



“Passion Changes Everything”: Anthony Borgese’s Journey from Hospitality to Philanthropy



*{Dr. Anthony Borgese '88, Chair of the Department of Tourism and Hospitality, established the **Borgese Family Graduation Award** in 2021}*

It's hard to be “more KCC” than Anthony Borgese, who graduated from the college in 1988 and has taught in the Department of Tourism & Hospitality for over two decades. Hear him tell it, though, and you discover that his second chapter at KCC happened almost by accident: “I worked in the hotel industry for 10 years, then started looking into law school. But when I asked my former KCC professor, Dr. Schulman, for a letter of recommendation, he asked me to come back and teach. One of his colleagues was out with a medical emergency, and he needed

someone to fill in. I agreed to do it, begrudgingly, but after one day in the classroom I was hooked!”

Now a veteran teacher and mentor in his own right, Dr. Borgese believes that “passion changes everything,” a saying often attributed to Anthony Melchiorri, an icon of the hotel industry and host of the hit show *Hotel Impossible*. Fortunately, Dr. Borgese encounters no shortage of game-changing passion in the KCC students who attend his classes.

“Hotel Management is such a specific industry,” he says. “It tends to attract students who are highly focused and motivated to earn their degrees and advance in their careers.” In 2004, he was particularly proud to see one of his students, Eusie Skeete, named KCC’s valedictorian, a first for the Department of Tourism & Hospitality.

In 2021, Dr. Borgese further invested in his students’ success by making a generous donation to establish the *Borgese Family Graduation Award*. Beginning this spring, the award will provide recognition and financial support to a graduating Hotel Management major who has achieved academic excellence and plans to enter directly into the hotel industry or a four-year college.

With this award, Dr. Borgese has found yet another way to convey his pride in his students’ achievements and prepare them for bright futures in their careers. “Like many of the students I’ve taught, I was the first member in my family to graduate from college,” he says. “I am grateful that God has put me in a position to give back, and I would encourage everyone who loves KCC as I do to consider doing the same.”

What Will *Your* KCC Legacy Be?

Like Dr. Borgese, you too can make a lasting impact on KCC students through establishing a scholarship or graduation award. [Click Here](#) to learn about the different kinds of scholarships available to students, and [Click Here](#) to make *your* life-changing donation today!



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