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Campus Notes

Gerontology Institute director Scott Bass was cited as a source in an October 25 Wall Street Journal article on the financial struggle that some early retirees experience.

McCormack Institute senior fellow Dick Hogarty was a commentator on Channel 4's coverage of the October 29 dedication ceremonies at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum.

Mary Concannon, an administrative assistant in the Office of Grants and Contracts who is studying anthropology, has published an article in the Massachusetts Archaeological Society's semiannual bulletin. Concannon examines traditional methods of measuring population and rebuts the long-held notion that New England's population decreased during the Early Woodland period (700 B.C. to 350 A.D.). Concannon, a Quincy resident who has been working fulltime at the University for five years, hopes to complete an undergraduate certificate in New England prehistory by next spring.

WUMB last month raised over \$50,000 in pledges from listeners during its semiannual fund drive, \$16,000 more than the station raised in March. General manager Pat Monteith, observing that 60% of the 890 donors are first-time contributors to WUMB, credits enhanced promotional activities for building the station's listenership. According to quarterly ratings tracked by Arbitron, WUMB's average of 50,000 listeners a week is the station's largest audience ever.

Sociology's Harry Brill has written on the legacy of late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall in the spring issue of *The Black Scholar*.

Responding to the Homeless: Policy and Practice, co-authored by sociology's Russell Schutt and Gerald Garrett, is hailed by the National Resource Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness as "essential reading for anyone who will be working with homeless people ..."

Schutt, Paul Benson (sociology) and Elizabeth Clemens (Gerontology Institute) were panelists for a discussion of consolidation and privatization of Massachusetts' state-run hospitals at a conference in

Maryland that brought together mental health researchers and policy makers from around the country.

Urban Harbors Institute director Richard Delaney next semester will co-teach with Martin Pillsbury of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council a course on water management. It's part of a series of courses offered by the Massachusetts Bay Marine Studies Consortium, an association that includes UMass Boston and 19 other colleges and institutes. Delaney's course will be held on Tuesday evenings at Tufts University. UMass Boston students can take consortium courses for a fraction of the cost paid by students at many other local colleges and universities.

A listing of support organizations on the UMass Boston campus and in the community at-large is included in a 63-page guide for students titled "Where Do I Go For Help?" The booklet is available in the Office of Student Life on the fourth floor of Wheatley. It is a cooperative effort of UMass Boston students, student senators, Student Life, the University Advising Center and the undergraduate admissions office.

Professors Shaun O'Connell and Martha Collins will read from their writings at an English department reception for alumni, friends and faculty that will take place at 2 o'clock on Sunday, November 21, at the University Club.

Upcoming seminars include: chemistry, on November 16 Thomas Blakely of Covalent Associates on the "Current State of the Art of Lithium Batteries;" environmental sciences, on November 18 Lee Krumholz of MIT on "Biodegradation in a Contaminated Stream in the Aberjona Watershed of Woburn;" biology, on November 19 Robert Whitlach of the University of Connecticut on "The Role of Micropredators on Recruitment Processes of Subtidal Fouling Communities."

AQUARIUM HONORS RAINFOREST PROJECT

The Rainforest Collaboration, a UMass Boston project aimed at getting young people excited about science, has received the prestigious 1994 New England Aquarium David B. Stone Award. The award has for 25 years honored people for their "service to community and environment." Past winners comprise a distinguished group, including Jacques Cousteau, star of television documentaries on ocean life, and Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield, the entrepreneurs who founded Ben and Jerry's Homemade Ice Cream. The co-recipient of the 1994 award is former CBS news anchor Walter Cronkite. The Rainforest Collaboration team includes management's Joan Tonn, project coordinator; biology's Kamal Bawa and Rob Stevenson; Lucia David, a staff associate at the Institute for Learning and Teaching; Lisa Riales; and Chris Collins.

The Rainforest Collaboration, founded in 1991, has in the last two years sent 32 Boston middle school students to Costa Rica during February school vacation to study rainforests. The Costa Rica journey is but one aspect of a project that expanded its focus to include year-round academic support for about 75 students, many of them African American, Cape Verdean, Haitian, Latino and Vietnamese. Today middle school students involved in the Rainforest Collaboration are tutored in several subjects throughout the academic year by UMass Boston undergradu-

ates who volunteer their services. The Rainforest Collaboration also has established middle school-based clubs that bring students together on a weekly basis to discuss science. A club for Rainforest Collaboration students who have gone on to high school meets weekly at UMass Boston. Another facet of the project involves Saturday gatherings in which students pursue a variety of activities. Recently they cleaned up Dorchester beaches and met with professional scientists during a mentoring conference at MIT sponsored by the New England Board of Higher Education. In October the UMass Boston research team led 40 middle school students to the Harvard Forest in central Massachusetts to investigate nature. "Even if these students don't pursue careers in science," says Lucia David. "The Rainforest Collaboration at least gives them an opportunity to explore their interests, and provides an intellectual foundation that will enable to have successful academic careers."

The Rainforest Collaboration is primarily supported by a two-year grant for \$160,000 awarded in 1991 by the Educational Foundation of America. The Massachusetts Higher Education Coordinating Council and the U.S. Department of Education have contributed \$45,000. Additional support is currently being sought.

CPCS to Encourage Collaboration With Boston Area Community Groups

A team of University researchers has begun work on a project that will encourage community organizations in Greater Boston to work collaboratively with faculty and staff at the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS). The 18-month project is supported by a grant of \$16,600 from the Poverty and Race Research Action Council, an organization in Washington D.C. that is funding several similar such initiatives in cities around the country. The UMass Boston team coordinating the project includes Marie Kennedy, Michael Stone, Andres Torres, Miren Uriarte and Ann Withorn.

The first phase of the project is devoted to establishing a directory of local constituencies, community organizations, activists, researchers, and sources of funding. This information, stored on CPCS computers, will be available to UMass Boston faculty, staff and students, and may eventually be accessible to people outside the University on a computer network. In January the first in of a series of seminars for community activists will take place at the Harbor Campus.

"At CPCS we have considerable experience and skill working with community organizations, but most of our relationships are on an individual basis," says Stone, a community planning professor. "This project will enable us develop more formal relationships, and

help us to identify issues and needs important to the communities." Assisting in the project will be Ty dePass, a former senior organizer at the Greater Roxbury Neighborhood Authority and former teacher at Roxbury Community College.

TRANSFER DAY ATTRACTS 250

More than half of the 250 students who turned out last Saturday for a workshop on transferring to UMass Boston were offered admission to the University for the spring semester. The workshop provided prospective students with an instant credit evaluation and a swift decision on admission. The session, which attracted more potential applicants than any previous effort to recruit transfers, was coordinated by Terry Phalen of the undergraduate admissions office.

WANTED: 35 MENTORS FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Faculty, staff and graduate students are being asked to serve as mentors to UMass Boston students among those most in need of support. The initiative is organized by the University's Student Support Services Center, which counsels and tutors approximately 500 economically disadvantaged students, as well as those who possess physical or learning disabilities. These students, often the first generation in their families to attend college, traditionally experience hardship in completing their degrees and finding rewarding professions.

"The goal of the program is to help these students stay in school, and in the case of those who are close to graduating, to help them develop strategy for beginning their careers," says Andrea Washington, coordinator of the program, which is supported over the next five years by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Several graduate students have already volunteered their services, and about 35 additional mentors are needed this semester to fill requests from students. Each mentor is assigned to one student and is responsible for meeting with that student at least three times a semester. In addition to providing advice on academic and career opportunities and on such skills as time management, effective mentors will also help students build ambition and self-confidence.

Mentors can learn more about their mission at workshops scheduled to begin in February at the campus. The search for mentors is extending to the realm of business and government. Among those who have volunteered for the program are State Representative Gloria Fox and the chief attorney at the state's office of elder affairs. People interested in becoming mentors should contact Washington at the Student Support Services Center at 7-5820.

Dear Readers: The Friday Report has a new design. We hope that you like it. Please send your news to John Craig, Office of Public Information, 2nd Floor, Quinn Administration Building.

Adaptive Computing Extends Expertise To Assist Businesses on Disabilities Act

The University has begun a project intended to help Massachusetts' businesses comply with a federal law requiring employers to accommodate workers with disabilities. A formal announcement was made last month at a University Club breakfast attended by Lieutenant Governor Paul Cellucci. The project encourages cooperative ventures between UMass Boston computer specialists and Massachusetts' companies with more than 25 employees, which are required under the Americans with Disabilities Act to make reasonable accommodations to ensure that jobs are accessible to people with physical impairments.

Several companies eager to adapt their electronic equipment, including Pizzeria Uno and Digital Equipment, have sought advice from Charlotte Corbett, coordinator of the UMass Boston's Adaptive Computer Laboratory, a facility with more than \$100,000 worth of computer equipment designed specifically for learning disabled and physically challenged students. In his visit to Harbor Campus Cellucci observed an adaptive computer

keyboard that has allowed Peggy Burke, a systems operations counselor in the University's financial aid office, to relieve the stress of tendinitis in her right hand. Meanwhile, the University has entered the final year of a project to assist a dozen Massachusetts colleges in establishing their own computer labs for students with disabilities. Analysis and design assistance from Corbett and Computing Services' John Murphy has been instrumental in erecting adaptive computer labs similar to UMass Boston's at the following community colleges: Cape Cod Community College, Mass Bay, Roxbury and Mount Wachusett. Computer equipment is due to arrive soon at labs at four more community colleges: Springfield Technical, Berkshire, Bristol and Northern Essex.

A research team consisting of Corbett, Murphy and project coordinator Katherine Huggins is now beginning analysis of the adaptive computer needs at North Shore and Holyoke community colleges, as well as Bridgewater and Fitchburg state colleges. The three-year project is funded by a \$240,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Additional support is being sought so that the University can help establish adaptive computer labs at 17 more state institutions.

Fundraising Tops \$1.5 Million for FY 1993

Private donations to the University during the 1993 fiscal year were \$1,564,241, an increase of 22% from 1992 and the largest amount ever raised by UMass Boston in a single year. Donations increased in virtually every category; support from individuals was up 28% to \$475,209, and corporate donations rose 21% to \$1,015,679. Contributions by UMass Boston faculty and staff increased some 60% to \$57,313.

The \$82,098 raised in special drives for such initiatives as the Sam Wilson Scholarship, the Joseph W. Joyce Labor Scholarship, the Matsuda Memorial Fund, and the Fund for Asian American Studies represents an 80% from 1992, the largest percentage increase in any category of giving.

Sizable donations came from Lorraine Kelley Alessi, Karyn Wilson and Miles Byrne, Theresa M. Corcoran, Agnes M. 'Diddy' Cullinane, John H. and Jane Fitzpatrick, Robert and Marybeth

Haynes, Auta Hendler, Richard Leahy, Arthur and Beverly Mabbett, and Daniel D. Phillips.

Corporate donations came from foundations supported by the Balfour Corporation, The Boston Globe, Boston Edison, C.L. Huan, the Educational Fund of America, Ford, GTE, Litton Industries, New England Telephone, Polaroid, and the Social Policy Institute.

Many corporate and civic leaders assisted the University's development efforts by serving on such advisory groups as the Campus Council, the Friends of Nursing, the Science and Math Advisory Board, and the College of Management Advisory Board.

Other successful development activities included the Business Breakfast, the Celebration of Black Scholarship in New England, the College of Management Auction and the Graduate College of Education Fellowship Drive. "The gifts and grants received by the University recognize the worth of our mission and the very high quality of our teaching, research and community outreach programs," said Chancellor Penney.

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