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# UMASS BOSTON NEWS & VIEWS

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 11

FEBRUARY 25, 1988

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

## Trustees create commission to study future

The Board of Trustees has established a Commission on the Future of the University at a recent meeting. It was a proposal of President David Knapp.

The move was in observance of the University of Massachusetts' 125th anniversary celebration.

The commission will examine and make recommendations on the future of the role of the University in the Commonwealth, its governance and financing.

It must report to the Board of Trustees before December 31, 1988.

The 17- to 19-member commission will include individuals of national, state and educational prominence. It will be appointed by Board of Trustees Chairman Andrew Knowles with the advice of President Knapp and in consultation with Board of Regents Chancellor Franklyn Jenifer.

The current structure of three campuses, under the leadership of a single board of trustees and a president, was established almost two decades ago as a result of the recommendations of the Marcus Committee in 1969. Since then, President Knapp explained, the University system has grown to encompass undergraduate institutions of widely recognized quality, has become a center for graduate education and research, and has provided a source of applied research and technical assistance for the state and people of Massachusetts.

"You and the University community," he told trustees "have established ambitious

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Participating in McCormack Institute update were, left to right; Harry Spence, former Receiver, Boston Housing Authority; McCormack Fellow Louis DiNatale; MIT Prof. Phillip Clay; Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan; Rolfe Goetz, Housing Analyst; Joseph Slavet, Director, Boston Urban Observatory; and Prof. Raymond Torto, McCormack Institute.

## McCormack Institute sponsors overview of issues affecting Boston at "Update '88"

Racial isolation in the City of Boston is lessening, according to a paper presented by UMass/Boston's sociology Professor Philip Hart in a program sponsored by the John W. McCormack Institute of Public Affairs.

An overflow audience in the Faculty Club, Healey Library, heard Dr. Hart and others discuss nine papers presented as an account of Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn's stewardship and a look at the future.

"Update '88: A Boston Agenda

for the '90s" drew media attention in the *Boston Globe* and *Boston Herald* and on local television channels.

Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan, in his introductory remarks, noted that the University of Massachusetts was founded as a land-grant university to provide teaching, research, and service to the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Chancellor Corrigan said, "a great deal of the joy and creativity at the

Boston campus consists in our effort to translate and redefine that three-part mission in distinctly 20th-century urban terms. One of our genuine success stories in this regard has been and continues to be the McCormack Institute of Public Affairs. During my term as Chancellor the creation of this Institute stands out as one of the proudest achievements of UMass/Boston."

Dr. Edmund Beard, Director of the McCormack Institute, made opening remarks and served as a moderator. Said Dr. Beard:

"Four years ago, the McCormack Institute conducted one-day seminars for the members of the newly re-constituted City Council and School Committee on pressing issues in Boston. These discussions were based on a number of papers we had commissioned. They were written by local experts in areas such as education, municipal finance, housing and race relations.

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A good-sized audience packed the Faculty Club, Healey Library, for Update '88 sponsored by the McCormack Institute.

# Dr. Ernest Becker extends stay in Turkey

Chemistry Professor Ernest I. Becker liked Turkey so much that he has added a semester's extension to the Fulbright Fellowship he was awarded in September.

Dr. Becker, after a brief visit home, returned to lecture at Ankara University and to make guest lecture appearances on other campuses. Apparently he was a big hit.

"I was asked to extend my stay," said Dr. Becker. "I liked it very much, so, after consulting my wife, I agreed to return."

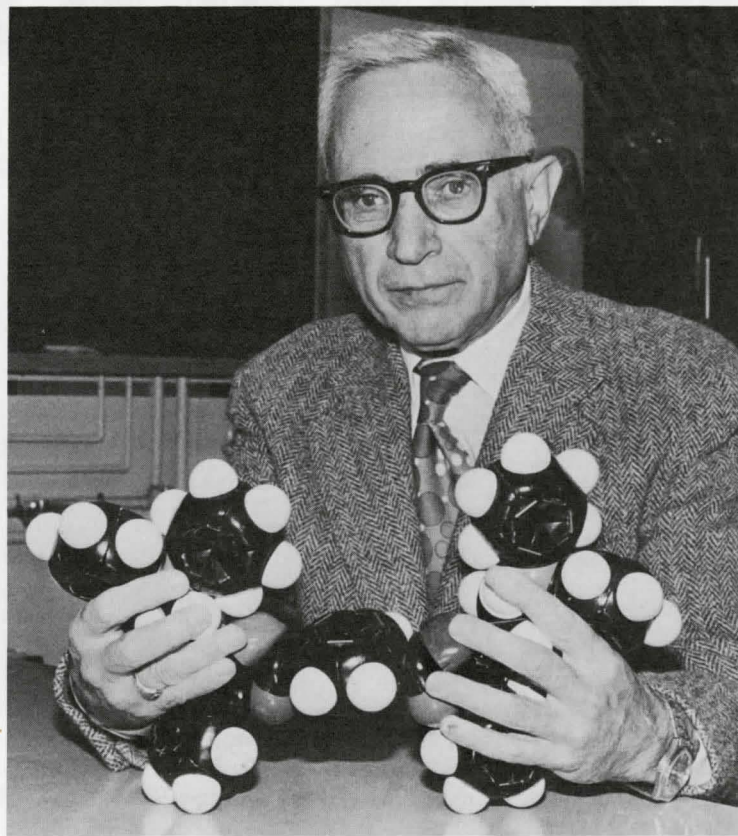
Dr. Becker found the Turkish students "alert, bright, hard-working" and encountered little language difficulty.

"Most speak English," he noted. "A few I can converse with in my limited high school French or even a bit of German. Many Turks speak German because a lot migrated to Germany to work a few years ago."

Dr. Becker noted that the Turkish officials "like to have students study abroad for a few years" before resuming their educations back home. Thus he found his students "a bit older than you might find elsewhere."

"The students are good, most getting passing to excellent grades," he said. "There are no problems."

"I encountered great enthusiasm when I gave over one of



Dr. Ernest I. Becker

my classes to a lecture on health and safety in the lab. I was asked to give a longer series and I will give a course on this when I return."

The University of Ankara is 5,500 miles and seven time zones away, yet Dr. Becker "didn't have any problem adjusting in a day or two. All you really need is a good night's sleep."

Another surprise was the price of food and other staples.

"The Turks are great for fresh fruits and vegetables and they are much in supply," he said. "The prices, by our standards, are pretty reasonable, based on a momentary unit of the lire - around 1,000 to the American dollar."

"Nice, fresh apples run about

17 cents a pound American; eggs 6-7 cents apiece; tomatoes about 20 cents a pound; potatoes five cents a pound; milk about \$1.50 a gallon. Beef is a little more expensive, but it only runs about \$3 for two pounds," he said.

Dr. Becker obtained quarters - a neat, five-room apartment - about a mile from the Ankara campus. Most days he walks to classes.

"If it's raining, I grab a cab. It costs only about 80 cents," he said with a laugh.

He found he could "get along most everywhere" with a little local language and his English.

"There are Turkish-American and Turkish-British clubs and they are most active, sponsoring events like art exhibits, museum tours and the like."

Ankara, a city of three million, is the second-largest - behind Istanbul - in the country of 50 million. There are 38,000 students at the University of Ankara.

"The grouping there is a little different. There are seven different campuses and they are divided into things like Arts & Letters, Engineering. The section in which I was involved included chemistry, biology, physics, geology and computer sciences," said Dr. Becker.

In some ways, academia in Turkey is similar to the United States.

"They suffer from the budget," said Dr. Becker. "The libraries could be better. But there is enough available library material nearby to make do."

Last summer, Dr. Becker was elected a fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has authored more than 100 professional papers and edited seven books.

He received his B.S., M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Western Reserve University. He served at Polytechnic Institute of New York before coming to UMass/Boston, where he has been a faculty member for 23 years. Professor Becker was Chairman, Department of Chemistry, 1965-72.

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

Dr. James E. Blackwell, Professor of Sociology, was a recent guest on "City Line" of WCVB-TV. He discussed "The Status of Black Americans" and the status of blacks in Boston.

Incidentally, Dr. Blackwell's story on "Faculty Issues Affecting Minorities in Higher Education" was recently highlighted in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

This paper was presented in Los Angeles for the National Conference on "Organizational Influences on Baccalaureate Achievement for Minorities," sponsored by the National Center for Post-Secondary

Governance and Finance" which is headquartered at Arizona State University.

Peter Mitchell of Chancellor Franklyn Jenifer's office at the Board of Regents has been assigned as an observer at the Chancellor's Search Committee being conducted at UMass/Boston.

"He will serve as a liaison," said Dr. Jenifer.

The UMass/Boston Music Department will present "Wintrospections" (Winter

Thoughts), an evening of jazz featuring Dianthe Myers-Spencer, pianist, on Wednesday, March 9 at 8 p.m. in the McCormack Hall Auditorium. Admission is free.

Paul F. Levy, Chairman, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, will speak of the Boston Harbor Cleanup on Tuesday, March 8 in Room 206, Second Floor, McCormack Hall. It is part of the seminar series conducted by the Environmental Sciences Program.

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# Lt. Governor Evelyn Murphy speaks at breakfast lecture

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will have a nine percent growth in population but a 16 percent growth in jobs in the next few years and must be prepared for that situation, Lt. Gov. Evelyn Murphy told listeners at the first of a series of breakfast lectures at UMass/Boston's College of Management.

Speaking before a good-sized audience in the Faculty Club at the Harbor Campus, Lt. Gov. Murphy talked on "Doing Business in Massachusetts: Prospects and Problems."

"We should use our energies towards more national goals," said Lt. Gov. Murphy. "The Massachusetts economy must

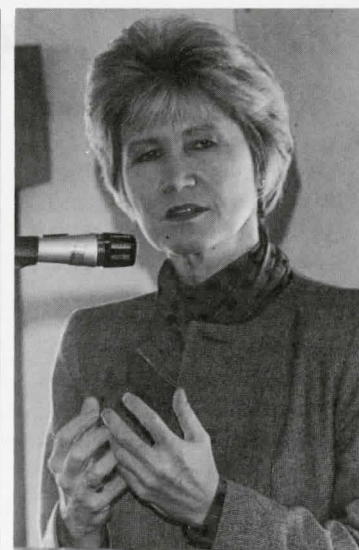


Lt. Gov. Evelyn Murphy is flanked by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan, left, and College of Management Dean Arnold K. Weinstein before her breakfast lecture in the Faculty Club.

be ready to accept these challenges."

Four more breakfast lectures will be conducted. Speakers include Dr. Lawrence Franko of UMass/Boston, February 26;

Dr. Joseph Cooney on the Boston Harbor Cleanup, March 25; John Larkin Thompson, President, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, April 8; and Prof. Barry Blue- stone, famed economist, April 22.



Lt. Gov. Evelyn Murphy

## Dr. Zelda F. Gamson named Director of New England Resource Center at UMB

Dr. Zelda F. Gamson, a nationally-known expert on higher education, has been appointed Director of the newly-created New England Resource Center for Higher Education at UMass/Boston, it was announced by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

The new program comes under the direction of Dr. Edmund Beard at the John W. McCormack Institute of Public Affairs.

Dr. Gamson is a former professor at the University of Michigan and a well-known consultant in higher education. Her recent book, *Liberating Education*, has received much attention.

She was a member of a study group appointed by the United States Department of Education.

Dr. Gamson attended Antioch College and the University of Michigan, where she received an Honors Degree in Philosophy (1958) and a Master's degree in Sociology (1959).

In 1965, she completed her Ph.D. in Sociology in the Department of Social Relations at Harvard University. From 1965-72, she held a research appointment at the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. She began teaching graduate students in the University of Michigan's Center for



Dr. Zelda F. Gamson

the Study of Higher Education in 1970. From 1979-81, she directed a major national project on liberal education.

Dr. Gamson has been on the editorial boards of *The American Sociologist*, *Sociology of Education*, *Review of Higher Education*, *Journal of Higher Education* and *Qualitative Sociology*. She has published widely in the fields of higher education, social policy, organizational innovation and evaluation.

The New England Resource Center for Higher Education will serve the region in several ways. It will carry out analyses of issues of public concern,

such as how to educate New Englanders for changing work conditions and how to improve the access of minorities, adults and handicapped people to higher education in New England.

These concerns will be directed administrators and faculty members in the many colleges and universities in the region, state legislators and their staffs, government agencies, state coordinating boards for higher education, officials in industry and labor, and members of the media.

The center also will run professional and technical assistance programs. It will offer consultation on organizational and educational issues.

A visiting scholars program will give college faculty and administrators the opportunity to write about and discuss topics in higher education.

Other senior members of the new center will be Dr. Ernest A. Lynton and Dr. Sandra E. Elman. Dr. Lynton is Commonwealth Professor at UMass/Boston and Senior Associate of the McCormack Institute.

Dr. Elman, a Senior Associate of the McCormack Institute, also teaches in the Master of Science in Public Affairs.

## Trustees create commission

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goals and objectives for the institution. Now is the time to determine what means and resources will be needed to accomplish the task you have collectively set out to do. I believe the commission will assist in addressing these questions and will lay the foundation for the University in the next century."

The trustees also issued a proclamation in observance of the 125th Anniversary. In it they resolved "that the University of Massachusetts will enter the next century dedicated to continuing its service to the people of the Commonwealth by retaining its status as the finest public university in New England and by becoming one of the finest in the United States."

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## McCormack Institute sponsors "Update '88"

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"Now, four years later, we asked the writers of those papers to re-visit their subjects with a view toward understanding what has been accomplished in the last four years, what unanticipated problems have arisen, and what are the priority areas for the next four years."

Joseph Slavet and Prof. Raymond Torto looked at Boston's fiscal conditions and advocated multi-year budget plans, establishment of a reserve fund and improved service delivery.

Discussing race relations, Prof. Hart contended economic prosperity masks an undercurrent of prejudice and discrimination. Inadequate public services, high crime, school drop-out rates and lack of mobility in housing and employment trouble the minority communities.

"A considerable amount has been achieved since 1983 in the area of race relations," said Dr. Hart. "For one, it is clear the Flynn administration has made a strong effort to keep race relations at the top of the agenda.

"In addition, it has become evident that the issue of race relations must be addressed within a context of Greater Boston. . .

"The economic climate in both the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have helped contribute to the bettering of race relations."

Added Prof. Hart: "The widening opportunities for blacks and minorities in Boston should not mask the reality of continuing problems."

There were four papers on housing by Dr. Rolfe Goetze, Joseph Slavet, Dr. Philip Clay of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Dr. Michael Stone of the University's College of Public and Community Service.

Prof. Clay's paper addressed the issue of housing in Boston and assessed the contributions of the Flynn Administration. Despite problems, Prof. Clay contends the Flynn Adminis-

tration has led a "rebirth in residential amenities" in Boston.

In education issues, Dr. Robert Dentler of the University's Institute for Learning and Teaching (ILT), stated that the strong Boston School Committee and weak superintendent arrangement may not be in the best interests of the public schools.

Dr. Joseph Cronin, former Associate Dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, is Chairman of the New England Education Loan Marketing Corporation. He took up education issues and wrote the city's public schools "have moved from the brink of disaster to the edge of educational excellence."

Boston's population increased from 1980 to 1985. Floyd Fowler, Jr. of the University's Center for Survey Research disclosed Boston adults are more likely to live alone, there have been no dramatic swings in ethnic composition and the City of Boston's people have acquired more formal years of education.

McCormack Fellow Louis DiNatale stated "class differences, more than racial differences, may influence city politics in the future."

Prof. Stone of CPCS' Community Planning and Social Policy summarized his remarks by saying that the city's "housing affordability crisis has worsened substantially over the past four years along virtually every dimension."

Harry Spence, who served as administrator of the Boston Housing Authority in the early 1980s, said the city is limited in what it can do to build and preserve housing stock affordable to low and moderate income households.

Ellen Guiney, director of the Citywide Educational Coalition, said she was skeptical about claims of progress and that the city needed a "bottom-up system of accountability."

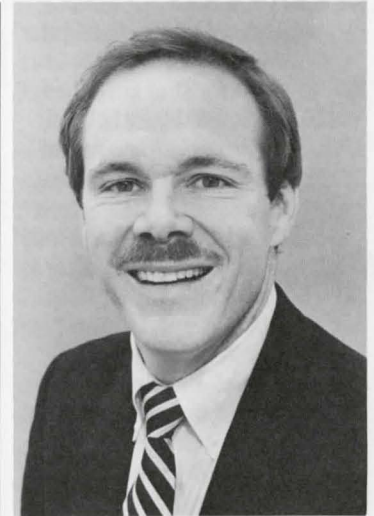
## UMB sponsors symposium on South Africa

A symposium, "South Africa's Future: What Now?" was held at the John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, on Tuesday, February 23, 6-8 p.m., co-sponsored by UMass/Boston and the Overseas Development Network.

Involved were two of South Africa's leaders, black and white - distinguished scholar and poet Dennis Brutus, currently in exile and in residence at the University of Pittsburgh, and Frederic van Zyl Slabbert, former Leader of the Opposition in the South African Parliament and founder and currently director of the Institute for Democratic Alternatives for South Africa.

The symposium was moderated by Dr. Richard D. Mahoney, the first John F. Kennedy Scholar.

Said Dr. Mahoney: "Over the past year or so, we have seen the emergence of a national and international



Dr. Richard D. Mahoney

consensus on why apartheid must end. The question before us now is how to end it - and avoid the brutal reckoning ahead.

"Van Zyl Slabbert and Dennis Brutus stand centrally at that crossroads, respected for their great courage by white and black alike."

## Rev. Joseph R. Fahey named president of BC High School

Rev. Joseph R. Fahey, S.J., a native of Mattapan, recently was installed as the 25th president of Boston College High School, our neighbor on Morrissey Blvd.

In a "missioning" ceremony, Rev. Robert E. Manning, S.J., Provincial Superior of the New England Province of the Society of Jesus, compared Father Fahey's undertaking of the Presidency of the 25 year-old Jesuit preparatory school to the

historic mission of Jesuits throughout the world.

Father Fahey graduated from BC High in 1953. He attended Boston College before entering the Society of Jesus in 1955.

Father Fahey received his Doctorate in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and served as Dean of Holy Cross College and Academic Vice President of Boston College before being appointed President of B.C. High.

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

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Former CIA official John Stockwell, now an outspoken CIA critic, will speak at Wheatley Auditorium, on Friday, February 26, at 1:30 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public.

Mr. Stockwell is the highest-ranked former CIA official to criticize that organization and

the conduct of foreign policy. He once was awarded the CIA's Medal of Merit.

Topic of Mr. Stockwell's talk: "Secret Wars of the CIA: Vietnam to Nicaragua."

The event is sponsored by the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences.