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University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 10, No. 18

January 11, 1977

Council Of Universities For The Kennedy Library

Colleges and universities in greater Boston are forming a Council of Universities for the Kennedy Library, former Governor Francis W. Sargent, chairman of the new group's Executive Committee, announced today. The organization is in the process of developing programs to encourage the tens of thousands of students and faculty in the area to make use of the Presidential library's resources.

In describing the Council, Governor Sargent said: "The Kennedy Library, as an agency of the federal government, is a public institution. Part of the National Archives, it has been in operation for seven years in its temporary quarters in Waltham. Now that the plans for its permanent home at Columbia Point have been approved, institutions of higher education in this area can begin to work out relationships with the Library and its staff. The Council is a mechanism to help establish those relationships."

The Council's first project, Governor Sargent said, is to make sure that all relevant faculty department chairmen in the area know about the Library's resources and to enlist their support in making sure that students and teachers who might find the Library useful know how to make contact with it. The second will be a conference on the American presidency to be held at the time of the ground-breaking for the new building next spring. Chairing the conference will be Professor William Goldsmith of Brandeis University.

The members of the Council's Executive Committee are: Honorable Francis Sargent, Chairman; Professor William Goldsmith, Brandeis University; Dean Edmund Gullion, Fletcher School, Tufts University; Dr. Nancy Wyner, Wheelock College; State Senator Alan Sisitsky of Springfield; Chancellor Carlo Golino, University of Massachusetts/Boston; Mr. Dan Fenn, Director, Kennedy Library, ex officio; and Professor Adam Yarmolinsky, University of Massachusetts.

The Kennedy Library, one of six Presidential libraries in the country, has been serving researchers and conducting educational programs and exhibits since it opened at the Federal Records Center in Waltham in 1969. Its holdings include nearly 25 million documents, 5 million feet of film, and 13,000 objects. Its Director is Dan H. Fenn, Jr.; its staff of 33 employees and 35 volunteers is organized into three sections headed by David F. Powers, Museum Curator; John F. Stewart, Assistant Director for Educational Programs; and William W. Moss, Chief Archivist.

University Of Massachusetts At Boston--Accounting Manual

The Accounting Department is currently distributing Accounting Manuals to Chairpersons, Principal Investigators, and others who handle departmental administrative matters.

Purpose This Manual is designed as a working tool to assist persons throughout the Boston Campus in dealing with accounting and accounting related procedures.

Scope This Manual deals principally with the accounting system structure, the chart of accounts, the coding of documents, interpretation of FAS reports, travel and certain ancillary topics not covered in other manuals.

How To Use Department Chairpersons, Principal Investigators and other users should be guided by the table of contents as to the subject matter in question. In the event there is still some uncertainty as to how to proceed, please use the Administrative Services Information Directory (section 14,000) of the manual which will indicate the appropriate individual to contact.

Updating This document will be updated periodically as the situation requires. Departments are urged to maintain this Manual as current as possible.

If you have not received your Manual, or if you need additional manuals for your department, they may be picked up at the Accounting Department.

Truman Scholarship Foundation

Franklin Patterson, Frank L. Boyden Professor of the University, has been named Chairman of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation's Boston Regional Review Panel, which has the responsibility for interviewing and evaluating Truman Scholarship candidates for the New England region.

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, established by Congress as the official federal memorial to honor the thirty-third President of the United States, is a permanent education scholarship program designed to provide opportunities for outstanding students to prepare for careers in the public service. The Foundation is supported by the Harry S. Truman Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund in the Treasury of the United States. Funding for scholarships and administrative expenses derives from interest on the trust fund, a sum of \$30-million invested in U.S. securities.

Legislative Aids

Political acumen is a quality known to several of UMass-Boston students and alumni/ae. One might expect this of seniors and juniors, and yet one need not be surprised with our freshmen. One of them, Richard Livingston of Dorchester, is now serving as an intern in the office of State Representative James Smith of Lynn at the State House. Smith, of course, is most active in Alumni Association affairs and is the first of our alumni to serve in elective office at Beacon Hill.

Senior Thomas J. Heinz of Medford, a Politics major, has been named to the staff of U.S. Rep. Edward J. Markey of the 7th Congressional District. He is a constituent case worker for Congressman Markey and will be part of the constituent service center that Markey expects to establish within his district.

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Legislative Aids (Continued from

Alumnae Kathleen Steed, a former Student Trustee, has served in Markey's campaigns for several years at the state and national levels.

City Charter Reform

The recent study on the proposed charter reform for the City of Boston, headed by a group of civic leaders, had leaped over a couple of hurdles. Mayor Kevin White signed the approval of the proposal in ceremonies at City Hall last week. Attending were Joseph Slavet, Director of the Boston Urban Observatory of UMass-Boston who was the technical director of the project, and Prof. Richard Hogarty, College of Public and Community Service, a member of the technical assistance panel.

Slavet has been long known for his research and recommendations in solving urban problems. Hogarty provided the expertise for the area in the report on the accountability government should have to the neighborhoods. In New Jersey, Prof. Hogarty had done a similar study on the local options provided within charter reforms.

Reviews

Before poet John Ashbery was named poetry editor of the Partisan Review Prof. Alan Helms, English, was given the assignment to review Ashbery's newest collection of poetry Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror for Vol. xliii-No.3 of the Partisan Review and Helms does right by Ashbery.

Sample: "Most poems are a crystalization of experience: we move from a reading of the poem to a rethinking of the poem on some deeper level. Ashbery's poems move on their deepest level, the level of the experience out of which they are made. Thus, we get a lot of high dudgeon from some of Ashbery's critics, since in a sense there's nothing to talk about after reading an Ashbery poem--nothing, that is, to explicate. But thus also one of the great excitements of Ashbery's work--our sense of participating in a voyage of discovery as we momentarily inhabit the poet's journeying awareness."

In the December 30 Washington Post Admissions Counselor Jack Beatty had an extensive review of Albert J. Guerard's The Triumph Of the Novel: Dickens, Dostoevsky, Faulkner.

The book is the story of the novel's liberation, says Beatty, traveling from Dickens' influence on Dostoevsky, and Faulkner's admiration for both writers.

Guerard's work "gives us a portable critical category that helps us understand the antirealist tradition of our contemporaries: Pynchon, Hawkes, Barth, Barthelme and Nabokov. It succeeds, finally, in saying something fresh and new."

Schultz Named Acting Associate Provost

Vice Chancellor Robert Steamer has announced that Prof. John Schultz, Biology, has assumed the duties as Acting Associate Provost for Special Programs. Dr. Primo Vanicelli is on sabbatical leave.

Prof. Schultz is one of the real veterans at UMass-Boston and did much with his colleagues to advance the Biology programs on campus and at Nantucket.

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Schultz Named Acting
Associate Provost
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He is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island and has his master's and doctorate in Biology from Brown University. One of his areas of research interest is in the development genetic study.

The CIA, the FBI and
Gordon Zahn

In the December 18 issue of America, Prof. Gordon Zahn, Sociology, wrote an essay "One Man's Files" which is a tragi-comedy of trying to learn, through the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, what the FBI and CIA "had on him."

As a Catholic peace activist for many years, Zahn was in the forefront of intense and organized opposition to the war in Vietnam.

The revelations from his files--which took bureaucratic eons to come to him--were a rather disappointing letdown to him. But the exercise was not a total loss. The CIA had domestic information about Zahn's activities; the FBI had the foreign touches. And Prof. Zahn points out he was disappointed about some of his activities that did not find their way into the files at all. In the processes and procedures of gaining the information, he claims that "carelessness, incompetence or inefficiency" were not compelling reasons enough for responding to his request.

He adds: "To put it bluntly, I am not convinced that these agencies are prepared to comply with either the spirit or the letter of the law. There is, of course, no way definitely to confirm or refute this suspicion, short of being given full and unrestricted access to the files themselves. But the suspicion persists, nonetheless. If it is unfair to give voice to the suspicion without proof, it is surely no more so than for these agencies to pass an adverse judgment on the basis of such thin evidence as has been presented here. On the other hand, if more substantial evidence is at hand, the failure to make it available would constitute an evasion of the law as charged."

Dr. Martin Luther King Day

David Edmonds, Personnel Director, advises that Dr. Martin Luther King Day--January 15, will be observed by the University on Friday, January 14. Employee services will be required only in the power plant facilities and in security.

Educators Meet on Holocaust

Prof. Paul Bookbinder, History, was among the panelists at the December meeting on "Teaching the Holocaust: Methodology and Materials" sponsored by the Greater Boston Council for the Social Studies and coordinated by the Jewish Community Council and Anti-Defamation League.

Prof. Bookbinder's panel addressed itself to "The Response of the Christian Community to the Plight of European Jews."

Speakers stressed how important survivors of the holocaust in Europe are as primary sources in studying this era of man's inhumanity to man.