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UMass/Boston 

News & Views

Newsletter of the Office of Public Information



UMass/Boston Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan receives gavel from Senate President William M. Bulger during memorial program at the State House for the late Cardinal Medeiros. Seated are, right, Gov. Michael S. Dukakis and, left, House Speaker Thomas W. McGee

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UMass/Boston creates Cardinal Medeiros Lectureship on Aging

"At the time of the Cardinal's passing, we at UMass/Boston were developing a special education program in cooperation with the Archdiocese of Boston targeted to help the elderly."

— Chancellor Corrigan

The Cardinal Medeiros Lectureship on Aging has been established at UMass/Boston, it was announced by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan during a public memorial ceremony for the late Humberto Cardinal Medeiros at the State House.

Dr. Robert Morris, professor emeritus at Brandeis University, has accepted the newly created position that honors the late Archbishop of Boston.

"Over 12% of the population is 65 years or older in Massachusetts," said Chancellor Corrigan. "In southeastern Massachusetts, nearly 20% of the population is 65 or older. These changes have a significant impact on our services, our institutions, and culture. The Cardinal had the vision to see these changes coming and began to direct the Archdiocese to encourage services to the elderly and their families.

"At the time of the Cardinal's passing, we at UMass/Boston were developing a special education program in cooperation with the Archdiocese of Boston targeted to help the elderly.

"Our College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) offers an unique program created with the help of the great Frank Manning, where older people come to the college for an intensive one-year study in Gerontology."

Frank Manning is President of the Massachusetts Association of Older Americans.

Dr. Scott Bass of CPCS runs the Gerontology program.



Gathering at Public Memorial Ceremony were, left to right: Bishop Thomas V. Dailey, Administrator, Archdiocese of Boston; Richard H. Rowland, State Secretary for Elderly Affairs; Frank J. Manning, President, Massachusetts Association of Older Americans; Senate President William M. Bulger; Governor Michael S. Dukakis, and UMB Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

profile

Commitment to public service distinguishes Slavet's UMB work

Two men responsible for the recent UMass/Boston study showing how the city's fiscal habits are pushing it toward the same bankruptcy precipice that New York City faced a few years back, say their report articulated the number one debate issue for the recent Boston mayoral campaign.

The two are Joseph S. Slavet, former history professor and director of the Boston Urban Observatory (BUO), and Raymond G. Torto, Ph.D., professor of economics, both of UMass/Boston.

Slavet, 63, of West Roxbury, long active in Boston community and fiscal matters, behind-the-scenes politics and public service, said Torto and he are convinced the report they have produced "was the definitive discussion document" for the 1983 Boston mayoral candidates.

Warren Brookes, nationally known financial columnist, wrote about the Torto-Slavet report in the November 3 *Boston Herald*.

Released recently, the report which spells out what researchers believe Boston should do to end its fiscal crisis and six-year practice of spending more than it takes in, represents the first public undertaking of the new John W. McCormack Institute of Public Affairs at UMass/Boston.

The study claims the gap between revenues and expenditures for fiscal 1984 in Boston is \$80 million.

The Slavet-Torto report recommends the city get out of its "insipient operating deficits" and plan its finances two years in advance. "This is the way of life the next administration in Boston is just going to have to adopt or it is going to be in serious trouble," says Slavet.

Mayoral candidates Mel King and Ray Flynn recently debated Boston's financial problems at UMass/Boston as part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau (BMRB).

Slavet was Executive Secretary of the BMRB from 1952 to 1962 before spending four years as Executive Secretary of Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) and six years at Boston University as a lecturer and director of various programs at the university's Urban Institute and Metrocenter.



Joseph A. Slavet

He came to the Boston Urban Observatory at UMass/Boston in 1972 where he has been the coordinator and chief research investigator for 32 major studies in eleven years.

Slavet expects his latest effort, which amounts to a report with a few failing marks for some of Boston's fiscal policies, to get as much attention and action from elected officials as some of his earlier studies on subjects ranging from housing and city-owned parking garages to manpower strategies and taxation.

It will get attention, he said, first because of the professional reputation of BUO studies and second because the study is recommending that the city get out of its "insipient operating deficits" and plan its finances two years in advance so that it will have enough money for its expenditures.

"When New York City went bankrupt," said Slavet, "the state laid out a series of things the city had to do... and that (advance balancing of the budget) was the first requirement.

"Not only was it the first requirement then, but it continues to be the way New York City handles its finances. It's back in the bond market. It's back negotiating raises with its employees," Slavet continued.

"So this is the way of life the next administration in Boston is just going to have to adopt or it is going to be in serious trouble," he emphasized.

Significantly, the report released by the McCormack Institute charges the city is averting the potential \$80 million gap in revenue and outgo, partly by the use of non-recurring revenues from the sale of

city-owned garage facilities which the BUO recommended selling in a study made last year.

The 1982 report said the city should leave most of off-the-street parking to the private sector. It said the sale of four garages would generate over \$600 million in new commercial development and that expanded parking facilities resulting from the sale would allow the city to get \$30 million a year in additional property taxes.

Recommendations of another recent BUO report on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) subsidized housing were endorsed by the city's Housing Task Force and incorporated in Boston's most recent application to HUD. It reflected a shift of allocations to neighborhoods with the greatest deterioration and extended subsidies to owner-investors as well as owner-occupants.

"If it hadn't been for this particular report, the city would have lost \$13 million in CDBG funds," Slavet maintained.

Joe Slavet was born in Boston's West End and remembers the days of the Peabody Settlement House and the Blackstone Elementary School before the face of that district was drastically altered by urban renewal.

He grew up in Dorchester and Mattapan. "We lived in a variety of three deckers as most working class families did," he said. "Every time my father would get a \$5 a week raise, we would move to a better three-decker."

Slavet paid his way through Boston University, where he earned an S.B. with Distinction in History, Phi Beta Kappa, in 1942, by playing saxophone in a popular band of the period.

His stories of getting a union card to play both saxophone and clarinet from Local 9 when he was only 15 years old, and the "greats" of the big band era he met while working nightclubs, dance halls and college campuses are the delight of his family and friends.

Slavet received his M.A. in History in 1942 from Boston University on a graduate school fellowship as Assistant to the Chairman of the Department of History.

After a three-year, three-month tour of duty with the U.S. Army during World War II, when he fought with the Fifth Division Anti-Aircraft Artillery from Normandy to Czechoslovakia, Slavet came back and decided that, instead of teaching history, he would continue his studies at the Maxwell Graduate School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

"I decided that I needed more of a participatory or publicly active sort of life," he said.

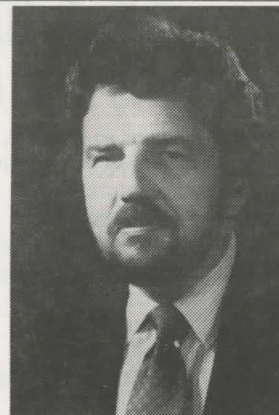
He's been a mover in the development of community projects ever since, has produced, in cooperation with others, 10 publications on municipal problems and planning, and has served as a consultant in innumerable public betterment programs.

chancellor's corner

On Wednesday, November 2nd, the Board of Trustees met to consider the tuition increase proposed by the Amherst campus. After considerable discussion, the Trustees voted to table the matter until their December meeting.

In order to clarify our own stance on this complicated issue, I am having my letter to President Knapp on the subject reprinted here in its entirety.

— Robert A. Corrigan



October 25, 1983

Memorandum For: President Knapp

Subject: Proposed Tuition Increase

Recent initiatives by the Legislature and the Board of Regents have made possible the retention on campus of a portion of tuition income. This tuition retention is dependent on the campus taking action now to raise tuition, with each campus guaranteed the right to retain the amount generated by the raise. The Board of Trustees now is considering a recommendation that tuition be raised by \$50.00 per semester in order to achieve funds for offering students on the Amherst campus expanded opportunity to register in courses for which demand exceeds available resources.

The Boston campus of the University consistently has argued against any increase in the price of public higher education, and we continue to have serious reservations about raising tuition now. As the state's only urban University, we serve a population least able to afford even marginal increases in price. Our most recent analysis (1982-1983), submitted as required to federal student aid authorities, shows that the median family income of students who apply for financial aid and who live at home is approximately \$15,000. This amount appears substantially lower than that for the Amherst campus. For students who do not live with their families, the average income is even lower.

This income data is drawn from analysis of the Financial Aid Forms of students who applied for aid; on the Boston campus, approximately 65% of undergraduates apply for aid. And the extent of the financial problem for our students even with current tuition is underscored by the fact that 52% of freshmen who dropped out of the University during 1982-1983 listed financial difficulties as a major factor in their decisions.

Thus, we remain very concerned by the prospect of a tuition increase. And it seems clear that the charge to the University of Massachusetts at Boston that we protect access to University

education for urban students requires that any tuition increase be accompanied by provisions to ensure that financially disadvantaged students are not further disadvantaged by that increase.

"We believe that such increases in tuition, if they are to come, must come on a system-wide basis, must include appropriate provision for relief for those students who need financial aid, and must be used to meet the pressing needs for additional sections and facilities to support the academic mission of the urban university."

At the same time, the Boston campus cannot entertain the prospect of a tuition increase on the Amherst campus alone without even greater concern. In a state whose higher education traditionally has been dominated by private colleges and universities, the general public tends to equate price with quality. The Boston campus has only now begun successfully to communicate to the public the excellence which characterizes our programs, both graduate and undergraduate. And the continued development of comprehensive University level programs in Boston depends upon the perception as well as the fact that the Boston campus is, in every way, a full and equal member of the University system. To establish a differential in tuition between the Amherst campus and the Boston campus would tend to undermine the integrity of the University as a whole. For this reason, we come reluctantly to the conclusion that, if tuition is raised at Amherst, and if the increase is accompanied by appropriate means to ensure enhanced aid for financially disadvantaged students, then tuition must be raised on a system-wide basis.

We also recognize that there is an additional important concern which supports the raising of tuition now if a

consequence is retained income for the University. The Board of Regents has circulated to the campus administrations the draft of a policy which will tie tuition rates to "cost of instruction." The definition of cost of instruction in the document would make inevitable an immediate and substantial tuition increase in the University once the policy goes into effect, and it is also clear that, as state appropriations increase for higher education, tuition must go up with them under the formula in the circulated draft. Thus the University faces almost inevitably the prospect of significantly increasing tuition in the near future; adopting a modest increase now appears to guarantee that at least some of the increase will remain available for campus use.

A final matter for comment is, indeed, the immediate use to which the revenue from this tuition increase would be put on the Boston campus. In Boston, as in Amherst, students have experienced substantial dislocation from courses which are over subscribed and, again as at Amherst, have frequently been unable to achieve complete schedules as a result. Indeed, an inability to register for the courses the student wanted or needed is mentioned by students as one of their two most important academic concerns in connection with their experiences of the University. We anticipate, therefore, that the funds derived from tuition retention on the Boston campus would be used to support additional sections of oversubscribed courses, such as those in management, computer science, economics, psychology and similar areas. It is also possible that the funds would be used to accomplish minor changes in the physical arrangement of space in order to relieve crowding in some areas, particularly in student support spaces.

The Boston campus, in summary, remains very concerned at any increase in the price of higher education. But we believe that such increases in tuition, if they are to come, must come on a system-wide basis, must include appropriate provision for relief for those students who need financial aid, and must be used to meet the pressing needs for additional sections and facilities to support the academic mission of the urban university.

Barbara Mulville appointed as Associate Vice Chancellor

Barbara H. Mulville of Boston has been named Associate Vice Chancellor at UMass/Boston, it was announced by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

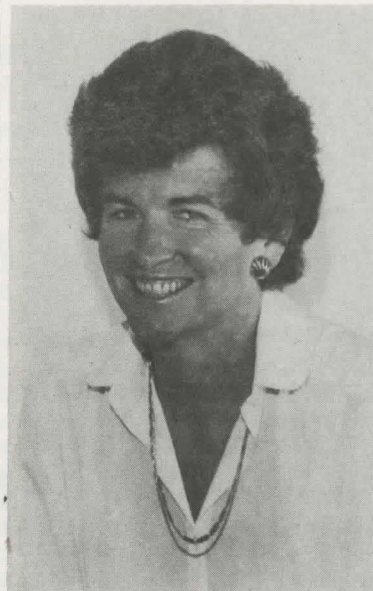
"Along with general responsibilities within the area of University Relations, Ms. Mulville will take on the responsibility for initiating and implementing a major long range development program on campus," said Chancellor Corrigan.

Ms. Mulville had served as Director of Development at the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine.

Previously, she was Director of Development for the Retina Foundation Eye Research Institute in Boston; Director of Field Services, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and Director of the American Cancer Society and American Heart Association.

Ms. Mulville graduated from Cardinal Cushing College and did graduate work at the University of Hartford.

She will work in concert with Vice Chancellor of University Relations Robert M. Palmer.



Barbara H. Mulville

Dr. Mortimer named Director of Extended Day program at UMB

Dr. Theresa A. Mortimer of Lexington has been appointed Director of the Extended Day Program at UMass/Boston, it was announced by Vice-Chancellor and Provost Robert A. Greene.

"Dr. Mortimer brings substantial administrative experience to her new position, including that of her deanship of the Evening Undergraduate College at Boston State College," said Dr. Greene.

Dr. Mortimer administered 14 undergraduate and graduate programs assumed by UMass/Boston when it merged with Boston State College in January, 1982. These included Nursing, Education, Medical Technology and Physical Education.

She also served as the University's administrative supervisor for the Boston Police Academy and coordinated University relations for programs such as the Boston Committee, the Boston Citywide Parent Council and others.

Dr. Mortimer was graduated from Emmanuel College and obtained her M.A. in Spanish Literature at



Dr. Theresa A. Mortimer

Emmanuel's program at the University of Madrid, Spain. She received her Ph.D. from Boston College.

Briefly . . .

Athletic Director Charlie Titus is a member of the newly-formed Community Development Coordinating Council established by Gov. Michael S. Dukakis. Its purpose is to help state government plan for the overall economic revitalization of the community.

CAS Associate Dean John J. Conlon recently published the lead essay on the English Novel in the multi-volume *Critical Survey of Long Fiction*, a reference work edited by Frank Magill and published by Salem Press. The essay considers the development of the English Novel from its beginnings to the present from historical and social perspectives.

Director of Admissions Ron Ancrum recently attended the National Conference of the National Association of College Admissions Counselors in San Antonio, Texas. He was appointed by President Roger Campbell to the position of Coordinator of Minority Concerns.

Ancrum will coordinate a network among minority members of the association. He also will serve on two standing committees, Human Relations and the Conference and Meetings Committee.

Dr. James Jennings, Dean of the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS), in cooperation with the Student Activities Committee (SAC), presented a panel discussion November 7 on "Community Control: Past and Future" at the Downtown Campus.

Moderator was Nancy Hoffman, Associate Professor of Humanities, CPCS.

A major conference was held recently at the Harbor Campus involving CPCS and the Gerontology program directed by Dr. Scott Bass. Special presenters included: Governor Michael S. Dukakis; Arthur Flemming, President, National Council of Aging; Frank J. Manning, President, Association of Older Americans; Richard Rowland, Secretary of Elder Affairs; James J. Callahan, Commissioner of Mental Health; Peter Hiam, Mass. Insurance Commissioner; Katherine Pell, Mass. Rate Setting Commissioner; Senator Gerard D'Amico; Senator George Bachrach; Rep. William Robinson and Clair Monier, Regional Director, HHS.

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