Institute for Community Inclusion Awarded $4-Million Grant to Partner on New Center for Children with Special Needs

By Ed Hayward

A national center to pilot interventions for underserved children with disabilities and special health care needs was launched on October 20, announced the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI), a partnership between UMass Boston and Children’s Hospital Boston. The $4-million grant will fund a five-year plan to open the doors of opportunity for children with special health care needs and disabilities through the newly formed National Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs. Called “Openings Doors,” the national demonstration project is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research in the U.S. Department of Education.

The Institute for Community Inclusion’s Rooshey Hasnain, director William E. Kiernan, and Susan Foley; Children’s Hospital Boston’s Judith Palfrey, chief of the Division of General Pediatrics; Chancellor Michael F. Collins, and parent Elizabeth Bostic gather at the Roxbury Family YMCA to celebrate a new partnership to help underserved children with disabilities and special health care needs. (Photo by Harry Brett)

The grant will fund collaboration among families, community-based organizations, disability organizations, recreational centers, schools, clinics, and community health centers to better connect families to services earlier, improve access to Boston’s recreational opportunities, and enable youth with disabilities and special needs to more readily pursue post-secondary education and job training.

“As a higher educational institution committed to the academic and professional development of a diverse student body, we have a track record of success in educating young adults with disabilities that we believe can serve as a national model,” said Chancellor Michael Collins. “We look forward to being able to expand on these efforts and develop best practices.”

“Our core mandate is to provide the best possible care for all children,” said James Mandell, president and CEO of Children’s Hospital Boston. “Since medical technology has improved and enhanced the possibilities for children with disabilities, we must provide every child in every neighborhood the support they need to transition to adulthood.”

The center will focus its efforts on children in underserved populations. The latest national estimates show that at least 13 percent of children in the United States have or are at risk for physical, developmental, or emotional conditions that require higher levels of service. Children who live in poverty are at even higher risk for the development of these disabilities because health factors found in underserved areas, such as malnutrition, anemia, physi

Enrollment Gains and Diversity Point to UMass Boston on the Rise as a University Pick

By Ed Hayward

A concerted effort to make enrollment and retention of students the focal point of every aspect of campus has produced a second straight year of enrollment gains at UMass Boston, including a 24.7 percent increase in new freshmen and a 15.3 percent increase in transfer students, according to the Division of Enrollment Management.

Building on that momentum, the university on October 21 hosted its annual Open House event for prospective students, bringing slightly more than 2,800 potential applicants and guests to campus for information sessions and tours.

“I think it is safe to say that UMass Boston is a ‘hot school’ at the moment,” Chancellor Michael Collins said. “When students and parents stack UMass Boston’s value up against other institutions, we offer a tremendous package of quality, cost, and location.”

The admissions success story built upon solid gains made last year and a focused strategy of on- and off-campus recruitment, according to Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Kathleen Terhan.

Completed applications increased 12.7 percent to 6,556 and admitted students rose 15.6 percent to 4,638 during the spring and summer enrollment cycle. “New undergraduate student enrollment surged by 370 students, up over fall 2005 by 17.5 percent. This is the second year in a row we’ve grown our enrollment significantly through the successful recruitment of our freshman class and transfer students,” said Terhan. “Graduate enrollment jumped by 212 students to 3,116—a seven percent increase. Overall, enrollment rose four percent from 2005 to a total of nearly 12,400 undergraduate and graduate students. The university is seeing the results of a campus-wide focus on recruitment and retention that puts us in a strong position up against other institutions.”

“The University of Massachusetts Boston Pick,” Chancellor Michael Collins. “We offer a tremendous package of quality, cost, and location.”

“The University of Massachusetts Boston Pick,” Chancellor Michael Collins. “We offer a tremendous package of quality, cost, and location.”

“Myron Segel, professor emeritus of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, helps a prospective student at UMass Boston’s Open House, held on October 21. The university hosted 1,287 prospective students and 1,525 guests—almost 1,000 more people than last year. More than 250 students, faculty, and staff helped to make the event a success. (Photo by Harry Brett)
Enrollment Gains and Diversity Point to UMass Boston on the Rise

(Continued from page 1)

position to compete for prospective students.”

The increase in enrollment was accompanied by an increasingly diverse freshman class, who join a university community that is already the most diverse student body at any large public university in New England—where students of color make up approximately 40 percent of the campus.

Exactly 50 percent of the new freshman class is made up of students of color—an increase of approximately 3 percent over 2005 and slightly more than the 2004 freshman class. Mirroring trends nationwide, Latinos are the racial group that saw the largest increase, making up approximately 13 percent of the new freshman class, compared to 10 percent one year ago.

In addition, the enrollment snapshot taken at the end of September found that students from at least 134 countries around the world are part of the UMass student body.

The academic profile of the new freshman class has remained consistently strong, with the average GPA at 2.97 and the average SAT score at 1059.

By Ed Hayward

They sail donated boats and buy their own uniforms, but the UMass Boston Sailing Club has grown from an upstart to a winner, impressing the collegiate sailing ranks by winning the Boston Harbor Islands Regatta and competing in the “Super Bowl” of collegiate sailing, the Storm Trysail Club’s 2006 Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta in New York.

A group that began training in earnest last April has gradually climbed through the ranks of New England college sailing, earning the respect of their peers, winning the Boston Harbor Islands Regatta, held during the last weekend of September, and claiming the race’s College Bowl as tops among more than 100 other boats in various classes.

“I attribute their success to their tenacity, their professionalism, and their great sportsmanship,” said Jason LeBlanc, the club’s coach and manager of the university’s sailing program. “They’ve come out of nowhere this fall and people are starting to take notice.”

At the second annual Boston Harbor Islands Regatta, the club was tops on a day that started with light winds and gradually built to a respectable 15 mph by 1:30 pm. They sailed in two 27-foot, Olympic Class Soling vessels donated so recently to the sailing program by members of the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club that the crews had accumulated only five hours of sail time on the boats, said LeBlanc.

The Lord Byron, skippered by Andrew Dunne and crewed by Michael Magni and Christopher Campbell, came in first place by beating boats that had started well before them. Ragtime, skippered by Robert Wallace and crewed by Matthew Dunbar and Jake Tavakoli, finished second.

The sailing club has gone through various stages of activity since the university moved to the waterfront campus in 1974. The current racers joined together last year and began racing at the inter-collegiate level in April. The club is funded by a $4,200 appropriation from the Student Senate.

The club trains on Dorchester Bay in the 33-year-old Cape Cod Mercury, a dinghy-class boat, and typically competes at host sites throughout New England in more modern class boats, 420s or FJs, with two-person crews. The harbor regatta and the upcoming intercollegiate regatta in New York are for larger keel boats, LeBlanc said.

On October 7-8, the club competed in Storm Trysail Club’s 2006 Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta against a select group of 22 invitees, including some of the nation’s best college teams—including Boston College, which sails out of the nearby Savin Hill Yacht Club, Duke University, the U.S. Naval Academy, Tufts University, and Massachusetts Maritime Academy. The event is designed to bring the best college sailors together and provide them with opportunities to sail larger boats, LeBlanc said.

The Sailing Club took fourth place in their One Design Class, beating Duke University, New York Maritime, and Johnson and Wales during a great day of racing in an event that lived up to its reputation for toughness. The wind was blowing a consistent 23 mph for the first two races of the day, with overcast conditions.

The club enjoyed the privilege of sailing on an Express 37, which is owned by regatta chairman Adam Loory. “This is an event that is used to develop younger sailors and we feel very fortunate to be able to participate. But the team has conducted itself in such a way that they’ve earned a lot of respect from people involved in college sailing,” said LeBlanc.

The club’s season hasn’t yet ended. The club is scheduled to race every weekend through the end of November, said LeBlanc.

The club is working with the university sailing program to establish a fund-raising program to further the activities and equipment. The campus’s waterfront location is a natural fit for a sailing program, said LeBlanc.

“Our goal is to one day be a host site for intercollegiate regattas in both the dinghy and keeled boat classes. We have what is considered to be one of the best sites for college sailing because of the amount of open water to set up a race course, and the proximity of the university’s Harbor Walk gives spectators the unique opportunity to actually watch the race. We have the potential to be one of the most premier sailing sites in New England.”

UMass Boston Sailing Club Takes Boston Harbor Islands Regatta

Shown here competing in the Storm Trysail Club’s 2006 Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta, the UMass Boston Sailing Club includes Michael Magni, Christopher Campbell, Chelsea Fairbank, Andrew Dunne, Matthew Dunbar, Dan Collins, Edun Lok, Dale Naun, Jonathan Mendez, Misha Sidorsky, and Ben Chi. (Photo courtesy of the Storm Trysail Club)

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Rapidly Changing Latino Population in Massachusetts
The Focus of 4th Statewide Latino Public Policy Conference

By Ed Hayward

Massachusetts is home to a rapidly diversifying, half-million-strong population of Latinos who are bypassing the big cities of Boston, Springfield, and Worcester in favor of smaller cities and towns—two new demographic changes that will challenge educational, health care, and economic institutions and the Latino community itself, according to researchers and policy makers who met at the 4th Statewide Latino Public Policy conference, held on October 19 at UMass Boston.

How these significant changes—adding to the persistent problems of poverty and poorly performing schools—ripple through the Latino community were the focus of the biennial conference, sponsored by the Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy. There, researchers, such as guest speakers Rocio Saenz, president of Local 615 of SEIU; Gary Orfield of Harvard University’s School of Education and director of the Civil Rights Project; and Roberto Suro of the Pew Hispanic Center showed the impact of these changes on education, immigration, and economic development policies and practices.

“Two great shifts frame the current situation of Latinos in Massachusetts: the influx of large numbers of Latino immigrants into a population that not too far ago was predominantly Puerto Rican, and the spread of Latino settlements beyond the large urban centers and into the smaller cities and towns of the Commonwealth,” said Miren Uriarte, Gastón director. “These trends, reflective of national ones, have serious implications for Latinos and for Massachusetts as a whole.”

There are close to half a million Latinos living in Massachusetts, about 8 percent of the population of the state, according to the 2005 American Community Survey.

Every two years, the conference brings together scholars, community leaders, policy makers, and elected officials to examine the most pressing issues facing the Latino population in Massachusetts. Demographic reports based on the American Community Survey were released at the conference, showing the spread of Latinos through the state and the differences in economic and social outcomes of Latinos in different regions. Another report showed the trends in Latino educational outcomes in Massachusetts.

“This is an increasingly heterogeneous community, as immigrants from various Latin American nations comprise a larger share of the Latino community than ever before,” said Uriarte, a professor of Human Services in the College of Public and Community Service. “This heterogeneity presents a challenge for Latinos as they educate themselves about the experiences of a diverse number of groups and navigate the social and political meaning of this new diversity.”

This change in the makeup of the community is accompanied by new patterns of settlement. In the past Latinos were primarily concentrated in the state’s largest cities, such as Boston, Springfield, and Worcester. An important indicator of this population shift is that Boston’s Latino population represents only 10 percent of Latinos statewide, a significantly lesser number than in the past. Latinos now live not only in small cities, such as Holyoke and Lawrence, where the Latino population has exploded and is now a majority, but also in places like Everett, Southbridge, Brockton, Lynn, and the Cape, where the presence of the Latino population is a relatively newer phenomenon.

For more information, please visit: www.gaston.umb.edu.

Beacons Fans Show Spirit

By Athletics Communications

The university community came together on the field and on the court for “Show Off Your UMass Boston Spirit” day, held on October 21 and sponsored by the Office of Student Life and the Athletics Department.

It was a carnival atmosphere, with no shortage of fun attractions in the Clark Athletic Center for all ages, including balloon animals, temporary tattoo stations, spin art Frisbees, and pumpkin painting.

Those who ventured outside of the Clark could sample free hot dogs, popcorn, hot pretzels, and cotton candy. Other patrons took part in jousting and a turn on the six-person GoBi bicycle that was available.

The main attractions were the contests being played in the Clark Athletic Center’s gymnasium and the Clark Athletic Field. The men’s soccer team earned a decisive 4-0 victory over Little East Conference foe Western Connecticut State. The support of a raucous crowd helped to keep the team’s playoff hopes alive. Meanwhile, the volleyball team was defeating Plymouth State University, 3-1, and looked to have a sweep in hand, with a 2-0 lead over UMass Dartmouth, but couldn’t hang on in a 3-2 defeat.

The Beacons’ attendance more than tripled from its average showing, with fans wearing UMass Boston attire to show off their school spirit and qualify for the chance to win a raffle for athletic gear and a pair of iPod Shuffles.

University Health Services Receives Top Accreditation

UMass Boston’s University Health Services has earned accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC/Accreditation Association) for providing quality health care to the university community. University Health Services is one of only two college health centers in Massachusetts to receive the AAAHC accreditation.

“We obtained the maximum three-year term of accreditation, which reflects the dedication and focus on service excellence by the staff of University Health Services through providing quality health care and education to our campus community,” said Kathleen Golden McAndrew, vice chancellor for student affairs and executive director of University Health Services.

“I am very pleased and proud that AAAHC recognized our efforts and commitment to the university.”

The university passed a series of rigorous and nationally recognized standards for the provision of quality health care, which includes resources and staff from the Health Education and Wellness Center, General Medicine, and the Counseling Center. Over 2,400 ambulatory health care organizations across the United States are accredited by the AAAHC.

“Providing the best care, services, and resources for the university community is our top priority,” says Patrick Day, vice chancellor for student affairs.

“This accreditation demonstrates our long-standing commitment to excellence.”

Nobel Laureate and State Street Chief Lead Classes at UMass Boston

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate John Hume and State Street Chairman and CEO Ronald E. Logue spoke with Chancellor Michael Collins during a visit to campus to teach special classes for the Department of Political Science and the College of Management on October 25. (Photo by Harry Brett)
UMass Boston Researchers Reinvent How Chemistry Is Taught

By Leigh DuPuy

UMass Boston researchers are changing how science is taught in our high schools. With funding from the National Science Foundation, Arthur Eisenkraft, Hannah Sevian, and graduate student Kristen Cacciatore have led the development of a new curriculum and textbook called *Active Chemistry* that promotes real-life problem solving using chemistry. Nationwide, teachers using the new approach are seeing unprecedented levels of achievement in minority students, and female students, and a growing interest in chemistry in all students.

The curriculum directs students to take on challenges based on real-life problems and create solutions using chemistry. One assignment charges students with developing special effects for a film company. For the assignment, students must come up with a plot for a movie, ideas for special effects, and then, working with the teacher and classmates, learn the chemistry they need to demonstrate the special effects. “We find that when students are given the opportunity to be creative with chemistry content, they are much more interested,” says Eisenkraft.

Inverting the traditional syllabus, the *Active Chemistry* curriculum presents activities before the concepts to engage students in problem-solving activities that help transform content into “real learning,” describes Eisenkraft. Students study chemistry through a series of eight activities, learning science on a “need-to-know” basis, and give a final presentation following the unit where they learn from one another’s projects.

“They get to share their work while reviewing key concepts of chemistry,” says Eisenkraft. Considered a breakthrough in chemistry education, the *Active Chemistry* text was recently published following five years of writing, field tests, and research in all kinds of classrooms.

“We did field tests in 1,000 different schools, urban and suburban, in classrooms that had both experienced and less experienced teachers,” said Eisenkraft. “We used their feedback to improve materials in the book.”

Eisenkraft, Sevian, and Cacciatore worked with teachers in the Boston area to coordinate research and responses from more than 100 science educators. *Active Chemistry* is now being used nationally, including in the public schools in Los Angeles and in area schools such as Newton North High School and Somerville High School.

The textbook also includes profiles of professionals who use chemistry in a wide array of jobs.

“We want kids to discover that chemistry can be a real part of their future,” says Eisenkraft, who also received a supplemental grant of $187,000 from the National Science Foundation to create videos to accompany the text. According to Eisenkraft, the videos were used for professional development and will showcase experienced teachers providing guidance on how to teach curriculum materials using inquiry.

Eisenkraft directs the university’s Center for Science and Math in Context (COSMIC) on campus and is also a member of a team of professors and educators, including Sevian and Cacciatore, that was awarded a $12.5 million National Science Foundation Partnership grant to reshape science education in the Boston Public Schools.

Program Celebrates Five Years of Shaping Boston’s Emerging Leaders

By Leigh DuPuy

Leaders seasoned and new celebrated Boston’s future at a gala on October 20, held to mark the fifth-year anniversary of the Emerging Leaders Program. Spon- sored by the Center for Collaborative Leadership at the College of Management, the gala highlighted the nearly 200 men and women who have completed the program since its inception in 2002.


Other tributes were made by U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Rodriquez of WCVB-TV, and Alan Shield of Massachusetts, Liz Cheng of WCVB-TV, and Alan Khazei of City Year.

In the time since center director Sherry Penney started the program with an initial grant from State Street Corporation and other support, it has become one of the region’s most sought-after opportunities for young profes- sionals.

The nine-month program starts each January with a weeklong seminar that explores leadership skills and examines critical issues facing the region. Fellows meet monthly from February through September, learn about resources, networks, and ways of identifying and achieving common goals, and work in teams to produce action plans to address issues that face the Greater Boston region and then present them to Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino.

“Our vision is based on a collaborative model for solving problems and moving the community forward,” said Penney, who is also a professor of leadership at the College of Management. For many alumni, the first nine months are only the beginning of an ongoing relationship with the program, their peers, and the lessons they learned there.

“I loved that we were exposed to great thinkers, people trying to change the city and completely turn upside down mediocre ways of doing things,” said 2008 cohort member Brenda Rodriguez. The senior manager for a finance group at the Boston Globe, Rodriguez has run the internal audit division of the New England Media Group for two years, in addition to attending an MBA program at Duke University.

“Through Emerging Leaders, I gained a holistic sense of what it takes to be a high-level executive,” said Rodriguez. “It was a reality check on how to be involved in the civic life of Boston that goes beyond just being good at your job.”

The program helps those al- ready successful at work and in their communities to “take the next step in making positive change in the city,” said David Howse, a member of the 2005 cohort, “and connect with others wanting to do the same.” Howse, who is the director of the Boston Children’s Chorus, discovered the program through mentor Hubie Jones.

“I was pretty new to the field of nonprofit management,” said Howse. “I benefited from the confidence-building experience. The program prepared me for the next tier of higher leadership.”

For Howse and others, expo- sure to a variety of executives and trendsetters in the region who participated in the program was key.

“It is amazing that Sherry is able to bring high-ranking leaders of industry in Boston to spend an hour to talk with us about the things they have learned—the mistakes and challenges that they must confront,” said Chi-Cheng Huang, a 2005 cohort member who joined the program while an intern at Boston Medical Center (BMC), where he now serves as medical director of inpatient pediatrics, director of the pediatric global health initiative, and an internal medicine physician attending.

Huang took what he learned and is passing it on to BMC residents, where he has started a leadership seminar series that examines conflict management, team management, effective team building, and emotional intel- ligence. “All of us are good cli- nicians and good scientists,” he said, “but good leaders can be hard to come by.” Huang believes many residents aren’t regularly exposed to leadership training.

“We work with so many different people with different skill sets within the system to provide the best possible care for our kids,” said Huang. “Leadership and managerial skills are essential.”

He has not only applied his skills in managing inpatient pedi- atric care, but he is also directing the BMC Pediatric Global Health Initiative and has founded The Bolivian Street Children Project—he recently published a book on the experience called *When Invisible Children Sing*.

Gala celebrates included speaker José Massó and Emerging Leader’s alumnus Theresia Martinez ’06, Geogarmu Mélendez ’04, and Eduardo Tobon ’03. (Photo by Richard Howard)

Gala celebrates included speaker José Massó and Emerging Leader’s alumnus Theresia Martinez ’06, Geogarmu Mélendez ’04, and Eduardo Tobon ’03. (Photo by Richard Howard)
Actor Danny Glover Gives Voice to Homelessness Project

By Anne-Marie Kent

Over 3.5 million people are homeless in America each year. One million of them are children. John McGah and actor and activist Danny Glover are helping to remind viewers of the size and scope of the homelessness problem in America in a new public service announcement for television.

Glover is lending his celebrity to the “Give Us Your Poor” project, a creation of McGah’s. “Give Us Your Poor” is a nationwide initiative dedicated to ending epidemic homelessness,” says McGah, who is a senior research associate at the McCormack Graduate School’s Center for Social Policy. “Founded in 1999, the initiative uses education, media, entertainment, and events to change attitudes and behaviors toward homeless people and bring together the intellectual and financial resources that are required to achieve real and lasting change.”

In the new public service announcement, Glover sits close to the camera against a black backdrop, in a confronting and yet compassionate stance. Looking viewers in the eye, he suggests, “You’ve seen people who are homeless ... maybe you’ve crossed the street to avoid them ... maybe you think it could never happen to me. Think again.”

Glover issues a challenge: “Be a part of the solution. ‘Give Us Your Poor’ is education, music, film, dialogue and action to end homelessness in America.” In an extended version of the Glover piece for the Internet, the announcement cuts to brief glimpses of different homeless and formerly homeless people, each of whom speaks briefly about the circumstances of their homelessness.

Glover will join other celebrities, including Bruce Springsteen and Natalie Merchant, on an upcoming “Give Us Your Poor” tour, performing spoken word pieces, reading poems written by formerly homeless poet/activist Julia K. Dinsmore, and narrating the “Give Us Your Poor” feature-length documentary film.

The documentary film by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Michael Mierendorf is in production and features music from Springsteen and Sting. The documentary will be released on partnering public television stations nationally and distributed to schools.

How did Danny Glover get involved? McGah met Glover through a friend. “I was presenting at the San Francisco ‘Give Us Your Poor’ committee meeting a few years back on a houseboat. A neighbor from another houseboat attended. She was very excited about the project and the potential for the work, and was very committed to addressing homelessness. Turns out she worked with Danny Glover and is a friend of his from college,” recalls McGah.

“She connected us and, working around his film schedule, we met in Cambridge to shoot the PSA and an extended interview. He is very passionate about social justice issues, so getting him to talk at length about issues of homelessness, poverty and community, was not a problem.”

For more information, please visit www.giveusyourpoor.org.

Dispute Resolution Alumni Help Negotiate in Health Care Industry

By Lisa Gentes

Two graduates of the Dispute Resolution Program are using their professional and peacekeeping skills—sharing their knowledge with others for a two-day conference on conflict studies.

Susan Morash, nurse manager of a 24-bed, inpatient general medical unit at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston, and Adele Keeley, nurse manager of an 18-bed medical intensive care unit also at MGH, are leading the workshop “Critical Conditions: Using Negotiation Skills in Clinical Health Settings.” The workshop is part of the conference “Conflict Studies: The New Generation of Ideas,” held at UMass Boston November 2 through 4, and organized by the Graduate Programs in Dispute Resolution.

Graduate students from various fields are presenting their work at the conference and sharing ideas, according to Roni Lipton, assistant director of the program. Students will be interacting with scholars and practitioners of conflict resolution and analysis, she said. Conflict in health care settings is one main focus of the conference, which also features keynote speaker Tom Delbanco, who produced a film on medical error, “When Things Go Wrong: Voices of Patients and Families.”

“We negotiate all the time,” Lipton said. “Your skill as a negotiator is critical to your ability to get things done and to maintain positive, productive relationships.”

This is especially true in the health care environment, which demands constant negotiation with colleagues, patients, and their family members.

The skill-building workshop is “associated with life skills,” Morash said. “We all deal with conflict every day.”

“All groups experience conflicts ... having the skills is really a benefit to me as a manager,” said Keeley, whose master’s degree helps her manage about 72 full-time employees. The dispute resolution knowledge McGah’s.

Campus Center Sculpture Exhibit Draws Admirers

By Maria Helena Serpa

Tom Fitzgibbon and his wife Dot often sit by the water and watched as construction on the new Campus Center progressed. After raising five children, Dot migrated from UMass Boston in 1996 at the age of 68 and she felt invested in the place. She and Tom were curious about what the new building would look like and how it would fit into the campus she’d grown to love. Sadly, Dot would never have the opportunity to see the inside of the new building; she lost a battle with cancer in October 2003. Thanks to her husband and the New England Sculpture exhibit in the Campus Center, scores of students, faculty, and staff pass by her image every day. “Dot’s Triumph,” one of the thirty-four works of sculpture in the exhibit stands at the base of the first-floor stairway, a symbol of one woman’s accomplishment and a university’s spirit.

The exhibit, which runs the entire semester through December 16, is a collection of works by members of the New England Sculptors Association (NESA), a group organized in 1948 by sculptors, students, and teachers at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. A UMass Boston Osher Lifelong Learning Institute student and former NESA president, Tom Fitzgibbon approached Campus Center director Geoff Combs with the idea for the exhibit last February.

“The first time I walked in the building I thought the space was just begging for sculpture,” Fitzgibbon says. “I thought it would be a great way to engage the students and lend something to the intellectual and cultural vibrancy of UMass Boston.”

Contributing to the student experience was precisely what appealed to Combs. “The role of a Campus Center is to bring about events that add to the co-curricular experience of the college student,” says Combs. “I’m always thinking about how to make this more than just a building, how to offer the students an educational experience they wouldn’t otherwise have.”

The impact on the university community is undeniable. When the ESL program director and English professor Vivian Zamel saw the exhibit, she immediately saw an educational opportunity. She decided to implement the exhibit in her freshman composition ESL class with an assignment called “Reading a Sculpture.”

She invited Tom Fitzgibbon to speak to her class about the exhibit and his and his wife’s relationship to UMass Boston. Zamell’s students responded with thoughtful reflections on the pieces they chose, informed by their rich cultural backgrounds and varied life experiences. “Students are sometimes overwhelmed by the difficulty of a [literary] text. The nature of artwork allows students to come up with their own reading. A non-literary text allows for the genuine invitation to make meaning of what you see,” said Zamel.

After hearing Tom and Dot’s story, Thao Xuan Do, a student of Zamel’s, chose to write on “Dot’s Triumph.” Do emigrated from Vietnam two years ago and plans to be a doctor. She felt a connection to the challenges Dot faced in working for her degree so late in life and was inspired by the strength embodied in Tom’s sculpture of her.

Do writes, “As I looked at the sculpture, I saw a person who never gives up hope for anything . . . nothing is impossible.”
On September 28, Dwight E. Giles, Jr., and John Salmarsh, professor in the doctoral program in higher education administration and NERCHE senior associate, presented a keynote speech “Connected Learning: Transformation” and facilitated a workshop at the Bailey Scholars Program Colloquy “Seeking Meaning, Purpose, Authenticity, and Integrity: Connecting the Inner and Outer Journeys” at Michigan State University.

In October, Nadia Nurhussein, assistant professor of English, delivered a paper at the American Studies Program conference “Assessing Paul Laurence Dunbar: A Centennial Symposium.”

Marc Prou, associate professor of African studies, presented the panel paper “Haitian Creole Standardization: Complexities and Challenges” at the annual conference of the Haitian Studies Association.

Robert R.N. Ross, professor of political science and senior fellow in the Department of Leadership in Education, presented the paper “Haitian Creole Standardization: Complexities and Challenges” at the annual conference of the Haitian Studies Association.

The Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy received an award of $8,900 from The Boston Foundation’s “Prelude to Public Service” initiative. This project will produce a report on the gender and racial breakdown of top-level gubernatorial appointments in state government, as well as municipal elected and appointed officials in Greater Boston.

The Department of Public Safety is funding a scholarship this semester from the revenues collected from parking fees. Students applied last spring and a committee representing student affairs, public safety, merit scholarships, and financial aid reviewed the applications and chose the recipients. A luncheon to recognize them was scheduled for November 9.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Kim Cameron was appointed coordinator for the Advocacy for Resources for Modern Survival (A.R.M.S.) Center. She was a former executive board member and union steward of SERT, Local 285.

Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen, the Frank J. Manning Emeritus Scholar’s Chair in Gerontology, was appointed as a member of the international editorial board (on pension reforms) of the newly established Retirement Policy and Research Centre at the Business School of the University of Auckland, New Zealand.

Arthur Eisenkraft, Distinguished Professor of Science Education, was appointed to a three-year term on the Science Academic Advisory Committee of the College of Board.

Stephanie Hartwell, associate professor of sociology, was awarded a mid-career fellowship at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Department of Psychiatry, Center for Mental Health Services, where she will conduct research at the center for the next academic year.

Benjamin B. Lichtenstein, assistant professor of management, is on the editorial board of the Journal of Business Venturing.

JoAnn Muleady-Shick, director of the undergraduate nursing program at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, was invited to become an item writer for the national certification exam for academic nurse educators by the National League for Nursing.

UMass Boston students Rachel Ottaviano and Laura Paz were honored for their contributions to diversity/inclusion scholarship at the Second Annual Kingston-Mann Awards Banquet, held on October 13. Also recognized for their outstanding achievement were students from Rhode Island College, Lesley University, and MassAssess College.

Marybeth O’Sullivan of the Veterans Access to Community Recreation Centers. In addition, the center will provide training for community recreation centers on accommodating and working with people with disabilities and special health care needs.

 Screening and early identification: The best possible outcomes for children with developmental delays occur when intervention happens as early as possible. The grant will fund a demonstration program that will integrate a proven, standardized developmental screening method into the pediatric primary care system at the Martha Eliot Health Center in Jamaica Plain.

The center’s focus on children and youth in underserved communities mandates the input of community-based organizations in designing and executing the programs. In addition, key collaborators include: The Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs, the Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights (Minnesota), and the YMCA of Greater Boston. Additionally, CIU will leverage its longstanding relationships with many community-based organizations in Massachusetts.


New Children’s Center (cont.)

cal and mental illness, substance abuse, and domestic violence, frequently contribute to the development of disabilities.

“The ultimate goal is to develop a successful program that could be replicated across the country,” says Judith Palfrey, chief of the Division of School of the University of Auckland, and Research Centre at the Business School of the University of Auckland, New Zealand.

Arthur Eisenkraft, Distinguished Professor of Science Education, was appointed to a three-year term on the Science Academic Advisory Committee of the College of Board.

Stephanie Hartwell, associate professor of sociology, was awarded a mid-career fellowship at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Department of Psychiatry, Center for Mental Health Services, where she will conduct research at the center for the next academic year.

Benjamin B. Lichtenstein, assistant professor of management, is on the editorial board of the Journal of Business Venturing.

JoAnn Muleady-Shick, director of the undergraduate nursing program at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, was invited to become an item writer for the national certification exam for academic nurse educators by the National League for Nursing.

UMass Boston students Rachel Ottaviano and Laura Paz were honored for their contributions to diversity/inclusion scholarship at the Second Annual Kingston-Mann Awards Banquet, held on October 13. Also recognized for their outstanding achievement were students from Rhode Island College, Lesley University, and MassAssess College.

Marybeth O’Sullivan of the Veterans Access to Community Recreation Centers. In addition, the center will provide training for community recreation centers on accommodating and working with people with disabilities and special health care needs.

 Screening and early identification: The best possible outcomes for children with developmental delays occur when intervention happens as early as possible. The grant will fund a demonstration program that will integrate a proven, standardized developmental screening method into the pediatric primary care system at the Martha Eliot Health Center in Jamaica Plain.

The center’s focus on children and youth in underserved communities mandates the input of community-based organizations in designing and executing the programs. In addition, key collaborators include: The Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs, the Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights (Minnesota), and the YMCA of Greater Boston. Additionally, CIU will leverage its longstanding relationships with many community-based organizations in Massachusetts.

Wednesday

Gerontology Alumni Association Annual Fall Writing 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Quinn Admin- istration Building, Chancellor’s Conference Room, 3rd fl. Featuring Jennifer Davis Corey, secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Learn how RefWorks can be used to create the new Mass Health “Class” Plan. Register at www.disres.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7350 or mary.styjancz@umb.edu.

Fricker


Thursday


Upcoming


Miscellaneous

Call for Papers: For the Fourth Annual Social Theory Forum (STF): The Violences of Colonialism and Racism, Inner and Global: Conversations with Frants Fanon on the Meaning of Human Emancipation March 27–28, 2007, Ryan Lodge, McCormack Hall. Submit a 2-page paper proposal as e-mail attachment to stf2007@umb.edu by December 15. For more information, visit website: www.bio.umb.edu.

University of Massachusetts Confucius Institute Open House to celebrate the opening of the institute to be held at the UMass Club and UMass Boston’s Campus Center. For more information, on the institute, please visit: www.confucius.umb.edu.

Tuesday 21

10th Annual Chancellor’s Years of Service Recognition Event 2:00 – 3:30 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom, 3rd fl. Annual celebration and reception for employees at critical career milestones. Contact: 7-5716.

UMass Boston Athletics: New Balance Night at men’s Ice Hockey Game 5:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, rank. Attend the men’s hockey game vs. Wentworth College game and receive giveaway New Balance outlet coupons. Contact: 7-7875.

Thursday 23

Thanksgiving University closed.

Saturday 25

UMass Boston Athletics: Men’s Basketball Harbor Tournament 1-0030 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7977.

Institutional Technology Center (ITC) Interested in expanding your technology background? Visit the ITC Web site at wwww.umb.edu/orsp/itc or contact: 7-2990.

WUMB 91.9 FM Commonwealth Journal 10:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday. Interviews with scholars, writers, and public officials examining current issues of interest to the people of Massachusetts. Contact: 7-6900.