4-1-2002

University Reporter - Vol. 06, No. 08 - April 2002

University of Massachusetts Boston

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_reporter

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

Recommended Citation
http://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_reporter/115

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 1996-2009, University Reporter by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. For more information, please contact libraryuasc@umb.edu.
Center for Survey Research's Expertise Aids National Institute on the Aging-Funded Research

By Anne-Marie Kent

Just about everyone has responded to survey questions at one time or another, but most laypeople don't realize the level of care and scholarship needed to create a truly reliable survey. UMass Boston's Center for Survey Research (CSR) is known nationally and internationally for its rigorous standards in designing survey instruments and collecting survey data that yield credible results.

"The center conducts a mixture of projects," explains Director Mary Ellen Colten. "Its seven senior staff write grant proposals following their own study interests. In other cases, we assist other scholars who contact us to design their surveys and collect data for them. What we offer is our methodological expertise and experience, and all the data collection resources of our research and interviewing staff."

Recently, the center's expertise has been sought by Karl Pillemer of the Gerontology Institute at Cornell University and Jill Suitor of Louisiana State University. "We did a pilot study with them years ago with seed money from Cornell, looking at family relationships of older adults and their adult children," explains Colten.

Now, with a new large National Institute on the Aging (NIA) grant, Pillemer and Suitor are pursuing a larger study with the help of the CSR, whose portion of the grant is $483,000. Through interviews of women between the ages of 65 to 75 years old who have more than one living child, they hope to better understand family relationships, particularly the dynamic between older parents and their grown children, and older people's quality of life.

The information may help influence the ways governmental and charitable agencies think about and plan services for older people. CSR staff have already completed over 300 of the 550 interviews of women living in 12 Boston-area targeted communities, including Boston and Cambridge. The center's staff developed the list of potential participants using Massachusetts town.

Cont. on Page 7

Community Breakfast Honors Dudley Square Neighborhood Planner

By Leigh DaPoy

"I am very proud to have this award from UMass Boston because you do such great work in the community," said Joyce Stanley, the 2002 recipient of the Robert H. Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leadership. At the university's sixteenth annual community breakfast, UMass Boston recognized Stanley for her work in city planning and community development for Roxbury and the City of Boston. Elected officials such as Boston City Councillor Maureen Feeney, Representative Marty Walsh, and Representative Gloria Fox, who nominated

Cont. on Page 2

Sasaki Associates Begins Feasibility Study on Residential Housing

By Leigh DaPoy

"We want to be able to offer a residential college experience to our students which is high quality and affordable," says Chancellor Gora of a proposal to create residential housing at UMass Boston. The university recently took one step closer in the process when the UMass Building Authority selected Sasaki Associates, Inc., to conduct a feasibility study for the construction of residential housing for approxi- mately 2,000 students to live at UMass Boston. The study is slated for completion in June.

Experts in urban housing design, Sasaki Associates has provided campus planning and design to more

than 300 colleges and universities in the United States. Their study will address the many questions surrounding on-campus housing, which include possible locations, designs, amenities, and target populations. A large part of the analysis will examine how the integration of residential housing will affect existing services, such as public safety, parking, food services, and athletics facilities. They will also evaluate the need for additional services, such as an expanded food services and residential life programs. "We need to consider all the factors in a transition from a commuter campus

Cont. on Page 4

In This Issue

Page 3
UMass Boston student awarded a Fulbright fellowship to study in Japan. Second finalist awaits decision.

Page 5
Mayor Menino discusses economic development with business students.

University Communications
UMass Boston
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3393

Non-Profit
Organization
PAID
Boston, MA
 Permit No. 52094
Community Leaders Join UMass Boston to Honor Joyce Stanley

(Cont. from Page 1)

Stanley for the award, joined community leaders, local business-people, and members of the UMass Boston faculty and staff to honor her at UMass Boston's University Club.

Stanley has been involved in city planning and community development since 1970. Most recently, she has worked with residents, building owners, and public agencies to help revitalize Dudley Square in Roxbury. A long-time resident, Stanley serves as the executive director of Dudley Square Main Streets and the Dudley Square Merchants Association. Her vision to renew economic development and foster an arts and cultural district in the area has personal roots. "I grew up in the Fort Hill area and want to stay there," Stanley said, "But I realized there was no place to stay within my community to have a cup of coffee and have a nice meal, and enjoy artwork."

Stanley spearheaded an initiative with the Boston Redevelopment Authority and Department of Neighborhood Development to prepare local developers to renovate large anchor parcels, market the commercial district to new tenants, and begin a storefront improvement program. Through her leadership, the leveraged $10.5 million in grants to help businesses develop three multi-story properties, Palladio Hall, Fairfield Place, and the Palmer Building. She has assisted local developers in planning projects, attracting tenants, and receiving zoning, and she has worked with public agencies on infrastructure improvements, including new streets, brick sidewalks, and upgraded electrical and gas lines. She has also established the Dudley Pride Program, a coalition of community members, who examine and address issues of crime and homelessness in the district.

Through her leadership, more than 50 new businesses have located to the Dudley Square Commercial District with an eighty percent retention rate. Eleven storefronts are now completed in the area and nine more are in the planning stages. Stanley is currently working with more than 38 artists in the neighborhood to develop an arts and cultural area. She hopes to attract more galleries, a black box theatre, living exhibits, art stores, and an ethnic food garden.

At the awards ceremony, Stanley noted the contributions UMass Boston has made to her projects in Dudley Square, including a partnership with UMass Boston's Minority Business Assistance Center through which small businesses have received help with technical matters, plan development, and marketing, and a connection to the Boston Empowerment Center, which helped secure funds for the revitalization plans. "You can't do it alone," she said. "Thank you for the partners and thank you to UMass Boston."

The Quinn Award was established in honor of Robert H. Quinn, whose record includes years as speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Massachusetts attorney general, and chair of the UMass Board of Trustees.

Chancellor Names Robert D. and Nancy M. Gordon Founders Room

By Joe Peters

For most of his career, Robert D. Gordon has played an integral role in the life and success of the University of Massachusetts system. With the opening of UMass Boston's campus center, his service and generosity, which includes a recent gift of $100,000, will be recognized with the naming of the Robert D. and Nancy M. Gordon Founders Room, a prominent meeting space in the new 330,000-square-foot facility.

"This is going to be the receiving place on campus," Gordon says of the new center. "It will be the place where students and visitors congregate. It's a different kind of structure for the campus."

Gordon's affiliation with UMass began in the early 1940s when he enrolled in Massachusetts State College, now UMass Amherst. While there, he met his future wife, Nancy, and both were on hand in 1947, when the college officially became the University of Massachusetts. Graduating in 1948 and then earning a law degree from Boston University, Gordon remained very connected to UMass and the state's political scene. These two areas merged in the early 1960s when Gordon, then serving as a UMass Trustee, became one of the major proponents of creating a Boston campus for the state university. In June of 1964, he stood behind Governor Endicott "Chub" Peabody as the governor signed the bill creating UMass Boston.

"The purpose was to establish an urban campus, something other than what Boston University or Northeastern University had to offer," said Gordon, explaining the vision of creating a diverse state university system much like the University of California system. While his tenure as a trustee ended in 1979, Gordon still remains connected to the university, offering both advice and financial support. He says UMass Boston has done well following its original mission of being a quality alternative to the many private colleges in Boston.

"After watching it now for nearly 40 years, UMass Boston has progressed very nicely," he says. "I think for those of us involved in its creation, you could say we've been very pleased."
UMass Boston Students Become Fulbright Recipient and Finalist

By Melissa Fassal

Ask Monica McAlpine, director of the University Honors Program and professor of English, about Fulbright recipient Michael Plante and finalist Ben Day, and she'll be quick to describe both of them as "very modest people who have received well-deserved affirmation of their hard work and commitment to social justice."

"We are so excited about their accomplishments," says Chancellor Gora. "Their achievements speak to the quality and incredible motivation of our students."

Plante is one of ten undergraduate students across the country who will visit Japan on a Fulbright fellowship. He says he's always wanted to travel abroad and views this as the perfect opportunity. An economics major and member of the University Honors Program, Plante boasts a GPA of 3.97. In each of the past two years, he received the Rick Pitino Presidential Medallion Scholarship, and he was awarded the Robert H. Spaulding Prize for Distinction in the Honors Program last year. Plante says he's "really excited about winning the Fulbright, especially given its extremely competitive nature." Out of 100 applications for study in Japan, 25 awards were given. However, only 10 of these awards were set aside for graduating undergraduate seniors; the remaining 15 went to graduate students. In order to qualify for such an honor, one must possess an exceptional level of language fluency, especially in conversation. Plante has completed all five courses the campus offers in Japanese language and literature, going beyond such standard courses by performing an independent study in Japanese. Also serving as president of the Japanese Club, Plante brought the Consul General of Japan in Boston to UMass Boston for a lecture and conversation with students. He has also worked in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions for the past four years and is "much loved" there.

Ben Day, a double major in political science and philosophy, has applied and is a finalist for the Fulbright fellowship in the United Kingdom, and will graduate summa cum laude this May. The UK Fulbright is particularly competitive, as out of approximately 525 applicants, only 20 are selected, with a mix of both graduate and undergraduate students. As one out of about 40 finalists, Day currently has a one-in-two chance of receiving the fellowship.

No stranger to academic achievement, Day has received the knapp Scholarship in political science three times, and has been given a leadership award for his extensive involvement with the Radical Student Alliance and the campus Human Rights Group. Day was also a finalist for the Rhodes and Marshall scholarships, and though he did not receive either scholarship, describes his presence in the pool of elite applicants as an honor.

Day's interest in activism is reflected in his academic work. He is seeking honors in political science for his thesis on John Stuart Mill, a leader in nineteenth century British radicalism. He will find out whether he has won the Fulbright in early April.

In two years of competition, almost every UMass Boston student who has applied for a major scholarship, such as the Rhodes, Fulbright, or Marshall, has reached the semi-finals or finals in the scholarship competition. Three out of six students have received Fulbrights, with Day being a possible fourth.

PBS Show on Racial Tension Is Taped at UMass Boston

By Anne-Marie Kent

On February 25, the Provost's Conference Room in the Healey Library became a television studio, sors, students, professional staff, library became a television studio, sors, students, professional staff, We.

and Ethnic Tensions: What Should the intensity of the panel discussion and the depth of its roots nationwide filmed for inclusion in the issue for achieving common ground. The deliberative dialogue, hosted by the John W. McCormack Institute of Public Affairs, was based on a National Issues Forum discussion guidebook that examines the issue and outlines three different approaches for achieving common ground. UMass Boston assembled a group of 19 panelists representing a range of races, ages, and ethnicities.

The McCormack Institute's Sandy Blanchette and Mike MacPhee organized the program and selected the panelists. "We tried to get a diverse group of people and drew participants from around the university and the community," said Blanchette, assistant director of the institute. "The final panel included professors, students, professional staff, friends of staff, and community activists."

The intensity of the panel discussion revealed the complexity of the issue and the depth of its roots here in Boston. Panelists who had attended Boston public schools during the 1970s gave troubling, first-hand accounts of racism and unrest during the implementation of systemwide busing. Others, native speakers of English, argued for the necessity of bilingual education and described experiences of negative stereotyping associated with being an immigrant in the United States.

"The producer and moderators were very impressed with our ability to bring together such a diverse group," said Blanchette. She and MacPhee had been asked to help arrange the event by John Cavanaugh, a former student and graduate of the Master in Science in Public Affairs program. Cavanaugh is currently a program director at the Kettering Foundation, which supports the National Issues Forums.

College of Education, the meeting was attended by Boston Superintendent Thomas Payzant, Dartmouth High School Partner- ship supporter Pamela Trefler, Dartmouth High Headmaster Robert Belle, and other key urban educators. They applauded Gora's plan, which combines money from a Great Cities Universities grant and the university's own resources to create a "pipeline" designed to channel a stream of highly qualified teachers into the local urban public schools.

"At the beginning of the pipeline," Gora explained, "UMass Boston will advise and recruit the best-qualified high schoolers from Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville and encourage them to take advantage of the state-wide scholarship program "Tomorrow's Teachers," through which the costs of their undergraduate education will be fully paid. Upon graduating, the scholarship students with a 3.3 cumulative average or higher, along with any other bachelor's degree holder with a minimum 3.3 GPA interested in urban teaching, will be eligible to apply for a new UMass Boston scholarship to cover full tuition and fees at the master's degree level. Upon entering the graduate program, scholarship recipients must make a commitment to teach for a minimum of three years in urban schools." Twenty scholarships will be offered.

To assist participants after graduation, the program includes support, counseling, seminars, a special website with chat rooms, and networking and mentoring opportunities. It will also help ensure that they receive their National Professional Standards Board Certification.

The University Reporter • 3
By Leigh DaPry

Mary Frances Berry, chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, led an invigorating discussion of some of the year’s most compelling issues, including homeland defense, economic security, and civil rights, in a crowded University Club on March 13. The McCormack Institute Policy Forum brought Berry to campus as the 2002 Robert C. Wood Visiting Professorship in Public and Urban Affairs at UMass Boston.

"These are really the times that try men’s and women’s souls," said Berry in her discussion on the state of civil liberties in a political climate characterized by the Enron scandal, anti-terrorist policy agendas, and tax cuts for the wealthy. While praising the development of anti-terrorist policies, Berry pointed to the efforts of many to defend the civil rights agenda and questioning the policy agenda and the need for their support.

Best Practices: Student Guides Recruit Motivated Candidates

By Patrick Dwyer

From the recruitment perspective of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, there is no hotter prospect than the student who comes to UMass Boston. These potential students are usually well-versed on the programs, options, and services available at the university and have done their homework on admission requirements and application procedures. One of the most effective tools for recruiting these well-educated prospects is the student-led campus tour.

Departing from the undergraduate admissions office, campus tours are available daily without an appointment. The tours visit major areas of campus and are led by undergraduate and graduate student guides. They provide an invaluable understanding of UMass Boston that is impossible to show in a viewbook or website. This hour walk around campus illustrates our many strengths, from classroom size and special services to diversity and student involvement.

The quality of the student guide is critical in the success of the tour. The undergraduate admissions office employs 15 energetic, gracious students who provide campus tours. Mark Schoening is one of these outgoing guides who tells the student about the transfer student from Minnesota and her student enrollment leader. When asked what makes a great student guide, Schoening says, "It’s the ability to read the makeup of each group. By giving a unique tour each time, the guide has a chance to make a lasting impression on prospective students. I’m able to let each student know what’s right for them." All tour guides are trained on a suggested tour route and on important information to share with students, but are encouraged to modify tours according to their own experiences as students at UMass Boston and to the needs of each group.

In addition to the groups taking the daily tours, many special-interest groups, ranging from five to over 100 students, visit the campus. Eneida Xheblati, a campus tour guide and UMass Boston student from Malden, has seen her share of special group tours in her nearly two years of experience as a guide. Xheblati says, "Many of the groups are younger junior high school students who are interested in knowing so much more than just the academic programs. They like to see some of the more fun things, like the greenhouse, the computer labs, and the gym." As a tour guide, Xheblati relates well to prospective students and younger visitors alike, and presents herself as an exemplary ambassador of the university.

Feasibility Study (cont.)

By Jeanne Wallace-Buckley

While students and faculty were enjoying winter break, Ann Blum was already planning summer break—in Mexico. The Hispanic studies assistant professor received notification in January that she’d been awarded the Endowed Faculty Career Development Fund Prize for 2001-2002. The prize will be used by Blum to support travel to Mexico City to select archival documents and commission microfilm.

The award will allow Blum to continue to study families and children, and the intersection of state and private matters. She plans to capitalize on a rich trove of materials at the National Archives, consisting of unusually detailed case files for clients of the Oversight Council for Juvenile Delinquents.

What makes the records significant is Blum’s ability to illuminate the domestic environment in post-revolutionary Mexico of the 1920s and 30s. The documents provide a unique historical perspective—that of children and of economically marginalized families during political and social upheaval and rebuilding.

"There was a remapping of the relationship of the state to individuals at this time," explains Blum. "The responsibility of the state to social welfare was hotly debated at all levels: education, what to deliver, measures of success; access to medical care." This project will be a continuation of Blum’s studies of Mexican institutions of public welfare.

Blum’s began her UMass Boston career as an undergraduate in American studies. She continued on to UC Berkeley for a master’s degree and doctoral programs before returning to UMass Boston to teach in 1998. Blum admits a fascination with the intersection and interaction of history and society. "Historians get an intimate look into people’s lives—how they parent, pay their bills, care for their families," explained Blum. "Essentially, I walk right into people’s houses and look under the bed."

Ann Blum is an assistant professor in the Hispanic Studies Department. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Patrick Dwyer

From the recruitment perspective of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, there is no hotter prospect than the student who comes to UMass Boston. These potential students are usually well-versed on the programs, options, and services available at the university and have done their homework on admission requirements and application procedures. One of the most effective tools for recruiting these well-educated prospects is the student-led campus tour.

Departing from the undergraduate admissions office, campus tours are available daily without an appointment. The tours visit major areas of campus and are led by undergraduate and graduate student guides. They provide an invaluable understanding of UMass Boston that is impossible to show in a viewbook or website. This hour walk around campus illustrates our many strengths, from classroom size and special services to diversity and student involvement.

The quality of the student guide is critical in the success of the tour. The undergraduate admissions office employs 15 energetic, gracious students who provide campus tours. Mark Schoening is one of these outgoing guides; he is a transfer student from Minnesota and a student enrollment leader. When asked what makes a great student guide, Schoening says, "It’s the ability to read the makeup of each group. By giving a unique tour each time, the guide has a chance to make a lasting impression on prospective students. I’m able to let each student know what’s right for them." All tour guides are trained on a suggested tour route and on important information to share with students, but are encouraged to modify tours according to their own experiences as students at UMass Boston and to the needs of each group.

In addition to the groups taking the daily tours, many special-interest groups, ranging from five to over 100 students, visit the campus. Eneida Xheblati, a campus tour guide and UMass Boston student from Malden, has seen her share of special group tours in her nearly two years of experience as a guide. Xheblati says, "Many of the groups are younger junior high school students who are interested in knowing so much more than just the academic programs. They like to see some of the more fun things, like the greenhouse, the computer labs, and the gym." As a tour guide, Xheblati relates well to prospective students and younger visitors alike, and presents herself as an exemplary ambassador of the university.

Feasibility Study (cont.)

By Jeanne Wallace-Buckley

While students and faculty were enjoying winter break, Ann Blum was already planning summer break—in Mexico. The Hispanic studies assistant professor received notification in January that she’d been awarded the Endowed Faculty Career Development Fund Prize for 2001-2002. The prize will be used by Blum to support travel to Mexico City to select archival documents and commission microfilm.

The award will allow Blum to continue to study families and children, and the intersection of state and private matters. She plans to capitalize on a rich trove of materials at the National Archives, consisting of unusually detailed case files for clients of the Oversight Council for Juvenile Delinquents.

What makes the records significant is Blum’s ability to illuminate the domestic environment in post-revolutionary Mexico of the 1920s and 30s. The documents provide a unique historical perspective—that of children and of economically marginalized families during political and social upheaval and rebuilding.

"There was a remapping of the relationship of the state to individuals at this time," explains Blum. "The responsibility of the state to social welfare was hotly debated at all levels: education, what to deliver, measures of success; access to medical care." This project will be a continuation of Blum’s studies of Mexican institutions of public welfare.

Blum’s began her UMass Boston career as an undergraduate in American studies. She continued on to UC Berkeley for a master’s degree and doctoral programs before returning to UMass Boston to teach in 1998. Blum admits a fascination with the intersection and interaction of history and society. "Historians get an intimate look into people’s lives—how they parent, pay their bills, care for their families," explained Blum. "Essentially, I walk right into people’s houses and look under the bed."
Mayor Menino Discusses Economic Development with CM Business Club

By Leigh DuPage

Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino returned to his alma mater on March 13 to discuss economic development in Boston with students from the UMass Boston Business Club and the College of Management (CM). At the event, held at the Harbor Art Gallery, the city budget, affordable housing, and the importance of workforce development were at the heart of Menino’s address.

“There are some tough decisions ahead. How are we going to make our budget work?” said Menino, referring to an upcoming review of the city budget in April. “Through this crisis, we need to maintain services.”

Menino reviewed some of his ongoing initiatives to aid workforce development, including the creation of the Office of Business Services to assist new and existing businesses and support partnerships between the public and private sectors. He said, “The private sector should come forward with more jobs. Workforce development is key because we are training people for jobs for the future.”

Menino also argued for stronger partnerships between cities and municipalities, which would include a commitment to provide affordable “workforce” housing to people in Massachusetts. “There should be a penalty for cities and towns for not funding affordable housing,” he proposed.

Education was also a touchstone for Menino. He praised the services of UMass Boston, speaking from his own experience of earning a degree in community planning from the College of Public and Community Service in 1988. He admonished legislators for recent budget cuts, saying, “Massachusetts underestimates public education. We are the fifth in the country in public higher education.”

“What is the solution that will help shape state leadership? “Government needs young people to be involved,” Menino said. This sentiment found the right audience in the many student leaders in attendance. The event was organized by the UMass Boston Business Club, a student-run organization under the leadership of CM students Jackie Larsen and Darrell Roberts.

New Book Critically Examines Choices of Natural Mothering

By Sarah Okbay

Today’s mothers have a range of options, and along with those options, even more difficult choices about raising their children. A new faculty member in the Women’s Studies Program, Chris Bobel has published her first book, The Paradox of Natural Mothering, which examines in depth a nurturing path of the women felt they were making a sacrifice to change the world one child at a time and did not understand that for many women, especially single moms and poor moms, this was not a viable choice. They did not perceive a contradiction between their choices and feminism; they felt that their idea of feminism was compatible with a stay-at-home lifestyle. Bobel asks whether these women are true revolutionaries or whether they are instead conforming to a biologically determined norm.

Glowing reviews in Publishers Weekly and by authors of several other books on motherhood in today’s society indicate that Bobel has clearly and effectively touched on an important issue that underlies the struggle each woman faces when she becomes a parent.

Over $20 Million in Sponsored Projects Are Awarded to UMass Boston for 2001-2002 Fiscal Year To Date; Amount Still Growing

UMass Boston faculty and staff have received over $20 million in external awards for sponsored projects so far during the 2001-2002 fiscal year. These awards have been made to the campus by federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the National Cancer Institute, as well as by local and state agencies such as the City of Boston, the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, the Boston Public Schools, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

The Center for Survey Research (CSR) recently began the third large-scale survey of Massachusetts residents to examine the extent to which they lack health insurance coverage, with an award of $440,000. Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Health Care Finance and Policy, the 2002 study will survey approximately 5,000 households statewide. Anthony Roman ofCSR will direct the study.

Another recent project is the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Sector Economic Analysis and Business Development Needs Assessment conducted by the Environmental Business and Technology Center (EBTC) located in the College of Management. EBTC received a $180,000 contract from the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust Fund to investigate business development options for renewable energy technologies such as solar, wind, and fuel cells.

Many like others, the study team, under the direction of EBTC Director William Brab, includes both faculty and students, with five student research assistants from the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy, the College of Management, and the Department of Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences joining faculty David Levy and David Terkla, and Michael Goodman of the Donahue Institute.

The current dollar amount of sponsored project awards for this fiscal year surpasses the $19.9 million awarded for the entire 2000-2001 fiscal year. This is a significant jump in funding from last year and officials estimate that the final amount for 2001-2002 could top $25 million.

A new book by Chris Bobel, assistant professor of women’s studies, critically examines the choices made by “natural mothers.” (Photos by Harry Brett.)
On March 10, Professor Carroy U. Ferguson of the College of Public and Community Service presented "Futuretistics and Human Relations" at the Eastern Sociological Society's annual conference.


Kathleen Golden McMandrew, executive director of University Health Services and associate professor in the department of Nursing, presented the keynote address, "Substance Abuse in the Workplace: Understanding the Occupational Healthcare Provider's Role," at the North of Boston Chapter of the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses on March 12.

Professor Dan Simovici, and Ph.D. candidates in computer science Szymon Jaroszewicz and Dana Szymon presented papers at the SIAM Data Mining conference held in Washington D.C., April 11-13.

Undergraduate Admissions' Lisa Williams, Liliana Mickle, Patrick Dwyer, and Peter Schilling, with Michael Mahan of University Advising, were panel presenters at the College Board's New England Regional Meeting.

Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences Department faculty members and students presented research at the American Geophysical Union/Association for Limnology and Oceanography Ocean Sciences Meeting, February 11 through 15.


Pamela Jones of the Art Department co-edited From Rome to Eaton: Catholicism and the Arts in Italy, ca. 1550-1600. Her essay "Female Saints in Early Modern Italian Chappbooks, ca. 1570-1670: Saint Catherine of Alexandria and Saint Catherine of Siena" appears in the book, as well as the essay "Veronica Franco's Portraits of Redemptor" by Fiora Banasse of the Department of Modern Languages.

Susan M. Mirz of the Department of Hispanic Studies co-authored the second edition of the introductory Spanish language and culture program, Caminos published by Houghton Mifflin.

Jean Rhodes, associate professor of psychology, published Stand by Me: The Risks and Rewards of Mentoring Today's Youth with Harvard University Press.


Professor's Mitchell Silver recently published the article "Who is a Jew?" in the February 2002 issue of Jewish Currents and "The Ethics of Psychiatric Suspension" in The Harvard Review of Psychiatry.

A research party was held for Changing Communities, Changing Lives: Histories from Action For Boston Community Development (ABCD), a work by Ann Withorn and Robert C. Hayden. See the College of Public and Community Service, with members of ABCD on March 27.

EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES

Professor John Connolly of the Division of Communication and Theatre Arts played the role of Atticus Finch in the Theatre Company of Saugus' production of To Kill A Mockingbird in April.

Dick Louie of University Communications and Community Relations played saxophone in the backup band for the G-Clef at Symphony Hall on March 15.

Music of Professor David Patterson was featured in a spring celebration honoring Ellen Hunt, music director of Pilgrim Congregational Church in Lexington, which included his piece Isle of Hope.

English Professor Lloyd Schwartz read poetry as a special guest for a musical evening at the Market Theatre in Cambridge on March 28 and 30.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Professor Kamal Bawa was elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science on February 16. He was honored for his pioneer work on population biology of tropical forest trees and conservation biology.

James Bennett, assistant professor of accounting and finance in the College of Management, received the AAI Best Paper Award in Investments for "Spreads and Depths of ETFs" from the American Association of Individual Investors. The award is shared with co-author Francis Kerns Jr.

James E. Blackwell, professor emeritus of sociology and previous winner of the UMass Boston Chancellor's Medal, received Washington State University's Distinguished Alumnus Award on January 25.

WUMB's General Manager Patricia Moinneh was selected by the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) to peer review the 2002 Telecommunications Facilities Grants program.

Professor Michael E. Stone of the College of Public and Community Service, the McCormack Institute, and the Ph.D. in Public Policy Program, was selected as an Atlantic Fellow in Public Policy, the first to receive the award at UMass Boston.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH

Professor Phil Hart, director of the Toetter Institute, working with the American Civil City, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, and the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Foundation, completed a report on "A Strategy for Hollywood's Comeback." ULI has asked Hart and the American City Coalition to carry out a similar planning study in Harlem, New York.

Curtis Olsen, Sarah Oktay, and Joe Smith of the Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences Department received grant funding from the National Science Foundation for their research "Geocethal Fingerprints Associated with the World Trade Center Terrorist Attack May Serve as New Research Tools for Understanding Sediment Dynamics and Quality in New York Harbor."

Associate Professor Meng Zhou, Research Associate Yiu Zhu, and graduate students Ryan Dorland and Joe Smith of the Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences Department are leaving for a research cruise in Margrave Bay, Antarctica. This is one of four cruises in a research project funded by the Polar Program at the National Science Foundation.
Center for Survey Research (cont.)

lists, which are a part of the pub-
lic record. From the town lists, 
which supply age and gender 
information, staff were then 
able to develop a list of residents 
for interviewers to visit where 
they would be likely to encoun-
ter women in the age range re-
quired for the study.

The process is fairly in-
volved. If women are willing 
to be interviewed, the interview 
can take as long as an hour and 
a half. Spouses (if any) and 
adult children are then inter-
viewed, if the woman gives per-
mission to contact them.

"Most women have given per-
mission once they have partici-
pated, since most of them find 
the interview to be interesting 
and enjoyable," says Colten, 
who adds that the interview is 
completely confidential and 
coded numerically.

"The survey has an elabo-
rate, complicated design in or-
der to insure that the sample is 
well dispersed," says Colten. 
She adds, "Doing a study like 
this, you want to be confident 
that you have a sample that is 
diverse in a variety of ways. We 
want to represent a wide range 
of backgrounds and experi-
ences."

Colten points out the unique-
ness of the study. "When people 
think about aging adults, they 
tend not to ask about relation-
ships between the children in 
the family or about the ways 
in which parents relate to each 
child in the family differently," 
she explains. "Often these stud-
ies look at caretaking and child 
support for aging parents as if 
the children were a monolithic 
entity, rather than each having 
a distinctive history and rela-
tionship with the parent. Any-
body who's been in a family 
with siblings knows that the 
kinds of relationships kids have 
with their parents are very di-
verse and that children have 
distinctive roles within the 
family system."

This $483,000 grant repres-
ents only a small percentage 
of the total grant support re-
cieved by the center. Last year, 
CSR received over $3.8 million 
in grant support and this year's 
figure is likely to exceed that. 
Other CSR projects have ad-
dressed problems in the areas 
of health and health care, com-
munity organization, employ-
ment, education, mental 
health, gerontology, law and 
criminal justice, public policy, 
and social service needs.

PeopleSoft Human Resources 
System Goes Live!

By Beth Marshall

After more than two years of 
planning and hard work, March 
4 marked the beginning of a new 
human resources system for the 
UMass System. Many of the 
changes will be invisible to all 
but the departmental per-
sonnel action preparers and 
timekeepers. How-
ever, faculty and staff will observe changes in 
how often they are paid, 
now biweekly, and in the 
way time is accrued, now hour for 
hour with the balances 
shown on each bi-weekly pay-
check. The university will 
benefit from the enhanced manage-
ment information and reporting 
and analysis capabilities of this 
new system.

Becky Hsu, who led the Bos-
ton campus through system 
development and implementation, 
will return to UMass Boston af-
ter spending hour upon hour at 
project headquarters in Wores-
ter. Her in-depth understanding 
of human resources and payroll 
in the old HRMIS system was 
 invaluable in planning the transi-
tion from the old system to the 
systems to ease our transition 
and maximize the benefits to be 
gained.

Human Resources was pro-
vided its first access to the sys-
tem on March 4, and staff la-
bored late into the week-
day evenings and all 
weekend to be sure that 
two weeks' worth of 
personnel actions and 
time worked was en-
tered into the system for 
the first bi-weekly pay period. 
Their contributions and hard 
work over the entire course of 
this project cannot be overesti-
imated. Timekeepers with the 
College of Arts and Sciences, 
and the Departments of Public 
Safety, Facilities, PeopleSoft, 
and Telecommunications piloted 
off-site timekeeping and were 
widely successful, given the numbers of 
employees and time variants 
with which they had to deal.

IN THE NEWS

The Graduate Program in Critical 
and Creative Thinking (CCT) was 
featured in the March edition of 
MTA Today, the leading publica-
tion of the Massachusetts Teachers 
Association.

Professor Lorna Rivera of the 
College of Public and Community 
Service and the Gaston Institute 
was a guest commentator on 
WHAV 1490 AM Radio's Sabado 
Espectacular on March 2. 
Professor Rivera discussed her 
research on educational achieve-
ments of Latino students in 
Massachusetts public schools.

An editorial by Carol Hardy-
Fanta, director of the Center for 
Women in Politics and Public 
Policy, on women in the govern-
mental race was published in The 
Boston Globe on February 22.

Robert Crossley, professor of 
English, was quoted extensively 
on H.G. Wells and The Time Machine 
in a March 3 New York Times 
article.

John Warner, chair of the Chemis-
try Department, participated in a 
WFED Channel 7 news story on 
the boiling point of water and 
microwave ovens. The piece aired 
on March 15, 16, and 18.

Greg Huber, associate professor of 
physics, was interviewed by 
science correspondent Ned Potter 
for the science of coffee stains 
for a story on the mysteries of science 
which aired on ABC Nightly News 
on March 20.

Exercise Scientist Is "Fit" for New 
Editor and Columnist Appointment

By Kim Trauceniek

As the newly appointed editor 
and invited columnist for the American 
Journal of Medicine and Sports, 
Professor Kyle McInnis of the De-
partment of Exercise and Physical 
Education plays a major role in edu-
ciating primary care physicians 
about the importance of physical activity.

"This new post provides a forum 
to help further educate physicians 
about important issues related to 
physical activity and health," he 
says.

In his first article for the jour-
nal, "Physical Activity Counseling 
in the Primary Care Setting," 
McInnis provides evidence of the 
impact of physical activity on reduc-
ing such diseases as coronary heart 
disease, diabetes, and most cancers. 
He also counsels physicians on how 
to talk to their patients about chang-
ing their sedentary lifestyles. "My 
interest is bridging the gap between 
the field of sports medicine and clini-
cal conditions in the medical com-
munity," says McInnis.

The American Journal of Medici-
ne and Sports has a readership of 
over 70,000 primary care physi-
cians. McInnis will address a vari-
ety of "hot" topics in exercise sci-
ence and sports medicine. "Doctors 
are an incredible resource that pa-
tients will listen to, so the potential 
to effect change is greatly increased," 
says McInnis. "I hope to reach a lot of 
them."

Latino Public Policy Conference 
2002

"The State of Latino Massachusetts: From 
Analysis to Strategy"

April 26 
Doubletree Riverfront 
Hotel 
Lowell, MA

Updates on the status of Latinos in 
Massachusetts, the latest research, 
and analysis of issues of concern 
to the Latino community.

Contact: 7-5793

The University Reporter • 7
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) 287-2875 or 3305, or e-mail news@umb.edu. See the News and Events page at www.umb.edu for Calendar of Events on-line listings.

### MONDAY 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Merit Scholarship Recipients Championship Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Biology Department Seminar Series: Acid Precipitation in Freshwater Ponds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TUESDAY 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Introduction to Engineering Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Contemporary Veterans Issues Speakers Series</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WEDNESDAY 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences Department Seminar: Valuing Visibility in the Northeast Wilderness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### THURSDAY 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Praise Explosion Gospel Show</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FRIDAY 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Biology Department Seminar Series: Application of a Transgenic Rat as a Model for Type I Diabetes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SATURDAY 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Welcome Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SUNDAY 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Student Leadership Recognition Reception</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>