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By Lisa Gentes
At UMass Boston’s 38th commencement, U.S. Senator Barack Obama told the graduates of the Class of 2006 to take risks, listen to their inner voice, and continue to make progress in the country and the world.

“Don’t let people talk you out of what you think is the bigger thing,” Obama (D-Illinois) told the graduates about fulfilling their goals and dreams. “Listen to what’s in you.”

Under dark skies and light rain on the Campus Center lawn, wearing ponchos and holding umbrellas of all colors, faculty, family, and friends celebrated the 2,582 who received undergraduate and graduate degrees on June 2.

The senator served as the keynote speaker and received an honorary doctor of laws degree from UMass Boston. Obama noted his famed speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention (DNC) in Boston. “It’s always good to be back in Boston,” he said, joking about the notoriety he received from that impassioned address at the DNC.

The senator, author, attorney, and activist is the fifth African American to serve in the United States Senate. He was elected in 2004. The Harvard Law School graduate told the students about his father growing up in Kenya, and his family moving to America to pursue their dreams of higher education.

“America is an unlikely place... and you can still rise to become whatever you want,” he said. Although the pursuit of the American Dream seems common and cliché today, it remains a goal for many, he said.

At commencement, he told graduates to think globally, welcome diversity, empathize with others, and fight for their dreams.

“You are going to be tested and you won’t always succeed,” Obama said. “But know you have it in your power to try.”

The country has survived slavery, depression, and war, and progress has been made in civil rights and world relations; however, “progress is still not good enough,” he said. “There is more work to be done, more justice to be had, more barriers to break down,” he acknowledged the students’

(Cont. on page 2)

By Ed Hayward

Like so many graduates of the Class of 2006, the future lies before Panther Alier. Unlike so many of his fellow students, his past—an incredible personal history of survival—will never be far behind the 29-year-old.

Forced from his home in the southern Sudan by civil war in 1987, Alier joined a human river of refugees—many, like him, parentless children and teens—and spent 14 years traversing on foot thousands of miles between the Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya.

In 2001, an international airlift brought him and hundreds of other “Lost Boys and Girls of the Sudan” to America from the teeming Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Alier, who entered UMass Boston through the Directions for Student Potential (DSP) program, graduated June 2 as an honors student with a major in political science. As he weighs his future options, he knows they will be influenced by the experiences of his life.

“My life has taken many interesting turns,” Alier said in an interview in the Campus Center dining room. “I have spent most of my life in different settings. I am Sudanese by birth and I still feel a bond to my country and my people. So I find it really hard to situate myself and to think about where I will be. I think the future will determine where I am.”

He would like to return to eastern Africa to help people who have been displaced. He hopes to pursue a career with the United Nations or an international organization that assists refugees. Last summer, he was a chief organizer of the first national conference for the “lost boys and girls” in Phoenix, Ariz. He helped to find the Sudanese Youth Organization and

(Cont. on page 2)
activism and involvement in volunteering and community issues. “The easiest thing in the world is to do nothing,” Obama said. “I hope you don’t do what is easy. I hope you do what is hard.”

Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, called the senator an outspoken, tireless advocate, author, bridge builder, champion of the poor, and voice for the less fortunate.

“Like most Americans, your [Obama’s] journey started from humble beginnings, with a father who had big dreams for a son …” Collins said. His story is one to which many UMass Boston students can relate, the chancellor said.

“In Swahili, barack means ‘blessed,’” Collins said. “At UMass Boston, we are blessed to have you this morning.”

The chancellor also urged the graduates to make a lifelong commitment to learning, through reading, being inquisitive, and exploring the world.

As commencement, the university presented honorary degrees to Maryvale Hughes, president of Dillard University in New Orleans; Thomas Payzant, superintendent of the Boston Public Schools; and Sylvia Poggioli, senior European correspondent for National Public Radio.

Collins presented the Distinguished Service Award to biology professor Kamaljit Bawa; the Distinguished Teaching Award to nursing professor Jacqueline Fawcett; the Distinguished Scholarship Award to nursing professor Jacqueline Fawcett; and biology professor Kamaljit Bawa for service.

Class of 2006 graduate Catherine Reyes received the John F. Kennedy Award for Academic Excellence and delivered remarks on behalf of her class.

Panther Alier (cont.)

is a board member of the Sudanese Education Fund. He speaks frequently to school and community groups and this summer he will work as a mentor to DSP students taking classes at the university.

“Having been a refugee for so much of my life, to come back as a service provider would be really great,” Alier said. He said he expects to attend graduate school at some point in his future and will determine if it is possible to return to the southern Sudan to do relief work. He was in Africa most recently during the fall, when he spent a semester studying in Uganda.

Educated by relief workers and missionaries in impromptu schools without blackboards or books, Alier said he has cherished each course he’s taken at the university, “Every single class I took was always something new,” he said. “I will never regret having taken any of them.”

He cites as his mentors DSP director Polly Welsh and ESL instructor Susan Bookbinder, as well as professors Vivian Zamel and Alan Waters. In addition to Waters’ anthropology class, among his favorite courses were professors Ursula Tafe’s primer on American government and Professor Primo Vanelcci’s course on international relations.

Alier has left an equally indelible impression upon his mentors. “Panther is one of the most impressive students I have ever had, and one of the most genuine people I have ever known,” Professor Waters wrote about his student. “He is the real deal.”

The country that adopted him has provided him with a sense of safety and security. His courses have served to strengthen his admiration for democracy.

“The idea of freedom—the whole idea of democracy: everything is included in it,” he said. “I spent almost more than half my life as a dependent. I got here and, after four months, I was told I had to go take on my life. That is the spirit I like.”

UMass Boston Graduates Over 2,500 Students on June 2

(continued from page 1)
First Annual Empower Disabled Fund Award Aids Student

By Lisa Gentes

UMass Boston celebrated a year of empowering students with disability at an awards party last month, giving the keys to a wheelchair-accessible van to one UMass Boston student.

For the first annual award, the one-year-old Empower Disabled Fund (EDF) at UMass Boston presented an award to Eugene Flaherty at a May 17 ceremony. Darrell Byers, vice chancellor of institutional advancement, handed over the keys to a $35,000 wheelchair van to the UMass Boston junior and his mother, Jan.

About 25 people gathered for the event, according to Ellen Hume, co-founder of the Empower Disabled Fund. Folks who had never been on campus before “but were inspired by Eugene” at the ceremony. “We were on top of the world. We were able to achieve by working hard. Empower Disabled Fund is about achieving.”

Award recipient Flaherty, who has a disability since birth, uses an electric wheelchair and needed to replace his family’s 11-year-old wheelchair-accessible van. “Without a van I can get into, I pretty much don’t leave my house unless I have to,” Flaherty said in a letter. He said his family needed the new van “so that I can continue to be independent, provide service to the community and attend classes.”

Flaherty was selected in 2005 for the first grant, and a fund-raising effort was launched to provide funding for the new grant award and future grants, according to Hume.

Hume said Flaherty had been a student of hers, and about two years ago, she learned his family had failed inspection and was no longer drivable. The UMass Boston student could only travel to places on public transportation, she said. She decided to help, and teamed up with staff member Sergio Goncalves to create the Empower Disabled Fund.

“He’s been a leader,” Hume said of Goncalves. The fund has helped “two young men who show so much promise,” she said of both award recipient Flaherty and fund co-founder Goncalves.

The EDF has been working on raising money to fund the grants, seeking outside donors and volunteers to pitch in, including William Thornodike of Trinity Episcopal Church in Boston and Robert Booth of Expressway Motors.

EDF will continue raising funds to provide awards in the future, including a raffle in September. The $50 raffle tickets provide a chance to win a new Toyota Corolla.

“This took longer and was harder to do than I imagined when I first got involved,” Hume said. “People like Darrell Byers and Charlie Titus led the way through all the difficulties. Sergio and the whole team have a lot to be proud of.”

Byers said overall the first year of EDF went very well. “We hope to continue fund-raising to be able to endow the award so we can help students with disability here forever,” Byers said.

Chancellor’s Awards Recognize Exceptional Achievement

By Anne-Marie Kent

Addressing the crowded faculty and staff that filled the Campus Center Ballroom on May 16 for the Chancellor’s Achievement Award Ceremony and Ice Cream Social, Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, recalled his words at inauguration, “For too long, this institution has been considered to be just good enough”.

“The Chancellor’s Achievement Award helps change that impression by recognizing and rewarding demonstrated exceptional performance.”

“This new award recognizes exemplary innovation, initiative, or service demonstrated by a member of the UMass Boston classified or professional staff,” said Clare Potter of the Human Resources Department, who chaired the committee of eight staff members who sorted through the over 40 nominations for the awards, which were given to one member of the classified and professional staff. Each award carries with it a $3,000 stipend.

“I was surprised, honored, and overwhelmed to be the first recipient of this award for the classified staff,” said Shauna Lee Manning, assistant to the Women’s Studies, Communication Studies, American Studies, and American Studies Master’s Programs. “We have so many dedicated and hardworking staff members on our campus; I am deeply touched to have been nominated and selected.”

Lurlene Van Buren, who created UMass Boston’s Study Abroad and Exchange Program, won the professional staff award. At its inception in 1997, the program sent 14 students abroad; now it sends approximately 40 per semester. She was applauded for her initiative in creating and continually expanding the program and the high level of service that she provides to students each semester.

Following the awards presentation, Chancellor Collins presented two Chancellor’s Medals for Valor, recognizing honors student Fabio Dovalle and Public Safety Officer John St. Ives for their “exceptional bravery and outstanding service to our community,” displayed on February 21 when they worked together to rescue a driver whose car had plummeted off University Drive and into the bay.

“There is no question that with the selfless actions of these two individuals, entering the frigid winter waters of Dorchester Bay, the outcome would most likely have been far more tragic,” said Chancellor Collins.

McCormack School Names Founding Dean

By Lisa Gentes

UMass Boston welcomed Stephen “Steve” Crosby as the new founding dean of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies earlier this month.

Priority number one is to find a great chair of the department of public policy and public affairs, and I intend to get focused on that just as quickly as I can,” Crosby said in a Reporter interview.

The 61-year-old Brookline resident brings with him nearly 40 years of experience in nonprofit, policy making, and government leadership.

Crosby previously served as chief of staff to former Governor Jane Swift and as secretary of administration and finance to governors Paul Cellucci and Swift. His responsibilities included development, legislative, approval, and implementation of the governor’s $23 billion operating budget and $2 to $3 billion capital budget. As the secretary of administration and finance, he was supervisor for 22 agencies, consisting of 3,000 employees.

The newly appointed UMass Boston dean served as chairman and CEO of Interactive Radio Corp., Inc; SmartRoute Systems, Inc.; Crosby Vandenburgh Group; and MetroGuide, Inc. For the last three and a half years, he has served as a volunteer on various nonprofit boards, he said, including the Boston History Collaborative, the Center for Applied Special Technologies, The Poverty Institute, and the AIDS Responsibility Project.

He also owns a contract publishing company, CCD/Crosby Publishing in Boston, of which he is founder and publisher.

“What I’m looking forward to is to be a part of building a great, new public policy graduate program on the foundations that are already there,” Crosby said. “But also trying to take it to much greater academic and applied policy viability and stature,” he said.

Crosby said he came to UMass Boston because he was “looking for an opportunity to get back into a full-time leadership position and wanted it to be in the not-for-profit world.” He heard about the opportunity at the university and the “expanded McCormack Graduate School under the leadership of Michael Collins and his vision for UMass Boston.”

“I was delighted to see the involvement of staff, faculty and students and the sense of real enthusiasm for the future,” he said of UMass Boston.

Crosby takes over for Edmund Beard who has been serving in interim dean. “Ed Beard has been the heart and soul of the McCormack Institute and the McCormack Graduate School,” says Crosby. “I look forward to the challenge of following in his substantial footsteps.”

June 2006 • The University Reporter
By Leigh DuPuy

What’s the best way to measure the success of the Bringing the Best to Nursing Program? Ask its participants. “The program helped to boost my skills and confidence in my academic and professional abilities,” says second-year nursing student Sherryann Hawkesworth. “It prepares us to be clinically competent, with the abilities to socialize at a professional level.” The program also fosters an invaluable sense of belonging for the students. “It’s like a family,” says Francene Previna.

This workforce diversity and leadership training initiative, known to its participants as BBN, was started three years ago by associate professor of nursing Linda Dumas and was funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources, and Service Administration. More than 110 students have since participated in the program, led by Dumas and project manager Peter Terres.

Through BBN, Dumas and Terres work to enhance the recruitment of minority nurses, provide support to retain and graduate diverse nurses, and prepare nurses to work with underserved urban populations. The program provides a support network to its students in the form of stipends, stress-reduction workshops, leadership training cohorts, tutoring, and mentoring opportunities.

Most important, it has fostered a strong connection between its students and the college, and the university. “It brings people together,” says Habibo Hirsi, a student from Somalia who recently earned a graduate certificate. “It helped me stand on my feet,” especially, she notes, after transferring from another institution.

For Hawkesworth, the program’s support helped her to balance the responsibilities of her schoolwork and home life. She is a single mother of three children and regularly wakes up at 3:00 a.m. to get her coursework done before her family gets up. She credits BBN for helping her to network and interact with other students.

“BBN and the nursing program helps me to continue to be a productive, positive role model for my kids, people of color, and single, older and younger moms, leading by example, doing the things I would like them to achieve,” she describes.

Hirsi also raves about the confidence she developed while a BBN participant. “I’m not able to do it by myself and it was wonderful,” she says. BBN benefits continue for Hirsi; she credits Dumas and the program for giving her the support and assurance needed to begin working at a hospital.

“BBN helps these prospective nurses to be role models,” says Dumas, who is applying for a continuation of the grant and will hear in June on the status.

“We’ve been fine-tuning the program and have found that a little really goes a long way in building that family.” She has been thankful for the support of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Dean Greer Glazer; Professor Judith Walsh, and others in helping to foster the program.

“There is a treasure in each of these students—we don’t know what it is at first, but we know it’s there and this program helps us call it forth,” says Dumas. “I believe that the emphasis on leadership training at BBN helps these prospective nurses to be role models.

This is evident in Previna’s resourcefulness. The soon-to-be-junior inspired a trip for 32 peers, 26 who are nursing students, to travel to New Orleans for a week to participate at dig for some, but for others, it’s time to roll up the sleeves and dig. Far from our backyard gardens, a dozen UMass Boston students will be working at a Mayan excavation site in northwestern Belize.

Every summer, Lauren Sullivan, a lecturer in the Anthropology Department, takes a group of undergraduate students with her to investigate archaeological remains in a tropical rain forest.

The Field School in Prehistoric Archaeology in Belize is a course offered by the Anthropology Department through the Division of Corporate, Continuing, and Distance Education. Throughout the month of June, Sullivan and her students will live and work in a backdrop of jungle and Mayan ruins.

This June, Anthropology’s Lauren Sullivan is leading a group of undergraduates in a field school dig of prehistoric archaeology in northwestern Belize. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Sullivan, who has expertise in Mesoamerican and Maya archeology, provides ceramic analysis for the entire region, helping all the field schools identify the ceramic materials they find.

She describes a typical day as beginning at 5:30 or 6:00 a.m. with a breakfast in the camp’s screened dining hall; she and her students then work on site doing excavation work until about 4:00 p.m. The team works six to seven days a week, and during their time off, may visit a Mennonite grocery store. After the field school ends, many students travel to Tikal, the ruins of a Maya city in Guatemala.

A native of New Orleans, Sullivan is not bothered by the humid summer weather and says that the ecology of the rain forest is fascinating. There, she has seen wildlife such as Howler monkeys, jaguars, parrots, and toucans, and she hopes to avoid the many poisonous snakes in the area.

“The people down there are amazing,” says Sullivan, who first came to the area in 1987 as a seer in the Peace Corps. Sullivan fell in love with the excavation and has returned there every summer. She went on to earn her doctorate in anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin and has been at UMass Boston since 1998.

Sullivan’s field school isn’t the only opportunity UMass Boston students have to unearth archaeological findings. Throughout the summer, Anthropology Department faculty lead field studies at Shelter Island, New York, at the Hassaneinest Woods in Graf ton, Massachusetts, and at the Eastern Pequot Reservation in North Stonington, Connecticut.

Joiner Center Sponsors Eisenhower College Series

By Paul Camacho

Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, greeted eight field-grade officers from all branches of service and the U.S. Army for International Development (USAID) for a May 3 visit. As part of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Series College Program, students and faculty from the U.S. Army War College were invited to speak at UMass Boston by the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences. Colonel Michael W. Hoodley, a faculty member at the U.S. Army War College and director of the Eisenhower Series College Program, introduced the panel of fellows.

The forum began with four brief presentations: Lt. Col. Philip C. Skuta of the U.S. Marine Corps discussed the efforts of our military to develop and assist coalition partners to fight terrorism; Col. Paul J. Wood of the U.S. Army discussed the complex challenges facing our military and emphasized the role of the National Guard and the Army Reserve forces; Carolyn Bryian, USAID, discussed the challenges and difficulties of interagency reform; and Capt. Daniel Smith of the U.S. Navy presented his thoughts about national security and Iran.

Following these brief presentations, faculty, staff, honor students, and veterans in the audience asked questions of the panelists, touching upon topics such as: the minority composition of the military today; the role of military contractors in Iraq; the role of public relations and media in Iraq and during war; the impact of technology on our military and its impact on the command structure; and the role of the United States in the world.

The discussion continued well over two and a half hours, with the officers and audience members sharing their opinions, questions, and comments in a spirited but cordial discussion.

Students and administrators of the Bringing the Best to Nursing Program (from left to right): Peter Terres, Habibo Hirsi, Linda Dumas, Sherryann Hawkesworth, and Francene Previna. (Photo by Harry Brett)

The University Reporter is going on summer break...

See you in September!

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Anthropology Lecturer Leads Students in Maya Excavation

By Leigh DuPuy

June may be the start of summer vacation for some, but for others, it’s time to roll up the sleeves and dig. Far from our backyard gardens, a dozen UMass Boston students will be working at a Mayan excavation site in northwestern Belize. Every summer, Lauren Sullivan, a lecturer in the Anthropology Department, takes a group of undergraduate students with her to investigate archaeological remains in a tropical rain forest.

This June, Anthropology’s Lauren Sullivan is leading a group of undergraduates in a field school dig of prehistoric archaeology in northwestern Belize. (Photo by Harry Brett)

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New M/V Columbia Point Ready for Harbor Cruises and More

By Leigh DuPuy

Next time you circle University Drive, check out the new boat docked at Fox Point Landing. The long-awaited M/V Columbia Point is now ready for Tuesday Harbor Cruises, education and research trips, and as a new venue for social events.

Crafted with the latest “green” technologies, the U.S. Coast Guard-certified vessel can carry up to 110 passengers and is extremely versatile in function and design. “This is the most technologically advanced vessel in the harbor,” says Chris Sweeney, director of the Division of Marine Operations (DMO). The Columbia Point is wired with the latest audiovisual technology and communications systems. Not only does the crew have access to systems such as VHF radios, audio systems, NavNet, and SmartCraft technology, but Columbia Point passengers can readily share in the experience.

Students on board the floating classroom can watch the depth sounder, radar, and navigation coordinates beamed from the pilot house to a 46-inch, flat-screen television in the bunkhouse. “They can see what the captain is seeing,” says Sweeney. This technology is integral to DMO’s development of educational programs and curriculum with area partners.

This summer, the Columbia Point crew has 26 school trips planned for K-12 students and undergraduate classes, as well as a dozen outings for the “Science at Sea” harbor tours with the New England Aquarium and more than 100 Boston lighthouse tours in partnership with the National Park Service.

The Columbia Point, says Sweeney, was designed to be very versatile, with removable chairs, tables, and benches, a double bunk in the pilothouse for overnight research trips, and a standard oceanographic boat pattern in the deck. The vessel also was designed with multiple docking areas and loading gates to accommodate varying sizes. “We must be ready for any boat, whether it’s a sailboat, a keelboat, or a small motorboat,” says Sweeney. "We have a situation in which we have to find a balance between the needs of our passengers and the needs of the harbor today."

Far from looking like a recycled remnant, the vessel boasts a solid, natural marine aluminum hull (with no paint, which reduces maintenance costs), large windows, and a solid mahogany trim throughout its interior. The Columbia Point will also be the site for a new entertainment venue for UMass Boston. Sweeney says that this will help to “bridge the gap between our Harbor Campus and the marine environment.”

The vessel includes a small galley, and DMO is working with Sodexo to develop menu options. Sweeney is also working with the Campus Center to develop packages for leisure activities and harbor tours for conferences, businesses, and others coming to campus.

Though the university will hold an official christening in July, the Columbia Point is already taking passengers around the Boston Harbor Islands. Chances are, those going down to take advantage of the Tuesday Harbor Cruises, which begin in June, will be aboard the new vessel.

Those interested in reserving the Columbia Point for a function or finding out more about DMO should visit www.umb.edu/umb/ marineops/index.html.

CPCS Unveils Mural Celebrating the Achievements of Homeless Women

A mural gracing the entrance to the CPCS faculty offices on the third floor of Wheately Hall was unveiled at a reception held on May 5. Commissioned by friends and colleagues of Marie Kennedy on the occasion of her retirement, the mural celebrates her work and two of the projects that she brought to the college: the Roofless Women’s Action Research Mobilization and the Women in Community Development (WICD). These organizations helped more than thirty low-income and formerly homeless women earn a college education and focus their academic work on issues of importance in their lives and communities. Both programs were undertaken in partnership with a number of community and public agencies, three of which were represented at the reception—the Women’s Institute for Housing and Economic Development, Project Hope, and the City of Boston Women’s Commission.

Artist John Ewing worked with WICD in developing the design of the mural. Four current WICD students, Michelle Ekenam, Latasha Gorman, Theodora Griffith, and Wanda Scott, earned academic credit through their work developing the design with the artist over several months. Small images along the bottom of the mural depict various aspects of the lives of the women—from being evicted and homeless to studying together and speaking at a public rally. The large image of women flying in the mural was developed from discussions with the women, who talked about the many competing draws on their time and energy—family, school, jobs, community, and church commitments, their hope of flying more freely once they graduate, and their dedication to helping other women face similar challenges.

—Marie Kennedy

A mural celebrating the work of the Roofless Women’s Action Research Mobilization, Women in Community Development, and of Marie Kennedy at the College of Public and Community Service was unveiled at a May 5 reception. (Photo by Harry Brett)
On May 9, Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, was a featured speaker at the 2006 National Forum for Women Executive Leaders in the Federal Government, held in Washington, D.C. Her topic was “Emotional Intelligence: What It Is and How to Use It.”

Ellen Hume, director of the Center for Nursing and Health Sciences at the McCormack Graduate School, ran a session on media ethics at Harvard University’s Nieman Foundation conference for college journalists on April 8, and led the discussion “Media Misadventures” on international journalism development at the Salzburg seminar, held in Washington, D.C., on May 3.


Twelve UMass Boston students participated in the Golden Key (GK) International Honour Society’s regional leadership conference, held in April. The conference planning committee included Anita Miller, assistant vice chancellor, and Christane DePalma, GK advisor, who presented a workshop on creative fund-raising.

Mary Olekowicz, assistant professor of music, presented two performances of seventeenth-century Italian music on period flutes with historic keyboard instruments at the National Music Museum in Vermillion, SD, in May.

Professor Susan Stamm, professor of English, presented the paper “The Catholic Redcross: Spencerianism on Stage in Shirley’s The Town of Finney” at the International Spencer Society Conference, held in Toronto.

In April, David Matt, director of the Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution, gave the keynote address at the annual meeting of the Association for Dispute Resolution, and in May, he gave the keynote address at the annual meeting of the Cape Cod Mediation Association.

Sherry H. Penney, Sherry H. Penney Professor of Leadership in the College of Management, presented “Martha Withee and the Origins of Women’sDiscourse” at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, held on April 21. In June, she delivered the address “What Women are Doing—Major Challenges Facing Public Institutions?” at the HERS (Higher Education Resource Services) Student Involvement Model for Women Administrators, held at Bryn Mawr University.

Alexia Pollock, assistant professor of biology, presented the seminar “Behavioral Sensitization in a Rat Model of Parkinson’s Disease: Dopamine-Glutamate Interactions” at the annual meeting of the Academic Neuroscientists. In May, she presented the poster “Role of A2a Adenosine Receptors in the Development of Dopaminergic Neurons in 6-Hydroxydopamine Lesioned Rats” at a Massachusetts General Hospital conference. Coauthors on the poster include four undergraduates: Kalynda Gonzales, Melissa Maffo, Halie Lee, and Lori Schneider.

Laurel E. Radwin, associate professor in the Department of Nursing, presented “Testing the Classroom: From Our House to the State House: Massachusetts’ Lesbians’ Pin-Needle Configuration Post” at a poster on Nursing Congregation 2006. UMass Medical School, in May. She also presented “Enhancing Patients’ Trust in the Health Care” to the health services research doctoral program class at Boston University’s School of Public Health.

Professor Laurel Radwin presented “Enhancing Patients’ Trust in the Health Care” to the health services research doctoral program class at Boston University’s School of Public Health.

Professor Jennifer Raymond, senior research associate for the Center for Social Policy and Ph.D. candidate in the Public Policy Program, presented “From Our House to the State House: Massachusetts’ Lesbians’ Pin-Needle Configuration Post” at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting and “Free to Be...Married? Understanding the Effects of the Legal Same-Sex Marriage on the Lesbian Community in Greater Boston” at the John W. McCormack School of Policy Studies Student Research Conference.
Steven Rudnick, associate director of the undergraduate Environmental Studies Program in the Earth, Earth and Environmental Sciences (EEOS) Department, and former governor Michael Dudakias were the two invited commentators on a session on Boston Harbor that was part of the May conference “Remaking Boston: The City and Environmental Change over the Centuries.”

Russell Schutt, professor of sociology, and Elizabeth Cruz, alumn of the Graduate Program in Applied Linguistics, presented the poster “Disparities in Satisfaction in Caring for a Family Member with Alzheimer’s Disease: Coping with Care Giver Burden Post-Nursing Home Placement” in Journal of Gerontological Nursing.

In May, Professor Russell Schutt presented “Housing Preferences of Elderly Low-Income Seniors” at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Psychiatry Seminar and organized the “Teaching Research Methods: Sage Authors’ Forum” at the Harvard Faculty Club.


Mohammad H. Tamdgidi, assistant professor of sociology, presented the paper “From Utopistics to Utopianism, Can the Subalterns Islam Speak?: Integrative Reflections on Potential Contributions of Mysticism, Esoteric Islam, and Sufism to World-Systems Analyses and Praxes of Historical Alterna-
tives at the 30th Conference of Political Economy of the World-Systems Section of the American Sociological Association, held in April. The conference theme was “Islam and the Modern Orientalist World-System.”

Yong Tian, EEOS assistant professor, presented two research articles at the annual conference of the American Geographical Geographers 2006, “Up-Scaling the Hydrological Processes in Grazing Hill Lands Using Cellular Automata Models” and “Individual-Tree Biomass Estimation from LIDAR Data in a Savanna Woodland.”


Judith Healy Walsh, director of the Learning Resource Center in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, presented the keynote address “Effectiveness of an Evidence-Based Curriculum Module Targeting Safe Patient Handling and Movement” at the New England Nursing Lab Directors Conference, held at Northeastern University on May 12.

In May, Jack Wigen, interim director of the Urban Harbors Institute, taught a six-day immers-
ion course, “Heritage Harbour Revitalization,” for the Cultural Resource and Management Program at the University of Victoria in Victoria, B.C.

The Graduate College of Education’s Felicia Wilczenski, associate professor, Rebecca Schumacher, assistant professor, and graduate students Susan Cookey, Michael Houlihan, Bic Lam, and Lori Suher presented the paper “Promoting Purpose in Youth Through Service-Learning: Authentic Contexts for Personal, Social, Career, and Academic Learning” at the annual conference of the Massachusetts School Counselor Association.

Mong Zhou, EEOS associate professor, presented the seminar “Mesoscale Physical Processes and Their Impact on Arctic Ice Primary Production in the Southern Drake Passage” at the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, held at Rutgers University.

Spencer Di Scala, professor of history, published three articles in Critica Social: “La Leyenda Europea de los Neocronos,” “Antimperialismo, una Continuadra Tar Sinistra e Fascismo,” and “Il Ventunesimo Sara il Secolo di Mussolini?”

Carol Hall Ellenbeger, Linda Samia, Margaret J. Cashman, and Frank W. Porell published the article “Employee Retention Strategies and Their Effect on Nurses Job Satisfaction and Intent to Stay” in Home Health Care Services Quarterly.


Linda Huang, professor of biology, published a coauthored book chapter “Genetic Dissection of Developmental Pathways,” in the WormBook, edited by The C. elegans Research Community, the Department of Counseling and School Psychology’s Professor Rick Houser, Associate Professor Felicia Wilczenski, and Professor Emeritus Maryanna Ham published the book Culturally Relevant Ethical Decision Making in Counseling with SAGE.


Pei Leisyna and Lika Bartolome of Applied Linguistics conceptualized, edited, and contributed to Radical Teacher’s special issue “Countering the English-only Assault.”

A story by Askold Mednyckyj, director of the Creative Writing Program, appears in the spring issue of the Harvard Review; Mednyckyj’s Arrowsmith Press published three books in May: The Inn and Other Poems by Amira El-Zein; Divided Mind by George Saldenab; and Bergstein, edited by Mednyckyj with an introduction by Deborah Weisgall.

A poem and an essay selected from Mark B. Coomey’s and Susan Houser’s book of poems collected appearances in translation in the June Polish American issue of Nowa Oblicza Poznania, a literary journal published in Poznan.

Mark Pavlik, director of Aca-


demic Support Programs, gave the readings from his new poetry collection, Official Versions, which included a UMass Boston reading with Joyce Peseroff, a reading at the Arlington Center for the Arts in the Spring Writers and Poets Series, and a reading at Teachers and Writers Collaborative, held in New York.

Two poems by Joyce Peseroff, Distinguished Lecturer and Poet-in-Residence in the English Department, appeared in The Sorrow of Fourteenth Century Elagius, by the University of Iowa Press in June.

Maximilene E. Sinovacca, professor and director of the Gerontology Institute, published the chapter “Families and Retire-


Peter Taylor’s article “The Analysis of Variance Is an Analysis of Causes of (a Very Circumscribed Kind)” appeared in International Journal of Epidemiology. This is an associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

James Willis, assistant professor of sociology, had his book reviews of Policing Contingencies by Peter Manning and Violence and Policing Contingencies by Peter Manning and “Civil Rights, Civil Rights” published by Neiman Bell in the journal Social Forces.

EEOs associate professor Meng Zhou and coauthors published two papers, “Circulation and Behavior Biases in the Southern Sub-Arctic Fjords” and “Interactions Between Biological and Environmental Structures on the Coast of Northern Norway,” in Marine Ecology Progress Series.

The Institute for Community Inclusion released the first in a series of benchmark reports on state disability services: The Massachusetts Employment and Disability Snapshot Report.

EXHIBITS, FILMS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

Class Dismissed, a film by Pepi Leisyna of the Department of Applied Linguistics, was replayed in Berlin’s public access TV, a reading at the Arlington Center for the Arts in the Spring Writers and Poets Series, and a reading at Teachers and Writers Collaborative, held in New York.

Gonzalo Racapale, associate professor of city and regional planning, and co-founder of the Massachusetts Community Therapy Program, was awarded the 2006 Randy Gerson Memorial Grant for Couple/Family/Multigenerational Processes by the American Psychological Foundation for his project “Gluten Free Diet Adherence Among Families with a Celiac Disease: Child, Barriers and Successful Strategies.”

Linda Huang, professor of biology, received a three-year grant for $449,749 from the National Science Foundation to study the Regulation of Morphogenesis During Sporulation.”

Cheryl Nixon, assistant professor of English, was awarded a 2006-07 fellowship to perform research at the Clark Library and UCLA’s Center for 17th- and 18th-Century Studies in Los Angeles. The fellowship funds rare book research for a project connecting 18th-century novels and court cases. The fellowship is awarded by the Clark Library and the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.

Professor Lorna Rivera of the College of Public and Community Education received a $41,000 public service grant from UMass Boston to coordinate the project “Using Multimedia to Promote Awareness of Women and Adult Basic Literacy Education.” Rivera is also working as a research consultant for the Massachusetts Department of Education’s Adult Basic Education Researchers Project.

EEOS professor William Robinson and UMass Dartmouth professor Angus Gopangadhyay were awarded $130,000 from the Job Adams Innovation Institute for their cross-campus collaborative program “Establishing a Center of Excellence in Applied Ocean Observation Systems.” EEOS faculty Robert Chen, Meng Zhou, Gordon Wallace, Juanita Urban-Rich, and Allen Gontz are investigators on the project.

Maximilene E. Sinovacca, professor and director of the Gerontology Institute, was awarded a competing continuation on her National Institute on Aging grant for her project “Marriage, Families, and Retirement.” This is a five-year grant and is worth $11,916.

Julia Tripp, constituent coordinator for the Center for Social Policy, was chosen by the Boston College and Massachusetts to attend a two-week training with the Georgia Mental Health Certified Peer Specialist Program, “Building a Multicultural and Diverse Mental Health Workforce.”

(Cont. on page 8)
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of University Communications and Community Relations. All events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits before each event.
Submit calendar listings online at umb.edu/news/calendar.

Wednesday 14

Yoga for All
3:10 – 3:20 p.m., Wednesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center Aerobics Room, 1st Floor. Mixed-level Kripalu yoga class, open to all. Yoga mats will be provided. Students: free. Faculty and staff: $5.00. Contact: 7-5680 or linda.jorgenson@umb.edu.

Mindfulness Meditation Group
3:20 – 3:30 p.m., McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd Floor. A Mindfulness Meditation group open to all. No prior experience required. Sponsored by University Health Services. Contact: 7-5624 or lauren.mayhew@umb.edu.

Friday 16

Eco-Tours of UMass Boston
3:00 – 4:40 p.m., Wednesdays, Campus Center, off walkway, 2nd Floor. Learn more about UMass Boston’s eco-friendly practices such as green buildings, energy efficiency, recycling, composting, and biodegradable bags. RSVP to 7-5083 or umb.regn18@aol.com.

Thursday 15

Alcohols Anonymous meeting
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Thursdays, Campus Centre, 4-4201. 12-step recovery meeting for people involved in recovery from alcohol or drug abuse. All are welcome. Contact: 7-7981 or sgrn18@aol.com.

20th Annual Athletics Department Golf Tournament
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Franklin Park Golf Course, Dorchester. Registration fee: $125 includes greens and cart fees, golf apparel, golfer gift packages, an awards luncheon and a raffle. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marston@umb.edu.

The Greek Institute Presents: Mario Frangoulis in Concert
8:00 p.m., Sanders Theatre, Memorial Hall, 4 Quincy Street, Cambridge. Frangoulis will perform with musicians from the Espagndoles Pande Orchestra, Boston Lyric Opera, Handel and Haydn Society, and Greek musicians, including UMass Boston’s Panagotia Gouni of the Applied Byzantinistics Program. For tickets, contact 617-547-4770 or 617-496-2222.

Tuesday 20

Tuesday Harbor Cruises
12:15 – 1:15 p.m., Tuesdays, Fox Point Dock. Cruise around the Boston Harbor Islands aboard the RV Hurricane and the new MV Columbia Point. Free with a current and valid UMass ID and $5.00 without. Tickets given on a first-come-first-served basis. No reservations required. Contact: 7-5404.

Tuesday 27

Annual Institute on War and Social Consequences: Issues of the War on Terror and in Iraq in the 21st Century
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., held through June 29. Forum to discuss issues and share strategies for teachers discussing issues of war and society. Faculty include Christian Appy, author and professor at UMass Amherst; William Bratton, teacher at St. John’s Prep and Vietnam veteran; Cynthia Enloe, author and professor at Clark University; John Ireland, retired teacher, author, and Vietnam veteran; and Michael Klarer, author and professor of Hampshire College. Contact: 287-5850 or paul.atwood@umb.edu.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Laura Bozeman was appointed program director for the Northeast Regional Teacher Education Programs in Visual Impairments at the Institute for Community Inclusion.

Four teams of undergraduate students competed in the 2nd Annual College of Management Case Competition. Gold Medal standing and the Venture Development Center prize were awarded to Danne Cannon, Joe Grafton, and Karolina Zdziebowcka. Mark Allio of the Small Business Development Center; William Kochilek, graduate programs director; and Andrew Zaleta, a College of Management Advisory Board member, served as judges this year.

Paskorn Champrasert, a second-year graduate student in the Computer Science Department, received one of the two Dr. Robert W. Spayne Research Grants to conduct his MS thesis research on biologically inspired computer networking.

Elora Chowdhury, assistant professor of women’s studies, was awarded a “Futur of Minority Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship,” which is housed in the Women’s Studies Program at Syracuse University.

Jay R. Dee, associate professor in the Department of Leadership in Education, was selected as a fellow for the 2006 Summer Data Policy Institute, sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics and the National Science Foundation.

GCOE’s Roma Flippo was appointed by the International Reading Association (IRA) to the IRA Family Literacy Commission for 2006-2007 and was elected by the College Reading Association (CRA) to their board of directors for 2006-2009. She was also nominated for a 2006 Massachusetts Literacy Champion Award.

The Institute for Community Inclusion’s Scholka Lopopolo, also a graduate of UMass Boston, won the James E. Blackwell Prize in Applied Sociology.

CNHS’s Kathleen Golden McAndrew was reappointed to the editorial review panel of the Journal of the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses.

CommunityWid, WUMB-FM’s public affairs program, hosted by author Barbara Neely, won “1st Place in Public Affairs” from the Associated Press of Massachusetts and Rhode Island for the sixth year in a row; this year’s award was given for the episode “Cultural Stereotypes and Health” in which Neely interviewed local physician Chidi Achebe, son of author Chinua Achebe.

Megan Momanamam, Applied Sociology graduate student, was honored at the Student Leadership Awards Banquet on April 4 for her leadership during the Student Sociology Student Association.

Diana M. L. Newman, CNHS associate professor, was elected the 2006-2008 president of the Nursing Education Alumni Association of Teachers College, Columbia University.

Mary Oleskiewicz, assistant professor of music, won the National Flute Association’s 2006 competition for “Newly Published Chamber Music” for her scholarly edition of Juliette Joachim Quantz: Six Quartets for Flute, Violin, Viola, and Bassoon Continuo.

Russell Schutt, professor of sociology, was recognized at the Student Services STARS Awards Program on May 1 for his organization of the Applied Sociology Career Conference in March, at which Harvard sociologist Robert J. Sampson gave the keynote and Associated Sociology alumni spoke about their careers.

On May 17, Donna Stewartson, a second-year graduate student in the Department of Women’s Studies, passed away on April 27 at the age of 25. At ICI, he was instrumental in the research and employment departments, monitored and supervised data collection and entry.

In the May issue, Rosalina Gutty-Joseph’s name was misspelled in a caption. The Reporter regrets the error.

EVENTS

Mercedes Aalto of the Institute for Community Inclusion celebrated the celebration of the Internet Access for Everyone project at a Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation event on April 11. The one-on-one initiative taught basic computer and Internet skills to 52 individuals with disabilities and families from underserved Boston communities.


OBITUARY

Nick Grigg, database manager at the Institute for Community Inclusion, passed away on April 27 at the age of 25. At ICI, he was instrumental in the research and employment departments, monitored and supervised data collection and entry.

Correction

In the May issue, Rosalina Gutty-Joseph’s name was misspelled in a caption. The Reporter regrets the error.

IN THE NEWS

Panther Alice, former “lost boy of the Sudan,” was profiled in the Boston Globe on May 28. Alice, an honors student and political science major, graduated on June 2.

Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen, the Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar’s Chair in Gerontology, was interviewed on his PhD retirement from the Boston Globe.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, provided policy analysis of the May 1 “Day without Immigrants” events in Boston and nationally for Unvision.

The Boston Globe interviewed Joy Gould of the Institute for Community Inclusion in their April 2 diversity/employment magazine insert. She discussed ways to create a disability-friendly workplace.

Steven Rudnick, EEOs associate director of the undergraduate Environmental Studies Program, published a letter to the editor of the “2 Schools, 2 Tales” in the Boston Globe on May 2.

Brandy Tague, graduate student in the Program in Women in Politics and Public Policy, published an op-ed on global environmental issues in the Somerville Journal on April 27.

Beacon Fitness Center McCormack Hall, 1st floor. Open to UMass Boston students, alumni, staff, and faculty. Programs offered include personal training, aerobics classes, massage therapy, orientations and fitness assessments, among other services. Contact: www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm


WUMB 91.5 FM Commonwealth Radio
Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Interviews with scholars, writers, and public officials examining current issues of interest to those of us living in the Commonwealth. Contact: 7-8900.