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Economic Impact Study of Boston Area Universities

Under the leadership of a committee of their presidents, eight Boston area universities are collaborating on an objective, thorough study of their direct economic impact on Boston and the surrounding metropolitan area. Participating are Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Tufts University, and the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

The project's primary aim is to promote greater public understanding and support of higher education in Boston. This understanding and support will be enhanced by an appreciation of the schools' large expenditures on their own account and the expenditures by their students, faculty and staff. Other universities and colleges in the metro area may also be participating in this timely project.

Boston area institutions are being questioned in many ways by civic and other groups--on their mission, on their justification of resource use, and on their tax exemptions under present laws. One way of thinking about a university is as a business in addition to its recognized roles in education. Not enough is known about the collective business impact of postsecondary institutions on the local economy--hence this study. The report, to be completed in September 1973, will be a useful complement to information now available on programs and public services.

Research on the project is being carried out by participating institutions, under the direction of a steering committee headed by Charles Smith, Vice President, Boston University. Project consultant is George Mowbray, Principal, Systems Research Group. Methodology is being derived in part from John Caffrey and Hubert Issacs, Estimating the Impact of a College or University in the Local Economy (Washington, American Council on Education, 1971). The results of the project will be a revelation of an aspect of university affairs seldom accorded its deserved weight in local deliberations of public policy.

Full time faculty and staff and a sample of UMass-Boston students will be receiving confidential questionnaires about their spending patterns from the Office of Educational Planning during the first week in March. These questionnaires will be supplemented by several other analysis of institutional expenditures, prepared by various UMass-Boston Administrative offices.

Columbia Point - Site Tours

The Bureau of Building Construction (and through them the building contractors) at the new campus have become aware of quite a number of visitors who have neither made previous arrangements to visit nor checked in at the Project Office. We have told the bureau staff that this has never been authorized by the University and that henceforth any visit to the project must be cleared through the Planning Office, either at this campus or at the Site. Also such clearance must be obtained at least several days in advance so that times can be arranged so that interference with other work can be minimized.

The staff at the site has considerable work to do as the construction work nears completion. Requests for such tours should be kept to a minimum. Each tour takes several manhours away from very important project management work.

Security

An increasing number of purses were stolen within the past week, and may continue to increase unless every member of the university becomes security conscious, John Carpenter, Security Chief, reports.

"Approximately 99 percent of those thefts could have been prevented; not by increased security personnel, but by the victims themselves. In each incident, either the secretary left her office, "just for a minute", and forgot to close her door; or the student left her purse on a desk or table, "just for a minute", while she looked for a book.

"We are all aware that it is inconvenient to carry your purse with you; or leave it in a locked drawer, or lock your office behind you; but, it is much more inconvenient to duplicate a driver's license, I. D. card, credit card, or a personal picture."

Nutrition Seminars

The Biology Department's seminar today (Tuesday)--see posters around the campus--and the talk by Prof. Jean Mayer of Harvard on Thursday at 12:30 in the auditorium are, indeed, a public service, especially with the new burden of higher food prices. Dr. Mayer's talk will be "U.S. Nutrition 1973."

Board of Higher Education

Dr. Patrick McCarthy, Chancellor of the Board of Higher Education, will speak on "Higher Education In Massachusetts Since the Willis-Harrington Report and the Future of Public-Private Relations" in the Chancellor's Conference Room, 12th floor, Thursday, March 8 at 3:30. There should be some interesting questions and answers at this session.

Computer Seminars

You are cordially invited to attend a series of seminars sponsored by the University Computing Center of UMass-Amherst. This seminar will be held at the Boston Campus on March 6, 7, and 8. Mini-courses will be given in various programming languages. If you would like any additional information, feel free to call the Computer Facilities at X223. The schedule is:

Tuesday

- 9:00 Introduction by Dr. Conrad Wogrin - Gold Room
- 9:30 APL - Dr. Conrad Wogrin - Gold Room
- 9:30 SPSS - Melanie Olinski - 9-0564
- 9:30 FORTRAN IV - Robert Gonter - Faculty Lounge
- 1:00 Dr. Conrad Wogrin - Chancellor's Conf. Room
- 1:00 SPSS - Consulting
- 1:00 Difference Between FORTRAN IV and UMASS FORTRAN - Robert Gonter - Gold Room

Wednesday

- 10:00 COBOL - Charlie Boland - Chancellor's Conf. Rm.
- 10:00 Consulting Service & Library - Katy Cowles and Wayne Johnson - 9-0518W
- 1:00 COBOL - Charlie Boland - Chancellor's Conf. Rm.
- 1:00 General Consulting - Tie in on 2 centers - K. Cowles - Gold Room
- 1:00 Consulting on Library and off line peripheral gear Wayne Johnson - 9-0564

Thursday

- 9:30 APL - Dr. Conrad Wogrin - Chancellor's Conf. Rm.
- 9:30 COBOL - Charlie Boland - 9-0518W
- 9:30 PLOTTER - UMass & Batch - Jim Hill - Gold Rm.
- 9:30 Consulting - Wally Smolenski - 9-0564
- 1:00 APL - Dr. Conrad Wogrin - Chancellor's Conf. Rm.
- 1:00 COBOL - Charlie Boland - 9-0518 W
- 1:00 PLOTTER Consulting - Jim Hill - Gold Room
- 1:00 Consulting - Wally Smolenski - 9-0564

Math Lecture

Tomorrow (Wednesday) March 7 at 3:30 p.m. in the Faculty Club, 4th floor, Library, Ethan Bolker of the College II Mathematics Dept. will present "Learning To Live With The Fourth Dimension" as the second lecture in the College II Faculty Lecture Series for Spring 1973. The lecture is open to the University Community. Reception to follow.

Attitude Measurement

On Thursday, March 8, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 1-615, Dr. Jack Fowler of Survey Research at UMass-Boston will speak on "Attitude Measurement and Policy Planning." All are invited to attend this lecture which is sponsored by the Issues for Psychology course in College II.

Plan On A Pint

Giving blood is painless, easy, refreshing, pragmatic, humanitarian--and needed. Help the ill and injured by taking less than an hour for the whole process of giving blood when the Red Cross comes to the Art Gallery, Wednesday, March 14th, from 10 to 3:45. Call Joan Cardinal, R.N., Health Services, X324 to make an appointment-- to save someone's life.

Photographic Perspectives

Peter Bunnell, McAlpin Professor of the History of Photography and Modern Art at Princeton University, will present a public lecture in the PHOTOGRAPHIC Perspectives for Spring 1973 Series which is sponsored by the Student Affairs Committee in conjunction with Warren Hill, College II Art. The lecture is open to the public free of charge.

American Woman

The McGraw-Hill Publishing Company has commissioned a group of women writers and scholars at Wesleyan University to design and compile a one-volume Encyclopedia of the American Woman which will serve as a basic reference work on American Women in the twentieth century. Included in this volume will be "Motherhood: An Occupation in Decline," an article by Jeanne Binstock of the College II Sociology Department which first appeared in The Futurist and was later reprinted in the Intellectual Digest. She has also been asked to write an article for the volume on technological change and the evolution of the family.

Ecology of Seagulls

Film: Signals for Survival by N. Tinbergen and H. Falkus will be shown in Room 1-406 at 12:30 today (Tuesday). This very fine color film about the behavior and ecology of seagulls was awarded the 1969 Italia Prize for documentary films. It shows, very elegantly, how animals communicate using a very common sea-bird to illustrate sign-language within a species. All are welcome.

Biology Seminar

Mr. Robert Rines of the 1972 Loch Ness Expedition, will speak at the Biology Department's seminar on Thursday, March 8 at 12:30 in Room 406, Main Building. Mr. Rines will speak on "Loch Ness- Monster or Myth?" The seminar is open to the university community.

UMass-Boston Poetry Reading Series

The UMass-Boston Poetry Reading Series on Wednesday, March 7th at 3 p.m., in the Hale Lounge, will feature Celia Gilbert poetry editor of the Boston Phoenix and Nina Alonso author of This Body.

Psychology Films

The Psychology Department will present a film entitled: Perception and Communication on Thursday, March 8 at 12:30 in Room 215 of the Main Building.

Donald Marquis

The University community deeply shares the loss of Donald Marquis, husband of Peggy Marquis (Sociology II.) His recent death saddens this campus and the society of sociologists who knew and respected him for his contributions to social science.

Promotions

Three additional promotions to those listed recently are Renata Mautner, from Instructor to Assistant Professor in English II; Shaun O'Connell, from Assistant to Associate Professor, English II, and Blaise Nagy, from Instructor to Assistant Professor, Classics II.