By Jennifer Rosinski

At UMass Boston’s 39th commencement June 1, keynote speaker Governor Deval Patrick advised a sea of more than 2,600 UMass Boston graduates to be grateful for an education that has transformed their futures, and also unveiled a sweeping plan to review and expand the state’s public education system from cradle to career.

The state’s first African-American governor asked the graduates to support his launch of a 10-year comprehensive evaluation of education in Massachusetts, already ranked among the best in the nation. The plan would offer free community college or professional training to high school graduates, provide for full-day kindergarten in all communities, and extend the school day and year.

“This is not simply about the future of our schools. This is about the future of our state and of our civilization,” said Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick during his keynote address. “For the families of tomorrow, for our common future, let’s pass that on.”

Patrick’s speech was met by resounding applause from those in attendance, as well as backing from Chancellor Michael F. Collins, who said, “Together we can. Together we must. Together we will.”

Presiding over his final UMass Boston commencement, Collins urged graduates to embrace the change that is ahead in their lives and on the horizon for the university as it heads down the “path to perfection.” Chancellor Collins has been nominated to serve as the interim Chancellor of UMass Medical School in Worcester and as the system’s Vice President for Health Sciences. UMass Vice President for Business, Marketing and Public Affairs J. Keith Motley, who served as interim chancellor during the 2004-2005 academic year, has been nominated to serve as UMass Boston’s next chancellor. The appointments will be voted on by the Board of Trustees on June 21.

Despite that change in location and duties, Collins said he’d continue to support the Boston campus, and called on graduates to do the same.

“There is a profound link between you and us, and the commonwealth and the university,” he said. “As you go forward, you can count on us to be a presence in your lives and to work with you to ensure that your futures are as bright and as reflective of your promise as you are now. Together, we can do this together.

BY JENNIFER ROISIONKI

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2007 John F. Kennedy Award recipient Najia Afshar says she’ll continue serving those in need.

Page 4
UMass Boston’s online education program is growing with leaps and bounds, and getting national attention along the way.

Camp Shriver Is Back!
A summer day camp program for local kids, Camp Shriver will be twice as long and twice as big when it returns to the UMass Boston campus next month. See page 3 for a preview.

At Commencement, Governor Patrick Calls on UMass Boston Grads to Continue Mission of Education for All

By Ed Hayward

The transitions that mark the close of the semester and commencement this year also include a campus leadership transition that will see Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, leave to assume the newly created post of Senior Vice President for Health Sciences for the University of Massachusetts system, and Dr. J. Keith Motley, PhD, return to campus as the eighth chancellor of UMass Boston.

The proposed changes are slated to formally take effect following a Board of Trustees meeting and vote on the appointments on June 21.

In addition to the Senior Vice President post, Collins will serve as the interim chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. As Senior Vice President, Collins will play a vital role in managing the creation of a statewide stem cell bank and RNAi Therapeutics Center to be located at the Worcester campus.

That initiative is part of Governor Deval Patrick’s proposed $1 billion life sciences initiative, which includes other opportunities for UMass campuses.

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Despite that change in location and duties, Collins said he’d continue to support the Boston campus, and called on graduates to do the same.

“Your university has benefited from the privilege you have given it as a temporary steward of your education,” he said. “I hope that you will continue to be loyal to those who have cared about you (continued on page 2)

A Leadership Change at UMass Boston: Collins Takes On New Role, Motley Named Chancellor Designate

By Ed Hayward

The transitions that mark the close of the semester and commencement this year also include a campus leadership transition that will see Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, leave to assume the newly created post of Senior Vice President for Health Sciences for the University of Massachusetts system, and Dr. J. Keith Motley, PhD, return to campus as the eighth chancellor of UMass Boston.

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At the June 1 commencement, Chancellor Collins recognized Dr. Motley and they and faculty leaders were joined on the stage by Governor Deval Patrick, UMass President Jack M. Wilson, several members of the university’s Board of Trustees, and honorary degree recipients Clementina Chery, Robert Kraft, and Henri Termeer.

In his commencement address, Collins noted that the past two years had been a profession-ally and emotionally rewarding time for both him and his wife. He pledged to continue to advocate on behalf of the campus, its students, and alumni in his new post.

“Be assured that I will continue to count myself among those who care,” Chancellor Collins told the Commencement Day crowd of approximately 9,000. “Please know that the two years I have spent in your midst have been a marvelous and rewarding experience. My wife, Maryellen, and I have enjoyed our wonderful times with you and we shall be ever grateful for your kindness, cherishing always the gifts of your friendship.”

President Wilson’s proposal returns Motley, who has served (continued on page 3)

Chancellor Michael Collins and Chancellor nominee J. Keith Motley. (Photo by Harry Brett)
Governor Patrick Calls on Graduates to Continue Education Mission

(continued from page 1)

and for you, because UMass Boston cares about its students, cares about their pasts, and cares about their futures as they join the ranks of faithful alumni."

The University of Massachusetts President Jack M. Wilson acknowledged the "outstanding leadership" of Collins, saying, "He really deserves a lot of credit for leading this campus and for leading many important community partnerships and collaborations."

Governor Patrick also spoke of partnerships while outlining his education reform plan, which includes goals such as reducing the dropout rate, better preparing Massachusetts students to compete for jobs, and reducing teen violence and pregnancy.

This, he said, would require "a decade of 'no excuses' leadership, starting with me. If we accept that the status quo is the best that we can do and the best that we can have, then God help us. I ask each of you to join with me in working to make that vision real."

Patrick also received the 2007 Chancellor's Medal, along with Clementina (Tina) Chéry, the founder and president of the Boston-based Louis D. Brown Peace Institute; Henri Termeer, president and CEO of Cambridge-based Genzyme Corp.; and Robert Kraft, chairman of the Kraft Group and owner of the New England Patriots, received honorary degrees.

Honors were also bestowed on three professors. Peter Kilburn, professor of education and director of the Asian American Studies Program, received the 2007 Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award; Jennifer Radden, professor of philosophy and chair of the department, received the 2007 Chancellor's Distinguished Scholarship Award; and Russell K. Schutt, professor of sociology, received the 2007 Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award.

The theme of service and the expansion of educational opportunity was reinforced by Afshari, who gave remarks on behalf of her class as the recipient of the John F. Kennedy Award, which goes to the outstanding undergraduate student of 2007.

The Afghanistan native, a case manager at Catholic Charities, is a Peer Advising Tutor and senator but also a colleague, works with professors and students outside of the classroom time. Most students, said CPCS assistant professor Lorna Rivera. "Najia has a brilliant, critical mind, and she consistently produces graduate-level quality work. In our college, Najia has been recognized as an exceptional student leader." In their recommendation letters for the award, Rivera and other CPCS faculty said Afshari was not just an outstanding student but also a colleague, working as a Peer Advising Tutor and also frequently meeting with both professors and students outside of classroom time. Most students, said CPCS professor Ann With, need some coaching to prepare for the real world, not just in a specific area, "she said. "Working at the policy level, either state or federal, or to the United Nations or international development organizations."

Afshari's former supervisor at Catholic Charities also had high praise for her accomplishments there, in which she has helped hundreds of refugees resettle to the United States in 2000. "Through the years of my humanitarian work, I realized that there is nothing more important than a sustainable educational system for our children," said Afshari, who earned a bachelor's degree in human services management from the College of Public and Community Service. "A sustainable end to world poverty, the path to peace, and security is possible only if we make positive choices."

By Will Kilburn

Najia Afshari, who came to the U.S. in 2000 from Pakistan after fleeing the civil war in her native Afghanistan six years earlier, will receive the John F. Kennedy Award as the Class of 2007's outstanding undergraduate at the university's 39th commencement on June 1, 2007.

Afshari, a Chelsea resident who will graduate with a bachelor's degree in human service management from the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS), came to UMass Boston with an impressive real-world resume, including several years of work in Pakistan for the International Rescue Committee, the Afghan Institute for Learning, and the Cooperation Center for Afghanistan.

That mission of service to others took on a new dimension when she arrived in Boston with her mother and four siblings, where she became, in her words, "essentially, the head of my household," responsible for working full time so that her siblings could go to school. Afshari was also determined to continue with her career and her education, working for Catholic Charities' Boston office in its Refugee and Immigration Services program, and taking classes at Bunker Hill Community College before transferring to UMass Boston in the fall of 2005.

"We have been fortunate to have the opportunity to learn from Najia," said CPCS assistant professor Lorna Rivera. "Najia has a brilliant, critical mind, and she consistently produces graduate-level quality work. In our college, Najia has been recognized as an exceptional student leader."

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2007 JFK Award Winner Sees Service in Her Future

JFK Award winner Najia Afshari. (Photo by Harry Brett)

"Najia embraced her work with compassion and a respect for the individual that enabled refugees to maintain their dignity and sense of purpose," said Deborah Hughes, former director of Refugee and Immigration Services. "Although highly principled, Najia is also a realist, and she directed her clients with a forthrightness that was tempered with personal knowledge of the suffering refugee experience."

Currently, Afshari is waiting to hear back about a potential job at the state Office for Refugees and Immigrants, and says she plans to continue her education at the graduate level. "I'd love to go into a master's program, either international development or public policy or public administration—something that I can offer my education to, and relate it to most of the people in the world, not just in a specific area," she said. "Working at the policy level, either state or federal, or go to the United Nations or international development organizations."

Wherever Afshari's mission takes her, those who know her at UMass Boston agree that she'll go far.

"I have never met a student with more innate and expansive intellectual ability, more deep personal and professional skills, and more drive to encounter and change society in world-changing ways," said Withorn. "I do believe that she is one of those UMass Boston graduates about whom we will someday be proud to say, 'We knew her when.'"

First awarded in 1977, the JFK Award is the highest honor that an undergraduate can receive. Nominees are evaluated on the basis of their academic record, their service contributions, and their overall contributions as a citizen of the university and of the world. The chosen recipient receives a bust of John F. Kennedy, an honorarium, and the opportunity to speak at the main university commencement ceremony.

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A Leadership Change at UMass Boston; A System-wide Move Toward Collaboration


“We are building a leadership team of unparalleled distinction,” President Wilson said. “Michael Collins and Keith Motley truly are distinguished, inspirational leaders, and they will help us to reach our goal of world-class education, research, and service excellence.”

The leadership changes and the ongoing discussion are intended to foster additional collaboration across the five University of Massachusetts campuses and with community, business, and academic partners.

“Together we will help claim our rightful place as a top-tier public university and affirm the Boston campus as Boston’s great urban, public university campus,” said President Wilson. “Our recent history at UMass as well as at other top-tier public universities proves that collaboration is the right path to give our students access to greater resources and more opportunities, and to enhance the value of the UMass degree. The leadership team we’re putting in place, with Dr. Collins and Dr. Motley, is an excellent team to help make this a reality for UMass.”

Wilson and Board of Trustees chairman Stephen P. Tocco plan to establish a task force of faculty, administrators, and higher education experts to examine and recommend initiatives to strengthen each individual campus and increase collaborations across the system.

Camp Shriver to Offer Twice as Much Fun This Summer

By Kari Russ

After a successful two-week, 60-camper pilot program last year, Camp Shriver is doubling in length and nearly doubling in size this summer, welcoming 100 campers for the four weeks from July 9 through August 3, thanks to a $300,000, five-year sponsorship from Procter & Gamble/Collette.

Founded in 1962 when Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver invited 15 boys and girls with intellectual disabilities to her Maryland home, Camp Shriver has since expanded to 21 locations across the U.S., in the Virgin Islands, and in Haiti, offering sports instruction, field trips, and other activities to children both with and without intellectual disabilities.

“Camp Shriver at UMass Boston is a very unique summer opportunity, because we serve an equal number of children with and without disabilities in an inclusive setting,” said Gary N. Siperstein, PhD, director of the Center for Social Development and Education (CSDE), which runs the local edition of the camp. “All of these children are considered equal-status campers and given the same opportunities to improve their sports skills and make new friends. And for many of these children, both with and without disabilities, this is the first time they have had a chance to participate in a structured summer program.”

An evaluation of last year’s camp conducted by staff from CSDE found that campers both with and without disabilities significantly improved their sports skills. In addition, observations and interviews with campers showed that campers with and without disabilities were equally likely to have made new friends at the camp.

While at Camp Shriver, campers will take advantage of the many amenities on campus, including the gym, pool, and playing fields. In addition to regular sports instruction, campers will also participate in weekly visits to the soon to be opened GoKids Boston youth fitness research and training center. Enrichment activities will center on topics including team building and protecting the environment; and there will be field trips to Plymouth Harbor and a local farm.

Camp Shriver is led by a staff of experienced special educators, and includes UMass Boston graduate and undergraduate students, teachers from area school districts, and local high school students.

“I’m really excited to be coming back to Camp Shriver,” said Ashley McNair, a senior psychol- ogy major who, looking for more hands-on experience with children to complement her studies, served as a counselor last year. “I hope to meet new campers and recon- nect with some of our campers from last year. We left camp with a lot of good relationships and memories. I’m looking forward to giving our new campers the same experience.”

“We are carrying Mrs. Shriver’s vision into the twenty-first century,” said Siperstein. “Camp Shriver is a model for how we can include children and adults with disabilities into the larger community.”

Complete list of nominees:

**Professional Staff**

James Allen—Biologist
Linda Correl—Psychology
Rosanne Donahue—CLA,
Dean’s Office
Denise Duggan—Facilities
Paul Foster—Physics
Barbara Gracella—McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies
Zehra Graham—Environmental Health and Safety

**Volunteer Staff**

Ravish Huggins—Vice Chancellor for Athletics and Special Programs
Tommy Joyce—Facilities
Amiee Lin—Institutional Research and Policy Studies
Michael Marple—McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies
Steve Martinson—Parking and Transportation
Robert McCulley—Institution for the Environment
Denise McNamee—University Advancement
Albis Mejia—Student Support Services

**Classified Staff**

Kathy Beauchamp—Mailroom
Vendela Carlsson—Philosophy
John Carty—Facilities

**Student Staff**

Janet Mickievich—English
Joyce Marra—Homes Program
Linda O’Brien—Customer Service
McAleen Peterson—Resources
Francesco Peri—Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences
Stanley Wanca—Continuing Education
Florence Wuertz—Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences

Chancellor Michael Collins with Chancellor’s Achievement Award winners Denise Radko and Jim Allen. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Staff Recognized at Second Annual Chancellor’s Achievement Awards

By Will Kilburn

For most of the year, students and professors are the ones who take home awards for their achievements. But just before commencement, one member from each of the classified and professional staff had their time in the spotlight at the second annual Chancellor’s Achievement Awards, followed by the Ice Cream Social.

Before announcing the winners, Chancellor Michael Collins spoke on the vital contributions made by university staff as UMass Boston builds on its legacy and plans for the future.

“Today’s Chancellor’s Achievement Awards recognize and reward those members of our staff whose demonstrated performance reveals their willingness to engage in renewing and rebuilding our campus,” he said. “These awards celebrate exemplary innovation, initiative, and service in our UMass Boston employe”

In a change from last year’s ceremony, each nominee was called to the front of the room and given a certificate of their nomination, after which Chancellor Collins spoke about the winner from each category prior to revealing their names.

According to one nomination letter, classified staff award winner Denise Radko from Management and Marketing is not only a skilled problem-solver—“She solves problems no one knows how to handle,” wrote one College of Management faculty member—but also is known to take care of problems before anyone realizes that they’re problems at all. “Everything is done,” wrote another, “whether I know it or not.”

Of professional staff winner James Allen, a horticulturist in the Biology Department, Chancellor Collins said his achievements are all around us, from big projects such as putting in hundreds of hours of overtime at the Greenhouse when the Science Building needed repairs, to smaller ones like taking care of the English Department’s fish tank.

After receiving their awards, which include a $1,000 stipend, both Radko and Allen expressed how they plan to use the prize money. “I enjoy being with people, I love people,” said Allen. “Any kind of problem, if I can assist, I’m there. That’s what I like to do most.”

“I enjoy being with people, I love people,” wrote one Colleague. “It’s a wonderful job that I love and it’s a wonderful job that I love.”

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Dean’s Office
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Joyce Marra—Homes Program
Linda O’Brien—Customer Service
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Francesco Peri—Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences
Stanley Wanca—Continuing Education
Florence Wuertz—Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences

Camp Shriver campers and counselors can look forward to twice as much fun in the sun this summer. (Photo by Harry Brett)
Web-Based Learning Growing, Getting Noticed

By Lisa Gentse

It’s not just the students at UMass Boston who are tech-savvy—the professors are, too, boosting their lesson plans and incorporating new web-based teaching tools.

In April, UMass Boston history professor Spencer DiScala received the University Continuing Education Association’s 2007 Excellence in Teaching Award. The national association honored the veteran professor for his online teaching methods, which include discussion forums and blogs that bring lessons and historical characters to life.

DiScala, who teaches five courses online, is one of five professors who were named 2007 Educational Fellows at UMass Boston, a group that also included Barbara Worley, an anthropology adjunct professor; Edward Romar, a professor in the College of Management; and College of Education professors Virginia Smith Harvey and Gonzalo Bacigalupe.

DiScala has also been getting noticed for his group efforts in online education: The Superintendent’s Academy received a program award at the national conference of the University Continuing Education Association in 2005; the online BA completion degree received an award for best program by the regional branch of the University Continuing Education Association in 2006; and the RN-to-BS online degree program is participating in a $650,000 blended course grant from the Sloan-C organization.

These awards and grants highlight the impressive growth of the campus’s online education programs, which are available through the Division of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education. When they began in the summer of 2001, the total enrollment was just 756 students in 15 courses; now, 5,519 are enrolled in more than 120 courses.

“Online education started up reluctantly, with a lot of skepticism on the part of both the faculty and the administration,” said Pasazota Gounari, assistant professor of applied linguistics, director of the Applied Linguistics Online Program. “[But] our online program has very high standards, we use the same admissions requirements, curriculum, and faculty as with the face-to-face program. Flexibility does not mean compromising quality or offering easy courses.”

Despite initial reluctance by some faculty, several from different departments and colleges have embraced online teaching, said Rick Houser, PhD, professor and associate dean of the Graduate College of Education. “For example, nursing and counseling programs have grown dramatically. We offer four counseling programs primarily online: Family Therapy; Mental Health Counseling; Rehabilitation Counseling; and School Counseling.” Houser said there are many benefits to online teaching and learning. “It requires faculty to organize their course in great detail because lectures are posted online, faculty must be creative in developing online learning experiences, and students have easy access to faculty without barriers such as only contacting them on campus.”

Degrees offered now include MA in Applied Linguistics, MS in Family Therapy Counseling, MS in Rehabilitation Counseling, MS in Mental Health Counseling, MS in School Guidance Counseling, MS in Gerontology, MS in Instructional Design, BS in Nursing for Registered Nurses, BA in Community Studies, and several graduate and undergraduate certificates.

Students, and professors, will continue to benefit from the high-tech experience even after graduation. “Online courses also expose UMass Boston students to educational technology and online pedagogy, knowledge and skills that they should be able to use later in life,” said Katharine Galantis, Director of Online Education for Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education at UMass Boston.

UMass Boston Students Help Preschoolers Get A “Jump” on Their Education

By Will Kilburn

A few weeks before UMass Boston’s commencement, a few undergraduates took part in a much smaller graduation ceremony— but one with just as many cheers and tears—across town in Jamaica Plain. The setting was the Nazareth Child Care Center, where nine preschoolers donned construction paper mortarboards to commemorate their completion of Jumpstart, a nationwide program in which nearly 12,000 children aged three to five are paired with college students who act as their mentors.

UMass Boston has taken part in Jumpstart since 1996, with a total of 350 students providing more than 100,000 hours of service. This year, 44 UMass Boston students were paired with a total of 39 preschoolers at Nazareth, Es- cuelita Boreden in the South End, and at Dorchester Head Start, helping them develop social and academic skills through playing, singing, and storytelling.

“One of the things Jumpstart tries to do is to take advantage of kids’ interest and curiosity when they’re four,” said Lauren Meldonian, Jumpstart’s site manager at UMass Boston, who also noted that while relatively few of the students plan on working with kids as a career when they enter the program, many end up deciding to do so during their time with the program.

Team leader Annie Boursiquot is one of them: A junior with a dual major in criminal justice and sociology who just completed her second year with Jumpstart, she’s planning to add an education minor to her studies. “It’s good that they’re moving on, but it was very emotional,” said Boursiquot after the ceremony. It’s very rewarding, she said, to watch the preschoolers’ progress, especially those who needed to overcome the shyness that can hold them back when they make the big jump to public-school kindergarten. “It’s cool to congratulate them on all these fun accomplishments that, for whatever reason, they had no confidence in when they first came into Jumpstart.”

The help given by the college students helps teachers as well, said Brenda Powers, assistant director at Nazareth. “It is a wonderful experience for us,” said Powers. “One of the best things is it brings young, enthusiastic people into the program, especially at the end of the day when other people might be drag- ging, who come in and just kind of rejuvenate what’s going on.”

APPOINTMENTS

Provost Paul J. Fonteyn announced the following appointments to the university’s academic leadership team.

Carol L. Colbeck has been appointed dean of the Graduate College of Education, effective August 1. Dr. Colbeck comes to UMass Boston from The Pennsylvania State University, where she is the director and senior research associate of the university’s Center for the Study of Higher Education, and an associate professor in the College of Education.

Also joining UMass Boston on August 1 is Andrew Grossovy, who will be the new dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. Dr. Grossovy is vice provost for undergraduate education at the University of California, Riverside, a professor in the Department of Cell Biology & Neuroscience, and a research associate at the UC Irvine Air Pollution Research Center.

Anne Scrivener Agee has been appointed vice provost for information technology and chief information officer, effective June 18. Currently the CIO for Connecticut’s state university system, Dr. Agee also served as the executive director of the Division of Instructional and Technology Support Services and deputy CIO at George Mason University.

Michelle Auerbach has been appointed assistant vice provost for research and executive director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, effective June 3. Ms. Auerbach is currently the director of research administration at McLean Hospital in Belmont, MA where she has leadership and oversight responsibilities for the administration, coordination, and establishment of procedures and policies for its research program.
Joiner Center Conference Examines Combat Stress Faced by New Veterans

By Ed Hayward

The veterans of war in Iraq and Afghanistan will have to rely on themselves to secure proper treatment for combat stress, Floyd “Shad” Meshad, the president and founder of the National Veterans Foundation, told new veterans and their fellow veterans from the Vietnam era during a conference presented by the campus’s William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences.

Many of the more than 600,000 servicemen who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan have undergone the most extended and intense combat experience since the Korean conflict or World War II, said Meshad, a Vietnam veteran. Many veterans have done four or five tours, added Meshad, and an estimated 80 percent have been under fire at some point.

“If the war were to end tomorrow, we’re going to see mental stuff we’ve never seen before,” Meshad said. “It will bury the Veterans Administration and everyone else like a tsunami. Then, for the next 10-15 years, it gets very quiet on the veterans front—near silence. As soon as the war is over, it is on to the next issue. It won’t be the veteran.”

Mashad’s message about advocacy to the Iraq and Afghanistan veterans in the audience was clear: “It’s a fight. Nothing is going to be given to you.”

Joiner Center Director Kevin Bowen said the students and staff of the center organized the gathering because the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have raised new issues about combat stress injury, which includes post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which was first codified following the Vietnam war.

“PTSD does not occur in a vacuum,” said Bowen, a Vietnam veteran. “It occurs in a social context, outside the institutions involved in treatment and within our communities. So while the war is still being debated and still being fought, how do veterans deal with this? How should treatment develop among a new generation and an aging generation?”

Much like the veterans who preceded them in earlier conflicts, a major obstacle to treatment is a soldier’s unwillingness to admit that he needs help. Such an admission is what we’re doing here—we’re trying to open doors for other people to be able to walk through. It would be really neat if we could help find the next big talent.”

During two sessions in late April, about 30 people, among them several UMass Boston staffers and students, took the opportunity to be professionally recorded at WUMB. While none made any predictions about taking home one of the three top prizes—$10,000 and a chance to create a brand-new public radio show—everyone interviewed by the Reporter said it was a good experience.

“I was a little bit nervous, so I was a little bit worried about rushing and going too fast,” said Dan Margarita, a FedEx employee and part-time reporter. “But the guy was very nice in there, helped me edit it out. I thought it went reasonably well.”

Others, such as friends Jane La Chance and Donna K. Carpenter, also enjoyed the experience, and vowed to continue on with their radio ambitions whether they won or not.

“We have a dream of someday having a talk show where we would have people call in, and it would be about accessing health care information,” said La Chance, a nurse case manager and a graduate student in UMass Boston’s Critical and Creative Thinking Program.

“We were pleased that she has reviewed the findings of the report, and is interested in using her office to examine the recommenda-

tions of the Commission which have not yet been implemented,” said Ellen Bruce, Graduate Program Director and Chair of the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston. “The Gerontology Institute has long been interested in policies that accommodate older workers’ needs.”

In addition to the Eastern Massachusetts Chapter of OWL, a national organization that addresses the social, economic, and political concerns of midlife and older women, co-sponsors of the event included the Gerontology Alumni Association, UMass Boston Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, Department of Women’s Studies, Gerontology Institute, Labor Resource Center, Massachusetts Paid Family Leave Coalition, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Our Bodies Ourselves, and The Women’s Center (Cambridge). Further information about Eastern Mass OWL, which meets regularly at UMass Boston, is available at www.massowl.org.

WUMB Gives Talent Quest-ers a Shot at the Big Time

By Will Kilburn

Earlier this spring, the call went out to public radio listeners: Do you have what it takes to host a public radio show? More than 1,400 people gave it a shot in the Public Radio Talent Quest, created by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Public Radio Exchange to discover potential radio stars.

For the most part, contestants recorded two-minute demos at home and then submitted them to the contest’s Web site, but eight public radio stations, including UMass Boston’s WUMB, opened their studios to those who wanted a more polished sound for their entries. For general manager and station co-founder Pat Monteith, taking part in the contest was a natural fit for WUMB.

“A lot of doors were opened for us over the years, and that’s not anything that I’m ever going to forget,” said Monteith. “This is what we’re doing here—we’re trying to open doors for other people to be able to walk through. It would be really neat if we could help find the next big talent.”

“During two sessions in late April, about 30 people, among them several UMass Boston staffers and students, took the opportunity to be professionally recorded at WUMB. While none made any predictions about taking home one of the three top prizes—$10,000 and a chance to create a brand-new public radio show—everyone interviewed by the Reporter said it was a good experience.

“I was a little bit nervous, so I was a little bit worried about rushing and going too fast,” said Dan Margarita, a FedEx employee and part-time reporter. “But the guy was very nice in there, helped me edit it out. I thought it went reasonably well.”

Others, such as friends Jane La Chance and Donna K. Carpenter, also enjoyed the experience, and vowed to continue on with their radio ambitions whether they won or not.

“We have a dream of someday having a talk show where we would have people call in, and it would be about accessing health care information,” said La Chance, a nurse case manager and a graduate student in UMass Boston’s Critical and Creative Thinking Program.

“We were pleased that she has reviewed the findings of the report, and is interested in using her office to examine the recommendations of the Commission which have not yet been implemented,” said Ellen Bruce, Graduate Program Director and Chair of the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston. “The Gerontology Institute has long been interested in policies that accommodate older workers’ needs.”

In addition to the Eastern Massachusetts Chapter of OWL, a national organization that addresses the social, economic, and political concerns of midlife and older women, co-sponsors of the event included the Gerontology Alumni Association, UMass Boston Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, Department of Women’s Studies, Gerontology Institute, Labor Resource Center, Massachusetts Paid Family Leave Coalition, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Our Bodies Ourselves, and The Women’s Center (Cambridge). Further information about Eastern Mass OWL, which meets regularly at UMass Boston, is available at www.massowl.org.

State Labor Secretary Addresses Women and Work

By Colleen M. Lofgren

Suzanne M. Bump, the newly confirmed Massachusetts Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, was the featured speaker at the Eastern Massachusetts OWL Mother’s Day Celebration, held at the University of Massachusetts Boston on May 8, 2007.

In her speech, titled “Women, Work and Family Across the Life Course,” Secretary Bump discussed her role in the new Patrick administration, as well as the administration’s policy priorities regarding the career challenges faced by women.

“We need to have a very broad shift in how we train and find work, especially for women,” Bump said. “We are still in a new, proactive process of integrating women into the workforce, but we are not making the kinds of strides that we should be.”

Bump has seen that progress, and how much still needs to be done, firsthand: Prior to her appointment, Bump represented the town of Beaconville from 1985 to 1993 in the House of Representatives, and cochaired the Committee on Commerce and Labor. During that time, Chairman Bump sponsored many bills on wages, hours, working conditions, and job creation. In her time away from Beacon Hill, she worked in the private sector, serving on the boards of a numbers of nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

Of particular concern to Secretary Bump is the aging of the workforce. During her speech, she referred to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Older Workers Report from 2000, which UMass Boston’s Gerontology Institute played a key role in putting together.

“We were pleased that she has reviewed the findings of the report, and is interested in using her office to examine the recommendations of the Commission which have not yet been implemented,” said Ellen Bruce, Graduate Program Director and Chair of the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston. “The Gerontology Institute has long been interested in policies that accommodate older workers’ needs.”

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PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

Shorty Penny, professor of leadership in the College of Management, and her husband, Jim Livingston, spoke at the 26th Annual PEN Conference on May 14 on “A Family Divided: The Abolitionists Wrights and the Slaveholding Phelps,” based on research Penny conducted with her fourth-generation family who were on opposite sides of the Civil War. Penny is also co-presenting a case study as part of the Emerging Leaders Program at the annual meeting of the European Foundation for Management Development in Brussels on June 11.

Professor Pamela Jones of the Art Department delivered the paper “Guercino’s Penitent Magdalene for S. Maria Maddalena delle Convertite: Saints and Sinners on Rome’s Via del Corso” in the symposium Accademia Dempisiana: Papers in Modern Italian Art and Culture held at the University of Delft, May 4-5 at the University for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Binghampton University.

Professor Marc Pompul from the Computer Science Department took part in the 11th annual German-American Kavli Frontiers of Science symposium on March 21-22 in Iowa, California, where he presented “The Selectivity of Human Eye Movements during Visual Search.”

Marc Prou, associate professor of Africana Studies, presented a paper, “Why Caribbean Studies matter: Paradigms and Prospects,” at the International Symposium on Caribbean Studies at Brown University on April 13, and was also invited to a panel discussion on Haitian-Dominican Relations at Brown University on April 14.

Graduate College of Education professor Rona Flippo’s paper on family literacy was presented at the Family Literacy Symposium of the International Reading Association (IRA) Convention in Toronto on May 12-17.

Assistant psychology professor Erik Blaser presented his work and participated in an invited International Workshop on Visual Attention held at the University of Antwerp, Argentina, from March 11-15.

Assistant psychology professor Zsuzsa Kalyky presented a poster at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, held March 22-25 in Philadelphia, and a paper at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research, held April 12-14 in San Rafael, California.

Associate psychology professor David Lisak addressed an issue, “Confronting Sexual Violence: Moral Obligation; Moral Leadership,” at the Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Symposium in Virginia, and also gave a plenary presentation at the Regional Forensic Commission council in Crestview Hills, Kentucky.

Psychology Department chairman Celia Moore presented a paper on “The Consequences of Experiential and Learning: Sources of Reliability in an Extended Concept of Inheritance” in a symposium on March 23-25 in Indiana University.

Psychology professor Jean Rhodes gave the keynote addresses at the annual meetings of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada in Banff, Alberta, on April 13 and at Big Brothers Big Sisters International in New York on April 15, and also organized a Research and Policy Council meeting for the MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership on April 10-11.

On March 15, Tatjana Moshcide, Senior Research Associate at the Center for Social Policy, presented a paper titled “Exclusive and Re-discovered: The ‘Chronically’ Homeless in the U.S.” at The International Conference on Social Exclusion and Poverty in Lisbon, Portugal.

On February 10 and 11, Jennifer Raymond, Tatjana Moshcide, and John McGab delivered a paper to an academic conference titled “Making Personal Stories Heard: Using Qualitative Research to Build Homeless, Policy.” McGab was also part of the opening panel, where he gave an overview of homelessness in the United States.


CPCS gerontology professor Nina M. Silversteen presented a lecture titled “Bringing the Student to the Curriculum and the Curriculum to the Student: An Experiential-Research-Based Approach to Infusing Gerontology in Undergraduate Education” at the Katharine Eatright Memorial Conference on Ethics, Values, and Human Responsibility, held May 17-18 at the University of Indianapolis.

On April 17, CPCS professor James Grewn delivered the Dunlay Fund lecture on Public History at the University of New Hampshire; on April 20, he addressed the Police Union Leadership Seminar at Harvard Law School; and on May 11, he addressed the Massachusetts Superior Court’s Judicial Education Committee.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences associate professor Joann Snow presented a paper titled “Translating Traditional Content in Ethics, Legal and Health Policy Issues to the Web: Lessons Learned” at the 44th Annual Island Health and Stewart Conference on Research in Nursing Technology, held April 27 at Columbia University, and also gave a presentation titled “The Differences in Alzheimer Family Care Giver Stress” at the Alzheimer Support Group offered by the River Bay Club in Quincy on May 15.

Ellen Hume, director of the Center on Media and Society, was on a panel on May 17 at the Boston Athenaeum Library on “Restoring Media Trust: Is the News Changing and Why Is It Important for Our Community?”

English professor Elsa Auebach will present the fourth annual Francesca Target Memorial Lecture at London Southbank University in London, England, on June 13, and will also present an invited lecture at the University of London’s Institute of Education on June 20.

Gary C. Clink, research assistant for the Center for Social Development, presented a paper titled “Gurkh Your Sensibility: How Self-Redirection Can Ease the Sting of Rejection” at the Association for Psychological Science in Washington, D.C., in May.

Mohammad H. Tamdgidi, assistant professor of sociology, presented a panel paper “Utopsyias and the Asiatic Modes of Liberation: Gurdjieffian Contributions to the Sociological Imagination and the Development of ‘World Systems’” at the 31st Annual Conference of the Political Economy of the World-System Section of the American Sociology Association, held in May at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York, and also presented a panel paper, “Intersecting Autobiography, History, and Theory: The Tibetan Global Violence of Colonialism and Racism in Fanon, Said, and Alanzulda,” at the Fourth Annual Social Theory Forum held in March at UMass Boston.

English department assistant professor Patrick Bannon presented the research paper “Identity: A Competency-Based Curriculum and the Curriculum to the Student: A Competency-Based Curriculum and the Curriculum to the Student” at the 29th Annual Conference of the American Kavli Frontiers of Science Program in Hopkinton on May 1.

Luiz Alonso-Ovalle, associate professor in the Department of Hispanic Studies, presented a paper titled “The Concept of Experience in Developmental Assets Among Trauma-Influenced Youth: A Test of Self-Identified Identities in Spanish and English” at the biannual conference of the European Survey Research Association in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in June.

CPCS professor emerita Marie C. McShane, a full-time faculty member of the School of Nursing at St. John’s College, delivered an invited presentation on “People with Mobility Impairment: Autonomy, Self-Reinforcement Can Ease the Sting of Rejection” at the Association for Psychological Science in Washington, D.C., in May.

Psychologist professor John May, former professor of psychology, presented “The Differences in Alzheimer Family Care Giver Stress” at the Alzheimer Support Group offered by the River Bay Club in Quincy on May 15.

On May 21, Joanne Ridley, director of the Massachusetts Studies Project, in the Student: A Competency-Based Curriculum and the Curriculum to the Student, presented a paper titled “Bringing the Student to the Classroom” at the Critical Thinking Conference at the Community College of Rhode Island’s Comunitaria Transformadora at the Instituto Politecnico Nacional in San Pablo Apetatlan, Tlaxcala, on April 24 and at the Colegio de Mexico in Mexico City on April 30.

Professor of critical thinking Bob Schoenberg presented a workshop titled “Strategies & Methods for Incorporating Critical Thinking into Your Classroom” at the Critical Thinking Conference at the Community College of Rhode Island’s Warwick campus on May 22.

Professor Shirley Tang of the American Studies American and American Studies Program presented a paper titled “Lyric’s ‘Khmer American Vision’ in the Lynn Museum and Historical Society on April 12.

Cori DiBaise of the Institute for Community Inclusion presented on effectively serving all customers within the workforce development system at the National Association of Workforce Professionals on May 22 in Reno, Nevada.

On July 18, Heike Boelting of the Institute for Community Inclusion will co-conduct a poster and paper presentation at the U.S. Office for Special Education at the Project Directors’ Conference in Washington, D.C.

Professor Patrick Clarkin, assistant professor of anthropology, presented “War and Health of Hmong and Lao Adults” at the Second International Conference of Lao Studies in Tempe, Arizona, on May 5.

History professor Julie Winch presented a paper, “A Sacrifice That Virtue Compelled Aracce: to African American Orations on the Ending of the Transatlantic Slave Trade” at the U.S. and Beyond Conference in the University of Hull in England in May.

In May, professor of education (GCEO) and director of the Asian American Studies Program Peter Instagramo presented a paper at the 1st annual Asian Pacific Americans and Education conference at Harvard University’s graduate school of education in May. Kim delivered a keynote address at the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators’ Conference on Enhancing Ethnic Diversity. Kim also led two professional development workshops for Massachusetts K-12 teachers on “Refugees and Immigrants in the U.S.” and “Immigration and Schooling.”

Kathleen Golden McKendrew, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs/Executive Director, University Health Services, and Assistant Clinical Professor, College of Nursing & Health Sciences, presented a workshop titled “The Patient Care in Occupational Health, A Core Curriculum Module” and “Skillets, Cheese, Doors and Fours, and the Systematic Approach to Medicine Chest: An Update on Substance Abuse Trends” during the annual AAOHN National Symposium in May in Orlando, Florida.

Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen, holder of the Frank J. Manning Emmanuel Scholar’s Trust in Critical Thinking, completed the Institute, will speak on “A Trade-off Principle in Funding Long- Term Care” at the conference To Sustainable and Effective System of Financing of Long-Term Care, to be held at Georgetown University on June 11, and will serve as a moderator and a speaker at a conference on Longevity and Retirement Security at the Consulate of Switzerland in Cambridge on June 23.

Professor Susan Opotow of the Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution presented a paper, “American Indians and Northern Inuit in Conflict Resolution: Inclusion and Exclusion after War,” as a featured address at the Psychology and Social Justice Conference at New York University on April 21, and was also an invited participant in a mid-
C A M P U S    N O T E S


Jack Wiggan, interim director of the Urban Harbors Institute, presented a paper based on the Institute’s work, titled “Fishing Proteus and Promoting a Working Harbor: The Experience of Gloucester, Massachusetts,” at the Working Waterways & Waterscapes Symposium, hosted by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science on May 10.

CPCS professor Michael Stone gave an invited presentation on “Housing Affordability Concepts and Consequences” at the National Low Income Housing Coalition’s 13th Annual Policy Conference in Washington, D.C., on February 26.

Paul Watanabe, director of the Institute for Asian American Studies and professor of political science, delivered a presentation titled “Is Yellow White or Is Black? Race and Asian Americans” at the Department of Neighborhood Development’s Annual Asian Pacific Heritage celebration on May 18.

On May 17, John McGah, director of the McCormack Graduate School’s Give Us Your Poor Initiative, was a special lecturer at the New Hampton School in New Hampshire. McGah co-presented with Matthew, a homeless man, to a group of graduating seniors as part of the Vespers Project.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

On May 30, Associate Vice Chancellor Gail Hobin received a Special Recognition Award from the Boston Main Streets Program in recognition of her work with Dorchester Main Streets organizations and the Dorchester Board of Trade.

Professor of English Lloyd Schwartz has been invited, as part of UMass Amherst’s participation in the new Institute of Contemporary Art, to choose a poem three or four times a year that will be posted on a bulletin board in theICA. Professor Schwartz also organized and spoke at a poetry reading at the ICA on May 3, which also featured former poet laureate Robert Pinsky.

The University Reporter
Monday 11

Monday Harbor Cruises
12 noon – 1:15 p.m., Mondays through June 4. Get up close at view the Boston Harbor Islands, courtesy of UMB’s Division of Marine Operations. Free with a current UMass ID. $5 without. Call 7-5404 for more information.

Wednesday 13

Tour of UMass Boston 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Campus Center, 2nd floor, jaw of the herm. Take the eco-tour and learn how you are part of an environment-friendly college campus community. RSVP by phone or email or individually or groups. Also held at the same time on Wednesdays the 3rd, 20th, and 27th. For more information, call UMB Green at 7-5083 or email umb.green@umb.edu.

Thursday 14

Yoga for All 2:30 – 3:30 p.m., McCormack Hall, 1st floor, Beacon Fitness Center Aerobics Room. Yoga mats will be provided. Please wear comfortable clothing. Students FREE. Faculty and Staff: $3.00. For more information, go to http://www.umbwellness.org/yoga.htm, or call 7-5680.

Gospel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., McCormack Hall, 3rd floor, Interfaith Chapel, room 713. If you love to sing in the varied forms of gospel music, join us! Any current student or member of the UMass Boston Community who wants to learn and sing gospel music is welcome. The group rehearses on Mondays and Thursdays. For more information, call Rev. Adeline Berry-Burton at 7-5388 or email adrienne.berryburton@umb.edu.

Sunday 17

WUMB 91.9 FM Commonwealth Journal 7 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. every Sunday. Interviews with scholars, writers, and public officials examining current issues of interest to the people of Massachusetts. For more information, visit www.wumb.org or call 7-6900.

Monday 18

21st Annual Elections Department Golf Tournament 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Franklin Park Golf Course, Dorchester. Registration is $125 per player, and includes greens and cart fees, golf apparel, gift packages, awards and recognition, raffle prizes, and lunch. To register, go to www.athletics.umb.edu/golf/index.html.

The Bridge Falls Organization 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., McCormack Hall, 3rd floor, Interfaith Chapel, room 713.共同体诟冈與に銉他に銉他に銉他に銉他に銉他に銉中国人大学老师 to help build the foundation of this Christian faith organization! It’s about faith, fellowship, leadership and service! This is a non-demonational fellowship. All are welcome. For more information, call Sr. Dorothy Castles, SND, at 7-5388 or email dorothis.castles@umb.edu.

Tuesday 19

NERCH Annual Colloquium 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Hoagland-Pitcairn Conference Center, Shrewsbury, Mass. This year’s Colloquium will feature an evening of dinner and dialogue with Dr. Jon Wergin, professor of educational studies in Antioch University’s PhD program in leadership and change, and author of the recent book Leadership in Higher Places: How Academic Professionals Find Their New Leadership Voice. For more information, go to www.nerch.org/colloquium_2007/ colloquium_2007.html.

JUNE

Thursday 21

Water Watch General Meetings 9:30 a.m., Whartley Hall, 4th floor, room 156. We meet to discuss upcoming events and projects we are working on, such as: Cleanups on the Charles and the Neponset rivers, education in K-12 classrooms, Water Watch website development, and other things related to pollution in our waterways. For more information, call Teresa D’Anna at 7-3866 or email teresa@waterwatchonline.org.

Monday 25

Introduction to American Sign Language 11 a.m. – 12:20 p.m., Campus Center, 3rd floor, room 3001. This class is a chance for all to learn a new way to communicate, and an opportunity to explore whether you would like to take a full course in the future. For more information, call Rev. Adrienne Bailey or Yau Yau Chong at 7-7965 or email Disabilities@umb.edu.

July 19

Events

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of Marketing and Communications. All events are open to the public and free, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 287-7878 and the last five digits listed below each event.

Please submit calendar listings at umb.edu/news/calendar.

CAMPUS NOTES

(continued from page 7)

stroms with the website of the Boston Globe. William Kicennan, director of the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI), received the Joseph M. Collins Human Service Award at the Massachusetts Association for the Blind (MAB) Community Service Gala on April 18. On April 10 and 11, the Center for Social Policy convened a 2-day conference exploring policy visions from the New Deal and Great Society and their implications for today’s public policy-thinking. The Public Policy Forum held a conference on April 23 titled “Social Inequality and Public Policy,” featuring panel discussions on inequality in education, labor, healthcare, and other topics.

EVENTS

On April 17, the Center on Mediatia and Society hosted the NEXT Generation Forum, aimed at strengthening public-private partnerships. On April 27, the Research Center for Urban Cultural History held its first scholarly conference, titled “Documenting Cities Hypermedia Conference.”

On April 28, University of Massachusetts President Jack M. Wilson and UMass Boston Chancellor Michelle T. Madhok helped GRLZ Radio launch their Internet webcast channel. Public Policy Associate Professor Alan Helmers helped SELRF Radio launch their Internet webcast channel. Joan Gardner, director of the GIS Core Research Facility, was the Chair of URBIA’s GIS and Public Health Conference in New Orleans, May 20-23, and also made a presentation on May 21 on “GIS and Public Health.”

Center for Social Policy research associate Brandynn Holgate was elected to sit on the Executive Committee of PHENOM (Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts), a coalition of faculty, staff, and students from the 29 state public colleges and universities.

Michelle Portman of the Urban Harbors Institute has been awarded the McCloy Fellowship in Environmental Policy, sponsored by the American Council on Germany, to conduct research in Germany on environmental policy.

In THE NEWS

Donna Stewartson, associate director of the Graduate Program for Women in Politics & Public Policy, was cited in an editorial, “Liv dans l’oeil,” for his WMBR-FM radio show on music from the French-speaking world, French Toast.

Professor emeritus Jim Campen of the Gaston Institute was quoted by USA Today in a March 19 story on mortgage lending practices.

Paul Watanabe, coeditor of the Institute for Asian Studies, was interviewed by WZM-AM on Senator President Robert Travaglini's decision to step down and start a lobbying and government relations firm.

On May 14, the Center for Social Policy hosted the 2007 HURD New England Regional Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Conference at the Campus Center. The conference convened 200 HMIS stakeholders from throughout New England and featured multiple workshops and a session on engaging homeless people in HMIS-related work by Julia Tripp, Constituent Coordinator for the Center for Social Policy.

On May 17, the Boston Globe published an article, “Seniors Could Defer Pay- ing Proposition 2 1/2 Taxes Under Bill.”

Brian Thompson, professor of French, was the subject of a full-page article in the April issue of the French online cultural journal, “Le Doug dans Forum,” for his WMBR-FM radio show on music from the French-speaking world, French Toast.

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