The trustees of the University of Massachusetts have promoted Dr. Walter Grossmann, director of the university library in Boston, to professor of history and Dr. Donald Lyons to professor of physics.

At the same time, Dr. John MacCombie was named associate professor and chairman of the department of French and Dr. Alfred Hoelzel associate professor and chairman of the department of German.

Other actions affecting the faculty at the Boston campus were: Dr. Harold Mahon from assistant professor to associate professor of physics; Dr. Robert Risse from assistant professor to associate professor of English; Dr. George Slover from instructor to assistant professor of English; Dr. Gene Sharp from lecturer to assistant professor of politics.

All positions were effective on February 1.

A program of Faculty Growth Grants is administered by the University Research Council to provide support for faculty research programs during the summer in those disciplines for which research funds are not ordinarily available from outside sources. Fellowships in the amount of $1000 each are expected to be available. Final awards will go to individuals recommended by the Research Council and approved by the President. Most awards go to instructors and assistant professors, not ordinarily for research for a degree. Young faculty members whose preferred lines of study make them ineligible for summer salaries on sponsored research grants will be given first priority. Recipients of these grants are expected to devote a period of eight weeks during the summer to promising research of their own choosing. This period should be free from other commitments such as summer teaching. Applications and instructions for applying for faculty growth grants may be obtained from the Graduate Office. All applications must be approved by the Department Head and the appropriate Dean. Applications should be submitted to said Dean by
NEW RATES FOR
COMBINED BASIC
LIFE AND HEALTH
INSURANCE PLAN

February 15. All applications must arrive in the Graduate Office by March 1. Announcement of grants may be expected about March 15.

Arthur C. Gentile, Acting Graduate Dean/UMA

Faculty and staff members participating in the Basic Life and Health Insurance plan ($2,000 of life insurance plus Blue Cross-Blue Shield) will have new rates deducted from their pay checks commencing with the checks they received on Friday, December 13. These rates reflect an increase in the new Blue Cross-Blue Shield contract which becomes effective January 1, 1969. Your new rate will appear in the "Basic Insurance" box on your Employee's Pay Statement that you regularly receive with each weekly pay check. (The rates for the basic and optional life insurance contract will remain the same.)

Although the Blue Cross-Blue Shield rate has been increased, the overall rate that you will have deducted from your pay check will be substantially less than you were formerly paying. The Commonwealth is now assuming 75% of the total monthly cost for the Basic Life and Health Insurance, whereas it previously was paying only 50%.

The new individual coverage rate deducted from your pay check will be $4.07 per month (old rate, $7.08); the new family coverage rate deducted will be $8.90 per month (old rate, $15.13). If you have the $2,000 of life, accidental death, and dismemberment insurance only, the deduction will be decreased from $.93 to $.47 per month.

If you are enrolled in Optional Medicare Extension (only people enrolled in both Parts A and B of Medicare are eligible), the amount deducted for individual coverage will be $3.79 per month (old rate, $6.33).

For family coverage, if one member is enrolled in O.M.E. and the spouse is enrolled in the standard Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan, the deduction will be $7.39 per month (old rate, $12.48). If both husband and wife are enrolled in O.M.E., the deduction will be $7.11 per month (old rate, $11.73).

If you have any questions, please call John Walsh at Personnel Office, UM/A, Area 413 545-2791.