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# THE UNIVERSITY Reporter

Volume 10, Number 6

February 2006



## National Science Foundation Funds Noyce Scholars Program to Train Math and Science Teachers for City Schools

By Ed Hayward

A new University of Massachusetts Boston project designed to prepare teachers of math and science for work in the Boston Public Schools (BPS) has received funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) that will support 39 graduate and undergraduate students in their teacher preparation studies over the next three years.

Building on the university's model urban teacher training program Teach Next Year, the Noyce Scholars Program will focus on preparing students to meet the high demand for subject-trained math and science teachers in the classrooms of the



(From left to right) Principal investigator Lisa Gonsalves and co-principal investigators Brian White, Marietta Schwartz, and Jorgelina Abbate-Vaughn are working on a \$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to prepare teachers of math and science for work in the Boston Public Schools. (Photo by Harry Brett)

twenty-first century.

"We're delighted the NSF has funded this program," said Professor Lisa Gonsalves, a member of the team that secured the grant. "The university has established an award-winning collaboration with the Boston Public Schools, and the Graduate College of Education has a proven record of preparing teachers for urban classrooms."

As with the seven-year-old Teach Next Year program, which successfully guided graduate students through courses and internships at the secondary Dorchester Education Complex and sent 19 teachers on to BPS, the Noyce Scholars will focus on the criti-

cal need for trained math and science teachers in urban school systems.

In Massachusetts, more than 30 percent of the newly hired math teachers are not licensed to teach the subject, as is the case with 29 percent of their science counterparts, according to the Massachusetts Department of Education.

The \$500,000 Noyce NSF grant will assist 18 graduate students and 21 undergraduate students with tuition, fees, and other expenses during their studies and assist them during their internship year in a Boston Public School. Eligible candidates will have at least a 3.0 GPA, demon-

(Cont. on page 7)

## Does Childhood Asthma Alter More Than Breathing? UMass Boston Clinical Psychologist Studies the Debate

By Peter Grennen

Even the most conscientious researchers may fall victim to a certain professional myopia, pursuing their own narrow interests so intently that they lose sight of their work's larger significance. When a UMass Boston graduate student encountered this problem in the scholarly record on a topic of interest to her, she decided she should begin to set matters straight—and in so doing provided valuable insight about interpreting research in her field.

For years, pediatric researchers have been locked in a standoff over the role of childhood

asthma in human psychosocial development. On one side are those who claim that asthma makes children susceptible to depression and other "internalizing" illnesses, leading in many cases to social maladjustment. On the other are the authors of studies showing that children with asthma function about as well in social settings as do their healthy peers.

Jennifer Bender Berz, a doctoral student in clinical psychology, has weighed in on the subject by calling attention to a telling demographic. "Only a handful of studies have examined the



Jennifer Bender Berz, clinical psychology doctoral student, is striving to reach a fuller understanding of asthma's effects on a child's psyche. (Photo by Harry Brett)

psychosocial functioning of children from urban environments, where asthma is most prevalent," she writes in "Children's Asthma, Internalizing Problems, and Social Functioning: An Urban Perspective," a coauthored study that appeared recently in the quarterly *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing*.

A fuller understanding of asthma's effects on a child's psyche will surely help answer questions about human social development and be useful in devising effective interventions. At stake, ultimately, is the ability of young asthma sufferers to form

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# Dorchester Students Craft Web-Based Nature Guides at UMass Boston

By Lisa Gentes

UMass Boston's Biology and Computer Science Departments are helping students at the Edward Everett School combine technology and science to create their own web-based nature guide.

Armed with digital cameras loaned by UMass Boston, about a dozen third, fourth, and fifth graders from the Edward Everett School's Science Photography Club participated in a photo treasure hunt in UMass Boston's three on-campus greenhouses last month.

The Biology and Computer Science Departments are teaming up with the young scientists under the university's Electronic Field Guide Project. The project, funded by the National Science Foundation, creates web-based databases for recording and identifying species and ecological observations, according to its website.

This was the first time the project has been teamed with students in Dorchester, according to Jennifer

Forman Orth, a biologist and postdoctorate research associate in the Computer Science Department.

"They don't spend a lot of time with nature," Orth said of the urban youngsters. "It's fun to help them find out about it."

At the greenhouse treasure hunt, students had to find 12 different items and take digital photos of each, which will be posted online, she said. The UMass Boston project coordinators are also helping the students create a full-sized poster of their favorite photos, which include pictures taken at their schoolyard of berries, fruit, and fall leaves.

Edward Everett School contributors previously had helped make the students' schoolyard suitable for play and outdoor learning, she said. "Parents were concerned this generation of students in school were losing their connection to nature," Orth said. "They wanted city kids to be stewards of the environment."



Children from the Edward Everett School's Science Photography Club participated in a photo treasure hunt in UMass Boston's greenhouses last month. (Photo by Harry Brett)

"The photo project is more of a way of getting students started," Orth said. "It introduces students to a botanical vocabulary, and a fuller understanding of asthma's effects on a child's psyche provides them with an introduction to start learning how to identify the plants on their own."

UMass Boston's two departments will continue to work with the children throughout the school year on their field guide project, she said.

The university's Electronic Field Guide Project has collaborators all over the world, according to Orth.

She said the Edward Everett School is one of the many contributors, which include a contributor in Costa Rica creating a field guide on butterflies, and one in Nantucket who created a guide on invasive plants.

Eventually, UMass Boston's project team would like to be able to get information to scientists out in the field instantly, through the Internet via cell phones or Palm Pilots, to help them identify a species on the spot, she said.

Robert Morris of UMass Boston's Computer Science Department and Robert Stevenson of the Biology Department are part of the project team. Ruth Heespelink, former school librarian, and Alicia Zipp, a community organizer, are helping facilitate the students at the Edward Everett School.

For more information, go to [www.electronicfieldguide.org](http://www.electronicfieldguide.org) or check out the students' photos at [gallery.cs.umb.edu/gallery/edwardeverettschool](http://gallery.cs.umb.edu/gallery/edwardeverettschool).

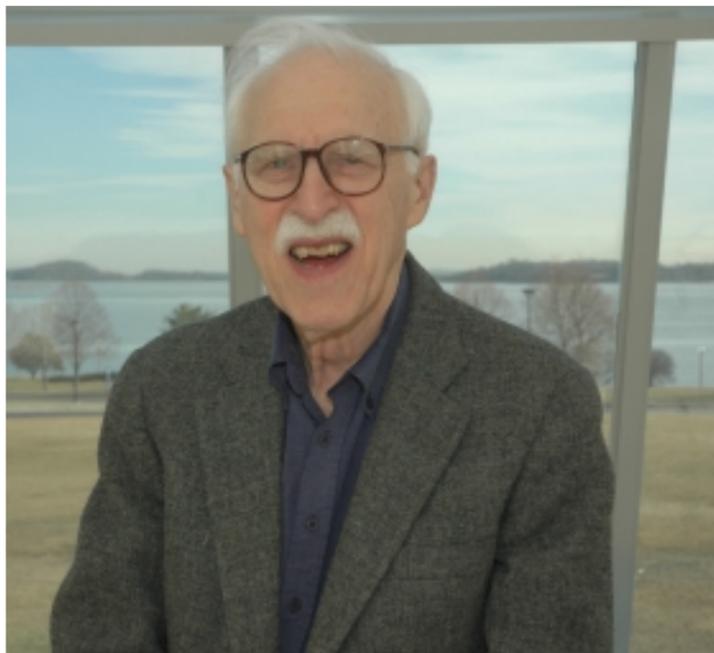
## Sociologist Examines the Lives of Retirees in New Book

By Leigh DuPuy

A new book by UMass Boston's Robert Weiss is helping people navigate through the issues that surround retirement. While some daydream of the freedom retirement brings, many find that relinquishing their community of work can present many challenges. Weiss's *The Experience of Retirement* examines how people actually fare when they stop working, the obstacles they face, and what makes them most fulfilled.

Weiss, a senior fellow in the Gerontology Institute and an emeritus professor of sociology, interviewed 89 men and women multiple times in various stages of their retirement to understand what ending their work meant to them. The study was a continuation of his forty years of research on such issues of loss and transition as loneliness, marital separation, and bereavement.

Released in November 2005, the book has received rave reviews from *Time* magazine and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. The work is both a descriptive and analytical presentation of Weiss's re-



Robert Weiss, senior fellow at the Gerontology Institute, interviewed 89 retirees about their experiences for a new book that examines what happens to people when they lose the community of work. (Photo by Harry Brett)

search. It also includes a chapter of advice on how to make the most of retirement.

Weiss found that people, for the most part, were able to anticipate what their retirement would be like. However, these weren't always bright visions. While some people looked forward to retire-

ment, others were worried about how they would deal with empty days.

For some people, retirement was not an entirely desired milestone, marking their entrance into later life. Nevertheless, Weiss found, people seemed more afraid of nursing homes than of death.

Despite the allure of having more time for themselves, many retirees struggle to find meaning in lives no longer defined by the job. "Work provides support, benefits, and gratifications," says Weiss. "It provides ties to the rest of society and makes us a part of things."

With the absence of work, people can find themselves marginalized and unsure of how to occupy their time. Many worry about how best to use the freedom retirement brings. Weiss says: "Although not quite an existential crisis, people do ask the questions: What do I want to do? Who am I? You have all this freedom, but how do you use it?"

However, Weiss's findings were not entirely grim — far from it. Most retirees found ways to surmount retirement's challenges. "Some traveled or did other things they'd long wanted to do," he says.

Weiss found that retirees who were happiest had been able to become active participants in communities that mattered to them as much as had their community of work. They became volunteers, joined craft or hobby groups, or found part-time

retirement work.

"Many retirees do well when half their week is filled with obligations that, while not stressful, reassure them that they still matter. Then they can spend the rest of their time in whatever way they want," says Weiss.

Eighty-year-old Weiss knows a bit about the phenomenon himself, having retired as a professor of sociology in 1989 after sixteen years at UMass Boston. For a time, he continued to conduct research as director of the university's now defunct Work and Family Research Unit and for the past decade he has been a senior fellow at the Gerontology Institute.

"It is a marvelous association," says Weiss. He said that he especially enjoyed working with graduate students.

Weiss believes social networks, meaningful connections, and attitude make big differences in how people fare in retirement. His recommendation: "Cherish the freedom retirement provides, and make sure you keep mattering somewhere."

### The University Reporter

University Communications and  
Community Relations  
Third Floor  
Quinn Administration Building  
100 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, MA 02125-3393

617-287-5317

E-mail address: [news@umb.edu](mailto:news@umb.edu)

Leigh DuPuy  
Associate Editor

Sarah Weatherbee  
Art Director

Harry Brett  
University Photographer

Staff writers:  
Peter Grennen  
Ed Hayward  
Anne-Marie Kent

Contributing writers:  
Robert Geary  
Lisa Gentes

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# University Response Ensures Wheatley Hall Recovers from Storm Damage

By Ed Hayward

The hurricane-like winds that tore apart a synthetic covering atop the roof of Wheatley Hall were matched by the lightning-fast response of university employees and outside contractors who restored the building and made repairs that ensured Wheatley was open for business with the start of the spring semester.

Winds in excess of 70 m.p.h. stripped the waterproof membrane from much of the fourth-floor roof and cracked skylights at approximately 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18. Without the protective covering, rainwater drained through gaps in the concrete roof and into office space. No one was injured on campus during the severe storm that socked Greater Boston.

The water soaked many Wheatley offices on the fourth and third floors, but faculty, staff, and students in those areas acted quickly to shield computers and sensitive materials from the water. They were joined immediately



*The quick work of university employees and outside contractors to protect workspaces, clean the building, and repair the roof helped to minimize disruptions due to Wheatley Hall storm damages. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

by the entire Facilities Department staff, armed with tarps, buckets, mops, and pumps, as well as personnel from Information Technology, Customer Service, and the Property Department.

Dean Adenrele Awotona of the College of Public and Community Service, which was affected by the water damage, praised the work of Facilities.

"The response of the Facilities personnel was quite remarkable,"

Awotona said. "They arrived in the college within a split second and immediately began to assist the college in securing its equipment, especially the computers. Although they were under a tremendous amount of pressure, they worked diligently and with maximum efficiency throughout the calamity. They treated all faculty and staff members with utmost courtesy at all times."

The building was closed and

faculty, staff, and visitors were given two hours to secure their workspaces, gather belongings, and evacuate the building. The Division of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education, which used the Wheatley classrooms during Winter Session, quickly relocated their evening classes and within hours had secured classroom space in McCormack Hall for the final two days of Winter Session.

Workers from Facilities and cleaning contractor One Source worked throughout the night to remove water and start cleaning carpets, walls, and ceilings following the storm, said Craig Pearson, interim director of Facilities. Public Safety officers remained on site to secure the waterlogged areas.

By dawn on Thursday, much of Wheatley had reopened. A roofing contractor was at work removing the estimated 10,000-15,000 square feet of roof covering and other debris. Faculty and staff from the affected areas were directed to report to work at the Campus Center, where they were

briefed on the situation.

"We wanted to make sure that people who needed to get into their offices could do so safely," said Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Ellen O'Connor. "We also wanted people who needed a place to work on campus to know that we would provide them that space. Finally, we wanted to make sure we answered every question we could for the departments that were affected."

Cleanup and roof repairs continued as the interior of the building gradually reopened to staff and faculty. By midday on Saturday, January 21, the temporary roof was in place, said Pearson.

"The quick and coordinated effort by the university community reflects the depth of the commitment and professionalism of our staff, as well as our contractors at One Source," said Chancellor Michael F. Collins, M.D. "We are most appreciative of all of the efforts expended to return campus operations to as close to normal as possible."

## Inspiration. Achievement. Celebration! Inauguration Week Planning Continues

By Anne-Marie Kent

Mark your calendar! Inauguration Week, April 24 to 29, includes events that you will not want to miss, all of them celebrating the strengths of UMass Boston.

The week's festivities include a number of academic symposia, a free concert for students, a fundraising gala to raise money for student scholarships, and the ceremonial inauguration of Chancellor Michael F. Collins, M.D. The excitement of the week will be topped off with a special day of celebration for members of the UMass Boston community and their families.

"Chancellor Collins has expressed a desire to host an event to show appreciation for faculty, staff, and their families during the inaugural week," said Anne Riley, senior budget analyst and chair of the committee organizing the family fun day.

To plan the event for faculty, staff, and their families, Riley and her committee opted to ask for the input of university employees through a survey circulated via broadcast e-mail. "We put together a very short survey with questions that will help us decide how we would like to structure

this event," said Riley, who received 370 responses in less than a week.

"I was delighted that so many responded. One of the comments that we received several times was that folks really appreciated the fact that we asked for their advice," said Riley, who will meet with her committee to review the results of the survey and to decide how the event should be structured.

"This event is really our thank-you to faculty and staff for all that they do for the university," said Chancellor Collins.

While Riley is spearheading the family day planning, Student Life director Joyce Morgan is currently reviewing top headliners for a student concert, to be held on April 27.

A subcommittee organizing academic symposia is also busy at work. Each college dean's office is working to arrange an event that features nationally known speakers, alumni panels, lectures, and other presentations.

"All of the major academic units of the university are excitedly pursuing their plans and we will be reporting to the community about the specifics of these plans very shortly," said Winston Langley, associate provost for academic af-

fairs. "They are quite varied. If there was one feature that characterized them all, it is that of celebrating the campus in a broad participatory fashion."

Other events include the inauguration ceremony, scheduled for Friday, April 28. A luncheon and robing ceremony for university officials and special guests will be held that afternoon and will be followed by the inauguration of Michael F. Collins, M.D., as the seventh chancellor of UMass Boston.

On the following evening, the university is throwing its annual gala, a fundraising event to raise money for student scholarships on Saturday, April 29. It will be a ticketed event held in the Campus Center.

"The evening will feature a pre-dinner tasting reception and silent auction, 'Tasting on the Point,' which will highlight culinary samplings from various area restaurants, followed by the gala dinner, which will include cocktails, dinner, a live auction, fine entertainment, and dancing in the Campus Center," said Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement Darrell Byers. "The real stars of the evening will be our students for whom we are raising scholarship funding. They are our cause for celebration that night."

## January Celebrations at UMass Boston



*(Above) Chancellor Michael F. Collins, M.D., laughs with Africana Studies professor Jemadari Kamara and a participant at the Amilcar Cabral/Martin Luther King, Jr., 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference, held at UMass Boston on January 16. The conference, "A Luta Continua! – The Struggle Continues!" featured poets, speakers, and performances.*

*(Below) Three students take to the ice during a free skate offered throughout the week. UMass Boston welcomed students back to school for the spring semester with a weeklong schedule of activities, including an offering of open houses and information tables, free food, and musical performances. (Photos by Harry Brett)*



# Exercise Scientist Brings Innovative Fitness Programming to Ireland

By Leigh DuPuy

It's a common news story: our children are not getting enough physical activity and are spending too much time in front of televisions and computers, contributing to a national epidemic of childhood obesity. To help combat the problem, UMass Boston's Kyle McNnis, chair of the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences, is using an innovative approach to turn the tables on the overindulgence of video games. He has created a "virtual gym" experience where kids exercise using interactive and technologically advanced games and equipment. This "video circuit-training" concept is taking off locally, nationally, and now internationally as a means of reaching inactive children and bringing fun back into physical fitness.

In January, McNnis was asked to present his techniques and research in Galway, Ireland, for a group of 60 public health and education policy makers concerned about a growing epidemic of childhood obesity and physical inactivity in their country.

"Ireland has really changed a lot in the past ten years. They've experienced an economic boom," says McNnis, "and with it, a cultural shift that brings more tech-



*Discussing ways to address childhood obesity at the National Children's Health Seminar in Galway, Ireland: Kyle McNnis, chair of the Exercise and Health Sciences Department; Conor Lenihan, minister of state; Liz Kirby, health and safety executive nutritionist; Frank Fahey, minister of state; and James O'Toole of Sports Med West, Galway. (Photo by Aengus McMahon)*

nology, more traffic, and more families with two parents working. Like the United States, Ireland is seeing higher rates of inactivity, unhealthy eating, and obesity levels."

In his presentation, "Obesity in Youth—Tackling a Growing Problem," McNnis discussed his experiences in working with children in urban community centers and using innovative approaches to bring play back into physical fitness through the use of technology. He also demonstrated cutting-edge fitness programming

never seen before in Ireland.

"Kids don't typically exercise to get fit or to lose weight; rather, they exercise to have fun," explains McNnis. As the lead in two community projects promoting physical fitness and healthy eating with underserved, urban children in Massachusetts, he has created a fun, circuit-training program using video game technology developed by Cybex International in Medway. With Cybex's newest equipment, called "Trazer," kids are fitted with a waist belt equipped with a sensor

that allows their virtual image on a video screen to move as they move, and score points by jumping, running, or kicking objects that enter the screen. McNnis also uses the game called Sportswall, which involves kids running back and forth and throwing balls to hit lights and score points.

"The kids control the pace," says McNnis. "The faster they move, the more points they score." He and researchers then monitor their heart rates and other qualitative measures of physical activity. "It exceeds the typical effort in physical education classes," he says. "There is very little time that they aren't actually moving."

Most importantly, the kids like to do it and are having fun being active. McNnis found that after twelve weeks, 80 percent of his participants stayed with the program, compared to a national retention rate in similar community fitness programs of only 40 to 50 percent. McNnis believes this kind of enthusiasm could help change a child's attitude about physical activity. These results were of high interest to policy makers on children's health in Ireland who are concerned that the number of young people considered to be seriously overweight has tripled in past the 10 to 15 years.

"Obesity increases the potential for serious cardiovascular and other health problems in children," says McNnis, such as high blood cholesterol, high blood pressure, and type 2 diabetes.

McNnis was asked to present in Galway in part due to the enthusiasm of his former student and research assistant Eoin Colleran, who was speaking to a prominent sports leader about the work he did with McNnis during his undergraduate career at UMass Boston. While in Galway, McNnis and his family also connected with another UMass alum, Iognáid Ó Muircheartaigh, president of the National University of Ireland, Galway, who received an honorary degree from the university in 2003.

In addition to helping create a pilot program in Galway, McNnis has been invited to speak at schools in London this summer on the same techniques.

While the thought of playing video games may not go hand in hand with concepts of becoming physically fit, McNnis has found it to be a successful way to connect with a population typically hard to reach. "It's not the complete solution, but it is a start and a great way to get these kids to enjoy being active," he says.

## Gerontologist Examines Long-Term Care and Older Workers at White House Conference on Aging



*Professor Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen attended the fifth decennial White House Conference on Aging. It was Chen's fourth consecutive conference as a delegate. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

By Robert Geary

This December, the fifth decennial White House Conference on Aging was held in Washington, D.C. The aim was to gather a range of experts and advocates noted for their work on issues in aging to discuss, debate, and prioritize the major public policy issues in aging for the coming decade and beyond. The law requires that the conference report to the president and Congress by June 2006 to help guide national

aging policies.

The 2005 Conference, themed "The Booming Dynamics of Aging: From Awareness to Action," occurred as the oldest baby boomers begin to prepare for retirement. The delegates were appointed by governors, members of Congress, the National Congress of American Indians, and the policy committee of the conference.

Professor Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen, holder of the Frank J. Man-

ning Eminent Scholars Chair in Gerontology and senior fellow of the Gerontology Institute, attended his fourth consecutive conference as a delegate, this time appointed by the policy committee. Chen was also a consultant to the 1971 and 1981 conferences. He was commissioned to prepare briefing books on retirement income for use by the delegates to both of those conferences. For the 1995 conference, he was most concerned with older-worker issues. At the 2005 conference, he was active in advocating reforms of funding and service delivery of long-term care and the removal of barriers to continued employment of older workers.

Delegates were asked to vote on up to 50 choices from 73 resolutions presented by the policy committee, and they were asked to develop implementation strategies. Many resolutions urged a comprehensive national strategy for funding and delivery of long-term care.

"The fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population comprises those over age 85, the group most likely to need long-term care," says

Chen. "Shortages of geriatric health care providers and in the long-term care workforce constitute a growing problem; the Medicaid program's nursing home bias is a serious issue; lack of social and private insurance is a major deficiency in funding long-term care; and elders with mental illnesses are much less understood."

Older-worker issues were given prominence as well. Says Chen, "Age discrimination in employment and training remains a problem; impediments to phased and flexible retirement options pose important barriers to continuing work; and lack of employer awareness of the value of older workers is another issue."

Chen argues that innovative solutions are needed. "Many of the ideas discussed in the conference have been proposed and debated around the country in academic, practice, and policy circles, some for many years. However, when included in the conference's report, these ideas stand better chances of being taken more seriously and may even be adopted," he says.

## New Leadership for Gerontology

By Robert Geary

This January, the Gerontology Institute of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies has new leadership in Maximiliane E. Szinovacz.

"Dr. Szinovacz is a nationally recognized scholar in the areas of older families, late-life labor-force participation, and gender and aging," says Jeff Burr, graduate program director.

Szinovacz is known as a prodigious scholar, having published more than 70 journal articles, book chapters, and books, as well as for her productive grants and research. She is the former Sue Faulkner Scribner Distinguished Professor in Geriatrics at the Glennan Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology at Eastern Virginia Medical School. Szinovacz also holds graduate degrees in sociology, philosophy, psychology, and history from the University of Vienna.

Frank Caro recently retired as director after nearly ten years and will remain active as a faculty member, mentor, researcher, and editor of the *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*.

# Honors Director and UMass Boston Students Work in South African HIV/AIDS Hospices Over Winter Break

By Leigh DuPuy

This January, seven students who enrolled in the “International Epidemics” colloquium did more than study disease in the classroom. During a weeklong trip to Cape Town, they worked alongside of South African public health officials and activists in the country’s AIDS/HIV hospices.

The trip was a brainchild of Rajini Srikanth, director of the University Honors Program, who, along with associate director Dick Cluster, is teaching the colloquium series. She was searching for a way to add something more to the year-long course that focuses on academic study and on-the-ground work. The colloquium, offered by the University Honors Program, is open to honors students as well as recommended juniors and seniors.

“I really wanted to offer my students a field experience in an international setting,” she said. Srikanth was able to coordinate an internship-style curriculum for her students in collaboration with Pdraig O’Malley, senior fellow at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, who is living in Cape Town while finishing his book.

“He promised to make arrangements if I could bring the students there,” she said. With students volunteering to pay their own expenses, including boarding at an area youth hostel, Srikanth was faced with the task of trying to raise money for the cost of travel. “We were able to go because an any-



UMass Boston students visited with senior fellow Pdraig O’Malley as part of their trip to South Africa. They are pictured here with TAC volunteers (from left to right): TAC volunteer Phumeza Runeyi; Liz Elia; Jessica Santiccioli; Oscar Yepes; O’Malley; Elena Stefanova; Catherine Reyes-Spencer; TAC volunteer Lumkile Sizila; Thandisizwe Zunguma; TAC volunteer Amelia Mfiki; Mirna Ortiz; and Kimberly Carroll. The photo was taken by Honors director Rajini Srikanth.

mous donor contributed \$11,000 to the project,” said Srikanth.

The group left on January 8, arrived in Cape Town on January 9, and began their work over the course of seven very busy days in a township called Khayelitsha. Noting the immense poverty there, Srikanth said, “It is called the AIDS capital of the world, as well as the TB and murder capital of the world.”

The group was able to connect with Mandla Majola, a member of the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), a grassroots HIV/AIDS activist organization composed of community members, doctors, public health officials, researchers, and

others that provide care, including free antiretroviral treatment, to those who have the disease. “Without him, we would not have had exposure to TAC, the communities they serve, and the work that they do,” said Srikanth. “It is such an incredible organization and the students were really able to see how on-the-ground activists and interventions really work.”

Students would spend each morning working at one of three TAC sites. “They helped to provide counseling and education, helped pack medications, whatever it took,” said Srikanth.

In the afternoons, they partici-

ated in academic-style lectures organized by O’Malley that featured economists, public policymakers, and medical doctors who spoke about the administration of care in a country where more than 5.3 million South Africans are infected with the HIV virus, according to 2003 statistics gathered by the UNAIDS organization. It is the largest number of individuals living with the virus in a single country.

In the evenings, the students met again with TAC workers who arranged meetings with faith healers, rape survivors, men’s support groups, and a church service, where members talked openly of having HIV/AIDS and provided support to each other.

“It was humbling to go there and see the level of commitment of the workers,” says Srikanth. “They gave so much of themselves.” The experience also fulfilled one of Srikanth’s goals in teaching: to encourage her students to think in ways that challenge their comfort zone.

Catherine Reyes-Spencer, a senior biochemistry major and medical school hopeful, was one of the honors students on the trip. “It was such a positive experience,” she said. “I expected to be depressed, and it was upsetting to hear about people’s traumatic experiences... However, it was amazing to witness the strength of the people living openly with the disease and to see the huge support network of hospices, rape centers, day care, businesses working at treatment, edu-

cation, and prevention.”

The other students on the trip were Kimberly Carroll, Elizabeth Elia, Mirna Ortiz, Catherine Reyes-Spencer, Jessica Santiccioli, Elena Stefanova, and Oscar Yepes.

The group was also accompanied by Roberta Dougan, a filmmaker who has documented grassroots activism in countries such as Nepal and Nicaragua. “It was a great way to provide visual evidence of what we were doing,” said Srikanth.

Inspired by the experience, Srikanth said, “I would like to use this model to frame other internships.” She hopes to create a three-credit internship focused on public health that includes preparatory reading, exposure to Xhosa, the language of South Africa, and a ten-day trip to Cape Town. She would also like to design two other international internships, one with an environmental sustainability focus in Costa Rica and another on education issues in India. She points out, with students paying for credits and expenses, it would only require raised funds for travel.

These internships, though organized by the Honors Program, would be open to the wider campus community. Interested students would need to apply.

“It gives our students an international experience they don’t ordinarily get,” she said. “The lives our students lead make them great future policymakers and they deserve these opportunities.”

## Boston Medical Center Honors Vice Chancellor for Holiday Toy Deliveries

By UMass Boston Athletics Communications

Charlie Titus, vice chancellor for athletics, recreation, and special projects, recently was named Boston Medical Center’s “January We Care” award recipient.

Since 1990, Titus has organized a drive for toys for kids at Boston Medical Center (BMC) and its predecessor Boston City Hospital. Each year, just before Christmas, Titus and an entourage of coaches and players from the UMass Boston men’s basketball team have carried sacks of toys to the pediatric emergency room, the inpatient pediatric unit, and throughout the entire ambulatory care center. Over the years, the men’s basketball squad has been joined by the men’s ice hockey team as well.

The UMass Boston teams’ visit to Boston Medical Center is the longest-running, uninterrupted, gift-



(Photo by Harry Brett)

giving effort among BMC’s many holiday season donors. For his dedication and commitment to the pediatric patients of Boston Medical Center, BMC honored Titus and his team with the award for January.

Titus, now in his 30th season as men’s basketball mentor, was direc-

tor of athletics from 1980-2004, before stepping away for a year to serve as interim vice chancellor for student affairs. In his new position, Titus works on community service and outreach initiatives that, in his words, “allow me to pursue my passion to help UMass Boston serve the neighborhoods of the city.”

Titus has been instrumental in fueling the university’s commitment to community service, as evidenced by the Department of Athletics involvement throughout the city in helping others. In 2004, the National Consortium for Academics and Sports named UMass Boston athletics as the top program in the country for community service for the seventh straight year, while the National Association of Division III Athletics Administrators/Jostens honored UMass Boston with a community service award for the second consecutive year.

## University Bids Farewell to Lewis Kerwin



On January 12, the university held a thank-you reception for Annemarie Lewis Kerwin, who resigned as vice chancellor for university communications and community relations in order to start her own strategic communications practice. During a reception that included speeches by former chancellors Sherry Penney and Keith Motley, and Provost Paul Fonteyn, Chancellor Michael F. Collins, M.D., thanked her for her service to the university and gave her a UMass Boston commemorative painted mirror as a token of appreciation. (Photo by Harry Brett)

# CAMPUS NOTES

## PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

**Jorgelina Abbate-Vaughn**, assistant professor in the Graduate College of Education (GCOE), presented “‘Para Aquí Today, Para Afuera Tomorrow’: Early Childhood Paraprofessionals’ Beliefs on Preparedness for Work in Urban Schools and NCLB Requirements” at the 58th annual conference of the American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education, held in San Diego.

**Pratyush Bharati**, assistant professor of management science and information systems, presented “Producing Software: Investigating the IT Services Network in India” at the OASIS 2005 Workshop at the International Conference of Information Systems, held on December 11.

**Lawrence Blum**, professor of philosophy, presented “Best Traditions Patriotism,” a comment on three presentations, including colleague **Ajume Wingo’s** “To Love Your Country as Your Mother: Patriotism after 9/11,” at a session on “Patriotism and Civic Education,” sponsored by the Association for Philosophy of Education at the yearly conference of the eastern division of the American Philosophical Association.

On January 7, staff affiliated with the Center for Social Policy (CSP) represented UMass Boston at the annual meeting of the Labor and Employment Research Association (Allied Social Sciences Association Meetings). CSP staff and affiliates **Francoise Carre**, **Brandynn Holgate**, **Pascale Joassart**, and **Randy Albelda** presented papers.

**John Duff** of the Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences (EEOS) Department presented the paper “The United States and the Ratification of the Law of the Sea Convention” at the December 2005 International Workshop on the U.S. and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, held at the Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan.

**Carol Hardy-Fanta**, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy (CWPPP), presented research on women’s political representation in Massachusetts at the 27th Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, held on January 14.

**William Koehler**, graduate programs director at the College of Management, presented the coauthored paper “Work Habits: Company Towns for the 21st Century” at the 8th International Conference on Humane Habitat: Shaping Sustainable Work Communities and Human Work Environments, held at the Rizvi College of Architecture in India.

**Arthur MacEwan**, chair and professor of economics, presented “Liberalization, Migration and Gender: The Mexican Experience,” at a session sponsored by the International Association for Feminist Economics and the Union for Radical Political Economics at the Allied Social Science Associations meetings, held in Boston on January 6.

**Scott Maisano**, assistant professor of English, presented his paper “The Pregnant Pause: Anna of Denmark as Queen of Da Nile in Ben Jonson’s *Masque of Blackness*” at the annual conference of the Modern Language Association, held in Washington, D.C. in December. There, Maisano was also invited to serve as respondent to a panel of papers on the topic “Early Modern Science Fiction.”

**Sherry Merrow**, undergraduate nursing program director in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS), was the guest speaker at a Quincy College nursing professional recognition ceremony held on January 5.

On January 13, **Tatjana Meschede** of the Center for Social Policy presented the findings of her research on homelessness at the Women’s Lunch Place. Her research examined the health conditions of homeless street dwellers and also discussed “housing first” models to permanently house chronically homeless people based on her ongoing research in Quincy.

Professor **Jennifer Radden** of the Philosophy Department spoke on “Technology and Virtues” at the American Philosophical Association meeting, held in New York in December.

**Anny Rivera-Ottenberger**, adjunct professor of political science, presented her paper “Contrasting Models of Local Governance and the Organizations of the Urban Poor in Chile: The Cases of El Bosque and Peñalolén” at the 2005 Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference.

On January 12, **Laura Henze Russell**, director of the elder economic security standard project at the Gerontology Institute, copresented “Senior Property Tax Relief” for 50 seniors at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute’s Brownbag Presentation.

**Rob Stevenson**, associate professor of biology, arranged and chaired the symposium “Ecophysiology and Conservation: The Contributions of Energetics” at a January meeting of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology. He also coauthored a presentation with William Woods: “Condition Indices for Conservation: New Uses for Evolving Tools.”

On January 5, Professor **Nancy Stieber** of the Art Department delivered the lecture “The City from Above and Below” for the Architecture Department at the Middle Eastern Technical University in Ankara, Turkey. She also participated in a meeting to organize the ninth international conference of Docomomo, an international organization for the documentation and conservation of modern buildings.

**Jun Suzuki**, assistant professor of computer science, presented and published the paper “An Automatic Adaptation Mechanism for Decentralized Grid Applications” with graduate student **Chonho Lee** at the IEEE Consumer Communications and Networking Conference.

**Robert Weiner**, chair of the International Relations track in the Master of Science in Public Affairs Program, participated in the “Russian-Ukrainian Natural Gas Conflict” seminar at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, held at Harvard University on January 9.

**Jason Wheeler** and **Joe Tierney** of the Institute for Community Inclusion’s National Service Inclusion Project visited Alaska in January to train national and community service program coordinators on disability inclusion basics.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Jorgelina Abbate-Vaughn**, GCOE assistant professor, published a book review of Marilyn Cochran-Smith’s *Walking the Road: Race, Diversity, and Social Justice in Teacher Education* in *Educational Studies: A Journal of the American Educational Studies Association*.

A report by **Jim Campen**, professor emeritus of economics and research associate at the Gastón Institute, was released by the Massachusetts Community and Banking Council on January 9. “Changing Patterns XII: Mortgage Lending to Traditionally Underserved Borrowers and Neighborhoods in Greater Boston, 1990-2004” is available in the reports section at [www.masscommunityandbanking.org](http://www.masscommunityandbanking.org).

**Alex Des Forges**, assistant professor in the Department of Modern Languages, published the article “Burning with Reverence: The Economics and Aesthetics of Words in Qing” in the January issue of *PMLA*.

**Allen Gontz**, EEOS assistant professor, co-authored the article “Shallow-Water Pockmark Formation in Temperate Estuaries: A Consideration of Origins in the Western Gulf of Maine with Special Focus on Belfast Bay,” which was published in *Marine Geology*.

**Chi-kan Richard Hung**, College of Public and Community Service assistant professor, published the article “Rules and Actions: Determinants of Peer Group and Staff Actions in Group-Based Microcredit Programs in the United States” in *Economic Development Quarterly*.

In December, **Pascale Joassart**, visiting research fellow at the Center for Social Policy and assistant professor in the Department of Economics, was the co-author of the report “Hopeful Workers, Marginal Jobs: LA’s Off-The-Books Labor Force,” published by The Economic Roundtable. The report examines the extent and nature of the “informal” labor force in Los Angeles and is available at [www.economicrt.org](http://www.economicrt.org).

An article by **Tatjana Meschede** of the Center for Social Policy, “Accessing Housing: Exploring the Impact of Medical and Substance Abuse Services on Housing Attainment for Chronically Homeless Street Dwellers,” was accepted for publication in a special issue of the *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*.

An essay by assistant professor of history **Ruth Miller**, “Sin, Scandal, and Disaster: Politics and Crime in Contemporary Turkey,” was included in the edited collection *Evil, Law and the State: Perspectives on State Power and Violence*, published by Rodopi Press.

**Cheryl Nixon** and **Louise Penner**, assistant professors of English, co-authored the essay “Writing by the Book: Jane Austen’s Heroines and the Art and Form of the Letter,” which was recently published in *Persuasions*, the journal of the Jane Austen Society of North America.

In January, **Stephen Silliman**, assistant professor of anthropology, published his book *Historical Archaeology*, co-edited with Martin Hall, with Blackwell Publishing.

**Nina M. Silverstein**, associate professor of gerontology, presented “Community Mobility and Supportive Transportation: Special Considerations for Dementia and Other Functional Impairments among Older Drivers” and convened the “Human Factors Workshop” at the Transportation Research Board’s 85th annual meeting, held in January in Washington, D.C.

An article by professor of history **Julie Winch**, “‘No Common Lot’: An African American Sailor’s Half-Century at Sea in the Age of Sail,” has been published in *Perspectives on Race, Ethnicity, and Power in Maritime America*, edited by Glenn S. Gordinier.

## EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

**Mary Oleskiewicz**, assistant professor of music, performed as flutist with the Handel and Haydn Society Orchestra in three performances of an all-Beethoven program, conducted by Grant Llewellyn, January 13-15 at Symphony Hall in Boston.

## GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

**Edmund Beard**, Dean of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, led a delegation of Massachusetts judges and other legal experts to Russia in December 2005 as part of a continuing effort, funded by the US Department of State, to strengthen intellectual property rights protection in that country. Project partners, including the Massachusetts Judges Conference, conducted workshops, mock demonstrations, and seminars with the Russian Academy of Justice, the Moscow Commercial Court, Russian graduate students in law and policy, and private-sector stakeholders. **Joseph McDonough**, executive director of the Massachusetts Judges Conference and a visiting fellow in the McCormack Graduate School, joined the delegation.

EEOS professor **Robert Chen** and co-principal investigators **Hannah Sevia** of GCOE, **Arthur Eisenkraft** of COSMIC, **Marilyn Decker** of the Boston School System, and **Adan Colon-Carmona** of the Biology Department, were awarded a \$2M, 5-year grant from the National Science Foundation’s K-12 program for their proposal “Watershed-Integrated Sciences Partnership II (WISP-2).” This grant is a continuation of their first 5-year grant and provides full fellowships for graduate students in the sciences to work with middle school teachers and students to improve science education.

A report by GCOE assistant professor **Alicia Dowd**, “Data Don’t Drive: Building a Practitioner-Driven Culture of Inquiry to Access Community College Performances,” was released in December by Lumina Foundation for Education. The report explores how community colleges can best use data to improve student services and is available at [www.luminafoundation.org/publications](http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications).

**Peter Kiang**, director of the Asian American Studies Program and professor of education, served as a hearing officer for the national Public Education Network’s Massachusetts statewide hearing on No Child Left Behind legislation—one of ten in the country.

# CAMPUS NOTES

**Catherine Manton**, retired associate professor of women's studies, returned to China to work again for the Ministry of Health in the Fujian Province, preparing surgical and psychiatric personnel for work assignments in western countries. She will be there through April 2006.

**Anny Rivera-Ottenberger**, adjunct professor in the Political Science Department, was awarded a "Post-Doctoral Scholar in the Study of Democracy in Latin America" grant from the Latin American Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Ford Foundation. Rivera-Ottenberger's project, "Contrasting Modes of Local Governance and the Urban Poor in Chile," was one of eight selected among 160 applications from 19 countries.

**Erica White**, project manager at the Center for Democracy and Development at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, traveled to northwest China with a delegation of Massachusetts judges to conduct a domestic violence mock trial under U.S. legal principles at Chinese law schools in Beijing, Xi'an, Xining, Yinchuan, and Lanzhou. Focusing on the importance of an independent judiciary, the Mock Trial Demonstration Program for China is in its fourth year and funded by the U.S. Department of State.

## APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

**Billy Collins**, guest editor of *The Best American Poetry 2006*, selected "The Sharper the Berry," a poem by **Mark Pawlak**, director of Academic Support Programs, to be included in the anthology. The anthology includes the "best" of all the poetry published the previous year in magazines and journals. Pawlak's poem first appeared last fall in the journal *New American Writing*.

**Carol Hall Ellenbecker**, associate professor of nursing, was appointed a member of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) Health Care Research Training review committee by the AHRQ director Carolyn Clancy.

**Jacqueline Fawcett**, CNHS professor, received the *American Journal of Nursing 2005* Book of the Year Award for her work *Contemporary Nursing Knowledge: Analysis and Evaluation of Nursing Models and Theories*.

**Allen Gontz**, EEOS assistant professor, was recently named as a campus representative to the Geological Society of America, a professional society of geologists.

**James Green**, professor of history and labor studies, has been elected president of the board of directors of The Welcome Project, an advocacy and service organization based in Somerville's Mystic Public Housing Development. Directed by CPCS alumnus **Nelson Salazar**, the project's mission is to build a strong multicultural community in Somerville.

**David Levy** and **Jeff Keisler** were recipients of the College of Management's Dean's Awards for Distinguished Research. Levy, a professor of management, authored *The Business of Global Environmental Governance*, among other publications, and Keisler, assistant professor of management science and information systems, had papers published in *Decision Analysis*, *Risk Analysis*, and *Engineering Economist*.

## EVENTS

The Institute of Community Inclusion's Project FOCUS Academy held a kickoff event on January 10 with four Massachusetts high schools. These schools will start several activities to improve high school and post-school outcomes for teenagers with disabilities. Five additional schools have signed on, which fills the project's capacity.

## CORRECTION

In the January *University Reporter*, **Meng Zhou** was listed as a co-principal investigator on **Bob Chen's** new \$528,697 Office of Naval Research grant "Predicting Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter Distributions in Coastal Waters." The co-principal investigators are **Yong Tian** and **Bernie Gardner**.

## IN THE NEWS

**Lois Biener**, senior research fellow at the Center for Survey Research, appeared on NBC's Today show on January 3 in a segment about new anti-tobacco advertisements broadcasting in New York.

**James Campen**, research associate at the Gastón Institute and professor emeritus of economics, was quoted in the *Boston Globe* on January 10 on his recent report finding a dramatic increase in out-of-state lenders.

Research by CWPPP director **Carol Hardy-Fanta** and her co-principal investigators on the Gender and Multicultural Leadership Project was cited in a 2005 issue of *Hispanic Business*. She was also quoted in the *Nashua Telegram* on January 8 on the low number of New England municipal officeholders who are women.

**Christine Holmes**, an alumna of the exercise science program, was featured in the *Boston Globe* in January for her successful entrepreneurship in opening her own gym, Fitness Vibe, which has grown to 600 members since April.

**Peter Kiang**, professor of education and director of the Asian American Studies Program, and graduate student **Jennifer Nguyen** were quoted in a December 15 article in *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* on the effects of Hurricane Katrina on the Vietnamese population in the Gulf states.

**Askold Melnyczuk**, director of the Creative Writing Program, was quoted in the *Boston Globe* on January 8 in a column on doublespeak and the use of words in describing national disasters and race relations.

**Susan Sullivan**, a candidate for a master's degree in education, was profiled for her teaching techniques using response journals in the *Duxbury Clipper* on December 14.

*The Experience of Retirement*, a new book by **Robert Weiss**, senior fellow at the Gerontology Institute and professor emeritus of sociology, was featured in the January 6 *Chronicle of Higher Education's* Nota Bene column.

## Noyce Scholars (cont.)

strated strength in mathematics or science, and an interest in and a commitment to teaching.

The goal of UMass Boston's Noyce Scholars Program is to increase the number of qualified Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) graduates who are qualified to teach mathematics or science in the Boston area during the next three years. The program will work in partnership with Boston schools so that teacher training and professional development programs meet the needs of the city and the state.

The Noyce Scholars team consists of Graduate College of Education faculty **Lisa Gonsalves**, assistant professor of literacy and assessment, and **Jorgelina Abbate-Vaughn**, assistant professor in curriculum and instruction; College of Science and Math faculty **Brian White**, assistant professor of biology, and **Marietta Schwartz**, associate professor in chemistry.

## Asthma and Children (cont.)

lasting personal ties in their adult years. "Children's social functioning in middle childhood is predictive of relationships at later points in development," says **Bender Berz**, whose academic specialization is child psychology.

It is logical to posit a link between childhood asthma and psychological difficulties, as **Bender Berz** did. "Kids with asthma are typically more restricted in their recreational activity, and this can give rise to depressed mood," she says. "Perhaps more important, asthma attacks often come on quickly and without warning, which can be very anxiety-provoking."

But the study itself, which followed forty-eight urban kids eight to twelve years of age, told a different story: It produced no evidence that asthma predisposes kids to other illness. Instead, the study's asthmatic and healthy children were found to be at similar risk for psychosocial problems, including symptoms of depression and anxiety.

**Bender Berz** believes that an explanation of that outcome leads inevitably to the specifics of her sample and methods. Far from proving that asthma and psychosocial problems are unrelated, she says, her data may merely indicate a need to reassess the validity of

existing measures for minority children. Or they may point to the diminished relative importance of asthma considered as one of a host of urban-life stressors. Regardless, the study underscores, as **Bender Berz** says, "the importance of examining co-occurring difficulties in psychosocial development among urban children."

One of the study's more intriguing discussion points concerns the effects of asthma treatments: "A child's asthma may demand a type of structured lifestyle—for example, close parental supervision or routinized medication administration—that could help to foster psychosocial

well-being." Put another way, asthma and its treatment can actually improve children's self-concept and self-esteem.

Of course, that's a thoroughly counterintuitive bit of reasoning; in view of the research model in which it is stated, however, it should not come as a surprise. "Epidemiological studies tend to provide more of a big-picture view of the nature of the relationship between asthma and psychosocial functioning," **Bender Berz** says.

As she well knows, that perspective has been missing from the scholarly debate about childhood asthma for far too long.

## Graduate Student Assembly Presents: *Writing Your Dissertation in Fifteen Minutes a Day* Tuesday, February 7

4:00 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom, 3rd fl.

Featuring author **Joan Bolker**

Book signing and reception to follow discussion

Contact: 7-7975 or [gsaassembly@umb.edu](mailto:gsaassembly@umb.edu)

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of University Communications and Community Relations. All events are open to the public and free, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits below each event.

Submit March calendar listings by **Tuesday, February 14** to [umb.edu/news/calendar/](http://umb.edu/news/calendar/).

### Thursday 2

#### Trotter Institute Presents: Authors Stephen Fox and Derri Greenidge Converse

12:00 – 2:00 p.m., Healey Library, Faculty Staff Lounge, 11th fl. Two biographers will share insights and perspectives on the life of William Monroe Trotter. Contact: 7-5885 or [yvonne.gomes-santos@umb.edu](mailto:yvonne.gomes-santos@umb.edu).

#### College of Management MBA Forum

5:00 – 6:00 p.m., location to be announced. Featuring Daniel Joyce '82, president of Moors & Cabot, Inc. Contact: [www.management.umb.edu/calendar/feb06.php](http://www.management.umb.edu/calendar/feb06.php).

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Men's Basketball vs. Tufts University

7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

### Friday 3

#### Same-Sex Marriage: A Symposium

9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Campus Center. Featuring George Chauncey, E.J. Graff, Gary Buseck, Maureen Sullivan, Jeffrey Sánchez, David Wilson, and Rob Compton. The symposium organized by the UMass Boston Sexuality Studies Group and the Queer Student Center, with funding from the American Studies Department, American Studies Graduate Student Roundtable, Art Department, Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, Classics Club, College of Liberal Arts, College of Public and Community Service, Graduate Student Assembly, Hispanic Studies Department, History Department, Philosophy Department, Student Arts Council, and Women's Studies Program. Contact: [david.areford@umb.edu](mailto:david.areford@umb.edu).

#### Philosophy Club

2:30 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 5-041. All are invited to participate in the weekly presentation. Contact 7-6406 or [peggy.roland@umb.edu](mailto:peggy.roland@umb.edu).

#### Distinguished Speaker in Biology Series: News from the Rhizosphere: Roots Influence Soil Organisms through Chemistry and Vice Versa

2:30 – 3:30 p.m., Science Center, Small Science Lecture Hall, 1st fl. Featuring Jorge Vivanco, associate professor at Colorado State University and director of the Center for Rhizosphere Biology. Sponsored by the Biology Department. Contact: 7-6600 or [bio.umb.edu/events/](http://bio.umb.edu/events/).

### Saturday 4

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Women's Basketball vs. Keene State College

1:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Men's Basketball vs. Keene State College

3:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

### Monday 6

#### Campus Ministry: Twenty-Minute Prayer for De-Stressing: Finding Inner Peace

9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Mondays, McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel/Ryan Lounge, 3rd fl. Contact: [dorothy.castles@umb.edu](mailto:dorothy.castles@umb.edu).

#### Colloquium Series: Redefining the Work Retirement Divide: A Reasonable Response to the Retirement Division Crisis

1:00 – 2:15 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 3-125. Featuring Steve Sass, research associate for the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Sponsored by the Gerontology Institute and Department, McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies. Contact: 7-7305.

### Tuesday 7

#### Beacon Fitness Center Class: Fundamentals of Kickboxing

11:30 – 12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, 1st fl. Contact: [www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm) or 7-6788.

#### Graduate Student Assembly: Writing Your Dissertation in Fifteen Minutes a Day

4:00 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom, 3rd fl. Featuring author Joan Bolker. Book signing and reception to follow discussion. Contact: 7-7975 or [gsassembly@umb.edu](mailto:gsassembly@umb.edu).

#### Trotter Institute Speaker Series: History of Blacks in Boston Theatre

4:00 p.m., Healey Library, gallery, 5th fl. Featuring Kay Bourne, author and long-time writer for the *Bay State Banner*. The Trotter Institute has sponsored the lectures in celebration of Black History Month. Contact: 7-5880.

#### Beacon Fitness Center Class: Power Yoga

4:00 – 5:00 p.m., Tuesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, 1st fl. Contact: [www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm) or 7-6788.

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Women's Basketball vs. UMass Dartmouth

5:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Men's Basketball vs. UMass Dartmouth

7:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

### Thursday 9

#### Meditation Group

2:30 – 3:00 p.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel/Ryan Lounge, 3rd fl. Learn to meditate. Guided instruction provided and all are welcome. Sponsored by University Health Services and the Health Education, and Wellness Center. Contact: 7-5624 or [lauren.mayhew@umb.edu](mailto:lauren.mayhew@umb.edu).

### Friday 10

#### Biology Department Series

2:30-3:30 p.m., Science Center, Small Science Lecture Hall, 1st fl. Featuring N. Michele Holbrook of Harvard Biological Laboratories. Sponsored by the Biology Department. Contact: 7-6600 or [www.bio.umb.edu/events](http://www.bio.umb.edu/events).

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Women's Ice Hockey vs. Holy Cross College

4:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, rink. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Middlebury College

7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, rink. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

### Saturday 11

#### UMass Boston Athletics: She's Got Game!

12:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. All-day celebration of women and sports. Events are free and open to the public. See [www.athletics.umb.edu](http://www.athletics.umb.edu).

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Women's Ice Hockey vs. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

12:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, rink. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Women's Basketball vs. Plymouth State College

1:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Men's Basketball vs. Plymouth State College

3:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

#### UMass Boston Athletics: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Williams College

7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, rink. See [www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/clark/events.htm) for full schedule.

### Monday 13

#### President's Day

University is closed.

#### College of Management MBA Forum

5:00 – 6:00 p.m., location to be announced. Featuring Martin Courage '82, senior vice president of Bank of America Investment Services, Inc. Contact: [www.management.umb.edu/calendar/feb06.php](http://www.management.umb.edu/calendar/feb06.php).

### Tuesday 14

#### Yoga for All

2:30 – 3:30 p.m., Tuesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center Aerobics Room, 1st fl. Kripalu yoga class open to all. Mats will be provided. Students: free. Faculty and staff: \$5.00. Sponsored by University Health Services. Contact: 7-5680 or [linda.jorgensen@umb.edu](mailto:linda.jorgensen@umb.edu).

#### Trotter Institute Speaker Series: Fist Against Fist Is Irrational: The African Philosophical Influence in American Athletics

4:00 p.m., Healey Library, gallery, 5th fl. Featuring Danny Dawson of New York University. The Trotter Institute has sponsored the lectures in celebration of Black History Month. Contact: 7-5880.

### Wednesday 15

#### Yoga for All

1:30 – 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center Aerobics Room, 1st fl. Kripalu yoga class open to all. Mats will be provided. Students: free. Faculty and staff: \$5.00. Sponsored by University Health Services. Contact: 7-5680 or [linda.jorgensen@umb.edu](mailto:linda.jorgensen@umb.edu).

#### Beacon Fitness Center Class: Total Conditioning

5:30 – 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, 1st fl. Contact: [www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm) or 7-6788.

### Thursday 16

#### Beacon Fitness Center Class: Power Yoga

8:30 – 9:30 a.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, 1st fl. Contact: [www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm) or 7-6788.

#### Beacon Fitness Center Class: Plyometrics

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, 1st fl. Contact: [www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm) or 7-6788.

#### Beacon Fitness Center Class: Tai Chi

2:30 – 3:30 p.m., Thursdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, 1st fl. Contact: [www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm) or 7-6788.

### Friday 17

#### Biology Department Series: Polymeric Biomaterials and Future Medical Devices

2:30-3:30 p.m., Science Center, Small Science Lecture Hall, 1st fl. Featuring Art Coury, vice president for biomaterials research at Genzyme Corporation. Sponsored by the Biology and Chemistry Departments. Contact: 7-6600 or [bio.umb.edu/events/](http://bio.umb.edu/events/).

### Tuesday 21

#### Trotter Institute Speaker Series: Bella DaCosta Greene

4:00 p.m., Healey Library, gallery, 5th fl. Featuring Marc Latamie, an installation artist, on Greene, the librarian and art collector for J.P. Morgan. The Trotter Institute has sponsored the lectures in celebration of Black History Month. Contact: 7-5880.

### Friday 24

#### Biology Department Series: Biology Ph.D. Student Presentations

2:30-3:30 p.m., Science Center, Small Science Lecture Hall, 1st fl. Featuring Melinda Gammon: "Molecular and Morphological Evidence of Introgression in Swarms of Invasive Knotweeds (Polygonaceae)"; Nicole Weber: "Locally-Based Conservation Education Programs Promote Issue Awareness and Community Solutions in Central America and the United States"; and Elizabeth Munoz: "Floral Morphology and Breeding System Evolution in the Genus Cordia." Contact: 7-6600 or [bio.umb.edu/events/](http://bio.umb.edu/events/).

### Monday 27

#### Colloquium Series: Medicare's Effect on the Health Care Utilization and Health Care Outcomes of Previous Uninsured

1:00 – 2:15 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 3-125. Featuring Jody Schimmel, assistant professor of economics at Northeastern University. Sponsored by the Gerontology Institute and Department, McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies. Contact: 7-7305.

### Tuesday 28

#### Trotter Institute Speaker Series: African-Americans in Theatre in 1930s Boston

4:00 p.m., Healey Library, gallery, 5th fl. Featuring Lisa Simmons, Boston filmmaker who is making a documentary on the lecture topic. The Trotter Institute has sponsored the lectures in celebration of Black History Month. Contact: 7-5880.

#### College of Management Senior Executive Forum

6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Campus Center, 3-3545. Featuring Gianfranco Zaccai, president and CEO of Design Continuum. Contact: [cmevents@umb.edu](mailto:cmevents@umb.edu)

### Miscellaneous

#### Campus Ministry

Offerings include Catholic Mass: 12:30 – 1:00 p.m., Wednesdays. Ash Wednesday events: Mass, prayer, and Distribution of the Blessed Ashes. Sacramental preparation for Catholics, confirmation classes, and preparation as requested. Contact: 7-5839 or [www.umb.edu/students/campus\\_ministry/](http://www.umb.edu/students/campus_ministry/).

#### New England Rehabilitation Continuing Education Program Training Sessions

Offerings include coaching and teaching strategies, culture brokering, Social Security information, and employment law. Register at [www.nercep.org](http://www.nercep.org).