*

## **Tully Theology Award**

*An award given in memory of the late Dennis H. Tully, given to the student who has written the best paper on a theological subject.*

*Mary Kate Cahill*

## ***Non-University Awards, Honor, Fellowships or Scholarships***

### **Fulbright Award**

*The Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright–Hays Program, is an American scholarship program of competitive, merit-based grants for international educational exchange for students, scholars, teachers, professionals, scientists and artists, founded by United States Senator J. William Fulbright*

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