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GoKids holds its first “graduation” for local students

Turn to pages 4-5 for a look back at 2007 in pictures, as captured by Harry Brett

Master Plan Unveiled at Trustees Meeting

By Lisa Harris

UMass Boston is growing faster than ever. New degree programs from management to creative writing, rapidly growing enrollment, a dramatic jump in grant-funded research, and increased engagement by faculty, staff, and students in city, state, and national affairs. It’s an exciting time for the university community, and high time, many feel, for the campus to properly reflect that excitement.

On December 14, Chancellor Keith Motley presented the 25-year master plan to the university system’s board of trustees. The plan—the first comprehensive new vision for the campus since it was built in the early 1970s—calls for new academic buildings, a more open campus layout, dorms near Mount Vernon Street, improved traffic patterns, and new parking garages at the edges of campus. Most dramatically, the plan calls for eventually tearing down the

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Institute for Asian American Studies and WUMB Create Unique New Public Radio Program

By Julia Reischel

“In 2007, when I was traveling through the country doing a book tour, I was really surprised how often people would ask me, ‘Where is your home? Is it where you were born, or where you grew up? Can you ever seem at home in a place where you don’t seem to fit?’”

These universal questions, asked by journalist Helen Zia, open the pilot episode of As I Am, the new Asian American public radio program being co-produced by the Institute for Asian American Studies (IAAS) and WUMB, UMass Boston’s public radio station. The hour-long program features journalism, commentary, and art, all from an Asian American perspective. Paul Watanabe, the director of IAAS and one of the architects of the project, says that such a program is long overdue.

“Asians are the fastest-growing population in the U.S.,” Watanabe says. “It’s growing, it’s dispersing, and now there are significant populations across the U.S. The paucity of programming dealing with this growing population is very well known. There is a vacuum for this kind of show, which focuses upon the Asian American experience and provides a lens for all Americans.”

As I Am was born in a conversation between Watanabe and Pat Montheith, the general manager of WUMB, when Montheith discovered that the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) was hoping to increase the diversity of programming on the nation’s public airways. “The opportunity showed itself right in front of me,” Montheith says. “Knowing that there was no other show aimed at this [Asian American] population

(continued on page 3)
Alumni Celebrate Boston State College Room Dedication

By Julia Reischel

On December 6, an excited group of Boston State College alumni assembled at the Campus Center to commemorate the 25th anniversary of their alma mater’s merger with UMass Boston. The event, the culmination of a year of events celebrating BSC’s legacy, featured the dedication of the new Boston State College Room by Chancellor J. Keith Motley and members of the BSC and UMass Boston communities. The audience applauded as ninety-four-year-old Richard Newman, a former Boston State and UMass Boston professor of foreign languages, cut the ribbon to open the new room.

“It was terrific,” Newman said later. “It will always be important for the University of Massachusetts Boston to remember, value, and build on the traditions and legacy of Boston State College,” Chancellor Motley said.

The Boston State College Room honors Boston State College and its alumni with an exhibit of more than 80 photos and items of memorabilia, including clippings from the campus newspaper, sports memorabilia, and snapshots of daily life at the college.

One of the BSC alumni who donated items to the exhibit is Dan Rea, a member of the BSC steering committee who is now host of the WBZ Radio 1030 show Nightside with Dan Rea. “I am thrilled to see an actual physical presence on the UMass Boston campus of Boston State College,” he says. “When UMass Boston absorbed Boston State in the early 1980s, a part of Boston’s public education history went away. Keith Motley’s commitment to restoring the physical legacy of thousands of Boston State College graduates in the Campus Center at UMass Boston will help heal a wound felt by so many so long ago.”

Volunteers Help the Homeless

Boston Mayor Tom Menino visited campus on November 17 as part of a city-wide day of service to the homeless. UMass Boston’s volunteers put together 300 care bags for residents of the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans. Afterward, Mayor Menino hosted a luncheon on campus in the Ryan Lounge for volunteers from all over the city who had participated. (Photo by Harry Brett)

2007-08 eFellows Honored

By Brian Middleton

At a luncheon ceremony with Chancellor Keith Motley on November 28, five UMass Boston faculty members were honored for the innovative contributions to online learning that earned them recognition as eFellows for the 2007-08 academic year.

Gonzalo Bacigalupe (Counseling), Virginia Smith Harvey (School Psychology), Spencer DiScala (History), Edward Roman (Management), and Barbara Worley (Anthropology) were this year’s honorees.

The eFellow designation was created in 2004 to recognize the dedicated and imaginative work of instructors who have helped pioneer online teaching at UMass Boston. “We are proud of the creative, high-quality, well-designed courses produced by our eFellow nominees,” said Dirk Messellar, dean of the Division of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education (CCDE). “We are also very appreciative of all the hard work that goes into creating and teaching an online course.”

eFellows are selected according to a rubric that specifies elements that define an accomplished online educator, including use of audio, video and graphics, various synchronous and asynchronous course tools such as discussion boards, media libraries, and live chats, and strategies for assessment and communication.

As eFellows, the instructors will make presentations to other instructors, promote online learning within their departments, continue to experiment with technology, develop new features for existing online courses, and serve as mentors to new online faculty. eFellows also act as advisors or sounding boards for CCDE online issues and projects.
Asian American studies and WuMB (continued from page 1)

Besides Pacific Time, I asked Paul if he was interested.

He was, as was the UMass administration, which has funded the production of the pilot with a UMass Boston Proposal Development Grant. The completed pilot will be offered to public radio stations around the country this spring.

As I Am models itself partially on NPR’s All Things Considered and Chicago Public Radio’s popular This American Life, as well as on the now-defunct syndicated Asian radio show Pacific Time, which broadcast out of San Francisco from 2000 to 2007. While the staff and contributors of As I Am are Asian American and will address issues that affect Asian Americans, they plan to touch on themes, like the concept of “home,” which transcends race, ethnicity, and nationality.

“We’ll be pulling in all these different voices,” says Nathan Bae Kupel, one of the producers of the pilot episode includes a personal experience by public radio reporter Angela Kim, a spoken word performance by slam poet Regie Cabico, and music by the Hip Hop duo Blue Scholars. As for future shows, says Bae Kupel and Watanabe, the possibilities are endless.

“There are thousands of stories that need to be covered, which will be exciting for many different kinds of audiences,” Watanabe says, smiling. “I have a million ideas.”

Local Kids Get a Helping Hand

With Helping Hands from Shaw’s Supermarkets, the UMass Boston Women’s Basketball Team, the Sigma Phi Theta Club, and a special visit from Chancellor Motley, 34 foster children received multiple gifts generously provided by the UMass Boston community at the eighth annual Helping Hands gift-giving party on campus December 19. (Photo by Dan Higgins)

Asian American Studies and WUMB (continued from page 1)

25-year view — Approach to campus from Morrissey Boulevard. (Image courtesy of Chan Krieger Semienwicz)

25-year view — Approach to campus from Morrissey Boulevard. (Image courtesy of Chan Krieger Semienwicz)

Master Plan (continued from page 1)

science building and the plaza to make way for more modern buildings and green space.

Upon completion of the 25-year plan, university officials say, the campus will be transformed into a jewel on the waterfront. Hoping to continue a trend begun by the bright, airy new Campus Center, the plan will seek to foster a more vibrant campus atmosphere, with better physical support for teaching and research and more common spaces for students and faculty to gather.

“What will be built is going to be less fortresslike,” said Susan Wolfson, senior analyst in administration and finance, and project manager for the master plan. “We don’t want to build these monoliths we have today. We do want to make them more human, more manageable and a more pleasant environment for teaching, learning and working.”

Before crafting the master plan, a university-wide task force developed a list of major goals for the university: increasing student engagement and success, attracting talented faculty, improving the physical environment, and becoming more involved with the surrounding community. It quickly became clear that developing an ambitious vision for the campus was central to accomplishing all these goals.

“This master plan is the physical expression of the strategic planning goals,” said Ellen O’Connor, vice chancellor of administration and finance. “We’re driven by this set of aspirations developed by the whole university community.”

Change of this magnitude is a complex process, and the details surrounding the construction schedule and final design have yet to be hammered out. University officials say the first major project will likely be to relocate the campus’s utilities, many of which run through the substructure.

25-year view — Approach to campus from Morrissey Boulevard. (Image courtesy of Chan Krieger Semienwicz)

This is going to be a 10-year conversation. This is not something that’s going to happen this summer. We need people to be in it for the long haul,” said O’Connor.

For the most part, the master plan has been received enthusiastically both on and off campus. The prospect of adding dorms to what has traditionally been a commuter campus has stirred controversy, however. Some nearby residents are concerned about neighborhood disruption; other critics worry that dorms will benefit mainly out-of-state students and distract from the university’s core mission of serving Boston neighborhoods and Boston public schools.

But proponents believe that the university can give students more housing choices without sacrificing its urban mission. Wolfson points out that the proposed dorms will house only about 1,000 students in the first ten years of the plan—less than the projected increase in enrollment in just the next two years—and another 1,000 before the end of the 25-year plan.

“Other campuses that have been strictly commuter, and added a little bit of housing, find that it enlivens campus life to have students living on campus. That’s a good thing,” she said. “Why not provide more options to our students?”

The project, which is expected to cost $750 million over the next decade, depends largely on state funding. In October, Governor Deval Patrick included $1 billion in campus improvement funding for the five UMass campuses in his higher education bond bill, now before the state legislature.

“Other campuses that have traditionally been a commuter campus will be transformed into something different,” said Susan Wolfson, senior analyst in administration and finance. “This is going to be a 10-year conversation. This is not something that’s going to happen this summer. We need people to be in it for the long haul,” said O’Connor.

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“The response is usually, ‘Well, it’s about time.’ Anybody who’s spent time here doesn’t challenge what we’re saying, that the physical environment is holding us back,” she said. “We’re this wonderful, very alive university. We’ve got a tremendous student body, with every kind of diversity there is. We’ve got this wonderful faculty. What’s holding us back is the state of our capital assets. We want to change that.”

Asian American Studies and WUMB (continued from page 1)

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“We’ll be pulling in all these different voices,” says Nathan Bae Kupel, one of the producers of the show. “As a group, Asian Americans are not homogenous.”

Paul Niwa, a professor at Emerson College who contributed a documentary report on rising rents that are forcing working-class residents out of Boston’s Chinatown to the pilot, describes As I Am as “a collage of experience—slam poetry, commentary, music lyrics, and more.”

Along with Niwa’s segment, the pilot episode includes a personal commentary on moving away from home by public radio reporter Angela Kim, a spoken word performance by slam poet Regie Cabico, and music by the Hip Hop duo Blue Scholars. As for future shows, says Bae Kupel and Watanabe, the possibilities are endless.

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2007 in Pictures

University Photographer Harry Brett takes countless photos at UMass Boston events throughout the year. Here are some of our favorites from 2007.

Above: Jugglers make an impression on one attendee of Convocation celebrations.

Right: Deng Athoi Galuak at Commencement.

Far right: Member of the class of 2020-something at the Early Learning Center.

Left: Chancellor Motley addresses the UMass Boston community during his inauguration ceremony.

Below: Myrna Tanger (center, airborne) and friends watch her appearance on The Price Is Right.

Above: UMass Night at the Pops.

Right: Give US Your Poor concert.
Left: WUMB’s Dave Palmater on the mic at the 10th Annual Boston Folk Festival.

Right: Studying in the sun during Opening Week.

Below: The Beacon makes a clutch save at the Campus Center.

Above: Actor Saylis Matos at the Trotter Institute’s staged reading of Day of Absence.

Right: Pitching in, rain or shine, on Good Neighbor Day.

Above: Batman and Rodney Hughes at the Spring Picnic.

Above: Chancellor Motley backstage with the O’Jays.

Right: A visitor to Camp Shriver takes five.
As for the 100 children who are finishing their time with GoKids today, Shea says that researchers are busy studying their progress. “People have no idea what works better,” Shea says. “[The center] is designed to become a base for research.”

Several such projects are under way or in the works: Bruce Bailey, an assistant professor in the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences, measures the metabolic output of a GoKids Boston participant with help from undergraduate assistant Megan Suyematsu. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Julia Reischel

On December 11, the first group of Boston schoolchildren to play and exercise at the GoKids Boston youth fitness research and training center during the school year completed their training in a “graduation” ceremony, highlighted by demonstrations of their newfound knowledge of exercise and healthy eating habits to a stream of visitors during an open house.

“You always feel alive when you come here,” said Greer Glazer, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, after she watched a demonstration of a piece of weightlifting equipment. Maria Shear, the director of GoKids Boston, stood nearby to discuss the progress that GoKids has already made with the several hundred children who have participated in its summer and fall programs. While it’s too soon to have official research results, Shea says that she’s already noticed the effect on the kids.

“All have lost weight,” Shea says of the 110 kids who participated in camp programs at the center over the summer. Several, she says, participated in camp programs at the center during the school semester.

Assistant Professor Bruce Bailey, of the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences, measures the metabolic output of a GoKids Boston participant with help from undergraduate assistant Megan Suyematsu. (Photo by Harry Brett)

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Beginning this week, Allen Gontz, an assistant professor of Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences, will examine the subsoil structures under the Paul Revere House in the North End as part of one of the most thorough archaeological surveys of the site ever conducted.

Using a technology called ground penetrating radar (GPR), Gontz will reconstruct the changing historical landscape of the area surrounding the Paul Revere House, thereby opening a new window into the history of Boston and the North End.

“The Paul Revere House sits in a crucial elevation range, which may at one time have been flooded by ocean 12,000 years ago,” Gontz said. “It’s one of the few places in Boston where there’s some degree of open space and the amount of disturbance is minimal. There’s a whole bunch of things that they have some degree of record for on Paul Revere’s property, such as privies and, supposedly, a small forge. We’re trying to reconstruct the land surface that was there, and show what’s underneath people’s feet when they walk across the landscape where now there’s nothing but brick.”

Ground penetrating radar allows researchers to take a thorough look at ancient soil without damaging the surface, which makes it an ideal tool for work at historical sites. Gontz will be using equipment loaned by MALÅ Geoscience, a leading supplier of GPR technology.

“MALÅ knows firsthand the value of preserving the heritage of our nation,” said Kevin Hon, a MALÅ geologist and geophysicist. “Supporting the Paul Revere House project in Boston is a great opportunity to help restore an irreplaceable landmark in a pivotal city from colonial America.”

Gontz plans to work in partnership with the Paul Revere Memorial Association to open his research to the public, and will conduct his work during the operating hours of the Paul Revere House, thereby becoming part of the exhibit itself. His findings will help the Paul Revere Memorial Association better preserve the Paul Revere House, just in time for the Association’s 100th anniversary.

“We have done archaeology before, but we’ve never done an extensive look at the entire property with an eye to its whole history,” says Nina Zannieri, the executive director of the Paul Revere Memorial Association. “Our buildings are part and parcel of the history of the North End, and the whole history of the property is important to us.”

“The North End’s history is America’s history and Professor Gontz’s research stands to significantly enhance the understanding of our important neighborhood,” said House Speaker Salvatore F. DiMasi (D-Boston). “The study of Paul Revere’s house will provide added insight to residents of our neighborhood, scholars and visitors to Boston.”

Meeting the Artists

Chancellor Motley at the South Boston Boys and Girls Club, where he gave out prizes for UMass Boston’s Holiday Card contest. (Photo by Harry Brett)
Heinz of the Political Economy Research Institute at UMass Amherst.


Peter Taylor, a professor in the Program in Critical & Creative Thinking at the Graduate College of Education, co-organized a workshop on diagramming the complexities of scientific processes at the Social Sciences Study of conference in Montreal, Canada, in October. His book Unruly Complexity was the subject of an Author Meets Critics session at the conference.

Robert Crossley, professor of English, co-chaired a “Workshop for Members of Search Committees in English” at the Modern Language Association in Chicago. He also offered individual counseling sessions for job candidates at the convention.

Nina M. Silverstein, professor of genderology at the College of Public and Community, was invited to give a presentation, titled “Alzheimer’s Disease and Fitness to Drive,” at the North American License Information Workshop sponsored by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, in Washington, DC, on December 5.


PUBLICATIONS

Laurie L. Charliès, an assistant professor in the Department of Counseling and School Psychology, published “Cultural Competency as a Relational Process: Scenes From a Family Therapy Context in the Philippines” in the December issue of the journal Qualitative Inquiry.


Phillip Granbery, an instructor in the Economics Department, published a paper titled “In the Hood and on the Job: Social Capital and the Expansion of Local and Unauthorized Mexican Immigrants” in the December issue of Sociological Perspectives. He co-authored the paper with Enrico Marcelli of San Diego State University.

“The Locations of Employment Services and People with Disabilities: A Geographical Analysis of Accessibility,” by Assistant Professor of Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences Deborah Mattel and Alberto Giordano, was published in the September issue of the Journal of Disability Policy Studies.

EXHIBITS, PRESENTATIONS, RECORDINGS, AND RECORDINGS

Jon Cadernd Mitchell, the chair of the Department of Performing Arts, conducted the fourth annual Massabang The Center for Arts in Natick, Massachusetts, on December 5.

GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

The Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) has been awarded a $1.4 million grant from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services through the University of Massachusetts Medical School to improve employment infrastructure, services and outcomes for people with disabilities. In the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Medicaid Infrastructure and Comprehensive Employment Opportunities grant will support activities and research that inform and engage individuals with disabilities, policy makers, service providers and employment efforts in the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Medicaid Infrastructure and Comprehensive Employment Opportunities grant will support activities and research that inform and engage individuals with disabilities, policy makers, service providers and employment efforts in the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Medicaid Infrastructure and Comprehensive Employment Opportunities grant will support activities and research that inform and engage individuals with disabilities, policy makers, service providers and employment efforts in the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Medicaid Infrastructure and Comprehensive Employment Opportunities grant will support activities and research that inform and engage individuals with disabilities, policy makers, service providers and employment efforts in the Commonwealth.

In January, the state of Colorado became the newest member of the Institute for Community Inclusion’s State Employment Leadership Network (SLEN). It is the fifteenth state to join the network.

Laura Henze Russell, the director of the Osher Program on Aging at the Gerontology Institute, received a Bostoom Grant to support $40,000 for the next phase of the effort to develop applications of the Elder Standard in Massachusetts. In December, the Massachusetts Association of Older Americans (MAOA) convened a well-attended Advisory Committee meeting about the Osher Project in December, where a number of groups and individuals spoke about how they are using it concretely in their work.

Associate Professor of Finance Jim Grant is serving as the faculty advisor for UMass Boston’s first New England Research Investment Challenge (NERIC) team. The team, which is made up of four College of Management undergraduates, will write professional stock reports and give a formal presentation to a panel of overseers chosen by the Boston Society.

The Center for Collaborative Leadership in the College of Management was awarded a $500,000 grant from the coming Emerging Leaders Program on January 28. Fifty-one fellows have been chosen to participate in this year’s program from greater Boston corporations, government agencies, and non-profit institutions. To initiate the program, fellows will learn lessons in leadership from Marsh Carter, Chairman of the New York Stock Exchange. Throughout the nine-month program, they will hear from many more top executives, judges, lawyers, politicians, and UMass Boston professors.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Professor Kamran Ronge-Mendez of the Economics Department of the College of Business Public Affairs has been appointed by Governor Deval Patrick to serve on the Asset Development Commission, a state program headed by Barbara Gracca, the assistant director of the Program in Public Policy, has been nominated and confirmed by the Senate to be the State’s first Commissioner of Education. A nationally recognized profile of notable business leaders and successful professionals in North America.

EVENTS

In December, the Massachusetts Association of School Educators Association gathered to welcome Carol Johnson, the new superintendent of the Boston Public Schools. Peter Krieger, assistant professor of the American Studies Program, and director of the American Studies Program, was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies.

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In the News

On December 16, Judith Palfrey, the chief of the Division of General Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital Boston and a representative of the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI), was an invited guest at a conference held by the Ethiopian Community Mutual Assistance Association (ECMMA). Dr. Palfrey discussed the ICI, a program of the University of Massachusetts Boston and the Children’s Hospital Boston, and
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.

**Friday 18**

Women's Hockey vs. University of Southern Maine 4 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, lower level. Contact 7-7801.

Men's Hockey vs. St. Michael's College 7 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, lower level. Contact 7-7801.

**Saturday 19**

Men's Hockey vs. Norwich University 4 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, lower level. Contact 7-7801.

Women's Hockey vs. New England College 1 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, lower level. Contact 7-7801.

**Monday 21**

Martin Luther King day. University closed.

**Friday 25**

Winter session ends. Last day of class.

Women's Hockey vs. MIT 4 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, lower level, ice rink. Contact 7-7801.

**Saturday 26**

Women's Hockey vs. Salve Regina University Noon, Clark Athletic Center, lower level, ice rink. Contact 7-7801.

Men's Basketball vs. Rhode Island College 3 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact 7-7801.

**Monday 28**

Winter Blast: Opening Week Spring 2008 Activities begin.

Warm winter treats with Chancellor Motley 8 a.m., Campus Center, UL.

Free engraved key chains, glass etchings, and other novelties Noon, Campus Center Terrace.

**Thursday 29**

Blast Off Flight Simulator Experience flying through the air without ever leaving the ground. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Campus Center Terrace.

Sizzlin' Sweets With the GSA 3 p.m. – 7 p.m., University Dining Club. Graduate Student Assembly reception.

**Wednesday 30**

The Big Read Kick Off 6:30 p.m., Healey Library, 11th floor, 001LB. Celebrate the begin-ning of six months of reading To Kill a Mockingbird, as part of the largest federal reading program in the country.

Breaking the Ice: Student Organization and Activities Fair 11 a.m., Campus Center Terrace.

Colossal Comedy Featuring Eric O'Shea 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., Campus Center Ballroom. Free with UMass Boston student ID; others $5.

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**Friday 1**

Biology Department Seminar 2:30 p.m., Science Building, 1st floor, Small Science Auditorium. John Islander of the University of Connecticut discusses plant ecol-ogy and evolution.

**Saturday 2**

Ski trip to Pats Peak Noon – 11:30 p.m., buses leave from Campus Center. Ski at Pats Peak in New Hampshire. Tickets include transportation, lift ticket and rental. Purchase tickets in the Office of Student Activities, Campus Center, 3rd floor. $20 students, $30 faculty and staff.

**Wednesday 6**

College of Management Forum 5 – 6 p.m., Campus Center, 3rd floor, room 3545.

**Friday 8**

Biology Department Seminar 2:30 p.m., Science Building, 1st floor, Small Science Auditorium. Mark Allegro, of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, discusses the mechanisms of cell differentiation.

**February 2008**

Bill Kiernan, director of the Institute for Community Inclusion, moderates a panel discussion at the Boston premiere of Including Samuel, a film by filmmaker Dan Habib. Right to left: Kiernan; Rich Robinson, Executive Director of the Executive Director of the Institute for Community Inclusion; Dan Habib; Joe Petner, former Cambridge School Principal; and Keith Jones, inclusive education activist. (Photo by Harry Brett)

UMass Boston hosts premiere of Including Samuel