University of Massachusetts Boston

ScholarWorks at UMass Boston

1983-1991, News & Views

University Publications and Campus Newsletters

9-26-1989

News & Views - Vol. 08, No. 02 - September 26, 1989

University of Massachusetts Boston

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_newsandviews



Part of the Higher Education Administration Commons, and the Organizational Communication

Commons

Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "News & Views - Vol. 08, No. 02 - September 26, 1989" (1989). 1983-1991, News & Views. 96.

https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_newsandviews/96

This University Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications and Campus Newsletters at ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. It has been accepted for inclusion in 1983-1991, News & Views by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. For more information, please contact scholarworks@umb.edu.

1MB 2-56-3

UMASS NEWS & VIEWS

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 26. 1989

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

Chancellor Sherry Penney installed at Convocation

Convocation ceremonies on September 13th celebrated the opening of the 1989-90 academic year, and at that time David C. Knapp, President of the University of Massachusetts, and William H. Bowman, Vice Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees, officially installed Sherry H. Penney as fifth Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

State educational leaders from the public and private sector, UMass/Boston faculty, students, administrators and staff attended. In addition over 70 colleges, university and national education associations were represented by distinguished delegates.

In her speech to the audience, Penney reminded listeners of the significance of 1964, the year in which the Massachusetts Legislature passed the bill earmarking \$200,000 for the planning for the University of Massachusetts at Boston and also the year the Civil Rights Act was passed by Congress.

"I want to take this opportunity today to reaffirm the dedication of the University of Massachusetts at Boston to the civil rights—the rights of citizenship of every person regardless of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual preference, physical handicap, or economic status, "Penney said, drawing applause.

Penney challenged students to expand their education "beyond your textbooks" and use their wisdom and creative energy to form convictions.

"If a person emerges from college without a deep, personal com-

· continued on page 3

Founders' Luncheon brings together key figures in the creation of UMass/Boston

The key figures in the establishment of UMass/Boston were feted at a Founder's Luncheon hosted by Chancellor Sherry H. Penney recently at the Harbor Campus.

UMass/Boston was founded by legislative decree in June, 1964. The first classes opened in September, 1965 with 1244 in attendance at the site of the former Boston Gas Company Building in Park Square.

UMB currently is celebrating its 25th anniversary. One of the highlights will occur at Convocation on Wednesday, September 13, 1989 when Chancellor Penney is officially inaugurated.

Former Governor Endicott "Chub" Peabody, who signed the enabling legislation, was on hand at the luncheon along with former UMass President John W. Lederle and:

- Former Senate President Maurice A. Donahue, 70, who noted his breakfast speech to the UMass/Amherst Newman Club first proposed the notion of a Boston campus.
- Hon. Robert H. Quinn, former Speaker of the House, Attorney General and Chairman of the UMass Board of Trustees, after whom the Administration Building on the Harbor Campus is named.
- Hon. George V. Kenneally, Jr., long-time Dorchester resident and former Senator from the district, whose name was on the originating legislation.
- Dr. Leo F. Redfern, 66, an academic aide to President Lederle at Amherst, who played an important behind-the-scenes role.
- Professor Alexander J. Cella of Suffolk University Law School, who was a legislative aide and legal counsel to the State House.

Also in attendance and partici-



Honored guests at the Founder's Luncheon hosted by UMB Chancellor Sherry H. Penney were, left to right: former UMass President John W. Lederle; former State Senator George V. Kenneally, Jr.; former Senate President Maurice A. Donahue; Chancellor Penney; former House majority whip Robert H. Quinn; Dr. Leo F. Redfern, former academic aide to President Lederle, and former State House aide and current Suffolk University Prof. Alexander J. Cella.

pating in a lively discussion videotaped by the University's Media Center for the UMB archives were Martin F. Nolan, Editor, *The Boston Globe*, Editorial Page; Peter Lucas, veteran political columnist, *Boston Herald*, and Ian Menzies of UMB's McCormack Institute and a columnist at *The* Patriot Ledger, Quincy.

Moderator for the discussion was Professor Thomas Brown, a member of the original UMB faculty.

"Certainly there could no finer expression of gratitude for what you accomplished in 1964 than the fulfillment of promise represented by the lives of the students who have crossed the frontiers of new worlds because of their education at UMass/Boston," said Chancellor Penney.

"I am proud to tell you that in fulfillment of that vision and courage, UMass/Boston during this past quarter of a century has graduated over 20,000 students. Almost one half have been the first in their families to attend college.



Former Gov. Endicott (Chub) Peabody posed with Chancellor Sherry H. Penney at Founder's Luncheon.

"When UMass/Boston opened its doors to its first class, it enrolled 1200 students. Yet this past fall we enrolled over 12,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. 50% of those students are over the age of 25; 58% are female and 68% of our undergraduates attend full time.

"Almost 17% of our students are minority. While Black and

· continued on page 4

UMB receives \$274,000 grant from Davis Foundation



Announcing \$274,000 Davis Foundation grant to UMass/Boston was Davis Fund president and founder Stanton Davis, rear, who posed with, left to right: Hope Dean, Vice President for Children's Books; Ann Tembrooke, staff, Davis Foundation; UMB Chancellor Sherry H. Penney, and Dan Terris, President, Foundation for Children's Books.

Chancellor Sherry H. Penney announced that UMass/Boston has received a \$274,000 grant from the Davis Educational Foundation of Bridgewater to conduct an inservice program in children's literature.

The two-year program will involve 80 elementary teachers from urban schools, half from the Boston area and half from the Fall River-New Bedford area. It will be administered jointly by the University's Institute for Learning and Teaching and the Watertown-based Foundation for Children's Books (FCB).

Penney, calling the goals of the program "significant and ambitious," also announced that the

teachers selected to participate would be called Davis Fellows, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Davis, trustees and founders of the Davis Educational Foundation. At a recent meeting, Penney and FCB President Dan Terris expressed their gratitude to Mr. Davis.

"Your support for the program," Chancellor Penney said," will enrich the lives of many school children."

The program, scheduled to begin this fall, will develop new approaches to the use of imaginative literature in the classroom. Its goals are to increase motivation for reading and to improve reading comprehension.

25th Anniversary Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 28th
The University and Its Professional Achievements
and Challenges: A Public Forum

7:00-9:00 p.m., Faculty Club, 11th Floor, Healey Library Presentations and dialogue between James Sullivan, President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce and Darryl M. Smaw, founding Director of the Society Organized Against Racism in New England Higher Education and former Chaplain at Brown University. Sponsored by Title III.

OCTOBER

Thursday, October 5th

Celebration of the Publication of the Revised Edition of Black Presence in the Era of the American Revolution

2:00 p.m., Faculty Club, 11th Floor, Healey Library
The Trotter Institute is hosting a discussion, reception and the
awarding of University Medals for Outstanding Service to authors Sydney Kaplan and Emma Nogrady Kaplan. Publication by
UMass/Press was partially supported by the Trotter Institute.

Friday, October 6th

New England String Quartet Concert
8:00 p.m., McCormack Theater
With Marek Zebrowski, piano

Wednesday, October 18
Commonwealth Wellness Expo
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., University Plaza

Sponsored by Athletics, Health Services, Physical Education,
The College of Nursing



U Mass Boston

"Teaching About Differences" is theme of Ford Seminar

Each year since 1983, a group of six or eight faculty members has been selected to focus on their teaching under the direction of a faculty seminar leader. Called the Ford Seminar, the program is sponsored by the Center for the Improvement of Teaching.

This fall, the theme of the seminar is "Teaching About Differences" and it is being led by Estelle Disch (Sociology, CAS). Other participants include Connie Chan (Human Services, CPCS),

Lal Chugh (Accounting and Finance, CM), Elizabeth Fay (English, CAS), Betty Johnson (Human Services, CPCS), Catherine Manton (Women's Studies, CAS), and Mary Stevenson (Economic, CAS).

The Seminar met during the summer to work on both course content and teaching methods. Discussions of content included reviewing syllabi for issues of difference—i.e., the inclusion of the perspectives and experiences of

women and men of various races, social classes, cultures, national origins, sexual orientations, physical abilities, ages, religions, etc.

Discussions of teaching method included sharing various techniques for establishing a sense of openness and trust in the classroom, with the goal of helping students get to know each other so that they might challenge stereotypes they have of people different from themselves.

The work of the Ford Seminar is part of a larger effort to establish a more multicultural curriculum on campus. Faculty, students, staff and administrators who are interested in participating in this effort are invited to attend a conference on September 23 entitled "Towards a Multicultural Curriculum at UMass/Boston: A Working Conference for the UMB Community."

Prof. Kingston-Mann authors history of Russian peasants

Others chronicle the excesses of King, Queens, Czars and Presidents, but UMass/Boston Professor Esther Kingston-Mann is a historian for the little people.

Dr. Kingston-Mann, who was awarded a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Studies for the next academic year, will use her sabbatical to complete a book entitled, "Understanding Peasants, Understanding the Experts: Economists and Statisticians in Pre-Revolutionary Russia, 1861-1917."

Her tome will build on research generated from a conference on Russian peasants that she organized at the Harbor Campus in 1986.

Dr. Kingston-Mann, a former Guggenheim and Danforth Teaching fellow, has formulated a first-hand view of peasants life by investigating data from an extensive survey of some 4.5 million Russian peasants taken in the late 19th century.

"The largest research project ever," she calls it.

Dr. Kingston-Mann talks about Russian peasants like someone for whom work and pleasure are synonymous.

Her parents, who passed away 13 years ago, were immigrants from Russia and Poland. Neither benefitted from any formalized schooling, but her father, especially, had an appetite for knowledge that was in inverse proportion to his lust for money. He



Dr. Esther Kingston-Mann of the UMass/Boston History Department

studied philosophy, read Tolstoy, wrote music, and operated a small and "very unsuccessful" clothes cleaners in rural Michigan.

"People would come into the store and bring books with them," Esther recalls humorously. "But they wouldn't bring their clothes. My father was know as the "wise man" in the neighborhood.

"Both my parents has an incredible belief in knowledge and how important it was." That conviction was passed along to their daughter, who went on to attend Antioch College in Ohio before matriculating to Johns Hopkins University, where she earned a Masters Degree in Russian History.

At UMB, Dr. Kingston-Mann has taught "Western Civilization" and "American Faces Russia," which traces the evolution of the Soviet-American relationship.

Dr. Kingston-Mann will join

her passionate peers next January at an international conference in Bellagio, Italy dedicated to "Peasant Culture and Political Consciousness." As respect for peasants grows retroactively, she thinks it's time to reconsider the lowly status they've been assigned by modern culture.

"The word 'peasant' describes just about every race of people at one time or another [in history]," she says. "But somehow it's become a derogatory term. It shouldn't be that way."

Tumbling barriers in the educational setting is another of Dr. Kingston-Mann's pursuits. She is a founding member of UMass/Boston's Center for the Improvement of Teaching, a volunteer coterie of students and professors who convene to discuss making life better in the classroom.

Dr. Kingston-Mann says fostering improved relations among students of various origins and circumstance is integral to developing well-rounded adults prepared for what the real world offers.

"Many people go through college and never learn anything about people of different ethnic backgrounds or people who are physically handicapped," she observes. "I think it's important that they do."

That theme was the subject of a "Thinking About Differences" seminar she helped organize on the Harbor Campus last spring.

Chancellor Penney delivers convocation address

continued from page 1

mitment to what is right and what is wrong," she said, "the rest will be futile."

Penney thanked the University community for its perseverance during the past year and applauded UMass/Boston's "access, diversity and excellence..." for the difference it has made in the lives of thousands of men and women who might not otherwise have gone to college.

The Chancellor cited UMass/ Boston's dedication to students from varied circumstances; a student population 50 percent comprised of people older than 25; 58 percent women; home to 22 percent of the black student population in New England's public four-year colleges and universities.

"I want you, especially the students," Penney said, "to know that as I turn to focus on the promise of tomorrow, I do not mean to trivialize the problems of today. I know the sacrifices you have made to be in our community. I know that you are bending under additional financial burdens.

"It is because of my understanding of this that I am willing to champion adequate, affordable education for you while looking toward the future."

With Governor Michael Dukakis seated steps away, Penney challenged the state's academic leaders "to enter into a new spirit of partnership and planning in order to design how higher education—public and private—will serve the citizens of this Commonwealth and this nation in the 21st century.

"Let us agree that within three

years," she continued, "we will assess jointly, for public view, the strengths and weaknesses of our systems and that we will devise jointly a new agenda for higher education in this Commonwealthwhich will serve as a model of shared resources.

"Let us recapture public confidence in higher education—and while we're at it—let us recapture confidence in ourselves."

Founding of UMass/Boston recalled at luncheon

A little-known version of what gave impetus to the founding of UMass/Boston emerged from the Founder's Luncheon hosted by Chancellor Sherry H. Penney. Former Senate President Maurice A. "Mossy" Donahue says the idea came from a proposal he made in a speech at the Newman Club at UMass/Amherst.

President Donahue, 70, is a native of Holyoke. He served in the Massachusetts House, 1949-50, and in the Senate, 1951-70. He was graduated from the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, in 1939, received a M.Ed. from Springfield College and attended Harvard's Graduate School of Public Administration.

"I was invited to speak at the Newman Center at Amherst," recalled President Donahue. "I knew it'd be a diverse audience and I couldn't use my usual communion breakfast speech. So I asked Dr. Dan O'Leary, then President of Lowell State, to write me a speech. In it, he advocated the establishment of a UMass branch in Boston.

"Well...the response was immediate and was so great that I couldn't wait to get back to Boston. I cornered (Senator) George Kenneally and (House Whip) Bob Quinn, both natives of Dorchester, and told them they'd better get their names on a bill immediately.

"The bill passed easily because the need was there."

Other noteworthy comments from the Founder's Luncheon:

John W. Lederle, named 16th President of UMass in 1960. He's now 77 and received all his degrees from the University of Michigan—AB in 1933; AM in 1934; LL.B. in 1936 and PhD in Political Sceince in 1942:

"When I arrived in 1960, this state for years had under-appreciated higher education. We started expanding at Amherst at a rate of 1500 students a year. Boston was the only big city in America that didn't have a public university.

"We had to turn down some 6,000 qualified applicants because we had no room at Amherst. It was then that we started to peti-



Cutting up touches at Founder's Luncheon were former Gov. Endicott Peabody, left, former State Senator George V. Kenneally, Jr., and former House majority whip Robert H. Quinn, who joined Kenneally in filing the bill that led to the establishment of UMass/Boston.

tion for a Boston branch. When the bill was proposed, it moved through rapidly."

Gov. Endicott Peabody, 1963-65, was the last two-year governor. He was successful with 85 percent of his legislative program which put strong emphasis on education, transportation and urban affairs. He was born in Lawrence in 1920 and was an All-America football player at Harvard in 1941. He won a Silver Star as a submarine officer in the Pacific in World War II. He currently practices law and lives in New Hampshire.

"In my early political days we knew the University as Mass Aggie. It has come a long way. As governor, I wanted to make sure it had funds to make it go," said Governor Peabody.

"Out of the blue came this proposal from (Senate President) Maurice Donahue to create UMass/Boston. The great natural resource of New England is education."

Robert H. (Bob) Quinn, a Dorchester native, was the House whip when the UMass/Boston bill, bearing his name, passed. He is the former Speaker of the House, Attorney General and Chairman of the Board of of UMass Trustees. The Administration Building was named in his honor in April 1988. He was graduated from Boston College High School, Boston College (manga cum laude) and Harvard Law School.

'There was great controversy about where the University would be located. A number of areas were proposed—Wilmington, Watertown (on the Arsenal site), Quincy, around the Prudential area, the site of the present Boston

Cathedral. But the Columbia Point site was a tremendous location."

George V. Kenneally, Jr., another Dorchester native and former State Senator, co-sponsored the original legislation which created UMass/Boston. He was graduated from Boston English High School, Northeastern University and Suffolk Law School:

"I'm extremely proud of this University. We shouldn't be cutting back on funds for education. This school epitomizes what we felt education was all about."

Dr. Leo F. Redfern, 66, former aide to President Lederle and, later, president of Keene State College in New Hampshire, received an MA from the University of New Hampshire and an MPA and PhD degrees from Harvard University:

"There was a crying need for UMass/Boston. It serves the largest metropolitan area in New England."

Prof. Alexander J. Cella of Suffolk University was Legislative Assistant and Legal Counsel to Speakers of the House John F. Thompson, John F.X. Davoren and Robert H. Quinn from 1961-68. He was Legal Counsel to Senate President Donahue from 1969-70. Cella, 60, graduated cum laude from Harvard in 1951, earned his Ph.D. from Harvard in Political Science in 1953 and was graduated from Suffolk Law School in 1961:

"Speaker Thompson always called it 'The People's University.'

UMB honors founders at Harbor Campus luncheon

continued from page 1

Hispanic enrollment in New England colleges and universities is 5.6%, at UMass/Boston it is 12.5%. As a matter of fact, 22% of all Black students entering public four-year colleges and universities in New England are at UMass/Boston.

"Our students attend courses in five separate colleges within the University and are taught by over 525 full-time and 360 part-time faculty members who are even more ethnically diverse than the student body.

"We offer 85 degree programs, including 56 at the bachelor's level, 22 Masters programs, four graduate certificate programs— Environmental Sciences, Clinical Psychology and Gerontology—with additional doctoral programs in the development or approval process.

"Also, approximately 25% of the 1989 graduates will enroll in graduate and professional schools this fall, going on to become health administrators, teachers, doctors, professional business people, lawyers and research scientists."

Chancellor Penney presented each of the founder's an ink drawing of the Original UMass/Boston campus at Park Square, drawn by Jerome Quinn.