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8-11-1978

The Spectator - Vol. 01, No. 09 - August 11, 1978

University of Massachusetts Boston

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Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "The Spectator - Vol. 01, No. 09 - August 11, 1978" (1978).
1978-1979, Spectator. 9.
https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_spectator/9

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University of Massachusetts at Boston

the Spectator

Vol. 1 No. 9

August 11, 1978

EXTENDED DAY CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

Copies of the new Extended Day brochure will be distributed shortly throughout the Harbor and Boston Campuses. Individual recipients will include various program, project and department heads, faculty members and professional staffers.

Prof. George Goodwin, associate provost for Extended Day, says all these individuals can play a key role in boosting enrollment in the evening program this fall by requesting extra copies of the brochures and handing them out to their friends, associates and others off-campus. "This assistance would be welcome and would help immensely to make the evening program for the 1978-79 academic year a great success here at UMass-Boston. We've got an exciting Extended Day program, consisting of more than 150 courses in 11 different degree programs, and we're using every means possible to get the word out to the public," say Goodwin.

POEM COLLECTION PUBLISHED

A collection of poems by Prof. Luise Bronner of the German Dept. has been published by the Bläschke Verlag, Darmstadt, West Germany. The book, entitled, Mosaik, contains poems written primarily in German but with some in English. Translations are provided for a few of the poems in German.

NSF GRANT TO MATH PROJECT

An additional grant of \$5,415 has been awarded by the National Science Foundation to a UMass-Boston project under the direction of Prof. Robert T. Seeley of the Math Dept. All told, the Foundation now has provided funds totalling \$10,815 for the project entitled, "Asymptotic Spectral Properties of Elliptic Operators."

BOSTON ATTORNEY HEADS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The appointment of Robert C. Johnson Jr. of Boston as director of Affirmative Action at UMass-Boston has been announced by Chancellor Claire Van Ummersen.

A 30-year-old attorney and teacher, Johnson had been employed in a similar capacity by the Massachusetts Board of Regional Community Colleges before coming to the University. He is a native of Chattanooga, TN, but grew up in Boston's South End and Roxbury. He earned his BA in Government at Bowdoin College and MA in African Heritage (History) and Doctor of Laws degrees at Cornell University.

Johnson's office is located on the 3rd floor of the Administration Building.

UMB PROF WINS ACLS GRANT

Prof. Diane B. Paul, of Politics, has been awarded a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies for post-doctoral research on "Marxism and Evolutionary Biology." The Council, funded by The Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities, is a private non-profit federation of 42 national scholarly associations devoted to the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning.

BIOLOGY PROF AT VIRGINIA SESSION

Dr. William G. Hagar, Biology Dept., attended the American Society of Plant Physiology's meeting in Blacksburg, VA, this summer and presented recent results of his studies with a colleague, Dr. John Freeburg, on the photosynthetic rates of intact fern sporophytes and gametophytes. Earlier, Prof. Hagar and his former graduate student, Dana R. Crawford (MS '77), presented results on "Molecular weight differences between stem and leaf Chlorophyll-protein 668 from Atriplex hortensis" at the American Society for Photobiology session in Burlington, VT.

PHONE SERVICES NOW INTEGRATED

The Downtown Center's telephone system has been integrated this summer with the Harbor Campus system, according to Forrest Speck, associate director of Auxiliary Service. This action means that all offices in UMass-Boston's Park Square campus now can be reached from off-campus by dialing 287-1900. During the academic year, Speck says the switchboard will process calls to and from all University offices from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

He also notes that traffic in and out of University offices will be on the increase -- with the fall semester fast approaching. "Some offices may be moving and some furniture may be rearranged. In the interest of safety and in accordance with OSHA's federal regulations, please remember to keep your telephone cords, cables and wires out of the way of traffic. Let's avoid unnecessary accidents and have a safe year."

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE RELOCATED

This is a reminder that the Office of the President now is located at 250 Stuart St., Boston, MA, 02116. To avoid confusion in mail and courier service, this address should be used (rather than 100 Arlington St.) for all material intended for the President's Office.

The telephone number is (617) 482-8400.

Relocating with the Office of the President from One Washington Mall were: the Office of the Secretary and Board of Trustees, the Institute for Governmental Services, and the Institute for Labor Affairs.

BOMB THREAT ROUTS UMB PROF

Prof. Gordon Zahn of the Sociology Dept. was routed from his hotel room in Belfast, Northern, Ireland, this summer after a bomb threat was received. The midnight incident turned out to be a hoax, but it was more than three hours before Prof. Zahn and other guests were allowed to return to their rooms.

"The incident gave us a chance to observe the military and the police in operation, and this was almost as intimidating as the bomb threat itself," he says.

The faculty member was attending a week-long seminar in Belfast organized by the Irish Council of Churches and the US National Council of Churches. The visit permitted Zahn an opportunity to talk to many of the people deeply involved in the "troubles" in Northern Ireland.

UMB PILOT HOUSING PROJECT SCORES SUCCESS

UMass-Boston's involvement for more than a year in a concerted planning effort to develop a pilot modernization program at the state-assisted West Broadway Public Housing Development in South Boston "has paid off handsomely," according to CPCS Prof. Joseph Slavet.

Slavet, who is also director of the Boston Urban Observatory at CPCS, says the Massachusetts Department of Community Affairs, announced this past month that the Development was among the winners of the pilot program competition and will receive a share of \$15.5 million in state funds. Specifically, the Development residents will be the beneficiaries of a three-year grant of \$6.5 million toward a carefully planned \$10 million program of physical management and social improvements. Another \$1.6 million has been committed to the Development by the City of Boston from capital and CETA funds.

With Slavet as director, the UMB team, operating as a Boston Urban Observatory Project, included as principal consultants: BUO research associate Francine Price; CPCS Profs. Elaine Werby and Carol Upshur; and Tunney F. Lee, an associate professor of Urban Design at MIT.

During the next three years this team will provide the Tenants Task Force and Boston Housing Authority with technical assistance in carrying out particular phases of the pilot program and with training to Task Force members, participating tenant groups and staff recruited for community organization and youth service work.

Slavet says that a "major focus" of the proposed technical assistance and training is to prepare the Tenants Task Force and residents for greater tenant control vis-a-vis management.

He adds that important side-effects of undertaking extensive improvements in the Development's physical conditions will mean more jobs for adults and youth, upgraded social service and a more effective housing services delivery system.

THE SPECTATOR is a University-wide newsletter designed to keep you informed about relevant activities on campus and to engender a sense of community among us. Deadline for copy is the first and third Tuesday of each month. Editorial contributions are welcome and should be forwarded to Jim Ryan, director of Public Information, Campus Relations, ext. 2147.