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# THE UMASS BOSTON

Volume 3 Number 22 September 9, 1994 News and information about and for the University Community from the Chancellor's Office

# **REPORT**

# State Awards UMass Boston Contract To Help Refugee and Immigrant Communities Develop Leaders

UMass Boston has been selected through a competitive bidding process by the Commonwealth to launch a statewide initiative with other campuses in the University system to strengthen leadership development among recent refugee and immigrant communities.

An initial grant of \$75,000 from the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants (MORI), a department of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, will support the establishment of a Center for Immigrant and Refugee Community Leadership and Empowerment (CIRCLE), based at UMass Boston, with linkages to the UMass system, beginning with the Lowell and Amherst campuses.

The CIRCLE initiative will provide an innovative program of leadership training to 18 to 25 people selected from the state's refugee and immigrant communities each year. MORI anticipates awarding UMass Boston an additional \$1.075 million over the next five years to support CIRCLE's leadership program.

"This initiative is significant for several reasons," stated University President Michael K. Hooker.

"First, this project will provide valuable assistance to 'new' Americans as they endeavor to move ahead economically, educationally and socially. Secondly, this program involves a collaboration of faculty, staff and students at three UMass campuses — Boston, Amherst and Lowell — which is precisely the kind of interaction envisioned when UMass became a fivecampus system in 1992."

Chancellor Sherry H. Penney stated:

"The CIRCLE venture is extremely complicated and challenging because it entails so many levels of

## Faculty, Staff Wanted For Leadership Training

Faculty and staff can build skills that will equip

coordination and collaboration within the campus, between campuses, and between the University and the communities. I know that the campuses involved are committed to ensuring that both the planning for, and implementation of, CIRCLE will be as smooth and effective as possible."

This fall, CIRCLE will work closely with community members and the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants to design program curriculum and identify participants. The program's first group of participants will begin their training in 1995.

"We recognize that today's refugees and immigrants, like many groups, have great strengths but also need tools to help rebuild their lives," said the project's principal investigator, Peter Kiang, a professor at UMass Boston's Graduate College of Education and co-director of the University's Institute for Asian American Studies.

"We hope to develop leaders with the skills, resources and vision to improve the economic, social and educational conditions of their own communities, while strengthening their participation in the larger society."

CIRCLE involves extensive collaboration between UMass Boston's College of Public and Community Service and three institutes at the University — the Institute for Asian American Studies, the Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy, and the Trotter Institute for the Study of Black Culture.

Also involved in the CIRCLE project will be the Center for Family, Work and Community at UMass Lowell and the Center for Organizational and Community Development in the School of Education at UMass Amherst.

## While You Were Away ...

Some of the developments that took place at UMass Boston during the summer:

• Philosophy professor Lawrence Blum received at commencement ceremonies the 1994 Chancellor's Distinguished Scholarship Award. Blum, one of the nation's leading moral philosophers, has in over 20 years produced a body of work that influences the way in which moral philosophers around the world weigh ethical questions. A collection of Blum's essays in moral philosophy and moral psychology has been published by Cambridge University Press — a rare achievement for a living philosopher.

• The Joiner Center's seventh annual workshop in July for aspiring writers featured a teaching faculty that included a pair of National Book Award winners: Larry Heinemann, who won in 1987 for *Paco's Story*, and Tim O'Brien, who received the honor in 1979 for *Going After Cacciato*. O'Brien also received the National Magazine Award in fiction for *The Things They Carried*, an account of an American soldier's Vietnam experience.

• The Talented and Gifted Program celebrated its 10th year of providing at the campus a four-week summer institute of rigorous academic training for Latino middle school and high school students. Thirty-one Latinos who graduated in June from Boston Latin came through the TAG Program. Each is enrolled in college this fall.

• Melodie Wenz-Gross and Gary Siperstein of the Center for the Study of Social Acceptance were awarded \$675,000 by the U. S. Office of Education to study the problems that children experience in making the transition from elementary to middle school.

• Biology professor Rachel Skvirsky received \$180,000 from the American Cancer Society to continue her research in genetics and molecular biology. Her work is helping scientists understand "multidrug resistance," an obstacle in cancer treatment.

them for leadership roles in higher education by participating in a series of seminars that will be held at the campus beginning next month.

The sessions are designed to bring together faculty and staff so that they can share information regarding higher education issues in general and those that specifically related to UMass Boston. Five two-hourlong sessions, and one four-hour gathering, will take place between October and next April.

The seminars will feature discussions and activities aimed at enlightening people on the multitude of challenges that face the University and other institutions. Some of the these issues are budgets, legal problems, free speech, recruitment of students, curriculum, technology, and mission enhancement. Seminar participants will focus on establishing personal contacts both on campus and within the local community. "We're geared toward producing upwardly mobile people who will be effective leaders, and certainly the skills that we'll give them will be transferrable to fields besides education," says Sally Boland, an American Council of Education Fellow who is organizing the Leadership Project while serving a one-year internship in the Chancellor's office. Boland is a member of the faculty at Plymouth State College in New Hampshire.

Last year she led a leadership development program at Wellesley College that involved 40 women. It was sponsored by the Higher Education Resource Service.

A steering committee of faculty and staff is helping Boland organize the Leadership Project. The committee includes John Applebee, Paul Benson, Betsy Boehne, Charles Diggs, Kathleen Foley, Virginia Harvey, Marty Quitt, Ed Zaleskas; it may expand its membership over the next few weeks. • A \$75,000 grant from the Corporation for National Service will enable students in the Gerontology Institute's advanced certificate program to undertake a three-year analysis of the problems encountered by grandparents who are forced to be primary caretakers of their grandchildren.

• Thirty-three students from Chukyo University in Japan were at the campus for three weeks in July and August for a course of study in English language and American culture.

• Fifteen men and three women from Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine completed a yearlong program of study in English language and western business principles at the campus. They are now serving one-year terms as executives at various companies in the United States and Canada.

## Student Focus Foreigner on Fast Track

In December, less than three years after enrolling in his first course at UMass Boston, Sava Dalbokov of the College of Management will earn his bachelor's degree. Dalbokov, who is 21 years old, has progressed quickly through the University by enrolling in summer sessions and by taking seven or eight courses per semester, a pace he has occasionally accelerated. "Last spring I took ten courses — 30 credits — and this fall I will have to take nine courses," says Dalbokov, who holds a 3.9 grade point average and was recently awarded a \$1,000 scholarship by the New England Graduate Accounting Study Conference.

Dalbokov, who lives in Dorchester, was born and raised in Bulgaria, where his family still resides, and came to Boston in September 1992 to attend UMass Boston.

The fast track student is pursuing a management degree and a minor concentration in finance, with forays into two foreign languages. His native language is Bulgarian, and as a young boy Dalbokov learned to speak Russian and English. At UMass Boston he has advanced to the third-year level in both German and Spanish. "Very simply," he says, "I enjoy studying and I have the advantage of not holding a job while I attend school."

Besides his academic pursuits, Dalbokov is a member of UMass Boston's swim team, for which he competes in freestyle events, and plays the piano for the University's jazz band.

"The most enriching aspect of my experience at UMass Boston has been the ability to meet people from many different backgrounds and cultures," Dalbokov says. "People here are comfortable speaking to each other, without feeling like they have to demand each other's respect."

Dalbokov's father, a longtime engineer for a staterun firm, is now a partner in a lending institution, while his mother, a specialist in occupational psychology, is employed by the government.

After getting his degree from UMass Boston, Dalbokov says he will begin work toward a master's degree in business administration. He is currently applying to various institutions on the East Coast. Dalbokov hopes to eventually launch a career in banking either in Bulgaria or some other eastern European nation, where he believes opportunities are plentiful for risk-takers schooled in free market principles.

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#### UMass Boston

## University Dockmaster Mark Hamilton Dies At Age 38

Mark Hamilton, the University's dockmaster since 1984, died of cancer on Sunday, August 28. He was 38 years old. Hamilton, who graduated from UMass Boston in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in earth science, was widely known throughout the campus community as a knowledgeable and enthusiastic facilitator of numerous recreational and research activities.

As dockmaster, Hamilton was responsible for oversight of all waterfront operations and the Fallon (next to the John F. Kennedy Library) and Fox Point docks. He worked closely with faculty and staff of the environmental sciences and biology departments, the Harbor Explorations Program, the Urban Harbors Institute, and various administrative staff involved in organizing special events at the campus.

"Mark's abilities as a sailor and teacher were exceptional," says biology professor Bill Hagar, whose Boston Harbor research was the basis for a strong friendship he and Hamilton developed. "He was an essential part of any research program that involved the harbor. He had great enthusiasm for new ideas, and was often a catalyst for getting new programs up and running. Mark was especially receptive to projects that required him to work hard, and if there's one theme in all the things that he did, it's that Mark

## Campus Notes-

Jose Cruz, a professor of political science at SUNY Albany, will be at the Harbor Campus on Tuesday, Sept. 20, to give a talk on "Identity and Power: The Case of Puerto Ricans in Hartford, CT." Cruz's discussion will take place in the Library Staff Lounge on the 11th floor of the Healey Library from noon to 2:00 p.m.

Author and emeritus professor of history Irving Bartlett will discuss his latest book, John C. Calhoun, in an hour-long interview on the C-Span television network on Sept. 18 at 8:00 p.m. Bartlett, who taught history at UMass Boston from 1980 until his retirement in 1993, has written seven books, including biographies of statesman Daniel Webster and abolitionist Wendell Phillips. His research of vice president Calhoun (1825-1832) was conducted mainly at the University of South Carolina, which houses Calhoun's papers. Bartlett's book is published by W. W. Norton.

Hanover High School junior Doreen Defario was a winner at the 1994 Massachusetts High School Science Fair. She received as her prize a weeklong visit this summer to UMass Boston, where she took physics classes with students in the Urban Scholars Program and joined members of the Upward Bound Program on an expedition to Thompson's Island.

UMass Boston is co-sponsor of "Coastweeks," a program that brings together teams of people to pick up trash in coastal areas. The first cleanups will take place on Saturday, Sept. 17, at several Greater Boston locations. They include Squantum Point in Quincy, where Madeleine Walsh of the Urban Harbors Institute will lead one of the cleanup crews. Students enrolled in the University's **Rainforest Collaboration** project will pick up trash on Dorchester beaches on Sept. 24. Other Coastweeks cocared very deeply about doing what was best for UMass Boston."

One of Hamilton's finest efforts came during the 1992 Tall Ships visit to Boston, when he was instrumental in assisting tour boats carrying people from the campus to various viewing points in the harbor. "That event was typical of Mark," says Brigid Wyse, an assistant in the University's Office of Community Relations and Special Events. "He always went well above and beyond what was required to do the job properly."

Apart from his campus duties, Hamilton was a member of the Milton Auxiliary Police Force and served as a part-time emergency medical technician for Fallon Ambulance Service, where he taught refresher courses to his colleagues. He held a Coast Guard license that allowed him to navigate vessels up to 100 tons, and also had been a U. S. Navy petty officer trained in firefighting, navigation and meteorology.

Hamilton, a lifelong resident of Milton, is survived his wife, Christine, and their three sons. A trust fund has been established in his name at U. S. Trust Bank, P. O. Box 25, Milton 02186. A memorial service on campus is being planned.

sponsors are the WBZ television station (Channel 4) and the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management.

A meditation group that formed on campus last spring will hold sessions again this fall. People interested in participating should contact the women's studies department at 7-6780.

A discussion on how to help women who are battered by their partners will take place on Thursday, Sept. 15, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 122 on the fourth floor of the Wheatley building. The talk is sponsored by the Women's Center. Also, the Women's Center is holding an open house on Wednesday, Sept. 21.

Federal Reserve Bank president and CEO Cathy Minehan will deliver the keynote speech at the College of Management's annual business luncheon on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the Marriott Hotel at Copley Plaza.

UMass Boston on Sept. 24 and 25 will be the site of brainstorming sessions during which architects, business leaders, community planners, educators, legislators and scientists discuss ways in which to develop a plan for the future of Boston Harbor. Students can win an invitation to participate in the conference by submitting to the Urban Harbors Institute a onepage essay describing their interest in the harbor's future. Ten winners will be chosen. Essays must be received at the Institute (11th Floor, Healey Library) by Sept. 20.

The Office of Student Support Services will hold an orientation on Thursday, Sept. 22, from 4:30 to 7:30 in the University Club, 11th floor Healey Library.

