Psychology of Death

Professor Robert Kastenbaum (Psychology) is quoted in the January 8 issue of TIME in its article on Thanatology. Professor Kastenbaum, who has devoted much of his scholarly career to the problems of Gerontology, Suicidology, and Geriatric Psychiatry, in the TIME story says, "People use the hypothetical fact of their own death to more fully evaluate the life they have been living. It's the limit, something that defines and finishes what has gone on before. I have found that a clear consciousness of death has made my life more precious to me moment by moment."

Before coming to UMass-Boston, Dr. Kastenbaum was a Professor of Psychology at Wayne State University and Director of its Center for Psychological Studies of Dying, Death, and Lethal Behavior. He has served as the editor of Aging and Human Development, an international journal of psychosocial gerontology.


Historian Broderick gives generally good grades to Historian Flexner's labors. He cites some new material which gives a look at Washington's views on slavery: "He hated the system and freed his slaves at his death, though he could not free those who had come as part of Martha Curtis Washington's property. It also gives ample thoughtful attention to the economic complexity of emancipation for both slave and master."

Professor Ferdon, who is writing her own book on Franklin D. Roosevelt's childhood and youth, credits Author Davis with consummate skill in recreating the world of the late 19th and early 20th century Hudson River aristocracy, the world in which Roosevelt was born and raised. She applauds Davis' skill and sensitivity in his handling the oft-written details on FDR's polio attack.
Grant Overhead

Controller Byron Drinkwater advises Department Chairmen and Directors, Program Directors and Grant Administrators that the current approved indirect cost (overhead) rates for UMass-Boston are 47.2 per cent of salaries and wages for on-campus projects and 21.7 per cent of salaries and wages for off-campus projects. These rates will be applied to research proposals for grants or contracts forwarded to all Federal agencies.

Mr. Drinkwater adds that the Federal agency establishing the approved indirect cost rate was the Office of Grants Administration Policy, Department of Health, Education and Welfare on December 6, 1972. The period covered by audit on which the rate is based is the Fiscal year ended June 30, 1971.

Search Committee for a Chancellor

Dean Donald Reich of Oberlin College will visit the campus on January 10 as a candidate for the position of Chancellor. All interested faculty, staff and students are invited to a reception for Mr. Reich to be held in the Faculty Club, Library fourth floor, on Wednesday, January 10, at 4:30 P.M.

Mr. Reich has his B.A. from Wisconsin and his Ph.D from Harvard. He has been a Professor of Government at Oberlin since 1967 and has served as Dean of the College since 1968.

Promotion for Nicholas Lammerman

Nicholas Lammerman (Admissions) is completing his valued service to UMass-Boston and the students of the high schools who have sought admission to our colleges. He leaves on Friday to assume his new duties as Director of Admissions for the Massachusetts College of Art. Nick has been on the UMass-Boston scene since 1967 and has been a big factor in developing the reputation that our Admissions Office has in the educational community.

Fact and Rumor Clinic

Clinic sounds so antiseptic, and even foreboding. But on Thursday at 4 p.m., January 11, in the Faculty Lounge, Library 4th floor, Thor Olson, Director of Administration and Finance, is having an informal session for secretaries and staff members to listen to questions and, undoubtedly, some rumors about the move to the new campus at Dorchester. He will answer questions about the move and talk about current plans.

Progress Report

There will be a university-wide chairmen's meeting at 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, February 1, in the Faculty Lounge, Library 4th floor. The principal item of business will be a progress report by the Dean of the College of Public and Community Service, John Strange.
Master’s Program in Mathematics

For several years UMass-Boston has had a Master's degree program in Mathematics but the degree was granted by UMass-Amherst. The Trustees of the University will be petitioned by this campus to transfer the degree-granting process to UMass-Boston.

Dr. Yarmolinsky Lecture

Dr. Adam Yarmolinsky, Ralph Waldo Emerson University Professor, will give a lecture on February 7 on campus to inaugurate the founding of the Emerson Chair. He will speak on "The New American Scholar." Further details will be announced at a later date.

UMass-Boston and WBUR-FM

The first programs that are being produced for UMass-Boston on Boston University's WBUR-FM will feature faculty and student talents. Beginning on Saturday, February 3, and continuing on Saturday evenings through February at 8 p.m. will be "Kalliope," directed by Professor Donald Babcock. This program will feature readings and discussions of poetry written by UMass-Boston students and faculty.

The Music of the British Isles with Kate Potter will be aired on Sunday nights in February from 9 to 10 p.m. Kate Potter is a student with talent whose hobby of folk music of Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England will be the basis of her program.

Louis Roberts Presents is the title of the Monday evening series from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m. which the Chairman of Theatre Arts II will present. Professor Roberts will offer reviews and discussions of theatrical fare in Boston and throughout New England.

Pilot Educational Release Program

The University Assembly has endorsed a proposal submitted by Acting Chancellor Hamilton that an agreement of cooperation between UMass-Boston and the Department of Corrections would take effect.

Dr. Hamilton's correspondence with Faculty Co-Chairman of the Assembly, Dr. Alfred Ferguson, gives the background of the motion submitted to the Assembly:

"Since the summer of this year, some faculty members and administrative staff members of this campus and the President's Office have been consulting with the Massachusetts Department of Corrections concerning a program under which a small number of prisoners, within eighteen months of parole from medium security prisons, might qualify for admission as regularly enrolled students at the University at Boston.

Within the past three weeks, sufficient progress
Pilot Educational Release Program
(cont'd.)

has been made so as to identify ten such persons who would qualify for admission to the Spring term under our admissions policy. Consequently, an agreement specifying the terms of the arrangement was drawn up for my signature and that of the Commissioner of Corrections.

I should like to request the Assembly's approval of this agreement before signing it, and if the Assembly agrees to grant its approval as quickly as possible in the form of a "Sense of the Assembly Resolution."

The agreement does not contemplate a new or different academic program, or degree. It does not contemplate any change in our admissions standards. The substance of the agreement, therefore, does not require any action by the Assembly in my view. The nature of the agreement, however, does require the Assembly's approval as a matter of principle, in my view, for the reason that I feel strongly that there must be an expression of the University Community's willingness to undertake this arrangement. The University Assembly can express that willingness more adequately than I can, acting alone.

I urge the Assembly to act positively on what I personally believe to be a very worthwhile endeavor."

The program will begin with the Spring semester for 10 enrollees. University personnel who have been in the forefront of this arrangement include Peggy Marquis (Sociology), Richard Hogarty (Politics), and Livaughn Chapman (Special Admissions).

College I Agenda

The College I agenda for the January 16th meeting:
Second Readings: Placement and Proficiency Committee members, Creation of College I Tenure and Grievance Committee.
Old business: Discipline and Student Grievance Committee. New Business: Election and Referenda Committee Members; Report of Long-Range Planning Committee; Admissions Committee.

People Paragraph

Bettina Harrison (Biology) has conducted a series of workshops for Tour Guides for the Birth exhibit at the Museum of Science.