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Campus Notes

Henry Turner, Director of the College of Management's Minority Business Center, was one of the local organizers of the 17th annual *National Black MBA Conference* held during September in Boston. The conference included educational workshops and training sessions, and a two-day job fair sponsored by 270 corporations. Prof. Cass Turner of the Psychology Department moderated a panel on stress in the workplace.

Prof. Louis Ferleger of the Economics Department presented a paper, "The Problem of Labor in the Post-Reconstruction South," at a conference, *Institutes and Economic Performance in the Past*, at the University of Copenhagen in late September.

Prof. Lois Rudnick, Director of the American Studies Program, narrated a PBS documentary shown in September on the life of author Mabel Dodge Luhan. Rudnick is the author of the biography, *Mabel Dodge Luhan: New Woman, New Worlds*, now in its third printing.

Jaime Rodrigues, Research Associate of the William Joiner Center, testified on issues and concerns of Hispanic veterans before the Advisory Committee on Minority Affairs in Washington, D.C. during September.

The Gerontology Institute of the College of Public and Community Service recently published *A Guide for Elders: Planning that Protects You and Your Assets*. The chapters of this guide were written by members of a gerontological social policy advanced certificate course during Fall, 1993.

In October, Prof. Gerald Garrett of the Sociology Department presented a paper, "Competency-Based Criminal Justice Education: Failed Experiment or Promise for the Future?" during the *National Conference on Criminal Justice Education*. The event was held at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. The paper focused on the UMass Boston model of competency-based education and its potential uses in criminal justice education programs.

Prof. James O'Toole of the History Department won the Fellows-Posner Prize of the Society of American Archivists at its annual conference in Washington, D.C. for his article, *The Symbolic Significance of Archives* which appeared in the society's journal, *The American Archivist*.

Prof. Brian Thompson of the Modern Languages Department received the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association's annual award for distinguished service to foreign language education on October 27th.

Prof. David Terkla, Chair of the Economics Department, has co-authored, *Troubled Waters: Economic Structure, Regulatory Reform and the Fisheries Trade*. Published by the University of Toronto Press, the book provides an overview and analysis of the New England and Eastern Canadian fisheries trade and the economic institutions which influence it.

Last month, Dean of Graduate Studies Martin Quitt was a panelist and group discussion leader at the New England Association of Schools and Colleges workshop, at the New England Center in Durham, New Hampshire. The workshop included 37 coordinators and presidents who were preparing self studies for upcoming comprehensive accreditation visits.

On October 19th, Director of the McCormack Institute Richard Hogarty was presented an award for service, advocacy, and dedication to mental health care at the Department of Mental Health's *Fourth Annual Commissioner's Recognition Night* at the State House.

Prof. Nancy Smith-Hefner of the English Department was a contributing author of *New Migrants in the Marketplace: Boston's Ethnic Entrepreneurs*, edited by Prof. Marilyn Halter of Boston University's History Department. The book was published this fall by the University of Massachusetts Press.

Technology-Curriculum Perspective Presented

Steven Gilbert, Director of Technology Projects at the American Association of Higher Education in Washington, D.C., urged the UMass Boston community to keep asking fundamental questions and be guided by the institution's mission as it moves ahead with campus-wide implementation of new technology resources. "Remember that in thinking about technology we don't want to forget what we already know about teaching and learning," he continued.

Gilbert spent November 2nd with faculty and staff in a series of meetings and presentations sponsored by the Offices of the Chancellor and the Provost.

Gilbert met with various campus groups, including the Technology Task Force, the Committee to Value and Evaluate Teaching (COVET), the Academic Council, the Faculty Council's Academic Affairs Committee, and executive staff. He responded to many questions, such as how best to provide our students with access to computers, how to engage faculty in learning to use new technologies, how to set priorities, and how to pay technology costs.

In his public address, entitled "Information Technology in Higher Education," Gilbert urged reconsideration of four questions at each stage of development: "What changes are you looking to make? What do you not want to change? What obstacles are in your way and what can you do about them?"

"Technology plans need to be in a context, and at UMass Boston, you have a mission that can guide your plans," he continued.

Classroom Assessment Encouraged by Forum

Thomas Angelo, Director of the American Association of Higher Education's Assessment Forum, encouraged UMass Boston faculty at a day-long workshop to translate their classroom goals into strategies for assessing their students' learning.

"Assessment is about intention, and how intention translates into teaching and learning," stated Angelo. "Assessment always depends on the questions you ask. It is important for us to know each other's goals, teacher to teacher and teacher to student. This is only a beginning of a conversation, but it is important as a context."

The October 27th workshop was sponsored by the UMass Boston Faculty Council and was attended by approximately 110 faculty and staff from the UMass system as well as Emmanuel College and the Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC).

As part of Boston's Share-a-Composer Consortium, internationally renowned American composer David Amram is scheduled to appear at UMass Boston on Wednesday, November 29th. Amram has written several operas as well as music for chamber ensembles, orchestras, theater, and cinema. For further information on Amram's appearance please call 287-6980.

At present, the ethernet wiring of the campus is scheduled to be completed in December, and plans for two more computer labs and a computer learning center are underway.

Gilbert recommended developing a large and diverse portfolio of technological strategies used at UMass Boston and elsewhere, to guide thinking about pedagogical and strategic choices. "Steve reminds us that there is not just one answer for adopting technology," said Anthony Martin, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. "Technology can be used in as many ways as there are individuals experimenting with it," he continued.

Throughout, Gilbert encouraged us to tailor a technology plan to the needs and goals of our community. "Steve Gilbert brought to UMass Boston a national context for our discussion of technology," remarked Provost Louis Esposito. "He put in perspective that technology is something that can assist us in meeting our own teaching, learning, and service goals."

Nine students from UMass Boston joined twenty-five students from UMass Dartmouth and two students from UMass Amherst to advocate against federal student financial aid cuts in Washington, D.C., on October 23rd through the 25th. During the trip students were able to attend meetings with government officials, such as Senator John Kerry and Congressman Peter Torkildsen, which had been arranged by the UMass President's Office.

Angelo suggested that teachers can help students become more effective learners by involving them in active learning, setting higher expectations and standards, and assessing and providing feedback. He then gave the participants eleven major assessment techniques to help teachers uncover what their students are learning. However, he emphasized that such techniques must be considered in relation to the material being taught and the goals of the instructor, and that not all assessment strategies were right for all disciplines.

"I think the most important thing Tom Angelo did for us was to place assessment in the context of teaching and learning," said Vivian Zamel, Director of the English as a Second Language Program. "He encouraged us to write down techniques we thought were applicable to our work and then jot down how we would use them. It showed that what he was giving us had implications for our teaching."

Angelo's presentation followed last February's conference on student outcomes assessment, when Peter T. Ewell of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems and Theodore J. Marchese of the American Association of Higher Education spoke to a UMass audience on the topic.

International Environmental Center Establishing Pollution Strategies

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded a UMass Boston-based consortium a \$1 million grant to establish the U.S. Center for Environmental Technology Cooperation. The Center will analyze and propose solutions for air, water and land pollution in less developed nations, particularly in Latin America. The consortium includes UMass Amherst and UMass Lowell.

The Center will create a public-private partnership between government, U.S. industry, and academia, linking environmental technology experts, suppliers, and potential consumers. One of its functions will be the development of an electronic information clearinghouse on environmental technology, Envirotech On-Line, which will be accessible on the worldwide web before the end of the year.

"This initiative will enable faculty, students, and staff at our Amherst, Boston, and Lowell campuses to contribute to the important task of solving environmental problems overseas," said UMass President Sherry H. Penney. "It is also consistent with the special mission of UMass to help address public policy issues such as the environment."

"Not only is this the largest grant offered this year by the EPA, but it will initiate substantial involvement of both the private and public sectors, including UMass Boston, towards bringing Environmental Technology into the international marketplace," stated Professor Jack Archer of the Environmental Studies Doctoral Program, principal investigator of the grant.

Professor Monica McAlpine, Director of the Honors Program, has announced the opening of the Honors Lounge in the McCormack Building. The lounge is open for honors students and their guests from 8:30-5:00 pm during the week. "The lounge is vital to the Honors Program. National standards show that when students have a place where they can meet informally, this helps to spur their intellectual growth," explains McAlpine. Provost Lou Esposito, Dean of Arts and Sciences Roseanne Donabue, and Materials Manager Frederick Fall of the Procurement Department provided support for opening the lounge.

Attention Readers

Send news information to Annette Fernie or Donna Roveto at the Office of Public Information, Second Floor, Quinn Administration Building.

Faculty and staff of UMass will provide the core leadership for the Center's development, obtaining electronic information sources and conducting export training for U.S. technology product and service firms. The Toxic Reduction Institute of UMass Lowell will conduct national technology demonstrations and training programs. The Applied Systems Computing Institute of Massachusetts at UMass Amherst will manage the Center's on-line information system.

"We are currently organizing the Center and hiring an executive director," explained Archer. "I hope that we will be fully functioning in the next couple of weeks. By next year the Center's office will be in Washington D.C., but for now we are managed from Boston."

The initial focus of the Center will be Mexico. According to Archer, "Mexico has significant environmental problems. Our Center will use a variety of means to bring U.S. government representatives and university experts to work with Mexican officials to identify environmental problems and put together a team of officials who can assist them." One of the main focuses in Mexico will concern waste prevention. "This will deal with ways to minimize the production of pollution in industrial

and manufacturing processes, in an attempt to reduce the level of pollution," explained Archer.

"Our work will join two goals," continued Archer. "First, there is the responsibility of protecting the environment, which includes environmental management and conservation. Second, we must insure economic development."

The Center is currently organizing a series of regional technology forums to exchange information, educate and establish contacts with members of the environmental business community, including state, trade, economic and environmental organizations. These meetings are scheduled to begin next year in Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Dallas.

Since 1993, the UMass system has worked to become a recognized leader in the environmental technology and management field at the state, regional, and international levels. "The University has substantial strengths in environmental sciences, management, and technology," said Archer. "The task has been to integrate programs and people on four campuses in a University-wide effort. We are the only university that has received this strong an endorsement by the EPA."

"Sustainable Boston" Promotes Local Forums

UMass Boston's Urban Harbor Institute, in collaboration with other environmental organizations and the offices of Mayor Thomas Menino and Senator John Kerry, has established a process that will encourage neighborhood forums on environmental issues and the quality of life in metropolitan Boston. Three hundred and fifty citizens, environmentalists, students and government officials representing the "neighborhood" of metropolitan Boston, participated in comparable planning forums at *Sustainable Boston*, a conference held at the UMass Boston campus on October 28th.

Conference participants attended separate sessions on economic development and the urban environment: youth, education and lifelong learning; urban infrastructure and public safety; environmental justice; preservation and neighborhood revitalization; and the urban environment and the quality of life.

The sessions consisted of workshops, case studies, and panel discussions. Richard Delaney, Director of the Urban Harbors Institute, presented an overview of the urban environment. Jack Wiggins, the Institute's Assistant Director, was a panelist on promoting sustainable communities through formal education. "The common thread found throughout the topics of the conference was the quality of life today and the work that we can do to assure that future generations will be guaranteed the same level of resources," said Delaney. "Those are the bases of a sustainable community."

"During each workshop there was a note-taker," said Madeleine Walsh, the Institute's Education Coordinator and organizer of the conference. "We will be putting together these results and then apply them to individual neighborhoods. A forum will then be held in each neighborhood to create a framework for further activity by the Mayor's Office of Environmental Services."

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