GoKids Marathon Team Ready to Race

By Kaushik Prakash

Twenty-three athletes will run the 113th Boston Marathon on April 20 to raise money for GoKids Boston, the University of Massachusetts Boston’s facility devoted to research and promoting healthy activity among youths. GoKids Boston this year has been included as one of the marathon’s official charities by the Boston Athletic Association (BAA), the organizer of the historic annual event.

GoKids director Kyle McNinis and Nanette Cormier from University Advancement submitted a written proposal to BAA requesting charity designation. Given the fundraising potential, McNinis says she believes the fundraising potential the marathon generates, the selection process to become a charity of the Boston Marathon is a competitive one. At the time of applying there were only five available openings, and the BAA of applying there were only five openings, and the BAA

The marathon team members Amy Winston and Tara Paulayskas. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences Greer Glazer says she believes the fundraising potential the marathon generates is a tremendous opportunity for the university to raise awareness of GoKids Boston as a center devoted to children’s health. “Having runners represent us in the prestigious 2009 Boston Marathon will help in people noticing the terrific work we do,” Glazer said. “It will also help us to raise the money to allow us to do more for more children in the Boston area.”

To maximize the fundraising potential, McNinis contracted fundraising specialist Susan Hurley to assist in organizing and coordinating the GoKids marathon team. Hurley, who has worked with other charity programs associated with the Boston Marathon, was able to secure additional race numbers. The runners on this year’s team were handpicked from a large pool of applicants based on their running resume and their fundraising capabilities. Under the agreement with the BAA, each runner is required to raise at least $3,000 for the charity. In February, Chancellor J. Keith Motley with Bill Forry, managing editor of the Dorchester Reporter, who won a NEENA for feature writing. (Photo by Harry Brett)

(continued on page 2)
This grant will be directed primarily at easing the financial burden of students by covering transatlantic travel costs and living expenses; participating students need only pay tuition at the rate of their home institution. Given the inherently international nature of work in information systems, providing students with overseas experiences seemed like a perfect fit.

“We realized that many students were graduating without having any training in cross-cultural experiences—and with all the outsourcing that has been going on during the last few years, this program is really addressing a need that we have recognized for a long time,” says Koehler.

The program is extremely competitive; six students from each participating university will be admitted, allowing for a greater focus on each student. While studying abroad, students will gain an international perspective on the study of information systems and will engage in real-world projects with leading corporations.

“Students will get good exposure to corporate cultures in other countries,” notes Koehler.

In fact, it is this focus on collaboration with global companies that is one of the distinctive features of this program. Corporate partners such as Siemens, Ericsson, and PricewaterhouseCoopers will play an active role in the program, with Nokia already lined up as a project site for the first year.

A number of guest speakers will come to all four campuses to speak to students on issues affecting the corporate world. Students will also have the opportunity to go on a number of company visits, and will participate in projects and internships within the companies.

“The idea, of course, is that some of these opportunities will lead to permanent positions after-wards,” says Koehler.

In addition to gaining experience in different corporate cultures, the program will increase students’ analytical and critical thinking skills as well as promote adaptability. Students will benefit from the strengths of the four institutions, which include respective core competencies in information and systems security, enterprise resource systems design and implementation, business process innovation, systems design, business analysis, IT controls and auditing, and IT accessibility.

Students will also be exposed to faculty members from all four institutions; the joint curriculum has been planned to maximize students’ exposure to a comprehensive range of course offerings that tap into the principal emphases of each school.

Aside from gaining invaluable business experience, students will also gain horizon-broadening cultural experience. UMass students will participate in four-week language and cultural immersion programs at each campus, as well as complete a full year of German-language study prior to the start of the program. Students will also be schooled in conversational Finnish before arriving at Kemi-Tornio University. While at their surrogate campuses, students will be paired with local mentors who will guide them through the culture, which in Europe will include culturally oriented side trips and festivals such as Finland’s Vappu and Germany’s Oktoberfest.

This program will also benefit faculty members from all four campuses, who will travel with students and participate in exchanges as visiting professors. Overall, this program will prepare its graduates with the business, language, and cultural skills needed to succeed in one of the most competitive and fast-paced fields on Earth. The benefits from this program will affect not only the students and faculty involved, but the entire UMass Boston community as we become more of a presence on a global scale.

GoKids (cont. from page 1)

exchange for their participation on the GoKids team, the runners will receive personalized coaching, the opportunity to participate in weekly workouts on the UMass Boston campus, and other support from team membership. Many of the runners are employees of large companies in the Boston area that have promised to match their employees’ fundraising.

Only two years old, GoKids has been recognized by the U.S. Surgeon General for its efforts around improving the health of children and helping them in their fight against obesity and other health issues. Studies by the American Heart Association have shown that today’s kids are the first generation to have a life expectancy that is shorter than their parents’, and GoKids, with its mission to improve the health, wellness, and overall quality of life for children, adolescents, pre-teens, and teens, has made it a priority to tackle this concern.

Michael Lerra, a Somerville resident and employee of Google Inc., says he’s excited about furthering his work with youths by running for GoKids Boston in the marathon. “I have worked with Boston Public Schools on projects that help kids with their health and fitness, and I am happy to be associated with UMass Boston,” said Lerra. “I think GoKids Boston is a great opportunity for the young citizens of Boston to learn to eat healthy and stay fit, and I commend the UMass Boston College of Nursing and Health Sciences for pioneering this initiative.”

Svea Stromme, a UMass Bos- ton employee who works as asso- ciant study director for the Center for Survey Research, says she’s happy to be running for GoKids Boston. “GoKids Boston works on an important and often over- looked issue—childhood obesity. And this is an issue that greatly affects the health of our future generations,” said Stromme. “I have been hard at work shoveling through the snow and ice of Boston training for the marathon and fundraising for my commu- nity here on campus.”

This program will also benefit corporate members who are supporting individual runners, GoKids Boston is seeking broader support for its Boston Marathon team. Businesses and individuals interested in being a part of this important program can contact GoKids Boston program coordinator Susan Hurley at charitydreams@comcast.net, or call GoKids at 617-287-KIDS ($437) for more information on how they can help.

CM Program Gives MSIS Students a Jump on International Jobs

By Emily Sullivan

A revolutionary new program based in the College of Manage- ment aims to provide students with international experience previously unheard of within the UMass system.

The Transnational Dual Bache- lor’s Degree program in Informa- tion Systems, spearheaded by William Koehler, graduate programs director in the College of Manage- ment, was awarded a four-year $440,000 FIPSE grant from the U.S. Department of Education. FIPSE, the Fund for the Improve- ment of Secondary Education, will allow students from four universi- ties—UMass Boston, UMass Dart- mouth, Fachhochschule Frankfurt in Germany, and the Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences in Kemi, Finland—to spend a semes- ter studying at each campus. This program aims to broaden and enhance students’ academic, pro- fessional, and cultural experiences while promoting cross-cultural understanding.

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EEOS Chair (cont. from page 1)

been highlighted by the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the National Science Foundation. She is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America and an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow.

“I am delighted that Dr. Hannigan has accepted our offer to serve as department chair of the EEOS Department,” said CSM dean Andrew Grosovsky. “Her background and expertise will push forward our efforts to become a premier research university. And, importantly, she shares the CSM commitment to student success.”

The EEOS department currently offers research opportunities in physical, chemical, geological, and biological oceanography; coastal, marine and law, policy, and re- sources management; GIS and remote sensing; coastal modeling and observation; and hydrology and watershed sciences. Hannigan says that getting more undergradu- ates involved in research will be one of her top priorities.

“I am truly excited about working with our undergradu- ate students to engage them in research early in their careers and show them the fun of scientific discovery and make what happens in their classrooms come alive for them,” she says.

Hannigan arrives here after serving as a program director for the National Science Foundation, and as a professor at Arkansas State University, where she was the director of the Graduate Pro- gram in Environmental Science for the past two years. During her time at Arkansas, she brought students into her research on the behavior of metals in natural systems—research that resulted in several patents related to the identification of those metals. Hannigan says she’s looking forward to continuing her work of combining education and re- search at UMass Boston.

“I am eager to work with the entire university community to strengthen our efforts in EEOS and build UMass Boston as the en- vironmental campus,” she says.

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Office of Government Relations and Public Affairs
Third Floor
Quinn Administration Building
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3393
617-247-5177
news@umb.edu

Peter Greemen
Senior Editor
Sarah Weatherbee
Art Director
DeWayne Lehman
Will Kilburn
Associate Editors
Harry Brett
University Photographer
Contributing Writers
William Breh
Frank Herten
Brian Middleton
Kushik Prakash
Janis Pryor
Danielle Shuckra
Emily Sullivan

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Blue Collars on the Small Screen: Documentary Looks at TV’s Influence on the Working Class

By William J. Brah

Are hard work and persistence the essential ingredients for success in America? Pepi Leistyna, associate professor of applied linguistics, challenges his students to think critically about this question.

His documentary film Class Dismissed: How TV Frames the Working Class examines representations of the working class from American television’s beginnings to today’s sitcoms, reality shows, and daytime talk shows. Leistyna believes these images reinforce the myth of meritocracy, while his film associates unfettered television portrayals with cultural attitudes and public policies that directly affect the lives of the working class.

“I had been thinking for some time about how television has played a pivotal role in shaping our perceptions of the world, and in particular our understanding of social class,” said Leistyna in the spring 2008 issue of Radical Teacher. Through his film, he shows how mainstream media largely ignores a variety of social forces such as inheritance, social and cultural advantages, unequal educational opportunity, the changing structure of job opportunities, and discrimination in all of its forms that tend to suppress, neutralize, or even negate the effects of merit in the race to get ahead. These forces of “social gravity,” says Leistyna, tend to keep people in the places they already occupy, regardless of the extent of their individual merit.

Class Dismissed was conceived as Leistyna was struggling to develop Language and the Media, a course that prepares graduate students to understand the media through a critical lens. He searched for materials that addressed social class and representation to no avail, so he decided to break new ground in exploring the ways in which race, gender, and sexuality intersect with class.

Leistyna believes that corporate-managed media have constructed their own tales about the lives of everyday people. He emphasizes that the purpose of Class Dismissed is not to “beat students over the head” with a particular point of view but to encourage them to think through their understandings, and wonder whose interests are being served by corporate media. He encourages his students to access, make use of, and even create alternative sources of information that aid in civic mobilization to democratize global media systems, believing that it is in the public interest to have diverse voices in the news sphere in order to foster an engaged and informed citizenry.

Class Dismissed has taken on a life of its own beyond classrooms across the nation and abroad, including a screening at a film festival at the London Public Library, sponsored by Indymedia, a group of independent journalists offering an alternative to mainstream media. In his Radical Teacher article, Leistyna says he is “energized regarding how a little idea generated in the middle of the night can snowball into international dialogue… and play its little part in working towards global change.”

Speaking internationally on issues of democracy, public education, and social justice, Leistyna’s books include Breaking Free: The Transformative Power of Critical Pedagogy; Presence of Mind: Education and the Politics of Deception; Defining and Designing Multiculturalism; and Cultural Studies: From Theory to Action. Leistyna was the 2007 recipient of the Studs Terkel Award for Media and Journalism. “That was a really great moment for me, given the respect I have for Studs’ life work,” says Leistyna.

Ethnic Newswire Awards (cont. from page 1)

Above left: Eduardo Oliveira, health reporter for the New England Ethnic Newswire, with photography award winner Jehozadak Pereira of A Noticia. Above right: Tribuna editor Emanuela Lima and publisher Celia Bacelar, winners in the community service category, with Frank Herron, director of the Center on Media and Society. (Photos by Harry Brett)

The purpose of the Ethnic Newswire Awards is to encourage, recognize and promote the work of journalists who cover the diverse communities in New England.

Winners and Finalists

Local News Reporting
First place (tie): Mark Connors and Julie Mass, INDIÁ New England; and Marcony Almeida, Brazilian Journal
Finalists: Tala Whayre, Bay State Banner; Pete Stidman, Dorchester Reporter; Elizabeth Mendonca Simone; Brazilian Times; Luis Filipe Dias, O Jornal

Feature Writing
First place: Bill Forty, Dorchester Reporter
Finalists: Carrie Tang, World Journal; Adam Smith, Sampson; Chris Nelson, IndUS Business Journal; Emanuela Lima, Tribuna; Sue Yang, Korean American Press; Marcela Garcia, El Planeta; Heloisa Galvao, Metropolitan Brazilian News; Lurdes C. da Silva, O Jornal

Arts and Culture Writing
First place: Susan Jacobs, Jewish Journal
Finalists: Susan G. Lindsay, Boston Irish Reporter; Sung-Yoon Lee and Sue Yang, Korean American Press

Editorial/Commentary
First place (tie): Heloisa Galvao, A Noticia; Mark Pulito, Brazilian Journal
Finalists: Ricardo Oliveira, O Jornal; Brian Concannon Jr., Boston Haitian Reporter; Celia Baceira, Tribuna; Alfonso Azevedo, America News

Photography
First place: Jehozadak Pereira, A Noticia
Finalist: Elizabeth Mendonca Simone, Brazaca

Community Service Award
First place: Tribuna, a bilingual (Portuguese and English and sometimes Spanish) newspaper in Danbury, Connecticut
Finalists: White Eagle News, a national bilingual (Polish and English) newspaper, with New England edition, Jewish Journal, a community newspaper with Russian-language articles, based in Salem, Massachusetts; Korean American Press, a bilingual (Korean and English) newspaper, based in Woburn, Massachusetts

relief in South Asia. Bill Forty of the Dorchester Reporter won the top prize in feature writing for his article on a pirate radio station. Jehozadak Pereira of A Noticia won the top prize for photojournalism for his photographs of a memorial for his photographs of a memorial for his photographs of a memorial for his...
America is an unlikely place—a country built on defiance of the odds; on a belief in the impossible. And I remind you of this because as you set out to live your own stories of success and achievement, it’s now your turn to help keep it this way.

It’s your turn to keep this daringly radical but unfailingly simple notion of America alive—that no matter where you’re born or how much your parents have; no matter what you look like or what you believe in, you can still rise to become whatever you want; still go on to achieve great things; still pursue the happiness you hope for.

Today, this dream sounds common—perhaps even cliché—yet for most of human history it’s been anything but. As a servant of Rome, a peasant in China, or a subject of King George, there were very few unlikely futures. No matter how hard you worked or struggled for something better, you knew you’d spend your life forced to build somebody else’s empire; to sacrifice for someone else’s cause.

But as the centuries passed, the people of the world grew restless. They were tired of tyranny and weary of their lot in life. And as they saw merchants start to sail across oceans and explorers set off in search of new worlds, they followed.

It was right here, in the waters around us, where the American experiment began. As the earliest settlers arrived on the shores of Boston and Salem and Plymouth, they dreamed of building a City upon a Hill. And the world watched, waiting to see if this improbable idea called America would succeed.

For over two hundred years, it has. Not because our dream has progressed perfectly. It hasn’t. It has been scarred by our treatment of native peoples, betrayed by slavery, clouded by the subjugation of women, wounded by racism, shaken by war and depression.

Yet, the true test of our union is not whether it’s perfect, but whether we work to perfect it. Whether we recognize our failings, identify our shortcomings, and then rise to meet the challenges of our time.

And so we’ve broadened the American family by winning civil rights and voting rights for women and then African Americans; by choosing to welcome waves of new immigrants to our shores.

We’ve pushed the boundaries of opportunity by providing free education for our children and health care for our seniors and our poor; and we’ve won bargaining rights and wage hikes and retirement security for our workers.

None of this progress happened on its own. Much of it seemed impossible at the time. But all of it came about because ordinary men and women had faith that here in America, our imperfect dream could be perfected.

Now, there may be some who doubt that much has changed—those who doubt that things are better today than they were yesterday. To them I say take a look at this class of 2006.

More than half of you represent the very first member of your family to ever attend college. In the most diverse university in all of New England, I look out at a sea of faces that are African-American and Hispanic-American and Asian-American and Arab-American. I see students that have come here from over 100 different countries, believing like those first settlers that they too could find a home in this City on a Hill—that they too could find success in this unlikeliest of places.

All of this has occurred in the midst of a city where No Irish Need Apply signs once hung from stores. All of this in a city where, just thirty years ago, buses of black students were pelted with rocks as they pulled into schools in South Boston; where the Red Sox were once the team who refused to sign the great Jackie Robinson.

But the problem isn’t that we’ve made progress. The problem is that progress isn’t good enough. There is more work to be done, more justice to be had, more barriers to break. And now it’s your generation’s turn to bring these changes about.

To see a video and read the full text, go to: www.umb.edu/obama06
We could talk about the crowds that were biblical in proportion. We could talk about how cold it was, but few cared. We could talk about the Hollywood constituency that added an ethereal glamour to it all. We could talk about the tears and the beaming faces, proud once again to be an American. All of this was visible and palpable.

There were the elders, the faces of the Tuskegee Airmen whose eyes held all the painful and dangerous contradictions of being black men in America. There were children and young people—finally! Now they understand what I told the children of one of my dearest friends in my eulogy for her in 2005: “Political heroes existed back then… Your mother and I grew up intoxicated by possibilities and dreams… of bold action, of making this country better, of erasing racism and apartheid in America, of fighting all forms of bigotry, of senseless wars. We were the generation with a “face full of blood” from protests, demonstrations, and assassinations. We had too many definitive moments where we would always know “where we were when.”

But when Barack Obama stood up to take the oath of office, a mystical kind of magic engulfed everyone and the stillness from the collapse of centuries of injustice went from being a dream to becoming a reality.

As he took the oath of office, I saw the faces of my maternal white great-great-grandfather and his wife, my great-great-grandmother from the Mississippi Band of the Choctaw Nation; the face of my African-American great-grandfather; the faces of my grandparents with the blood of three races running through their veins, and the high-yellow face of my mother, who would’ve been in shock. I am old enough to have living memories of the blatant segregation in the South: the signs that said “white only” and the hypocritical segregation in the North that allowed salespeople in high-end stores to pretend they didn’t see you. I am also old enough to have produced three one-hour documentaries on Jesse Jackson’s campaign for president in 1984. I remember the derisive snickers when Representative Shirley Chisholm, “unbought and unbossed,” ran for president in the seventies. President Barack Obama arrived at the White House through doors kicked open by Chisholm and Jackson. I don’t want that ever forgotten.

The cloak of the twentieth century slipped off Barack Obama’s shoulders as all of us stepped into the twenty-first century with the inauguration of this remarkable man. But we need to keep alert.

Two days after the inauguration, in Brockton, a 22-year-old man was arrested for initiating a massacre against African-Americans, Latinos, and Jews. Our journey has just begun.

As President Obama began his speech, I could hear my grandmother telling me, “You can be anything that you want to be—but just remember, they’ll never let you be all that you can be.” Now, all children in America know they can be anything they want to be, including President of the United States. Thank you, Barack Obama. Thank you, America.

Janis Pryor is the host/producer of WUMB’s Commonwealth Journal weekly talk program.
Music Students Explore a Virtual “Universe”

By Brian Middleton

“Creativity and ideas, voice and motion were expressed and captured digitally,” was teaching assistant Timothy Lee Chavula’s summary of his experience last summer helping students prepare and present their work in the Second Life virtual world for Music 248 ("Universe of Music"), an online course taught by Professor of Music David Patterson. Or as Patterson put it, “We’re all in here having an adventure.”

First opened to the public in 2003, Second Life (SL) is a 3D virtual world developed by Linden Lab, a San Francisco-based technology company. Second Life is, as Linden Lab puts it, “created by its Residents,” who populate the world with their avatars, develop parcels or “islands” of virtual territory, buy and sell clothing and furniture, and interact with one another.

Second Life came to the attention of Katherine Galaitis, director of online programs in the Division of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education (CCDE), several years ago at a conference held by the Sloan Consortium, a nonprofit organization that promotes innovation and growth in online higher education programs. Galaitis’ first steps into the new world were tentative—“my avatar spent a certain amount of time wringing its hands on Orientation Island”—but she gradually became more adept, with help from former Instructional Design program director Mary Hopper. “Mary had the expertise that we needed to get started,” says Galaitis. “At Mary’s suggestion, we made our island a place for faculty experimentation and innovation.”

Among the first instructors to use this new resource in an online course was Patterson, a veteran online innovator whose popular “Universe of Music” was one of the first online courses regularly offered at UMass Boston. Patterson and Chavula decided to offer students the option of creating a Second Life project as an alternative to writing a paper during last summer’s offering of the course. The SL component had to be optional, as Galaitis points out, because the virtual world is much more resource-intensive for computer users than most online course activities. “You really need a good computer with a good graphics card,” she cautioned. “And many of our students don’t have computers like this. So I don’t think we’ve reached the point where we can require students to do things in Second Life.

But for those students and instructors who were willing to take the plunge, the experience was unlike anything they had encountered in a college course. The learning curve is steep, especially for those with little experience of 3D gaming or simulation programs.

“We start by getting in there and meeting, looking around the island,” explains Patterson. “Then we come back and play with [an array of virtual musical instruments], and remind each other that this is a dynamic space, a play space, really.”

For their projects, students created objects combining sound with 3D graphics—which included everything from traditional instruments to dolphins to Ethiopian church façades—and then gave presentations on their creations to an audience of their fellow students’ avatars. The presentations were recorded using an application called Screencast-o-Matic, allowing them to be archived and used as resources in future offerings of the course. Patterson and Chavula saw several benefits emerge for students working in Second Life. First, the open-ended nature of the virtual world encouraged students to make unexpected connections in their work, both to other cultures and to their own lives. Patterson recalls one student whose project focused on the concept of the “drone,” a single, continuous tone found in music from all over the world (the Australian didgeridoo and the Scottish bagpipe are two examples). This student plays in a band that uses drones in its music, and he was able to embed a link to his band’s music into his SL presentation, thus locating his own work in a context of worldwide tradition.

Second Life also facilitates social connections. Although many online courses use technological tools that allow real-time interaction among students, Patterson and Chavula both noted that Second Life takes such interaction to a new and surprisingly life-like level. But perhaps the most important benefit of the Second Life experience is its built-in stimulus to creativity: Students must create not only their projects, but their own avatars. Galaitis notes that this element of self-reinvention makes SL fertile ground for research in social and behavioral science (for instance, she points out that it is common for men to use female avatars in SL, but the reverse is less often seen). A Communications Studies course scheduled for summer 2009 will explore the impact of virtual worlds, including SL, on social communication.

Both Galaitis and Patterson hope that the loosely structured environment of SL will continue to flourish as it becomes increasingly inhabited by mainstream organizations such as corporations and universities. In an effort to help preserve that atmosphere, Patterson makes sure that the element of “playful imagination” remains a part of his students’ experience—but cautions that being playful doesn’t mean that it’s easy.

“You have to have a real burning candle there if you want to get something done,” he says, “and you work at it.”
audience of nurses, social workers, students, and physicians from the Cambridge Health Alliance on December 2 as part of her role as the 2008-2009 Visiting Nurse Scholar for the CHA. Following her presentation, DeSanto-Madeya conducted rounds on a number of inpatient care units on the Cambridge campus. De- Santo-Madeya will return to CHA in the spring of 2009 to further explore with CHA nurses various means to effectively use the patient’s and family’s understanding of their illness in planning nursing care.

Hispanic Studies lecturer Mark Schafer was a panelist at the annual Translation Forum of the Sóليtico Creative Writing Program, held at Pico Manor College in January.

Assistor Professor of Mathematics Alfred Noel and Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs Christian Weller and doctoral student Manita Sethi, who live in the global data on economic growth and progressive tax rates for 1981 through 2002 and found no evidence that progressive taxation adversely affects economic stability by reducing growth, was presented on AlterNet.org.


Sasha’s round participated in the presentation of a Strategic Plan for Employment for Individuals with Disabilities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on December 16.

Professor of Sociology Russell Schutt gave two presentations in January: a talk at the Metro Boston headquar ters of the Department of Mental Health on January 21 about his research on housing for homeless mentally ill persons, and another about budget choices facing state and local governments on a panel at the 2009 AASAS Annual Meeting, to be held in Chicago on February 13.

Hispanic Studies lecturer Patricia T. (Ramírez) Shelton was invited to write an essay titled “Feminicidio del Sex o y Marginalización del Género en la Espa ña Medieval” (“Woman Femininity and Gender Marginaliza tion in Medieval Spain”) at the 2009 Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, to be held April 16 through 18 in Lexington, Kentucky.

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American Studies Associate Professor of English Nathaniel Scott was invited to give an oral presentation titled “Fluorous Technology, which will be held in August in Lexington, Kentucky.

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Assistant Professor of Chemistry Timothy J. Drafsfeld has been invited to Colby College’s Chemistry Department to give a talk, titled “Gold in the Republic of Guinea.” Inter national Symposium—give an oral presentation titled “Fluorous Technology, which will be held in August in Lexington, Kentucky.

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Tuesday 3

Lecture and Concert 2:30 p.m., Snowden Auditorium, Wheatley Hall. Lecture and perform- ance by saxophonist and Berklee College of Music professor Walter Reade. For more information, call 7-5640.

Monday 9
Lecture 5 p.m. – 7 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, room 3540. Robert Bordone, director of Harvard’s Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program, presents “Designing Dispute Resolution Systems.” Part of the Graduate Programs in Dispute Resolution’s Colloquium Series.

Thursday 12

Big Read Launch Party 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Healey Library. University Club. Launch party for “The Big Read,” which this year celebrates Zora Neale Hurston’s Their Eyes Were Watching God. Sponsored by WUMB. For more information, call 7-6915.

Monday 16
Presidents’ Day University closed.

Tuesday 24
Business Strategy Basics 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., Mezzanine Conference Room, Cape. Workshop sponsored by the Mass. Small Business Development Center Network and the Kenton Business Library and the Copley Square Library–Social Sciences Department. To register, go to www.umb.edu/training or call 7-7750.

Film and Lecture 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, room 3540. Screening of Pela Is This: Charles Olton and the Persistence of Place, to be followed by a lecture by the film’s director, Henry Ferrini. For more information, call 7-6733.

Thursday 26
Lecture 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Chancellor’s Conference Room. Maria Idali Torres, the new director of the Gaston Institute, presents “...Pero,...No: Culture, Cognition, and Reproduction of HIV/AIDS Disparities Among Puerto Ricans.” Part of the Gaston Institute’s Spring Speaker Series.

CAMPUS NOTES

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of Government Relations and Public Affairs, the state’s economic asset to the public and free unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits listed below each event.

The University Reporter February 2009

The Massachusetts Small Business Development Center was mentioned in the Providence Journal on January 2.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Maurice Cunningham was quoted in a January 4 Boston Globe profile of State Senator Scott Brown.

The conference “Rebuilding Sustainable Communities for Children and Their Families After Disasters,” held at UMass Boston in November, was featured in the journal Monday Developments in December.

Professor of History James Green was quoted on the AFL-CIO’s blog on January 5 on the role of labor unions in building the nation.

Psychology Department chair Celia Moore was quoted in New Scientist on January 7 in a story about factors that may affect the development of male and female brains.

Nantucket Field Station director Sarah Oktay was mentioned in a January 8 Nantucket Inquirer and Mirror story about gray seals.

The Spoken Word Nantucket Poetry Reading Series, held at UMass Boston’s Nantucket Field Station, was mentioned in the January 14 Nantucket Independent.

Dianne Doyle Pitt, director of the Alchoholism/Chemical Dependency Treatment Services program, was quoted in a January 11 Boston Herald story, “Need Growing for Substance Abuse Counselors.”

A January 11 Boston Herald story featured UMass Boston’s new bachelor’s degree in information technology program, with quotes from Assistant Professor of Computer Science Bill Campbell and Professor Dan Simovici, director of the computer science graduate program.

A letter to a President-elect Barack Obama, co-signed by Professor of English Elsa Auerbach, was noted in the Daily Steer Lebanon on January 12.