



Welcome to Our Brand New Student Schiller Institute
Newsletter!

What is The Schiller Institute?

We are an interdisciplinary institute focused on three core areas: environment, energy, and health. We are located at 245 Beacon Street and work with all of BC's nine schools. As an interdisciplinary institute, we seek to engage students, faculty, and staff from disciplines across campus. So, if you're interested in energy, environment, and/or health, we'd love to connect with you! We offer courses, host events, invite guest speakers, and have our very own Schiller Student Board all geared around our core areas.



What is The Scoop?

The Scoop is our student facing bi-weekly newsletter that is created by you, for you (the

students)! We want students to have a voice at our institution and to stay in the loop about our events and offerings, so we decided to create The Scoop.

Schiller Team Member Spotlight



Meet The Scoop Editor!

Hi! My name is Charlotte and I am a graduate student at the School of Social Work at Boston College. I work at the Schiller Institute as graduate assistant. My role is to assist with administrative tasks regarding research grants, COP (an annual climate change conference hosted by the UN), the Eagles Sustainability Competition (ESC), and, now, The Scoop!

I am from New Jersey and went to University of Maryland to study Psychology and Criminology & Criminal Justice as an undergraduate student. I am interested in prison mental health policy reform and am hoping to pursue this line of work once I graduate in 2026 with my Master of Social Work.

I am so excited to be working with the Schiller Institute of Integrated Science and Society as the editor of The Scoop!

Meet our team!

What Are Schiller Students Up To?



In October, one of our undergraduate assistants, Dominique Williams, attended a BECMA expo. The Black Economic Council of Massachusetts

(BECMA), was created due to the discovery of a shocking racial wealth gap. Black Bostonians' median net worth was found to be just \$8 compared to \$247,500 for white Bostonians. The council advocates for supporting Black businesses as key drivers of wealth and employment to address these disparities.

Check out this video!

At the expo, Dominique heard stories from different Black-owned business owners and entrepreneurs that spoke about the lack of wealth accumulation in black communities, as well as the potential the green economy has to alleviate decades of environmental racism while increasing economic growth for marginalized households.

When reflecting on the experience, Dominique wrote:

“It was a little overwhelming at first being at the expo. I wasn’t expecting to be the only college student in rooms full of experts and professionals. As the day progressed, however, I began to feel more like I belonged. I enjoyed listening to the panelists as they discussed the role of black-owned businesses in uplifting their communities. I also enjoyed meeting professionals from across different fields. Overall, it was scary, because I’d never done anything like this before, but in the end I think I gained confidence in myself to navigate unfamiliar spaces.”



[Read more about her experience](#)

Our Poet Laureate

"Poetry is a beautiful form of written expression that transcends interdisciplinary boundaries—this is what I try to encompass in my role as Schiller’s inaugural Poet Laureate! I speak with faculty and students about their experiences with Schiller, such as innovative coursework or trailblazing research. These conversations inspire me to communicate their experiences through figurative language and prose." - **Jesse Julian**



"My poem (read aloud as “pilot is to poet as poet is to pilot”) reflects on my role. I thought of this one movie quote: an astronaut in Contact is launched into space, looks outside the ship, and utters, “They should have sent a poet.’ The indescribable beauty of science is difficult to convey, yet the humanities offers a relatable, down-to-earth perspective. In

this 'pilot' edition of the newsletter, I draw attention to the similarities between the pilot/scientist/engineer/researcher, and the poet—both complementing each other in their work." -

Jesse Julian

[Read more from our Poet Laureate](#)

The Schiller Institute's Student Board



The Schiller Institute's Student Board is a multidisciplinary group of 15 undergraduate and graduate students from across the university. It is the mission of the student board to help facilitate campus involvement with the Schiller Institute and its mission of addressing society's most challenging problems, in the areas of energy, health, and the environment. The student board plans and communicates about events and is working to establish networks to aid students in finding and connecting with research opportunities on campus. To help inform their spring research seminar, the Student Board is seeking input from undergraduate and graduate students.

Take our Undergraduate Student Research Survey

In January, applications will open for new members! Students from all programs and class years are encouraged to apply!

Being a board member is approximately a 1-3 hour a week commitment with additional opportunities for board members to run for elected positions and take on leadership roles as well.

This is a great opportunity to engage with the campus community, connect with faculty, and work on complex problems. We look forward to reviewing your application and learning about your unique perspectives and interests!

Recent Events

BC Sends Delegates to COP29





Boston College is an official Observer Organization for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP). COP plays an active role in global climate change policymaking. This November, Boston College's COP29 delegation included 18 members —four faculty, six graduate students, seven undergraduate students, and one staff member. These individuals traveled to Baku, Azerbaijan!

Meet our Delegates!

Listen to the Live from Baku Broadcast



Upcoming Events

COP29 Symposium

The COP Symposium at Boston College is an annual event organized by the Schiller Institute that showcases the experiences of BC's delegation at the most recent Conference of the Parties (COP), the UN's largest annual international conference.. The event includes student and faculty panels, interactive exhibits, and discussions on climate change topics like health impacts and sustainable urban design.

Delegates reflect on COP outcomes and design the symposium to replicate the actual COP event. The symposium highlights the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, diverse perspectives, and BC's unique inclusion of

undergraduate and graduate students in global climate discourse.

Save the Date for the COP29 Symposium:

February 21, 2025

Last Year's Symposium

Eagles Sustainability Competition

The Eagles Sustainability Competition is an opportunity in the Spring semester for students to showcase their academic interests and knowledge while encouraging sustainability on Boston College's campus. In interdisciplinary teams of 2-3, students craft innovative recommendations to address sustainability.

The winning idea will incorporate campus data, solid research, and creativity to bring a fresh perspective to how our campus partner can reduce its environmental footprint and enhance its overall sustainability. The top three teams will win a cash prize with the winning team receiving \$3,000 and the opportunity to have its proposed ideas implemented.

Eagle's Sustainability Competition Website

Be on the lookout for the new prompt for the Eagles Sustainability Competition coming

out **January 2025!**

Self-Care During Finals & Winter Break

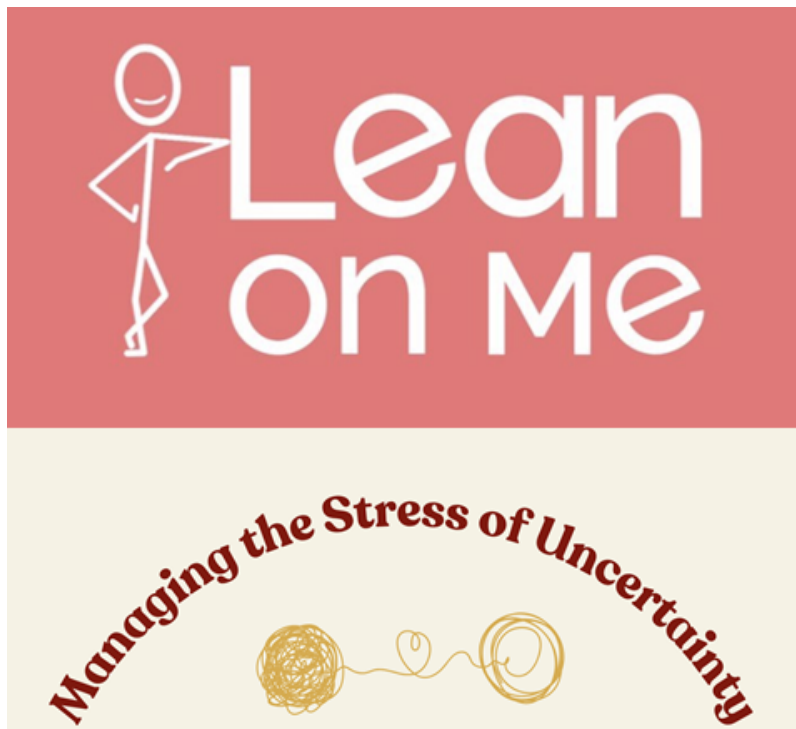
As we enter the end of the semester and the start of finals, we encourage you to take care of your physical and mental health. Finals and the holiday season can be a very stressful time, but you don't have to go through it alone.

If you are in need of extra support, know that you can always reach out to University Counseling Services or any of the resources below! Additionally, we invite you to text or call a trusted friend, family member, or mentor to talk about these feelings.

Remember that just like your physical health, your mental health is extremely important and impacts things like mood, academic abilities, energy levels, relationships, and decision making.

Self-care is not selfish! It's necessary to ensure good mental health. Below we have some resources you can check out if you're interested in mental health or self-care.





[University Counseling Services](#)

[BC Lean on Me Anonymous Text Line](#)

[Managing Stress Worksheet](#)

Remember to practice self-care after the semester is over and enjoy winter break.

The Scoop will see you all next year in the Spring semester.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Was this forwarded to you? Don't miss out on The Scoop!

[Sign up here](#)



 **Forward**

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Anything you want to let us know? reach out to us at:
schiller.institute@bc.edu

Thank you for your interest and support!

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