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Summer Institute on Critical Thinking

A Summer Institute on Critical Thinking, Creativity and Moral Education will be held at UMass-Boston from July 6 through July 30 for a group of Elementary and Secondary school teachers, supported by a grant of \$85,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Teachers who participate in the summer program will be asked to participate in a follow-up seminar, and up to 15 graduate credits will be offered through UMass-Amherst.

Faculty will consist of Philosophy Department members from UMass-Boston and UMass-Amherst; the Psychology Department from UMass-Boston and the School of Education at Amherst, and the Teacher Certification Program of UMass-Boston.

Prof. Robert Swartz, Philosophy, UMass-Boston; Prof. Robert Wellman, School of Education, UMass-Amherst, and Dr. James Case, Institute for Learning and Teaching are the coordinators.

One of the purposes of the program is to test the feasibility of developing a new Master's program with the summer course content on the Boston campus in coordination with a similar program at UMass-Amherst.

The course on Critical Thinking and Creativity will deal with problem-solving techniques and strategies, and will place detailed emphasis on techniques of reasoning, informal logic, creative thinking, and discovery. The course on Moral Education will deal with traditional philosophical issues about ethics and value with specific focus on reasoning about value, moral dilemmas, and ethical argument and dispute about basic value questions in society.

Steamer and the U.S. Supreme Court

Dean Robert Steamer, College II, in his paper at the recent New England Political Science Association meeting at the University of New Hampshire said the "Supreme Court's power rests primarily on its ability to convince the rest of us that its decisions are right. It can do so only if it clearly argues from neutral ground and not from preconceived notions, personal predilections or value preferences."

His paper was condensed in the *Boston Globe*, April 9, concluding on this note, "The court's currency is limited and it should not be squandered in attempts to promote reform that failed to muster support in the legislature. If neither reason nor tradition can bring about a broad consensus within which

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Steamer and the
U.S. Supreme Court

community agrees to accept, in Allan Bloom's phrase, 'a compelling horizon of values,' the Supreme Court cannot create it and the Constitution cannot guarantee it."

Dean Steamer, who is the author of the Supreme Court in Crisis, is also the author of the critical assessments of the Supreme Court in the 1976 Yearbook of the American Educator Encyclopedia. His essay covers Supreme Court decisions on Women's Rights, Students and Juveniles, Social Security, Welfare and Family Law, Freedom of Speech and Press, Due Process of Law, and Indian Affairs.

Garrison Letters

Prof. Louis Ruchames, History, is the editor of the fourth volume of The Letters of William Lloyd Garrison which covers the period from 1850 to 1860, the period of disunionism to the brink of the Civil War.

Published by Harvard University Press, this book and its research have been a labor of love and dedicated scholarship by Dr. Ruchames. In this volume Garrison's writings reflect the interests of the times, especially his lively correspondence with Harriet Beecher Stowe, Wendell Philipps, Susan B. Anthony, Theodore Parker, and Stephen S. Foster.

Mao Biography

Lucian Pyle of M. I. T. is the author of a new book Mao Tse-tung, The Man in the Leader which was reviewed by Prof. Arnold Beichman, Politics II, in the April 11 Boston Globe.

Excerpts from the Beichman review:

"Devil? Saint? Whatever, there is little question that Mao Tse-tung is one of the weightiest (and most durable) political figures of the century, a revolutionary whose impact on the modern world had been second only to that of V.I. Lenin."

"Professor Pye's volume of psychopolitical analysis will deservedly become a classic in Chinese historiography. Who wants to understand 'this great man of history' will have to read it."

"Without an examination of moral credentials, how is Mao different from monsters like Hitler and Stalin? Are they in the same pantheon with Mao? Professor Pye's brilliantly executed analysis lacks a moral dimension by which heroes in history may be judged as well as psychoanalyzed."

Italian Literary Offerings

Prof. Vito Giustiniani, of the Italian Department has recently published an article on Manzoni ("Geschichte, Humor and Erzählung" in Manzoni's Promessi Sposi, Romanische Forschungen, vol. 86, Fasc. 1/2) another article on G. Ungaretti ("Atles und Neues in der Dichtung Ungarettis," Festschrift Friedrich, Klostermann, Frankfurt) and now a volume with the title Il testo della Nencia e della Beca secondo le piu antiche stampe, Firenze, Olschki 1976. In this volume he tries to show that the "Nencia" is not a unitary work due to Lorenzo dei Medici, but rather a collection of folk songs and stanzas written in imitation of them perhaps by Lorenzo himself and other people from his circle. This way the old redaction called "vulgata" seems to be more valuable for antiquity and text form than the other redaction, discovered

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Italian Literary Offerings
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by G. Volpe in 1908, which was preferred by historians of literature because of its greater literary value, since it is a collection of only the best stanzas.

Sociology Publication

Black Colleges As A National Resource, by Professor James E. Blackwell (Sociology I), has just been published by the Southern Education Foundation in Atlanta, Georgia. This document illustrates and summarizes the important roles being performed by the 107 predominantly black colleges as an integral part of the educational enterprise in the U.S. Issues pertaining to the future impact on predominantly black colleges on the American society are also addressed.

Prins Concert

On Friday, April 23, Prof. Robert Prins, Music, and Director of the Wellesley Symphony Orchestra will conduct the orchestra, in a Spring Concert at the Wellesley Junior High School Auditorium at 8:00 p. m.

The program includes Wagner, Mendelssohn, and Tchaikovsky selections. Admission is free.

Task Force for Economic
Development

Gov. Michael Dukakis has named a 33-member task force on Capital Formation for Economic Development in the Commonwealth. Among the members is Prof. Sandra Kantor, College of Public and Community Service. She teaches economics and institutions. Other members of the group include bankers, educators, community leaders, industrialists, legislators, and commissioners of State services.

This task force is the result of research and eventual legislative action inspired by members of the faculty at the College of Public and Community Service, including Prof. Kantor, Prof. David Smith, and Prof. Bradley Honoroff. The legislation, enacted last year provided the establishment of a Community Development Finance Corporation.

Nantucket Accomplishments

Dr. Wesley N. Tiffney Jr., Director of the Nantucket Field Station of UMass-Boston, has made an annual report of research and other activities for the past year and the progress has been magnificent. Research has been conducted by students, staff, and visitors. Some of the projects include studies of water quality on the island, research on soils, geology, hydrology, land use, marine resources, and wildlife; the ecological impact of four-wheel drive vehicles, which endanger sand spits which support a diverse sequence of fragile ecosystems including rare plants and endangered animal species; babesiosis, a malaria-like disease; colonization of scallop shells by *Codium*; oyster culture; decomposition rates and nutrient values of salt marsh plants, and many more.

Students and scientists working at this island center will be making contributions to our society, whether we are on-islanders or off-islanders.

The Captain General

The Theatre Arts Department is presenting its major production of the year, "The Captain General", for eight performances beginning Thursday, April 22 at 12:30 in the College II Auditorium.

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The Captain General
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Written and directed by Prof. Louis Roberts, Chairman of Theatre Arts, the moving play is the product of Roberts' investigations into the cultures of backland Mexico in the days of the Conquistadores. A thoughtful drama, it will be worthwhile for all of the UMass-Boston community to take in a performance.

Dates and times are:

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| Thursday | April 22 | 12:30 |
| Friday | 23 | 12:30 and 7:30 p.m. |
| Saturday | 24 | 7:30 " |
| Sunday | 25 | 2:00 p.m. |
| Thursday | 29 | 12:30 |
| Friday | 30 | 12:30 |
| Saturday | May 1 | 7:30 p.m. |

Human Services Conferences

The Institute of Human Services in Boston, in association with Psychology II, has been conducting a series of all-day seminars on campus, and the concluding session will be on Thursday, April 29.

The purpose of the program is to train individuals to acquire a proficiency in the development and management of comprehensive services within the human services system. The first three seminars covered the selection, staffing and training of staff members in human service agencies; accounting and business practices covered the second session, and communicating the objectives and purposes of these organizations with their "publics" was the content of the third session.

Prof. Maxwell Schleifer and Hugh Riddleberger, Executive Director of the Institute for Human Services, designed the four-session series.

Wuxtra

When newspapers were sold on the street corners, especially when a BIG story broke, the newsboys proclaimed their wares with "Wuxtra, Wuxtra," "Readallaboutit!!!"

Ah, the days of yore. Anyway, read this quietly:

Four Boston Globe political experts will be on campus today (Tuesday) at 12:30 in the Science Auditorium to report their impressions on "Campaign '76". Robert Healy, Political Editor; Martin Nolan, Chief of the Globe's Washington Bureau; and reporters Curtis Wilkie and Robert Turner will also field questions, Moderator is Prof. Edmond Beard, Politics II.

All are invited.

766

In cooperation with the Institute for Learning and Teaching, the Teacher Certification Program presented a discussion on implications of Chapter 766 (Special Education) for the general classroom teacher. Guest speakers were Ms. Bonnie Bisbicos, Coordinator of Special Education, Cambridge, and Ms. Elaine Lombardozi, Core Evaluation Team Chairperson, John W. McCormack Middle School, Boston.