University Facing Budget Reductions for FY 2010

By DeWayne Lehman

The $1,500 student fee increase approved by the UMass Board of Trustees February 27 will go a long way toward closing a funding gap on the Boston campus, but the university will still face a shortfall next year that will have to be covered with budget reductions, according to Ellen O’Connor, vice chancellor for administration and finance.

Last month, the Office of Administration and Finance began the budget-planning process for fiscal year 2010 facing an estimated $16 million funding shortfall due to the state's cuts to the university system. The UMass Board of Trustees’ vote to raise student fees will generate $15 million in new revenue for the Boston campus, with $3 million of the new revenue devoted to enhanced financial aid, according to the Office of Budget and Financial Planning. The resulting approximately $4 million funding shortfall will need to be addressed with spending cuts in next year's budget, according to O’Connor, and that number could grow with more state cuts or increased costs associated with growing enrollment.

“Even with the $1,500 fee increase, our campus is faced with a funding gap between revenue and expenses,” O’Connor said. “The revenue generated by the fee increase will allow us to be more strategic in implementing necessary spending cuts.”

The state’s cuts in funding for the university extend the historic trend of declining state support for UMass Boston and other campuses. In 1985, for example, the state’s share of the university’s operating budget was 50%; in FY08, the state portion was 39.8% and is projected at 34.8% for FY09. (continued on page 2)

Graph showing the state's declining share (blue) of UMass Boston's operating budget. FY09 numbers are estimated; the state portion was 39.8% in FY08, and is projected at 34.8% for FY09.

UMass Boston Now on iTunes U

By Martha Scanlon

Since the release of the iPod, students with little white headphones plugged in their ears have become a common sight. And now, with the launch of iTunes U at UMass Boston, students can take full advantage of portable media technology by downloading lectures and other university-related content.

“The beauty is, you’re taking the train home and you can listen to a lecture,” said Apurva Mehta, director of Information Technology Client Services.

At iTunes.umb.edu, users can launch the UMass Boston page of iTunes U or install the software for free. They can download the content to their iTunes, then either sync it to their iPod or watch/listen on their computer. And as with music, users can create playlists.

Mehta and his team have been working on the project ever since they saw it demonstrated at an IT expo two years ago. “It’s been so long in the making. I think the faculty really realize the importance of this tool because so many students have an iPod,” Mehta said. The entire service is free, with Apple hosting the content and supplying universities a template to work with.

Launched in January, the current version of UMass Boston iTunes U is available to the public. Content includes biology lectures, commencement speeches by President Obama and Governor Patrick, and tutorials from The Media Center. In the coming months, the team will work to finalize a private version that will allow faculty concerned with copyright issues to password-protect content by linking it within their WISER course list.

One of the first professors to participate in the project was Brian White, associate professor (continued on page 4)

Conference Puts Focus on Teaching the Teachers

By Anne-Marie Kent

The classrooms in McCormack Hall on January 23 were brimming—not with students but rather their professors, a hundred of whom attended the Center for the Improvement of Teaching’s Annual Conference on Teaching for Transformation.

Topics of discussion ranged widely, from explorations of race, culture, and social issues to best uses of writing, syllabi, tutoring, and theory. Some groups had a decidedly high-tech focus, discussing how to foster information literacy for “Generation Google” students, integrate YouTube into curriculum, or venture onto the UMass Boston Blog Network.

In the middle of a day of more than thirty sessions—some involving both graduate and undergraduate students—a lunchtime plenary featured recipients of the 2008 Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award, Professors Lois Patrick, and tutorials from The Media Center. In the coming months, the team will work to finalize a private version that will allow faculty concerned with copyright issues to password-protect content by linking it within their WISER course list.

One of the first professors to participate in the project was Brian White, associate professor
New Policy Puts Passwords to the Test

By Anne-Marie Kent

If your UMass Boston email account password is your ATM code, part of your email address, the word “password,” or whatever was assigned back when the account was first activated, it’s time for a change.

In fact, if you don’t change your password to meet new requirements for password complexity by March 19, you will lose access to your email account and other systems, such as FAQs, the Blackboard Vista Learning Management System, and Xythos.

“State and federal regulations—as well as our auditors’ findings—require us to put better security practices in place,” says Anne Scrivener Agee, Vice Provost for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, who notes that, as the university moves toward using a single sign-on for security practices, “It becomes more critical since it provides access to more and more data.

“The whole University of Massachusetts system is striving to become more security-conscious, and UMass Boston has worked with the system to define best practices and standards for security, including those we have just introduced for password management,” explains Agee.

To meet these new standards, email passwords must now have a minimum of eight characters and must contain three of the following: an upper-case character, a lower-case character, a special character ($#@), and a numeric character. Passwords will expire after 180 days and cannot contain all or part of your email address and cannot be reused.

“Obviously, passwords are just one piece of the Identity Management security puzzle,” says Daryl Ford, Director of Communications and Infrastructure Services. “Other pieces are good physical security, plugging network holes, and having strong firewall rules. These provide much more global protection than passwords alone, but in areas where the only method of control users have is a password, the best thing we can do is make users aware of the security risks and encourage them to keep up with their password controls.”

One common solution to the problem of finding a suitable and yet memorable—password involves choosing a familiar word, replacing certain letters with symbols, and adding numbers that can be cycled. “Security” becomes “$ecurity1.” After 180 days, it can be changed to “$ecurity2,” and so on.

Further information on how to change email passwords can be found at www.umb.edu/it. Additional technical assistance is offered by the UMass Boston IT Helpdesk at 7-5220.

UMass Boston received more than 75 percent of its funding from the state, whereas today the proportion is below 40 percent.

Last fall the state cut $5.5 million of funding to the university during an initial round of so-called 9C cuts required by declining state revenue collections. A subsequent additional cut trimmed another $600,000 from UMass Boston’s expected funding. The university is anticipating another $11 million funding cut from the state in next year’s FY10 budget, according to O’Connor.

To prepare for the cut in FY10 state funding, the Office of Administration and Finance is asking colleges and departments to prioritize their programs and activities and develop spending reduction scenarios of 6 and 9 percent. The Office of Budget and Financial Planning, working with deans and executive staff, will then develop a proposed budget for FY10 that addresses the funding shortfall but stays focused on the university’s strategic priorities, according to O’Connor. “Students will likely see some decrease in services, but the fee increase will help us to better protect the academic core so as not to significantly diminish the quality of the educational experience at UMass Boston,” she said.

Under the plan approved by the Board of Trustees last month, approximately two-thirds of full-time undergraduate students at UMass Boston will benefit from enriched financial aid packaging, according to Kathleen Teahan, vice chancellor for enrollment management. Increased Pell Grant funding will enable the university to use institutional funds to provide greater assistance to students and families with incomes up to $100,000.

Black History Month at UMass Boston

Above: Governor Deval Patrick speaks to the Massachusetts Black Business Alliance at the Campus Center.

Right: Staged reading of Go Down Moses, performed by John Adekoje of the Boston Arts Academy.

Right: Colleen Richards Powell of the Commonwealth Compact at the Black Inventors Showcase, a travelling exhibit of inventions and innovations curated by the Institute of Black Invention & Technology.

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The University of Massachusetts Boston

Budget (cont. from page 1)
Fundraising Career Paths.” Students from the Dorchester Education Complex’s Tech and Noonan Business Academies experienced behind-the-scenes Web development and photo editing, identified corporate and foundation funding prospects to build a neighborhood community center, and learned about the career paths of University Advancement professionals. These included Fleming, Assistant Vice Chancellor Nan Cormier, director of the UMass Boston Fund Kelly Westerhouse, administrative assistant Vanessa DiCarlo and Vice Chancellor Darrell Byers. DiCarlo, a 2008 University of Santa Clara graduate, said that she enjoys meeting the shadows because “it wasn’t that long ago that I was in their place. It felt great to let these students know how far ambition can take you.”

Student Natasha Blake enjoyed learning how all the jobs “fit together” to support fundraising at the university. In a thank-you note to Byers, she wrote, “I used to think that UMass Boston was just a college filled with students and administrative staff, but from an official from the Provost’s Office with candid advice that I thought gave junior faculty a good road map to tenure.”

Faculty benefit, but the seminars also inspire those who lead them. Professor Denis Patmon, in her essay “On Pedagogy: Personal, Political, and the Professoriate,” writes that leading CIT seminars has caused her to explore her own teaching. “I realized how important it was to reflect on my teaching odyssey as a way of introducing myself to the group, since I am today a direct result of all of the classrooms where I’ve taught,” writes Patmon.

Although the Center was established back in 1983, within what was then called the College of Arts and Sciences, and has been active university-wide since 1989, some faculty are not aware of its offerings. Others have heard about CIT, but are stymied when they try to find it. The Center has no office space. “Very often, people ask us where the Center is located,” says director Zamel with a smile. “In some ways it is a kind of metaphor. The work of CIT can be found throughout campus, in our classrooms and learning spaces—we’re a Center that’s central.”

Role reversal: At the conference, teachers were the students. (Photo by Harry Brett)
By Brian Middleton

In an era of shrinking budgets and expanding needs, it is more crucial than ever for the professionals who provide information technology services to state government to be equipped with up-to-date skills.

“In these tough financial times, it’s critical that we continue to train our workforce on current and emerging technologies,” says Anne Margulies, Chief Information Officer for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Toward this end, UMass Boston has partnered with Margulies and her staff to implement a new professional development training program with UMass Boston’s IT Department. Based at the Massachusetts State House, the program, called the Commonwealth IT University, was launched in the summer of 2008, according to Olga Lauterbach, director of professional training programs in the Division of Corporate, Continuing, and Distance Education (CCDE). CCDE, the College of Management, and the Computer Science Department have collaborated to offer professional-level technical courses to the state’s IT Department in the areas of project management, object-oriented methodology, and Java.

Program participants were drawn from several different areas of the Commonwealth’s IT offices, including the Department of Revenue, Information Technology Division, and Health and Human Services. Many of the students already have advanced skill levels in their field, and have found the specialized training offered by UMass Boston to be a valuable addition to their current skills. Because the classes consist of both lectures and lab exercises, many students have been able to directly apply their classroom experiences to their work.

The summer program was so successful that the university was asked to offer it again in the fall of 2008. “The UMass faculty put together a top-notch program that challenged and inspired our staff,” says Margulies. “We are eager to keep the program going, and hopefully expand it over time.” So far, about 100 of the Commonwealth’s IT staff have participated in this targeted, customized professional development program. The program is currently being expanded to cover more advanced project management and IT topics, such as cybersecurity, accessibility, and risk management.

As a fringe benefit of the program, the state IT Department’s association with UMass Boston is expected to carry over into employee recruitment. “We are also hopeful that we will continue to get new recruits right out of UMass,” Margulies notes. “The students we hired last year were stars—this program is a win-win-win-win!”

iTunesU (continued from page 1)

of biology. He had been posting audio files of his lectures on his course site since 2005, but one semester he returned from vacation to find his server crashed. Reluctantly, he made his site available to everyone can see it,” he said. “And I don’t have to worry about the server crashing.”

White said that uploading files from his mp3 recorder to iTunes U was “pretty painless.” That, Project Manager and Administrator Jessica Downa said, is the goal. “We’re trying to build a program so faculty can walk into a classroom and click a button to upload their content,” she said, explaining that as more professors become involved, they will hold workshops to train them.

Describing his decision to make his content public as “a mixture of generosity and shameless self-promotion,” White said students like that they can remind the lecture to specific points that confused them and can “listen while doing other stuff.”

In spring 2007, White tracked downloads of his podcasts and reported the results in last month’s issue. He also measured attendance from before he introduced podcasts in spring 2005 and found “the difference is not statistically significant.”

“Students have always been taping lectures, but making it available to everyone is a good thing,” he said. “Also, it’s good for the university, because if people are using it, it gets our name out there.” Chief Information Officer Anne Agae agrees.

Joiner Center Helps Veterans Heal Through Writing

By Julia Reischel

For 27 years, the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Conscience has been teaching veterans how to share the searing lessons of war with others through literature, poetry, and memoir. Today, the Vietnam veterans who founded the center are reaching out to a new generation of young veterans wracked by the modern conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Gaza.

On a cold night in January, the Center sponsored “For Gaza,” a night of readings and discussion about Gaza at the Friends Meeting House in Cambridge, at which UMass Boston professors, including political science professor Leila Farsakh and luminaries like Howard Zinn, the author of the “People’s History of the United States,” addressed a capacity crowd with voices, often raised in anger, that criticized Israel’s military campaign against Hamas in tones seldom heard in the mainstream media.

“Is this not the stench of genocide?” asked Nancy Murray, the founder of the Gaza Mental Health Foundation.

Salma Abu Ayyash, a Palestinian, stepped to the podium to read, in a voice ringing with rage, a quote by a Gaza doctor who explained the bodies of children who had been killed in the conflict. The trajectory of the gunshot wounds, through both the front and the back of the dead children, she reported, showed that Israeli soldiers had been aiming directly at them.

At the end of the evening, Zinn reminded the crowd that the responsibility for finding meaning in the atrocity was “left to artists, left to writers.”

Days later, in his office, the director of the Joiner Center, Vietnam veteran Kevin Bowen, explained that anger, no matter how difficult or unpleasant, lies at the heart of that responsibility.

“You have to let people be angry,” he said, recalling how moved he was by Ayyash’s rage. “Sometimes, the place where we start is the common bond of War…We tried to kill each other.” That’s why the writing is important — that’s how people learn how to trust each other. All that stuff has to be detoxified.

Since the beginning, in addition to providing advocacy and services to veterans, the Joiner Center has encouraged them to write. It sponsors intensive yearly writing workshops taught by authors such as Tim O’Brien, who wrote the celebrated Vietnam novel The Things They Carried, and Brian Turner, an Iraq War veteran who published a book of poetry called Here, Bullet in 2003. The rest of the year, the Joiner Center nurtures veterans’ writing by leading workshops at local veterans centers and providing the inspiration and funding for veterans to publish their work.

In Bowen’s office, near the top of the Healey Library in a warren of rooms, stacks of books and anthologies published with the help and encouragement of the Center, line the walls. One, an anthology called “Writing Between the Lines,” was the first collection of Vietnam War literature to include pieces by both Vietnamese and American writers, Bowen says.

One of the newest projects supported by the Center is a literary journal devoted to the experience of young veterans, founded and edited by a veteran of both Vietnam and the Joiner Center’s writing workshop, George Kovach, who is currently pursuing an MFA in Creative Writing at UMass Boston. The journal, called Consequence Magazine, published its inaugural issue in January with funding from the Joiner Center. It features poems, essays, interviews, and images by veterans and non-veterans, many of whom have ties to UMass Boston and the Joiner Center writing workshop.

“I want to find these young men and women who have to express what’s going on in their own lives,” says Kovach. “I want to reach out, to give them a vehicle, a way to express themselves and to change how you and I think about war.”

Such a vehicle is necessary, says Kovach, who turned to writing to express his own experience of war, because “combat and war become hard-wired, become a part of your chemistry and stay with you throughout your life.”

Kovach, who attended the Gaza event, says that he hopes that Consequence Magazine will prompt the same kind of passionate expression — especially anger, which he says is the beginning of hope.

“There is no nuance without anger,” he said, smiling.

Consequence Magazine
New Gastón Director Sees Public Health as the Key to Community Health

By Will Kilburn

Wednesday, January 21.

As a child in rural Puerto Rico, the health challenges faced by María Idalí Torres and her family were quite a bit different from what she’s studied and addressed in her work in public health in Massachusetts and Connecticut:
going to the river to get drinking water, which subsequently needed to be boiled before use; the threat of dengue- and malaria-carrying mosquitoes; and the challenge of keeping food fresh at a time when there was no electricity—and thus no refrigerators—in her community. One particular challenge, though, is familiar to anyone who’s visited a doctor lately.

“Don’t ask me how, because now there are times that I can’t believe I had that level of energy!” she laughs.

After receiving her master’s degree, Torres moved to Boston and took a job with the American Institute for Research (now called the New England Research Institutes), living in Jamaica Plain and working on health projects, partially funded by the National Cancer Institute, in Dorchester, Roxbury, and Hartford, Connecticut.

Two years later, Torres returned to western Massachusetts, where she worked on a Massachusetts Department of Public Health project in Holyoke, then at Springfield College’s Department of Health Promotion, where she taught community health and administration of health services. Formal study called her again, though—this time, it was the University of Connecticut, where Torres studied applied medical anthropology; UMass Amherst recruited her as she was finishing her PhD dissertation. At Amherst’s School of Public Health and Health Sciences, Torres continued her research work while serving as an associate professor and eventually as an acting assistant dean. But despite her successes in the Pioneer Valley, the diversity and opportunities of the big city still called to Torres.

“I began thinking, ‘I have all this knowledge, I should transfer this to the younger generation of Latino faculty and students who want to do community participatory action research,’” she says. “I also felt the need to connect with other Latino scholars. The Gastón Institute is connected to different Latino research institutes throughout the United States, so it allows me to have that sense of community.”

Most important to Torres, though, is the community outside of academia which she got to know while living and working in Boston, a time in which she often crossed paths with Mauricio Gastón, the Institute’s namesake, when the two worked in community organizing. These days, she says, many of that community’s public health concerns aren’t the ever-present environmental dangers of her childhood, but are instead behavior-related—HIV, smoking, diabetes—and therefore preventable.

Already, Torres has laid head-first into her work at the Gastón, balancing her administrative duties with field research and outreach, most notably at her NIH-funded research in Springfield. While Torres’ work as director will go far beyond her expertise in public health, other Institute staff feel that her grounding in public policy will serve the Gastón’s mission well.

“María Idalí Torres’ work has always shown a special sensitivity to the intersection of the academy and the world of policy and community-based practice, which is the space that the Gastón Institute inhabits,” says Miren Uriarte, who served as director of different Latino research institutes while Torres’ appointment with the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies was still in the works. “This is a seasoned academic and ties its work to an important priority of the campus,” continued Uriarte. “This is a seasoned scholar with deep roots in the Latino community in Massachusetts; we are proud that she chose to lead our institute and to join our campus community.”

Associate Professor Lorna Rivera says she and other members of the hiring committee are excited to have Torres on board, as they were when they saw her name on the list of applicants.

“When she applied, we were thrilled,” says Rivera. “I think Dr. Torres being here at this moment in time is very important for the Gastón Institute, but also for UMass Boston to go further with our strategic plan to really move on health issues in the Boston area.”

Torres, who holds a joint appointment with the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies and the Department of Anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts, will start teaching next fall; while she’s not ready to speak about the details, she did hint that it will likely involve breaking down the barriers between different academic disciplines.

Torres acknowledges that she arrives at the Gastón Institute at an exciting time for many of the people it serves, but says that she’s well prepared to deal with the difficulties brought on by the nation’s economic crisis.

“Throughout my life, I think I’ve gotten very good training in how to do without, with limited resources,” says Torres, who dismisses the notion that economic difficulties, in and of themselves, will prevent the Gastón from moving ahead.

“I see that this institution is evolving,” she says, “and it’s positioned to attract the attention of policy makers, government agencies, and foundations interested in the Latino community. It is really exciting, because you have the sense that you can actually contribute to something and help to make it stronger.”

Boston Main Streets Staffers Trained by UMass Boston Team

By Mona Connolly-Casper

In an effort to address the questions and concerns of small-business owners in Boston, the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center (MSBDC) at UMass Boston as well as staff from its Community Relations Department hosted a workshop for Boston Main Streets staff on Wednesday, January 21.

Held at UMass Boston’s Healey Library, the program focused on technical assistance and sustainability, with a goal of providing the 19 Main Streets programs an overview of the practical realities facing entrepreneurs and business owners in this economy, as well as a look at the ways in which public and private institutions can help them not just survive but also grow.

The Main Streets representatives were encouraged by the UMass Boston team’s assessments of the core needs of their constituencies, as well as the training, advice, and other resources offered by the MSBDC. For many of these small businesses, even getting help with writing a business plan is a huge help in launching a new business.

Mark Allio, director of the MSBDC, said “you can’t manage what you don’t measure.” Business owners, he said, must run the numbers to see if their goods and services can compete; simply calling up a Main Streets office and saying—as one would be entrepreneur did—“I want to open a restaurant, get me the money” is not enough.

Help is available at UMass Boston in the MSBDC office, which offers the guidance of full-time business advisors, free entrepreneurial training, and assistance with funding and loan packaging. For more information, call 617-287-7750 or go to www.sbdc.umb.edu.

Do you want to start a small business, or know someone who does? The MSBDC has more free workshops this spring — check the Calendar on the back page for details.
Jake Havener of the Exercise and Health Sciences Department, with Exercise and Health Science major Sarah Graham. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Will Kilburn

The Department of Exercise and Health Sciences is seeking healthy women aged 18 to 28 to take part in a 12-week study, beginning in March, that is testing different methods for teaching weight training to novices.

“The women will gain knowledge of what a safe, scientifically designed weight-training program should include—knowledge they can take with them and share with others after the study is over,” said Exercise and Health Sciences faculty member Jake Havener, who is directing the study. “They will also give us more insight into how a weight-training program can be used to impact mood, attitudes towards exercise, and adherence to long-term exercise behavior.”

Participants in the study will have their fitness level evaluated at the beginning and end of the study by a certified personal trainer, including two free “DEXA” body composition scans, a state-of-the-art technology normally costing $200–$300 which measures bone density—a key health factor for women—as well as lean tissue and fat tissue percentages. Some of the participants will also receive one-on-one personal training sessions at the Beacon Fitness Center; all

Women’s Full Participation,” at the Institute for Research on Women and Gender at the University’s Ann Arbor campus.

Professor of Gerontology Nina M. Silverstein served as an expert on the panel “Taxonomy of Older Driver Behaviors and Crash Risk,” held at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration/DOT February 5 and 6 in Baltimore, Maryland. She also gave two presentations at the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education’s 35th annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference, held February 26 through March 1 in San Antonio, Texas. “Students Explore Livable Communities: Phase 3 Focus Groups” with gerontology PhD student Judith Griffin, and “Driving with Dementia: Lessons Learned from Driving Specialists” with Geri Adler of the University of Houston.

Assistant Professor Janna Jackson of the Department of Curriculum & Instruction, Graduate College of Education, presented a paper titled “Hargens: Testing 2.0 Technology for Department Chairs: Technologies That Enhance Collaborative and Effective Leadership,” at the Academic Chairspersons 26th annual conference, held in Orlando, Florida, from February 11 through 13.

EEOS assistant professor Ellen Douglas and two of her graduate students will be at the Northeastern Section Geological Society of America’s annual meeting, to be held in Portland, Maine, in March.

Assistant Professor of English Stamatia Kostoula will present their research at the Northeastern Section Geological Society of America’s annual meeting, to be held in Portland, Maine, in March.

Professor Stamatia Movchedli of the Sociology Department was an invited speaker at the Northeastern Section Geological Society of America’s annual meeting, to be held in Portland, Maine, in March.

Professor Alphon Gontz of the EEOS Department and five of his students will present their research at the 50th Annual College Reading Association (CRA) Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida. She also presented a symposium, “Colleague Reading Research,” at the Annual National Reading Conference in Orlando, Florida.

A video, produced by Professor Rona Fippo of the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences of the Graduate College of Education for the history of reading series of the National Reading Conference, was excerpted and presented twice at the Annual National Reading Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Jalal Alamge wrote an article about political violence in Bangladesh, titled “A Zero Kill Year,” for the February 5 Daily Star newspaper.

The talk, entitled “Toward a Typology of Indefinite: Dissection Spanish ‘Alegín’,” surveyed some of the results of his research program on the typology of indefinite noun phrases, funded by a Joseph P. Healey Grant.

Professor Rona Fippo of the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences, a faculty member in the Graduate College of Education presented the symposiums on “Politics and Policy in Literacy Education” and “College Reading and Study Strategies Research” at the 50th Annual College Reading Association (CRA) Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida. She also presented a symposium, “College Reading Research,” at the Annual National Reading Conference in Orlando, Florida.

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An article by Chris M. A. Kwaja, a fellow in the Graduate Programs in Dispute Resolution at the McCormack School of Policy and Government, has just been published in the Boston Globe, titled “Better Boston by the Numbers.” A report by Metzenbaum was also mentioned on the Web site of the IBMC for the Business of Government and Executive.com. A partnership between the Collins Center and the town of Winthrop was also mentioned in a February 15 Boston Globe story.

Debra Hart of the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) was quoted in a U.S. News & World Report article on February 13, “College Is Possible for Students with Intellectual Disabilities,” which also mentioned the ICI’s “Think College” Web site.

Associate Professor of Political Science Paul Watanabe was interviewed on video by Boston.com on February 3 about the possibility of Governor Deval Patrick being appointed to a Cabinet post, quoted in the Boston Globe on January 27 about Robert DeLeo, the new Speaker of the Massachusetts House, and in the February 4 and February 9 Globe and the February 9 Boston Herald about the run for mayor by City Councillor Sam Yoon.

Assistant Professor of Hydrology Ellen Douglas was quoted in the Cape Cod Times on February 6 in a story titled “Scientists Impressed with Obama.”

The Venture Development Center was subject to the feature in the January 30 issue of Mass High Tech. The article also quoted Chancellor J. Keith Motley, YGC director William
The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of Government Relations and Public Affairs. All events are open to the public and free, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits listed below each event.

**Tuesday 10**

**Business Law and Contracts**
6 p.m. – 8 p.m., Mezzanine Conference Room, Copley Square Library, Boston. Learn how contracts are constructed, contract law, and typical issues. Organized by the Mass. Small Business Development Center Network and cosponsored by the Kiersted Business Library, the Copley Square Library’s Social Sciences Department, and the Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights. To register, go to www.sbdc.umb.edu/training or call 7-7750.

**Thursday 12**

**Wright Frame Conference Series**
3 p.m. – 4 p.m., Campus Center, second floor, conference room 2450. Organized by the American Studies Program Department. For more information, call 7-5308.

**Monday 23**

**Reading**
11 a.m., Campus Center Bookstore. Helen Elaine Lee, author of books including The Serpent’s Gift and Watermarked. Part of the English Department’s Spring 2009 Global Voices Reading Series.

**Panel Discussion**
6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., Wheatley Hall, fourth floor, room 148. “How College Students Find Their Voices as Writers: Problems & Possibilities of Their Teachers,” with Peter Elbow, author of Writing with Power. Organized by the Critical & Creative Thinking Program. For more information, email cct@umb.edu.

**Wednesday 25**

**Workshop**
Noon – 1:30 p.m., Healey Library, 10th floor, conference room of the Center for Social Policy. Presenter: Dr. Roger Hewitt, visiting fellow at the Center for Social Policy. Part of the Center’s Spring 2009 Qualitative Research Workshop Series. For more information, email susie.devin@gmail.com.

**Weekend 28**

**Conference: One State Solution**
8 a.m. – 9 a.m., Science Center, first floor, small auditorium 0006. Organized by the McCormack Graduate School’s Center for Democracy and Development. Part of an ongoing conference series. For more information, email susie.devin@gmail.com.

**Thursday 29**

**Bag Lunch Seminar Series—50-50**
12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., Mezzanine Conference Room. Organized by the Biology Department. For more information, call 7-5308.

**Friday 29**

**Statewide Convention of the ARS**
1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Copley Square Library. Organized by the American Studies Program Department. For more information, call 7-5308.

**Sunday 30**

**“The Crocodile”**
10 a.m. – 11 a.m., Library, 11th floor, University Club, noon – 1 p.m., Copley Square Library. Organized by the Sociology Department’s brown bag lunch seminar series. For more information, call 7-5308 or email Philip.Kretsedemas@umb.edu.