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UMB 2-52

UMB records best minority faculty figures among local universities

UMass/Boston has 13.38 percent of filled full-time faculty positions held by members of minorities, the best record in the Boston area, according to Jocelind Gant, Director of Affirmative Action.

For the academic year 1985-86, the minority breakdown is that 8.03% of filled positions are held by blacks and 5.35% by other minorities.

"This is by far the best record for any public or private college or university in the Greater Boston area and the best of all public institutions of higher education statewide," said Ms. Gant. "This may well be the best record in New England."

Recently, the Board of Regents mounted a strong campaign to bolster affirmative action among the Commonwealth's institutions of public

higher education. UMass/Boston holds the No. 1 spot in minority employment.

In addition to the faculty statistics, 13.9% of professional staff positions are held by blacks and 5.88% by other minorities, for a total of 19.79%.

Noted Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan:

"I welcome the recent strong affirmative action stand of the Regents of Higher Education. I like to think that UMass/Boston is and has been a model of the kind of action the Regents have in mind."

Last month the Board of Regents voted 9-3 to adopt a more stringent affirmative action plan for promoting minorities and women in the state's colleges and universities.

The plan will use contract negotiations with teachers' unions to stress affirmative action guidelines. It

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U.S. House Democrats visit UMB in search for student support

Why are the Republicans attracting today's college students? This was a question of Democratic members of the U.S. Congress who made a recent visit to UMass/Boston and five other schools in Greater Boston.

Eight House members came as part of a national Democratic Party effort to counter Republican leanings among young people.

State Democratic Party leader Congressman Chester A. Atkins led the contingent. He visited the Harbor Campus along with Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio and Rep. Peter Vosclosky of Indiana.

Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan hosted a luncheon at the Faculty Club under the burgee of Dr. Edmund Beard, Director, McCormack Institute.

"I don't think people are automatically born Democrats or Republicans anymore," said Rep. Kaptur. "We have to win people over. For many students this was a get-acquainted session."

Rep. Vosclosky talked of the changes he had observed in his district, which is near Gary, Ind., a steel town.

Professor George Goodwin noted a "remarkable surge" in Republican leanings and attributed it to "many reasons. Today's student is unaware of the JFK legacy, in many cases, and the Jimmy Carter tenure in the White House didn't help, either."

Rep. Atkins recalled he ran for the Massachusetts Legislature in 1970 after student activities at Antioch College.

"We've really taken college students for granted," he said. "We assumed automatically that students would be Democrats."



Congressman Peter Vosclosky of Indiana (third from right) chats with UMass/Boston Professor George Goodwin, Associate Vice Chancellor Edward C. O'Malley and Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan at recent visit to the Harbor Campus.



Chancellor Robert Corrigan chats with Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur of Ohio and Democratic State Committeewoman Maura A. Hennigan, Jamaica Plain-West Roxbury.

P ☆ R ☆ O ☆ F ☆ I ☆ L ☆ E

ILT Director Dr. Maurice J. Eash seeks new teacher training methods



Dr. Maurice J. Eash

“Ninety percent of the time teachers are working with printed texts and materials. A better proportion of time needs to be used on direct teacher-student learning situations. New curriculums need to provide for that.”

Role models and mentors are as important for teachers as they are for students, says Dr. Maurice J. Eash, Director of the Institute for Learning and Teaching at UMass/Boston's Harbor Campus.

“Education needs to reduce the isolation of classroom teachers. We need to bring teachers in contact with their peers and professional educators for support, the exchange of creative approaches to problem-solving and teaching methods, and professional growth. New curriculum for teacher training must be developed,” says Eash, who recently was appointed as director of the Institute. Formerly, he was professor of Urban Education Research in the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago for 26 years.

The in-service training for professional teachers is one of the programs conducted at the Institute; it gets high marks from Eash. He wants to see new approaches to teacher training.

He says there are new demands on teachers, particularly in urban schools, but the training system has been slow to catch up.

Eash, a distinguished researcher in education, is considered one of a handful of the world's top scholars in that field. He is the author of *Reading and Thinking* and over 60 report papers on urban education.

“Japan's secret weapon is education. The philosophy of that nation is to support it. I want to make education *our* secret weapon. We don't have a choice if we want our country to stay viable and independent. But we can't do it on the cheap,” says the mid-western educator.

Eash says the largest pool of undeveloped talent is in the urban areas. Many of these children are from homes and families undeveloped academically themselves. For example, homes where reading is not a normal activity. That's a major contrast with youngsters from suburban families.

Teachers need to work more closely with those youngsters; teaching them is a more complex task. Teachers also need to share their experiences and innovations with one another. Mentor relationships are encouraged by Eash.

“Ninety percent of the time teachers are working with printed texts and materials. A better proportion of time needs to be used on direct teacher-student learning situations. New curriculums need to provide for that,” says Eash.

He believes teachers must have a total commitment to teaching. Eash admits to “no hobbies apart from education interests.” He says, “a true professional doesn't have separate vocations and avocation. The two are interwoven.”

He advocates stimulating parent involvement in the learning process.

“Child Parent Centers, where parents, particularly minorities, can take classes in basic living skills can help raise the academic achievement level of their children. A study in Chicago found student achievement increased from .7 to 1.0 after such a center was established,” says Eash.

The new director says he accepted the UMass/Boston post because of the Institute's commitment to improving the education and teaching process and because it is “a wonderful professional opportunity, particularly to develop programs for the future.”

Eash and his wife, Edith, a nutritionist and Colonel in the Army Reserve, live in Watertown, Mrs. Eash's hometown.

“Edith always talked about the East coast. Now the ocean is, literally, at my office edge,” laughed the mid-western educator.

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Director D. Leo Monahan Editor Stephen Moniak Photographer M. Leo Tierney

Affirmative Action Director Jocelind Gant announces minority figures

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also asks the legislature for \$1.5 million to strengthen recruitment and current affirmative action programs.

Regent Mary Lou Anderson was a proponent of the plan.

"Look at the statistics," she said, "The women, blacks and Hispanics are not there... They can't break into the system that has historically rewarded white males."

Opposing the plan was Regent Edward T. Sullivan, a union official.

Sullivan argued that the affirmative action plan could lead to a dual track system and quotas that would undercut contract agreements. He called affirmative action the current "sacred cow" of the Board of Regents.

The last Regent's survey of state colleges and universities was in November, 1983. It found seven percent of the 5,711 state's college teachers were black or Hispanic. Twenty-nine percent



Jocelind Gant

of faculty were women. White males dominated top administrative positions, according to the report.

B r i e f l y . . .

Dean of Students Clare Joyce Donahue is proud to announce that UMass/Boston has been awarded a certificate of merit by Governor Michael Dukakis for its programs and initiatives in promoting alcohol awareness. Special note was made of UMB's Alcohol Awareness Week programs.

Special recognition was given to John Murray, a UMB student who volunteered his time and effort to organize and coordinate the University's programs and activities.

The University also won attention from WGBH-TV, Channel 2, as Gail Harris and a film crew spent two days in the greenhouse with Richard Stomberg for an episode shown Nov. 1 in *New England Science Gazette*.

The greenhouse was used as the location for introducing the stories. There was great footage of the Venus Fly Trap eating. This was a big feature two years ago at the annual Spring Flower Show. Stomberg has won many awards for his efforts.

CPCS Dean James Jennings has appointed a Task Force to advise him on such wide-ranging topics as tutorial services, the Community Services Programs, assessment, academic and supporting service for students, the Gerontology Program and curricular elements that will change degree requirements.

Grayce Garner, Professor of Nursing,

will deliver the keynote address at a conference sponsored by the New England Regional Black Nurses Association at the Holiday Inn in Cambridge on November 13.

Topic of her address: "Minority Recruitment and Retention: Fact or Fiction."

Ms. Garner, new to UMass/Boston, is a Cambridge native. She attended Simmons College, did advanced study at Boston University and Columbia University. She spent 17 years at BU as a teacher and came to the Harbor Campus after an eight-year stint at University of Rhode Island.

A farewell reception to Dr. William Fenstemacher, Director of Institutional Planning, filled the Old Faculty Dining Room. Dr. Fenstemacher, after a decade with the University, has accepted a senior position at Boston University.

Vice Chancellor for planning Donald D. Babcock made a series of presentations to Fenstemacher, who greeted a lengthy line of well-wishers at the function.

U.S. Congressman Chester Atkins (D.-Concord) will participate in a seminar to be hosted by UMass/Boston's McCormack Institute of Public Affairs on Monday, November 18, from 2:30-5 p.m.

Title of the seminar: "The Changing Nature of Federal/State Relations: The Impact on New England."

Site is the Chancellor's Conference • continued on page 4

CHANCELLOR'S COLUMN



In an April, 1983, *Boston Globe* story, the University of Massachusetts at Boston was cited as having the best record in employment of black faculty among the thirty institutions of higher education in the Boston metropolitan area.

I am pleased to report that, even as the Board of Regents is mounting a strong campaign to bolster affirmative action among the Commonwealth's institutions of public higher education, this University is holding its place at the top in minority employment.

For the academic year 1985-86 a full 13.38% of the University's filled full-time faculty positions are held by members of minorities—8.03% by blacks and 5.35% by other minorities. The figures for professional staff are outstanding: of the filled professional staff positions, 13.9% are held by blacks and 5.88% by other minorities, for a total of 19.79%.

According to Jocelind Gant, Director of Affirmative Action, to whose efforts much of the credit for our achievements in this area is due, "This is by far the best record for any public or private college or university in the Boston area, and the best of all public institutions of higher education statewide." In my opinion, this may well be the best record in New England.

Last year, as a result of aggressive minority recruitment efforts, we hired 12 new minority faculty members (5 of them black). These 12 constitute a remarkable 44.4% of tenured and tenure-track faculty newly hired for the 1985-6 academic year.

As Ms. Gant has summed it up: "The competition for qualified black and minority employees is fierce nationwide. We have to go up against prestigious, nationally-recognized universities, and we have come out on top in many cases."

I welcome the recent strong affirmative action stand of the Board of Regents of Higher Education. I think it is no exaggeration to say that UMass/Boston is and has been for several years a model of the kind of action the Regents have in mind.

Edmund Toomey named Executive Assistant to Chancellor



Edmund C. Toomey

Edmund C. Toomey has been appointed Executive Assistant to Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan. Toomey, a South Boston native, served previously as Associate Director of Urban Services at the University. Prior to coming to UMass/Boston, Toomey was Vice President of the Boston Committee, Inc. He is a graduate of Boston College and served in a number of administrative positions at Jesuit Universities from 1960 to 1980. Toomey was a member of the Board of Trustees of Georgetown University from 1970-77.

Joiner Center offers advice for vets on upgrading discharge status

Veterans' discharge upgrading assistance and advice is currently being offered through the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences at UMass/Boston. Since 1942, there have been over three million less-than-honorable discharges issued by the United States Armed Forces. The vast majority of these were handed down with no formal hearing and no opportunity for pre-discharge appeal. Recipients were not advised of their post-discharge appeal rights. A less than honorable discharge, especially when handed down in the above mentioned manner, imposes undue hardship on the former service member.

Kit Clark portrait to be unveiled at Clark Center November 19

An oil painting of the late Catherine Forbes (Kit) Clark, longtime Dorchester political activist and leader, will be unveiled at UMass/Boston's Harbor Campus on Tuesday afternoon, November 19 at 1 p.m. Unveiling will take place at the Clark Athletic Center, which was dedicated in her honor in 1981. Mrs. Clark died in November, 1977 at age 58 after a long career in citywide political and community affairs. She was director of Senior House of Federated Dorchester Neighborhood Houses, a multipurpose center for older persons that now carries her name. Mrs. Clark also was president of the Columbia-Savin Hill Neighborhood Housing Service. She served as vice president of the Republican City Committee. Her special interest in Boston's elderly led to the pioneering of such direct-service programs as geriatric day care and alternative housing. She also served as a Trustee of the University of Massachusetts. Mrs. Clark was a lifelong resident of Dorchester's Savin Hill section. Her



Catherine Forbes Clark daughter, Elizabeth Clark Shoor lives in Dorchester. The painting was produced by well-known Cambridge artist Mel Robbins.

Briefly . . .

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Room, third floor, Administration Building, at UMass/Boston's Harbor Campus.
Dr. John Shannon, Executive Director of the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations will open the proceedings.
Other members of the panel: Former Maine Governor Kenneth Curtis; Lieutenant Governor Richard Licht, Rhode Island; David Walker, Institute for Urban Research, University of Connecticut; William Spring, Vice President, Federal Reserve Bank of

Boston; Roger Porter, Professor of Government and Business, JFK School of Government and formerly with the Reagan Administration.

No. 15 is the exit numeral for UMass/Boston and the John F. Kennedy Library, according to new designations issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. The Southeast Expressway is the first section of Interstate 93 to receive the new numbers. The former number was 17. Originally the highway, which runs from I-95 in Canton to the New Hampshire border, consisted of four different connecting roads. Each had its own set of exit numbers. As the entire route is now designated I-93, exit numbers have been changed to run consecutively from one end of the highway to the other.

Soloists from the Boston Lyric Opera Company presented a program of operatic scenes at UMass/Boston on November 12 in the McCormack Auditorium on the Harbor Campus. The performers were Amy Cochrane, soprano, Pamela Ryder, mezzo-soprano, and Paul Houghtaling, baritone, accompanied by pianist William Merrill. Among the duets they selected were the sparkling Act I finale of Donizetti's Don Pasquale, the beautiful Act II duet from Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, and a duet from the German Romantic opera, the *Merry Wives of Windsor* by Otto Nicolai.

Some of the problems encountered by the recipient of such a discharge include ineligibility for unemployment compensation, re-employment rights and Veterans' Administration and state veterans' benefits, loss of reputation in the civilian community and difficulty in obtaining gainful employment. By advising veterans of their right of appeal and assisting them in the appeal process, the Joiner Center's program hopes to alleviate some problems created by a less than honorable discharge. The service is free and strict confidentiality is maintained. All interested veterans are encouraged to use the service. For more information, call 929-7865.