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THE UNIVERSITY Reporter

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April 2008



Health, Community Activists Honored at Community Breakfast

By Will Kilburn

The link between a community's health and the physical health of the people who live in that community was celebrated at the annual Community Breakfast, held at the Campus Center on March 20.

William Walczak, founder of the Codman Square Health Center, and Frederica Williams, CEO of Whittier Street Health Center, were each honored with the Robert H. Quinn Award for Community Service. Also honored was Leah P. Bailey, Executive Director of Community Affairs at the Boston Globe Foundation, who was recognized for the Foundation's work, particularly its work with local youth.

Chancellor Keith Motley served as the master of ceremonies for the event, first noting the presence of Quinn himself, who served as the state's attorney general, Speaker of the state's House of Representatives, and chair of the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees.

The Quinn Awards, Motley



Robert H. Quinn and Chancellor Keith Motley with Quinn awardees at the Community Breakfast. From left: Leah P. Bailey of the Boston Globe Foundation, Frederica Williams of Whittier Street Health Center, and William Walczak of the Codman Square Health Center. (Photo by Harry Brett)

explained, are given not only in recognition of the work done by people and institutions outside of UMass Boston, but also as a reminder of importance of work done by the university.

"Community outreach

and partnerships are crucial to our mission," said Motley. "By hosting this breakfast, we want to celebrate our mission, but we also want to honor you."

Each of the awardees, Motley continued, had made a unique

mark in the community: The Boston Globe Foundation, he said, was the single largest financial aid donor to UMass Boston; Walczak, in addition to his community health work, serves as a volunteer with a number of other organiza-

tions; and Williams, in addition to turning around a financially struggling health center, had also expanded its reach.

Later in the program, the Quinn Award recipients were given time to remark on their work. Bailey spoke of the link between UMass Boston's educational mission and that of the *Globe*, particularly the paper's "Teens In Print" program, which provides a forum for local teenagers to write about their lives, while Walczak spoke of his beginnings as a community activist, which was fostered both by UMass and by the neighborhood itself.

"As a student at UMass, it was UMass in connection with the Dorchester community that helped me understand the possibility of community, the Dorchester community that I've come to love since arriving here from New Jersey in 1972," said Walczak, who closed his remarks by encouraging the university and the community to continue to work together. "Together, the potential

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Gains Made by Women Leaders Celebrated

By Christa Kelleher and Kaushik Prakash

On March 11, UMass Boston hosted a number of women mayors and other leaders from across Massachusetts, an event which highlighted the surge in women serving as mayors across Massachusetts, who now make up 25% of all mayors in the Commonwealth. The event, titled "Women Mayors of Massachusetts: Making History. Meeting Challenge," featured a panel discussion, featuring 7 of the state's 11 female mayors, moderated by NECN political reporter Alison King.

The event was hosted by the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy (CWPPP), part of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, in celebration of International Women's Day, Women's History Month and CWPPP's 25th Women's Research Forum. CWPPP is the premier center committed to advancing women's participation in the public life of Massachusetts, the New Eng-

land region, and the nation. Mayors in attendance included Salem's Kimberley Driscoll, Northampton's Clare Higgins, Weymouth's Susan M. Kay, Gloucester's Carolyn Kirk, Waltham's Jeannette McCarthy, Cambridge's Denise Simmons and Marlborough's Nancy Stevens.

"It is such an exciting moment in the history of the university to have so many women dedicated to public service come together at UMass Boston," said Chancellor Keith Motley. "Each one of these women is an accomplished leader, and we are honored to have their participation in the research forum."

"At a time when there is so much focus on gender and race in the presidential campaign, it's important to remember Tip O'Neill's famous quote: 'All politics is local,'" said CWPPP director Carol Hardy-Fanta. "In Massachusetts today, one in four mayors is a woman, and, for the first time, we have an African American woman and an Asian American woman serving at the highest level



Cambridge mayor Denise Simmons makes a point during the panel discussion. (Photo by Harry Brett)

of municipal government."

The panelists discussed the importance of women's public service at the local level and were inspirational to the audience of 200 who attended the event. Research suggesting that women in municipal decision-making positions can increase the delivery of services to more women and families, engage in more collaborative ways of working, and encourage more women to run for office, was revealed at the event.

The CWPPP released a fact sheet at the event showing that while women make up more than half (52%) of the population of Massachusetts, they still comprise only one-fifth of those serving on elected governing bodies (i.e., city/town councils or boards of selectmen/aldermen). The current rate of women's representation at the local level (20.6%) demonstrates a slight increase from 2005, when women comprised 19.6% of local officials.

Hunger Activists Gather to Share Ideas, Resources

By Danielle Dreilinger

When you see a canned goods donation box, it usually means a group is holding a local food drive. But in the campus center on March 27, a small donation box signaled a big vision: the state's first-ever anti-hunger summit.

The groundbreaking event, led by keynote speaker Governor Deval Patrick, brought together scholars, administrators, and activists. Attendees included staff from the McCormack School's Center for Social Policy, Department of Transitional Assistance Commissioner Julia Kehoe, State Representative Cory Atkins, and staff from the offices of state legislators Marie St. Fleur and Patricia Jehlen.

"This summit is so important, because hunger is a growing problem," Boston mayor Tom Menino told the full room. According to Project Bread, in November 450,000 Massachusetts residents went hungry—one-third of them children.

The rise in food prices is only making the situation worse: Since last November, Menino said, the cost of milk rose 80 cents. A loaf of bread costs 25% more, imperiling small bakeries as well as hungry people.

Last year, U.S. Representative Jim McGovern said, he and his wife took a challenge to buy a week's food for \$21—the aver-



Governor Deval Patrick called for a proactive approach to addressing hunger in Massachusetts. (Photo by Harry Brett)

age food stamp allowance. Those same items that cost \$42 then would cost \$53 now, he said.

Pediatrician Deborah Frank of the Boston Medical Center Grow Clinic said, "We've had more new referrals in one week than I can remember who already suffer from malnutrition."

Speakers emphasized that the impact went far beyond individual families. "Hunger is silently stunting our children's ability to learn," Frank said, and thus hurts the future body politic.

Addressing hunger is "about seeing the stake for our future in the people around us," Patrick said. "A focus on hunger and nutrition is about more than kindness, as important as that is. It's also about good common sense."

Society has to stop making the

"corrosive association between poverty and fault," he added. "The middle class are one month away from being poor."

Paradoxically, hunger also plays a role in the obesity epidemic, said state Department of Transitional Assistance Secretary JudyAnn Bigby. "There is an abundance of cheap, high-calorie, low-nutrition food."

The mood in the room was serious but optimistic. McGovern said, to applause, "Hunger is a political condition. We have the resources to end it."

Inspiration and ideas came from a variety of perspectives.

The first priority for many speakers was signing families up for food stamps. Boston saw an 82% increase in food stamp enrollment from 2002 to 2007,

according to the Washington, D.C.-based Food Research and Action Center. Still, "millions and millions of dollars are left on the table every year," Menino said.

The Center for Social Policy found last October that "about two-thirds of the households who are eligible aren't getting food stamps," said center director Donna Haig Friedman. A March 2007 report by the center found additional barriers among Boston's Latinos.

McGovern advocated reaching out to grocers, who "receive over \$500 million every year" in food stamp and WIC purchases; serving school breakfast at the beginning of the day, to eliminate the stigma of coming early to eat; educating health care providers; and starting anti-hunger groups in schools.

Ellen Vollinger of the Food Research and Action Center emphasized the need for collaboration. In Massachusetts, sports radio WEEI ran public service announcements during Celtics games, she said. The Iowa Farm Bureau gave EBT food stamp, processing machines to farmers markets. Supermarkets can set up information tables in stores and give campaigns free space in their circulars.

In fact, just getting more stores into low-income areas matters. The Pennsylvania-based Food

Trust had given funds to over 30 grocery stores to help them do this, executive director Yael Lehmann said. Attendees whistled when she said the group's farmers-in-the-school programs reduced obesity rates by 50%. Other improvements focused on listening to clients: Chicago hosts community quality councils, Vollinger said, and a DC agency held cultural sensitivity training for caseworkers.

"Low-income people are not just hunger statistics," said Daniel Ross of Holyoke-based Nuestra Raices. "[They] can and should be actors and forces for change.... Solutions exist within the knowledge and culture of our people."

In Holyoke, Puerto Rican immigrants are reclaiming crime-plagued vacant lots for community gardens. So far the initiative has created about 30 small food and agriculture businesses such as bakeries, Ross said.

Attendees' fire for the cause clearly burned in their bellies.

"I just think of the guy crying at my desk the other day, fifty-two and in tears because he's got nothing to eat and no money," said attendee Thomas Foster, a DTA caseworker union organizer.

"Nearly 300 years ago there were riots here in Boston" over the cost of bread, Menino said. "I urge you not to riot ... but to be revolutionary."

Community Breakfast, Quinn Awards (cont.)

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is endless."

Williams, a native of Sierra Leone who emigrated to England before coming to the U.S., noted that her education played a key role in her ability to help others.

"I'm able to be an example to my patients, but I'm also able to creatively and strategically position the organization so we can be a permanent legacy in the community," she said. Whittier and the university, she continued, "have a shared mission of addressing urban issues and urban empow-

erment, and this is definitely a wonderful honor for me."

Motley closed the event by reminding attendees that the Community Breakfast shouldn't be the only time of the year they come to the campus.

"I encourage all of you to stay in touch with this university, and don't be a stranger," he said. "This is your public university, you're welcome here, we are honored by your presence, and we look forward to working with you in the future."



Scenes from the Community Breakfast. Clockwise from top left: Robert H. Quinn and Chancellor Motley share a light moment; William Walczak; Frederica Williams; Leah Bailey. (Photos by Harry Brett)

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UMass Boston Staff Trained in Emergency Response

By Anne-Marie Kent

A demonstration turns ugly. Equipment is vandalized. An explosion sends a campus community into chaos.

You're a college administrator. What decisions do you make? What plans must you activate? How will your staff work with public safety responders as an emergency unfolds?

During two three-day classes in February and March, the eleventh floor of the Healey Library became a training ground for administrators, staff, law enforcement, and others from UMass Boston and other universities across the country to learn critical incident management.

Presented by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, (IACLEA), the Critical Incident Management Training Course represents a multi-disciplinary, all-hazards approach to incident management, following the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS).

"The safety of our campus is a top priority for us all, and proper training is critical for our staff, so that our response to any campus emergency is appropriate and effective," said Chancellor Keith Motley.

IACLEA, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has trained over 1,400 college and university personnel in NIMS Unified Incident Command Structure and its implementation in a campus environment.



During the training exercises, a model city was used to help participants plan their response to emergencies. (Photo by Harry Brett)

"The course covers the stages of the incident life cycle: prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation, with exercises in a 'model city' environment," explained UMass Boston Public Safety Program Manager Richard Lee, who is also a certified IACLEA instructor.

During the March course, Lee coached Patrol Officer Din Jenkins, who played the role of a responding officer during the final day's interactive model city exercise.

Something unexpected happened. Chaos began to unfold.

Lee pointed to Jenkins, "You're on scene. What do you do now?"

Jenkins made a decisive move to contain the incident, reported key information back to the Incident Commander, and overall demonstrated his ability to enact

the lessons of Critical Incident Management.

Law enforcement officers, however, were not alone on this training mission.

More than half of the 30 UMass Boston employees trained were those whose daily lives do not typically involve guns and sirens. Assistant Dean of Students Joyce Morgan, for one, ably shouldered the unenviable role of a university administrator facing an escalating crisis during her class in February. She decided when to cancel classes, where to shelter displaced students, and what to communicate to the campus community.

"It was a great experience that changed how I think about possible campus incidents and events," said Morgan. "Having a good framework and system for responding can make the ability

to respond so much more quick and efficient."

Stephanie Michel-Moore, financial administrator for Academic Affairs, had questions of cost and reimbursement to handle during her training session. Because universities may be eligible to receive federal reimbursements, recordkeeping is a critical behind-the-scenes aspect of incident management.

"It was clear that during the period of crisis response, there is no thought to costs involved," she said. "For example, at some point and time the city or state will forward a bill for all the police offers that were provided and for damage to the officers' equipment."

Director of Personnel Services Clare Poirier headed up the March group tasked with meeting logistical needs.

"The training made me appreciate the importance of planning for an emergency," said Poirier. "Preparation and communication is the key to having a response team in place."

Deputy Director of Facilities, Utilities, and Energy Management Michael McGerigle was part of the February logistics group.

"What struck me was not so much the varied technical backgrounds of the participants, but their management styles. You had public safety officials who are used to more straight-line command, working right alongside those of us who might question and deliberate a bit more. In the end, everyone cooperated and worked through their individual situations with the common goal in mind," said McGerigle.

The IACLEA training sessions are only one of a number of safety-related efforts currently under way. In addition to the UMB Alert system (alert.umb.edu) and safety web site (safety.umb.edu), a protocol has been developed to help guide UMass Boston faculty/staff/students in identifying and assisting students who may be distressed or distressing others.

For more information, visit safety.umb.edu. In addition, Joyce Morgan, Assistant Dean of Students, and Edna Pressler, Ph.D., Director of the UHS Counseling Center, are available to help train faculty and staff on the protocol. A Distressed and Distressing Faculty and Staff Committee, chaired by Clare Poirier, is also meeting to establish protocols for dealing with distressed and distressing faculty and staff.

MODR Dialogue Series Takes on the Big Issues

By Lissa Harris

The sign outside room 3545 in the Campus Center read "Racial and Ethnic Tensions: What Should We Do?" It was a big agenda for one afternoon.

Inside, Shrewsbury resident Edward Hall was defending the merits of affirmative action. "Sometimes you have to throw one sense of fairness out the window to get another sense of fairness," he said. "You might have to employ someone who isn't as qualified just to get them in the door."

Moderator Matt Thompson pressed him to question his beliefs. "Let me play a little devil's advocate with that," he said. "What happens to the person who was more qualified?"

Immediately, several women chimed in. "That just plays into the idea, 'If you're black and you



The dialogue series is designed to give diverse groups a setting in which to discuss difficult topics. (Photo by Harry Brett)

have a job, you must have gotten it because you're black," one said.

On Thursday, March 27, about a dozen people—young and not-so-young, city-dwellers and suburbanites, of different races and backgrounds—gathered for a frank conversation about race in America. The forum was one in a series of National Issues Forums dialogues being held on the UMass

Boston campus by the Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution (MODR).

Founded in 1981, the National Issues Forums Institute hosts forums in universities, town halls, civic centers, and private homes across the country, bringing people together on a wide variety of public policy issues. Trained moderators lead the discussions and collect

participants' views, which the NIFI uses to publish in-depth reports on how people are wrestling with these issues across the nation.

One of the main goals of the forums is to gather public opinion on issues facing the community and give it to local elected officials, said Lorraine Della Porta, deputy director of MODR.

"The hope is that they'll use that information to inform policy," she said.

Like most NIF discussions, the forum began with a short film to get people talking. As they grew more comfortable, participants gradually began to talk about their own experiences with race and racism.

Han Tran, a graduate student in biology who grew up in Vietnam, worried that the casual bigotry found on anonymous Internet fo-

rum revealed Americans' real feelings about race. Master's student Janet Hunkel talked about the racial pressures of both the black church she volunteered for in Roxbury and her mostly-white yacht club. Darrell Moore, a Dorchester resident who works for the Boston Public Health Commission, moved the group with a story about being a black teenager, living away from home for the first time, and sharing an apartment with a co-worker who had recently immigrated from Vietnam.

Moore said that his friend gave him a few lessons in maturity and perseverance, and, more importantly, taught him how to cook for himself.

"Like iron sharpens iron, one person sharpens another. He helped me learn to be independent" (continued on page 4)

Nobelist Shares Educational Theories at COSMIC Lecture

By Geoff Kula

On March 6, UMass Boston was honored to host Nobel Prize-winning physicist Dr. Carl Wieman, who presented a synopsis of his educational research, titled “Science Education in the 21st Century: Using Scientific Tools to Teach Science,” to a capacity crowd in the Campus Center’s Alumni Room. The event was sponsored by the Center of Science and Mathematics in Context (COSMIC),

“COSMIC ensures students receive the best education possible,” said Chancellor Keith Motley in his opening remarks. Through COSMIC, he continued, “we train teachers and continue their development throughout their career path.”

UMass President Jack Wilson, who followed Motley at the podium, called Wieman “one of the most brilliant physicists in the world” and further commended him for “living a life as a beacon guiding our way: our responsibility to our students and to our profession.”

In 2001, Wieman, along with two other physicists, won the Nobel in Physics for research leading to the creation of the Bose-Einstein condensate. Wieman also won the National Science Foundation’s Distinguished Teaching Scholar Award in 2001, the Carnegie Foundation’s U.S. University Professor of the Year Award in 2004, and the American Association of Physics Teachers’ Oersted Medal in 2007. He is Chairman of the Academy Board on Science Education and currently teaches at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. In his introduction, physics professor Arthur Eisenkraft, a friend of Wieman’s who helped arrange the visit, noted Wieman’s interesting career change.

“Since winning the Nobel, Carl has shifted his focus away from exploring science to exploring ways to improve science education at the college level,” he said. Eisenkraft compared Wieman



In his lecture, Wieman stressed that lectures alone are not enough. (Photo by Harry Brett)

to Nobel laureate Linus Pauling and Nobel nominee Bono of the band U2, remarking that Wieman realized “there’s something more important than advancing science; advancing science education across the country. It’s exciting to have someone of Carl’s renown realize the importance of the issue and [as] one he should devote time and bring thought to.”

Wieman’s latest research aims to raise student achievement in science by making science education more effective. He covered three main topics: Why science education is important; what research can teach us about teaching and the way people learn; and institutional change. Before launching into his presentation, however, Wieman was quick to point out that those assembled “shouldn’t believe this because of my Nobel Prize, but because it’s all backed up by research data from all over the world,” adding, “Nobody noticed my research before I won the Nobel.”

The need to improve science education first came to Wieman’s attention when he realized, through a poll of his students, that his lectures left them baffled. It was “a frustrating puzzle” trying to figure out how to help them learn, but the breakthrough came, he said, when he noticed a pattern among his graduate students: Even with 17 years of coursework under their belts, they were still “clueless”

about physics, but after a few years in the lab, they became experts about the subject. This realization made him want to research how people learn.

Wieman targeted three areas of improvement as benchmarks: retention of information from a lecture, conceptual understanding, and beliefs about physics and problem-solving.

He discovered that, after a ten-minute break following a lecture, only 10% of the students could retain any “significant information,” while the majority were only able to recall vague generalities about what had just been discussed. Furthermore, he learned that the average student finishes a semester of lectures with an understanding of less than 30% of the concepts they did not already know. But perhaps his most remarkable discovery was that research showed that students who had finished an introductory physics class saw less of a real-world connection to physics than before studying it.

His assessment was brief but pointed: “The traditional lecture is ineffective.” Citing cognitive psychology studies, Wieman noted that brain development is similar to muscular development: It requires strenuous use over time. Along those lines, watching someone do something—such as giving a lecture or lifting weights—does not convey benefits to the observer:

They become neither smarter nor stronger. Because people learn by doing, he theorized, students must be prompted to do the work themselves. To this end, teachers must engage students, monitor their progress, and guide their thinking.

To do this in a lecture setting with up to 500 students, Wieman said, technology is essential. In his classes, Wieman uses a personal response system—a “clicker”—that allows students to answer questions he has posed; a computer collects and stores a history of each student’s answers.

He warns, however, that while implementation of such a system is easy, it is not automatically useful. “Students may be leery of this technology if they think of it as nothing more than an attendance-taker,” he said. “Then they will resent it [and] the clicker becomes [self-defeating]; it’s necessary to create engagement and collect/provide timely feedback.” He suggests accomplishing this by asking challenging questions, fostering student-to-student discussions in which they analyze each other’s responses, and providing follow-up discussion about their thinking.

“The classroom alone isn’t enough,” he said. “It’s just a starting point.”

Data support the effectiveness of this methodology: Retention of information following a 15-minute, post-lecture break increases by

90% after two days; conceptual understanding soared from about 25% to between 50-70%; and students’ beliefs about physics’ real-world applicability rose slightly, although Wieman noted research in this final area has just begun. Nonetheless, he said, the results are promising.

To better serve the next generation of scientists, Wieman called for educators to turn the microscope on themselves. “There is a need to change the educational culture ... [these initiatives] need to be implemented at the departmental level and be internally driven and supported,” he said in closing.

During the question-and-answer session that followed his hour-long presentation, Wieman noted: “Research says lectures are not *totally* ineffective, which is the only way I can stand up here and present this information with a clear conscience,” which drew appreciative laughter from the crowd.

“As much as you’d like to think you are, you’re just not conveying that much information through lectures,” he added.

He also pointed out that the key to helping students develop a coherent understanding of so many topic areas is organizational thinking. “This is critical,” he said. “You have to keep coming back and explaining the context of the material and how it links together... how things are different and similar.”

To make students care about physics, he said, it was essential for them to see the direct relevance of physics to them. “Explain to them: ‘You can use this in another course or in your career.’ Explain how the microwave oven in their homes works, and address their curiosity.”

Graduate College of Education Dean Carol Colbeck called Wieman’s approach to experiential learning “a good educational practice with solid research to back it up. It’s a great foundation. When you engage in real-world problems, it makes the concepts come alive.”

Taking on the Big Issues (cont.)

(continued from page 3)

dent,” he said.

Coincidentally, just prior to the forum, presidential candidate Barack Obama had given his landmark speech on race in America, and the issue was clearly fresh in everyone’s minds.

“I have been waiting for this throughout the campaign,” one participant said. “Everybody wanted to talk about race, but nobody wanted to start it.”

Martha Ashe, a mediator who

had traveled from Worcester to attend the forum, agreed. “It’s really hard to talk about it. It’s really painful for some reason,” she said.

Matt Thompson, one of the moderators, said afterward that he was pleased with the forum’s outcome.

“The group was willing to speak up, they were willing to be a little provocative,” he said. “People came with open minds.”

Moore said he planned on at-

tending future NIF conversations on campus. “I do believe just having dialogue about this subject enhances people’s perspective,” he said.

Getting people to take the time to participate in forums like these is a challenge, especially on a commuter campus, said Della Porta.

“How do we get people to engage? It’s tough,” she said.

But although NIF groups are usually small, Della Porta says, the

intimacy of the forum helps bring people together. At a recent similar series at MIT, she said, the intense dialogues created new friendships and connections among the participants, some of whom exchanged emails and phone numbers so they could keep the conversation going after the forums ended.

“There was activism that came out of putting twenty kids in a room that had never met,” she said.

Upcoming forums:

“The Energy Problem: Choices for an Uncertain Future.” Thursday, April 17, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m., room 3540, Campus Center.

“Examining Health Care: What’s the Public’s Prescription?” Thursday, May 1, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m., room 3545, Campus Center.

“Democracy’s Challenge; Reclaiming the Public’s Role.” Thursday, May 8, Noon – 2 p.m., room 3545, Campus Center.

Inventive Professor Helps Other Scientists Take a Closer Look

By Julia Reischel

In an office tucked away in the Science Building, physics professor D.V.G.L.N. Rao and his protégé post-doc Chandra S. Yelleswarapu finish each other's sentences as they explain the workings of their invention, the Fourier Phase Contrast Microscope, which images minute organisms more realistically and in greater detail than the microscopes widely used by biologists around the world.

This year, in a rare honor for a UMass Boston faculty member, Rao is being recognized, along with seven others throughout the UMass system, with a \$30,000 award from the University of Massachusetts Office of Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Property (CVIP) that will help them develop the microscope commercially.

The award is part of the CVIP's annual set of grants that reward innovative research at UMass with funds aimed at developing commercial applications for promising technologies. This year, in the awards' fifth cycle, the grants total \$240,000 and support a broad array of technologies in many fields of research, including medical devices, HIV drug effectiveness, and biomass fuel production. Dr. Rao's microscope is the only UMass Boston technology to receive the award.

As Rao and Yelleswarapu explain the complicated physics that underpin their work, William Brah looked on proudly. As the executive director of the UMass Boston Venture Development Center, which manages the CVIP program on campus and acts as the incubator and promoter of university research, they played a crucial role in procuring funding for Dr. Rao's work.

"We regard Dr. Rao as an innovator way ahead of his time," Brah says. "Society is demanding innovation, and it is appropriate for the university to discover his work as it wakes up to the call for innovation. Dr. Rao has an active lab, active teaching, and active publications—the whole package."

Rao and Yelleswarapu's microscope is based on a dramatic improvement upon standard phase contrast microscopes, which work by exploiting a property of light, its "phase," which shifts when light travels through transparent or semi-transparent materials. Human eyes can't detect phase shifts, but through the use of a device called a "phase plate," the phase shifts are converted into variations in the light's brightness, allowing scientists to get a more detailed view of the inner workings of biological specimens.

When phase contrast microscopes were first introduced in the 1930's, they eventually won their inventor a Nobel Prize, but they had their drawbacks: Cells appear to be two-dimensional, and are surrounded by a white "halo."

Rao and Yelleswarapu's update uses lasers, liquid crystals, and a lens that performs a "Fourier transform" on the light waves, which create brighter, clearer, three-dimensional images. Additionally, the team's design is also more rugged, mechanically simpler, and simpler to operate than the models used in laboratories today.

"It uses no moving parts, and is a lot more user-friendly," Rao says.

Rao and Yelleswarapu plan to use the \$30,000 from the grant to create a working prototype that



D.V.G.L.N. Rao's CVIP award for his team's innovative work in microscope design is just the latest chapter in a four-decade career at UMass Boston. (Photo by Harry Brett)

will help them convince a manufacturer to sell their microscope. Rao is delighted to have the extra resources because they will not only help him introduce his invention to the world, but it will allow him to focus on what he does best: teaching and researching.

"I know what I'm good at, and I know what I cannot do," he says. "I'm not a development guy."

Rao has been a Professor of Physics at UMass Boston for forty years, and has been producing original research for the same amount of time. In 1973, the year of the first graduating UMass Boston class, he published a research paper that was recognized by the American Physical Society. Since then, he has published over 100 papers and procured five patents.

First and foremost, however, Rao sees himself as a teacher. He teaches two classes and has served as the Graduate Program Direc-

tor for the past ten years. He has shepherded scores of students into their own careers, and has given all of them, even undergraduates, opportunities to conduct original research in his laboratory, producing new insights into optics and lasers.

"I'm a teacher and a basic researcher," Rao says. "Luckily, what I do for my basic research has real-world applications."

The microscope is just one of those real-world applications. There's also mammogram technology that can detect "micro-calcifications," a laser eye-protection project, optical holographic storage, and photonic applications for nano materials.

It's a testament to Rao's relationship with his students that some have stayed with him even after getting their doctorates. One of these is Yelleswarapu, who says that talking with Rao is always an education. "Not just about

science, but about everything," he grins.

As if to illustrate that point, Rao digresses from his lecture on optics to mention that the simple principles that underlie his research have sparked his interest in spirituality. For example, he says, phase and intensity are excellent metaphors for the religious principles of the soul and the body.

"Intensity is like the body, and phase is like the soul," he says. "The soul has all the characteristics of a person, while the body is the part that you see."

"You cannot see the phase, just like you cannot see the soul," Yelleswarapu adds, nodding. "But it carries some of the most important information of all."

As he watches his former student, Rao's smile deepens. Clearly, the \$30,000 grant is a prize, but hearing Yelleswarapu explain the implications that their invention has for the spirit is priceless.

CM Student Team Named B-School Beanpot Finalists

By Amy Mei and Mary Ann Machanic

In just their first appearance at the event this year, a team of College of Management undergrads had an impressive showing in the B-School Beanpot Case Analysis Competition, held in late February at Boston University.

Modeled on the annual hockey tournament, the B-School Beanpot pits local colleges against one another in a two-round format. Unlike its four-school athletic counterpart, nine schools each send two teams to the B-School Beanpot. Along with Beanpot regulars Boston College, Boston University, Northeastern, Suffolk, Babson, and Bentley, the field this



Front, left to right: Elena Asllani, Saida Abdalla, Sandy Kiriakidis, and Linda Chu. Rear: Amy Mei, undergraduate program director; Michael Novak, CM associate dean; Theodora Welch, faculty coach; and Glenn Natali.

year also included teams from newcomers Bryant College, Merrimack, and UMass Boston.

In the first round, teams assume the role of consultants and develop their proposals for this

year's case. A panel of twelve corporate executives then review the proposals and decide which four teams to advance to the final round. The four finalists then give a presentation to the judges, with the winner taking home the B-School Beanpot trophy.

CM's two entries consisted of Glenn Natali, Sandy Kiriakidis, Elena Asllani, Linda Chu, and Saida Abdalla on one team, and Jeff Masse, Daria Tremoularis, Yelena Bryant, Hassan Bammi, and Jemin Patel on the other. While the second group didn't advance past the preliminaries, the first team made B-School Beanpot history by making the cut for the final round, eventually placing

fourth overall and sharing a \$250 prize—the first time any school had made it into the finals in their first year. The College of Management is very proud of both teams, and also of faculty coach and assistant professor Theodora Welch and Amy Mei, CM undergraduate program director, who worked with the students to prepare for the competition.

CM teams were selected just prior to fall final exams, with the bulk of the practices held during the early weeks of the spring semester. The College of Management is already looking ahead to next year's B-School Beanpot. Visit bschoolbeanpot.com for more information.

CAMPUS NOTES

PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

College of Public and Community Service professor **Marilyn Frankenstein** presented “Quantitative Form in Arguments” at the Mathematics Education and Society conference, held in Albufeira, Portugal, February 16 to 21. She also gave a presentation on “Deepening Understanding Measures” to numeracy teachers at South Bank University in London and consulted with other mathematics educators in London prior to the conference.

Christian Weller, an associate professor in the Department of Public Policy and Public Affairs, presented a paper on the economic consequences of progressive taxation in industrializing economies at the Eastern Economic Association’s annual meetings in Boston on March 9. The paper was co-authored with Manita Rao, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Public Policy and Public Affairs at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies. This paper presentation was part of a panel that Weller organized, titled “Macro Policies to Foster Financing for Development.”

Anne Scrivener Agee, Vice Provost for Information Technology, presented “Integrating Faculty Development and Instructional Technology” at the 2008 Northeast Regional Computing Program (NERCOMP) conference in Providence, Rhode Island on March 11. Her co-presenter was **Mark Schlesinger**, Associate Vice President for Academic Technology at the University of Massachusetts President’s Office.

Daryl Ford, Director of Communications and Infrastructure Services, and **Jamie Soule**, Team Lead, IT Operations, presented “Data Center Reliability and Infrastructure Commissioning” at the 2008 Northeast Regional Computing Program (NERCOMP) Conference in Providence, Rhode Island, on March 12.

Philosophy professor **Lawrence Blum** presented a critique of David Wong’s *Natural Moralities* at an “author meets critics” session at the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, and a comment on Nel Noddings’s *Care and Empathy* at the Moral Development and Education Special Interest Group at the American Educational Research Association.

On March 11, **Donna Haig Friedman**, Director of the Center for Social Policy, and doctoral student **Jennifer Cohen**, along with leaders of Haifa Israel anti-poverty NGOs, presented findings from their participatory action research project at a University of Haifa-hosted conference, titled “Non-Governmental Organizations & the Third Sector: Knowledge, Power and Partnerships.”

From March 16 to 21, Center for Social Policy Research Director **Françoise Carré** attended meetings on the informal economy in Amhedabad

(Gujarat state) and Delhi, India, and participated in a policy dialogue at India’s National Council for Applied Economic Research on March 20.

Institute for Community Inclusion staff assistant **Rachel Nemeth Cohen** gave a presentation titled “Demystifying MCAS-Alt” at the Rethinking Severe Disabilities: Current Trends in Practice conference, held March 28 at Lesley University in Cambridge. Cohen will also make a presentation on the topic of transitioning teens to adulthood at an Educational Surrogate Parent program, to be held in April in Marlborough, Massachusetts.

Jeff Coburn, the Institute for Community Inclusion’s senior web specialist, gave a presentation titled “Universal Design Solutions in Technology and Accessible Media” at the AmeriCorps Northwest Network Conference at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon.

Professor of French **Brian Thompson** gave two talks on language learning to French classes at Boston Collegiate Charter School on March 20.

Assistant Professor of English **Scott Maisano** was an invited speaker at a plenary session of the Shakespeare Association of America, held March 15, in Dallas, Texas. Maisano’s presentation was entitled “Prospero’s Monster: The Masculine Birth of Science Fiction in *The Tempest*.”

Director of Academic Support Programs **Mark Pawlak** will be a panelist for the PEN New England Freedom to Write Committee annual forum, sponsored by Cambridge Forum on April 10 at First Parish Church Harvard Square. This year’s topic is “The American Blandscape: Risky Writing and the Forces Keeping It Silent.”

Robert Weiner, Graduate Program Director of International Relations at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, participated in the annual meeting of the International Studies Association, held in San Francisco from March 26 to 30. Weiner was a discussant in the panel “Quasi-States? The Politics of de facto States,” participated in a mock trial on “The Responsibility of States to Take Armed Action to Stop Genocide,” participated in an ISA Compendium Project Panel on Diplomatic Studies, and participated in an ISA Compendium Project Panel on “Ongoing Debates in International Law.”

Sylvia Mignon, Director of the MS in Human Services Program at the College of Public and Community Service, presented a paper titled “Substance Abuse and Other Health Concerns of Native Americans in New England,” coauthored with William M. Holmes, at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society in New York City on February 22.

Associate Professor **Pepi Leistyna** of Applied Linguistics Graduate Studies

was invited by the Gates Foundation to give a speech on “Global Economics and National Trends in Education: Why This Should Matter to Youth Activists” as part of the plenary session for the Youth Organizing Convening: Strengthening Youth Organizing for Education Reform convention, held in New Orleans on March 8.

Professors **Rona Flippo** and **Janna Jackson** of the Curriculum and Instruction Department and Professor **Tara Parker** of the Higher Education Program, all in the Graduate College of Education, presented overviews of the research on their individual chapters for the upcoming *Handbook of College Reading and Study Strategy Research* in a symposium at the National Association of Developmental Education (NADE) National Conference, held in Boston on February 29.

Professor **Rona Flippo** of the Curriculum and Instruction Department in the Graduate College of Education and five of her graduate students presented their research in two different paper presentations at the Massachusetts Reading Association (MRA) Annual Conference, held in Sturbridge, Massachusetts in early April.

In May, Professor **Rona Flippo** of the Curriculum and Instruction Department in the Graduate College of Education will give the keynote address for the Professors of Reading Teacher Educators, an International Reading Association SIG, at the annual International Reading Association (IRA) Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Also at the convention, Flippo’s work with her Literacy Diagnosis and Instruction classes at UMass Boston will be presented at the IRA Pre-Convention Institute on Early Literacy.

Gerontology Professor **Nina Silverstein** of the College of Public and Community Service made four co-presentations at the NCOA-ASA Aging in America Conference, held in Washington, D.C., from March 27 to 30. The presentations were titled “Aging in Place: Livable Communities Present a Viable Option,” “Approaches to Community Mobility Solutions,” “Successful Models of Advocacy: Techniques You Can Use in Transportation II,” and “Transportation and Community Mobility.”

Frederick S. Troy Professor of English **Lloyd Schwartz** will be chairing a panel called “The U.S.A. School of Writing: Elizabeth Bishop in America,” at the American Literature Association Convention in San Francisco on May 23, and will be giving a talk on Elliott Carter’s settings of Bishop poems at the Monadnock Music Festival on August 8.

In March, Professor **Pamela Jones** of the Art Department delivered two papers at the University of Colorado at Boulder, one a seminar presentation on perceptions of holiness in the cults of Mary Magdalene and Carlo Borromeo in seventeenth-century Rome, and another on a Roman

Baroque painting of the mystical marriage of Saint Teresa of Avila.

Professor of Economics **Randy Albelda** delivered the inaugural lecture for the Reframing Critical Public Policy Debates at the Pennsylvania State University’s Institute of Energy, Environment and Community Well-Being.

Jack Wiggin, Director of the Urban Harbors Institute, spoke on LEED-Neighborhood Development as part of a daylong workshop for municipal officials at the BuildingEnergy08 Conference at the Seaport World Trade Center on March 11.

PUBLICATIONS

Professor of French **Brian Thompson** published a paper, titled “Nul n’est prophète: Malraux et son fameux XXI^e siècle en Revue” in *André Malraux Review*.

David Sparks, assistant to the dean of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, was the author of a March 3 *Boston Globe* op-ed piece, “Democratic Gains, Republican Losses.”

The Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution and Public Collaboration contributed to a recent report, *Public Thinking about the Energy Problem*, published by Public Agenda and the Kettering Foundation.

Former research fellow of the Institute for Asian American Studies **Wing-kai To** and the Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE) published *Chinese in Boston, 1870-1965* in February. IAAS Assistant Director **Shauna Lo** serves on the board of CHSNE with Asian American Studies Program Director and Professor **Peter Kiang**, who is CHSNE’s co-president.

Christian Weller, an associate professor in the Department of Public Policy and Public Affairs, published a book review of Thomas Friedman’s *The World Is Flat* in the *Journal of Socio-Economics*. He also coauthored a report for the Center for American Progress on the U.S. high-tech trade deficit, titled “Nothing to Brag About.”

Graduate College of Education professor **Felicia Wilczenski** published a chapter entitled “Service Learning: Enhancing the Social/Emotional and Academic Competence of All Children” in *Best Practices in School Psychology*, Vol. 5, a publication of the National Association of School Psychologists.

Professors **Felicia Wilczenski** and **Rebecca Schumacher** of the Graduate College of Education and Department of Counseling and School Psychology coauthored an article titled “Service Learning Integrated in Urban School Counselor Preparation” in the *Journal of School Counseling*.

ICI’s MassWorks, a project designed for local professionals who provide

employment services and supports for individuals with disabilities, has released its latest publication. The issue focuses on promoting collaboration with the 33 One-Stop Career Centers in Massachusetts to help increase job opportunities for people with disabilities.

Assistant Professor **Wanda Rivera-Rivera**’s article, “The Politics of Madness in Francisco Matos Paoli’s Prison Poem ‘Canto de la locura,’” has been accepted for publication in *Revista Hispánica Moderna*, a peer-reviewed journal hosted by the Hispanic Institute at Columbia University.

Management and marketing professor **Arthur Goldsmith** has completed his work as rapporteur for the Working Group on Implementation of the UN Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor. The report is now available online as Chapter 5, “Road Maps for Implementation of Reforms: Implementation Strategies, Including Toolkits and Indices,” in *Making the Law Work for Everyone Volume II, Working Group Reports*, February 2008.

Art professor **Pamela Jones**’s new book, *Altarpieces and Their Viewers in the Churches of Rome from Caravaggio to Guido Reni*, was published in March. In the book, Jones addresses how members of all social classes made meaning of public art in light of aesthetic, devotional, social, and charitable contexts.

Kathleen Teehan, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management, published an article in the spring 2008 edition of the Institute for International Education’s magazine *IIE Networker*, titled “University of Massachusetts Boston and Tsinghua University Partnership.”

Professor **Thomas O’Grady** of the English Department has two new articles in print: “Home Sickness: Going into Exile with Greg Delanty and Dermot Bolger” in *The Recorder* and “‘The music of what happens’: William Howard Russell, William Carlos Williams and Ciaran Carson’s *Breaking News*” in *An Siannach: A Journal of Literature, Culture, and the Arts*.

Professor of Political Science **Thomas Ferguson** coauthored “Britney and the Bear: Who Says You Can’t Get Good Help Anymore?,” published in the March 27 *Huffington Post*.

Assistant Professor of Anthropology **Patrick Clarkin** published “Adiposity and Height of Adult Hmong Refugees: Relationship with War-related Early Malnutrition and Later Migration” in the March/April issue of the *American Journal of Human Biology*.

Associate Professor **Pepi Leistyna** of Applied Linguistics Graduate Studies had his chapter “Horton Hears and Who: Lessons from the Highlander Folk School in the Era of Globalization” published in *Grappling with Diversity: Readings on Civil Rights, Pedagogy, and Critical Multiculturalism*.

CAMPUS NOTES

Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling and School Psychology **Lisa Cosgrove** was a contributing editor for the book *Psychiatric Ethics and the Rights of Persons with Mental Disabilities in Institutions and the Community*, and also wrote a chapter, "New methods in Social Action Research," in *Handbook of Emergent Methods*.

Assistant Professor of History **Ruth Miller's** comment, "Rape and the Exception in Turkish and International Law," appeared in the most recent volume of the *Washington and Lee Law Review*.

Assistant Professor of Biology **Alexey Veraksa** was the author of a letter published in *Nature Cell Biology* in March.

Xuchen Wang, a research associate in the Department of Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences, recently published a paper, "Contrasting Chemical and Isotopic Composition of Organic Matter in Changjiing (Yangtze River) Estuarine and East China Sea Shelf Sediments" in the *Journal of Oceanography*.

EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

Frederick S. Troy Professor of English **Lloyd Schwartz** will be participating in readings from *Bishop: Poems, Prose, and Letters*, a book he edited about poet Elizabeth Bishop, at Yale University, Central Park in New York, the Philadelphia Free Library, and the Longfellow House this spring and summer. Also, there will be a concert at Tanglewood of musical settings of his poems by the Tanglewood Music Center Composing Fellows on July 29.

Associate Professor **Pepi Leistyna's** film "Class Dismissed: How TV Frames the Working Class" was screened for the public in Seattle by the TOPS Coalition for Social Justice.

GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

Arthur Eisenkraft, Distinguished Professor of Science Education and Director of the Center of Science and Math in Context (COSMIC), has received a \$360,000 grant with Boston University to continue their Improving Teaching of Physics (ITOP) project for the next three years. ITOP provides content courses for high school physics teachers in the Boston area. The new grant will add a distance learning component to their work.

The John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies' Center for Democracy and Development has been awarded a \$1.6 million grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for a three-year project to improve the quality of justice in China through enhanced judicial education.

Assistant Professor **Wanda Rivera-**

Rivera has received a Joseph P. Healey grant to conduct archival research in the Dominican Republic on the project titled "Prison Narratives and Historical Legacies of Militant Women During the Popular Insurgency of 1965 in Dominican Republic."

Professor **Gopal Rao** of the Physics Department is hosting Dr. Troung Thi Anh Dao of the Institute of Physics and Electronics at the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology in Hanoi, Vietnam, from February through May, in Rao's Nanophotonics and Biophotonics Research Lab.

Insurance Board (WSIB).

The Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Public Policy and Community Involvement will be honored this month with an Outstanding Research Institution award by the Brazilian Immigrant Center in Allston.

Professor **Marilyn Frankenstein** of the College of Public and Community Service was elected to be a member of the organizing committee for the next international conference on Mathematics Education and Society.

CONCERNED ABOUT A STUDENT?

As part of the University-wide Safety Planning Committee, a protocol has been developed to help guide UMass Boston faculty/staff/students in identifying and assisting students who may be distressed or distressing others. For more information, visit safety.umb.edu. In addition, Joyce Morgan, Assistant Dean of Students, and Edna Pressler, Ph.D., Director of the UHS Counseling Center, are available to help train faculty and staff on the protocol. We all need to work together to maintain a safe and healthy campus community!

The Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy received two grants in March. **Donna Stewartson**, Associate Program Director, received an \$8,000 award from the National Council for Research on Women for the "Diversifying the Leadership in Women's Research, Policy and Advocacy Centers" project. This project will provide research opportunities and training for women faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students who come from underrepresented groups. The Center also received a \$5,000 UMass Public Service Grant to support outreach and the development of resource materials in conjunction with its upcoming Women, Wages and Work Conference. **Christa Kelleher** is the principal investigator on the project.

Research Associates **Dan Hellin** and **Kristin Uiterwyk** of the Urban Harbors Institute, along with Senior Associate **Steve Bliven**, are contracted with the town of Falmouth, Massachusetts, to develop a harbor management plan for Green Pond, one of the town's 16 harbors. Uiterwyk and Hellin are also assisting the town of Marshfield, Massachusetts, to develop a mooring plan for Green Harbor.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Kathleen Golden McAndrew, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Executive Director of Health Services, has been reappointed to the *American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Journal* editorial review panel, as guest Editor to the *Journal of American College Health* and reviewer for the Research Advisory Council (RAC) of the Ontario Workplace Safety and

The Gerontology Department's Management of Aging Services Master's Program has won the 2008 Outstanding Credit Program by the National University Continuing Education Association (UCEA). The award was presented at the association's annual conference on March 28. Congratulations to **Ellen Bruce**, Gerontology Graduate Program Director, and **Lillian Glickman** and **Ellen Birchander**, co-directors of the Management of Aging Services Master's Program.

On March 20, Boston Center for Independent Living (BCIL) honored the Institute for Community Inclusion and its director, **Bill Kiernan**, with the Marie Feltin Award. This award distinguishes individuals and institutions who share the late Dr. Marie Feltin's passion to advocate for disabled and chronically ill patients.

Institute for Community Inclusion senior research fellow **Sheila Fesko** has joined the Corporation for Supportive Housing advisory council for the development of the Toolkit for Connecting Supportive Housing Tenants to Employment. The council is developing resources to assist individuals who are chronically homeless in entering employment.

Professor **Rona Flippo** of the Curriculum and Instruction Department in the Graduate College of Education has been invited to serve another term, through 2009, on the International Reading Association's (IRA) Early Literacy Committee.

Michael Keating, Associate Director and Senior Fellow at the Center for Democracy and Development of the McCormack Graduate School, has been named by the World Bank as a

special consultant to their mission in Liberia. Keating, a specialist in media development in conflict and post-conflict societies, will be working on a comprehensive communication strategy for the Liberian government in association with the Ministry of Information and the World Bank Development Communication division.

Assistant Professor of Women's Studies **Chris Bobel** has been selected to support a Social Science Research Council project to systematically address the growing HIV/AIDS pandemic in Russia. Bobel will train junior researchers in Russia to collect ethnographic data relative to health care access for HIV+ people, and will also assist in the development of a graduate course, titled "Gender, Sexuality and Health," to be taught across the Russian Federation.

The Athletics Department has been named an honoree of the National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS) Outreach Honor Roll for the 2006-07 academic year.

Management and marketing lecturer **Edward Romar** will be teaching a course this summer titled "Confucian Ethics and Business Management" in the International Summer School at Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul, Korea.

Sumner Rotman, Director of Technical Education in the Division of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education, received the Harold Pride Award from the Massachusetts Vocational Association on March 29. The award is given to individuals who have contributed to the growth and improvement of vocational education in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A case presented by Assistant Professors of Management **Nick Dedeke** and **Marty Calkins**, titled "Mattel Inc.: Lead-Tainted Toys," has been selected as one of four finalists in the 2008 Dark Side Case Competition, sponsored by the Critical Management Studies Interest Group and the Management Education Division of the Academy of Management.

Assistant Professor of Biology **Jeffrey Dukes** has been selected to be one of nineteen 2008 Leopold Leadership Fellows, a competitive fellowship for academic scientists working on environmental issues.

EVENTS

On March 7, Arthur Cleaves, FEMA's Region 1 Administrator, and William Russell Webster, Federal Preparedness Coordinator, visited the Center for Rebuilding Sustainable Communities after Disasters and met with College of Public and Community Service Dean **Adenrele Awotona** and two of the Center's research affiliates, attorney **Michael Donlan** and Professor **Asgedet Stefanos**.

Professor **Gopal Rao** of the Physics Department organized and chaired a symposium on "Control of Light with

Bacteriorhodospin" at the March 10-14 meeting of the American Physical Society in New Orleans.

On March 11, the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy held its 25th Women's Research Forum, titled "Women Mayors in Massachusetts: Making History. Meeting Challenges." The forum included a presentation on women in municipal elected office by **Paige Ransford**, senior research associate, followed by a panel discussion with seven of the eleven women currently serving as mayors in Massachusetts. Also at the event, the Center released the results of a study of women elected municipal officials, written by senior research fellow **Paige Ransford** and **Miriam Lazewatsky**.

IN THE NEWS

Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs **Ramon Borges-Mendez** and Center for Social Policy Director **Donna Haig Friedman** were quoted in a March 23 *Boston Globe* article highlighting the contributions that immigrants are making in the Massachusetts healthcare industry.

Vice Provost for Information Technology **Anne Scrivener Agee** was quoted in a March 7 *Boston Business Journal* article on women in technology.

A trip to South Africa by three UMass Boston professors and ten students was the subject of a March 30 *Boston Globe* feature, "UMass Students Find Perspective in Africa." The article quoted Honors Program Director **Rajini Srikanth**, and noted that the McCormack School's **Padraig O'Malley** facilitated the trip.

In March, **Christian Weller**, an associate professor in the Department of Public Policy and Public Affairs, was interviewed by Reuters television on Senator Clinton's speech on the housing market, by Fox Business News on the housing crisis and the role of government in regulating financial markets, and also appeared on the BBC's *World Tonight* on the Fed's decision to increase liquidity. He was also quoted on a variety of economic issues in the *Wisconsin State Journal* and the *Capital Times*, on the public radio program *Marketplace*, in the *Columbus Dispatch*, the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Dover-New Philadelphia, Ohio Times Reporter*, the *New Jersey Courier-Post*, the *Nevada Desert Sun*, the *Marshall News Messenger*, the *Rocky Mount Telegram*, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, and in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

Institute for Community Inclusion Director **William Kiernan** and ICI Senior Research Associate **Sheila Fesko** were interviewed by Avery Klauber of *The Independence Journal* and DisabilityResources.org. Kiernan and Fesko discussed the work of ICI as a whole organization as well as the new Universal Design Solutions business venture.

The Twa Zanmi (Three Friends) collaboration, consisting of ICI, the

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of Marketing and Communications. 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.

Wednesday 9

Clinical Education and Research
5:30 p.m., Science Building, second floor. Grand opening of the Center of Clinical Education and Research.

Monday 14

Spring Blood Drive
9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Campus Center, first floor, University Room terrace and street. Organized by University Health Services.

Komen On The Go
9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Campus Center lawn. Interactive campaign to raise awareness and support in finding a cure for breast cancer.

Special Lecture
4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Healey Library, eleventh floor, room 0011B. Douglass Bailey, Professor of European Prehistory, Cardiff University, Wales will present a special lecture: “Prehistoric Figurines: Barbie-Dolls, Walt Disney and Sex

Abuse.” Organized by the College of Liberal Arts. Call 7-6500 for more details.

Tuesday 15

Lecture
1:30 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, Ballroom. Annual Slomoff Lectureship, delivered by Paul Levy, president and CEO of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Topic: Rationing Health Care. Lecture will be immediately followed by a panel discussion, and then by a colloquium seminar beginning at 5 p.m. in conference room 3540. Sponsored by Graduate Programs in Dispute Resolution.

Finance Career Fair
4 p.m. – 7 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, Ballroom, 3550B. Organized by the Department of Accounting and Finance in the College of Management.

Getting Started in Business Workshop
6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Quinn Building, third floor, Chancellor’s Conference Room. Sponsored by the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network. To register, go to www.sbdc.umb.edu/training or call 7-7750.

Wednesday 16

Coffee Break
9 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., McCormack

Building, first floor, Harbor Art Gallery. Find out about the Venture Development Center over a cup of coffee or tea.

Thursday 17

Deliberative Dialogue
4 p.m. – 6 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, room 3540. Part of “We Need to Talk,” a series of free, topical discussion forums. Topic: “The Energy Problem: Choices for an Uncertain Future.” Organized by the Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution and Public Collaboration (MODR). For more information, email Courtney. breeze@umb.edu.

Friday 18

Fundraiser Dinner
6 p.m. – 11 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, Ballroom. Department of Anthropology is hosting the 13th Annual Brazilian Immigrant Center Fundraiser Dinner. For details call Tim Sieber at 7-6850.

Saturday 19

China Day Exhibition
1 p.m. – 8 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, Ballroom. Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education and the Confucius Institute are holding a China Day Exhibition and Chinese Speech Contest. For more information, call 7-7291.

Monday 21

Patriot’s Day
University closed.

Wednesday 23

Tuskegee Airmen Documentary
4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m., Campus Center, third floor, Point Lounge. The Student Life Office is hosting a documentary screening on the Tuskegee Airmen. The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African American pilots who flew with distinction during World War II. Please contact Nunu Francois at 7-7952 for details.

Thursday 24

Speaker Series
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Campus Center, Bay View Conference Room. Title: “Latino Students and the Boston Public Schools.” Miren Uriarte and Eileen de los Reyes will report on the outcomes of Latino students in the Boston public school system. Sponsored by the Gastón Institute. RSVP to paloma.britt@umb.edu.

Friday 25

Good Neighbor Day
7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Campus Center, second floor, mezzanine and street. Students and faculty interested in day-long projects like painting shelters, preparing murals for school children to paint, orga-

nizing recovery resources, planting gardens, preparing meals for AIDS patients, and sorting food for a food bank can get in touch with Jain Ruvdich-Higgins at 7-7917.

Saturday 26

Discussion
8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., Healey Library, eleventh floor. The Research Center for Urban Cultural History in the Department of English is hosting a discussion on the Cosmopolitan Culture, Consumption and the Making of Taste, 1600-1770. For more details contact Elizabeth Fay at 7-6715.

Monday 28

Urban Affairs Lecture
4 p.m. – 9 p.m., Healey Library, eleventh floor. Keith Wailoo of Rutgers University will speak at the McCormack Graduate School Urban Affairs Lecture. For more information, call Alkia Powell at 7-5541.

Gerontology Colloquium Series
1 p.m. – 2:15 p.m., Wheatley, third floor, room 125. Stefan Gravenstein of Quality Partners of Rhode Island and Brown University presents “High-Quality Nursing Home Care Begins with a Vision.” Co-sponsored by UMass Boston’s Gerontology Institute and the Rosalie Wolf Geriatric Center at UMass Medical School.

CAMPUS NOTES

Haitian American Public Health initiative, and Camera Mosaïque of the Haitian Media Network was featured in an article in the March 2008 edition of the *Boston Haitian Reporter*.

The **Robert H. Quinn Awards** were mentioned in a March 20 *Boston Globe* profile of one of the 2008 recipients, healthcare advocate FredERICA Williams.

Donna Haig Friedman, Director of the Center for Social Policy, was quoted in a March 23 *Boston Globe* article, “Immigrants Make Mark in Local Healthcare.”

In January, Associate Professor **Xiaogang Deng** of the Department of Sociology was interviewed by WNET in New York for a documentary film on China’s growing influence in Africa, and in January and February, he was interviewed by Free Radio Asia on China’s growing challenges to create jobs for college graduates, family abuse and extramarital affairs in China, underrepresentation of female government officials and social policy that may reduce gender inequality, and China’s gradual loosening control of its one-child-only policy and its implications on gender-ratio imbalance and population structure.

Frederick S. Troy Professor of English **Lloyd Schwartz** was interviewed on PBS’s *Jim Lehrer NewsHour* on

February 14 and on WBUR’s *Here & Now* on March 10 about *Bishop: Poems, Prose, and Letters*, a book he edited about poet Elizabeth Bishop.

Professor of Economics **Randy Albelda** was cited in the *New York Times* on March 2 in a story about the recession and on March 6 in a story about an innovative training program for low-income single mothers in Wyoming. Albelda was also quoted in a March 3 *Patriot Ledger* article, “Is a Lean Economy Turning Mean?” and on March 6 in the North Carolina newspaper *Blue Ridge Now*.

The Chemistry Department was cited in a March 5 *Wall Street Journal* article about efforts to test and identify potentially toxic consumer products imported from overseas.

WUMB’s Big Read project was the subject of a March 13 *Dorchester Reporter* article, “Classic *Mockingbird* Takes Flight Anew in the Big Read program,” and was mentioned on March 4 in the Newburyport, Massachusetts, *Daily News*.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, Director of the McCormack Graduate School’s Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, was quoted extensively in a March 11 *Boston Globe* story on women mayors in Massachusetts. She was also interviewed on CNN’s *The Situation Room* for a story on Hillary

Clinton’s decreasing support among women voters, and by Univision TV on February 25 for a story on the impact of Ralph Nader’s announcement that he is running for president.

Sean Lunde, a researcher at the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences, was quoted on Earthtimes.org in a story about the decreased benefits received by U.S. veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan as compared to veterans of previous wars.

Psychology professor **Jean Rhodes** is quoted in a March 4 *Boston Globe* article, “The Gap,” about the demographic differences between youth seeking mentors and those who volunteer to be mentors, and in another story about mentoring in the March 18 *Wall Street Journal*.

African Studies Department lecturer **Tony Van Der Meer** is quoted in a March 6 *Los Angeles Wave* article on Cuba, “Afro-Cubans Keep Close Watch on Island Politics.”

Paul Watanabe, director of the Institute for Asian American Studies, commented on the growing Asian population in Massachusetts in a March 6 *Boston Globe* article, “Large Korean Grocery Coming.” Watanabe was also quoted in a March 26 *New York Times* article about Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, titled

“Early Dazzle, Then Tough Path for a Governor.”

Economics professor **Alan Clayton-Matthews** was quoted in a March 12 *Boston Globe* story about the U.S. economy, “In Harsh Jobs Market, Tech Companies an Oasis,” and in a March 21 *Boston Herald* article about the Massachusetts economy, “Mass. Loses 700 Jobs in Feb.”

Research Associate **Kristin Uiterwyk** of the Urban Harbors Institute was quoted in a March 12 *Boston*

Globe article about drinking water, “And Now, a Sort of Regional Dowsing.”

College of Nursing and Health Sciences Dean **Greer Glazer** is quoted in a March 19 *Boston Herald* article about a shortage of Ph.D.s in nursing schools.

Psychology professor **Jane Adams** was quoted in a March 24 in the *News & Observer* of North Carolina in an article titled “Plastic May Be Bad for Health.”

Lieutenant Governor Tours VDC, CCER



Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray visited UMass Boston recently, touring the site of the Venture Development Center and the Center for Clinical Education and Research with Chancellor Keith Motley. (Photo by Harry Brett)