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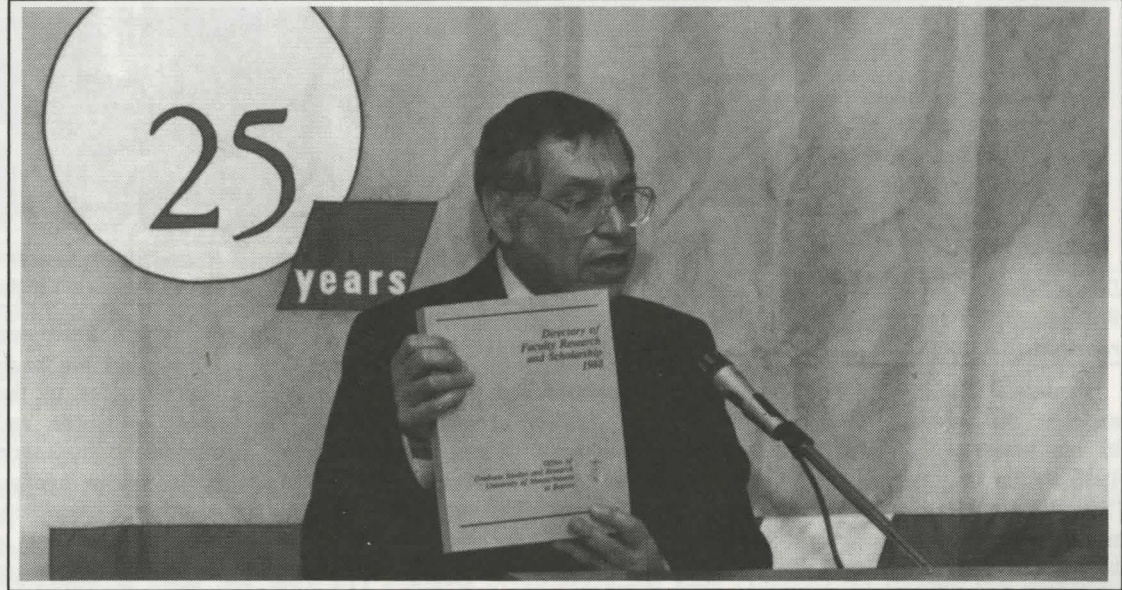
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

A Community of Scholars *Research and Creativity at UMass/Boston*

"Your vow is to truth"

—Robert Graves

Last month Chancellor Penney, Provost Zompa, and Dean Safwat hosted a reception to recognize UMass/Boston faculty and staff for their research and service projects. During a semester not noted for its good financial news, this celebration called attention to a happy anomaly: together faculty and staff have so far this year brought in excess of \$3,300,000 in new grant monies to the Boston Campus. The Campus expects total research funding this year to be approximately \$8,000,000. These monies fund such diverse projects as Professors Varda Konstam and Rick Houser's psychological study of cardiac transplantation candidates and their spouses to Professor Hans van Willigen's work on the application of time-resolved Electron Spin Resonance techniques in the study of the factors that affect photo-induced electron transfer reactions to Associate



Fuad Safwat, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, hefts the soon-to-be revised *Directory of Faculty Research and Scholarship*. Says Dean Safwat: "It's up to faculty to keep this *Directory* fat and happy. By returning completed questionnaires, faculty members ensure their research receives proper and permanent recognition." Call 7-5700 for more information.

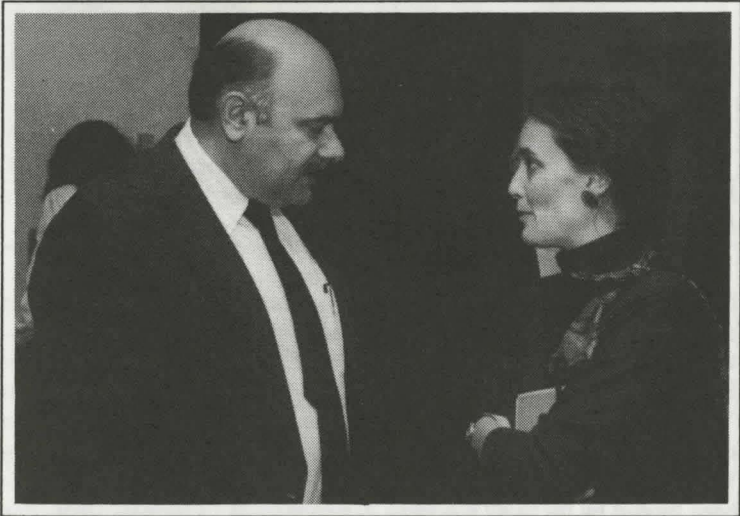
Dean Susan Haussler's project to develop a model MS in Nursing program to prepare nursing educators and administrators in ge-

rontological nursing. These monies include the extraordinarily large Federal grants, from agencies such as the NSF, NIH, and Department of Education, routinely awarded such faculty members as Professors Kamal Bawa, Donald Macedo, Gary Siperstein, and Manickam Sugumaran.

This special issue of *News and Views* is devoted to the pursuit of research and scholarship at UMB. Although no newsletter could ever adequately catalogue all of the scholarly activity that makes this Campus hum, this overview should give readers a general sense of the richness and variety of the ideas and problems that occupy the thoughts of UMass/Boston's best and brightest. If a project you know of has been omitted here—as most have been, given the limitations of space—don't get mad, get even. Please let *News and Views* know what

you, or your modest colleagues, are up to. This request echoes a plea made by Dean Safwat in his remarks honoring faculty and staff at the April 11 reception, in which he urged faculty members to notify the Office of Graduate Studies and Research about recent publications. Dean Safwat went on to remind guests and honorees of the numerous journals currently edited by faculty and staff members on the Boston Campus:

- *Conservation Biology*, Kamal Bawa, Associate Editor
 - *Developments in Industrial Microbiology*, Joseph Cooney, Co-Editor
 - *Economic Botany*, Lawrence Kaplan, Editor
 - *Environmental Auditor*, Jack Wiggin, Managing Editor
 - *Issues in Comprehensive Pediatric Nursing*, Gladys Scipien,
- continued on page 3



Mixing business with pleasure at the reception for scholars and principal investigators: Provost Zompa queries Professor Phyllis Freeman, Law Center, about reactions to her recent article in *Scientific American*.

A House of Many Windows

A brief look at selected research projects



Dean Safwat, Chancellor Penney, and Prof. of Chemistry Hans van Willigen talk about Prof. van Willigen's invitation to lecture on time-resolved ESR applications at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland.

Professor Hans van Willigen explains the research conducted in his laboratory, funded since 1983 by the US Dept. of Energy: "Electron transfer plays an important role in many chemical and biological processes, the best known being photosynthesis in green plants. The DOE's interest stems from the fact that photo-induced electron transfer reactions may find use on devices that convert solar energy into chemical energy. To some extent such devices could mimic the highly efficient solar energy conversion process taking place in plants and photosynthetic bacteria. Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) instruments monitor the generation and decay of short-lived molecules produced by a laser pulse. Experimental data give an insight into the rate of efficient of electron

transfer processes and the effect of solvent medium changes on these parameters.

"A recent special instrumentation grant from DOE, approximately \$200,000, supplemented by a grant from UMass/Boston made it possible to build a novel ESR spectrometer that can take measurements with nanosecond time resolution. So far only half a dozen or so laboratories in the world have such an instrument.

"In part this work is carried out in collaboration with a research group of the Physics Institute of Dortmund University (FRG). Research in my laboratory is carried out with Patricia Levstein, a postdoctoral fellow from Argentina, and Marie Ebersole, a graduate student enrolled in the PhD program at Amherst whose MS is from UMB."

Professors Varda Konstam and Rick Houser recognized that a lag exists with respect to knowledge of the psychological issues and struggles of heart transplant patients and their families when compared to the rapid medical technological advances being made in the field of transplantation. With funding from the U. S. Dept. of Education, they have undertaken a study that "will focus on the coping styles of cardiac transplantation patients and their

spouses throughout the transplantation process. Quality of life issues, stress levels as well as marital satisfaction will be evaluated at monthly intervals both pre- and post-transplantation." The results of the study, they contend, "can potentially inform the clinician (mental health professional) with respect to helping cardiac transplantation patients and their families adapt to the various unique demands and stages of the heart transplantation process."



Prof. Susan Haussler (l), Dean Brenda Cherry (c), and Prof. Pearl Rosendahl (r) look to the feds for funding College of Nursing projects.

Professors Susan Haussler and Pearl Rosendahl are each pursuing projects funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Professor Haussler's project brings together health care consumers, providers, and other scholars to develop a graduate curriculum focussed on gerontological nursing. Professor

Rosendahl's work addresses a projected national need for nurses who specialize in critical care. In the next ten years, the demand for nurses trained to work with patients of higher acuity levels will increase by 42% over current levels; an immediate urgency therefore exists for the academic preparation of critical care nurses.



Professor Elba Caraballo, Gerontology Center, brings Chancellor Penney up-to-date on research funded by the Andrus Foundation.

Prof. Elba Caraballo hopes to fill the void created by the dearth of information and research about the nation's population of older Hispanic women. Her project, "Patterns of Health Care Utilization among Hispanic Older Women in the United States" has been funded by the AARP Andrus Foundation and will, according to Prof. Caraballo, "look at self-reported utilization, reported barriers to utilization, acculturation

measures, and socio-demographic characteristics." She goes on to say that, "perhaps the most important outcome [will be] a clearer understanding of the varied patterns of health care utilization among Hispanic older women and the variables affecting their behavior. I anticipate that this study will inform policy makers, program planners, and service providers who seek to meet the needs of this population."

Excerpts from Recent Faculty Publications

Professor Ann Withorn, CPCS, gave readers of *The Nation* an overview of Massachusetts' fiscal mess in the April 23, 1990 issue. In an article entitled, "Progressive Tax Activism: Taxation for the General Good," she writes about the "fledgling movements that just possibly could make the stodgy old issue of tax reform the basis for radical mass action in the 1990's." Professor Withorn argues that popular feeling that capitalism cannot be easily shaped by traditional government reforms must be addressed if the fight for equitable taxation is to have more than its traditional liberal, middle-class base. But, as experience has taught tax advocates, you can't just say "soak the rich." It's simply not a strategy that will work in the United States, where most people hope to get rich one day. Moreover, the C. L. T. [Citizens for Limited Taxation] line that it is risky to tax businesses because they will pick up their swivel chairs and move—or raise prices—has a certain appeal. But Fred Newdom, a tax advocate who runs ProAct Consultants in Albany, New York, points out that studies show "the major influence on corporate locations is where the C. E. O. wants to live and the quality of the services available to employees, not taxes." Other analyses demonstrate how poor state and local services hurt business competitiveness far more than direct taxes, which can be controlled, just as they try to rebuild hope that a truly democratic government can serve the people.

Professor Richard Lyons, English Department, recently accepted the Foerster Prize for the best article of the year (1989) in *American Literature*. The Prize, a handsome cash award, is sponsored by the American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association. "The Social Vision of *The Spoils of Poynton*" may not be the final word on the critical disagreements about motives and values that have marked discussions of the novel, but in the view of Professor Lyon's peers, his arguments come close: *The social themes in The Spoils of Poynton are not established by the kind of naturalistic detail of social observation found in The Bostonians or The Princess Casamassima, although there is a quiet authenticity of atmosphere in the several settings. We are aware, as always in James, of distinctions of class and manners, but the real sense of society is conveyed less by codes of outward than by deep structures and fundamental assumptions. The conflict prefigured in James's reference in [his] notebooks to "the ugly English custom" involves something more than a contest between persons. The "relegated" mother must make her stand against the whole weight of approved social practice....It is the portrayal of Mrs. Gereth standing alone and heroic against the established power of society that is invoked by the persistent imagery of battle associated with her struggle and the successive descriptions of her as "reigning queen," "proud usurper," and "adventurer."*

News and Views is a bi-weekly publication of the UMass/Boston University News Bureau.

News items should be addressed to the News Bureau, Third Floor, Quinn Administration Building, Harbor Campus, Boston, MA 02125.



Manning Prof. Bing Chen (l) and Research Prof. Robert Weiss ponder the significance of research in the modern American university.

A Community of Scholars

- continued from page 1
- *Journal of Aging and Social Policy*, Scott Bass and Robert Morris, Editors
- *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, Barbara Ross, Editor-in-Chief
- *Journal of Industrial Microbiology*, Joseph Cooney, Senior Editor
- *Journal of Management Systems*, Michael Novak, Associate Editor
- *Journal of Urban & Cultural Studies*, Donald Macedo, Editor
- *Hanging Loose Magazine*, Dick Lourie, Mark Pawlak, and Ron Schrieber, Co-Editors
- *Medical Anthropology: Cross-Cultural Studies in Health and Illness*, Lawrence Greene, Editor-in-Chief
- *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, Alan Harwood, Editor
- *Metropolitan Universities*, Ernest Lynton, Editor
- *New England Journal of Public Policy*, Padraig O'Malley, Editor
- *Organic Preparations and Procedures International*, J. P. Anselme, Editor
- *Sociological Practice Review*, Bette Woody, Editor; Robert Dentler, Managing Editor
- *Teacher's Journal*, Joseph Check, Editor
- *Trotter Institute Review*, Wormie Reed, Editor
- *Women's Studies in Communication*, Marlene Fine, Associate Editor

Dean Safwat also announced that the long-awaited Campus research magazine is the process of becoming a reality, under the able editorial hand of Paul Wright. Says the Dean, "planning and

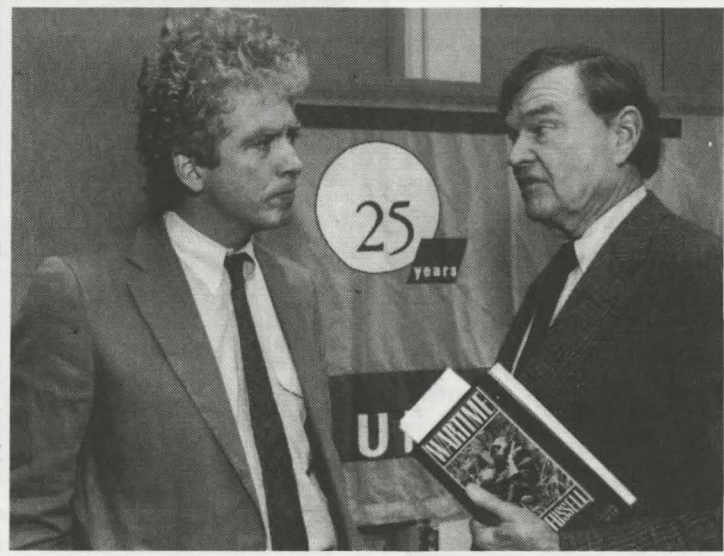
implementation for a magazine to feature and foster faculty/staff research and writing has been ongoing. We would welcome suggestions for potential authors and articles, and submission of texts, 10-20 pages in typescript, addressed to a general audience, discussing current research topics. Sections from books or abstracts of published materials are welcome. The name of the magazine is yet to be determined, and suggestions would be welcome."

Chancellor Penney has also expressed her concern that research and creativity continued to be fostered at UMass/Boston, even in the midst of financially hard times. At the April reception she issued this invitation to faculty and staff: "I want to hear from you about other ways of improving the research climate and the intellectual vitality of the university. Some of these may not be related to money. I have heard from many of you that we need to become more of a community of scholars. I've discovered that there are many faculty at the University who have related research interest and whom I believe would be inspired and encouraged by contacts with each other, but often don't know each other. There are, for example, faculty from several colleges engaged in research on international issues, several engaged in the topic of women and work, several on urban education. Often they all don't know each other, and much too often then work alone. I'm committed to encouraging communication about the faculty with related research interests."

What's all the Fussell?

Noted scholar, critic, historian talks about the American way of war

A campus that respects and nurtures research and scholarship opens its doors to visitors with new ideas or interesting points of view. One such recent visitor was celebrated author and cultural historian, Paul Fussell, Donald T. Regan Professor of English Literature at the University of Pennsylvania. As part of the Joiner Center's lecture series, "Between the Lines," Professor Fussell addressed an attentive audience at the Faculty Club. He is the author of *Wartime* and *The Great War and Modern Memory*, as well as numerous volumes of literary criticism, including *Theory and Prosody in Eighteenth-Century England*, *Poetic Meter and Poetic Form*, and *Samuel Johnson and the Life of Writing*. General audiences know him best for his trenchant social criticism, *Class: A Guide through the American Status System*, the 1983 opus in which he opines: "it's for purely social-class reasons that university professors object to being denominated educators, because the term fails to distinguish them from high-school superintendents, illiterate young teachers with temporary 'credentials,' and similar pedagogic riffraff. The next time you meet a distinguished university professor, especially one who fancies himself well known nationally for his ideas and writings, tell him it's an



Curmudgeon in high dudgeon: Paul Fussell (r) expatiates to Joiner Center's Kevin Bowen.

honor to meet such a famous educator, and watch: first he will look down for a while, then up, but not at you, then away. And very soon he will detach himself from your company. He will be smiling all the time, but inside he will be in torment." Educator Fussell is the recipient of both the National Book Award and the National Book Critics' Circle Award.

Keith Snyder reports below on Professor Fussell's April lecture.

For Paul Fussell, the technology of modern warfare is an issue especially relevant to America. Beginning with the Civil War and

culminating in Viet Nam, technology has made war in the 20th Century one of escalating "terror and destruction." Professor Fussell talked about the difficulties of selecting documents of literary and non-literary interest from a vast body of 20th Century writings on war for his forthcoming *The Norton Book of Modern War*. Many of those included in the anthology bear testimony to the fact that "the word 'war' stays the same but the reality changes and gets worse." Few writers, said Professor Fussell, with the exception of Hemingway and Stephen Spender, left memorable works in

the Spanish Civil War. This was especially so in the case of the Korean War, although the anthology includes a number of classic and arcane selections from writers such as Robert Graves and Vera Brittain (WWI) and Louis Simpson and Dwight Eisenhower (WWII). From Viet Nam, on the other hand, Professor Fussell asserts, "there is more good literature than anyone could get into a book like this." Included are the works of Joiner Center stalwart Tim O'Brien, Ron Kovic, and poet Bruce Weigl.

Quoting Thomas Hobbes' observation that "force and fraud in war are the two cardinal virtues," Professor Fussell characterized war in the 20th Century as "more intellectual" than ever before. Propaganda became a specialized branch of the military in WWI. A forerunner of modern advertising, psychological warfare is also a weapon designed for a literate enemy. Writing about war, Professor Fussell said, is to be concerned with "the problem of naming and describing things." One solution, for government propaganda, has been to formulate euphemisms such as "casualty" and "pacification." Paul Fussell would have us remember, above all, Hemingway's admonition "never think that war, no matter how necessary or justified, is not a crime."

Research: Some words from the experts

Somehows this sounds like the purest kidooleyoon wherein our madernacerution of lour lore is rich.

Research is an expression of faith in the possibility of progress. The drive that leads scholars to study a topic has to include the belief that new things can be discovered, that newer can be better, and that greater depth of understanding is achievable. Research, especially academic research, is a form of optimism about the hu-

*man condition....Persons who have faith in progress and therefore possess an intellectually optimistic disposition—i.e., teacher-scholars—are probably more interesting and better professors. They are less likely to present their subjects in excessively cynical or reactionary terms.—Henry Rosovsky (hon DHL, UMB), *The University: An Owner's Manual* (W.W. Norton & Company, 1990).*

The vast majority of the so-called research turned out in the

*modern university is essentially worthless. It does not result in any measurable benefit to anything or anybody. It does not push back those omnipresent "frontiers of knowledge" so confidently evoked; it does not in the main result in greater health or happiness among the general populace...It is busy work on a vast, almost incomprehensible scale. It is dispiriting...—Page Smith, *Killing the Spirit: Higher Education in America* (Viking, 1990).*

*For liberal education, the most destructive of these polarizations was that between research and teaching. Are you for research or for teaching? One of the most intelligent defenders of liberal education...often fell into the trap of talking as if it were possible to choose up sides on such a question.—Wayne C. Booth, "Who Killed Liberal Education?" in *The Vocation of a Teacher: Rhetorical Occasions, 1967-1988* (The University of Chicago Press, 1988).*