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5-15-1973

Bulletin - Vol. 04, No. 37 - May 15, 1973

University of Massachusetts Boston

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Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "Bulletin - Vol. 04, No. 37 - May 15, 1973" (1973). *1971-1977, UMass Boston Bulletin*. 106.

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Campus Impact Study Group

The report of the Campus Impact Study Group, a campus response to the Dorchester-Columbia Point Task Force--Justin Gray Report, has been forwarded to President Robert Wood and the Board of Trustees by Acting Chancellor Hamilton with his commentary.

Copies of the Hamilton comments and the CISG report are being distributed on campus and in the community.

Dr. Hamilton notes in his transmittal letter that there are actions that can be taken on the campus, with the concurrence of the President and the Board of Trustees, and that other action is in the domain of Trustee action.

He said that "the Study Group has succeeded in providing significant policy recommendations based on both an understanding that our primary mission is to provide low-cost, urban related higher education, and that as a new neighbor at Columbia Point, South Boston and Dorchester communities, we must be sensitive and responsive to the interests and concerns of our neighbors."

The University Assembly was commended for "its assistance to the Study Group and for its strong support of their recommendations."

There are four major sections in the CISG report and in the Hamilton's commentary: Transportation, Admissions, Employment and Housing.

Under Transportation, Dr. Hamilton states the Chancellor's Office has authority to set in motion the scheduling of classes at Columbia Point to meet the academic demand and to reduce commuting peaks that could affect the neighborhoods; to provide adequate security; to establish a Transportation Office; to establish a Community-City-University committee to assure parking regulations on nearby streets; to continue work with state and other agencies to insure planned construction of road and signalization changes are completed; to study closely commuting patterns and their relation with planned parking spaces on campus.

For Trustee action in this area, the Trustees are asked to provide a Memorandum of Agreement with the MBTA for the bus shuttle link between Columbia Station and the campus; to establish parking policy fees; the establishment of a Trust Fund for bus subsidization; that the Trustees request and support of a Columbia stop on the Quincy MBTA line, and that Trustees urge Legislative support for funding a \$13 million capital outlay budget for a permanent transit link between Columbia Station and the campus.

Campus Impact Study Group
(continued)

In the Admissions area, Dr. Hamilton announced that two studies on Admissions policy will be undertaken by the Provost's Office, for September 1 completion. The first concerns a new admissions policy reflecting the CISG report; the second concerns pre-college programs and UMass-Boston relations with Boston schools on improving access to higher education for Boston high school students.

A six point employment program, including hiring an Affirmative Action Officer and a personnel recruiter in relation to the UMass-Boston commitment to minority groups and local community residents, will be undertaken as soon as possible, Dr. Hamilton reported.

Dr. Hamilton said that he concurred with the CISG Report that no housing be built exclusively for students either on campus or in the community and that he noted the seriousness of the housing question. The University, he said, has an obligation, within the limits of its educational authority, to assist local residents to protect and strengthen their housing resources. With this in mind, he recommended that the Office of Grant Development and Community Services will:

- a. support the establishment of the Planning and Technical Assistance Corporation with proposal preparation, grant development and legal assistance for incorporation;
- b. establish with the Community Task Force and the Mayor's Office a joint committee to focus on protecting local housing through code enforcement, zoning, rent control, etc.
- c. establish a process with residents of the Columbia Point Housing Project for cooperative efforts in areas of education, employment, transportation, safety, recreation, shopping facilities, housing and others of mutual concern and benefit for the Columbia Point Peninsula.

He added that a Housing Office will be established as an informational and educational clearing house on housing issues and problems which, among other things, would assist students to find housing outside the impact area on a dispersal basis throughout other parts of Boston and the suburbs.

Book Review

The May 4 Christian Science Monitor's feature book review by Arnold Beichman (Politics) on "The Fellow Travellers: A Postscript to the Enlightenment," by David Caute is summed up in the headline: It's hard to fellow travel if no one else is traveling.

Beichman does not deal gently with Caute's account of fellow traveling--covering the years of 1918 through 1956--as "fascinating but somewhat confusing: fascinating because it shows how fatal it is for politicized intellectuals to allow their stern moralism to become the captive of a "scientific" ideology; confusing because the author, an ambiguous "fellow-traveller" of the New Left, has no secure judicial perch from which to judge his gallery of sinners. Some of his comments and analyses make one wonder whether the author has not adopted as his operating slogan the password of the French fellow-travellers--no enemies on the Left."

Commencement

Twenty three days from now, on June 7, the graduates of UMass-Boston will be in procession down the center aisle of Hynes Auditorium.

For many of them it will be one of the most memorable days in their lives.

It will be a day of fulfillment for themselves and their families and friends.

For the faculty and staff at UMass-Boston, Commencement Day will be a joyful event, joyful because of the contributions you have made in the noble vocation of education.

This is the Fifth Commencement for this young and vigorous institution, and if we go by milestones and plateaus in the celebration of human events, this is a jewelled day in the history of UMass-Boston.

It cannot go without notice that the planning of such an event is in the hands of many people, who are working assiduously to make it the day it is supposed to be.

Faculty Marshall Roger Prouty is the major domo, exercising charm and experience in planning to make it a memorable day. The people in the Registrar's Office are behind the scenes, but without them the day could not run smoothly. Not many at the campus would have any idea how much energy and talent S. W. Haney and the Business Office people have already expended on this day.

More important in the planning are the seniors themselves, especially Toby Pearlstein and Arthur Barber, to name but two.

More on Commencement in the next Bulletin.

Student Trustee

Reggie Cagle has been elected by student vote as the Student member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Massachusetts. He won with 439 votes over Charles Snyder, with 291 votes, and Michael King, with 70.

Cagle succeeds Ellen Kelly who served with distinction as a Trustee during the past year.

Thank You

Dr. William R. Hamilton, Jr., received the following letter from the family of the late Silas Mbawuiké, a student from Nigeria who died suddenly earlier this year. The letter from his father, William, and his uncles Donatus and Basil was posted at Ikeduru Owerri, Nigeria.

"We wish to express our gratitude to you and the entire University Community for your message of condolence conveyed to us on event of Silas' death.

"What should console us more is that our son has been reported as representing the family well whilst in your midst and you have done us the rare honour of offering him the opportunity to achieve his ambition, though death suddenly snatched him away from us and the realization of his ambition.

"Please accept our thanks for the sympathy expressed."

Sino-Soviet Aid to Africa

This is the title of a seminar sponsored by The State University of New York and The African-American Labor Center on May 30-31 at CUNY's Graduate Center in New York. UMass-Boston is contributing to this event with two panelists: Thomas Kanza, who will speak on "An African View of Sino-Soviet Aid" and Arnold Beichman, who will review "The End of Ideology in Africa."

The seminar theme is the perspectives on Sino-Soviet Aid to African and its challenges to the West.

Campus Tours

The University has been requested by the Bureau of Building Construction, the Project Manager's Office and the General Contractors to keep tours of the new campus to a minimum.

It is extremely dangerous for large groups to be on the site in areas of construction due to falling material and the heavy construction vehicular traffic.

Charles Spaulding, Director of Physical Plant, urges these guidelines:

Limit the tour to no more than three persons.

Book the tour through the Physical Plant Office one day in advance. Call extension 227.

Tours can be scheduled only for 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Tours must be for a specific purpose, not for a sight-seeing trip.