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# University Reporter - Vol. 01, No. 01 - September 1996

University of Massachusetts Boston

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THE UNIVERSITY

# Reporter

NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

## The Vietnam Institute

*"For me, one of the strengths of the Institute is that the literary and historical perspectives constantly came back to the issue of teaching."*

—Alton Flynn, Teacher, Stoughton High School

Thirty high school teachers, seeking new ways to teach about the Vietnam war or initiate new courses on the war for their students, attended the Joiner Center's Vietnam Institute, *Teaching the Vietnam War: Historical and Literary Perspectives* from July 22 to August 16. The Institute was funded with a \$77,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), one of only twelve such grants to be awarded this year, and the first time that an interdisciplinary approach to teaching about the war in Vietnam has been supported by the NEH.

Volume 1  
Number 1  
September 1996

### Welcome to the University Reporter

Welcome to the *University Reporter*, the news and information source for UMass Boston. The *University Reporter* will replace the *Friday Report* and will be published monthly. Ideas for stories or information on events, awards, grants, or publications are welcome. Send your news items to: The *University Reporter*, External Relations, 3rd floor, Quinn Administration Bldg., or e-mail your information to: [univ\\_report@umb.sky.cc.umb.edu](mailto:univ_report@umb.sky.cc.umb.edu).

The Institute's primary goal was to help classroom teachers overcome the artificial boundary that often exists between teaching the literature and the history of the war, according to Paul Atwood, Institute Coordinator. All themes and topics examined during the Institute were addressed equally from the literary and historical perspectives by scholars and writers of the Vietnam war experience.

Included among the faculty were Howard Zinn, Professor of Political Science at Boston University and prominent critic of the Vietnam war, and Ngo Vinh Long, Associate Professor of History at the University of Maine at Orono and chief translator for the award-winning television series, *Vietnam: A Television History*. Representing UMass Boston faculty were Kevin Bowen, Director of the Joiner Center, History Professor David Hunt, Associate Professor Peter Kiang of the Graduate College of Education, and American Studies Adjunct Professor Gene Michaud.

Longmeadow High School teacher and Vietnam war veteran John Fitzgerald said that the Institute would help him reach and interest more students in this critical period of American history. "I see using literature from the war as a way to reach students who may not be interested in an impersonal history, but who may be interested in the

*continue to page 6*

# A Community of Learners

**con vo ca tion** – *n.* [ME. convocacioun < L. convocatio]  
 1. the act of convoking 2. a group that has been convoked; esp. an academic assembly

The UMass Boston campus formally recognizes the opening of the new academic year with a Convocation—an opportunity to bring the university community together, and celebrate the theme for our undertakings over the next nine months--“UMass Boston: A Community of Learners.” This year, Convocation activities will include a range of events over the week of October 7 to 11, which will offer something for all members of the university community—students, faculty and staff. The following list of events will give you a preview of what’s been planned to date:

Beginning on Monday, October 7, there will be a classified staff breakfast, and a luncheon for alumni and student leaders. Attendance at both events is by invitation.

On Tuesday, October 8, The Healey Library will host an open house for students from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. Also on the 8th, an international food and music festival will be open to everyone on campus from 11:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the plaza. In the spirit of this celebration, all the cafeterias will be offering a selection of international foods as well.

Scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, is the College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program Fall Reception for both the new and continuing honors students and faculty. Highlighting the reception will be, for the first time, the awarding of \$7,000 in scholarships from the Robert and Myra Kraft Foundation.

Events planned for Convocation Day, Thursday October 10, include the Faculty-Staff Breakfast, followed by a Convocation Address given by Dr. Jerry Gaff, Vice President of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, which is open to all members of the university community. This will be followed by a panel discussion/luncheon on general education reform. Contact the CAS Deans office for pre-registration. Finally, at 4:15 p.m., Chancellor Penney will officiate at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the Learning Center, lower level, Healey Library.

The Learning Center will have an open house from 10:00 to 4:00 on Friday, October 11. Faculty and staff are invited to tour the center, and explore its resources.

A film festival entitled “Celebrating Diversity in American Film Making,” sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs will take place over the course of the week. Movies will be shown in the Telecommunications Conference Room, lower level, Healey Library Monday through Thursday. On Friday, the movie will be shown in Lipke Auditorium. Admission is free, and open to all.

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# The Dean's Corner: Patricia Davidson

As the College of Arts and Sciences Acting Dean of Undergraduate Education, Patricia Davidson's major goal is to improve undergraduate education and the learning experiences of UMass Boston students. She applies this goal to a wide range of programs and activities that fall within the realm of her responsibility.

Davidson, who has been dean since 1994, oversees interdivisional aspects of undergraduate studies, has responsibility for coordinating operations that cross divisional lines, and oversees undergraduate student academic issues in the College of Arts and Sciences. What this translates into is responsibility for the core curriculum, the writing proficiency exam, general education requirements, freshman studies, the CAS honors program, teacher education programs, and the Academic Support Office, with its many programs. In addition, she is the liaison with the CAS Senate and Senate committees on issues of governance and instruction, in coordination with the other CAS deans, Woodruff Smith, Dean of Liberal Arts Faculty, and Christine Arnett-Kibel, Dean of Sciences Faculty.

For Davidson, realizing her goal means taking an active role in another major effort—general education reform, a process that will ultimately have a major impact on undergraduate education and programs throughout the university. The objective of this undertaking is to identify and implement ways of making undergraduate education more effective and more relevant for

students, whether they intend to pursue graduate studies or a career after graduation. Davidson, a member of the General Education Steering Committee, co-chairs the Working Group on the First Year Experience with Peter Langer, Director of University Advising Center. This is one of four working groups on general education issues, the others focusing on science education, world languages and cultures, and developmental models for the four year program.

The objective of the first year experience is to help the student become "a reflective, responsible, self-directed, confident and competent learner," according to the executive summary of the group issued on September 1. "We are working on developing a comprehensive plan for the first year experience, which includes carefully reviewing the teaching process, the learning process," says Davidson. "In the program we develop, there will be common goals to be met, but professors will have the room to teach to their own strengths and areas of interest." She hopes that a first year experience pilot program will be in place by Fall of 1997.

By virtue of her present position as dean and her professional interests, Davidson is well suited to her role in this important process. She counts among her interests creative teaching strategies and assessment techniques, and curriculum development. She has conducted research into how people learn, learning styles, and pedagogies that address different learning styles. She pursued these research interests during post-

doctoral studies in neurology, neuropsychology, and cognitive science at Harvard University, Boston's Children's Hospital, and at Columbia's Teachers College.

Davidson, who came to UMass Boston from Boston State College, has been a professor of mathematics since 1970. She has combined her interest in neuropsychology with mathematics, and has published over thirty articles on topics ranging from children's understanding of the nature of fractions to assessing mathematical abilities and learning approaches. From 1988 to 1992 she was Chief Examiner in mathematics of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, which is offered in 535 schools in 70 countries, and Chair of the Board of Chief Examiners from 1990-93. Here at UMass Boston, she was director of the graduate program in Critical and Creative Thinking from 1987 to 1994.

As Convocation Week approaches, Davidson is hoping that students, faculty and staff will take the opportunity to find out more about the university's plans for general education reform as they have developed so far. General education is the theme of Convocation Day activities on October 10. Open meetings will be held on Friday September 27 and Tuesday October 1 for members of the university community to share their ideas and concerns, and ask questions about general education reform. Says Davidson, "We don't want the general education plan to become a fact without people knowing about it and having a chance to respond."

# Learning Center Opens Doors Oct. 10th

On October 10, a new campus resource will be inaugurated when Chancellor Penney officially opens the doors of the Learning Center as part of Convocation Week Activities. A professional development and technology facility for faculty and staff, the Center is located in newly refurbished space on the lower level of Healey Library. It will offer courses and workshops in information and instructional technology, learning and teaching, and professional and staff development.

Features one will find at the Learning Center include a media auditorium for groups up to 140; a presentation/discussion room with moveable tables for either lectures or workshops; rooms equipped with workstations, hardware, and software packages for self-paced, individualized learning; a resource room with advanced computer and media equipment for creating high-tech presentations; and media-capable presentation rooms for demonstrations and displays.

In *Professional Development Opportunities*, the Learning Center catalogue, you will find approximately 100 courses offered for fall/winter 1996. Course topics range from preparing for faculty or staff reviews, to creating a department intranet page, to

using portfolios to assess student learning outcomes. "As faculty and staff use the Learning Center, we'll adapt the offerings to their needs and requests," adds Professor Philip Quaglieri, Director of the Learning Center.

Quaglieri describes the Learning Center's inauguration as a significant milestone in the development of the university's resources as envisioned in the Year 2000 Strategic Plan. The Plan calls for furthering professional development for faculty and staff as an essential part of the campus agenda for change as we approach the 21st Century.

The Learning Center originated from a proposal for providing technology support services to faculty and staff developed by Director of Computing Services Charlie Boland. The office of Administration and Finance under Deputy Chancellor Jean MacCormack undertook the project with the help of Assistant Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Mary Grant, and a program advisory committee comprised of faculty and staff. Eventually, this project involved the work of many individuals and departments on campus.

In addition to Quaglieri, Learning Center staff includes Associate Director Anthony Martin, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Senior Associates of the Center are Donald Babcock, Charlie Boland, Mary Grant, Bernard Harleston, Hubie Jones, Canice McGarry, and Ray Melcher.

Also making notable contributions to the Learning Center's programs were members of its Program Advisory Committee: Elaine Bauer, Hiep Chu, Joel Grossman, Lonnie Hill, Jack Hughes, Hubie Jones, Ellie Kutz, Denise Means. Gina Spaziani, Jim Wice, Lisa Williams, and Todd Williamson.

Whether you are looking for information on how to save for retirement, or time to become familiar with a new software program, or preparing for an important faculty review, the Learning Center is offering programs that can help you further your professional goals. Come and find out more about this valuable resource.

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*On October 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. faculty and staff can tour the Center and find out more about what it will be offering during the Learning Center Open House.*  
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# Public Discourse is the goal of Forum for the 21st Century

## In Memoriam, Professor Edwin Gittleman

It was with great sadness that his many friends, colleagues, and students received the news that Professor Edwin Gittleman died suddenly at his house in Vermont on July 27. Ed Gittleman was a dedicated and passionate teacher who took as much delight in teaching writing to freshman as in sharing the scholarship he loved with graduate students. He was a scholar of American literature with particular interest in the historical impact of African-American literature and culture on American society. At the time of his death, he was nearing completion of his study of Colonel Shaw and the 54th Union Regiment. Over his long career, Ed served the English department, the College of Arts and Sciences, of which he was associate dean from 1973-1975, and the university with total commitment and distinction. His passing is a great loss, and we extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Roz, his children, and many other family members and close friends.

By Woodruff D. Smith, Dean of Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Sciences

*A Memorial Service for Prof. Gittleman will be held Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 3:30 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room. Friends, colleagues and students are invited to attend.*

To promote understanding among the various parties interested in development issues in Boston, UMass Boston's Forum for the 21st Century presented its first program, "Beyond Stalemate: Getting Development Done in Boston" at Jordan Hall on September 18. This was the first in a series of programs planned by UMass Boston which aim to provide opportunities for experts and concerned citizens to participate in discussions of social and economic development matters which Bostonians will face as we move towards the year 2000.

Last week's program brought together legislators, business and civic leaders to discuss the many issues to be considered in undertaking development projects in Boston. The Forum was opened by Chancellor Penney, and introductory remarks were given by Boston Mayor Thomas Menino. Panelists were: Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives Thomas Finneran; Walter Huntley, President, Atlanta Economic Development Corporation; Rosalind Gorin, President of H.N. Gorin, Inc.; Ronald Homer, former President and CEO of The Boston Bank of Commerce; and Denise Altay, Vice President of Corporate Strategies of the National Equity Fund, Chicago. The discussion was moderated by

Paul Guzzi, President and CEO, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce.

The Forum for the 21st Century is an initiative of the University's new urban mission action plan. It seeks to contribute to significant public discourse on urban matters such as education, health care, development, and quality of life for the people of Boston.

Three more forums in this series are planned for the Spring semester:

- New Ways of Learning in the 21st Century, January 21, 1997 at Boston University Theater
- City Boulevards and the Urban Ring, March 19, 1997 at State Street Bank
- Transformation in Health Care: Cure or Harm? May 17, 1997 at Jordan Hall

# Welcome to New Staff and Faculty

Chancellor Sherry Penney and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost Lou Esposito welcome to our campus two new interim appointments in the Office of Enrollment Services. Joining us are David Truax, as Associate Chancellor for Enrollment Management, and Jill Conlon, as Director of Admissions. Truax comes to UMass Boston from the State University of New York at Albany, where he was Associate Vice Chancellor for Access Services, and Conlon comes from the State University of New York at Geneseo, where she served most recently as Director of Admissions.

On August 29, twenty four new faculty members joined our campus. They bring with them a wide range of experience and expertise in their areas of interest, and we look forward to their classroom and scholarly contributions. They are:

## College of Arts and Sciences

Assistant Professor Rachel Rubin, American Studies

Assistant Professor Andrea Novicki, Biology

Assistant Professor Reyes Fidalgo, Hispanic Studies

Assistant Professor Dina Goldin, Math and Computer Science

Assistant Professor Amy Weisman, Psychology

Assistant Professor Paul Nestor, Psychology

Assistant Professor Lizabeth Roemer, Psychology

Visiting Associate Professor Michael Thornton, Sociology

Lecturer Timothy Nohe, Art

Lecturer Marc Prou, Black Studies

Lecturer John Warner, Chemistry

Lecturer Roger Wrubel, Environmental Studies

## College of Public and Community Service

Assistant Professor Jennifer Caldwell, Applied Language and Math Center

Associate Professor Susan Opatow, Dispute Resolution

## College of Management

Assistant Professor Inshik Seol, Accounting and Finance

Assistant Professor Susan Machuga, Accounting and Finance

## Graduate College of Education

Associate Professor Martha Montero-Sieburth, LIUS

Assistant Professor Nan Zhang Hampton, Counseling/School Psychology

Assistant Professor Gonzalo Bacigalupe, Counseling/School Psychology

Associate Professor Lilia Bartholome, Teacher Preparation

## College of Nursing

Assistant Professor Avery Faigenbaum, Human Performance & Fitness

Lecturer Althea Smith, Nursing

Lecturer Margaret McAllister, Nursing Graduate Studies

## McCormack Institute

Lecturer Alan Clayton-Mathews, Public Policy

## The Vietnam Institute

*continued from page 1*

stories of those who fought in Vietnam." Readings included literature from both American and Vietnamese veterans of the war as well as historical texts, movies, and poetry.

"For me, one of the strengths of the Institute is that the literary and historical perspectives constantly came back to the issue of teaching," said Alton Flynn, a Vietnam war veteran who teaches American studies to seniors at Stoughton High School. "Professor Kiang arranged for us to meet with several Vietnamese high school and college students to discuss problems they face. As teachers, it is necessary for us to be mindful of the many different sets of values we may find in our classrooms."

Flynn intends to incorporate ideas and readings he discovered into his American Studies class curriculum this fall by balancing historical material with more poetry and literature, and make use of some new ways of presenting materials which he learned at the Institute. Participants will return to UMass Boston for a follow-up evaluation and discussions in the fall and again in the spring.

# WUMB Introduces Community Program

*"What WUMB is doing is really public radio."*

—Delano Lewis,  
National Public Radio

Delano Lewis, President and CEO of National Public Radio (NPR), was the featured speaker at a community partnership breakfast at the Dimock Community Health Center in July. Lewis joined WUMB 91.9FM in announcing its new community program to the airwaves. In cooperation with fifty two local multicultural organizations and NPR, the program will feature Boston-area residents speaking about national issues that affect their lives.

Each week for one year, a different organization will bring together local citizens to discuss topics such as youth violence, neighborhood and economic development, aging issues, hate crimes, and health care. Organizations will be chosen to participate based on recommendations from the UMass Boston academic community.

"What WUMB is doing is really public radio," noted Lewis, who said that he is proud of WUMB's outreach into the surrounding community. "We at public radio are really content and context people—we can talk about issues and not worry about pleasing a sponsor." This UMass Boston/

NPR partnership is funded by a grant from NPR. WUMB staff members will train groups of volunteers to produce the one-half hour shows for broadcast with assistance from a NPR distributor.

Lewis has been responsible for producing and distributing NPR's original programming and providing service and support to its 540 member stations across the country since 1994. A former President and CEO of C & P Telephone Company, Lewis also served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Africa, as Associate Director in Nigeria and Country Director in Uganda.

## Surfing the Web at UMass Boston

If you've taken a look at the UMass Boston world wide web site <http://www.umb.edu> lately, you'll see that it changed since last Spring. "Over the summer, we focused on keeping our pages current with campus news and developments, and on making it easier for visitors to interact with us," says Anthony Martin, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Martin directs and oversees the development of the web site for the university. "Creating icons on a page which immediately connect a visitor to an email address is one example of how we are simplifying communications," Martin said.

Another communications device, the dialogue box, allows a visitor to enter comments, suggestions

or concerns to the creators of a home page by simply typing in a message. You can see how this works by accessing the Information Technology Exploration & Planning Page located in "What's New" on the UMass Boston site. Home pages for centers and institutes, undergraduate programs, faculty members and students will also be under development this Fall.

While Martin has been putting a face on UMass Boston's web site and improving the way it appears to the outside world, Charlie Boland, Director of Computing Services and his staff have been developing the capacity of the "intranet." This is Boland's term for using the information super-highway to facilitate work within

the university, thereby improving efficiency and eliminating paper. An example he cites are the test pages that have been created for the Office of Environmental Safety. These will detail the procedures, policies and regulations of the department, and will eventually be accessible to university employees. Other departments of the university will be developing a presence on the intranet in the future.

Stay tuned for further developments on the UMass Boston web site in the next issue of the *University Reporter*. In the meantime, check out what's happening at UMass Boston at <http://www.umb.edu>.



CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

The New England Resource Center for Higher Education (NERCHE) convened for a one-day symposium in June entitled *Rethinking Academic Community*. Guest speaker Alan Guskin, Chancellor of Antioch University, spoke on *Facing the Future: The Change Process in Restructuring Universities*. NERCHE Director **Zelda Gamson** moderated a follow-up panel discussion.

The Joiner Center held its Ninth Annual Writers Workshop in June. A distinguished faculty, including UMass Boston English professors **Martha Collins** and **Lloyd Schwartz** conducted workshops for approximately 115 participants. A new feature to the program this year was a one day workshop for writers from the Boston area's Hispanic community.

FACULTY GRANTS, AWARDS, AND PUBLICATIONS

Management and Marketing Professor **Peter McClure** has been awarded a Fulbright Lecturing Appointment to China for Spring, 1997. Professor McClure will be lecturing at the State University of the Shandong Province in Jinan, China.

The Italian Government has named History Professor **Spencer M. Di Scala** a Commander in the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy in recognition of his scholarship and publications on Italy. His book, *Italy: From Revolution to Republic, 1700 to the Present* was honored at Syracuse University in Florence, Italy, where Di Scala's work was praised for its balance and interpretation of Italian events.

Associate Professor **Judith Smith**, Graduate Director of the American Studies Program, presented a paper entitled *Hollywood's Marrying Kind: Redesigning the Post-War Family* at the Japan Association of American Studies annual meeting at the University of Tokyo in June. Smith also traveled to Sapporo, where she presented a paper, *Feminism and the Family: American Women in Society Today* at the American Center.

**Estelle Disch**, Associate Professor of Sociology recently edited a book, *Reconstructing Gender: A Multicultural Anthology*. This anthology brings together a body of materials covering issues related to men and women from a multicultural perspective.

The **Trotter Institute** has published a new study, *An Overview of Black-owned Businesses in the United States in the 1990's*. The study summarizes some major characteristics of Black-owned businesses, including concentrations and patterns of black businesses by industry groups; their status in relation to all businesses; and significant developments in size and characteristic between 1987 and 1992. This report will be followed by others examining Latino and Asian-owned businesses in Massachusetts.

A transcript of the proceedings of the November 1995 conference, *Collision-Course? Massachusetts Families and the Economy at the Crossroads* was published in June. This conference was sponsored by the **Center for Women in Politics** of the McCormack Institute, the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators, and Charles Flaherty, former Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

GRADUATIONS

The Center for Immigrant and Refugee Community Leadership and Empowerment (**CIRCLE**) held its first graduation ceremony at the Boston campus on June 29 with Manley Begay, of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, as the keynote speaker. The twenty two graduates of CIRCLE's Boston-area program represent immigrant and refugee communities, including those from El Salvador, the former Soviet Union, Haiti, Cambodia, China, Vietnam, Somalia, Brazil, and the Dominican Republic.

One hundred and ninety incoming UMass Boston students completed a six-week program, Directions for Student Potential (**DSP**) over the summer. DSP is designed to prepare students for academic work at UMass Boston by providing them with intensive academic preparation and an introduction to the UMass Boston campus.

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. **Frank Caro** assumed the position of Acting Director of the Gerontology Institute on August 14. He replaced Dr. **Scott Bass**, who has accepted the position of Graduate Dean and Vice Provost for Research at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Dr. Caro has served as Director of the Gerontology Institute's Research Division, Centerhead of the Gerontology Center of CPCS, and as Graduate Program Director of the Gerontology Ph.D. program. Attorney **Ellen Bruce** has been appointed Associate Director of the Gerontology Institute. She will also continue as Director of the Gerontology Institute's Public Policy Division.

**Mary Mahoney** has been appointed Coordinator of Internship Programs, where she will be responsible for development of internship opportunities for students. Before accepting this appointment, Ms. Mahoney was Director of Undergraduate Admissions for two years. She also served as Assistant Director and Associate Director of that office.

On September 30, **James Morris** takes on a new role as Associate Vice Chancellor for External Relations, in charge of alumni relations, constituency services, and publications. From 1993 to the present, Morris served as Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Services.

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# *UMass Boston First* is a First for University Fundraising

The \$50 million Campaign, called *UMass Boston First*, will be officially launched on October 16 at the John F. Kennedy Library, when leaders of the fund-raising drive will formally entertain major gift contributors as well as prospective donors.

The five-year campaign is the first serious fund-raising effort in the University's history. As we continue as a mature university, the acquisition of substantial philanthropy—moreover endowment—to help build a “nest egg” for the future is essential. Great public universities have been built on a solid base of philanthropic support. Michigan, Michigan State, Rutgers, Penn State, and the University of Wisconsin did not achieve “world class” status only through legislative support, tuition, and fees.

The campaign seeks to secure endowed funds in support of students, with scholarships; faculty with professorships, research, and teaching funds; research and innovation with grant support; and finally facilities and equipment with capital dollars.

Several exciting promotional activities will take place around the capital campaign, which include:

- Billboards on the Mass Pike and I-93, courtesy of Ackerley Outdoor Advertising;
- Banners on selected campus buildings
- Posters distributed throughout campus
- T-shirts distributed to students, faculty and staff
- Campaign movie—first 16mm film, available on video, ever made about our university

Presently, \$2.2 million has been acquired since July 1, to be added to last year's \$5.455 million acquired as a campus “nest egg.” To date, we now have \$7.7 million acquired toward our \$50 million goal. Principal support has come from such sources as our current and retired faculty, and staff, friends, alumni, corporations and

foundations. Many campaign commitments are first-time, major gifts to the University. Several gifts are estate plans and other creative-giving vehicles, such as payroll deduction for employees with specific departmental restrictions.

We are proud to announce that over \$825,000 of the current \$7.7 million committed toward the campaign has been pledged by current and retired faculty and staff, while additional gifts from others are still being considered. This is a wonderful tribute to the members of the UMass Boston family. Continued strong, generous support from faculty and staff will ensure the Campaign's success.



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## First Alumni Magazine Launched

The premier issue of our alumni magazine, *UMass Boston*, was launched in August and mailed to approximately 40,000 alumni and friends of the University. It included information on alumni, faculty and students, and featured a story on our commencement activities on June 1. A profile of men's clothing designer, Joseph Abboud, '72, and articles on the upcoming *UMass Boston First* campaign, our first major fundraising effort, were also featured. *UMass Boston* will be published three times a year, the next issue to be published in December. Free copies of *UMass Boston* are available outside the Resource Development Office, second floor, Quinn Administration Building.

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APPOINTMENTS *continued*

Associate Professor **Sheila Post** assumed the directorship of the new intercollegiate Division of Global Studies on July 15. Global Studies incorporates the International Center, and East Asian Studies, European Studies, and International Relations programs. Professor Post will be responsible for new program development, and for all aspects of international study already underway.

Professor **Richard Lyons** has joined the staff of the Provost's Office as Associate Provost. His primary responsibilities are in the areas of union relations, contract negotiations, and faculty personnel matters. He assumed this position on September 3.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**Robin Paige Tinnereim**, a student in the Management and Marketing Department of the College of Management, was awarded the SunExpress Marketing Achievement Scholarship in the amount of \$2500. This award was made by SunExpress, Inc., of Chelmsford, MA., a subsidiary of Sun Microsystems. The scholarship was awarded on the basis of academic performance and need.

College of Nursing students **Kathryn Lind**, **Avril Jackson-Black**, and **Kristen Lippert** have each received \$5,000 scholarships from the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for Aged (HRCA). These scholarships are a result of a unique partnership between the College of Nursing and the HRCA, where HRCA serves as a training site for geriatric nursing, and UMass Boston nursing students provide services for their residents.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The **Division of Continuing Education** was very busy over the summer, hosting four groups of international students on our campus. Approximately forty students from Chukyo University in Nagoya, Japan attended the fifth summer seminar, studying English language and culture. Established in 1991, this annual seminar is part of an ongoing exchange between Chukyo University and UMass Boston.

For the first time, a group of students from the University of Puerto Rico came to UMass Boston for a similar course of English language and culture studies. CPCS Dean **Ismael Ramirez Soto** and English Professor **Donaldo Macedo**, Director of the Graduate Program in ESL, were instrumental in arranging this program with the University of Puerto Rico.

Also visiting UMass Boston this summer were two groups of students from Ireland who participated in programs which focused on job skills. One group, sponsored by Boston Ireland Ventures, concentrated on internship placements in a variety of businesses and media outlets, while the second group, sponsored by Concept Group of Concord, MA., received placements in retail and tourism. The **Division of Continuing Education** provided the groups with business communications, writing, and oral presentation skills courses.

The **Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy** hosted a public policy forum for 25 young African women leaders on August 21. This group consisted of community leaders, journalists, politicians and scholars who were here to learn more about women and the American political process, and to explore issues of women's rights. Their visit was sponsored by the International Visitors Program of the United States Information Agency (USIA).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

The Center for the Improvement of Teaching (**CIT**) received a \$154,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to support student-faculty research seminars, and the publication of a journal intended to educate the university community. A further goal is to see that the voices of UMass Boston students are heard in national debates on higher education. Directing the project in 1996-97 will be Professor **Tim Sieber** of the anthropology department and assistant project director is **Jeffrey Amos Scott**, a UMass Boston alumnus and Ph.D. candidate at the University of California, Berkeley.

Fleet Bank has established the **Fleet Bank/UMass Boston Scholarship Program** with a \$100,000 gift. Four scholarships from this fund will be awarded this fall to students who are graduates of the Boston Public Schools or Fleet Bank employees who are preparing for careers in management, science, or technology. Fleet Bank President and C.E.O. Leo Breitman has also agreed to serve a co-chair of the UMass Boston Capital Campaign Cabinet.

The **Urban Scholars** Program is the recipient of a 1996 NYNEX Excellence in Education Award. This \$25,000 award will support the development and integration of technology into the Urban Scholars Program.

A \$25,600 grant has been awarded to the **Harbor Explorations** Program by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education and the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program. Harbor Explorations provides hands-on marine biology experience to as many as 10,000 middle and high school students from Massachusetts on board the research vessel, *Enviro-lab III*.

In August, the UMass Boston chapter of the Golden Key National Honor Society was presented with the regional award for most improved chapter at the International Golden Key National Honor Society in Scottsdale Arizona, August 8 to 11. On hand to receive this award were Honor Society officers **Susan Coughlin** and **Tom Welch**, along with their advisor, Director of Student Life **Kelly Clark**.

# McCormack Grad Charts Fiscal Recovery

The case study of graduate student Michael J. O'Neil so impressed faculty at The John W. McCormack Institute of Public Affairs that it was published as an occasional paper, according to Director Robert Woodbury. O'Neil was presented the first Annual Policy Analysis Award by Director Woodbury at Commencement. The Masters of Science in Public Affairs faculty also presented him with a token of its esteem.

O'Neil's paper, entitled "Fiscal Recovery and the Changing Role of Massachusetts Government," traces the Commonwealth's fiscal history from the end of the "Massachusetts Miracle" to the Weld Administration Budget Policy, 1991-1995.

Professor Richard Hogarty supervised O'Neil's paper, which climaxed two years of intensive work and led to a Master of Science in Public Affairs degree. Joseph R. Barresi, the state's first Inspector General, served as faculty advisor and steered the student through a pile of papers that included several Barresi produced for the McCormack Institute in concert with Joseph S. Slavet.

O'Neil chronicled the roller-coaster budget ride back to June, 1987 when Massachusetts' tax revenues increased so much that a credit for taxpayers was produced.

Starting in 1988, tax revenues slumped and in short order Standard & Poor's credit rating skidded from AA+ to AA and then, in March, 1990 to B's with Moody's Investors Service, one level above junk bond status.

O'Neil painted the scene thusly: "As William Weld took the Governor's oath at the State House on January 3, 1991, dozens of activists and homeless people demonstrated outside, protesting budget cuts and social program cuts that would only deepen with time...In terms of fiscal stability, it had to be the Commonwealth's low point. To sink any lower would likely have meant bankruptcy or receivership, unthinkable options..."

"The challenge facing Weld ran far more deeply than the projected \$850 million budget shortfall for the fiscal year that would come to a close only six months into his administration. The two major fiscal challenges were restoration of some measure of budgetary discipline and control of state spending."

O'Neil reviewed the so-called "budget busters"—Medicare, health insurance, pensions, debt service and MBTA costs—that had exhibited enormous growth. He cited a "lack of budgetary discipline and sound financial management" during the 1980's.

The FY91 budget's "salvation" came from an obscure provision in federal Medicaid law that had not been exercised in 15 years.

Massachusetts was able to send a staggering \$489 million bill to the federal government that "brought the budget within \$21 million of balancing."

O'Neil mentioned cutbacks in FY92 and "the first budget in eight years that had been passed on time, the first time since 1988 that new taxes weren't included."

The paper then related "The Road to Fiscal Recovery: FY92-96," and mentioned the infighting between Governor Weld and the Legislature. Significantly, both are applauded today by O'Neil. "Of all the accomplishments of the Weld Administration... it is the changes that have taken place in respect to the Commonwealth's fiscal stability and business climate that seem to be emphasized more than any other."

"What is fairly evident over the last five years is that what the state purchases and how it is financed has changed. Dramatic steps altered the scope of government operations in order to better reflect the capacity to pay for these operations."

Michael J. O'Neil is a Certified Public Accountant. He received a B.B.A. in 1988 from University of Notre Dame, and a M.S. in Public Affairs from UMass Boston in 1996. He was a Financial Investigator in the office of The Attorney General from January, 1993 and is currently employed by the State of Connecticut.

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# Biology Researcher Awarded \$750,000 Grant

Acknowledging him for his innovative and thorough approach to research and its originality and importance, Professor Manickam Sugumaran of the Biology department was awarded a \$750,000 grant from the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). This grant will fund his work into the chemical, enzymic, and molecular mechanisms that control the hardening of insects' exoskeletons, a critical process in the lives of insects. Professor Sugumaran has already received close to \$3 million from NIAID for his previous work in this area.

Exoskeletal hardening in insects results in several adaptive features, including protection from dehydration, the creation of a barrier to invasive pathogens and parasites, and the entry of poisons. Because this is a vitally important process, Professor Sugumaran's research has implications for the development of insect controls by interfering with exoskeletal hardening. His

research has already identified pathways, key enzymes, and cross-linking molecules critical to the hardening process.

In extrapolating his studies on insects to mammals, Sugumaran has identified parallel mechanisms in melanin biosynthesis. These mechanisms have potential significance for the development of new drugs for the treatment of malignant melanoma and other melanin related disorders.

Sugumaran and biology professor Kamal Bawa, in collaboration with Costa Rican scientists, have also received a bioprospecting grant from the National Institute of Health Fogarty International Institute. This grant will be used to identify naturally occurring compounds from tropical rain forest plants that disrupt the exoskeleton hardening process in insects.

## Trotter Research Associates Named

The Trotter Institute announced the names of two prominent scholars who will join them as Visiting Research Associates in 1996-7. Dr. Stephanie Athey, Assistant Professor of English at Stetson University, and currently a Visiting Scholar at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education, joins the Trotter Institute for the fall-winter semester. She has published essays on racial dynamics in the development of feminist theory, women's antislavery fiction, and contemporary writing on reproductive freedom.

Dr. Ellis Cashmore, Professor of Sociology at Staffordshire University, England, will join the Trotter Institute for the winter-spring semester. A frequent contributor for BBC radio and television in England, his twelve books include *The Dictionary of Race and Ethnic Relations* and *Making Sense of Sports*, which examines race, ethnicity and contemporary culture and sports.

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