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UMass/Boston

News & Views

Newsletter of the Office of Public Information

Vol. 3 No. 8 • February 25, 1985

Briefly . . .

Design drawings for the University's graphic and signs project are on display on the fourth floor of the Healey Library.

The University community is invited to view the designs submitted by Goody, Clancy & Associates, for which final construction drawings are now being completed. Installation of the first of these signs is expected by the beginning of the Fall semester.

Dr. Irving H. Bartlett, chairman of the American Civilization Dept., participated in a panel discussion on "An Evening with Congressman A. Lincoln" at the John F. Kennedy Library.

In 1848 Abraham Lincoln, then an obscure first-term Congressman from Illinois, visited Massachusetts and spoke in 10 cities and towns, including Dorchester, where he made a speech at Richmond Hall in the Lower Mills section.

Joseph S. (Joe) Bloomstein, Material/Traffic Manager at UMass/Boston, was the featured speaker at a recent meeting of the National Property Management Association's New England Chapter in Framingham.

Mr. Bloomstein, a highly-respected man in the field, spoke on "Receiving and Distribution." During his 21-year career in the U.S. Air Force, Bloomstein spoke at universities, high schools, etc. throughout New England. He also was a "touring" guests speaker for National Management Ass'n until a heart attack four years ago.

Dr. John J. Conlon, CAS Associate Dean for Academic Studies, reviewed the latest novel of the Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia-Marquez, *Cronica de una Muerte Anunciada*, in Magill's Literary



Flanking portrait, Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan, left, and Hon. Robert H. Quinn, Chairman, University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees. (story on page 3.)

UMass/Boston scientists plan new study on contaminated harbor fish

Is the flounder in Boston Harbor safe to eat?

"We should know within six months," says Joseph Cooney, a microbiologist at UMass/Boston.

Cooney and his faculty of scientists are awaiting the arrival of a \$200,000 gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer (CG/ms), technical hardware which will aid them in identifying pollutants in flounder, water and sediment samples from Boston Harbor and near-harbor waters.

The safety or health-risk issue surrounding flounder—a plentiful and popular fish in Boston waters—is under debate. Up to now, there have been few comprehensive studies for a bottom line verdict. UMass/Boston will change that.

"We wanted to conduct a public service study. After all, we are the University of Massachusetts and Boston Harbor is right at the edge of our campus," said Cooney, director of Environmental Sciences, the first doctoral (PhD) program at the urban

campus.

The program, launched in 1982, brings together a faculty in the hard sciences—chemistry, biology, physics, math—to teach those disciplines along with environmental management and policy.

The scientists received a public Service Endowment grant from Amherst campus and a challenge grant from the Boston Globe. They collected flounder, a bottom water dweller, from clean waters in Maine and Plymouth, from inner Boston Harbor, from a fish wholesale distributor and even restaurants, for cooked flounder.

"We landed some flounder on a hook and line, just like ordinary fishermen," said Cooney, who sought diversity in fish samples.

Edible fish parts will be analyzed for levels of PCB, PAH (the residue of petroleum) and for heavy metals such as zinc, copper, iron, lead and tin. Flounder livers, the body's filter, were saved and frozen for future study.

Annual, 1984. He also addressed the February meeting of the Boston Author's Club on the topic of his book, *Walter Pater and the French Tradition*.

First Municipal Leasing Corp.'s Scholars Program once again is accepting applications for 1985 academic scholarship awards. Sons or daughters of an employee of a state, county, city or other public agency, public college or university, are eligible. For additional

information: Scholars Program, First Municipal Leasing Corp., 857 Grant St., Denver, Colorado 80203.

Internationally-known author Paulo Freire visited UMass/Boston and spoke at the JFK Library under sponsorship of the University. Among other books, Freire is the author of *Pedagogy of the*

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Wheatley Hall dedication celebrated with symposium on poet's work



Unveiling of a portrait of black poet Phillis Wheatley was made by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan, left, and Trustee Thomas P. Costin.

A good sized audience witnessed the dedication of Phillis Wheatley Hall on the Harbor Campus and later attended a symposium moderated by Dr. Mary Helen Washington of UMass/Boston's English Dept.

Participating in the symposium were



Dr. William H. Robinson, Rhode Island College, is one of the leading scholars on the life and works of Phillis Wheatley. He spoke at the dedication and later participated in a symposium.

Merle A. Richmond, an author from San Francisco; Dr. Houston A. Baker, professor of English at Rhode Island College and the leading scholar on the life and works of Phillis Wheatley, who was brought to Boston as a slave in the 1760's.

Phillis Wheatley was the first black and second woman writer published in America. She had dealings with leading figures such as George Washington and Benjamin Franklin during her all-too-



UMass/Boston student Regina Walters read "A Letter from Phillis Wheatley, London, 1773" at the dedication ceremonies of Wheatley Hall.

brief career that ended with death in her early 30's.

Gov. Michael S. Dukakis proclaimed February 1 as Phillis Wheatley Day in a ceremony that involved a large contingent in his State House office, including UMass trustee Nancy Caruso.

Trustees Thomas P. Costin and Judge John T. Sweeney attended the dedication. Trustee Costin and Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan unveiled a painting of Phillis Wheatley by Cambridge artist Mel Robbins.

"Once in a while," noted Dr. Robinson in a brief speech, "mankind gets it right. This is one of those rare occasions."



Gov. Michael S. Dukakis proclaimed Phillis Wheatley Day as he was flanked by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan, right, and Vice-Chancellor Charles Desmond at State House function.

UMB honors Trustee Chair Robert H. Quinn

Leading political, academic and neighborhood figures were in attendance when Hon. Robert H. Quinn, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the University of Massachusetts was honored at the Harbor Campus.

An oil painting by Cambridge artist Mel Robbins was unveiled at a ceremony in Chancellor Robert Corrigan's Conference Room.

Chancellor Corrigan lauded Quinn, who was the Speaker of the House of Representatives, when the bill establishing the University branch in Boston was promulgated.

Indeed, three former Speakers of the House of Representatives were in attendance with Thomas W. McGee and David Bartley joining Senate President William M. Bulger and Quinn in the celebration.

Said Chancellor Corrigan:

"The University is indebted to Bob Quinn in a number of ways... This University is barely 20 years old. In a city that counts the age of institutions in centuries, we are but two decades old. We are the street car college of the 1980's; the school for working class and middle income students from the neighborhoods of Boston and its surrounding suburbs.

"Because we are so young and there is little history, few traditions and no sense of a venerable past... As part of our 20th anniversary celebration last year, I embraced the recommendation of a faculty-staff-student committee to do something about this—to plant some symbolic ivy, if you will. Thus we set about our task of naming buildings, refurbishing lounge areas, instituting new cultural activities and even by painting of portraits...

"We come to add a little bit of symbolic ivy for today and provide some history and tradition for generations of students to come. As we have named buildings and spaces within buildings... we have also commissioned portraits, using non-state funds, to hang in the buildings and lounges that bears the subjects' name.

"In this room we are bringing together the portraits of former Chancellors who have led the campus, the University Presidents who have governed since the campus was created, and the Chairmen of the Board of Trustees who have held office since 1964 when we were established."

Among those on hand were Rev. Joseph Duffy, S.J. of Boston College, and Rev. Raymond Callahan, S.J., President of Boston College High School, both attended by Mr. Quinn.

Longtime friends Judge J. John Fox and George V. Kenneally, Jr. Senate Counsel, were in attendance along with Dorchester Representatives Paul White, Richard Rouse and James Brett. Mr.



Former Speakers of the House of Representatives get together with Senate President William M. Bulger, right, at Quinn reception. Left to right: Thomas W. McGee, Robert H. Quinn, David Bartley and Sen. Bulger.



Clan Quinn had get together at recent portrait unveiling in Chancellor Corrigan's Conference Room. Brothers, sister and brother-in-law flanked Hon. Robert H. Quinn, Left to right: William Quinn, W. Newton; Joseph Quinn, Dorchester; John Quinn, Cataumet; Frank Quinn, Newton; Hon. Robert J. Quinn; Catherine Quinn Keating, Hyde Park; James Quinn, Savin Hill, Dorchester; brother-in-law Edward Keating.

Kenneally, an honorary degree recipient at UMass/Boston, was instrumental in the legislation establishing the branch when he served in the Senate from Dorchester.

And there was the large Quinn family...brothers, sister, aunts, uncles...plus many friends and neighbors.

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Briefly . . .

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Oppressed and Politics of Education, Culture, Power and Liberation.

His theory of literacy has had a profound impact world-wide, particularly in third world countries.

Professor Edward Strickland announces that the Institute for the Study of Black Culture has a full Spring program of Distinguished Lecturers.

On March 7, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm will speak on "Blacks, Political Power and the Political System." On Thursday, March 28, John Hope Franklin will discuss "Stalking George Washington Williams," and on Thursday, April 11, Economics Professor Andrew Brimmer will talk on "Economics in Black and White: Perspectives on Blacks in the American Economy." ...For further information: 929-8206.

Vice Chancellor Charles F. Desmond and the staff of the Office of Career Services hosted 30 organizations at Minority Career Day recently in the Healey Library. The affair was a great success.

"Tanya Brown-Johnson deserves the orchids for putting together the program," said Mary Winslow, Director, Career Services.

Guests speaker Robert Brocksbank talked on career development and recruitment. He is the Chairman of the Board of the Council on Career Development for Minorities and is on leave from Mobil Oil Co.

Participating firms included Channel 7, Channel 56, Boston Globe, Compugraphics, Edison, Gillette, Honeywell, IBM, New England Telephone, Sheraton Boston Hotel, Quincy Patriot Ledger, Bank of Boston, Fleet National Bank and First Investors.

The Joiner Center is sponsoring a new Discharge Upgrade Project for veterans of the armed forces with less than honorable discharges who feel they have a sufficient case for a petition to upgrade to a military review board.

Vietnam-era veterans, in particular, received less than honorable discharges at a rate much higher than veterans of other eras. Over the past decade many have appealed these discharges and have won upgrades.

Interested parties should contact Tommy Lee or Delbarre Sullivan, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at 929-8278 or on a walk-in basis in Room 167, 4th Floor, Wheatley Hall.



Famed piano-composer Ramsey Lewis made a big hit in his concert at UMass/Boston. Here he displays a sweater presented by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan. Lewis' appearance was in celebration of the dedication of Phillis Wheatley Hall and Black History Month.

Harbor Art Gallery exhibits work of Boston native Lois Mailou Jones

Lois Mailou Jones, one of the deans of Black American art, appeared, at UMass/Boston as part of Black History Month on Wednesday, February 20 at noon at the Harbor Art Gallery. Ms. Jones' works are on display in the Gallery through March 4.

Lois Mailou Jones (Mrs. V. Pierre-Noel) has had an impact on Afro-American artists in America over a 40-year period. Her life and work spans from the days of the Harmon Foundation and of the infancy of the teaching of art in black institutions of higher learning to today's blossoming of black artists, museum professionals and designers.

Dr. Jones, a native of Boston, received her early education from schools

in the area. From 1919-1923 Dr. Jones attended the High School of Practical Arts. At the same time, she attended classes at the Boston Museum School of Fine Arts.

She received the Susan Minot Lane Scholarship for four years (1923-1927) of study at the Museum School. She also studied at the Boston Normal Art School, Harvard and Columbia Universities.

Dr. Jones, a member of the Art Dept. at Howard University since 1930, received two Howard University research grants to study contemporary Haitian art and to survey Afro-American art and contemporary art in 10 African countries.

Prof. Dentler to speak at Graduate Studies' "Distinguished Lecture"

The third in a series of 1984-85 Distinguished Lectures sponsored by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 3:30 p.m. in the Faculty Club Lounge.

Professor Robert A. Dentler of the Dept. of Sociology will speak on "The Baby Boom and the Sociological Imagination."

Prof. Dentler argues that social

scientists generally failed to forecast the youth unrest of the 1960's, just as they failed to forecast the direction and scope of the political counterrevolution that followed and is now at its apogee.

Prof. Dentler will discuss the success and failures of the sociological imagination to identify and interpret great social trends.