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The UMass Boston Friday Report

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News and information about and for the
University Community from the Chancellor's Office

Museums Employ University Anthropologist To Analyze Native American Remains and Artifacts

Professor **Michael Gibbons**, a specialist in physical anthropology, is analyzing centuries-old remains of Native Americans for museums throughout the East Coast. His work will allow many institutions to inventory their collections of bones and artifacts, which during the next several years must be turned over to those Native American tribes which want them. The "repatriation" of these materials is supported by federal and state laws stipulating that human remains and objects deemed sacred or culturally significant belong to Native Americans. "One effect of the repatriation efforts is that it's forcing all the museums with Native American collections to clean out their closets, and we're discovering an abundance of information," according to **Jim Bradley**, director of the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology at Phillips Academy in Andover, where Gibbons is a research associate. The museum specializes in Native American tribes and their cultures. During the last year, Gibbons has been recording and describing the human remains of members of approximately 40 tribes indigenous to New England. Much of his research is being conducted at the Peabody, the Smithsonian Institution, and other museums, as well as in laboratories at the Harbor Campus. For the next phase of his research, Gibbons will use the data he has collected to learn more about how Native Americans lived many years ago. He says his preliminary findings have uncovered evidence of Native American disease, such as tooth decay, which became widespread only after Europeans arrived in America and introduced Native Americans to foods that contained refined sugar.

Year in Paris Program Marks 24th Year of Existence

The University's Year in Paris Program last month marked its 24th consecutive year of existence as 19 students traveled to the French capital to begin their studies at various colleges and universities. Six of the students in the program are enrolled at UMass Boston, while the others come from such institutions as Boston University, Northwestern University, Trinity College and Tufts University. During their year-long stay in Paris the students will take a full load of courses and absorb French culture while residing in dormitories and private homes in Paris. The students are attending a number of French schools such as the the Catholic Institute, the Institute of Political Science, the Sorbonne Institute and the University of Paris. The Year in Paris students come from a range of academic majors -- biology, history, mathematics, psychology, sociology and theater arts, among others. To be eligible for the program they must have completed the equivalent of a third-year course in French language. The UMB program remains one of the most affordable in the nation, according to **Gerald Volpe**, a French language professor who has directed the program for 10 years. The \$9,000 fee covers the cost of travel, tuition, and room and board. It includes a two-week orientation period which students spend on the French island of Mont St. Michel, and a weekend journey in the spring through the chateau country. "Ninety-nine percent of the students, one year after returning, will tell me that the Year in Paris Program was the best year of their life," Volpe says. "It's an experience that can't help but change students for the better."

Master's Program in Nursing To Be Offered at Cape Cod C.C.

The College of Nursing has signed an agreement for the spring semester to offer its master's degree program at Cape Cod Community College in Hyannis. The arrangement is contingent on a minimum of 25 students enrolling in the program. Plans call for the University in January to offer a single graduate-level course in family nursing, followed by two more courses next summer and one more during the fall 1994 semester. The master's in nursing program is being offered in cooperation with the Cape Cod Center for Graduate Education, an organization that cultivates a range of academic programs and workshops for business, education and health care professionals working on Cape Cod. According to **Kristy Alster**, graduate program director at the College of Nursing, the master's degree program will take Cape Cod students about three years to complete and will require them to attend a number of classes at the Harbor Campus.

Campus Notes -- Psychology professor **Claire Golomb** was recently elected a fellow of the American Psychological Association. • A workshop for faculty and staff on racism awareness will take place on Tuesday, October 7, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 20 on the first floor of Wheatley. It is sponsored by the University's Center for the Improvement of Teaching. Workshop leaders are professors **Estelle Disch** (sociology) and **Cass Turner** (psychology). Pre-registration is required and can be arranged by contacting Professor Disch at 7-6256. • **Norman Myers**, an environmental and development consultant from the United Kingdom, will discuss the extinction of species on Tuesday, October 5, at 2:30 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room on the third floor of the Quinn Administration Building. • **Harold Hemond** of MIT's Ralph Parson Laboratory will make a presentation on "Cycling and Transport of Metals in the Upper Mystic River Watershed" on Thursday, October 7, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 4 on the first floor of Wheatley. • **Dolores Mitchell**, executive of the state's Group Insurance Commission, will be on campus on Monday, October 4, to discuss the impact that a national health care package will have on Massachusetts's economy. Mitchell's talk will take place from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in Wheatley's Snowden Auditorium. The event is the second in the College of Management Alumni Lecture Series.

Twenty-four students who received diplomas last June from Boston Latin School are all graduates of the University's Talented and Gifted Latino Program, which since 1986 has been providing intensive instruction before and after the regular school day to Latino middle and high school students in Boston. The 24 students represent the largest-ever Latino graduating class at Boston Latin. Three were ranked in the top 10 in their class, and all of them are now enrolled in colleges including Harvard, Northeastern, Boston University, Bentley and UMass Boston. • In recognition of National Disabilities Month, WUMB's program "From the Source" will discuss computer technology that enhances the lives of people who are physically challenged. The program will also examine health care reforms that could benefit people with disabilities. On October 15 WUMB is co-sponsoring a world premiere screening of a film about well-known jazz singer **Lisa Thorson**, who uses a wheelchair. The film will be shown at 7:30 p.m. at the State Transportation Building in Park Square. Tickets are \$7, or \$3 for WUMB members. • Economics professor **David Terkla** and **Jack Wiggin** of the Urban Harbors Institute have received a \$28,650 grant from the U.S. National Park Service to study the Gloucester waterfront. Their research will focus on the commercial fishing and tourism industries in the North Shore community. University students who are studying geography will help them.