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3-22-1977

### Bulletin - Vol. 10, No. 28 - March 22, 1977

University of Massachusetts Boston

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#### Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "Bulletin - Vol. 10, No. 28 - March 22, 1977" (1977). 1971-1977, *UMass Boston Bulletin*. 285.  
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# University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 10, No. 28

March 22, 1977

## Ethics Code For State Senate

The first draft of a State Senate Code of Ethics is expected to be completed this Spring, according to Sen. Chester Atkins, Chairman of the Committee. And Prof. Edmund Beard, Political Science, at a State House hearing last week advised the Committee that "A 'quick fix' is not called for here." He said it "might simply contribute to public skepticism. What is needed in democratic legislatures is not a vague code passed as a public relations gesture or even a strict code passed in haste in the face of sudden embarrassment or sudden public wrath."

Prof. Beard has done extensive research in governmental ethics, and was one of the chief researchers at the Brookings Institute on a study of Congressional Ethics.

## Search For Ethics In France

Prof. Richard Robbins, Sociology, was the Boston Globe book reviewer for Simone Petrement's Simone Weil: A Life. Robbins calls Weil "one of the most luminous minds and one of the most compassionate human beings of our time."

Simone Weil died at the age of 34. Her poetry, philosophy, journals, social activism, spiritual journeys brought out "the deeply moving reflections on work and worker alienation" contained in such works as "The Need for Roots," "Waiting for God," "Oppression and Liberty" and her notebooks.

Robbins relates one anecdote that reveals her personality and zeal: "When she met Trotsky and of course taxed him for his severe treatment of the rebellious Kronstadt sailors, he replied sarcastically, 'Do you belong to the Salvation Army?' But this 'sergeant major angel' as her brother, the renowned mathematician, Andre Weil, affectionately called her, readily held her own with Trotsky, arguing that socialism was in no way exempt from ethical scrutiny."

## Wheels

Charles Spaulding, Physical Plant, says the cooperation of the entire University community will be greatly appreciated if 15 citations are observed about the use of University vehicles that he listed in a recent memorandum to Vice Chancellors, Deans and Department heads. Personnel should be aware of the policy regarding the use of vehicles, especially their responsibilities and liabilities. For instance, vehicles shall be used for official business only, that vehicles may not be used for commuting back and forth to work, and op-

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## Wheels

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erators are subject to all state and municipal traffic laws--including the 55 miles per hour limit--and are personally responsible for traffic violations, including parking tickets.

## Contributing Author

Dr. James E. Blackwell, Sociology, is a contributing author to a new volume on The Black Male in America, Published by William C. Brown Publishing Company and edited by Prof. Doris Y. Wilkinson of Macalester College and Dr. Ronald Taylor of the University of Connecticut. Prof. Blackwell wrote the chapter entitled "Social and Legal Dimensions of Inter-racial Liaisons". The volume deals with the psychological aspects of growing up as a black male in America, myths and stereotypes regarding sexual and athletic superiority, inter-racial dating and marriage, and the occupations and economic future of the African-American male in post-industrial society. It also deals with black family life and variations in work and father roles.

## Labor Book Review

Prof. Arnold Beichman, Political Science, who has had much labor organizational experiences along with his global view of politics, was the reviewer for the March issue of Perspective on American Labor and European Politics: The AFL as a Transnational Force by Roy Godson.

Beichman writes: "Professor Godson's volume, an important contribution to transnational or public diplomacy research, begins like a doctoral dissertation and ends like an exciting spy thriller. It is difficult to believe that a subject still regarded by many social scientists as much too arcane for scholarly investigation, namely, international trade unionism, should have produced so fascinating--and controversial--a book.

"A member of the faculty of government of Georgetown University and director of its International Labor Program. Professor Godson is dealing with the high drama of postwar European politics--the confrontation between Stalin and his captive Communist parties in Western Europe on the one hand, and on the other, a crushed Continent struggling to establish political and economic viability, with its only ally, a militarily demobilized America. The author focuses his research upon the manifold overseas activities of the then American Federation of Labor (the AFL-CIO merger took place in 1955) which, he argues, was an influential actor in this confrontation. He offers a great deal of documentation, much of it quite persuasive, in favor of his thesis."

Beichman says that historians writing about the immediate post-war decade will find the book indispensable.

## WNAC-TV Donates Equipment

The Center for Media Development's capacity for television production has effectively been doubled by WNAC-TV's recent contribution of studio control equipment. The addition of a switcher, special effects system and audio console to the Harbor Campus facility will enable the Center to offer students hands-on training in broadcast procedures. In fact, Channel 7's generous contribution has already made it possible for students in Vid Com to produce broadcast quality video tapes.



## Basic Life And Health Insurance Premiums Reduced

Due to the passage of recent legislation, the Commonwealth now will be paying a larger share of the overall premium costs for the \$2,000 basic life and health insurance plans. This change is retroactive to January 1, 1977. Because the premiums for January, February and March of 1977 have already been deducted (premiums are deducted one month in advance of the premium due date), the premium deducted from an employee's paycheck on Friday, March 4, 1977 will reflect this retroactive adjustment.

The rate chart that follows shows the most common types of coverage and the appropriate premiums that will be deducted from employee's paychecks on March 4, April 8, and May 6, 1977. It should be noted that the premium for the health insurance includes the premium for the \$2,000 of basic life insurance. If your type of coverage is not shown on this chart, please call the Personnel Office (Ext. 2271) and ask what your monthly premium deductions will be.

### Dates Premiums Will Be Deducted:

Type of Coverage	4-8-77	5-6-77
\$2,000 of basic life ins. only --	\$ .44	\$ .44
Aetna--individual with CIC		
(catastrophic illness coverage)-	9.09	9.09
Aetna--individual without CIC ---	7.77	7.77
Aetna--family with CIC-----	21.15	21.15
Aetna--family without CIC-----	17.90	17.90
Harvard Community Health Plan-		
individual-----	1.68	4.91
Harvard Community Health Plan-		
family-----	11.63	15.25
Aetna OME--individual with CIC-	7.80	7.80
Aetna OME--individual without		
CIC-----	5.64	5.64
Aetna OME--family with CIC--		
one spouse over 65, other		
spouse under age 65-----	16.45	16.45
Aetna OME--family without CIC		
--one spouse over 65, other		
spouse under age 65-----	12.97	12.97
Aetna OME--family with CIC--		
both husband and wife over age		
65-----	15.16	15.16
Aetna OME--family without CIC		
--both husband and wife over		
age 65-----	10.84	10.84

## Library Science

Faculty are asked to advise that students interested in learning about various possible careers in the field of Library Science are invited to attend a meeting with Dean Carol Learmont of the Columbia University School of Library Science today, Tuesday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Central Advising office (Admin. Bldg., 2nd floor).

## Charley's Angels

Let's be frank, they just don't have the appeal of the television trio. But they did a great job here this winter--the people involved in campus snow removal. And Charles Spaulding, Physical Plant, wants everyone to know who the snow removal team was:

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Charley's Angels  
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John Brown, Robert Kelly, Edward Healey, Walter Diehl, Frank Verrochi, John Maslauskas, Robert Gibbons, Robert Jackson, Henry Daniel, Thomas Bradley, Thomas Belmonte, Francis Kelly, Richard Natale, Mike Nania and Vicent Meyer.

Dante Alighieri Society

Prof. Gerald Volpe, Italian and French, was the featured speaker at the recent meeting of the Dante Alighieri Society at Harvard Divinity School. He traced the historical and geographical background of Italian immigrants to the United States in the past century, enumerating their contributions to the arts, business, culture, and social factors of the nation.

Arlington And Home Rule

Joseph Slavet, Boston Urban Observatory, commenting on the vote by Arlington residents on home rule and the continuance of a Massachusetts law requiring compulsory and binding arbitration for police and fire personnel, said their vote to overturn this law is new evidence the voters are restive with growing controls imposed on local governments by the state legislature.

"There is a growing feeling among cities and towns that they are on the losing end in binding arbitration," he said. "The people are beginning to get annoyed. They don't like their town meetings becoming rubber stamps for arbitrators."

Library Exhibit

An exhibition of Bicentennial Exhibition Catalogues are on view at the Library through Friday. All should take a look at the interesting collection.

Conlon Reviews

John Conlon, Teacher Certification Program, was the reviewer for the Boston Herald-American of two international mystery novels: The Valhalla Exchange by Harry Patterson, who is better known as Jack Higgins, author of The Eagle Has Landed, and 17 Ben Gurion by Jack Hoffenberg. Conlon says "Exchange" has stature and is must reading and that Hoffenberg's book about energy independence and its ramifications for national independence is a "broad, human, intricate novel, impossible to put down, in any sense."

Beatty Review

Mauve Gloves & Madmen, Clutter & Vine, Tom Wolfe's newest book at the "Me Decade" is reviewed in the March 5th issue of The Nation by Admissions Counselor Jack Beatty. The review touches the style and substance of Wolfe and Beatty says, "Wolfe's style is a guarantee against satiation, however: it makes whatever it touches new. And perhaps the chief delight of this collection is watching his style shift with his varying subjects. To re-create the look and feel of a jet taking off from an aircraft carrier Wolfe unleashes a forty-five-line sentence that puts you as close to the horror, noise and confusion of the real thing as you are ever likely to get."

WUMB Blood Mobile For  
The Red Cross

The W.U.M.B. Bloodmobile for the Red Cross on Wednesday, March 16th, was a great success. The number of registrants estimated back in January was 150. The actual number of registrants on the day of the drive was 165. The total number of pints collected was 122. WUMB wishes to thank all who helped make this Blood Drive a success!