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# UMASS BOSTON NEWS & VIEWS

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4



OCTOBER 19, 1987



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## Convocation ceremonies ring in new academic year at UMB

Bright sunshine and pleasant climes greeted a large Plaza audience for colorful Convocation ceremonies that marked the opening of UMass/Boston's 1987-88 academic year.

"This is a family occasion, where we come together as a University community to celebrate anew the importance of learning and to acknowledge students, staff and faculty colleagues for the quality of their work," said Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan at breakfast in the Faculty Club.

Dr. Betty Diener, making one of her first official appearances as Provost and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, addressed the audience and noted:

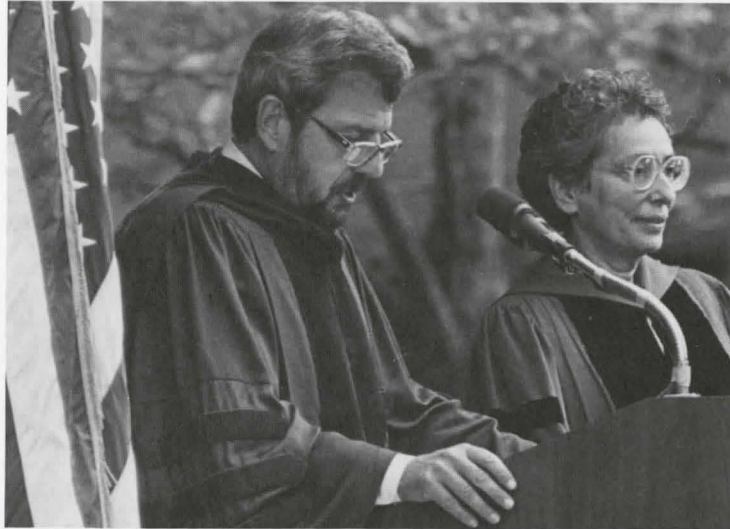
"This is the tradition of Convocation that goes back more than 500 years to the great universities of Europe — in Bologna, Heidelberg, Paris, Oxford and Cambridge. It is also the tradition of Convocation that goes back 350 years in this country to the University that is the source of so many of the crimson robes that color this ceremony."

The reference, of course, was to Harvard, where Dr. Diener was one of the first women to obtain MBA (1964) and DBA (1974) degrees after undergraduate work at Wellesley.

The Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Scholarship was presented to Prof. Jane Roland Martin of the Philosophy Department. Dr. Martin was the recent winner of a Guggenheim Fellowship, one of nine so honored from UMB, noted Dr. Diener.

The University Medal was presented to Prof. Francis L. (Frank) Broderick who, noted Chancellor Corrigan: "Rendered vital service as the second Chancellor (1968-72) of the University. . . and displayed consummate skills."

### *UMass/Boston community salutes its outstanding faculty, staff and students*



Chancellor Corrigan presents Distinguished Scholarship Award to Prof. Jane Roland Martin of the Philosophy Department.

Prof. E. Wallace Coyle was presented the Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Service. Alumni Association Director Joseph O'Brien presented the Scholarship Award to Jeffrey Krumrine.

Deborah A. Mongeon, a Psychology major, was awarded the John W. Ryan Scholarship, named for the University's first Chancellor.

The Alvan S. Ryan Award for Distinguished Graduate Study in English went to Peter L. Scisco.

Introduced from the good-sized audience was Troy L. Whitaker of Boston, who won a National Science Foundation Incentive for Excellence scholarship award.

Named for the president of the first class and first president of the Alumni Association, the Michael A. Ventresca Scholarship Awards were presented to Melissa Menton of Boston and Scott F. Toner of Cambridge.

Also feted were 16 members of

the Classified Staff who gained Distinguished Service Awards.

"It is my hope," said Chancellor Corrigan at breakfast, "that in the years to come you will succeed

in making this opening ceremony as successful — and as important to the life of the campus — as Commencement."

The Chancellor noted that "this is the last UMass/Boston Convocation at which I will preside."

"You should take as a given," said Chancellor Corrigan, "that our Board of Trustees is strongly supportive of a strong UMass/Boston campus and you should accept that we have powerful friends in the Legislature who want to see a major public university developed to serve the Boston area."

Chancellor Corrigan cited "three building projects of enormous importance" — a Student Union on the Harbor Campus; a modern, efficient and well-maintained classroom and office building for the College of Public and Community Service, and a new laboratory facility to house the Environmental Sciences Program and the new Urban Harbors institute.

Provost Diener lauded "a faculty whose commitment and credentials and accomplishments are second to none through this country."

"Our faculty includes 23 past or present Fulbright Fellows, a McArthur Fellow and nine Guggenheim Fellows.

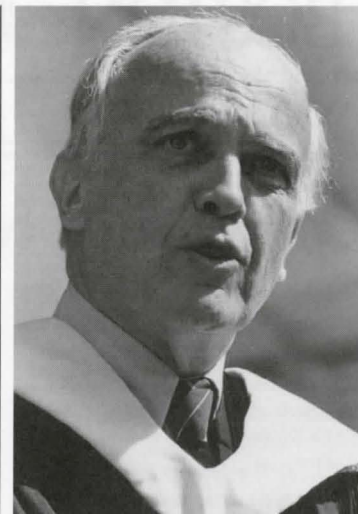
"Some of our faculty are creating a new written language for the Cape Verdians, organizing conferences on topics that range from the Russian peasantry to the history of theatre in Provincetown, studying the genetic diversity of the forests of India, or examining the lifestyle and shopping habits of dual income families. . .

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**Kermit  
Morrissey  
Memorial  
Service**

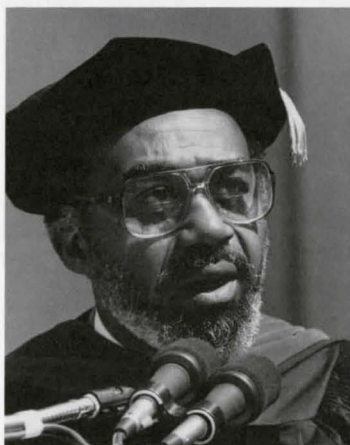
see page 3

# Convocation '87: a time for celebrations and salutations



*Classified Staff winners of Distinguished Service Awards posed on Plaza steps. Front and center, Marion Sullivan. Second row: Denise Harrington, Mary St. Peter, Alice LeBlanc, James (Jim) Ball. Third row: Hilda McKenna, Margaret (Peg) Burnett, Norma Scholz, Susan Griffin. Fourth row: Ellen Ronayne, Mary Donovan, Keith Pyle, Joyce Carbone, Paul Gallivan, and rear, Joseph Pasakarnis.*

*Dr. Francis Broderick, who was awarded the University Medal, inserted humor into his Convocation address. He was the University's second Chancellor.*



*UMass Vice-President Edgar Smith delivered remarks for President's office at Convocation ceremonies.*

*Ventresca Scholarship Award winners Melissa Menton and Scott F. Toner, right, pose with Alumni Association Director Joseph O'Brien and Roz Jordan, widow of Michael Ventresca.*

*"Anyone seeing this Campus for the first time cannot help marveling at the magnificence of the site. I looked out from these buildings and saw with delight the sweep of Boston Harbor, and thought: What other college or university has, literally at its doorstep, the living laboratory that the Harbor represents for scientists, our students and our scholars?"*

*— Provost Betty Diener*



*Audience views lively Convocation program from Healey Library landing.*

# Friends and colleagues remember Dr. Kermit C. Morrissey

An overflow crowd of 300 attended a Memorial Service for Dr. Kermit C. Morrissey, former president of Boston State College, who died at his Belmont home after a lengthy illness.

Prof. Morrissey, 68, had served for nine years (1971-80) as President of Boston State. He had ties with a number of colleges and universities in the Greater Boston area and most recently was Commonwealth Professor at UMass/Boston's John W. McCormack Institute for Public Affairs.

Earlier, he had served in several positions in state government under Gov. Foster Furcolo, who was one of five speakers on the program led by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

Other speakers: Irving C. Bartlett, John F. Kennedy Professor of American Civilization; Abram R. Sachar, Founding President and Chancellor Emeritus, Brandeis University; Alexandria Young, Assistant Director, CAS Student Services, UMass/Boston; and long-time friend and government associate Charles Francis Mahoney, Esq.

Serving as ushers were David M. Bartley, Edmund Beard, The Hon. J. John Fox, Vincent J. Mara, William Morrissey, Bernard Solomon, Michael Sullivan and David Wilson.

Music was provided by the New England String Quartet, the resident quartet at UMass/Boston this academic year.

Chancellor Corrigan extended



sympathies to Dr. Morrissey's wife Evelyn and sons Lloyd C. and Kermit, Jr. He cited his "extraordinary life and career and academic leadership."

Other speakers:

Gov. Furcolo: "I'm sure right now Kermit is analyzing the

situation in heaven. . . Kermit was Kermit, a special person, a very special person. . . He was an educator, scholar, government official and politician. . . He was a person who cared. . . All of us are better because he passed our way."

Prof. Bartlett: "He had a genius at getting through red tape and getting to the heart of the matter. . . A strong personality."

Dr. Sachar: "He believed in himself. . . he was a man with an infectious laugh, a certain gusto. . . and certainly he had a versatile career."

Ms. Young: "He was my mentor from 1974."

Mr. Mahoney: "We shared some wonderful years from when we first met 40 years ago at Boston University."

Prior to his presidency at Boston State, Prof. Morrissey had been President of Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, and Dean of Students (1963-66) and Executive Assistant to President Sachar at Brandeis University.

Dr. Morrissey had close ties to Gov. Furcolo and served as Budget Commissioner, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1959-60.

He served as a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II (1941-46), gained degrees from Boston University and attained a Ph.D. from Harvard University (1954). He also was a teaching assistant at Brown University. From 1960-66, he served as Chairman, Massachusetts Board of Regional Community Colleges.

The service was held in the Faculty Lounge, Healey Library.

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

The position of resident director of the Freiburg/Wurtemberg Program for 1988-89 is now open.

Candidates should be tenured members of the UMass faculty, with doctorate, and must be fluent in German and experienced in graduate and undergraduate advising.

Interested persons are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to the Freiburg/Baden-Wurtemberg Program, c/o Office of International Exchange. Additional information is

available from Dr. Bette Davis, Director, 7711, or Professor Peter Ott, German Dept., 7690. Applications must be received by Oct. 15.

Prof. David Quinn Thomas, Director Exercise Science/Sports Medicine Laboratory, was appointed to Governor Dukakis' Committee on Physical Fitness and Sport and recently took the Oath of Office.

The Committee includes a select group of individuals from

the educational, business and political community who served to promote the advancement of physical fitness and sport. There are 15 members currently.

On Thursday, October 22 UMass/Boston will hold its first Graduate and Professional School Fair on the first and second floors of the McCormack Building from noon to 5 p.m.

The event is open to the entire University community.

Readers Digest recently pub-

lished a condensation of a book, *How to Manage Your Boss*, written by George Berkley of CPCS' Center for Criminal Justice. The magazine's Canadian edition also carried the condensation.

Prof. Berkley's new book, *Nightmare In Paradise: Vienna And Its Jews*, is scheduled to be published next year by Abt Press of Cambridge in association with the University Press of America.

A German publisher has expressed interest in putting out a German edition.

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# New provost Dr. Betty Diener speaks at UMB convocation

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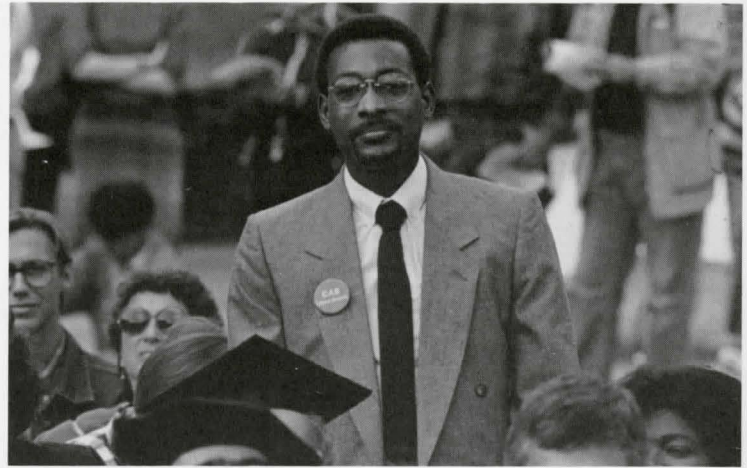
"... As I walked through the catwalk I saw flags flying outside the Healey Library – the U.S. and the Commonwealth's, of course – but there was a third that I didn't recognize. There is a white banner with a multi-colored flower that flies alongside the other two. That flag, I've learned, is the symbol of the Campus's commitment to foster racial tolerance and understanding. It is a pledge that the University will be an example to the City of Boston of a community that lives in unity and harmony. . .

"... Anyone seeing this Campus for the first time cannot help marveling at the magnificence of the site. I looked out from

these buildings and saw with delight the sweep of Boston Harbor, and thought: What other college or university has, literally at its doorstep, the living laboratory that the Harbor represents for scientists, our students and our scholars? The answer, of course, is that no other university does. . .

"... Finally, I was taken not only by the sights of the two Campuses, but by the sounds as well. As I traveled the halls I heard voices both young and aged in timbre. I heard Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic and – strangest of all to my Virginian ears – English as Bostonians speak it.

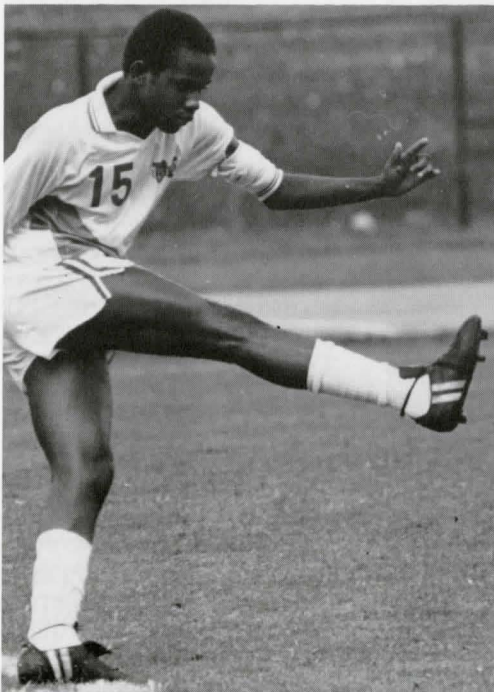
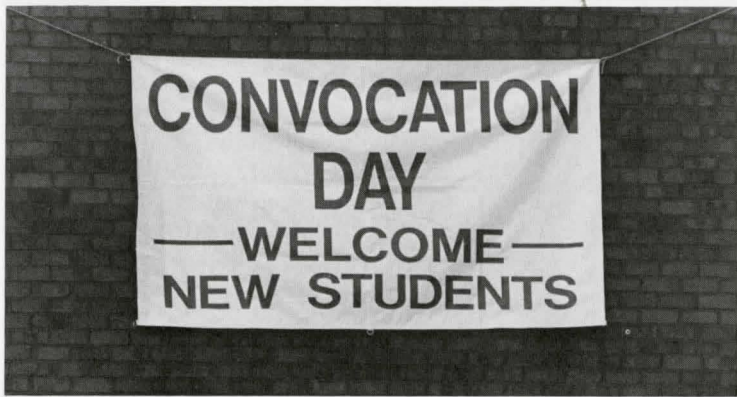
"And so, I decided to join your conversations."



Troy L. Whitaker, who recently won a National Science Foundation award, was introduced from audience.



Interested onlookers at Convocation were Officer Thomas Sullivan, Richard (Mo) Mahoney, Mailroom, Janis Mahoney, Purchasing, and Bernadette (Bernie) Toomey, Material Dept.



UMass booter uncorks shots vs. Roger Williams in soccer game that followed Convocation ceremonies.



Prior to their game, UMB soccer players enjoyed the cookout which followed the Convocation ceremonies. Left to right: Kevin Mascoll, Cambridge; Jim Roberti, Hyannis; Eric Simeonidis, Arlington; Roy Beutler, Topsfield. Team played 2-2 tie with Roger Williams.

## Briefly . . .

□ continued from page 1

The father and sister of Benjamin Linder, an American killed in Nicaragua last spring, will speak at UMass/Boston on Thursday, October 15, 2:00-3:45 p.m. in McCormack Auditorium on the Harbor Campus.

The Linders believe there was a government coverup of the truth in Benjamin Linder's death.

The talk is co-sponsored by Latin American Studies and the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences, and is free and open to the public.

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