

University of Massachusetts Boston

ScholarWorks at UMass Boston

1991-1996, Friday Report

University Publications and Campus
Newsletters

10-22-1993

Friday Report - Vol. 03, No. 8 - October 22, 1993

University of Massachusetts Boston

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_fridayreport



Part of the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#), and the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "Friday Report - Vol. 03, No. 8 - October 22, 1993" (1993). *1991-1996, Friday Report*. 53.

https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_fridayreport/53

This University Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications and Campus Newsletters at ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. It has been accepted for inclusion in 1991-1996, Friday Report by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. For more information, please contact scholarworks@umb.edu.

The UMass Boston Friday Report

Volume 3, Number 8
October 22, 1993

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

Substantial Increases in Minority Enrollment Recorded

The proportion of students of color attending UMass Boston has increased from a year ago. African American, Latino, Asian American and Native American students now comprise 27.5% of the University's degree-seeking undergraduates, up from 25.1% last fall. Among degree-seeking graduate students, 12.2% are minorities compared to 11.4% last year. Significant increases in students of color have also been recorded in two other categories: new freshmen, from 35% to 40.4%; and new transfers, from 19% to 23.3%. Overall, students of color this fall account for 24.1% of the total enrollment of 12,136, compared to 22.2% last year. More recognition that UMass Boston is a desirable place for minorities appears in a new book that lists the campus among the 100 best colleges in the nation for African Americans. Author **Erlene B. Wilson**, a former television reporter and magazine editor, writes that one of the University's major attractions is its "extensive academic support services and counseling ... Students report that interaction with faculty and administrators on campus is good, particularly with African American staff, who are supportive and encouraging. The university demonstrates its commitment to being a culturally diverse institution through its hiring of African American faculty and staff." The other Massachusetts institutions to make the list in Wilson's book are Boston University and Emerson College.

Campus Notes -- The Center for the Improvement of Teaching will hold a workshop on November 1 for faculty on strategies for responding to incidents of racial intolerance and insensitivity. The workshop will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. in the English department lounge on the sixth floor of Wheatley Hall. • At the McCormack Institute, **Mary Grant** has succeeded **Joe Slavet** as director of the Center for Social Policy Research. Slavet is amplifying his research on state and local issues. Also, University sociology professor **Robert Dentler** has joined the staff of the McCormack Institute as a senior fellow, and will work with the Center for Social Policy Research. • Sixty-nine scholarship recipients were honored at a campus dinner on October 19. This year the University has contributed \$500,000 of its own resources and added gifts from private sources amounting to almost \$150,000 to support the scholarship winners. This \$650,000 total in awards is in addition to approximately \$1.8 million in curriculum fee waivers that UMass Boston has provided to students. • CPCS professor **Clark Taylor** will discuss repression in Guatemala at 3 p.m. November 3 in the College's Conference Room. The lecture is the third in a series co-sponsored by CPCS and the CAS International Relations Program.

An Hispanic Heritage Month celebration for students, faculty and staff will take place on October 29 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the University Club. • CM's alumni lecture series continues on October 25 at 6 p.m. with a presentation on the ethics of health care reform by **James V. Kerrigan**. All series lectures take place at Snowden Auditorium. • CM is holding open houses at Cape Cod Community College on October 26 and November 13 for people interested in obtaining a UMass Boston MBA degree by taking courses at the West Barnstable campus. • UMass Boston graduate **Robert DeLisle**, who received a bachelor's degree in biology in 1979, is one of 20 scientists from across the nation to be named a Pew Scholar. DeLisle is now an assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology at the University of Kansas

Medical Center, where he pursues biomedical research. The Pew grant of \$200,000 over four years will enable DeLisle to perform molecular biology experiments on how proteins are packaged and stored in the body's cells. • A committee that includes Pulitzer Prize winners **James Merrill** and **Richard Wilbur** has invited English professor **Lloyd Schwartz** to read his works during the Connecticut Poetry Circuit's tour of nine campuses next month. • Anthropology professor **Frederick Gamst** recently was in Germany to lecture at three seminars. He spoke with representatives of the German railroad workers union about the government's plan to privatize train service. • Academics, clinical psychologists and mental health care administrators from across Massachusetts are scheduled to be at UMass Boston today for a day-long symposium devoted to exploring a range of issues related to adversity and the human condition. The conference is the first in a series of symposia in several disciplines aimed at enhancing collaborative efforts among the five University campuses.

Sociology's Cordilia Helps Quincy Teachers Learn More About East Asian Cultures

Sociology professor **Ann Cordilia** has organized a series of seminars for teachers whose goal is to help students at Quincy and North Quincy high schools learn more about East Asian cultures and societies. Cordilia, director of UMass Boston's program in East Asian studies, will hold three day-long seminars next month for 10 teachers from the schools at the State Street Bank facilities on Newport Avenue in Quincy. Participants will include seven teachers from North Quincy High School, three teachers from Quincy High School, and four employees of State Street Bank. According to Cordilia, the seminars will include lectures, film presentations, group discussions and learning exercises designed to equip teachers with strategies for making Chinese and Japanese studies a regular facet of courses in economics, geography, history, literature and social studies.

Teachers will be presented with a range of ideas, from how best to utilize the works of East Asian writers and film artists, to where to purchase low-cost learning materials such as maps and textbooks. "Our teachers are very excited about the seminars," says **Michael Hurley**, an educator for 27 years who is chair of the social studies department at North Quincy High. "We're going to cover the histories of Japan and China and learn more about their societies. It will be an enriching experience." The seminars build upon efforts at the Quincy schools to nurture in students an appreciation of foreign cultures. Since 1991 a course on world cultures has been required for freshmen, and a course for seniors on contemporary issues frequently promotes debate on cultural differences. Asians account for approximately 12% of the student enrollment at North Quincy High School, and 16% at Quincy High School. Cordilia says the idea for such a project sprang from her experience several years ago teaching at a university in Nagoya, Japan, where students possessed extensive knowledge of cultures other than their own -- in marked contrast to their counterparts in the United States. "Our primary goal is quite academic," Cordilia says. "For many non-Asian students in Quincy, this will be their first time learning about East Asian cultures. And for those students of East Asian descent, the experience will provide a different perspective on their heritage." Cordilia believes, for example, that high school literature students should be encouraged to learn more about 20th century Chinese history by reading Jung Chang's *Wild Swans* and Liang Heng's *Son of the Revolution*. In addition, she says, students can form an understanding of the changing political relationship between the U.S. and Japan by comparing such American films as *Sayonara*, made in the late 1940s, to contemporary movies such as *Rising Sun* and *Mr. Baseball*.