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The UMass/Boston Friday Report # 12

News and information about and for
the Community from the Chancellor's Office

February 28th, 1992

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Boston College Program Moves to Campus -- The University has added a one-year graduate certificate program designed to promote greater participation by women in politics and government. The Women in Politics and Government Program, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year, will welcome its first class of students at the campus next fall. Formerly at Boston College, the program will be located in the University's American Civilization Program and administered through the Division of Continuing Education. "This will be an exciting new certificate program for women interested in public policy," says **Elizabeth Sherman**, who will direct the program when it moves to UMass/Boston after serving as associate director for nine years. "We're hoping to enroll a large class for next year." The program will also be affiliated with the McCormack Institute of Public Affairs, which during the year will co-sponsor conferences, seminars and research projects on issues of importance to women. Tuition will be \$2,500 and students will earn 15 graduate credits for completing the program.

The new program will focus attention on teaching women about the political process and policy issues. Its students will participate in a seminar every Tuesday morning throughout the academic year. They also will be required to serve a four-month long internship and will be responsible for a case study research project. In the past students have worked in the Governor's office, for cabinet secretaries, as lobbyists, and for local planning boards and non-profit development organizations. According to Chancellor **Sherry H. Penney**, "I believe our campus is a most appropriate new home for the support and development of the Women in Politics and Government Program. It will nourish new links among faculty and staff from all the colleges who share an interest in women's participation in public policy, in government and in the electoral process."

"We believe that coming to UMass/Boston will help us reach out to a diverse community and encourage more black and Latino women to be involved in the program," says current director **Betty Taymor**, who has been associated with the program since it was founded at Simmons College in 1968. The program has been located for the past 18 years at Boston College after spending one year at Newton College of the Sacred Heart. Nearly 400 women have graduated from the program. According to Taymor, the seminar sessions will include debates between, and presentations from, prominent individuals. One session last fall pitted Question 3 proponent **Barbara Anderson** of Citizens for Limited Taxation against **James Braude** of the Massachusetts Taxpayers' Alliance. "Nobody who completes this program will be naive on the issues," Taymor promises. At UMass/Boston Taymor will be responsible for organizing conferences and seminars through the McCormack Institute, as well as fundraising. **Margie Kelley** will serve as administrative assistant. Funds for operating the program will come from the tuition it generates, through grants and from the McCormack Institute.

(OVER)

Campus Notes -- History Professor **Spencer Di Scala** has passed on to *The Friday Report* a recent review of the Italian edition of his *Renewing Italian Socialism: Nenni to Craxi* (Oxford Press, 1988) that appeared in *Il Giorno* of Milan. Guido Gerosa, a scholar of modern Italy who has written many works on Craxi, writes: "It is curious that the best book on the course of Italian socialism from the split at Livorno to the Craxi presidency has now been written by an Italian-American. An impartial but impassioned observer, at a sufficient distance to pronounce an historical judgment, nourished by the mostly vast readings, Spencer Di Scala has put together the beautiful book *From Nenni to Craxi* [English version of the Italian translation of the original title]. It is a historio-graphical contribution of the very first order.... But it is perhaps the study which is the best and the most deep which exists even compared to the works, frequently prestigious, of Italian authors...." • Physics Professor **D.V.G.L.N. Rao** spent a recent weekend in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, serving on a panel selecting candidates for the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowships for study and research in scientific and engineering disciplines at American universities. These fellowships were instituted four years ago to increase the number of U.S. citizens trained in science and engineering. • Psychology Professor **Gary N. Siperstein** this month delivered a lecture at Vanderbilt University titled "Exploring Social Competence in Children with Mental Retardation: A Social Cognitive Approach." The lecture was sponsored by the John F. Kennedy Center for Research on Education and Human Development and the university's George Peabody College. • **Phyllis Freeman**, of the Legal Services program at CPCS, has received a Fulbright Scholarship to pursue research in Mexico for six months starting next fall. She will be examining the potential impact of the hemisphere's projected free trade agreement on Mexico's health sector. • During the next two months, Economics Professor **Harold Wolozin** will deliver two papers at national conferences. The first, titled "Social Theory and Economic Agency," will be given at a session called "Overview of Socio-Economic Theory" at the fourth annual conference of The Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics at the University of California, Irvine, March 27-29. The second, "Institutionalism and Controversies in Social Theory" is scheduled to be presented as the lead paper in a special assembly, the Louis Junker and Allen Gruchy Memorial Session, to be held at the annual meeting of the Association for Institutional Thought in Denver, April 23-25. • College of Nursing Dean **Brenda Cherry** has been chosen as the first recipient of the annual Women of Color Caucus Achievement Award. She will receive the award during the ceremony from 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4th, in the Boston State History Room of McCormack Hall. • Psychology Professor **James Brennan** will be traveling to Warsaw, Poland, in June to work with molecular biologist **Leszek Kaczmarek** of the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology to develop a collaborative grant proposal for the National Academy of Sciences in the psychology of learning and memory. His trip is being funded by the NSF's Project Development Exchange Program. Brennan first visited the institute in 1974, and Kacsmarek came to UMass/Boston in 1989. • The Field Center for Teaching and Learning has received a \$4000 grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation to sponsor a "Celebration of Teaching" conference at the campus this June to inspire Boston area public high school juniors to join the teaching profession.