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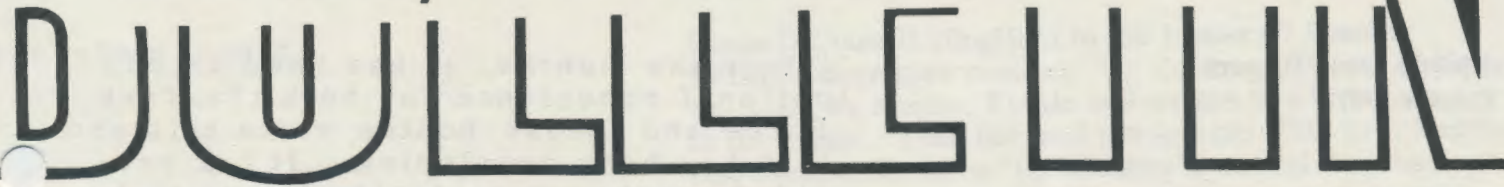


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The Impact on Housing Because of the Opening of UMass-Boston at Columbia Point: The Justin Gray Report

The Dorchester-Columbia Point Task Force, an alliance of twenty-six community organizations, with Justin Gray Associates, have prepared a 150-page report on the University's impact on the housing situation in Dorchester.

Acting Chancellor William R. Hamilton, Jr., made these remarks on receipt of the study:

"For several years UMass-Boston has had alliances with community groups in Dorchester, South Boston, and Columbia Point. From the beginning, when it was determined that the campus would be located at Columbia Point, administrators, faculty, and student groups have been working with community organizations.

"The Dorchester-Columbia Point Task Force, which commissioned this housing impact study, is a stronger and more cohesive alliance of diverse community organizations with whom, over the past several months, it has been our pleasure to be involved in such an extraordinary way. It is extraordinary in this sense that the Task Force prompted and promoted the independent study and the University provided its assistance in securing the funds for Mr. Gray's study, and insuring that the community groups and the Justin Gray Associates had all available information to produce a productive study.

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The Justin Gray Report
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"Over the months, it has been an educational experience for both the Task Force and UMass-Boston while this project has been developing. It has provided another opportunity for us to be aware of the strengths of and the strains on the community; we feel, likewise, that the community has better knowledge now of the dimensions and the educational directions of the University.

"The effort made by the coordinated community task force of twenty-six organizations--whom UMass-Boston was committed to work with directly--has provided results that would have been impossible if the University had to work with individual organizations. It is our expectation that this type of mutual endeavor will continue in the future.

"The issues involved are many and complex, intertwined in a variety of ways affecting the University, the City, State agencies, and the Community. It will not be possible to resolve all of these issues to the complete satisfaction of everyone. But the work that has been moving forward indicates the University's commitment to be a "good neighbor" in word as well as deed. It is our hope and resolve that solutions to all the concerns can be found which will be responsive to both community and institutional needs.

"This report will be studied faithfully by all our University constituencies, beginning with the University Assembly which is comprised of students, faculty, and staff. It will also be thoroughly reviewed by the administration after the initial process has been completed, and it will then be forwarded with the campus recommendations and observations to President Robert C. Wood and to the Board of Trustees for action that the University can take."

They've Been Reading

Shaun O'Connell (English) in the January 7 Sunday Herald Advertiser reviews "Up Country: Poems of New England" by Maxine Kumin and writes like birds singing in the trees. Take his lead paragraph: "On first looking into Maxine Kumin's "Up Country", one thinks--how curious, how delightful." From that you want to read the review and the book about nature's truth that the author tells "with such singleness of beauty."

Also from the English Department is Carl Senna who was the reviewer in the January 10 Boston Globe of Anya Seton's new novel "Green Darkness."

UMass Program Puts the Community First

That's the way the headline writer describes the Amanda Harris story in the Sunday Herald Advertiser of January 7 concerning the UMass-Boston ACTION Program. "The Program provides a humanistic vehicle for people in academia to share the resources of the university with the community," said Director Joanne Ross in the feature story. Ann O'Malley and Bert Fliegel, ACTION coordinators, are also quoted in the Harris article. They point out that last year's ACTION students now back in the classroom have improved their grades this year.

Aircraft Warning Indicator Invention

Dr. Anne W. Story (Psychology) was cited in a New York Times News Service story last week for her new invention. The Stacy V. Jones story said: "Anne W. Story of Memorial Drive, Cambridge, an engineering psychologist, has invented a warning indicator to alert a pilot when another plane is approaching.

"Dr. Story was granted patent 3,708,671 this week, assigning it to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

"The invention takes advantage of an optical phenomenon, a pilot's ability to see out of the corner of his eye. A panel of small signal lamps is set-up before him, perhaps attached to the windshield, on the periphery of his vision.

"Before he can actually see an approaching plane, its flashing beacon causes a detector to light certain of the signal lamps. While still looking into the distance, the pilot is made aware of the direction from which a plane is approaching.

"The indicator is intended to provide an inexpensive collision avoidance system for light aircraft."

Peripatetics

At least two of our faculty over recent and upcoming weeks qualify for the peripatetic nomenclature, and if there are others kindly inform the Public Relations Office about their scholarly travels.

Professor Monique Garrity (Economics) at the Toronto meeting of the Caucus of Black Economists was elected Chairwoman of the Northeast Region. From Toronto she travelled to Washington, D.C., to participate in the meeting of the Black Women's Community Development Foundation where she is working with Mrs. Jeanne Martin Cisse, U.N. Delegate from Guinea and Secretary General of the Conference of African Women. The Foundation is seeking ways in which it can cooperate with African Women's groups. Later this month, Professor Garrity will attend a conference in Dakar, Senegal which will review the implications of the enlargement of the EEC for African trade and development.

After jousting with a trio of University of Toronto students on a Canadian radio network Arnold Beichman (Politics) is now off on an assignment for the United States Information Agency. He is speaking at public universities at cultural centers in London, Berlin, Hamburg, Stockholm, Paris and Bordeaux through January 26th.

Video Tape Program

"Miguel and the Three Kings", a video tape produced cooperatively by the faculty and students of the Boston Public School's Bilingual Department and WGBH, and sponsored by the Institute of Learning and Teaching at UMass-Boston was featured at the recent exhibition of "Santos de Puerto Rico" in the Boston's Museum of Fine Arts.