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UMass/Boston

# News & Views

Newsletter of the Office of Public Information

## Gov. Dukakis outlines economic proposals at UMB convocation



Governor Michael S. Dukakis is escorted by Associate Vice-Chancellor Edward O'Malley to Lipke Auditorium for convocation ceremony.

Gov. Michael S. Dukakis unveiled a series of economic proposals aimed at "ensuring economic opportunity for each and every citizen of the state" at UMass/Boston's two-part convocation ceremony held in Lipke Auditorium.

Another distinguished political figure, United States Senator John F. Kerry appeared at the morning session and made presentations of the Michael Ventresca Scholarships to Mattapan's Alan Daly, Hyde Park's Robert Furlong and Newton's Renata Schieda. (story on page 3).

Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan convened the students, faculty and staff and officially

declared open the 1986-87 academic year.

Chancellor Corrigan noted that the \$160,000 in the Ventresca Fund is the largest in the three-campus history.

UMass President David C. Knapp brought greetings to the jam-packed audience.

Gov. Dukakis' remarks and the subsequent teleconference was beamed via satellite to the campus at UMass/Amherst, the Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester and to Southeastern Massachusetts University in North Dartmouth.

The governor recommended a number of proposals aimed at:

• continued on page 4

## Admission applications reach new high for UMB

Applications for admission for fall, 1986 reached an all-time high in UMass/Boston's 22-year history it was revealed by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

"We are delighted that our growing reputation for education excellence is attracting an ever greater proportion of the college-going population," said the Chancellor.

The strength of UMass/Boston's popularity is apparent at all levels — graduate programs, new freshmen and transfer students.

A total of 6,400 undergraduate applications for fall, 1986 represents the largest in the University's history, and an increase of more than seven percent over just one year ago.

Chancellor Corrigan noted that this growth is all the more significant because higher education in general is beginning to feel the impact of the demographic changes that have resulted in shrinking numbers of students passing through high school.

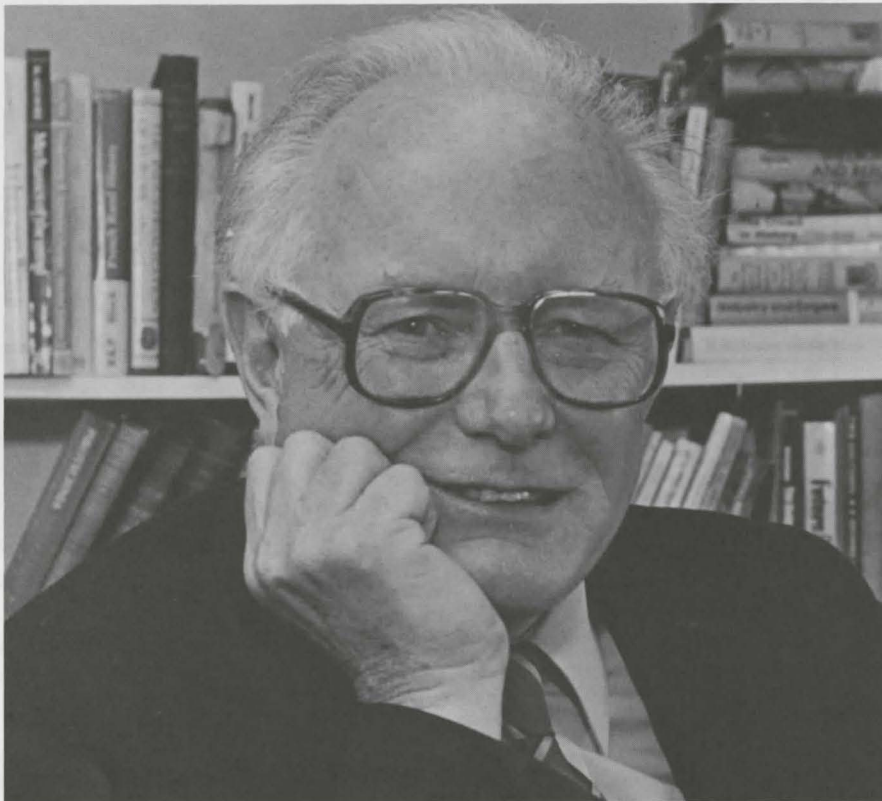
Total student enrollment for the 1986-87 year is likely to exceed the planned target of 12,700 students, and is expected to set another all-time high record.



U.S. Senator John Kerry, right, huddles with Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan at convocation ceremonies at Lipke Auditorium.



## Dr. Eric Robinson honored with Distinguished Scholarship award



*Dr. Eric Robinson*

When Eric Robinson, professor of history, received a call at his West Newbury home congratulating him on his selection for the Distinguished Scholarship Award at UMass/Boston, he was stunned.

Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan's letter notifying Robinson of the award and its presentation at Convocation, was still in the mail.

"I've been selected for what?," he questioned incredulously.

The Award's nominating committee, made up of faculty and staff, recommended the historian to the Chancellor for the honor because of Robinson's research and numerous books on the English peasant poet John Clare (1793-1864).

Currently, he is compiling and editing *The Collected Poems of John Clare* in Oxford English Text. The eight volume work will take a decade to complete.

"The award is very exciting not only for me but also it shows that this University does not have narrow departmental views. A faculty member may work outside of his specialty and still receive recognition as long as the work is academic and directed toward the furthering of knowledge," said Robinson.

Admitting he's outspoken and independent, Robinson added, "Selecting me for the award clearly demonstrates such honors are made on basic academic merit not as part of an old boy network."

As a historian, Robinson pursued the area and era of the Industrial Revolution in

England. His interest in the subject was piqued as a youngster in the Birmingham Public Library.

"James Watt, one of the leading steam engineers in the world in the mid 1700's, worked there. All his papers were in the library. He invented an improved steam engine with a separate condenser and was granted a patent in 1769. By 1775, a date important in America for other reasons, he hadn't made any money. He petitioned Parliament and won an extension of the patent to 1800. Watt was called an engineer by an act of Parliament, perhaps that struck my interest," said Robinson, who has authored several books on Watt, as well as the science and technology of the Industrial Revolution.

A youngster during the early days of World War II, Robinson was among the English urban children separated from their parents and moved into the country for protection from the German Blitz.

Admittedly "penniless" at college age, Robinson obtained a small grant to attend Jesus College in Cambridge, England. He started as a history major. After a three-year hiatus from classes for service in the Royal Navy, he returned and studied English Literature, graduating in 1948.

"History and literature go hand in hand in any society," said Robinson.

In 1970, Robinson joined the UMass/Boston history department. He also gives illustrated lectures on the care of terminal patients to nursing students. The films and lectures are from his personal experiences during the illness and death of his wife, Joan.

Away from the campus, Robinson pursues theater and medieval music. In addition to the work-in-progress on John Clare, Robinson is planning a book on industrial espionage during the Middle Ages and of Americans on British Industry.

"We mustn't limit knowledge," said the professor.

## Student-staffer wins Ryan Award



*The Alvan S. Ryan Award, given for "distinguished graduate study in English," was presented by Dr. Greene to Rosanne Donahue in recognition of her excellent essay "Historical Fiction for Children in the 20th Century." Ms. Donahue is a member of the Classified Staff.*



# First Ventresca scholarship awarded to Boston student

Alan Daly, senior class president and track captain at Hyde Park High School, was awarded a full, four-year scholarship as the first winner of the Michael A. Ventresca scholarship, named in honor of the president of the first graduating class at UMass/Boston.

Partial four-year scholarships were awarded to Renata Schieda of Newton and Robert Furlong of Hyde Park, a graduate of Boston College High School.

The scholarships are named for the late popular lobbyist and political activist who was killed in an automobile accident on Beacon St. last December 29. Ventresca was also a former president of the UMB Alumni Association.

U.S. Senator John F. Kerry was on hand for a special breakfast and the convocation ceremonies, where he made the presentations.

Daly, a resident of Mattapan, intends to major in Political Science. He is active in community work.

Ms. Schieda is a 1986 graduate of Newton North High School. She has studied as an exchange student in France.

Furlong hopes for a career in journalism and has worked at *The Boston Globe*.

After Ventresca's death, his friends and relatives established the scholarship for



Alan Daly, third left, of Hyde Park is flanked by fellow Michael Ventresca Scholarship winners at convocation ceremony. Left to right: UMass President David C. Knapp; Renata Schieda, Newton; Daly; Robert Furlong, Hyde Park and BC High, and U.S. Senator John Kerry, who made the presentations.

public-spirited students at his alma mater. They raised more than \$160,000—the largest

single scholarship fund in the university-wide system.

## B r i e f l y . . .

The University Trustees voted to transfer two acres of land by the JFK/UMass subway stop to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to facilitate a new station that will accommodate trains to and from Braintree.

UMass bought the land in 1978. It has operated a shuttle bus between the train stop and the Harbor Campus.

North and southbound trains from Braintree do not at present stop at JFK/UMass, but will once a proposed \$13.2 million T building project is finished in two years.

The project includes a new central platform for the Braintree line and also a new lobby building, access for handicapped riders, police call boxes and a new public address system. A new bus loop also is planned.

□

Public Information Director D. Leo Monahan was enshrined in the National Hockey League's Hall of Fame at ceremonies held in Vancouver, B.C. Monahan wrote hockey for three decades for the Hearst papers in Boston and co-authored a book stolen by the Russians.

A plaque was installed in the Hall of Fame Building in Toronto, one of 26 in the media section. Monahan represented the media in the Dominion-wide telecast of the live program from the \$150-a-plate dinner at the Hotel Vancouver.

□

The position of Resident Director of the Friburg/Baden-Wuerttemberg Program for

1987-88 is open. Candidates must be tenured members of the UMass faculty, with doctorate, fluent in German and experienced in graduate and undergraduate advising.

Interested faculty members are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to Dr. Bette Davis, Director of International Exchange, Ext. 7711.

□

The Childcare Center dedicated its new playground next to the tennis courts. Funds allocated via the Chancellor's office provided two large playground structures and an 8x8 sandbox.

□

UMass/Boston graduate Joseph E. Connarton, 38, was appointed Cambridge City Clerk. He had served as deputy clerk for 13 years.

## Graduate fellowship created in memory of South Boston resident

The Vincent I. Masticola, Jr. Graduate Fellowship in Chemistry has been established at UMass/Boston in honor of the late South Boston resident who died in a helicopter crash in April.

A \$20,000 grant from the Millipore Foundation of Bedford, will support the first graduate fellowship created at UMass/Boston.

Masticola was manager of the analytical laboratory for the products division of Millipore at the time of his death. He and two other company officers were killed when their corporate helicopter collided with a small private plane over Holliston, MA.

"We are very grateful to the Millipore Corporation for this generous gift," said University Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

"Millipore's support of this fellowship award represents a visible commitment to the memory of Vincent Masticola and also signifies an important commitment on the

part of the private sector for public higher education."

The Millipore Corporation is a high-technology, multinational corporation that markets products for analysis and purification. The company's customer base includes research scientists, production engineers, quality control professionals and physicians.

Masticola was graduated from UMass/Amherst in 1976. He received a Master's degree in chemistry at UMass/Boston in 1982. While at UMass/Boston he taught chemistry as a graduate assistant.

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# Convocation ceremony opens 1986-87 academic year

• continued from page 1

- strengthening the state's role in promoting research and development.
- the development of a new center of excellence in applied technology.
- increasing marketing assistance and funding to enhance and strengthen the domestic and international competitiveness of Massachusetts firms.
- additional state funding to tailor worker-training programs for companies wishing to remain in or expand into "Target of Opportunity" regions, and,
- a state pilot program of regional incubators for areas hurt by small business failures and limited low-rent start-up space.

The Governor fielded questions from the respective campuses.

In other events:

## Alumni Award

Ms. Sherry Thomas, President of the Umass/Boston Alumni Association presented the scholarship for 1986-87 to Roberta Praeger of CPCS. She is coordinator of "Low Income Students For Survival."

## John W. Ryan Award

Named after the University's first Chancellor, the award, given to the junior with the highest cumulative grade point average at the end of the sophomore year, went to engineering student Dong V. Tran. Provost Robert A. Greene made the presentation.



Professor James E. Blackwell was presented the Chancellor's Medal for Distinguished University Service. He is one of the nation's top sociologists.



Sherman L. Hart, coach of the national champion women's track team, accepts Chancellor's Medal from Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

## Alvan S. Ryan Award

Given for "distinguished graduate study in English", the award, presented by Dr. Greene, went to Rosanne Donahue in recognition of her excellent essay "Historical Fiction for Children in the 20th Century." Ms. Donahue is a member of the Classified Staff. (photo, page 2)

## Distinguished Service Award

John Applebee of Enrollment Services, who joined the University in 1978, was granted the Distinguished Service Award for "unselfish and tireless" efforts.

## Classified Staff Award

Twelve members of the Classified Staff were presented Distinguished Service Awards, to wit: Eileen Doyle, Student Affairs; Margaret Foley, Dean's Office, CAS; Anne Foxx, Sociology; Susan Goldstein, Center for Applied Language and Mathematics; Gail Jobin, Dean's Office, CM; Diane Oleski, MBA Program, CM; Jacques Oskanian, Registration and Records; Barbara Saulnier, Continuing Education; Ruth Shilakowsky, English; Mary Thornton, American Civilization; Janice Underwood, Environmental Science; Barbara Velardi, Administration & Finance.

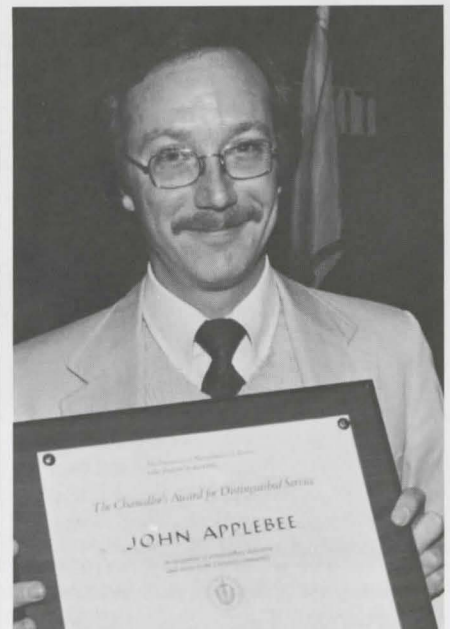
## Distinguished Scholarship

Professor Eric Robinson of the History Dept. was lauded by Provost Robert Greene for "our public acknowledgement of the high value we place on scholarly research, publication and creative activity." (Profile on Dr. Robinson, Page 2).

## Chancellor's Medal

Two presentations were made, the first to Professor James E. Blackwell by Chancellor Corrigan, who noted: "Dr. Blackwell joined the faculty in 1970 and in the following 16 years solidified his reputation as one of the nation's outstanding sociologists."

The second presentation went to women's track coach Sherman L. Hart, who, said Chancellor Corrigan "has developed national championship teams in both indoor and outdoor women's track—the first time in NCAA history to win both titles in the same season."



Distinguished Service awardee John Applebee