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# University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 9, No. 32

April 22, 1975

## Massachusetts Sociological Association

UMass-Boston will be the host for the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Sociological Association meeting on May 3. Prof. Richard Robbins (College I) is the current president of the professional organization and Prof. Gerald Garrett (College I) is Chairperson for the all-day meeting.

Several interesting and provocative sessions are scheduled, opening with an address by Rep. Barney Frank who will speak "On Social Policy and State Government."

Among the section meetings will be a panel on "Social and Ethical Issues in Mental Health," "Aging and the Elderly: Sociological State Perspectives," "Fun and Games: Diversion From the Criminal Justice System," "Issues in Integration, Busing, and Quality Education," and "Family Affairs."

Leading roles in the annual conference will be played by Prof. James Blackwell, John Dickinson, Bruce Hare, and Nancy St. John of the UMass-Boston faculty.

## Puerto Rican Week

Today (Tuesday) begins a colorful and commemorative week in the cultural life of the Puerto Rican community on this campus with the observance of Puerto Rican Week. Students have worked diligently in planning the program which begins with the raising of the Puerto Rican flag at the library at 12:30 today.

In the schedule published in last week's Bulletin one change of place has been made. The Program for Wednesday at 12:30 will be held in the Science Auditorium. This is the presentation by the "Himpacto Hispano" theatrical group which will stage the Puerto Rican play Tiempo Muerto.

## Other Sociology Activities

Prof. Prince Brown, Jr. (Sociology I) presented a paper entitled "The Politics of Race and the Sociology of Power" at the April 3rd meetings of The Association for Social and Behavioral Sciences in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Prof. James E. Blackwell (Sociology I) presented a paper entitled "Graduate Training for Minority Students: Problems and Resources" at the April 18-20 meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society in New York City. Dr. Blackwell was also a session organizer and panelist for "The Present Status of Affirmative Action in Higher Education" at the conference.

Profs. Siamak Movahedi and Stan R. Nikkel (College I)  
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Other Sociology Activities  
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recently attended the annual meetings of the Southern Sociological Society held in Washington, D. C. Dr. Movahedi was a discussant at the Alpha Kappa Delta session and Dr. Nikkel presented a paper entitled "A Critical Review of Urban Instructional Simulations."

Relativity

A paper in general relativity by Freda Salzman of the Physics Department has been called to the attention of other scientists in the News and Views section of the January 24, 1975 issue of *Nature* by the British relativist W. H. McCrea. The correspondent notes the recent appearance of a "substantial paper" by F. Salzman, entitled "Gravitational Field of a Freely Moving Mass" in the journal *Il Nuovo Cimento*, (Vol. 24B, pp. 157-188, December 11, 1974), and goes on to review the contents of the paper and its probable importance. He states that because of the interest in black holes, the study undertaken in the paper "of intimately related problems would be expected to be particularly timely and significant." McCrea adds that "Salzman's work may provide a valuable start" in the problem of two interacting masses. He concludes that "...Salzman has opened up a field in classical general relativity that will undoubtedly be further explored."

Growing Old

Eleanor Roberts of the Boston Sunday Herald Advertiser, who is one of New England's finest journalists, had a recent full-page feature on "Growing Old Has Its Compensations" and much of the essay is devoted to work being done by Dr. Paul T. Costa, Jr. (Psychology I). Since the article appeared in the Herald Advertiser it has been reprinted nationally throughout the Hearst news syndicate and in other publications, which has started a flurry of letters to Dr. Costa asking his advise on aging problems.

He has been making a long-term study with some 2000 men at the Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic in Boston, and his study indicates that: as you get older you may think slower, but you think better; that many elderly have as good a memory as the young; that with age comes greater wisdom, and that anxiety may peak at middle age, and then declines.

In the Roberts' article, Dr. Costa said: "Middle age is a turning inwards time when men are able to integrate their thinking with their emotions. The lines are less sharply defined. An unexpected bonus of old age is the ability to be analytical and rational and at the same time be concerned with past experiences."

Dr. Costa's study also noted that both aging and social class factors such as education and higher job level have a positive effect on a preference for later retirement. The older a person is the later he wants to retire.

Science and Mathematics  
Career Day

On Wednesday, April 30, the Science and Mathematics Departments are sponsoring a Science and Mathematics Career Day at UMass-Boston. Approximately 180 students from five Boston public high schools, Jeremiah E. Burke, South Boston, Jamaica Plain, Dorchester and Roxbury, are expected to attend.

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Science and Mathematics  
Career Day  
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The program is designed to motivate and encourage students, particularly women and minorities, to consider careers in the sciences and mathematics and to stimulate cooperation in a particular area of disciplines between campus and the public schools.

Following a presentation by Dr. Leah Lowenstein, Associate Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry and Assistant Dean of Boston University Medical School, students will have an opportunity to work in the laboratories and to attend career workshops.

Teams of resource people will include faculty, students and staff from the campus (see previous Bulletin) and scientists, mathematicians and other professionals from industry and institutions in the Greater Boston area: Polaroid Corporation, the Department of Physiology at Tufts Medical Center, Collaborative Research, the Department of Transportation Systems Center, Research and Development at Dunkin Donuts of America, Worcester Medical School, the Educational Development Center in Newton, IBM, and the Nuclear Engineering Department at Boston Edison Co. More faculty and UMass-Boston students have joined the program teams of participants since our last Bulletin. Physics: Donald Lyons, Arthur Martin, George Salzman and Nareshchandra Shah and student Delia DuLong. Biology students Ruth Cretu and Ann Lee. College III: Frank Davis. The program coordinator is Evelyn Garfield.

More on Careers

Patricia Lehman (Art) has been working on a Carnegie Foundation Faculty Fellowship Grant, and her project has resulted in videotaping and editing interviews with 12 women on various career options open to women. "Due to the lack of role models open to women," she says "they often do not realize how many options are open to them." The tapes are now available in the Office of Vocational Counseling and can be checked out for viewing in the College I or College II Media laboratories.

Women in the fields of communications, television production, cinematography, publishing, political life, and career guidance are among Ms. Lehman's interviewees.

The Alfred R. Ferguson Prize -  
First Annual Award

The English Departments of Colleges I and II are pleased to announce that the First Annual Award of The Alfred R. Ferguson Prize for distinguished undergraduate work in American Literature will be chosen before Commencement this year. This year's judges are Prof. Seymour Katz, Chairman of the English Department of College I; Prof. Phillip Finkelparl, Chairman of the English Department of College II, and Prof. Taylor Stoehr, English I.

The award will carry a stipend of \$50 from the interest on the Ferguson Fund, established last year by the generous contributions of the faculty, staff, student body, the administration of UMass-Boston and relatives and friends who wanted to commemorate Prof. Ferguson's distinguished scholarly career and his cheerful and valuable contributions to the founding of our institution.

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The Alfred R. Ferguson Prize -  
First Annual Award  
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To qualify for the award, a student need only submit a paper on any aspect of American Literature of more than 10 pages and be recommended by a faculty member. Papers and recommendations should be submitted by April 28th.

Faculty are asked to encourage students to participate in this endeavor.

Soft Sell

Our South Shore information network advises that Prof. Ernest Becker (Chemistry) won a standing ovation from more than 150 students at Hanover High last week after he concluded his talk on Careers in Chemistry.

When he goes out on these talks the UMass-Boston Ambassador of Good Will softly tells students about educational opportunities in Chemistry at UMass-Boston, and goes beyond that as an Envoy for the American Chemical Association and talks about careers as scientists.

Through these efforts he has been most helpful for the benefit of the University, especially the Office of Admissions.

Spanish Publications

Prof. Concha Zardoya of the Spanish Department of College II, has recently published a poem entitled "El Corazón y la Sombra" (The Heart and the Shadow) in Mester, Vol. V. No. 1. Los Angeles, U. C. L. A., p. 2, and two poems - "Desciende mi memoria de las Sierras" and "Era un día de sol" - in the book *Lirica Española de Hoy* (Today's Lyric Spanish Poetry), an Anthology edited by José Luis Cano, with biobibliographical data (Madrid: Ediciones Cátedra, 1975, pp. 65-67).

French Literature

Prof. Rodney E. Harris (French II) has received reprints of his article "Le role du dramaturge dans le théâtre ouest-africain" which appeared in a special issue of the prestigious journal *Revue de littérature comparée* (Paris. The issue is devoted to African and Antillean writers.

Higher Education Conference

Chancellor Golino will be a participant at the Conference in Higher Education, conducted by the School of Education, Boston College, on June 2 and 3 at the Colonnade Hotel. Eight forums will be held on Goals For A Changing University, including education for the professions, university governance, can university administrators effect change, and non-traditional programs.

United Nations Meeting

Prof. Lawrence Kamara (Sociology II) was the speaker at the last meeting of the United Nations Council of the South Shore at its meeting at Milton Academy. A member of the Board of Directors of the group is Prof. Marylee Kimball (French II).