DEAR FRIENDS
OF BOLT,

We hope this newsletter finds you well as we head into this busy time of year! Like every other year, we all started checking the weather with great anticipation as soon as the trip dates showed up in the 10-day forecast. Unlike most years, however, this time, a storm was brewing: Hurricane Irene. As the storm ravaged the Northeast on the Sunday before the trip, we delayed our departure from Monday until Tuesday morning. By Monday night it became clear that the White Mountains, closed completely for the storm, would not be opening in time for our trip. BOLT’s managers and base campers, rising to the challenge, worked tirelessly from 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday until 3:00 a.m. on Wednesday, to solve one of BOLT’s most unanticipated problems in less than 24 hours.

The result was an impressively improvised 4-day BOLT trip. The adventure began with a day of “Camp BOLT” activities on campus, and that evening the main green was illuminated by headlamps as groups cooked their dinners before setting up “camp” in class-rooms of Wilson Hall. BOLT groups woke up with the sun and headed for western Massachusetts. Groups set up tarps in the wooded areas of Becket-Chimney Corners, a YMCA camp that generously offered their acreage on very short notice. Each day, base camp used a fleet of rented minivans and personal cars to shuttle groups to trails at nearby October Mountain State Forest. By Friday night, it became clear that each group had indeed successfully BOLTed, adding a new verb to our BOLT dictionary. Each of the groups displayed the unique identity they had created on their trip - Group F even sported matching drawn-on beards!

We soon recognized the need for building a more structured contingency plan into the program. The alternative plan, currently in the works, will prepare us for various last-minute circumstances that could otherwise threaten to cancel the fall trip. Upon its completion the plan will ensure that BOLT will never disappoint its leaders, participants and supporters.

Despite the unexpected experiences this year, we have a record number of leader applicants! As managers we are equally, if not more, excited about the coming spring. We are looking forward to meeting and training the next amazing class of BOLT leaders.

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BOLT’s fall program events are a relatively new effort, and we’ve been learning as we go which experiences are the most meaningful with varying degrees of success. We kicked off the fall with BOLT Wars and all its silliness: water guns, rubber chickens, and many impressive vegetable-offs. One of our well-loved events, the Fall Hike to the Blue Hills in MA, was snowed out on Halloween weekend(!) but rescheduled with a smaller group. The Annual Thanksgiving Banquet was smashing well-attended. Classily dressed leaders, BOLTers, and friends from all years enjoyed delicious food and a brief organ recital in Sayles Hall. We hope to continue these BOLT traditions and to add more, such as workshops on advanced leadership concepts and natural history.

BOLT was last accredited in 2006, meaning this year we had to undergo a thorough program review in order to renew our accreditation. We are happy to say that this year’s site visit from the Association of Experiential Education (AEE) was also a success — BOLT met 92% of the association’s standards! The AEE reviewers gave us constructive feedback about the program’s sustainability, assessed BOLT’s wider impact, and discussed implementation of a BOLTer leadership curriculum. This successful accreditation attests to BOLT’s maintenance of the best industry standards and our dedication to continued programmatic improvement.

In addition to our annual BOLT Commencement Reunion and Reception, we are excited to launch new alumni events such as regional alumni reunions and the Senior-Alumni Day Hike to the Blue Hills in May during Senior Week. In the upcoming months, we will be sending out a quarterly e-mail newsletter! If you would like to subscribe to the e-mail newsletter, please send us an e-mail at bolt@brown.edu.

Gorp and peace,

The 2011-2012 Managers

This year we opened with a dramatic story. Hurricane Irene traveled through Providence exactly on our big Sunday pre-trip prep meeting. We delayed our meeting and bunkered down. You will hear more about this, but I would like to share that it was an incredible exercise in adaptability, problem-solving, judgment and commitment to our underlying community goals. This leader class and basecamp team were put to the test for what our program values and teaches, and our BOLTer class demonstrated an indomitable spirit of adaptability and resourcefulness for facing adversity and absolutely kicking butt. I am still in awe of what was achieved.

We learned a lot from this fall trip, about ourselves as leaders, about group work and about our capacity as a program in collaboration with the University’s support. We also learned that we can be more prepared with a more structured contingency plan. This is in the works!

We also completed a full review of the program through the Association of Experiential Education (AEE) Re-accreditation Process this past fall. Jason Harris ’10.5 prepared our self-study for this effort. It is the size of a thesis in itself. (Thank you, Jason for your support! This effort was a tremendous gift.) Unikora Yang ’12 served as the coordinator for our on-site comprehensive review, which resulted in positive, constructive and helpful feedback. We now meet 105 professional-level standards in the field of outdoor programs! The Steering Committee and Managers have been busy utilizing the feedback to strengthen our program.

We have begun discussing more regularly the need for the program to expand. For the past several years, we have had to turn away an increasing number of students from participation. We had 200 BOLTer applicants this past year for 120 spots and leader applications are consistently more than double the size of a leader class. In order to expand, we are focused on strengthening the programmatic aspect of the BOLTer experience as well as the staffing and funding support that allows us to accomplish our goals.

We will be reaching out for support through our 8th annual phone-a-thon effort in late January to ask for support in providing financial aid for BOLTers and Leaders. Last year, we were able to reach $5,000 in pledges during our phone-a-thon
and we received additional gifts in the spring including $1,000 in gifts from the graduating leader class that provided $7,600 in financial aid this past year. Without your support, the BOLT experience would not be financially accessible to many students. Being able to offer this assistance is a huge gift that helps us pass the benefits of the program forward to each new class. Thank you!

On our program’s sustainability, we are continuing to seek support with building our endowment. In this economic time, it is even more evident that our program needs to secure a funding base through our endowment goals. Many of you have been engaged in this effort with us for a number of years. Thank you for your support and generosity! This past year, we received $12,723 in gifts, which is amazing! Many of you have been apart of our outreach efforts and appreciate seeing the total in our endowment grow. I am pleased to share that the book value of our endowment is $230,302.79 as of 6/30/11 with a market value of $279,204. We are also excited to share that we have a new initiative on the horizon. We have received the support of our Vice President for Campus Life and Student Services, Margaret Klawunn, to partner and receive support from the Advancement Office.

We are in the early stages in this effort, but we have four basic goals:

• Increase director level staff support
• Strengthen program activities and improve the quality of year-round program
• Improve the student experience and reduce financial burden
• Expand access to the program

Lastly, a little on the more personal front, as each year passes, I am blessed to meet and become close with so many amazing BOLT leaders. Eventually as I celebrate each graduation, I dream with you about what comes next. I hope this newsletter finds you well and that life has been kind. I enjoy hearing back from you and seeing you at reunions. Please stay in touch! The heart of this program is and has always been the wonderful people involved, I am thankful for this gift the most. Happy New Year!

~Shelley Adriance

Save the Dates

**Monday+Tuesday, January 23 + 24, 2012**
Phone-a-thon

**Friday, May 25, 2012**
8am-1pm, Senior-Alumni Day Hike at the Blue Hills
9pm-1am, BOLT Campus Dance Table

**Saturday, May 26, 2012**
5-7pm, BOLT Commencement Reunion and Reception at Machado House

Social Media

We’re on Facebook! Find the “BOLT” page and join the “BOLT Alumni” group.

Follow us on Twitter @BOLTmanagers.

Visit our website for on-campus updates, stories and more photos from the 2011 Fall Trip! brown.edu/bolt

Find BOLT Merchandise on the Brown Marketplace storefront website: bsa.brown.edu/marketplace

Bay Area? New England? Interested in helping plan a regional BOLT Reunion?
Email us at bolt@brown.edu!
There are very few people in this world who enjoy destructive storms. I’ve narrowed the category down to the Bubba Gump Shrimp Company (remember that the genesis of their success was a storm that only Forrest and Captain Dan weathered) and those guys from Twister that chased tornadoes around. Needless to say, large groups of people with the intention of going backpacking in the woods do not fall into this category.

My co-leaders and I were entirely unsure how the program in general was going to respond to Hurricane Irene, let alone our group in particular. As excited as we were about the people on our trip, it was hard to hide the dejection in our voices when we were forced to tell them that morning that we would not be boarding a bus to the White Mountains as expected. We were nervous to spend a day of urban-camping and team-building in Providence. Team-building activities have pretty steeply decreasing returns after the first few hours; a person can only spend so much time pretending to be a tank.

Our subdued expectations were proven wrong almost as quickly as we could establish them. Our spirits were picked up by the surprisingly high resolve of our group members as we greeted them. By the time the scavenger hunt rolled around that day, our group had transitioned into a fully-functional, eternally-optimistic unit. Our ruthlessly competitive natures kicked in, the last vestiges of awkwardness dissipating as we finished the hunt by belting out a modified rendition of a Gwen Stefani song to the assembled masses on the main green.

As a group, we never really looked back, not even to consider what our trip would have been like in the White Mountains. The attitude that was fostered during that first day was maintained during our entire trip. Whether we were cooking far more mac-n-cheese than we could eat while waiting on the side of the road to be picked up, or spending an hour trying to set up a bear-bag in the pitch black, our group continued to be fun and optimistic. Near the end of the program we asked everyone to name their high-point and low-point from the trip. The highs were abundant, but trying to force people to name a time when they were unhappy was like pulling teeth.

The fact that we were not in the White Mountains had no bearing on our group’s ability to form a solid identity over the course of those four days, an identity that has persisted through this semester. Ours is just one experience that demonstrates BOLT’s ability to create a community that is stronger than most at Brown. As destructive as Hurricane Irene may have been, it could do no damage to that community; those friendships were going to be established no matter what. BOLters may be the newest candidate for acceptance into the group of people who really don’t mind storms that much.

Sam Johnson ’12
Leader, Group H 2011
Summer Manager 2011
What was your favorite part of the trip?

On the way to the campsite. Only then did I feel that the trip was REALLY going to happen, and that the hurricane just couldn’t stop us!

Riyad Seervai
Group E
Leader 2011

My favorite moment was nighttime story sharing with stars above us and glow-worms below.

Travis “T-rex” Llyod
Group J Leader 2011

Before the fall trip, I was terribly excited for team building exercises, hiking and the like. I was unprepared for the 8 new close friends I made. My Bokters became a very important part of my fall and I expect they will continue to be good friends. That is what I liked most about our trip - well that, the onions, and trowel adventures.

Armide
Group L Leader 2011

We are told “leave no trace behind,” but the reality is we do leave a trace. Although we spend three days in the woods we learned many valuable skills: how to step up and lead, how to step down and follow, how to cross a river, how to tie a knot, how to keep bears away and how to survive with strangers. I learned that it is okay to not be able to continue and I learned that when it gets tough my survival skills are up to par. Although I spent most of my time at base camp, with the awesome base crew, I saw how different people with a common passion can make something impossible happen. I saw what a true family is and I felt as if I was part of that family. I learned a particular skill from them: selflessness. I remember that while I was sleeping, due to medication, it started to rain and I somehow woke up and frantically started checking that our tent was not getting wet and that our supplies were properly covered. At that time my biggest concern was not my health it was making sure that my group’s “home” and supplies were not damaged, it was me taking care of my family like basecamp took care of me. I will never forget this moment because just like all the folks at basecamp, it showed me how selfless a person can be when it comes to helping others, and there is nothing like the feeling of pure survival adrenaline. So although the mission is to “leave no trace” BOLT manages to always leave a trace, one that does not harm the environment, a trace that we should keep and spread. This trace is survival in unity and it is a skill we should practice outside the woods.

Maria Hernandez ’14
Group N BOLTer 2011
Warmest Greetings to all BOLT Alumni,

I hope that this finds you all well and having some time to walk, hike, bike, paddle or just sit outside.

As you can see from this newsletter, the fall trip was a major challenge for BOLT. In the almost 25 years we have been doing trips, nothing like this has happened. In 2005 we had a hurricane when students were in the field, but never a storm that wreaked so much havoc before the program could even leave campus!

Another first, for me, was that I was not on campus or at Base Camp for this trip because I was having my own adventure in Alaska! The distance did not keep Shelley and me from talking all through one night to try and figure out an alternative trip for the students. I was amazed by Shelley’s determination to preserve some type of quality experience for our students despite the incredible odds against it. Every time she and the managers turned around, there were new hurdles and challenges. Roads were closed, the forest in New Hampshire was closed and the list of complications went on and on. Shelley and a group of managers, base camp staff and mentors really did some serious magic to pull this off. They basically reinvented the trip in 24 hours. The leaders were also so flexible and resourceful as were the participants. It actually ended up being one of BOLT’s finest moments.

The take away lessons were...stay true to our core mission and values, be flexible, be creative, divide up the work, trust your colleagues and accept that under stress and time constraints the work must be delegated and shared. People had to trust each other to work out various aspects of the plan because there was no time to create it in our typical consensus oriented process. It was truly amazing to “watch” it unfold from Alaska.

If you have not been to Alaska, you must go. We had an incredible experience along the coast and inland. Our focus was on seeing wildlife and wild places and we did just that. We saw orcas and harbor seals, calving glaciers, tons of eagles, grizzly bears, black bears, caribou, dall sheep and all kinds of birds. We had the experience of a life time up in a small plane circling Denali (Mt. McKinley). Given that the mountain is obscured by clouds most of the time, we were moved to tears by our good fortune to see the entire range on a clear, blue sky day. It is a day we will not forget.

Great things are happening for BOLT as we move ahead with an ambitious plan to increase the endowment. Shelley and I are working hard with folks from Advancement to provide a financial base that will guarantee the long term viability of the program. More on that soon.

Please know that I often think of you. Your pictures are everywhere in my office and I cherish the work we did together, the work you do now and the relationships we formed.

Have a peaceful, happy and healthy new year,

Dean Rose
A few months after graduating, I'm starting to realize that the skills I learned from BOLT are a little bit like a collection of slick dance moves. I don't find myself using them all the time, but they rarely let me down when I need them. I live in Cairo now, where life is pretty exciting--maybe you've heard about it on the news--and even though it's a far cry from the Whites, I find myself breaking it down BOLT style every once in a while. One short encounter from a few months back might serve as a good example.

It was about 90 degrees outside, and I was walking through the sit-in happening at that time in Tahrir Square with two liters of water protruding from the sides of my daypack. At the entrance to a sidewalk jammed with people, a man stopped me and asked for my “basborr.” I decided I'd just walk a different way, but as I turned to go the man grabbed my shoulder and shouted “water?” I turned back around, smiled at him, surrounded by people watching, and asked “basborr?” He smiled and laughed, for what seemed like the first time that day.

I think more than anything else, the BOLT community helped me look past specific words (which I often cannot understand here) to see the thoughts and emotions that people actually intend to communicate, and on the flip side, to speak my mind in a clearer way. It also taught me that being silly is a good way to treat life with the respect it deserves. I miss you all dearly, and am still waiting for my first visitor here in the desert.

I should have been sprawled out in a hammock in the heart of the Whites, writing in my journal or watching warblers in the tree canopy while the sun’s rays warmed my skin. But instead, I found myself in the driver’s seat of an old Honda minivan, blasting the Grateful Dead and sheparding a pack of underclassmen towards a trailhead somewhere in Western Massachusetts. I felt kind of like a soccer mom who’d ingested just a bit too much caffeine, but it was alright. A different way to experience nature, I told myself.

It all started with Irene, the mildly disappointing but still powerful hurricane that rocked the East Coast at the very end of August. Besides littering Brown’s campus with broken branches, she wreaked havoc in the Whites, washing out roads and rendering shelters unusable (apparently, hurricanes don't follow the same “Leave No Trace” policy that BOLT groups do). Because of Irene, BOLT had to switch its destination from the Whites to the slightly less dramatic October Mountain State Park. But in a strange way, the timing was perfect. Two days earlier, and everyone flying to Providence would have been grounded. Two days later, and she would have been scheduled to hit on Tuesday, necessarily leading to the cancellation of the entire trip. Nature often has a way of landing you in situations you would never really expect to find yourself in.

Which was why I spent the majority of base camp in a minivan. The BOLT vans are usually rented so that the base camp crew can take injured hikers to the hospital or drive to a trailhead so that a broken stove can be swapped out for a new one. But on this trip, the vans became de facto hiker shuttles. And the base camp staff became the pilots. At first it was a bit of a drag; many of us had to log ten or twelve hours during the first day alone. But as time went on, we began to drive just a little faster and turn our radios up just a little louder. By the end of the third day, we had learned to love those minivans. There’s nothing quite like getting lost down a country road with a trunk full of smelly hikers, and as I sit here at my kitchen table, recalling a memory that seems farther in the past than it actually is, I kind of wish I was back behind the wheel…

Avi Kenny ’11
Leader, Group H 2009

Jason Reeder ’11
Leader 2009
Manager 2010
Deb Gore  
*BOLT Founder 1987-1988*

I continue to work as a Family Practice MD, doing lots of women’s health, OB, Peds and teen care primarily. I have three fantastic kids, Noah and Jack age 12.5 and Maggie 4.5. I have a great boyfriend, and we all spend lots of time outdoors enjoying the nature of the Pacific Northwest from Montana to the West Coast. I sure encourage lots of outdoor time in my family with my kids and friends. BOLT was a life changing experience in 1987-88, creating the idea with some amazing Brown friends, and then putting that idea into action. What is more amazing is that it continues with such vibrancy, touching so many other lives, and spreading such good energy!!! Thanks to all of you for keeping the flame alive!!

Noah Sachs  
*Leader 1992*

I’ve been an environmental law professor at the University of Richmond since 2006 and love my job. I write about climate change, energy efficiency, and toxic chemical regulation, and last summer I got to teach international environmental law in England. My last time in the White Mountains was my BOLT trip. I miss those hills and everyone at Brown!

Andrew McAleavey  
*Leader 2005  
Manager 2005*

I’m in the middle of Pennsylvania in graduate school for Clinical Psychology. I still try to hike regularly and get outside, and I think about my time with BOLT very fondly. I met so many amazing people through BOLT, working with BOLT was definitely one of the best decisions I made in college (of course, that may not seem that impressive to people who know how many bad decisions I made then too!). So much love to you BOLTers past & present!

Rebecca Jacobson  
*Leader 2007*

After my fellowship year in Malawi, I returned to Portland, interned at an alt-weekly for a while, and then got a job at a residential environmental education program near Mt. Hood, which made me miss BOLT like mad. I’m not there anymore, but Portland isn’t far from the woods. I’m currently enjoying my “unicorn” status as a native Portlander (this town has a lot of transplants - come be one!) and cobbling together a mix of work: substitute teaching at an alternative school, doing on-call work at a residential facility for teen girls, writing theater reviews, and scanning documents for a lumber company (yes, I know).

Juan Olivarez  
*Leader 2002*

Happy to announce the birth of Leo Daichi Olivarez (7lbs. 6 oz and 20 inches tall) on June 27, 2011. My wife and Leo’s big brother Kai (4 years old) are doing well. Look us up if you are in the area!

Lara Tannenbaum  
*Leader 1991-1992  
Manager 1992*

I’ve been living in the SF Bay Area for 15 years. I’ve been married for the past 7 years to a man I met on a backpacking trip in the Sierras and we had a baby boy, Dashiell, one year ago. I’m a social worker, employed as the Division Director for Health Services at Larkin Street Youth Services in SF. Larkin Street is an agency that provides housing and services for homeless and runaway youth. I oversee our services for HIV positive youth. I’m looking forward to my 20 (!) year reunion this May and would love to connect with some BOLT folks.

Zach Goldberger  
*Leader 1996*

Zach Goldberger (’98) is completing a cardiology fellowship at the University of Michigan Hospital and Health Systems. He his wife, Erin, and 3 year-old daughter Annabel, just welcomed twin girls, Tabitha and Quinn, on 10/30/2011.

Jesse Cohen & Liz Schibuk  
*Leaders 2005 & 2006  
Managers 2006 & 2007*

We were married this past July in a small, outdoor ceremony in Liz’s hometown of West Vancouver, British Columbia. Jesse’s uncle officiated, and we were thrilled to have many close friends from Brown -- and BOLT! -- present and integral to our wedding and our life after Brown.

Liz is now in her fourth year of teaching chemistry and physics at Blackstone Academy Charter School, a public charter high school just a few blocks from our home that serves students from Pawtucket and Central Falls. She is in her second year of teaching a biomedical ethics elective that she created last year and is really enjoying her classes. She has served as an advisor to the same group of thirteen students throughout their four years of high school, and this is their graduation year and final year at BACS.

After four years with the College Advising Corps based at the Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown, Jesse has transitioned into a new role as the training and events manager with City Year Rhode Island. There he is responsible for the service implementation training and leadership development for...
40 City Year corps members who serve as tutors, mentors, and role models to Providence public middle school students, and he calls upon his lessons learned through BOLT on a daily basis.

We still live in Rhode Island and are always excited to meet up with friends new and old from the general New England area for hiking and other outdoor adventures. Our last hike was an amble through the Blue Hills south of Boston to take in the beautiful foliage.

**Tommy Hayes**  
*Leader 1997*  
*Director 2004-2005*

My wife Leila and I had our daughter Adina on June 1, 2010...parenthood is the new adventure these days. I teach environmental science at a large, public high school in Boston. I think that I use my communication skills regularly in working with teenagers. Doing BOLT helped give me the confidence to lead a non-traditional path after Brown, including hiking the Triple Crown before becoming a high school teacher.

**Brendan Foley**  
*Leader 1989*

Currently a Director of Product Planning at Microsoft Advertising, focused on digital display advertising.

**Caitie Whelan**  
*Leader 2006*

I am working deep in the forests of Capitol Hill. I will forever have a soft spot in my heart for folks who eat granola and wear long underwear.

**Louise Davidson-Schmich**  
*Leader 1987*

I continue to be a professor at the University of Miami. My kids are getting old enough to appreciate camping; Klara is 8 and Nathan is almost 5. The Everglades in the winter are a great place to camp -- wonderful birds, alligators, and other critters abound!

**Cortney Stewart**  
*Leader 2002*

This year has all about new adventures in the outdoors with our young son Noah. He had his first overnight camping trip at 1 month old, and slept like a champ in a makeshift sleeping bag (my jacket) and on a crazycreek chair camping pad in our new family tent! When we’re not in the woods, we’re cultivating a little urban homestead in Pittsburgh and just added an outdoor fire pit for some warmer winter fun in the backyard.

BOLT was the best part of my Brown experience and fed my passions for leadership and empowerment through adventure and outdoor experience. After years working with summer youth camps at Farm & Wilderness and the School for International Training, I’m working with my husband, a high school French teacher, to create a small non-profit organization to offer underserved high school students in Pittsburgh international experiences. We took our first trip last summer with 5 senior boys to Guadeloupe! (http://web.me.com/guadeloupetripr)

**Amin Shaikh**  
*Leader 2009*

I started working as a Software Engineer at Google about 3 months ago and I’ve been having a good time. The work is interesting, the perks are amazing and I absolutely love living in San Francisco.

I road tripped across the country this summer and camped out several times and hiked in the Grand Canyon. I never would’ve had the confidence to do as much outdoorsy stuff without doing BOLT. I’m also planning a multi-day trip to Big Sur soon.

**Nathan Kraft**  
*Leader 1999*

Just finishing up a 2 year postdoc in ecology at the (beautiful!) University of British Columbia. Moving to back to the east coast next summer for a faculty position in the department of biology at the University of Maryland, College Park. BOLT helped to make me very comfortable living and traveling out of doors, skills that I rely on every year as part of my job. In addition, participating in BOLT throughout Brown gave me a fantastic, supportive community of friends that are still an important part of my life over a decade later.

**Rebecca Fox**  
*Leader 2005*

I am currently getting my elementary teaching credential at Stanford. BOLT has played a huge role in my post-college life choices. I had my first backpacking experience on a BOLT trip, and was hooked. That inspired me to lead backpacking trips for kids in and around Yosemite for a number of seasons, which eventually drew me to Outdoor Education in the Santa Cruz mountains and now to getting my teaching credential. So thanks, BOLT! Without my BOLT experience I might never have had the opportunity to get involved with guiding and education.

**Mitchell Psotka**  
*Leader 1999-2000*

I am in my second year of residency in internal medicine at UCSF, and I was sad to miss my 10th reunion last year. However, I visited Bob Ettinger and Nathan Kraft up in Seattle recently and we hiked around Mt Rainier. While I do not work in outdoor education or the environment, I believe I kept them from getting hypothermia. If I’m ever free, and there’s a doctor needed in base camp to play wiffle ball, I’m down.
Joy and celebration.

I'm at Yale Law School having finished 2 years with Teach for America in Phoenix.

Jeanne Reynolds (Chuang)
Leader 1994-1995

I'm one of the lucky few who has a job that I absolutely love. I've been working as an anesthesiologist at NYU for the past several years, after a detour through the realm of general surgery. More importantly, I'm mother to a delightful 17 month old girl. Although we've traveled quite a bit, I still haven't had the chance to take her camping - perhaps when she's a bit older. The reason I'm writing now, after all these years, is because I named my daughter after one of my BOLT participants when I was a leader. Her name was Ariana, and I still remember her rosy cheeks and her bright disposition. We opted for the French spelling, but I hope Ariane will be the same ray of sunshine for others as Ariana was in BOLT. Becoming a BOLT leader allowed me to realize that there are different leadership styles and a leader need not command or force others. Dean Rose was quiet, joyful, and inspiring and continues to be a role model for me. Although I am not in touch with them, many of the leaders and participants left a lasting impression on me, especially in moment of joy and celebration.

Kathik Chivukula
Leader 2006

Currently in my third year of medical school at the University of South Alabama. I'm still interested and participating in outdoor activities - I attended a Wilderness Medicine conference last year and am hoping to start a Wilderness Medicine Interest Group here at my medical school to promote interest and knowledge of the unique challenges of providing care away from most health care resources. I'm currently in medical school but am still interested in learning about medical care in the backcountry and looking for more opportunities to learn more and teach others about adapting care to outdoor pursuits.

BOLT was a fundamental experience for me at Brown; as a transfer, I didn't know that many people when I first moved and BOLT brought me closer to a number of people I still consider good friends five years later. I look back on the program fondly and have mentioned it many times as an example of a well managed, organized but still organic mentoring experience. I'm currently involved in developing and managing the Student Mentoring and Advising program for medical students at our University and I've spoken to several others in our group about the need for bonding and cohesive activities (like hiking trips) among small groups in order to facilitate more comfort with and more use of the mentoring system. I think that BOLT has been a significant part of my personal growth and I'm proud and happy to be a BOLT alum.

Lindsay Hagamen
Leader 2006

After graduating from Brown, I moved out west to live and work at a sustainability education and research center and intentional community on the eastern side of the Cascades in Washington State (www.windward.org). I spend my days providing young adults (including myself) with opportunities for deep learning through hands-on, practical experience with the tools needed to build a life in balance with the natural world. In many ways, my life and work are a continuation of BOLT, but the camp is permanent, and we have to steward the land we live from so it can sustain us with food, fuel, shelter and clothing.

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Courtney Devin
Leader 2004
Manager 2004

This year, I started medical school at Tulane in New Orleans. I definitely would love to meet up with any BOLT alums in the New Orleans area.

Katharine Reynolds
Leaders 2005

I have worked in the field of outdoor education for the last three years at the High Mountain Institute in Leadville, CO. I was teaching 11th grade English (Literature of the Natural World) and leading backpacking and backcountry ski trips in Utah’s canyons and Colorado’s mountains. The High Mountain Institute is a semester school, which is similar to studying abroad, but it’s domestic and it’s for high school students. Students come for a semester to develop leadership skills and because they want to learn about backcountry skills and living in a small community. They get full academic credit and return home ready to jump into junior spring or senior fall. I’m sure their Apprentice Program, for recent college graduates to get into the outdoor ed and education fields, would be of interest to BOLTers.http://www.hminet.org/ApprenticeProgram Let me know if you’d be interested in having an HMI representative do a slide show and informational event for BOLT leaders and participants or just email Carrie (the apprentice coordinator) at cmallozzi@hminet.org. Hope all is well in Providence.

I’ve recently moved back to the Boston area to work on pursuing graduate school in school/counseling psychology, and I miss the Colorado mountains.
Page Christina  
*Leader 1988-1990*

Living in San Francisco, married Jennifer Mayer Brown ’91 last year, now proud moms of Thaddeus James (TJ). I’m Global Director of energy & sustainability strategy for Yahoo! Inc, after 6 years at Rocky Mountain Institute & five as an instructor for NOLS.

Laura Caron  
*Leader 1991-1992*

My husband, Neil, and I have two kids now (Kate, 3.5 years, and Thomas, 19 months); we’re living in our first little but sweet house in Glendale, CA, and I’m running a middle school for girls in a 4-12th grade school, Westridge, in Pasadena. The closest we come to getting outdoors is taking our dog & kids up the fire trails at the end of our street for big romps and “camping” in the backyard every so often. I’m looking forward to our first real family camping adventure next spring or summer!

Adam Lubinsky  
*Leader 1991-1992*

I work as an urban designer and urban planner. BOLT has certainly affected me professionally and personally. My work focuses on the transformation of urban environments, which most recently has been urban waterfronts. BOLT made me much more attuned to the need for conserving and restoring natural habitats and to the importance of enabling people to experience natural environments. BOLT also places such good emphasis on leadership through listening - that’s been helpful professionally as I work closely with the public and personally...

Megan Staples  
*Leader 1990*

I’m in education, but not outdoor education (math education). BOLT as part of my sophomore year experience played a very important role in connecting me with a new group of people to begin my sophomore year at Brown -- it was a new friendship group I kept for the remainder of my time there. I don’t know what it’s like now, but that transition from 1st yr to 2nd yr can be daunting, as Units scatter and the feeling of a central core or central experience isn’t readily apparent, or perhaps even there. It’s time to find and make your Brown. BOLT set the tone for the year and the rest of the experience. I don’t think BOLT affected me professionally, but one never knows. You draw on all yourself when you’re in the field of education, and so to the degree it shaped me, it also has influence on my professional work.

*I would like to give a gift of

☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ $500  ☐ $1000  ☐ other _______

to support BOLT in the following way:

☐ Current Use (scholarship & new gear)
☐ BOLT Endowment Fund

I have news to share!

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*you may also submit updates online at brown.edu/bolt/alumni/updates*
Inside this issue,

you’ll find alumni updates, stories and pictures from this year’s Fall trip, letters from Director Shelley Adriance and the Managers, and more.

Enjoy and please stay in touch!