ECOS Researchers Examine Environmental Damage from the World Trade Center Attacks

By Anne-Marie Kent and Sarah Oktay

On September 11, when two terrorist-flown planes leveled New York's World Trade Center towers, the result was not only immense loss of life and tremendous financial cost, but also significant environmental damage. Debris literally rained down over a 16-block area and found its way into the nearby Hudson River. Researchers from the Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Science (ECOS) Department at the University of Massachusetts-Boston hope to discover just how much of it washed off the streets or was deposited atmospherically into the Hudson River.

By studying the geochemical "fingerprint" left in the Hudson River, ECOS scientists Curtis Olsen and Sarah Oktay, and graduate student Joseph Smith, with the help of Environmental Studies Program Director and ECOS scientist Dan Brabander, hope to better understand the movement of sediments and potential contaminants in the lower Hudson River, as well as the environmental impact of the attack.

On October 12, Oktay, Olsen, Smith, and the small crew of a wooden rowboat supplied by the nonprofit group "Sail the Apple" launched out onto the Hudson River. They rowed along the western side of the estuary near "Ground Zero" to collect sediment cores, which are essentially samples of riverbed mud. The scientists will examine these for evidence of building materials from the Twin Towers, mainly powdered concrete and gypsum board containing high calcium and sulfur concentrations, and also asbestos and trace elements produced by the steel girders.

The ECOS scientists are hoping that their measurements will reveal new geochemical fingerprints useful for investigating short-to-medium-term sediment dynamics and quality in New York Harbor. This data could provide new insight into the way currents deposit hazardous materials in harbors. The information gained also can be used not only to plan the safe removal of any hazardous debris, but also to help environmental planners determine where material will be deposited atmospherically into the nearby Hudson River.

State Budget Cuts Mean Spending Reductions, First Fee Increase in Five Years

By Anne-Marie Kent

The recently approved Massachusetts state budget included a $23.5 million reduction in funding for the University of Massachusetts. The general appropriation for the university system declined from $483.6 million in 1995-1996 to $464.1 million — a decrease of $19.5 million or 4 percent — and its libraries sustained a $6 million reduction.

Responding to this cut, the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees on December 10 approved a fiscal stabilization plan that includes significant spending reductions, as well as increases in mandatory fees for most undergraduate and graduate students which will go into effect for the spring 2002 semester.

The increase affects undergraduate and graduate students on the Boston and Lowell campuses, and undergraduates in Amherst and Worcester's medical and other graduate students. It is the first time that the total student charge (tuition and fees) has increased since the 1995-1996 academic year.

Board of Trustees Chair Grace Fey said, "Our campuses are making difficult spending reductions but cannot close the gap by cuts alone. Raising fees is a step we simply must take." She added, "The Board of Trustees is committed to maintaining the academic excellence of the University of Massachusetts system and believes that adequate levels of funding must be maintained."

UMass Boston Chancellor Jo Ann Gora said, "At UMass Bos-

Noam Chomsky Speaks at UMass Boston's Human Rights Forum

By Leigh DuPuy

Noam Chomsky, noted linguist, political philosopher, and professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, addressed members at UMass Boston's faculty club on December 12. An additional 100 interested people overflowed into the media auditorium of the Healey library, eager to hear Chomsky's provocative talk at the role of U.S. government intervention in the plight of Colombia and other countries.

The event, second of its kind, was organized by the Human Rights Working Group (HRWG) at UMass Boston.

"The human rights definition is very important in meaning and..." Cont. on Page 7

The human rights definition is very important in meaning and..." Cont. on Page 7

ECOS Scientists Sarah Oktay, Joseph Smith, and Curtis Olsen joined personnel from "Sail the Big Apple" and John Kada from the Department of Energy's Environmental Measurement Laboratory to take samples of the Hudson River near the altered New York skyline. Pictured in the foreground: Oktay and Smith. (Photo by Curtis Olsen)

Web Homepage Gets a Makeover

New highlights column gives the latest on "what's happening at UMass Boston." Check it out at www.umb.edu.
Campus Strides Forward with Technology

By Joe Peters

For the first time, the university hosted the Northeast Regional Forum "Setting Economic Priorities for the Greater Boston Region," which was held in the Faculty Club on November 28. Chancellor Jo Ann Gora welcomed Governor Jane Swift (right), UMass President William M. Bulger, and over 100 participants who attended to discuss economic development and participate in sessions focusing on topics such as preparing the workforce, improving the business climate, and developing strategies for growth. The program included remarks by Elizabeth Ames, director of the Department of Economic Development, and an overview of the planning process by J. Lynn Griesemer, executive director of the UMass Donohue Institute.

UMass Boston Hosts Statewide Economic Development Forum

By Leigh DuPuy

"My father taught us never to settle," explained Jeff Taylor at the podium during the retirement party for founding faculty member Clark Taylor held on November 28. "My father embodies the concept of never settling." The room full of Taylor's family, colleagues, and students agreed. "Clark is somebody who never stopped caring about the college and the university," praised Chancellor Gora, pointing out his dedication and influence during his twenty-nine and a half years as faculty member and leader at the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS).

In honor of his father's achievements, Jeff Taylor presented a gift of $100,000 to establish a technology center in his father's name at CPCS. The Clark Taylor Information Technology Center will offer computer-assisted learning, skills training, and tutoring support for students and community partners. Taylor also announced an additional contribution to the center of $50,000 by TMP Worldwide - the parent company of TMP Interactive and Monster.com, of which Jeff is CEO and founder. The additional funds for the initiative will assist CPCS in its goal to become a leader in development programs with other countries.

The center represents only one of Taylor's legacies. "For nearly 30 years, Clark has filled very possible role in the college," noted Ismael Ramirez-Soto, CPCS dean. Not only did he help create the college in 1972, he has served as a member of its faculty, acting dean, and department chair of the General Education Center. In addition, he chaired the CPCS Policy Board, and he served as co-associate dean for academic affairs during 1999-2000.

Gerontology Examines Transportation for Older Americans

On November 29, a State House forum sponsored by the Massachusetts Legislative Caucus on Older Citizens' Concerns and the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston explored issues concerning transportation needs of older citizens. Associate Director of the Gerontology Institute Ellen Bruce opened the forum and introduced the impressive panel of experts. The experts agreed: The United States is a mobile nation. Our culture values individuals' ability to move when, wherever, and however they choose. Transportation is a vital part of healthy and productive aging. Consequently, it must become an equal partner with the traditional issues of health and income security on the aging policy agenda.

- Robert Geary

Clark Taylor Retires: Son Jeff Taylor's Gift Establishes Technology Center in Father's Name

By Leigh DuPuy

"I can honestly say that I've never lost my enthusiasm for CPCS," Taylor said, in his address to a crowd that included his wife Kay, his daughter Ellen, daughter-in-law Janet, and grandchildren. "It has been my privilege to work among the finest colleagues and students I could ever imagine having."

In his impassioned speech, Taylor reviewed the college's history, challenges, and achievements, noting its educational philosophy, committed faculty, and role in defining outcome-based education. He noted the college's dedication to the urban community, "We who shaped CPCS came here as lovers of the city."

With the help of the new technology center and a revised campus-based curriculum, he noted that CPCS had the "ingredients for a dynamic, growing, exciting future" and charged the college to grow into its exciting future.
Benchmarks Analyst Clayton-Matthews Tracks Massachusetts Economy

By Anne-Marie Kent

Policymakers, businesses, and other decision-makers depend on accurate economic analysis to predict future trends and make important choices, particularly in difficult times. Professor Alan Clayton-Matthews of Massachusetts Boston, and member-supported, non-profit Benchmarks, issued a sobering report. "Objective economic analyses are needed to explain the imminence of economic contraction, to provide much needed support to our colleges and private sectors."

Benchmarks Analyst Clayton-Matthews Tracks Massachusetts Economy

By Melissa Fassel

English Professor Betsy Klimasmith Receives NEH Fellowship

By Anne-Marie Kent

Best Practices: Student Support Services

By Susan Bartzak-Graham

Student Support Services is a federally funded project which helps retain and graduate first-generation, low-income college students and students with disabilities. This student support services project at the University of Massachusetts was identified for the required match. The end result? A total of $42,437 from the Department of Education to help support the Grant. The grant would provide aid for first and second-year students, those who are often the most vulnerable to withdrawal. To qualify for the grant, institutions were required to provide matching funds. UMass Boston received $42,437 from the Department of Education and through the leadership of the Provost's Office, deans, and senior administrators, $20,902 in university funds were identified for the required match. The end result? A total of $63,339 in new scholarship dollars is available for student support services participants.

In identifying grant recipients, our priority was to decrease unmet needs, reduce or eliminate loan burden, and reduce student's work-study obligation. Ninety-five students will receive a grant averaging $650. What difference will this make? Realistically, $650 is only a small part of the total cost of education. Yet, freshman Bich-Hop Doan says that her grant will help her to buy books next semester, enable her to work fewer hours, and still continue to help support her family. She is excited about being able to put more time into her studies. Freshman Olavo "Billy" Gomes, agrees. Employed 24-hours a week, a member of the basketball team, and a new father, Billy says that he can now pay for his books, and will use whatever is left over for transportation and parking.

The awards may seem small, but the grants will alleviate some of the financial pressure that low-income students face. The College Completion Challenge Grant is a unique collaboration across the entire university and an important opportunity to provide much needed support to students.

Susan Bartzak-Graham is the director of Student Support Services, a federally funded TRIO program serving 500 students.

(Budget cuts cont.)

The outlook for the second half of this year is for continued weakness, with very slow growth at best," wrote Clayton-Matthews. "A moderate decline in output and employment is more probable than not." The report cites a loss of 12,900 Massachusetts manufacturing jobs between December and July, nearly 3 percent of manufacturing payroll employment. This is the third major decline in manufacturing employment since the mid-1980s. "The recession in Massachusetts appears to have begun last December," explains Clayton-Matthews. "The state's economy is still contracting, with sharp increases in layoffs in recent months, falling tax revenues, declining exports, and continuing declines in manufacturing production." Not all the news is bad, however. Clayton-Matthews says, "So far, however, the recession has been mild, and although there are no clear signs yet that the bottom has been reached, there are several signs that at least the pace of contraction is slowing." Clayton-Matthews points to continuing strengths in residential real estate, construction, finance, education, hospitals, and medical sciences, which include medical device manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology. These sectors have contributed enough employment gains and income to keep Massachusetts from falling into a full-blown recession.

Clayton-Matthews' current research includes the development of composite indexes of economic activity and considers the relationship between demographic trends and economic growth in New England, the links between traditional and high-tech manufacturing in Massachusetts, and the implications of various paid leave proposals and related family leave dynamics. Clayton-Matthews regularly offers expert commentary to the media and teaches quantitative methods at UMass Boston.

His reports are read widely by policymakers and local economic leaders. "Clayton-Matthews' analyses of the Massachusetts economy are very insightful. I refer to them often," says Lynn E. Browne, executive vice president and director of research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. "They combine sophisticated econometric techniques with a practical, down-to-earth understanding of how the Massachusetts economy works. His writings effectively highlight the important economic issues facing decision-makers in the public and private sectors."
Chancellor Honors Fellowship Candidates at Student Reception

Chancellor Jo Ann Gora congratulated honors students under consideration for fellowship awards during a reception held in the Chancellor's Conference Room on December 10. All three students will be graduating summa cum laude this year. Jennifer Norins, who is pursuing a joint major in psychology and sociology and a minor in economics, has applied for British Marshall and Fulbright fellowships for study in the United Kingdom. Michael Plante is an economics major who has applied for Fulbright fellowship study in Japan. Ben Day, a double major in political science and philosophy, was considered for a Rhodes scholarship and has applied for a Marshall scholarship. Norins, Plante, and Day expect to find out their status in January. From left to right: Monica McAlpine, director of UMass Boston's Honors Program, Chancellor Gora, with Jennifer Norins, Michael Plante, and Ben Day. (Photo by Harry Breit).

World Trade Center Research (cont.)

build up in the harbor. The components present in the World Trade Center sediments will remain in the Hudson River sediment for years to come.

The impacts of certain catastrophic events provide signals in the sediment that allow scientists to assign dates to specific sediment layers. For example, the samples taken on the Hudson will reveal not only the impact of the World Trade Center explosions, but also earlier sources of pollution. In the early 1960s, global fallout from nuclear weapons introduced radioactive pollutants into the Hudson River, and in the early 1970s, controlled releases from the Indian Point Nuclear Facility 50 miles upstream introduced other radioisotopes. These occurrences can be used to "date" the core and document historical records of contaminant inputs to New York Harbor.

In addition, researchers will be measuring atmospherically deposited beryllium-7 in rain samples from the roof of the Department of Energy's Environmental Measurement Laboratory in Manhattan and comparing those values to those in rain collected monthly at UMass Boston. Beryllium-7 is a short-lived radioisotope that enters the environment with rainfall. High levels can indicate the presence of other contaminants and excess sediment deposition. Oktay explains, "The measurement of isotopes through our ecosystem in plant life, the water cycle, and soils can tell us much about the natural movement of chemicals and elements. Other areas that would benefit from this research include nuclear waste disposal and landfill remediation."

The team is applying lessons learned from other major catastrophes. When Olsen was a research scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, he did a similar study documenting the environmental impact of the 1941 Pearl Harbor bombing. "That one bombing event," Curtis says, "introduced more lead into the harbor water and sediments than the total amount of lead that has been input during the following 50 years by naval operations and sewage disposal." The research team will return to Hawaii to present a comparison between the Pearl Harbor and World Trade Center study results in February at the Ocean Sciences 2002 meeting.

Africana Studies Department Celebrates First Homecoming

by Leigh DuPuy

Faculty, students, and alumni from the Africana Studies Department came together to celebrate the program's 32-year anniversary and participate in a new mentoring program at the first Africana Homecoming Celebration held at United South End Settlements House on November 30. According to Department chair Robert Johnson Jr, the location, the site of the oldest social service agency in New England, was the perfect setting for the program's theme of academy and community.

During the program's opening reception, more than 40 alumni and students met, shared insights, and asked questions about career and educational opportunities together in the newly initiated Africana Mentoring Program, created to pair alumni with majors for advice and guidance.

The program also gave alumni the chance to reconnect with the department and its faculty members while learning about some of the department's new programs, including the Caribbean Institute. Professor Marc Pous gave an update on the new physical base where students and faculty members from UMass Boston and other universities can conduct research pertaining to Caribbean development and work to create a planned journal highlighting the findings.

Sarah Ann Shaw, community activist and former reporter for WBZ-7, gave the keynote address, "Balancing Profession and Community: The Challenges of the Twenty-First Century." Shaw is well-known for her contributions to journalism and community service, having received the City of Boston African American Achievement Award in 1996, as well as awards from the National Association for Black Journalists, the NAACP, and the Museum of Afro American history.

The Africana Studies Department offers a multi- and interdisciplinary program that examines the history, social life, and culture of those of African descent across the world.
Chancellor Gora Visits the Notre Dame Montessori School

Chancellor Gora took time out of her busy schedule on December 4 to reach out to UMass Boston's community partners, the Notre Dame Montessori School. As part of her visit, she sat down with the preschoolers in the program, talking with them and playing their favorite name game. She also gave UMass Boston t-shirts to our little neighbors, which they all donned proudly. While there, she met with Father George Carrigg of St. Christopher's Parish, the 2001 recipient of the Quinn Award for his exemplary community leadership.

New Book on Latino Politics in Massachusetts

By Leigh DuPey

What are the major challenges to Latino political representation in Massachusetts? Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, examines these factors in her latest book, Latino Politics in Massachusetts: Struggles, Strategies, and Prospects. At a Gaston Institute Speaker Series lecture on November 30, Hardy-Fanta presented findings from her research in seven Massachusetts cities with significant Latino populations: Boston, Chelsea, Lawrence, Lowell, Holyoke, Springfield, and Worcester.

Hardy-Fanta analyzed the unique political and community backdrop in each city to examine how Latinos face different contextual factors and devise strategies for success. In her survey, she took a look at cases such as the role of educational grievances and Latino mobilization in Chelsea, the success of multiracial coalitions in the election of the first Latino legislator in Boston, and the academy.


This was one of the reasons why Hardy-Fanta chose to write about Latinos in Massachusetts. Massachusetts also has been often ignored in Latino political histories. Contrary to the prevailing stereotype of low levels of participation and electoral success, there has been an exponential growth in Latino campaigns in the Commonwealth since the mid-1980s. Hardy-Fanta's book, published in December by Rutledge Press, should fill in this critical lack of information about Massachusetts and Latino politics.

Hardy-Fanta is a nationally recognized scholar on Latino/a politics and has published widely on the intersection of gender, race, and ethnicity in politics and public policy. She has also authored Latina Politics, Latino Politics: Gender, Culture, and Political Participation in Boston, which was published in 1993.

Philosophy Professor Examines Race and Racism

By Leigh DuPey

Issues of race and racism have always been explosive topics in American history, politics, society, and the academy. Philosophy Professor Lawrence Blum examines the barriers that obstruct discussions of racial matters inside the classroom and out in his latest book, I'm Not a Racist, But... The Moral Quandary of Race. The work, five years in the making for the moral philosopher, draws upon sociological, historical, and scientific perspectives to examine racism and race.

"Race is a morally destructive idea," Blum argues. In the book, he provides a synthesis of research on race and racism, discussing the construction of racial categories and the role of social inequality in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. He also examines the phenomena of racial discrimination, color blindness, white privilege, institutional racism, and selective racism.

"I want to help people to talk about racial issues across racial and ethnic boundaries in classrooms," Blum explains. "The category of race plays an important role in how people look at the world."

He believes the epithet "racist" has been overused and believes that people can use a more varied and nuanced moral vocabulary, including such as racial insensitivity, racial ignorance, racial injustice, and racial anxiety, to communicate problematic moral responses to race.

Blum, also a distinguished professor of liberal arts and education, has worked at UMass Boston for 29 years as a faculty member in the Philosophy department. In recognition of his work, which includes his two other books, Moral Perception and Partiality and Friendship, Altruism, and Morality, he was named the Kohlberg Lecturer in 1998 by the Association of Moral Education. His current book has been published by the Cornell University Press.

Copyright Office Gets Internet Savvy

To make it easier for professors to order course packets, the Copyright Office has gone online. The office has created a new form on the UMass Boston website to make it easier than ever to order course packets. To access, go to www.umass.edu/administration, click on the Central Reprographics link in the drop down menu, and then click on the Copyright Permissions Office link.

The office will clear permissions and scan course content, as well as bind, paginate, and create a cover for the course packet. They also will price the packet and sell it at the Wheatley copy center. Faculty members can either send or deliver their course content to the Copyright Office in Central Reprographics (Quinn Lower Level). Faculty can use the new form on the website or they can pick up a course packet form at Central Reprographics or the Wheatley copy center. The Copyright Office has also sent a memo with a new form to 1,200 faculty members through the campus mail.

- Maureen Smith
Kevin Murphy, a post-residency Ph.D. student in the public policy program, presented the paper "The Impact of a Series of Writing Intensive Courses on Success on the Writing Proficiency Require­ment" at the Northeast Association for Institutional Research annual conference, held in Cambridge in November.

On November 13, Elizabeth Sherman, senior fellow in the McCormack Institute, presented the paper "The Difference She Makes: Women and Political Power in the United States," to 300 participants of the McCormack Institute sponsored by Newton Commu­nity Education.

Cindy Schuster of the Hispanic Studies Department directed a translation and read her translation of Mexican writer María Luisa Puga's short story "Tight Spot" at Jamaicaway Books on November 14.

Computer science professor Dan Simovici and Ph.D. student Laurenia Crisford will present their paper at the Extraccion de Gente in December 2002 conference in Montpellier, France held January 23-23.

Co-authors ECOS doctoral candidate Ruo-Jing Tang and Professor Emeritus Joseph Cooney presented their paper "Interaction of Tributyltin-Sensitive and Resistant, Biofilm-Forming Bacteria from Sydney Harbor, MA" at the 7th Annual Boston Bacterial Meeting and the American Society of Microbiology meeting in Orlando.

Gerontology faculty and graduate students presented numerous posters and papers at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, held in Chicago from November 15 through 18.

Publications


Sara Baron, Instructional Technology Center director and coordinator of Healey Library's Library Instruction Program, and reference librarian, Janet DiPaolo, have co-authored book chapter which have been published in Teaching Information Literacy: Concepts, Activities and Frame­works from the Field.


Professor of Management Arthur A. Goldsmith, who co-authored his recent Dorchester High School Students' Program with American Society of Microbiology Gerontology faculty and graduate students, published the article "Restoring and Sustaining Growth and Development in Africa" in the Journal of African Finance and Economic Development.

Jean-Pierre Kaulboer, associate professor and chair of the Manage­ments and Sciences Information Systems Department, co-authored e-Business and e-Commerce Infrastructure: Technologies Supporting the e-Business Initiative with former CM faculty member Aby Chaudhury. This new textbook for upper level undergraduate and graduate students in Business Administration also intended for practicing profession­als in the areas of marketing, accounting, information systems, and operations.

Sarah Oktay of the Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences Department co-wrote the article "1291 and 1271 Transport in the Mississippi River," which was published in the November 15 issue of Environmental Science and Technology.

Thomas O'Grady, professor of English and director of his English studies, published the essay "The Art of Heaney's Sonnets" in the current issue of Dalhousie Review.

A chapter first co-authored by two recent Dorchester High School graduates, Fredo Sano and Maurice Trujillo, will appear in the new book In Our Own Words: Students' Perspectives on School. Their chapter, "Cutting class: Perspectives of Urban High School Students," will co-authored with UMass Boston alumni Lydia Fortune and associate professor Susan O'Penter in the Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution.

The most recent issue of the e-journal Conservation Perspectives featured work by biology students and faculty: Jennifer Forman, Ph.D. candidate, Robert Stevenson, professor, and Marsha Salet, Ph.D. candidate who helped found the journal.

Elizabeth Sherman, senior fellow at the McCormick Institute, pub­lished the article "Women in Political Leadership: Reflections on Larger Social Issues" in the fall 2001 issue of Leadership, the magazine of the Center for Public Leadership at the Kennedy School of Government.

Cindy Schuster of the Hispanic Studies Department will publish the article, "Keeping the Poetry in Proust: Sound and Style in Transla­tion," in the February 2002 ATA Chronicle.

Bold Words: A Century of American Writing, edited by Rajini Srikanth, assistant professor of English and Esther Chen Iwanga, lecturer in English, has been published by Rutgers University Press.


Professors Eben Weitman and Daron Kew, faculty of the Graduate Programs in Dispute Resolution, have published the article "Responding to September 11: Conflict Resolution Perspectives" in the electronic journal Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy, which is sponsored by the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues.


EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES

Lloyd Schwartz, director of the Creative Writing Program, participated on November 19 in a reading of Frank O'Hara's poetry which was sponsored by the Blacksmith House Poetry Series at the Harvard School of Education Library. Schwartz joined other readers including former poet­laureate Robert Pinsky and former UMass Boston professor Frank Bidart.

Music professor Jon Mitchell guest-conducted the Metropolitan Wind Symphony in concert on December 16 for which his department colleague Linease Bardarson was the featured soloist in a performance of Gershwin's A Rhapsody in Blue.

RESEARCH AND GRANTS

Franko Caro, director of the Gerontology Institute, is working with Elderly Services Inc. (ESI) of Middlebury, Vermont, to find out what makes its adult day program, Project Independence, a leader in the field. The agency gained national recognition from the Robert Wood Foundation and a statewide independent living award.

Nina Greenwald of the Graduate College of Education is writing a book on teaching science through constructivist and other problem­solving models using critical and creative thinking that she has developed.

The New England Resource Center for Higher Education received a grant from the Ford Foundation to work with the Institute for Higher Education Policy and examine how changing remediation policies have affected the organization and delivery of remedial education, admissions practices, and the allocation of financial aid on campuses, particularly for low-income and minority students in the New England region.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Associate Professor Steven Ackerman has been elected director of the Biochemistry Program by his peers.

Jennifer Arnold, a graduate biology student, won the prize for best student poster for her work "Albatross Populations in Peril..." at the November meeting of the Waterbird Society, held in Niagara Falls, Ontario. The poster can be seen in the hallway near the Biological Laboratory.

Phil Granberry, a first-year student in the Ph.D. in public policy program, was honored with the Hidden Heroes Award by the Codman Square Neighborhood Council for his history of fundraising efforts which have benefited youth activities.

John McGah of the Center for Social Policy has just been named as an International Eisenhowe Fellow. This prestigious award will enable McGah to live in Europe for a short period of time next year and study local responses to homelessness.

William Robinson, professor in the Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences Department, has been appointed associate provost.

Louise Smith, professor of English, has been appointed dean of the liberal arts faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences. She assumed the post on December 31.

Talia Trup of the Center for Social Policy has been named as one of only six 2002 Boston Philanthro­phoy Fellows. This award, sponsored by the Philanthropic Initiative, recognizes persons who have made a significant contribu­tion to the Boston community. The award ceremony will take place on February 5.
Gordon Webb, professor in the Exercise Science and Physical Education Department, was inducted into the New England Lacrosse Hall of Fame. Webb played lacrosse as an undergraduate at UMass Boston, has coached lacrosse for twenty years, and originated and co-directs the New England Premier Lacrosse Recruiting Showcase.

The Center for Social Policy (CSP) is the recent recipient of a "Geeks for America" award from the Cambridge-based TechFoundation. As a result of this award, Jason Wilson, who is a computer technology expert, will contribute his time and skills to CSP projects for the next 12 months.

Sherry Penney reports that the Center for Collaborative Leadership in the College of Management had 48 applicants for its "emerging leaders" program and was able to admit 30 to the program which begins in January 2002.

VISITING LECTURER

On November 14, Rita Arditti, author of Searching for Life: The Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo and the Disappeared Children of Argentina, spoke to a standing-room-only audience of UMass Boston students about recent developments in human rights in Argentina.

OBITUARY

Synnove Kekkonen-Moneta, visiting assistant professor of management sciences and information systems in the College of Management, passed away suddenly on November 30. A memorial in her honor was held on December 13 at the University Chapel and donations in her memory can be made to the College of Management's Dean's Fund for Excellence in support of distance learning activities.

IN THE NEWS

Sandy Blanchette, assistant director of the McCormick Institute, was quoted in managing town government in Marble in the Cape Cod Times on December 12.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, was quoted in an article on Latinas in public office that was published on www.womensnews.com. The site distributes news to media outlets, journalists, policymakers, and others on issues of concern to women.

Chancellor Gora was profiled in the November 8 issue of the Dorchester Reporter on her goals and leadership at the university.

Greater Boston Broadband Network Comes Into Focus

The Greater Boston Broadband Network (GBBN) moved one step closer to reality on November 15 with its multimedia presentation "The Polices of Public Access Cable and the Community Technology Move- ment." The presentation, which included a live performance, a teleconference, a cablecast, a webcast, and an online chat, featured George Stoney, community cable guru and New York University professor of film and video, and Antonia Stone, founder of CTCNet, the largest association of community technology centers in the country.

The event was sponsored by the CTC/VCSTA Project and the Community Media and Technology Program at CPC. The Boston-area partners in the CTC/VCSTA project united to form the Greater Boston Broadband Network, a regional digital broadband network with multilevel and site educational opportunities for a university-community partnership.

To use all GBBN components, the talk by George Stoney was staged as a presentation to a live audience in a distance learning classroom in the Information Technology Center. The event was then cablecast on Boston Neighborhood Network's channel 23. It has been archived on an demand web-streaming at www.itsc.org/ gbbn by GBBN partners UMass Lowell Distance Learning Center and the Lowell Telecommunications Corporation.

PeopleSoft Goes Live on Campus

PeopleSoft Goes Live on Campus

By Linda Pervasto

On December 3, staff members in the Office of Enrollment Marketing, led by director Sherry Rhyoso, began entering data in the new PeopleSoft recruiting system, the first PeopleSoft module to be implemented on campus.

The smooth implementation marked an important milestone for Project IRS (In- tercampus Student Information System), a cooperative effort by the Boston, Dartmouth, and Lowell campuses to develop a shared PeopleSoft student administration system. In addition to developing the recruiting application, the core project team members from three campuses created a technical and user support infrastructure that will serve PeopleSoft modules that will form an integrated student information system.

The new system brings important benefits to the campus. The recruiting module captures and stores information from prospective students who make inquiries by phone, mail, e-mail, or the Internet. In addition, it creates prospect records from those who request that their standardized test scores be sent to the campus. The new system enables the campus to assign and track customized communications to prospects. With more information available about each prospect, calls will be targeted even more effectively. Finally, the new system will streamline the admissions process, as the records of prospects who complete an application will automatically be moved into the PeopleSoft admissions module when it is implemented next semester.

The timeline for the remaining modules, student records, financial aid, and student financials, is under consideration.

In the weeks before the go-live date, Enrollment Marketing staff members participated in an extensive hands-on training program that prepared them to search for records, enter data, develop reports, and schedule and generate mailings to prospective students. Since then, they have entered more than a thousand prospect records.

PeopleSoft Goes Live on Campus

Steelwork Begins on New Campus Center

The construction site for the Campus Center as seen on December 4. The plywood supports have been replaced with steel beams. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Progress continues on schedule for the university's new, 331,000 square foot Campus Center. As the pile cap stage nears completion, first signs of the Center's skeleton have emerged at the corner of the site near Wheatley Hall and Science Center. Deliveries of steel beams have been arriving daily in the early morning hours by 18-wheeler trucks, which travel to and from a steel fabrication plant in Nova Scotia. Suffolk Construction has started to erect the steelwork of the building using an 180 foot crane, to move over seven to eight thousand pieces of steel, weighing a total of 3,000 tons.

The construction schedule shows the steel structure for all six floors to be fully in place by the spring. One of the latest additions to the site will offer constant updates to construction. A web cam has been placed near the site that will take a stationary photo of the site every few seconds and a web address will be announced as soon as it is operational. Planners anticipate construction watchers can view updates of the campus Center's progress as early as January.

Chomsky (cont.)

application," said Winston Langley, associate provost and human rights expert who moderated the event. The program included speakers and performers intimately aware of the conflicts in Colombia, having lived or spent time in the war-torn country. Musician Marina Rodriguez performed music from her homeland and Cindy Schuster of the Hispanic Studies Program read several poems based on her own experiences living in Colombia.

German Platz Díaz, a volunteer for the Program of Development and Peace of Magdalena Medio, spoke in depth about the troubles in Colombia, via translator. In an impassioned address, Díaz spoke of the tremendous poverty and violence of the country, setting the scene with his narration. He said, "Our phones are bugged. We are very accustomed to attending funerals on a regular basis." Díaz spoke of his and his countrymen's determination to address these problems, "I want to share all the things we do and won't stop doing to promote peace in Colombia."

Featured speaker Noam Chomsky then took the podium to discuss his own views of Colombia's human rights needs. In his provocative and controversial approach he is well known for, Chomsky began by discussing definitions of terrorism. He said, "It is an easy question. I simply use definition in the U.S. Army Field manual. Terrorism is the calculated use of violence or threat of violence to intimidate or coerce others, or to coerce or intimidate governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious, or ideological... this also happens to be identical to the official U.S. policy for counterterrorism." He went on to say that these definitions should be applied to the United States government, as well as our enemy's activities.

The forum was sponsored by the Student Senate, the office of the Provost, the College of Public and Community Service, Africana Studies, Hispanic Studies, the Women's Center, Latin American Studies, Women's Studies, and the Anthropology Department. Among their next initiatives, the IHRWG are trying to bring a human rights center to campus and develop an interdisciplinary human rights program that students could earn a certificate or concentration.

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The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of University Communications. All events are open to the public and free, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 287-287 and the last four digits listed below each calendar event.

Submit February calendar listings by Tuesday, January 15, to Calendar of Events, University Communications, Quinn Administration Building, 3rd floor, fax (617) 287-5305, or e-mail news@umb.edu. See the News and Events page at www.umb.edu for Calendar of Events on-line listings.

**TUESDAY 1**
New Year's Day. University closed.

**FRIDAY 4**
Procurement Department Seminar: Contracting for Services
9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Healey Library, Learning Center, Presentation Room 2. The Procurement Department will present the new "contract for service" procedure and form, with new monetary limits set for services. This new form will be required for all future contract for services transactions greater than $5,000 annually. Contact: Janis Mahoney, 7-5068.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Bowdoin College
7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**SATURDAY 5**
UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Colby College
3:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**SUNDAY 6**
WUMB Series - Story of Africa: Origins of Mankind/Africa and the Nile Valley
9:19 FM, 6:00 a.m. Weekly BBC series hosted by Ghanaian-born Hugh Quarshie presents a look at the events and characters that shaped the continent. Contact: 7-6900.

**TUESDAY 8**
UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Basketball vs. Plymouth State College
5:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Basketball vs. Plymouth State College
7:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**THURSDAY 10**
UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Basketball vs. Tufts University
7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**FRIDAY 11**
UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Norwich University
7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. St. Michael's College
9:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**SATURDAY 12**
UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. St. Michael's College
9:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**SUNDAY 13**
WUMB Series - Story of Africa: The Berbers/The Bantu Migrations
9:19 FM, 6:00 a.m. Weekly BBC series hosted by Ghanaian-born Hugh Quarshie presents a look at the events and characters that shaped the continent. Contact: 7-6900.

**TUESDAY 15**
UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Basketball vs. UMass Dartmouth
5:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Basketball vs. Rhode Island University
5:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**FRIDAY 18**
WUMB Member Concert: Connie Kaldor
7:30 p.m., Healey Library, Healey Auditorium, UMass Boston. Contact: 7-6900.

**WUMB Series - Story of Africa: Traditional Religions/The Coming of Christianity**
9:19 FM, 6:00 a.m. Weekly BBC series hosted by Ghanaian-born Hugh Quarshie presents a look at the events and characters that shaped the continent. Contact: 7-6900.

**MONDAY 21**
Winter Session ends.

**WUMB Benefit Concert**
7:30 p.m., Harvard's Sanders Theater. Featuring Greg Brown, Garnet Rogers and Nettie and Katrina Davis, along with Karen Savaor and Pete Petrie. Contact: Sanders Theater Box Office, 617-496-2222.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Middlebury College
7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7801.

**SUNDAY 26**
WUMB Series - Story of Africa: The Coming of Islam/The Empire of Ancient Ghana
9:19 FM, 6:00 a.m. Weekly BBC series hosted by Ghanaian-born Hugh Quarshie presents a look at the events and characters that shaped the continent. Contact: 7-6900.

**MONDAY 28**
First of Classes - Spring Semester.
Opening Day/First Day of Classes
Informational activities on campus.
McColl and Wheatley; food stations throughout campus complement services of Sodexo; the "Six of One" band playing live in Quinn and other welcome back activities. For more information, call 7-6020.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Meditation
12:30 - 12:50 p.m., McCormack Hall, 1-413. Health Promotion Program. Contact: 7-5385.

Yoga
Tuesday: 1:00 - 1:45 p.m., McCormack Hall, 2-241.
Wednesday: 11:30 - 12:15 p.m., McCormack Hall, 1-428. Contact: 7-5385.

Tai Chi
Monday: 12:45 - 1:15 p.m., on plaza outside McCormack Hall. Check M-1413 in case of inclement weather. Contact: 7-5385.

PR.I.D.E. Program: Alcohol and Other Drug Peer Leader Training Program
Contact: Donna Durfee, 7-5680.

Study Smarter, Not Harder
Help with performing better, with less stress, in studying for and taking exams, writing papers, etc. Call 7-5685 to schedule an appointment.

Smoking Cessation
Help with quitting. Call 7-5685 to schedule an appointment.

Aids Awareness Team
Volunteers needed to plan and implement outreach on campus. Call 7-5685 and leave contact information and available times; you will be contacted with meeting times.

Healey Library Hours
January 2 - 25: Open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Closed on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, January 21.

Call for Papers - Conflict Studies: The New Generation of Ideas

Instructional Technology Center (ITC)
Support for faculty and staff to learn, create, and connect with technology. ITC approach is to install technology in the classroom, professional development, distance learning technology, and special events. Contact 7-3990 or www.itc.umb.edu.

WUMB 91.9 FM Commonwealth Journal
Sundays, 7:00 p.m. Interviews with scholars, writers, and public officials, examining current issues of interest to the people of Massachusetts. Contact: 7-6900.