By Peter Grennen

Rick Jensen has a decidedly micro view of the material world. The Alton Brann Distinguished Professor of Physics, Biology, and Mathematics, Jensen has devoted much of his livelihood to uncovering nature’s hidden designs, having cut his researcher’s teeth on applications of chaos theory before turning to biotechnology and functional genomics—the measurement of activity levels and expression patterns of genes. He seeks to distinguish organisms and their constituent biological systems by considering not only their outward appearance but the very essence of their genetic identity.

Quantity and quality in this phase of the human genome project don’t always go hand in hand. Investigators have identified many new genes within previously unknown DNA sequences, but now they are now tasked with organizing that information in ways that will explain, among other things, how genes contribute to cell and organ differentiation. The potential for error is great—but so is the potential payoff for both researchers and commercial interests, and the will to obtain reliable data is strong in both arenas.

Thus the Microarray Quality Control (MAQC) Project, a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) initiative that has brought together scientists, regulatory bodies, and technology manufacturers to evaluate and, where possible, improve the means by which genomic information is acquired. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Rick Jensen, the Alton Brann Distinguished Professor of Physics, Biology, and Mathematics and the director of the Center for Environmental Health, Science, and Technology, serves as lead academic collaborator for the Microarray Quality Control Project, a unique multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary effort by delimiting two terms of reference: "Genetics refers to what you’re born with—your DNA, which is the same in every cell in your body," he says. "Coded in that DNA are genes that provide instructions for proteins, which are the building blocks of the cell." The much younger field of functional genomics, Jensen describes the contours of the MAQC project—for which he is the lead academic collaborator—by delimiting two terms of reference: "Genetics refers to what you’re born with—your DNA, which is the same in every cell in your body," he says. "Coded in that DNA are genes that provide instructions for proteins, which are the building blocks of the cell." The much younger field of functional genomics, Jensen describes the contours of the MAQC project—for which he is the lead academic collaborator—by delimiting two terms of reference: "Genetics refers to what you’re born with—your DNA, which is the same in every cell in your body," he says. "Coded in that DNA are genes that provide instructions for proteins, which are the building blocks of the cell." The much younger field of functional genomics, Jensen describes the contours of the MAQC project—for which he is the lead academic collaborator—by delimiting two terms of reference: "Genetics refers to what you’re born with—your DNA, which is the same in every cell in your body," he says. "Coded in that DNA are genes that provide instructions for proteins, which are the building blocks of the cell." The much younger field of functional genomics, Jensen describes the contours of the MAQC project—for which he is the lead academic collaborator—by delimiting two terms of reference: "Genetics refers to what you’re born with—your DNA, which is the same in every cell in your body," he says. "Coded in that DNA are genes that provide instructions for proteins, which are the building blocks of the cell." The much younger field of functional genomics, Jensen describes the contours of the MAQC project—for which he is the lead academic collaborator—by delimiting two terms of referen...
2006 Quinn Recipient Honored for Anti-Domestic Violence Work

By Ed Hayward

Rosslindale resident Maggie DeJesus, a family advocate who is part of the anti-domestic violence programs at the Geiger Gibson Community Health Center, has been selected to receive the Robert H. Quinn Award for community service at the annual Community Breakfast in the Campus Center on March 14.

DeJesus will be joined by two other honorees, who will receive special awards from Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, for their work supporting community-based institutions in Boston. Dorchester native Kevin Chapman, now a successful actor, and Dorchester businessman Lee M. Kennedy will receive special recognition at the Quinn breakfast.

DeJesus, who was raised in a household marred by domestic violence, turned her painful personal experiences into sensitive support and meaningful training for Dorchester and South Boston families trying to rid their homes of domestic violence. Most recently, she has focused on the effect of domestic violence on teen relationships.

“We tend to forget that domestic violence happens at all ages and teens are sometimes vulnerable to peer pressure to stay involved with a boyfriend who is physically abusive or extremely controlling,” DeJesus said. “Being able to educate teens about what is a healthy relationship is my passion.”

DeJesus, who joined the Geiger Gibson staff last year, previously served as a volunteer, hotline advocate, and emergency shelter coordinator at Casa Myrna Vasquez, Inc. DeJesus can be seen on the street, posting flyers announcing services, but also works behind the scenes to secure food, shelter, and emergency support for families. She also assists with fund-raising efforts, training, and advocacy.

The Quinn Award, which recognizes individuals whose outstanding contributions have significantly improved the quality of life in the greater Boston area, was established in honor of Robert H. Quinn, who served the Commonwealth as speaker of the House of Representatives, attorney general, and chair of the UMass Board of Trustees.

“Maggie DeJesus through her own example and her dedicated service has inspired hundreds of families to take the necessary steps to escape and prevent domestic violence,” Chancellor Collins said. “She embodies the spirit of the Quinn Award and its name sake, and we’re honored to recognize her superb work.”

Chancellor Collins will present awards for Longstanding Community Commitment and Service to Chapman and Kennedy. Chapman grew up in Dorchester and now lives in Los Angeles, where he is a professional actor. He is currently working on the film Flags for Our Fathers, with Clint Eastwood, and the Showtime series The Brotherhood.

Chapman remains close to his neighborhood and friends and is actively involved with several community groups, in particular the Colonel Daniel Marr Boys and Girls Club, the Paul R. McLaughlin Youth Center, and the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc.

Kennedy founded the Dorchester-based Lee Kennedy Co. construction firm, among numerous other enterprises. He is being honored for his extensive work in support of community organizations in Dorchester and South Boston.

In particular, Kennedy serves as a director at the Colonel Daniel Marr Boys and Girls Club, Franciscan Children’s Hospital, and the Francis Quimet Scholarship Fund. He is an advisor to the city’s Back Streets Program.
American consumers are responding positively to companies they consider socially responsible, and increasingly count those that hire disabled workers among that group, according to a national public survey led by the Center for Social Development and Education (CSDE). The study, done in collaboration with the Center for Survey Research and the America’s Strength Foundation (ASF), is one of the first to examine the attitudes of consumers toward companies that hire people with disabilities.

“The uniqueness of this research is its focus on the consumer,” said Gary Siperstein, CSDE director and lead author of the study. “In looking at the past work on employers, we found that many companies brand themselves as socially responsible because of their support of the environment, workers’ rights, and products ‘made in the USA,’ but they don’t talk about their policies on hiring people with disabilities.”

By Anne-Marie Kent

How do you plan a “thank you” celebration for hundreds of people? Ask them what they want.

That’s the approach the organizing committee took when planning the 2006 Campus Spring Picnic. Clare Porier, along with fellow committee chair Anne Riley, compiled the 400 or so responses to the university-wide survey they received last month. “People from across the university were really helpful getting the surveys in and sharing their ideas,” said Riley. The organizers surveyed the university community in order to plan an event that reflected the interests of those attending.

“This is really a celebration of the university,” said Porier. “Masyn and I hope that many faculty and staff and their families will take this opportunity to join us for what promises to be a day of fun here on our campus,” said Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD. “We look forward to thanking everyone personally for all the hard work that they do to make this university great.”

Activities include a barbecue, a boat tour, miniature golf, a basketball shoot-off, and softball games. “The softball games will pit department against department,” explained Porier, who added that the Human Resources Department would organize the teams. For kids, there will be a magic show starring a UMass Boston student magician, temporary tattoos, face painting, a moon bounce, a fire-safety exhibit, and an interactive event called “Fun with Science Projects,” organized by UMass Boston science departments.

“We want to make it fun for everyone,” said Porier. “Dance Heads” videos, purportedly “the latest rage, beyond karaoke,” are among the activities lined up for the Campus Spring Picnic for faculty and staff and their families, which will be held on campus from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Saturday, April 29. This “high tech” gimmick allows a video image of your head to be superimposed onto the video projection of a dancing body (which you select from a range of professional dancers showing off their freshest moves) and presto: You’re on the TV screen, “singing” (lip-synching) and dancing to perennial favorites such as “I Will Survive” and “Achy Breaky Heart.”

Please watch the April University Reporter for news about the academic symposia and other inauguration-week details.

By Ed Hayward

The National Science Foundation has awarded a $2 million grant to extend the Watershed Integrated Science Partnership between UMass Boston and three local school districts, according to Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences professor Robert Chen, the grant’s principal investigator.

The partnership, known as WISP, uses the nearby Neponset River Watershed to train teachers and educate middle school students about the state’s science curriculum. During the first three years of the $1.5 million NSF-funded project, WISP placed UMass Boston graduate students in middle school science classrooms in Boston, Dedham, and Milton.

WISP is part of NSF’s effort to integrate the work of university faculty and graduate students with primary and secondary school classrooms—a push known by the acronym GK-12. Chen said the second phase of the grant will allow the five-year program to expand its reach.

“The broader impacts include a strong partnership between UMass Boston and three local school districts, increased interest in science and environmental awareness among parents, teachers, and the public, and improvements in undergraduate and graduate teaching at UMass Bos- ton,” said Chen, who will be joined in his work by UMass Boston professors Adan Colon-Carmona, Marilyn Deckert, Arthur Eisenkraft, and Hannah Seivan, and Boston Public Schools science director Marilyn Decker.

The collaboration also makes use of campus resources, including the Center of Science and Mathematics In Context (COS-MIC), partnerships with local businesses through the Environmental Business Council and the College of Science and Mathematics Scientific Advisory Board, and the Graduate College of Education’s proposed Master of Science Education program.

Under the project, eight graduate students (WISP Fellows) will be teamed with eight middle school science teachers to support science teaching. For fellows, the experience strengthens their teaching skills and develops them for potential careers as classroom teachers and scientists.

In the second stage of the project, teachers and graduate students will have the advantage of working off a science curriculum designed and tested during the first phase of WISP, Chen said. He said the proven effectiveness of the curriculum will allow it to be used by other middle schools looking for new ways to enrich their science teaching.

“We’ve got a high-quality research-based curriculum in place, so at this stage, we are building on concrete examples and specific experiences for students that make teaching better and show students the relevance between good science and each of our lives,” Chen said.

Center Research Uncovers Strong Consumer Support for Businesses That Hire Employees with Disabilities

By Kari Russ

American consumers are increasingly favorable toward companies that hire individuals with disabilities, and 87 percent said they would provide their business to such companies.

Among those surveyed, hiring people with disabilities ranked third behind offering health insurance to all employees and protecting the environment as an indicator of a company’s commitment to social justice.

The survey included 803 adults who were randomly selected across the continental U.S. Most respondents drew upon personal experience in their answers—75 percent reported that they had either worked directly with someone with a disability and/or received services as a customer from a person with a disability. Ninety-one percent of those with a disabled coworker said that the job performance of his or her coworker was “very good” or “good.” Ninety-four percent said that employees with disabilities lead more fulfilling and productive lives through employment, they will also improve the company’s brand image,” says Siperstein.

Study collaborators: Amanda Mohler, 2005 graduate and coauthor; Center for Survey Research’s Carol Cosenza, who provided research assistance, along with Tony Roman (not pictured). (Photo by Harry Brett)

Hoping to change this, CSDE joined forces with ASF, the Gallup Organization, and Carol Cosenza and Tony Roman at the Center for Survey Research. “We wanted to explore whether there was an expanded idea of corporate responsibility and whether ‘diversity’ in the workplace should include not only skin color, gender, and age, but also people with disabilities,” said Cosenza.

Their study, “A National Survey of Consumer Attitudes Toward Companies That Hire People with Disabilities,” reports an overwhelmingly positive attitude among consumers toward socially responsible companies, and, in particular, toward those that hire individuals with disabilities. Specifically, 92 percent of consumers surveyed felt more favorable toward companies that make it part of their mission to hire people with disabilities.

“Companies who respond to these findings will not only help individuals with disabilities lead more fulfilling and productive lives through employment, they will also improve the company’s brand image,” says Siperstein.

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Spring Picnic Tops Inauguration Week

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Trotter Institute Celebrates 21 Years with Speaker Series and Films

By Lisa Gentles

This year, UMass Boston is celebrating the Trotter Institute’s 21st anniversary. The William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black History and Culture, which focuses on black history and culture, was founded in 1984 at the university.

“This is the first one that we’re doing, and we’re doing it because it’s been a part of the university for 21 years,” said Barbara Lewis, director of the Trotter Institute. “We feel like we have become mature.”

Having existed for over two decades is momentous, she said. “[It signals] that we have survived and that we have grown and are looking very much forward to a great future,” Lewis said.

In February, the institute kicked off the Tuesdays at the Trotter series. The speaker series will run throughout the spring semester, with the April series commemorating the institute’s 21st anniversary. William Monroe Trotter, the

The Trotter Institute staff (left to right): Nancy Dodson, Elizabeth Tinkoszang, Eva Hendricks, Yvonne Gomes-Santos, and director Barbara Lewis. Staffer Russell Larkin is not pictured. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By William Koehler

On February 8, Tim Barnicle, College of Management visiting professor, and Ray Uhalde, director of workforce development programs at the National Center on Education and the Economy, spoke to an MBA class on the challenges of workforce development. (Photo by Harry Brett)

workforce development experts visit the college of management

Ray Uhalde, director of workforce development programs at the National Center on Education and the Economy, said the institute’s 21st anniversary is possible when the subcellular environment—determining the level of gene activity, and genomics is focused on more recent developments, especially the increasingly competitive world economy and the addition of workforces in India, China, and the former Communist nations of Eastern Europe and Central Asia to the global labor pool. He highlighted the challenges facing the U.S. economy and educational institutions in the twenty-first century, including the impact of technologically advanced countries throughout the developing world that continue to shift manufacturing jobs and knowledge work to China and India.

The American response, Uhalde maintained, must lie in continuing to move further up the “value chain,” adding worth through innovation, research, and tailor-made products and services. He argues that our focus must be on continued gains in access to and improvement in education at all levels, particularly for those at the lower end of the socioeconomic spectrum.

At the same time, he cautioned that the U.S. must recognize both its changing role in the world economy and the significant benefits accruing from globalization, as standards of living in many parts of the developing world, especially Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America, rise more rapidly than those in the richest economies and come into line with those of the developed nations.

Genomics (cont.)

genomics is concerned with the small fraction of an organism’s genes that are both active, or “expressed,” and subject to external influences. Says Jensen: “An interplay between nature and nurture—between genetics and environment—determines the level of gene activity, and genomics is about measuring that level in health and disease.”

Which is to say that genomics is about microarrays. A microarray is a glass slide containing many genes arranged in a regular pattern; it can be used to study the expression of hundreds of thousands of genes at once—whether these genes are from a single source or from a variety of cell or tissue samples. As researchers become more skilled with microarrays, they will be better able to determine the function of particular genes and detect new patterns of coordinated gene expression, including those that result in disease or unwanted drug reactions.

This helps explain the FDA’s ongoing quest for microarrays that avoid procedural failures and allow for better data analysis. “Microarrays represent a core technology in pharmacogenomics and toxicogenomics,” says an FDA website précis. “The MAQC project will help improve the microarray technology and foster its proper applications in discovery, development, and review of FDA-regulated products.”

Researchers hope to one day be able to tailor medical experimentation, including that done by the FDA, to specific genetic profiles. It’s thought that personalized disease treatments featuring “designer medicines” won’t be far behind. “Using technologies being evaluated by the FDA,” says Jensen, “we can have the ability to determine what combination of genetic and environmental factors might make someone susceptible to a bad reaction to, say, Xerox.”

Predicting an individual’s medical susceptibilities and fashioning a disease-specific treatment regimen: It’s but one example of what is possible when the subcellular basis of the visible physical world is laid bare.

Workforce Development Experts Visit the College of Management

Ray Uhalde, director of workforce development programs at the National Center on Education and the Economy, spoke to an MBA class on the challenges of workforce development. (Photo by Harry Brett)

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Writing Guru Offers Advice to Dissertation Hopefuls

Joan Bolker, author of Writing Your Dissertation in Fifteen Minutes a Day: A Guide to Starting, Revising, and Finishing Your Doctoral Thesis, lent invaluable insight to graduate students looking to complete dissertations, tackle writer’s block, and learn to enjoy the writing process at a February 7 Graduate Student Assembly event. In a guest lecture on tailor-made steps on setting reasonable goals every day. (Photo by Harry Brett)

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Historian Publishes New Book on the First Labor Movement and the Haymarket Riot

**By Leigh DuPuy**

A bomb is thrown into a crowd of protestors and policemen: this act of terror forever changes the lives of city workers, immigrants, the labor movement, and the nation.

What led up to this May 1886 event and the chaos and injustice that followed is the subject of James Green’s latest book, *Death in the Haymarket: A Story of Chicago, the First Labor Movement and the Bombing That Divided Gilded Age America.*

“I really wanted to write about what events led to that destructive act of violence,” says Green, a public historian and labor scholar who founded the Labor Studies Program at the College of Public and Community Service in 1981. And so he set out to write a persuasive narrative that would give readers a context for understanding the conflict. “I wanted to paint a vivid picture of Gilded Age Chicago, a wonder of the world, an example of the wealth and promise of America.”

“Death in the Haymarket” follows escalating city tensions as labor unions organize a strike for an eight-hour workday. On May 3, two workers on assembly are killed by the police. On May 4, a subsequent rally in Haymarket Square erupts into more violence: dozens of police and organizers are killed and injured by an explosion and subsequent gunfire. Rally organizers, who were mostly German immigrants, are tried and convicted for inciting the incident and put to death. It is viewed by many historians as America’s first Red scare, and the mass hysteria it inspired resulted in a major setback for the labor movement.

“Workers and policemen died in the fight for the eight-hour day, something we take for granted,” Green says, “without remembering the great sacrifices people made.”

Part of the story’s timeliness lies with an evergreen labor concern: the struggles of the lowest-paid workers, many of whom are immigrants. Green’s book centers on the unjust treatment of the foreign-born at an earlier time in our history. “It’s a cautionary tale that centers on the suspicions of foreigners,” he says. “This fear is very destructive—it can lead to a destruction of civil liberties for everyone.”

In many ways, Green’s time in the classroom gave him plenty of dress rehearsals to recount this moment in history. “I’ve been telling this story and others like it to my students for years, and this experience really influenced how I wrote the book,” says Green, who teaches history and labor studies. “I’ve seen what grabs people’s emotions, their imaginations, their concerns. I’m much better writer having taught these stories and told them in public venues.”

Green is Green’s sixth book, and, as he notes, a “labor of love.” “I grew up around Chicago reading Theodore Dreiser, Carl Sandburg, Upton Sinclair, Studs Terkel, and the other great tellers of the city’s story; so the chance to make my own contribution to that genre was exciting,” he says.

The book will be published on March 7 by Pantheon, a division of Random House and has been or is slated for review by the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and the *Atlantic Monthly*. In addition to his teaching schedule, Green is embarking on a two-month book tour, with stops in Boston, Washington, D.C., New York, and Chicago.

He is especially excited about a reading and signing on April 12 at UMass Boston, open to the university community. He and the Labor Resource Center have invited colleagues in the labor community, as well as alumni of the Labor Studies degree, which Green started in 1981; graduates of the Harvard Trade Union Program, where he lectured since 1987; the University Honors Program, and the master’s programs in history, and American studies. The event will be held at the alumni room of the Campus Center from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

For more information on the book and Green’s scholarship, visit JamesGreenWorks.com.
CAMPUS NOTES

PRESENCES, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

Randy Albeda of the Economics Department chaired the Public Policy Ph.D. Program presented the paper “Time Out! Paid Family and Medical Leave and Low-Income Workers” at the Allied Social Science Association Annual Meetings in January.

On February 18, Paul Arwood of the Department of American Studies and the Joiner Center presented the paper “War and Emotion: Are and Always Have Been the American Way of Life” at the Historians Against the War conference. Held at the University of Mass. in Amherst, Blackman’s theme was “Empire, Resistance, and the War in Iraq.”

Faculty, research associates, and graduate students from the Environmental, Earth and Ocean Science (EEOS) Department—Robert K. Cover, Robert Chen, Joanna Urban-Rich, Gordon Wallace, Bernie Gardner, Mingshun Jiang, Xiang-Chen, Kim Frashure, Wei Hsiung, Li Li, and Frances P. —presented eleven papers at the joint open journal in the Ocean Science Meeting for the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography and the American Geophysical Union, which was held in February.

Jim Campen, professor emeritus of sociology and research associate at the Gaston Institute, presented “New Perspectives on Racial Disparities in Mortgage Lending. Exploring the 2004 HMDA Data,” the first research seminar in a series on fair housing, cosponsored by Harvard University’s Joint Center for Housing Studies and the Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston.

EEOS professor Robert Chen and his coauthors presented their paper, held a workshop for scientists, “Telling Your Story,” at UMass Boston on January 18. Faculty from the economics department attended this one-day event.

Yung-Ping (Rog) Chen, the Frank J. Tsyloff Chair in Gerontology, gave a seminar on phased retirement for the “Policy Live!” seminar series, sponsored by the Public Policy Institute of AARP and held in Washington, D.C., on February 9.

Arthur Eisenkraft, Distinguished Professor of Science Education and director of COSMIC, delivered the opening address at the Georgia Science Teachers Association Annual Leadership Conference on February 16. Some 2,500 attendees heard his address, “Instructional Models That Increase Engagement and Achievement for Student Scientists.”

On January 16, Carroy U. Ferguson, professor of the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS), presented “Levels of Consciousness” at the Association for Humanistic Psychology’s International Professional Day Conference. He also was a co-facilitator of the conference, themed “Worldviews: Living in Separate, Virtual Realities.”

Anamaria Franko, EEOs assistant professor, served as a panelist for the “Capacity Development for Ocean and Coastal Management: Mobilizing to Address Needs” session at the UNESCO-sponsored Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, held in January in Paris.

On February 25, the Center for Social Policy’s Donna Haig Friedman, director, and John McGah, research associate, presented at the Gastón Institute, presented the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness regional conference, held at UMass Boston. Friedman presented presentations at the graduate-level homeless families and McGah’s panel focused on the progression from individual casework to systemic advocacy and impact.

In March, Cecilia Gandolfi of the Institute for Community Inclusion gave a joint keynote and closing remarks at the Oklahoma APSE conference on motivating disability/employment professionals, as well as a seminar on marketing techniques.

On January 13, Joan Garity, associate professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS), gave a paper on levels of grief in the Alzheimer’s caregivers at the Coyne Health Care Center in Rockland, MA.

The Institute for Community Inclusion’s Joy Gould presented at the Massachusetts Lodging Association’s annual meeting on good customer service for visitors with disabilities. This is part of the institute’s employer initiative ForEmployers.com.

John Halliday and Elena Varey of the Institute for Community Inclusion presented a pre-conference session, “Strategies for Effectively Scheduling All Customers Within the Workforce Development System,” at the National Association of Workforce Boards’ forum conference.

Stephen Silman, assistant professor of History, gave a public lecture on New England archaeology to the Central Massachusetts chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society on February 4 in Worcester.

In February, Nina M. Silverstein, CPCS associate director of gerontology, gave a pre-conference intensive presentation, “Overview of Issues Associated With Demen- tia, Driving, and Community Mobility,” at the International Conference on Aging, Disability, and Independence. She also served as program chair for an association for Gerontology in Higher Education Annual Scientific and Educational meeting.

The National Service Inclusion Project at the Institute for Community Inclusion convened a training workshop at the Seve Idaho state conference on February 22. Training specialist Joe Tierney discussed ways to involve local people with disabilities in commu- nity service projects.

On February 15, Julie Tripp, constituent coordinator for the Center for Social Policy, partici- pated in a panel at the Family Economic Initiative conference. Tripp presented research on the progression from individual casework to systemic advocacy and impact.

In February, Robert Winner, chair of the International Relations track in the Master of Science in Public Affairs Program, attended the two- day conference “The Ukrainian-Russian Gas Crisis and Its After- math,” which was sponsored by the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University.

Julie Winch, professor of history, gave a talk on John Redmond, a mid-19th century anti-civil rights crusader, at Boston’s Old South Meeting House on February 2. Originally from Caracas, Redmond settled in Salem and became a leading member of that city’s free black community.

On February 1, Aymie Wingo of the Philosophy Department presented “A Promising Image of Freedom for Africa” for the think tank The Primary Source in Washington, D.C.

The MA Office of Dispute Resolution (MODR) delivered a panel and workshop at a symposium on community mediation and the Trial Court Standing Committee on Dispute Resolution. MODR’s “Research- Informed Models for Communicat- ing the Value of Court-Connected ADR for Public Funding” is the first product of the emerging research project.

On January 12, Laura Hoenz Russell, director of the Elder Economic Security Standard Project at the Gerontology Institute, copresented “Senior Property Tax Relief,” to 50 seniors at the Other Lifelong Learning Institute’s Brownbag Presentation.

PUBLICATIONS

EEOS professor Robert Chen and doctoral student Kim Frashure were coauthors of the article “Social Services: 50 Years of Service,” which was published in the National Science Teachers Association journal Science Scope.

The article “Long-Term Care: A Key Issue for the 2050 White House Conference” by Yung-Ping (Rog) Chen of Gerontological Science was published in The European Papers on the New Welfare. The Public Policy Institute of AARP also just issued a report that Chen did with John C. Scott: “Phased Retire- ment: Who Owes it for and Towards What End?”

In January, Alexander Des Forges, assistant professor in the Depart- ment of Modern Languages, published the book chapter “A New Genre of Literary Production in the Late Qing: The Invention of the Instalment Plan” in the volume Dynamic Crisis and Cultural Innovation: From the Late Ming to the Late Qing and Beyond, a Harvard University Asia Center publication.

The disability newsletter TRN InfoLines features a new version of the Institute for Community Inclusion’s “50-Day Cycle” brief. The how-to-guide was originally written for employment counselors and then reworked for a job-seeker audience by the institute’s Danielle Drellinger.

A six-episode docuseries by EPSRC faculty Susan Eisenberg appears in the March issue of the journal Bridges. Shot at Forest Hills Cemetery, the photos are part of an upcoming exhibit about chronic illness “Perpetual Care.” “Remembering the Fire at Triangle Shirtwaist,” a poem by Eisenberg, appears in the March issue of the journal Labor.

In January, John Fulton, assistant professor of English, published the short story “A Small Matter” in the literary journal Other Voices.

An article by EEOs professor Susan Eisenberg appears in “Marine Bioprospecting and Sustainable Regional Development Policies,” was published in the journal BioLaw and Business in February.

GCOE professor and director of the Asian American Studies Program Peter Kiang published the journal article “Policy Challenges for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Education” in Race, Ethnicity & Education.

A chapter by Pepi Leistyna of the Applied Linguistics Program, “When Ignorance and Deceit Come to Town,” was included in What You Don’t Know About Schools. His chapter “Kids Against Capital” was published in Contemporary Youth Culture.

Robert Lulin, assistant professor of theatre arts, published the essay “spell #7 and Nintozhe Shange’s Project of Anti-Drama” in the Winter edition of Texas Theatre Journal.


Mark Pawlak, director of academic support services, published the poem “G702” in the January 2002 issue of the literary journal Off The Page.

The Physics Department’s Gopal Rao and Pengfei Wu recently published the article “Slow-light in a Graphene-Based Metamaterial”.

A new book by Professor Wendi Ye, who teaches women’s studies, history, and East Asian studies classes, was recently published in Palgrave’s Studies in Oral History series: Growing Up in the People’s Republic: Conversations between Two Daughters of China’s Revolution.

EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

David Patterson, professor of music, will perform his piano composition “Thrashes in Forest Park” at the Northeast Center meeting of the College Music Society, held in March at Wilkes College.

GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

Biologist professor Linda Huang has been awarded $41,938 from the National Institutes of Health, as part of the U36 grant given to strengthen the partnership between UMass Boston and the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center. This grant supports a collaborative project between Huang’s lab and Professor Pamela Silver’s lab at the Harvard Medical School that examines how protein factors involved in gene splicing are regulated.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the Center for Social Policy $72,000 to provide technical assistance to agencies throughout New England implementing homeless management information systems (HMIS).

The Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy has received a $15,000 grant from the Massachusetts Sociological Initiatives Foundation to train low-income women in Boston to become community researchers. When trained, the researchers will collect information on the extent to which women know about changes in welfare regulations in 2003 and 2004 and will also collect information from case managers and educators. They will present their conclusions to the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Jorgolina Abbate-Vaughn, assistant professor at the Graduate College of Education, has been appointed to serve on the National Board of Professional ‘Teaching Standards’ (NBPTS) Visiting Panel on National Board Research, which will meet at NBPTS’ offices in Arlington, Virginia.

In January, Randy Albeda of the Economics Department and the Public Policy Ph.D. Program began her term as a vice president of the International Association for Feminist Economics.

Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen, the Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar’s Chair in Gerontology, has been appointed a fellow in the World Demographic Association, based in Switzerland.

Song Gi, assistant professor of computer science, has been elected to a senior member of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.). The designation, awarded to only 7.6 percent of IEEE members, is based on the professional recognition the peers for technical and professional excellence.

Rety Klimasmith, assistant professor of English, was elected to the executive board of the Edith Wharton Society in December. In January, she was named New England regional representative to the American Studies Association.

Peter Langer has been appointed interim dean of the Graduate College of Education effective on February 6. Langer has served in a number of roles at UMass Boston since 1986, including his most recent position as associate provost.

Pepi Leistyna of the Applied Linguistics Program has been elected to serve on the executive board of the Association for Cultural Studies as a North American representative.

Benyamin B. Lichtenstein, assistant professor of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, has been elected to the American Society for Engineering Education. Lichtenstein’s lab at the Harvard Medical School that examines how protein factors involved in gene splicing are regulated.

Randy Albelda, assistant professor in the Africana Studies Department, was quoted in a February 6 article in the Boston Globe on the upcoming elections in Haiti.

American studies professor Rachel Rubin was quoted on the popularity of country music with the Boston-area radio audience in the Patriot Ledger on February 4.

On January 23, the Boston Globe featured students who wrote accounts of their families’ histories as part of their coursework for the Applied American Studies “American Identities” class taught by Professor Lois P. Rudnick.

Jack Wagin, intern director of the Urban Harbors Institute, was quoted in the January/February Preservation magazine in a story critical of the feasibility of wind turbines on the Boston Harbor Islands. The magazine is published by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

A profile of fellows participating in the College of Management’s Emerging Leaders Program at the Center for Collaborative Leadership appeared in the February 16 Dorchester Reporter.

In February, the Allston-Brighton TAB profiled UMass Boston’s Jumpstart program in Brighton High School.

Former DeL Fuegos musician Brent “Woody” Giesemann spoke about studying addiction at UMass Boston in a February 18 Boston Globe article. Giesemann is the CEO and founder of Right Turn, a nonprofit organization that helps local artists and entertainers who are fighting substance abuse.

Laura Hansen, assistant professor of sociology, gave an interview on the meaning of money for WVCRB-TV’s “Chronicle.” The program is slated to air in late March.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Collaborative Leadership and Public Policy, was quoted in the Boston Herald on February 13 in an article on the election campaign for governor and lieutenant governor.

She also was interviewed on Springfield’s Rock 102 WAQY on the hurdles women and minority candidates face when running for high-level office in Massachusetts.

On February 16, the Boston Globe reported that U.S. Senator Barack Obama will deliver the keynote address at UMass Boston’s June 2 commencement.

Mara Pena, assistant professor in the Africana Studies Department, was quoted in a February 6 article in the Boston Globe on the upcoming elections in Haiti.

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Xuchen Wang, EEOs research associate, and Adam Cohen-Carmona, assistant professor of biology, coauthored the paper “Stress Responses to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Arabidopsis Include Growth Inhibition and Hypersensitive Response-Like Symptoms,” which was published in J. Experimental Botany. Wang was also a co-author on the paper “Biogeochemical Investigations of Marine Methane Seeps, Hydrate Ridge, Oregon,” which appeared in J. Geophysical Research.

A new book by Professor Wendi Ye, who teaches women’s studies, history, and East Asian studies classes, was recently published in Palgrave’s Studies in Oral History series: Growing Up in the People’s Republic: Conversations between Two Daughters of China’s Revolution.

The University Reporter
Wednesday 1

ITC Teaching With Technology Workshop: WebCT Vista Orienta-
tion 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., Computer Resources Center, Lower Level. For more details, visit www.healthservices.umb.edu/events. Contact: 7-6580 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

Thursday 2

Workshop: Inside Eating Disorders—A Personal Perspec-
tive 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., Alumnae Room (2551). Workshop presentation by the Massachusetts Eating Disorders Association. Sponsored by University Health Services and the Women’s Center. For more details, visit www.healthservices.umb.edu/events. Contact: 7-6580 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

Friday 3

Philosophy Club 2:30 p.m., Withers Hall, room 100. All are invited to participate in the weekly presentation. Contact: 7-4406 or peggy.rolandin@umb.edu.

Biology Spring Seminar Series: NMD: mRNADecaySolvesaTranslationalProblem 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., Science Center, 1-006. Featuring Allan Jacobson of the Massachusetts General Hospital Medical Center. Refreshments served. For updates, visit www.bio.umb.edu/events. Contact: 7-6400.

Friday 10

ITC Teaching With Technology Workshop: WebCT Vista Orienta-
tion 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., Computer Resources Center, Lower Level. For more details, visit www.healthservices.umb.edu/events. Contact: 7-6580 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

Saturday 9

College of Management MBA Forum 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., Campus Center, 2-245. Featuring Edward Merritt, president and chief executive officer of Mount Washington Bank. Contact: cm_mevent@umb.edu.

Graduate Student Assembly Lecture and Book Signing: The Power of Precarization 5:00 p.m., Campus Center, University Dining Room, 2nd fl. Featuring Jorge Cham, creator of the graduate student comic strip “Piled Higher & Deeper.” Contact: www.gsa.umb.edu.

Tuesday 7

ITC Teaching With Technology Workshop: WebCT Vista Orienta-
tion 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Healey Library, room p2, lower level. Workshop providing information on how to get started with WebCT with instructions on posting a syllabus, course materials, and creating tests in WebCT. Workshop will provide assistance with WebCT. Contact: 7-6580 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

Friday 24


Wednesday 8


Tuesday 14

Annual Community Breakfast 8:30 – 9:00 a.m., Campus Center, Ballroom, 3rd fl. Honoring the re-
ception of the Robert H. Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leader-
ship, Maggie De Jesus, and two oth-
ers for their contributions to our community. Held by M. Kennedy and Kevin Chapman. Contact: 7-5304.

Tuesday 15

Wednesday 15

Yoga for All 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Center, Aerobics Room, 1st fl. Featuring a master trainer and experienced yoga instructor. Contact: 7-5304 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

Friday 17

Evacuation Day University closed.

Monday 20

Classes resume

Tuesday 21

ITC Teaching With Technology Workshop: WebCT Vista Orienta-
tion 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Healey Library, room p2, lower level. Workshop on how to organize and display course content using WebCT. Contact: 7-5304 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

Wednesday 22


Sociology Guest Speaker: Neighborhood Context and Crime in the City 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., Healey Library, University Club, 11th fl. Featuring social researcher and author Robert J. Sampson of Harvard University. Open to the public. Contact: 7-5498.

Thursday 23

ITC Teaching With Technology Workshop: WebCT Vista Orienta-
tion 8:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m., Healey Library, room p2, lower level. Full day of os-
ervation and instruction workshops that include WebCT Parts 1, 2, and 3. Also to be held on March 18 and 15. Refreshments and lunch pro-
vided. Contact: www.itc.umb.edu.

Friday 25


Tuesday 27

Student Luncheon with Chancellor Collins 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., Location to be an-
nounced. Share your background and experiences at UMass Boston with Chancellor Collins. Contact: Patricia MacNeil, 7-5800.


Tuesday 28

ITC Teaching With Technology Workshop: WebCT Vista Orienta-
tion 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Healey Library, room p2, lower level. Workshop on how to organize and display course content using WebCT. Contact: 7-5304 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

Wednesday 29


Jay Wright Poetry Reading 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 6-047. Featuring Wright, author of nine books of poetry and more than 50 pl-
ays. In 2005, Wright became the first African American to receive Yale University’s Bollingen Prize in American Poetry. Contact: 7-6780 or amerc@umb.edu.

MARCH