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Center for Survey Research Team Examines Impact of Smoking-Cessation Aids and Mass Media Among Quitters

By Peter Grennen

“Anytime I’ve ever done anything, I proclaimed a 1990s ad campaign. A debatable notion, to be sure, but it has nevertheless become a truism for some trend spotters—those, for example, who analyze influences and patterns in tobacco use. Consider that when smoking was recognized as a public health concern, the federal government blamed television and the tobacco industry later withdrew from broadcast advertising. More recently, a number of scholarly studies—including one spearheaded by Lois Biener of UMass Boston’s Center for Survey Research (CSR)—have acknowledged TV’s central role in successful efforts to get smokers to kick the habit.

A new study led by Lois Biener (center), senior research fellow at the Center for Survey Research, with senior research fellow Karen Bogen (left) and assistant study director Catherine Garrett (right), found that televised messages are far more effective than any other strategy in overcoming nicotine addiction. (Photo by Harry Brett)

The CSR study, “Impact of Smoking Cessation Aids and Mass Media Among Recent Quitters”—funded by the National Cancer Institute and published in the March issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine—was conducted locally but has far-reaching implications. Assisted by a group of CSR researchers and colleagues from other universities, Biener canvassed 787 Massachusetts residents who had become smoke-free within the past two years to find out which quitting strategies had done the trick. Respondents considered not only TV messages but an array of conventional pharmacologic and behavioral therapies—prescription medicine, professional counseling, self-help materials, telephone quit lines, and so on. The full impact of a particular quitting aid was calculated by taking into account both the aid’s effectiveness and its participation rate—that is, its penetration into the population. “It is important to consider which types of assistance will have the greatest impact on the population,” notes Biener, who has examined issues surrounding tobacco use for more than a decade.

In this survey, it’s fair to say, TV ads smoked the rest of the field. The study found that televised messages are far more effective than any other strategy in overcoming nicotine addiction.

(Cont. on page 2)

From Dorchester to Hollywood and Back: Actor Kevin Chapman Honored with Two Others at 2006 Community Breakfast

By Ed Hayward

For an actor who has a distinct way with words, Dorchester native Kevin Chapman found himself searching for a way to explain why he remains committed to causes in Boston and surrounding communities.

“Anytime I’ve ever done anything was for the right reason: because I could,” said the man known as “Chappy” to the nearly 300 people who attended the 2006 Community Breakfast. “Don’t do it because you should, or someone told you to or because it looks good. Do it because you can.”

Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, presented awards for Longstanding Community Commitment and Service to Chapman and Dorchester businessman Lee M. Kennedy.

The highlight of the March 14 annual breakfast was the presentation of the 20th Robert H. Quinn Award for Community Service to Roslindale resident Maggie De Jesus, a family advocate who coordinates domestic violence prevention programs at the Geiger-Gibson Community Health Center in Dorchester.

“Community partnerships are crucial to our urban mission. By hosting this breakfast each year, we are able to celebrate this mission and honor individuals who are working on behalf of the community, committed to the values that we uphold as an institution,” Chancellor Collins said.

De Jesus, who was raised in a household marred by domestic violence, turned her painful personal lessons into sensitive support and meaningful training for Dorchester and South Boston families trying to rid their homes of domestic violence. Most recently, she has focused on the impact of domestic violence on teenagers.

(Cont. on page 2)
Community Leaders and Advocates Gather at Quinn Breakfast

(Cont. from page 1)

She joined the Geiger-Gibson staff last year after serving in a number of positions at Casa Myrna Vazquez. De Jesus can be seen on the street, posting fliers announcing services, and works behind the scenes to secure food, shelter, and emergency support for families. She also assists with fundraising efforts, training, and advocacy.

“De Jesus does an amazing job,” the chancellor said moments before presenting De Jesus with a plaque.

The Quinn Award, which recognizes individuals whose outstanding contributions have significantly improved the quality of life in the greater Boston area, was established in honor of Robert H. Quinn, who served the Commonwealth as speaker of the House of Representatives, attorney general, and chair of the UMass Board of Trustees.

Quinn praised De Jesus for working with those most in need. “Maggie De Jesus saw people in trouble and she went to help. She helps the most vulnerable people in our society and the most troubled. I’m honored to see her recognized here today,” he said.

De Jesus said she hoped that the award and the breakfast would help her in her efforts to make both teenagers and adults aware of the perils of domestic violence and the solutions that exist for people who need help.

“We go out into the neighborhoods to let people know that domestic violence is a community issue,” said De Jesus. “Domestic violence knows no barriers.”

Top left: Joe Sammons, executive director of Geiger-Gibson Community Health Center, with coworker Maggie De Jesus, who is the 20th recipient of the Robert H. Quinn Award for Community Service, and Senator Jack Hart.

Top right: Lieutenant Jack Watts from Boston Police District C-6; Kevin Chapman, recipient of the Longstanding Community Commitment and Service award; and Michael Kineary, chief of policy and planning for the City of Boston.

Middle: Tom Lyons, Walter Salvi of NiStar, Marybeth Kennedy, Lee Kennedy, recipient of the Longstanding Community Commitment and Service award, and one of his two sons, Lee Michael Kennedy.

Bottom: Marvin Gilmore of the Boys and Girls Club, Franciscan Boys and Girls Club, the Paul R. McNair Scholarship Fund, Community Development Board of Boston; Eric Turner, formerly of Catholic Charities; State Representative Marie St. Fleur; and Chancellor Michael E. Collins, MD.

(Photos by Harry Brett)

Lee Kennedy founded the Dorchester-based Lee Kennedy Co., Inc., construction company, among numerous other enterprises. He was honored for his extensive work in support of local community organizations. Kennedy serves as a director for the Colonel Daniel Marr Boys and Girls Club, Franciscan Hospital for Children, and the Francis X. O’Malley Scholarship Fund. He is also an advisor to the city’s Back Streets Program.

Chapman grew up in Dorchester and worked in the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services and with the Cultural Affairs staff. He now lives in Los Angeles, where he is a professional actor. He is currently working on the film Flags of Our Fathers, with Clint Eastwood, and the Showtime series The Brotherhood.

Chapman remains close to his neighborhood and friends and is actively involved with several community groups, in particular the Marr Boys and Girls Club, the Paul R. McNair Scholarship Fund, of the Longstanding Community Commitment and Service award; and Senator Jack Hart.

“Consequently, their population penetration is vast.” So these ads are not likely to miss their targets—particularly young adults, who, the data showed, are helped to a much greater extent by TV ads as opposed to conventional aids.

In addition, TV is a natural conduit for the most effective type of anti-smoking messages—those that present images, such as photos of smoking-damagedissue, to startle viewers into thinking candidly about the consequences of their own dependency. “Television ads that depicted the serious harm done to health in an emotional or graphic way were most often recalled as helpful,” says Biener. “Psychology tells us that when our emotions are aroused, we’re more likely to attend to the stimulus.”

The CSR researchers hope their study will find a receptive audience in Congress and among public health officials. At a minimum, they expect their work to reinforce a federal interagency committee recommendation that the National Action Plan for Tobacco Cessation—a major government initiative—contain anti-smoking measures grounded in the technology of mass communication. That approach is nothing if not overdue: “The power of mass media campaigns tends to be overlooked when cessation services are planned,” the study concludes.

It’s one more reminder that we ignore at peril a basic truth about communicating in the modern world: In large-scale attempts to alter public attitudes and behavior, both the medium and the message play a part.

Smoking and the media (cont.)

“When impact at the population level is considered,” Biener notes, “television anti-tobacco advertisements rank higher than conventional aids, with 30.5 percent of all recent quitters reporting that the advertisements contributed to their quitting.”

That result is at least partly explained by the nature of the medium. As a source of information, TV is so pervasive today that the public receives messages about smoking almost willy-nilly. “Television anti-tobacco messages are disseminated to smokers proactively,” Biener observes. Consequently, their population penetration is vast.” So these ads are not likely to miss their targets—particularly young adults, who, the data showed, are helped to a much greater extent by TV ads as opposed to conventional aids.

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A New England Patriots Legend, A Nobel Prize Winner, and More

By Anne-Marie Kent

For months now, academic groups from throughout UMass Boston have been planning special symposia that will take place during inauguration week, April 24 – 28. These special events were planned to reflect the diversity and depth of the university’s academic pursuits.

“Every day, there will be events that will draw not only university students and staff, but also visitors to the university,” said Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD. “It’s a terrific opportunity for the university to shine as a beacon of scholarly activity.”

There will be an array of special visitors and guest lecturers who will speak throughout the week, beginning with Winona LaDuke, Native American environmentalist, economist, and writer, who speaks on Monday, April 24. Later that day, the Healey Library is sponsoring a special showcase of UMass Boston faculty research.

The College of Management is sponsoring two symposia on Tuesday, April 25. First, urban affairs expert Habib Jones will be joined by a panel of UMass Boston alumni who are fellows of the Emerging Leaders program in the Center for Collaborative Leadership. Later, Toon Stemberg, founder and former chief executive officer of Staples and current venture partner with Highland Capital Partners, will help identify new entrepreneurial investment opportunities.

The Graduate Studies Symposium also takes place on Tuesday, featuring Aaron Lazar, MD, chancellor of UMass Medical School in Worcester and author of the book On Apology, an analysis of apologies and why they are important to individuals, groups, and nations.

Wednesday, April 26, is another full day in the Campus Center, beginning with a College of Science and Math symposium featuring 2015 Nobel prize winner for physics Roy J. Glauber, Mallinckrodt Professor of Physics at Harvard University. The College of Public and Community Service presents its symposium later that day featuring Nancy Mills, executive director of the AFL-CIO Working for America Institute, speaking on “The Future of Work: The Labor Movement’s Role in Workforce Development.” That afternoon, the Graduate College of Education presents a talk by Carolyn Stone, president-elect for the American School Counselor Association.

The McCormack Graduate School symposium on Thursday, April 27, features an examination of the role of social movements in policy development with special guests: Gerald Torres, president of the Association of American Law Schools, and Frances Fox Piven, distinguished professor of sociology at City University of New York and author of several books on social policy and political movements.

Thursday afternoon, the College of Liberal Arts presents a panel of College of Liberal Arts alumni.

Friday, April 28, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences Symposium “Heroes Who Heal: An Inspirational Personal Story of Achievement” will feature a conversation with New England Patriots legend Andre Tippett. Even WUMB Folk Radio is presenting a symposium. Their event, focusing on the renaissance of folk music in Boston, features “Morning Express” anchor Dick Pleasants, Boston Globe writer Scott Alarik, Bill Knowlin of Rounder Records, and Black Sheep Review editor Kari Erin.

“If there were one feature that characterized all of the academic symposia, it is that of celebrating the campus in a broad participatory fashion,” said Winston Langley, associate provost for academic affairs. For more information, visit: www.umb.edu/inaugurating.

Campus Rallies Behind Beacons’ Play-Off Bids

By Athletics Communications

UMass Boston experienced a taste of “March Madness” recently as the university’s men’s basketball and women’s ice hockey teams both made exciting play-off runs. The teams also benefited from a changing climate on campus that has led to more support and recognition from the university community. This was obvious at UMass Boston’s Fan Day on February 4. The men’s basketball team fed off the energy from a packed Clark Athletic Center gym and defeated the top team in the Little East Conference (LEC) to establish itself as the team to beat in the league.

In games leading up to the conference title, the Beacons’ “home court” advantage vs. Rhode Island College was evident as the team defeated the Anchormen and rode the momentum to a convincing victory over Keene State College in the championship game on February 25. The Beacons won the LEC crown for the first time in school history and earned a spot in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 23 years.

Meanwhile, the women’s ice hockey team was making history of its own, hosting the first ECAC East playoff game in the program’s history. The Beacons defeated University of Southern Maine, 4-1, to advance to the conference semifinals vs. Manhattanville College for the second time in their three-year history.

A March 1 campus rally was held to support the teams and featured addresses from Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, Vice Chancellor and Head Men’s Basketball Coach Charlie Titus, and Head Women’s Ice Hockey Coach Maura Crowell.

The music was pumping and a good feeling was felt by all as the players from each team were introduced like campus celebrities.

At the rally, men’s basketball captain Charles Yuan spoke of a new pride and sense of belonging that fueled their confidence. “Last Saturday, a bunch of people piled into a gym, some were cheering, some were boosing,” he said. “There was a lot of laughter and a lot of tears, some careers ended that day, a championship was won, history was made, but for the Beacons—it was just Saturday.”

The men’s basketball team went on to play State University of New York College at Cortland in the first round of the “Big Dance,” but fell, 68-54, in a contest that was beamed across the world via a webcast.

The following day, the women’s ice hockey team also succumbed to the nation’s number three ranked team, 6-3, but not before making a statement, leading the game three different times in the first two periods of play, before running out of steam in the final stanza.

By Liz Gentes

About 75 attendees turned out to “Journey Through India” in late February—tapping into a photograpahy exhibit and presentation on a book co-authored by a UMass Boston professor.

Kamal Bawa, a biology professor at UMass Boston, and wildlife photographer and documentary filmmaker Sandesh Kadur presented their coffee-table book Sahyadris: India’s Western Ghats, a Vanishing Heritage to the university community at an event sponsored by the Office of Institutional Advancement.

The co-authors discussed with the crowd the history and making of Sahyadris. The book explores biodiverse regions in the world, including the mountain range along the Arabian Sea, known as the Western Ghats, or Sahyadris. The book is a biological journey of the region’s wild heritage and ecological, cultural, and ethnic richness.

Bawa is an evolutionary ecologist and conservation biologist. He’s been at UMass Boston since 1974, is the president and founder of Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, and a founder and trustee of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development, both in Bangalore, India.

Kadur, a photographer and filmmaker with the University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College and Gorgias Science Foundation, uses imagery to show the need for conservation and protection of natural resources. He has received several film festival awards, including a “Green Oscar” nomination at Wildscreen in 2002.

“For me it’s one of those books that everyone will appreciate. The beauty is absolutely incredible,” said Darrell Byers, Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement. The presentation was “a wonderful way to show off our university to people we haven’t reached before, and to highlight our professor.”

Bawa said he collaborated with Kadur after meeting him at a conference, where he showed an award-winning documentary on the Western Ghats of India.

The UMass Boston professor said he was inspired to write the book for the “book to inform the general public about the incredible biodiversity and the beauty of the Western Ghats of India. After writing hundreds of scientific papers, I wanted to find out if I could write for the general public and draw their attention to an important problem.”

For more information, visit www.gorgiassciencefoundation.org/wg.

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Joiner Center Hosts VA Director Max Cleland at Vietnam Conference

By Lisa Greggo

In the early-morning fog of March 10, UMass Boston Chap- lain Adrienne Berry-Burton stood at the Dorchester Vietnam Memo- rial and sang a song in honor of her cousin who was killed during the Vietnam War. Immediately fol- lowing her tribute, students, fam- ily members, and friends of Ameri- can servicemen and—women who lost their lives in the conflicts in Vietnam, Panama, Grenada, Leba- non, Somalia, Iran, Afghanistan, and the Persian Gulf began to read their names aloud. This opened the weekend-long event “Vietnam: Looking Forward, Looking Back,” sponsored by the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences.

This free event, held in conjunc- tion with a two-day symposium on “Vietnam and the Presidency” at the John F. Kennedy Library, in- cluded panel discussions, confer- ences, and a lunchroom with former Georgia senator and former direc- tor of the Veteran’s Administration Max Cleland.

Panel topics included “Lessons of the Vietnam War,” “Veterans Coming Home,” and “The War at Home.” These discussions encouraged interaction between audience and panel members and “provided a needed space for those who struggle with issues of war and peace, and the consequences of war in their lives and in their com- munities on a daily basis,” said Kevin Bowen, director of the Joiner Center.

“Panelists representing every side of the war, both military and civilian, participated in discus- sions, as did disabled veterans and veterans from the African Ameri- can, Asian, and Hispanic commu- nities,” said Dr. Michael Collins, MD, who re- ferred to the former senator as “an inspiring person and an inspiring life, helping vets to lead inspiring lives themselves.” Cleland was wel- comed by an audience of faculty members, students, and veterans and their families with a standing ovation.

Cleland, a veteran who was in- jured in Vietnam, where he lost a hand and both legs to a grenade, is adamant about his political educa- tion, stressing the first lesson he learned: “American democracy goes to those who want to get in- volved.” He shared his own Viet- nam experience, as well as his vi-
sion for all veterans to be able to achieve the “American dream.”

When asked why he felt it was important to be at an event that focused on the Vietnam War, Tom Hanson of the Boston Veterans Center said, “We all heal in com- munity.” And community was cer- tainly apparent. Veterans from New York, New Jersey, Pennsyl- vania, Washington D.C., and New England came together to discuss the past, present, and most assuredly the future, refer- ring to one another as “brother” throughout the weekend-long event.

Organizers believed that it was this sense of community that kept people reading the names of their family members and friends for 46 hours. “The support we received from people who volunteered and from others who stayed by at all hours of the day and night to read names was wonderful. The event was successful beyond our expec- tations,” said Bowen.

Kingston-Mann Wins Leadership Chair

By Leigh DuPuy

History and American studies professor Esther Kingston-Mann knows what it’s like to be the first in her family to attend college and remembers well that her former teachers had no idea how to support a nontraditional student. Since then, she has worked pas- sionately throughout her career at UMass Boston to help faculty teach students with diverse back- grounds. With this philosophy, scholarship, and teaching record, it is clear why Kingston-Mann was selected as the first recipient of the Roy J. Zuckerberg Endowed Leadership Chair.

The chair, described by its cre- ators as “designed to reward people of courage, conviction and selflessness who have devoted their time and talents to helping the University of Massachusetts to accomplish its goals,” was estab- lished by Zuckerberg, a UMass Lowell alumnus who was also the first in his family to attend col- lege and who went on to build a successful career as a businessman and philanthropist. Chair of the Investment Committee of the Uni- versity of Massachusetts, he was responsible for establishing an endowed fund at UMass Lowell to foster the Assistive Technology Program, which trains senior en- gineering students to design and build devices to assist people with disabilities throughout the Com- monwealth.

According to Kingston-Mann, “He represents a kind of success story to which many UMass Bos- ton students aspire.”

She describes her work as in- spired by the wish to create a bet- ter learning experience for stu- dents than she had as a student of one of the premier research uni- versities in the country. “I want to find ways to ensure that stu- dents at UMass Boston encoun- ter faculty who are more sophis-
ticated and knowledgeable about the diverse paths that bring stu- dents to their classrooms,” she says.

A pioneering scholar and au- thor who has taught at UMass Boston for over thirty years, Kingston-Mann has been recog- nized many times over for her achievements, including the recent 2007 Chancellor’s Distinguished Scholarship Award. She has also served as former director of the Center for the Improvement of Teaching (CIT) and former project co-director for the New England Center for Inclusive Teaching (NECIT).

The Zuckerberg Endowed Leadership chair includes funding to support research, teaching or service, in addition to a stipend for the recipient. Kingston-Mann hopes to use part of the funds to support continuation of a pro- gram to reward student academic achievement for contributions to diversity/inclusion scholarship, which is linked with the NECIT project.

She also hopes to create an in- tegrated research and outreach initiative to support underrepresented faculty, based on the CIT model of collaborative faculty seminars. “Many younger scholars work in isolation,” ob- serves Kingston-Mann. “I’d like to create a program that enables them to share their work, their doubts, and their questions, and helps them to develop a better under- standing of the ‘rules of the game’ in the world of scholarship.”

“Zip Code Meetings” Uncover Shared Communities

By Lisa Gentile

Zip codes are providing more than just postal directions at UMass Boston. In March, the university began a series of “zip code meet- ings” with employees who live in the neighborhoods surrounding the campus.

The Office of University Com- munications and Community Re- lations is allowing the program by asking faculty and staff living in Dorchester and South Boston neighborhoods to attend meetings, share their perspectives, and talk about how UMass Boston could become better involved in their neighborhoods.

Gail Hobin, assistant vice chan- cellor for community relations, said the department is working on these meetings in conjunction with Deputy Chancellor Andrew O’Brien. The Human Resources Department provided a list of fac- ulty and staff who live in specific zip codes, grouped into “neighborhoods.” Hobin said.

The ongoing process has been successful beyond our expec- tations,” said Hobin.

One project the university is working on is the Columbia- Savin Hill Civic Association. A “Community Portraits” class is as- sessing the needs around the clos- ing of St. Williams Church, according to Hobin. Students are gathering data on economic, elderly, youth, and crime impacts of the closing and will present the findings to the civic association, she said.

The zip code meetings are help- ing the university develop stronger relationships and the brainstorm- ing sessions are aimed at enhanc- ing outreach activities, she said.

So far, participating faculty and staff have had a positive response to the sessions. “They’re thankful we’re doing this. It’s the first time we have ever reached out to our employees like this,” Hobin ob- served.
By Leigh DuPuy

It’s no secret that life can be very stressful. Less obvious for many is how to handle stress or even find the time to take a breath.

While stress is an inevitable part of life, too much stress can impact a person’s work, relationships, health, and sense of well-being. “While we can never completely eliminate stress in our lives, we can learn to manage it better,” says Lauren Mayhew, a certified yoga instructor and leads regular classes in Kripalu yoga and mindfulness meditation. “I wanted to provide resources that people could access from anywhere, anytime.”

To that end, Mayhew created a new CD, “Serenity at UMB,” that offers relaxation exercises, gentle yoga, guided meditation, and deep-breathing techniques. “The CD was designed with busy people in mind,” says Mayhew. “The tracks are shorter in length than most commercial relaxation exercise CDs, and the exercises are meant to be accessible to everyone—even those who do not have any previous experience with yoga or meditation.”

With the support of a STAR grant, Mayhew wrote the script, created exercises, and recorded the relaxation narrative at the studio of music faculty Peter Jansen. The CD incorporates Jansen’s music and features a cover photograph taken by Peter Shmiro of the Web Services Department. “It really was a true UMass Boston project,” she says.

Mayhew plans to distribute the CDs to the UMass Boston community via stress-management workshops and consultations, yoga and meditation classes, and at the UHS-sponsored “East Meets West” health fair in May. The CD is free of charge and is available to anyone by request. In addition, University Health Services will have an MP3 recording of the CD on their web site, www.umbwellness.org/relax.htm, so people can download the recording for their players or to make their own CDs. It doesn’t end there, though. Mayhew also helped to create another stress-reduction resource: 617-28-RELAX (7-3529). The phone line offers a recording of a mini-relaxation exercise that is three to five minutes in length, and that anyone can access. A new exercise will be recorded every four to six weeks.

“I love to teach,” says Mayhew, who leads a guided meditation class open to all, Thursdays, 2:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the Ryan Lounge in McCormack Hall. Mayhew plans to create more yoga workshops and is attending the Mind/Body Medical Institute’s clinical training this summer to further develop her expertise.

“I really want to help improve the quality of life for everyone in the UMass Boston community,” says Mayhew, who has worked in various capacities at the university for eight years. “I want to provide practical tools to help people manage their stress more effectively and to ultimately feel and function better.”

Chancellor Collins greets friends of WUMB Laura and Bob Silberman—at a March 4 benefit concert where generous fans rallied to keep the 24/7 folk radio frequency from being subsumed by other broadcasters. (Photo by Richard Howard)

WUMB Friends Council, Fans Raise $14,000 to Help Keep Signal

By Marilyn Rea Beyer

On March 4, WUMB held a benefit concert for its “Save Our Signal” fund and raised $14,000. In attendance were Chancellor Michelle G. Madhok, professor wife, Maryellen, state representative Jay Kaufman, and numerous UMass Boston faculty, staff, and alumni. Legendary folk singer Harry Brett performed. Why does WUMB’s signal need saving, and from what? The answer is not a Triple One, but the threat is very real.

WUMB folk radio is enjoyed by listeners in the Boston area on 91.9 FM. The signal now extends to the northwest suburbs, where many of the station’s most avid fans live and work, and where a majority of folk music venues—mostly all-volunteer coffeehouses—are located. Now, an application for a new license on 91.7 FM, very close to WUMB’s 91.9 FM, threatens to blight out its folk radio frequency in 27 towns in the area around Lexington. For several years, WUMB has been working cooperatively with WAVM at Maynard High School, which currently broadcasts on 91.7 FM. The two stations share the airwaves in such a way that the school could continue its long tradition of educating students in radio, while WUMB listeners in the northwest suburbs would have access to the folk music they love.

Two broadcasters, Living Proof of Texas and CSSN International of Idaho, have applied to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for licenses to broadcast on 91.7 FM from Lunenburg and Lexington, respectively. The FCC has tentatively granted one of those applications and is considering approval of the second. WUMB and WAVM are now involved in a legal struggle to appeal that decision. Legal expenses have already amounted to more than $40,000, and the battle is far from over.

Enter the Folk Radio Friends Council. Made up of leaders from the folk music community, broadcast professionals, UMass Boston faculty and alumni, and civic leaders, this group of 13 individuals set out to garner support for a “Save Our Signal” rally. They orchestrated a highly visible campaign to encourage listeners to file petitions and write letters to the FCC and Capitol Hill legislators. As Lexington’s state representative, Jay Kaufman has been one of the most outspoken and active advocates for WUMB, as has congressman Marty Meehan.

“Without the Friends Council,” says WUMB general manager Eric S. (Harry) Brett, “the people who made the Save Our Signal rally possible.” The rally will be held on the second weekend of April.

Chess Society Takes First Place at Eastern Class Championships

Congratulations to the UMass Boston Chess Society. Team members Joe Perl, Dmitry Frenklakh, Dan Korsunsky, Kelvin Lo, and newcomers James Jean and Leo Khain won the collegiate first place at the Eastern Class Championships, held in early March. It is the third year in a row that the UMass Boston team has won the contest. Next up for the champions, they compete in the Foxwoods Open on the second weekend of April.

Financial Services Forum Debuts MA Investor Sentiment Index

By Mary Ann Machanic

The College of Management’s Financial Services Forum debuts a new resource: the Massachusetts Investor Sentiment Index (MSI). The forum calculates this index daily using stock price information on firms in the Massachusetts Bloomberg Index. The index quickly captures reactions of stock market participants to news related to firms that have a significant presence in Massachusetts and news related to the regional and national economy. The website is updated daily with the index number for the previous day; the figures and charts also automatically adjust to the daily updates.

College of Management faculty Anne Jones, Atreya (Chuck) Chakraborty, and Arindam Bandopadhyaya, who is chair of the Accounting and Finance Department and director of the Financial Services Forum, worked on constructing the index. For more information on the project, visit www.financialforum.umb.edu and htt://cmmisi.org/MISI.php, or e-mail Arindam Bandopadhyaya.
CAMPUS NOTES

PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) professor Luis Aponte-Paés moderated the panel “The Making of Modern New York: Puerto Rican Architected and Their Contributions to New York.” The panel was sponsored by the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, City University of New York.

Lawrence Blum, professor of philosophy, presented “Race and Class: A Normative Framework” at the panel “Katrina: Lessons on Race, Class, and Ethics in America” at the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics in March.

Professor Connie Chan of the College of Public and Community Service gave the invited address “Asian and Immigrant: Complexities, Fragments, Accommodations” at the American Psychological Association Expert Summit on Immigration, held in February.

Spencer Di Scala, professor of history and chair, delivered a paper and participated in a roundtable discussion at the international conference “Fascism in Italy, Totalitarianism in Europe,” sponsored by the city of Rome, Italy, and held in February.

In February, Estelle Disch, professor of sociology, gave a lecture in Spanish, on research ethics to 150 psychology students at the University of Buenos Aires. She also presented the paper “When Place Is Transformed: A French Newfoudland and Fishing Village Responds to Change and Crisis” at the Eastern Sociological Society annual meetings, held in Boston.

Jacqueline Favvett, professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS), presented the workshop “Constructing and Evaluating Conceptual-Theoretical: Empirical Structures for Nursing Research” at the Royal College of Nursing International Nursing Research Conference, in York, England, and the paper “Conceptual Models, Theories, and Research” at the University of Ulster Institute of Nursing Research.

Rosa Flippo, associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, was the facilitator and discussant of two presentations by graduate students and the Massachusetts Reading Association’s annual conference. Alyssa Bryner, Kaatin Chandonnet, Laura Docherty, Nicole Ellis, Tina Fisher, Dar-Ann Holland, Andrea Levins-O’Connell, Dawn Millard, and Phoebe Odermatt presented “Assessing Schemata and Metacognition” for classroom teachers. Andrea Orlando and Dar-Ann Holland presented “Special Learners, the MCAS, and Classroom Assessments.”

In March, Rosa Flippo gave the keynote address “Student Engagement in Learning” at Holy Family University in Philadelphia for an annual professional development day for faculty.

Philip Granberry, PhD candidate in the Education School of Policy Studies, presented the paper “No Guaranteed Return on Investments: Social Capital and Mexican Immigrant ‘Wages’” at the Eastern Sociological Society Meeting. Enrico Marcelli of the Economics Department is coauthor on the paper.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy (CWPPP), gave a presentation on the status of women in Massachusetts statewide politics at the March 2 event “A Conversation with Martha Coakley, Candidate for Attorney General.” The event was cosponsored by the Graduate Program for Women in Politics and coorganized by assistant program director Donna Stewartson.

In March, CWPPP’s Carol Hardy-Fanta was the keynote speaker at the “Latinas Making History at the State House” conference and chaired a panel, “Voting Mechanisms, Third Parties, and the Shape of the Electorate,” at the Western Political Science Association’s annual meeting.

In March, Virginia Harvey, associate professor of counseling and school psychology, made two presentations at the conference of the National Association of School Psychologists. She was a panelist in a special session, “Clinical Supervision of the Practicing School Psychologist,” and presented the paper “Facilitating Appropriate Outcome Measurement Through Outcomes-Based Supervision Strategies.”

On March 9, Dan Hellin of the Urban Harbors Institute presented findings from the 2005 Massachusetts Marine Trades Workforce Assessment to the Legislative Boating Caucus at the State House.


Roderick Jensen, the distinguished Alton Brunn Chair of Biology, Mathematics and Physics, participated on the panel “Molecules to Models” at the conference “Discovery Day, Catalyzing Technologies: Innovative Tools for Biopharmaceutical Success,” sponsored by the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council and held on March 8.

Peter Kiang, professor of education and director of the Asian American Studies Program, was an invited speaker for the panel “War and Our Communities” at the national conference “Vietnam Looking Forward—Looking Back” organized by the William Joiner Center in March.

James Jeffers, senior research associate at the Center for Social Development and Education, presented the paper “Implementation of Intentions by Children with Intellectual Disabilities” at a symposium conducted at the Barat/Galbraith Conference on Theories and Theory in Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, held in San Diego on March 17.

Donald Macio, Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Education, has given keynotes or major addresses at the Wisconsin Bilingual Education Annual Conference, the National Bilingual Education Association Annual Conference, the Oregon Association for Latino Administrators, the “Culture, Education, and Citizenship” conference, the “International Conference of Education and Thought,” and an American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual Conference.

Sylvia Mignon, director of the Master of Science Degree Program in Human Services at CPCS, gave the invited presentation “Substance Abuse and Family Violence: Research and Treatment Implications” at the Harvard Medical School’s “Treating the Addictions” conference, held on March 3.

Professor Susan Otopow in the Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution was a panelist for the session “Integrating Excluded, Marginalized, and Invisible Children and their Families as Key to the Eradication of Poverty” at the 44th Session of the Commission for the Economics, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations on February 16.

Melissa Pearrow, assistant professor in the Department of Counseling and School Psychology, presented the paper “Coping with Functioning for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbance Enrolled in a Multi-Site Wrap-Around Program” at the 45th annual research conference “A System of Care for Children’s Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base.”

CPCS professor Lorna Rivera presented the paper “Teaching Class Across Social Classes” at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society.

On March 8, GCCEO professor and NERCHE director John Saltmarsh, with the support of graduate student Cathy Barak, presented an “Assessment Workshop: Advancing Civic Engagement through Strategic Assessment” for the Massachusetts Campus Compact. On April 6, Saltmarsh and Dwight Giles, NERCHE senior associate and GCCEO professor, will present the preconference workshop “Research Design and Documentation of the Scholarship of Engagement” at the Northeast Regional Campus Compact Conference.

Geroniologo’s Nina Silverstein served as the cochair of the transportation track for the 2006 Joint Conference of the National Council on the Aging and the American Society on Aging, held in March. She moderated a research update on transportation and aging and copresented with Geroniologo PhD alumnus Bei Wu, “Factors Related to Contributory Behavior Among the Oldest Old in the United States and China.”

On March 1, Judith Smith, professor of American studies, introduced a screening of Richard Broomand’s 1978 documentary “Mississippi Hill and the Miracles of Boston” and moderated a panel of Boston documentary photographers at the Coolidge Corner Cinema in conjunction with the exhibit “Contemporary Social Documentary Work from Greater Boston,” showing at the Photographic Resource Center.

Professor Michael E. Stone of the College of Public and Community Service and the Public Policy Ph.D. Program presented the paper “Shelter Poverty by Race” at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society.

Professor Lauren Sullivan of the Anthropology Department presented the paper “Ceramic Research in the Three Rivers Region” at the 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, held in April.

In March, Peter Taylor, director of Programs in Science, Technology and Values, was an invited speaker and commentator for the workshop “Political Ecologies of Knowledge, Science, and Technology,” held at the University of Wisconsin, and a session-related seminar at the national meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Chicago.

Environmental, Earth and Ocean Science (EEDS) Department assistant professor Yong Tian presented the paper “UMass Boston’s Certificate Program for Education, Research, and Employment” at the Northeast Region Computing Program’s annual meeting, held on March 7 at the College of the Holy Cross.

On February 24, Robert Weiner, chair of the international relations track of the MSPA program, attended the daylong symposium “Russia’s Future: More of the Same or Something Different,” which was held at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University.

On February 16, Julie Winch, professor of history, gave a presentation on African American Revolutionary War veteran James Fortun at the Francesca Museum in New York in conjunction with the museum’s ongoing exhibit “Fighting for Freedom: Black Patriots and Black Loyalties.”

Ajuene Wingo, assistant professor of philosophy and senior fellow at the Center for Democracy and Development, presented the lecture “An Image of Freedom for Emerging African democracies” at the University of Montréal on February 24.

EEDS associate professor Meng Zhou presented seminars at the National Oceanographic Research Institute in Korea “Observations and Theories of Bimarm Spectra: Distribution, Population Processes and Trophic Dynamics” and “LOPC Data Processing and Applications.” In February, Zhe Zhou presented at the American Geophysical Union’s annual ocean science meeting.

Meng Zhou presented “Mesoscale Physical Processes and Their Impacts on Biogeochemical Processes in the Southern Drake Passage” at the 2005 Korean Oceanographic Research and Development Institute.

PUBLICATIONS

Jalal Almargi, assistant professor of political science, published “Globalization: Encyclopedia of Trade, Labor, and Politics.”

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of University Communications and Community Relations. All events are open to the public and free, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits below each event.

Submit your calendar listings by Thursday, April 13 to umb.edu/news/calendar/.

### Wednesday 5

**The Third Annual Social Theory Forum: Human Rights, Borderlands, and the Poetics of Applied Social Theory: Engaging with Gloria Anzaldúa in Self and Global Transformations**
8:30 a.m. – 6:15 p.m., McCormack Hall, Hall 220. For more info, contact: 7-6130. Visit www.umb.edu/inauguration.

**The Inauguration of Michael F. Cosmopolous**
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Campus Center. Visit www.umb.edu/inauguration.

**The Inauguration of Michael F. Cosmopolous**
6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Campus Center. A dinner and entertainment. Tickets required. Visit www.umb.edu/inauguration.

### Thursday 6

**Women in the Middle**
12:00 – 3:30 p.m., Healey Library, 11th floor, Faculty Lounge. Workshops on issues midlife and older women face. Featuring Evelyn Murphy, author of Getting Even: Why Women Don’t Get Paid Like Men—And What to do About It. Sponsored by the Massachusetts Commission for the Status of Women and the Boston Women’s Health Book集体.

**Women’s Lunch**
1:00 – 2:15 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 3-123. Featuring Robert Weiss, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. Contact: 7-7305.

**Book Release Party: James Green**

**Women’s Lunch**
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