University Reporter - Volume 12, Number 01 - September 2007

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Chancellor J. Keith Motley: Our Work Starts with Students

By Ed Hayward

The University of Massachusetts Boston’s eighth chancellor, J. Keith Motley, may be new, but he’s no stranger.

The former vice chancellor for student affairs, who also served as interim chancellor during the 2004-2005 academic year, likens his return to campus to a homecoming.

“All I’ve been connected to in my life I find here,” Motley said during an interview in his office. “There’s diversity. People are here to support you as you grow. There’s that close connection to the community. It’s just a loving environment and that’s what I’m used to. I’ve always felt accepted here, and not because of a title or my job. I’ve always felt like one of the community at UMass Boston.”

As homecomings go, Motley’s has been something of a whirlwind. After serving the past two years as the system’s Vice President for Business, Marketing and Public Affairs, he was appointed to serve as chancellor by University of Massachusetts President Jack M. Wilson in May as part of a leadership reorganization that saw former Chancellor Michael E. Collin named interim chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Motley’s appointment was confirmed by the Board of Trustees on June 21.

Since that time, Motley wrapped up a seminar he taught for the Graduate College of Education and started to assemble his leadership team. He named longtime student affairs administrator Chris Hogan to the post of Chief of Staff and tapped Provost Winston Langley to serve as Associate Chancellor.

With enrollment climbing to approximately 13,000 students this fall, Motley said the campus will be bustling with even more excitement as students connect with each other, the faculty and campus programs.

“If we were at one student, I’d be excited. So multiply that by 13,000 and you know how excited I am about the start of the academic year on September 4. It’s something I always look forward to,” he said. (continued on page 2)

Chancellor’s Strategic Planning Task Force Outlines Four Primary Goals for Future

By Ed Hayward

A year-long evaluation of the university’s core concluded in June with the report of the Chancellor’s Strategic Planning Task Force, which issued a slate of recommended actions designed to advance the campus, better serve students, support faculty, and collaborate more closely with university neighbors.

Co-chaired by Associate Provosts Kristine Alster and Peter Langer, the task force drew broadly from across the university community—faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members—during a year-long planning process that focused on critical areas including Academics, Enrollment and Financial Aid, External Relations, Master Plans, Research and Graduate Studies, and Student Life.

“The recommendations presented by the task force were developed with two critical goals in mind: Make UMass Boston better for its students and faculty and make UMass Boston better for the community,” said Langer. “Those goals are going to inform how we plan for the next 25 years in the life of this university.”

The task force recommendations are being considered by Chancellor J. Keith Motley, who will draw on the counsel of the university community and executive staff to craft a formal strategic plan and design an implementation schedule. The plan will be presented to the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees, who must sign off on the blueprint for campus operations.

The task force process—which included extensive data gathering, student surveys, and community meetings—reached consensus on four primary goals:

- Increase Student Access, Engagement, and Success
- Attract, Develop, and Sustain Highly Effective Faculty
- Create a Physical Environment that Supports Teaching, Learning, and Research
- Enhance Campus-Community Engagement through Improved Organizational Structures

Chancellor Motley, who plans to speak about the strategic plan during his September 10 convocation address, which will be held next Monday morning in the Campus Center, praised the work of the committee and said a primary goal is maintaining the inclusiveness of the planning process.

“I really want to maintain the energy and excitement of the strategic planning work to date,” Motley said. “Planning for the future is going to continue to be a project that engages our internal campus constituency, as well as the external community. The work of the task force has set the tone for a thoughtful, open discussion about the future of the University of Massachusetts Boston campus.”

The report identified a range of priorities for the campus, which is also engaged in a Master Plan project that will determine how the physical assets of the campus should grow in order to serve strategic objectives.

The task force refined discussions that have been ongoing for several years about new construction on campus, calling for new academic buildings and recommending further consideration that UMass Boston provide students with an “on-campus housing option.”

The report endorsed growing enrollment of the campus to 15,000 students by 2010, which would bring enrollment in line with the original goals set forth when UMass Boston was created in 1964.

The task force recommended developing a comprehensive advising system that combines centralized services with college-based staffing, as well as expansion of the campus cultural activities and offerings beyond office hours of 9 am – 5 pm.

In the area of the faculty, the task force endorsed decreasing reliance on part-time faculty, increased hiring of tenured and tenure-track faculty, and a uniform policy on teaching load reduction.

Langer and Alster said that many of the recommendations are designed to bring the campus in line with best practices at colleges and universities across the country, and reflect the intent of the process to maintain “fidelity to urban mission.”
Strategic Plan and Surging Enrollment Top Chancellor Motley's Fall Agenda

(continued from page 1) Motley greeted hundreds of incoming students at new student orientation sessions, where he has emphasized that the young men and women maintain their connections to home and family, even though they may still live at home or close by. “Home keeps you grounded,” he said. “As we move on through life, family tells you the truth. They might tell you what you don’t want to hear sometimes. But when you stay connected to family, you give back a gift. They see the future and the way you live through your experiences. I think it’s important to remind students not to forget about that.”

The fall agenda will be just as busy, as Motley takes the recommendations of the Chancellor’s Strategic Planning Task Force and works with executive staff to craft a strategic plan that will guide the campus for the next five years. “It is going to be the best thinking we can offer to implement recommendations from the report in so many critical areas — enrollment, facilities, funding, research, teaching, fulfilling our urban mission, and changing attitudes about our campus,” he said. “Just like the new Campus Center changed this campus, the strategic plan is going to have a transformative effect on what we do here.”

Motley expects to discuss components of the plan during his September 10 convolution address. The plan will be presented to members of the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees this fall for their review.

Motley acknowledged that the strategic plan and a parallel master planning process that is also under way may produce the greatest impact for future students and faculty. But he said there will be components that will positively affect the work and study of the campus community within the next year or two.

“We’ll see changes and improvements in the next year that students and faculty will appreciate,” Motley said. “To do that, I want to maintain the energy and excitement that built around the planning work that’s taken place during the past year. It’s important that people see the strategic plan and the master plan as their plans.”

In addition to the chancellor’s speech, the Campus Center Ballroom audience will hear from Dr. JudyAnn Bigby, the state’s Secretary of Health and Human Services, who will address faculty, students and staff following the chancellor’s remarks. Among the other projects on the chancellor’s agenda is the Open Office initiative, which will provide the campus community the opportunity to meet with Motley on a routine basis to discuss matters of concern to the faculty, students and staff.

“What I look forward to are genuine conversations about what is happening in people’s lives on campus,” the chancellor said. “People have so many ideas about how to move this campus forward, so I expect many of these conversations to provide creative ideas that we can look at as we move this institution forward.”

Later this week, the chancellor will be honored as a 2007 National TRIO Achiever for his work in higher education and an alumnus of the Upward Bound program, one of the so-called TRIO pre-collegiate programs. As a youth growing up in Pittsburgh, Pa., Motley participated in the University of Pittsburgh’s Upward Bound program, which set high expectations and led him to a career in higher education.

“Upward Bound made a tremendous difference in my life, and I appreciate the impact the program had on me even more as I get older,” said Motley. “It helped me create opportunities in my life, and that is what our university is about. We are preparing people for opportunity and giving them the skills and the knowledge to make their own choices.”

The new chancellor said he’s excited at the growing research portfolio of the campus and the new centers added to the ranks of centers and institutes focused on issues critical to the urban center of the state. He sees great opportunities for the campus in Gov. Deval Patrick’s stem cell initiative, as well as a proposed capital spending plan that could deliver roughly $500 million in capital funds to the campus.

As an administrator who cut his teeth in Student Affairs, he said the experience of students remains primary to his overall approach to managing the university and its $230 million budget. “I sit here in a unique position as someone with deep experience in the area of student affairs,” he said. “My litmus test: Is this a good thing for students? I start there and build from that central point.”

Psychology Professor to Lead Study of Anxiety Disorder Treatment

By Peter Gennenn

People who experience psychological difficulties have reason to keep tabs on the work being done at leading research institutions to improve treatments for these difficulties. A project under way at UMass Boston and Boston University has received financial backing from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that may well lead to widespread use of a new therapy for generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) that has shown much promise in clinical trials.

A team of investigators led by UMass Boston associate professor of psychology Lizabeth Roemer has been awarded an NIMH grant of $2.4 million for a study that will compare a mindfulness- and acceptance-based behavior therapy for GAD (developed in 2001 by Roemer and her collaborator, Dr. Susan Orsillo) to an older, established treatment. In addition to other objectives, the project will investigate mechanisms of change—how the therapies appear to work; and predictors of outcome—who responds to them, which should lead to better matching of treatments to clients.

GAD, a psychological disorder characterized by chronic and debilitating worry usually focused on possible negative future events, has been linked to a lower sense of overall well-being, reduced life satisfaction, and the onset of clinical depression. Commonly occurring with other psychological disorders, it has been the least successfully treated of the anxiety disorders.

“More efficacious treatments are needed,” says Roemer, principal investigator of the study, “and investigations are needed to assess the impact of these treatments on psychosocial impairment.”

Roemer and her colleagues believe that better targeting of the function of worry and the nature of GAD is necessary. “Recent developments in understanding worry and GAD suggest the potential utility of mindfulness and acceptance-based elements in treating GAD,” she says. In the context of this work, mindfulness is understood as “paying attention, on purpose, in the present moment in a non-judgmental and expanded way to both internal and external sensations.” The researchers propose that though mindfulness will not eliminate psychological distress, it may help individuals to respond to their naturally occurring internal experiences more adaptively and to lead richer, more satisfying lives.

That hypothesis appears to be well-supported by the body of work on the subject. Studies have shown that worry plays an “avoidant” role in GAD that may be highly responsive to the practice of mindfulness. “Worry appears to reduce distressing internal experiences in the short term, although it likely prolongs them over time by interfering with emotional processing... and limiting the ability to respond adaptively,” says the study’s co-principal investigator, Dr. Susan Orsillo of Suffolk University. “If this experiential avoidance is a central problem in GAD, then experiential acceptance, which mindfulness practice promotes, may be the solution.”

Preliminary findings from an open trial have been encouraging, as has a controlled trial that compared the treatment to the effects of normal maturational and other influences. “This novel treatment seems to be targeting the phenomenon at which it is directed, with corresponding improvements in symptoms and quality of life,” says Roemer.

Even so, the researchers point out, other questions remain and further development of the treatment is needed. The latest NIMH funding has been earmarked for a specific approach to assessing the effectiveness of this newly developed therapy. “The current grant,” says Roemer, “is for a large-scale follow-up study in which we see whether this treatment is comparable to or more effective than applied relaxation, an empirically supported treatment for GAD”—that is, determine if and how the unique features of mindfulness and acceptance-based behavior therapy make it more effective than the older treatment.

The results of that study will be telling, but regardless, individuals with generalized anxiety disorder can now look to the future with more optimism.
2007 Folk Festival to Get Back to Its Roots

By Maria Helena Serpa

Now in its tenth year, the Boston Folk Festival is returning to its roots and promising to fulfill its original intent of bringing folk music to as wide an audience as possible. Over the two-day event, there will be no headliners; instead, the festival will showcase two dozen performers dedicated to the musicianship and unassuming spirit that the genre is known for. Some are veterans of the folk scene and some are fresh voices, but all will pay tribute to the rich folk tradition in Boston and Massachusetts as a whole—a tradition which might have been lost had it not been for the festival itself.

By the 1990s Boston folk and WUMB Radio had reached a point of crisis. “The folk music scene was falling apart,” says Pat Monteith, Executive Director of the Boston Folk Festival and Program Director at WUMB-FM. “We knew that there was a strong folk scene here in the ‘60s and one in the early ‘80s and here it was moving into the ‘90s and venues were closing, musicians were leaving town and it was pretty scary from the perspective of someone running a full-time folk music station.”

Monteith called a “Folk Town Meeting,” and the overwhelming sentiment among the 85 at the meeting was that there had to be a festival to support the folk scene and to galvanize the folk music scene in Boston. The goals were to bring musicians back to the city, draw audiences to the music venues, and increase listenership for WUMB. Now in its tenth incarnation, it’s clear that the festival has been a great success. The goal for this year is to invoke the original spirit of the festival and make it as accessible as possible. Thanks to a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, admission was free for the first two years of the festival. The following years saw bigger names and bigger ticket prices.

“The idea was always to bring people in to see what folk music is really all about,” says Monteith. With a smaller admission fee and a more egalitarian performance schedule—the Field Stage will be organized as a series of “song swaps” by the performers—the promises just that. Though there will be no superstars at this year’s festival, there will be no shortage of talent, with special tribute paid to musicians who have lived in Massachusetts.

“There are so many musicians that came out of here,” says Monteith, “people like James Taylor and Tracy Chapman. Everybody who’s performing has lived in Massachusetts for at least three years.” Performers include familiar names like Patti Larkin, Vance Gilbert and Ellis Paul, as well as new talent like German-born singer/songwriter Anu Duvvut. The festival will be held on September 15 and 16, beginning Saturday night with the Songwriting Contest and continuing all day Sunday. For more information, go to www.bostonfolkfestival.org.

Big Stars Record CD to Benefit Give US Your Poor

Bruce Springsteen and Pete Seeger, Jon Bon Jovi, Madeleine Peyroux, Bonnie Raitt, and other stars, many in collaboration with currently or formerly homeless musicians, have recorded a benefit CD to fight homelessness through the McCormack School’s Give US Your Poor project.

Two years in the making, Give US Your Poor—17 New Recordings to Help End Homelessness, which was created by Applesed Recordings and the national Give US Your Poor project, brings together established musicians, socially committed actors and currently or previously homeless musicians in a collection of mostly exclusive new recordings that address the ongoing crisis of homelessness in America.

Give US Your Poor, a national education and awareness campaign designed to end homelessness, is directed by John McGah, a senior researcher at the McCormack Graduate School.

There are frequent collaborations between the stars, who donated their time and music, and their formerly or currently homeless brethren on songs that often reflect on existence without guaranteed lodging, food, and the simple necessities of human existence.

Bruce Springsteen and Pete Seeger join together to perform the folk classic “Hobo’s Lullaby.” Jon Bon Jovi represents the “arena rock” camp, pairing up with the formerly indigent Mighty Sam McClain on the roving, gospel-inflected “Show Me the Way.” There are new tracks by Madeleine Peyroux and Sonya Kitchell, as well as Bonnie Raitt, Natalie Merchant, Michelle Shocked, and Jewel. Actors Danny Glover and Tim Robbins also contribute.

For more information about Give US Your Poor, please see www.giveusyourpoor.org.

UMass Boston Hosts African-American Mathematicians Conference

By Will Kilburn

For the first time in the event’s history, the University of Massachusetts Boston co-hosted the annual Conference for African-American Researchers in the Mathematical Sciences (CAARMS), held jointly with Northeastern University over four days in June.

The conference, first held in 1995 at the University of California, Berkeley, was co-organized by UMass Boston mathematics professor Alfred Noel. A graduate student when he attended his first CAARMS in 1996, Noel said that the conference provides its 70 to 80 attendees a chance to exchange less formal but equally crucial information on how to keep moving forward on the long road of research mathematics.

“You’re looking at about a 15- to 20-year commitment,” said Noel. “You’re going to have to get a PhD if you want to do anything serious in mathematics, because the field is old, and it’s large. So you need to find a niche, and that can take you some time.”

It also helps, said attendee Fern Hunt, to know where aspiring mathematicians are welcomed into the fold, and where they might encounter bias.

“Some institutions have been very successful in mentoring minority students and enabling them to graduate, to write dissertations and attain their PhD degree,” said Hunt, who supports scientific and technical research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. “This is information that might not necessarily be readily available in journals of the professional associations, or in regular meetings of the professional associations.”

CAARMS co-founder William Massey said the conference also provides inroads into jobs outside of academia.

“Sometimes universities only tell students about the jobs available in other academic settings. There’s a lot of PhD mathematics going on in the area of cryptography, mathematical finance on Wall Street, or telecommunications,” said Massey, now the Edwin S. Wilsey Professor of Operations Research and Financial Engineering at Princeton University after a 20-year stint at Bell Laboratories.

“A lot of times people try to market mathematics as the language of science, but that history only goes back 100 years. If you go back a couple millennia, one of the initial motivations of doing mathematics was commerce and trade.”

Ultimately, said Ilesanmi Adeboye, an assistant professor at the University of Southern California, CAARMS helps attendees refine the people skills mathematicians need—along with research prowess and teaching skills—to succeed.

“No doubt about it, if you’re the most brilliant researcher that ever lived and have the greatest teaching technique, doors will open for you,” he said, “but for most of us mere mortals, understanding all the different aspects is an important thing.”

For organizer Noel, having the conference in Boston was a special treat.

“Once you leave, you feel really invigorated to start working again, because you see people presenting their work, there is excitement in the air, and also this is one of the few conferences where people feel at ease,” said Noel. At most conferences, he continued, “you might have some friends there, but here, you feel really at home, and it’s a good feeling. It’s a very good feeling.”
By Lissa Harris

The newly appointed dean of the College of Science and Mathematics hasn’t really unpacked yet. The shelves in his office, on the second floor of Wheatley, are still pretty bare, apart from a few stray books and papers. But Andrew Grosovsky—fresh from a highly successful three-year term as vice provost for undergraduate education at the University of California, Riverside—is already armed with ideas for how to make the college a better place for learning and teaching.

“You can’t just take something developed somewhere else and just port it over here, without respecting the culture of this university. But there are many things I’d like to try,” he says.

Grosovsky’s reputation as a passionate advocate for student success precedes him. Under his leadership, UCR has developed several innovative methods of increasing student retention and performance in the classroom.

One of the most promising initiatives he worked on at UCR, Grosovsky says, was a change in the way the tutoring program ran. Before, students who needed help in their classes had to report to a central tutoring office. That wasn’t working, said Grosovsky—students just weren’t asking for the help they needed. Instead, the university began working with faculty to figure out the classes in which students were struggling the most, and then hired student leaders to attend those classes and work closely with the professors to get help to students who needed it.

“That made a big impact on retention and grades,” he says.

Another project developed at UCR under Grosovsky’s watch was a new undergrad research conference and journal, which just put out its inaugural issue this past spring. Grosovsky, who has made a point of getting students involved in his own research, hopes to get a similar journal started at UMass Boston.

“There’s no replacement for that,” he says.

One of his major goals as dean of the college, Grosovsky says, is to keep looking for ways to help every student succeed at the university, from enrollment through graduation. Grosovsky says he’s also an advocate of what he calls “the relationship between success and diversity.”

“You come to university, and one of the things you want to be exposed to a much broader world of things. You want to be in a community where people have very different backgrounds,” he says. “That contributes to this sense of growth beyond yourself.”

Grosovsky, who got his bachelors degree from Boston University and his PhD from Harvard, is glad to be coming back to Boston after a long stretch on the West Coast.

“Culturally, its location, its history, its sense of place—it’s an exciting place to be, and I missed that,” he says. “Massachusetts and Boston need UMass Boston to reach its potential. You must have, more now than ever, a public research university that provides access to qualified students of all backgrounds.”

As if that weren’t enough of a challenge, Grosovsky is also a working scientist, and will be continuing his work on mutagenesis and genetic instability in human cells at UMass Boston. As soon as he moves into his lab, that is.

“I’ve barely moved into my house,” he says.

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By Ed Hayward

The rich terrain of Islam and the shifting landscape of the religion, particularly as it influences and is influenced by Muslim women, will be the focus of “Engaging Islam: Feminisms, Religiousities and Self-determinations,” the 2007 Fall Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Sponsored by the Ford Foundation, “Engaging Islam” will feature 21 competitively selected scholars of this religion practiced by approximately 1 billion people around the globe. An additional 10 keynote speakers, leading thinkers in this field internationally, have been invited to bolster the 5-day program, which will run September 12-16 at the Campus Center.

According to organizers Professors Rajini Srikanth, Elora Chowdhury, and Leila Farahk, the institute will seek to re-frame the discussion about Islam and the Islamic world that takes place in Western countries. Focal points include the roles of religion, secularism, democracy and oppression play in forming Islamic worlds in the Islamic world, part of an ongoing and oppositional change in the Islamic world.

Of particular interest is a focus on the feminist movements in the Islamic world, part of an effort to highlight the myriad ways in which women actively negotiate economic, social, political and legal structures in their own contexts.

“We plan to examine the many dimensions of Islam: its capacity as an emancipatory force for understanding the world, as an impetus for political and psychological self-determination, as a stimulus for cultural productions, and a foundation for identity,” said Srikanth, a professor of Islamic Studies for York University, Toronto. She is also a member of the executive and editorial boards, before leaving Iran in 1984.

Amina Wadud, a professor of Islamic Studies for almost 20 years, both in the U.S. and in the Muslim world, Her recent book, Inside the Gender Jihad, looks closely at Muslim women’s activism over the past few decades.

The organizers say exploring Islam through a feminist lens opens up the discussion of a range of internal struggles within Islam and the dynamics that have changed the religion over time. Feminist movements across the Islamic world highlight how the forces of economic and cultural globalization, patriarchy and imperialism intersect and influence the religion.

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By Will Kilburn

Moving to Pennsylvania and now Boston might seem like an odd choice for Dr. Carol L. Colbeck, the new dean of the Graduate College of Education.

A native Californian who grew up and spent the first part of her career in the Bay Area, earning three degrees from Stanford along the way, Colbeck had always expected to remain in her home state.

But that was before the call came from Pennsylvania State University, where Colbeck became an associate professor as well as the director and senior research associate of the university’s Center for the Study of Higher Education.

After spending 12 years in State College, during which Colbeck oversaw the Center’s return to the top of the national (continued on page 5)
And I'd achieved what I'd wanted to do there: I got a diverse group of people to work together, there was a cohesive research agenda, there was a sense of purpose, and it was kind of like, “What next?”” said Colbeck. “And this seems just the right ‘what next,’ because I feel like I have that research background, and from the large research center, the administrative background to be able to take on the challenges that are here.”

Those challenges, said Colbeck, include several areas in which she feels GCE is already strong but can do even better: improving the retention and graduation rates of underrepresented minority students, expanding the many partnerships between UMass Boston and local public schools, and improving the flow of information between teaching, research, and community work.

“One of my own areas of research and emphasis is the integration of academic work, and by that I mean how teaching overlaps with research and overlaps with community engagement,” said Colbeck. “In too many academic institutions these days, those are being done by different people, and I’m a huge advocate for bringing them all together. I think we as a faculty have a huge opportunity to document more effectively the efficacy of our teaching and our community service work, and to build on that further through our scholarship and our research.”

Asked how she’s settling into UMass Boston and living in the Boston area, Colbeck said that she’s found Bostonians to be quite friendly, and the campus more than a bit like one she became familiar with back home in California.

“Walking across this campus reminds me of San Francisco State— in a way, it’s a little United Nations, it’s a cross section of the country all right here,” she said. “There’s a sense of vitality, there’s a sense of purpose, there’s a sense of what we do here makes a difference in the lives of our students, and our students certainly make a difference in the lives of Bostonians.”

Donaldallo Macedo, distinguished professor of liberal arts and education, was the keynote speaker at the California Bilingual Education Two Way Conference in San Francisco. He was also an invited speaker at Border Pedagogy Conference in San Diego.

Assistant professor of women’s studies Chris Bobel gave four conference presentations in June. They were: “It’s Time to Start a Menstrual Party!”; Girls, Menstruation, and Third Wave Feminist Activism;” at the National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, St. Charles, Illinois; “I Am a Contradiction! Reconciling the Tensions Between Embracing Feminism and Rejecting Feminist Identity in the Third Wave,” at the National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, St. Charles, Illinois; “What’s Your Life Story? It’s Working with Mediated Nineteenth Century Autobiographical Narratives.”

Dorothy S. Nelson, lecturer in English, presented a paper on May 24 at the American Literature Association Conference. Entitled “Where Are the Indigenous Voices,” the paper was part of the panel Ecocriticism on the Edge: The Marginalization of Race, organized by the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE).

Suzan Mraz, Hispanic Studies language coordinator, and Mary Simon, IT, Media Center Manager, presented “How Faculty Assist Students’ Linguistic Competence in Listening, Viewing, Reading and Writing Spanish through WebCT” at the International Association for Language Learning Technology (IALLT) 2007 Conference at Tufts University on June 21.

Professor Jean M. Hamer of the Women’s Studies Department was an invited senior scholar at the Schlesinger Library Summer Seminar on Gender History, June 24-29, held at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University. Professor Hamer’s public talk, delivered on June 28, was entitled “Who’s Life Story Is It? Working with Mediated Nineteenth Century Autobiographical Narratives.”

Performing Arts Department chair Jon Mitchell presented a paper, “The Three Moisrdis,” at the Band History Conference of The Great American Brass Band Festival at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, on June 7.

In the Institute for Community Inclusion’s Heike Boeltzig and Barbara Popper of the Federation for Children with Special Needs presented a paper on the preliminary findings of an evaluation of a Parent-Professional Leadership Training implemented by the Federation at the local school district level at the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Special Education Programs Project Directors’ Conference in Washington, D.C. Boeltzig and Matthew Kusminsky of the ICI, together with Federation staff, also presented a poster at this conference.

Elena Varney and Cori Dilbaic of the Institute for Community Inclusion presented at the 2007 APSE conference in July. Varney’s presentation, “What Have We Learned from the Customized Employment Demonstration,” presented five years of outcomes data from thirty-one demonstration sites across the United States, while Dilbaic’s presentation, “Customized Self-Employment,” covered what support is needed to aid individuals with disabilities who want to begin their own businesses.

PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

The Institute for Community Inclusion’s Holly Harrison and Jeff Guberman presented “Universal Accessibility in Web Survey Design: Practical Guidelines for Implementation” at the 62nd annual Conference for the American Association for Public Opinion and Research (AAPOR), in Anaheim, California in May.

On July 19, Carol Hardy-Fanta, Director of the Center for Women in Politics & Public Policy, joined her co-principal investigators in a presentation, “Findings from the Gender, Multicultural, and Leadership Project: The Future of Governance,” to a national audience at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C.


New Faculty at a Glance

College Department Name Rank Start
CLA Africana Studies Aminah Piggrim ABID Fall 2007
CLA Anthropology Rosalyn Negron Assistant Fall 2007
CLA Art Cat Mazza Assistant Fall 2007
CLA Economics Peter Spigler Assistant Fall 2007
CLA English Sui Kim Assistant Spring 2008
CLA English Stephen B. Sutherland Assistant Fall 2007
CLA History Ananya Vajpeyi Assistant Fall 2007
CLA Political Science Erin C. Bronfenbrenner Assistant Fall 2007
CLA Psychology Edward Tronick Professor w/Tenure Fall 2007
CLA Sociology Lakshmi Srinivas Assistant Fall 2007
CSM Chemistry Marianna Torok Assistant Fall 2007
CSM Chemistry Wei Zhang Associate Spring 2008
CSM Computer Science David Teenbaum Assistant Fall 2007
CSM Math Timothy Killionback Professor w/Tenure Fall 2007
GCE Couns & Sch Psych Lisa Cosgrove Assistant Fall 2007
GCE Curriculum & Instr Eunsook Hyun Associate w/Tenure, and Department Chair Fall 2007
GCE Curriculum & Instr Patricia Paugh Assistant Fall 2007
GCE Leadership in Ed Sam Maseco Assistant Fall 2007
GCE Leadership in Ed Tricia Kress Assistant Fall 2007
GCE Leadership in Ed Judith Gill Commonwealth Prof Fall 2007
CM Accnting/Finance Giorgio Gotti Assistant Fall 2007
CM Accnting/Finance Marina Popescu Assistant Fall 2007
CM Mgnt & Mitig Pacey C. Foster Assistant Fall 2007
CM Mgnt & Mitig Werner Kunz Assistant Fall 2007
CM MSIS Ramakrishna Ayyagari Assistant Fall 2007
CM MSIS Mahdi Elahi Assistant Fall 2007
CM MSIS One-Ki Daniel Lee Assistant Fall 2007
CNHS Nursing Laura Hayman Professor w/Tenure Fall 2007
CNHS Nursing Thomas Connolly Assistant Fall 2007
CNHS Nursing Haeok Lee Associate w/Tenure Spring 2008
CNHS Exercise & Health Sci Scott Crouter Assistant Fall 2007
MGS Public Policy Michael Johnson Associate w/Tenure Fall 2007
MGS Public Policy Christian Weller Associate w/Tenure Fall 2007

Summary: 34 new faculty (27 tenure-track, 6 with tenure, 1 multi-yr appt); 15 females (44%) and 19 males (56%); 19 white (56%) and 15 minority (44%).

(continued from page 4)

Dear Plans to Better Integrate Research, Learning, Service

rankings, Colbeck found herself looking for something new.

“(continued from page 6)
Nina Greenwald, coordinator, Graduate Program of Critical and Creative Thinking, gave a presentation for the Thinking Through Art Symposium held at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum on July 16. Over 100 museum educators participated in the hour-and-a-half interactive presentation, entitled “Excursions in Critical Thinking,” which focused on the application of theoretical and developmental research to teaching critical thinking.

In June, Charles F. Cruddie, professor of political science and senior fellow in the McCormack Graduate School’s Center for Democracy and Development, presented a research paper on “American Policy and South East Asia” at an international conference in Japan, sponsored by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of Germany and the Atlantic Council of Croatia.

Nina M. Silverstein, professor of gerontology at CPCS, presented “Am I Safe to Drive? What Persons with Early Stage Dementia, Their Families and Their Driving Rehabilitation Specialists Think” at the 15th Annual Alzheimer’s Association Dementia Care Conference in Chicago on August 27.

In July, Kevin Dye, director of research for the Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution & Public Collaboration, engaged the Cyprus Intercultural Training Initiative in Nicosia to design the next generation of “technology of democracy” employed by bicommunal peacebuilders in Cyprus’ Civil Society Dialogue Project.

In August, professor of French Bri-an Thompson gave a paper entitled “Nietzsche et son fameux ‘XXIe siècle’” at an international conference on Nicosia to design the next generation of “technology of democracy” employed by bicommunal peacebuilders in Cyprus’ Civil Society Dialogue Project.

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WUMB director of engineering Grady Moates contributed a chapter to The IBOC Handbook: Under- standing HD Radio™ Technology, the latest technical publication of the National Association of Broadc- asters. IBOC is a method of transmit- ting digital radio and analog radio broadcast signals simultaneously on the same frequency.

Assistant Professor Wanda Rivera- Rivera of the Department of His- panic Studies has been invited to participate on the editorial board of the Latino Studies Journal.

African Studies Professor Robert Johnson, Jr.’s essay entitled “Repa- ration as Reapportionments for Slavery and Jim Crow” was published in the anthology Redress for Historical Injustices in the United States, which was released by Duke University Press this summer.


Professor Rosa Fipps of the Depart- ment of Curriculum and Instruction, Graduate College of Education, had the manuscript for her upcoming new book, Preparing Students for Testing and Doing Better in School,” accepted for publication by Corwin/ Sage Publishers.

Jay R. Deo, associate professor in the Department of Leadership in Educa- tion, has published a two-volume, co-authored work, Understanding College and University Organization: Theories for Effective Policy and Practice, released by Stylus Publishing in August.

EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

Assistant Professor of Art Elizabeth Marran exhibited paintings at Smith College’s Olin Gallery titled “Elizabeth Marran, Every Other Day” in July and August 30.

African Studies Professor Robert Johnson, Jr. ’s play Nantucket enjoyed a two-week production in Nantucket in July, and his play Mother G was pre- sented as a staged reading by the National Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on August 5.

Robert McCalley of the Institute for Community Inclusion secured a $480,000, three-year grant to sustain the UMass Boston M.Ed. Teacher of the Visually Impaired, and Orientation and Mobility programs.

Wichien Rejanawon, director of the Other Lifelong Learning Institute (OILL), McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, has been awarded a three-year grant of $500,000 from the Bernard Osher Foundation. The funding has pro- vided lifelong learning opportuni- ties for over 460 older adults from 60 communities in Massachusetts. OILL will receive a $1 million en- dowment if its membership reaches 500 this semester.

The McCormack Graduate School’s Center for Democracy and Develop- ment has received a new $350,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State to support an exchange of judges and legal professionals between the United States and the United States. The project, part of a ongoing program conducted in partnership with the Massachusetts Judges Con- ference, will take place in Boston and in several cities in Southwest China. This is the sixth State Department grant (now totaling nearly $1.5 million) that the Center has received for its widely praised Rule of Law programs in China.

The Applied Linguistics Depart- ment has been awarded three separate five-year grants for a total of $4,169,075. Professor Donald Macedo and professor Panayota Gounari, both in the ESL Technology Teacher Training Grant in the amount of $1,455,365 to support a project designed to provide in-service train- ing for ESL teachers in technology in language education. Macedo, Mary Cazabon, and Maria Lombardo of the Applied Linguistics Department and the Center for World Languages and Cultures were awarded a Title III ESL Teacher Training Grant in the amount of $1,455,365 to support a project designed to provide training for mainstream teachers who work with English language learners. As- sociate Professor Lilah Bartolome of the Applied Linguistics Department was awarded a Title III ESL Par- ent/Teacher Training Grant in the amount of $1,455,365 to support a project designed to provide training for ESL teachers in ESL family literacy and parent education to enhance ESOL students’ English lan- guage acquisition. Each of the three grants also provides funding for a cohort of 25 ESL in-service teachers each year for a total of 125 teachers over 5 years.

Associate Professor of English Cheryl Nixon and Assistant Professors of English Scott Maizano and Len Von Morze were awarded a $30,000 President’s Creative Economy Initiative Grant, which will fund rare-book exhibitions as small grants to community colleges. Professor Jesus Alatorre of the Philosophy Department, has received a $7,500 National Book Foundation grant to write a monograph titled “The Human Heart in Latin America.”

In June, Cheryl C. Cunade, professor of political science and senior fellow in the McCormack Graduate School’s Center for Democracy and Development, received an award from the President of the Atlantic Council of Croatia for contribu- tions to the advancement of freedom and human rights in Croatia.

In June, Professor of French Brian Thompson was re-elected, unanimous- ly, to the Council of administration of the Amistad Internationales Andé Malraux, based in Paris.

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