2005 Convocation Celebrates Inspiring Minds, Inspiring Lives

By Anne-Marie Kent

The September 20 Convocation Day activities began with a special breakfast in the Campus Center, followed by the Chancellor’s Convocation Day Address: “Inspiring Minds, Inspiring Lives: A Celebration of Reciprocal Education.”

Opening his speech with a new twist on an old joke about mistakenly receiving a sympathy bouquet on the occasion of his appointment, Chancellor Michael F. Collins, M.D., acknowledged both the “controversy surrounding [his] appointment” and the “sage counsel” given personally by former interim chancellor Keith Motley—

which was to “love this place.”

Sitting in the front row, Motley smiled and nodded.

For a place to be loved, it must be known. Chancellor Collins went on to reveal that he had indeed spent some time getting to know UMass Boston, listening to people, observing, and doing some homework.

His summer reading included two key books edited by UMass Boston faculty members: Achieving Against the Odds: How Academics Become Teachers of Diverse Students, edited by Esther Kingston-Mann and Tim Sieber, and Crossing the Curriculum: Multilingual Learners in College Classrooms, edited in part by Vivian Zamel. These books contain essays written by UMass Boston faculty members and students about their learning experiences at UMass Boston.

“The more I speak with various people on campus, it becomes clearer and clearer to me that throughout UMass Boston inspiring minds inspire lives. It takes a certain type of educator to make this happen, and these books, these authors identified that type for me,” said Chancellor Collins, who cited specific faculty members by name: Reyes Coll-Tellechea, Tim Sieber, Cass Turner, Esther Kingston-Mann, Vivian Zamel, Lois Rudnick, Kathleen Sands, Peter Kiang, Estelle Disk, and Winston Langley.

Chancellor Collins also recounted several examples of students who inspired him personally, including College of Nursing and Health Sciences senior Entela Topalli, who grew up in a.com.

UMass Boston Responds to Those Affected by Hurricane Katrina

By Lisa Gentes

Hurricane Katrina has deeply affected the UMass Boston community—from displaced students now enrolled in classes at UMass Boston, to faculty members volunteering down south, to those with family living in New Orleans.

In a quick response to the crisis in the Gulf Coast, on September 1 UMass Boston offered open enrollment to any student displaced by the hurricane.

“We want to offer our deepest sympathy to the citizens of the Gulf Coast states and reach out to these communities in any way possible,” Chancellor Michael F. Collins said. “We would like to invite students whose academic careers have been interrupted by the devastation a chance to continue their education here at UMass Boston.”

According to Christopher Hogan, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, 27 students, undergraduate and graduate, were enrolled and started classes by September 13.

“We tried to find classes to link to their majors,” he said, adding that the university is working to get their credits transferred back to their host institutions. “Our main concern was just to get them into class.”

The students, some Massachusetts residents and others from out of state, had their tuition waived by the state Board of Higher Education for the fall semester, he said.

New Orleans native Orlando Alcazar had only six classes left to take at the University of New Orleans (UNO) before receiving his undergraduate degree in psychology. The 33-year-old, now attending UMass Boston, moved up to Boston with his fiancée, Bettina Blandini, after they fled their home in New Orleans before Katrina hit.

“Where I lived, two blocks away from where the levee broke, it’s completely destroyed,” he said. He and his fiancée evacuated to a friend’s house in Baton Rouge (Cont. on page 2)
“Higher education has become a credential and has become a credential of entitlement, and it has become a credential of entitlement, that those who are wealthiest can afford to purchase,” said Guinier, who went on to say that higher education is “deeply connected to the democratic mission of our country because our country depends on citizens who can think critically, citizens who are committed to an understanding of society and are encouraged to serve that society, not just to take advantage of the opportunities of that society to serve themselves.”

Guinier, who voiced admiration for the chancellor’s speech, offered a pointed response to his mention of former Chancellor Gora’s “3 Rs”—the R of “reputation” in particular. She said, “I think that UMass Boston has so much to build on in terms of developing and promoting its reputation. You have the opportunity to change the way we think about higher education more generally. I would hate to see you follow Harvard’s lead,” offering “a credential of wealth, not of service.”

Guinier added, “I think this university has the opportunity to demonstrate that higher education is not about credentialing those who are already privileged; it is about promoting an ethic of service among all of us.”

“Wealth, Race and Merit in Higher Education.”

Guinier presented a rousing lecture. It was a very good day for faculty for their outstanding work in promoting student learning. It was a very good day for UMass Boston.”


It also was particularly gratifying to hear him cite and praise many of our most distinguished faculty for their outstanding work in promoting student learning. It was a very good day for UMass Boston.”

Annemarie Lown-Kerwin
Editor
Leigh DuPuy
Associate Editor
Sarah Weatherbee
Art Director
Harry Brett
University Photographer

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: nsw@umb.edu

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Send your news items to: The University Reporter at the mailing or e-mail address to the left.
New Study by Biologist Reveals Error in Global Warming Assumptions

By Peter Grennen

Biologist professor Jeff Dukes can’t seem to keep his attention focused on the here and now. In view of the nature of his research and the geophysical timeline it encompasses, that’s perhaps understandable: Dukes is a terres-
trial ecologist with an interest in how the earth’s natural world is affected by environmental change—in par-
ticular, rising concentrations of greenhouse gases and the resulting
uplift in global warming.

When he was last proliﬁed in these pages, Dukes had revisited the earth’s natural history to cal-
culate how much ancient plant material went into the fuel we use to meet our energy needs today. Now he is shifting his temporal frame of reference again, this time in an attempt to show how the earth’s natural systems will re-
serve to changing levels of car-
bon dioxide and other environ-
mental factors over the next cen-
tury.

Using specially designed equip-
ment, Dukes and colleagues from
Stanford University and the Carnegie Institution of Washing-
ton subjected a two-acre parcel of
northern California grasslands to current and predicted combina-
tions of four environmental vari-
able—carbon dioxide, nitrogen, temperature, and precipitation. The study, launched in 1997 as part of the Jasper Ridge Global Change Experiment (JRGCE) and carried out on a Stanford biologi-
cal preserve, then measured grass-
land response to these treatments by estimating plant growth as evi-
denced by net primary production (NPP)—the amount of carbon left over after cellular respiration.

Dukes and his team admit to being surprised, if not alarmed, by their ﬁndings, which are detailed
in this month’s PLoS Biology. In the study’s virtual-future ecosys-
tem, elevated temperature, rain-
fall, and carbon dioxide did little to spur plant growth. “Despite predictions that ecosystems would take up a lot more carbon, that was not the case here,” says Dukes. “The inescapable conclu-
sion: California grasslands, and systems that respond in a similar manner, are not likely to help slow the pace of climate change by stor-
ing carbon in new growth.

The researchers are not quite
sure why this is so. Dukes believes that there may be some other lim-
iting factor at work—that a natu-
ral system would respond as ex-
pected if, for example, one other element or condition were present. “In our system, it might be the presence of phosphorus,” he says. “We think nitrogen play-
s the same role in other sys-
tems, but we don’t really know.”

Whatever that unknown factor
may be, the negligible NPP read-
ings it causes call for a retooling of the models on which investiga-
tors have relied. Says Dukes, “If earlier predictions are not realis-
tic, we have to expect that climate change will come faster and per-
haps with a greater magnitude.”

The response of other types of ecosystems has to be taken into account as well. “If other natural systems also fail to sequester as much carbon as scientists once thought,” Dukes adds, “CO2 con-
centrations in the atmosphere will rise even faster.”

Clearly, there is much more to
be learned in this area, but investiga-
tors are certain of one thing: The
more carbon that winds up in the atmosphere instead of on land or in the oceans, the faster the planet will heat up. “Global warming is inevitable if atmospheric CO2 concentrations continue to rise,” Dukes says. “The challenge is to ﬁgure out which natural systems will help to slow this change, which won’t, and why.”

Meeting that challenge is a need that grows more pressing by the day. Scientists know they can look to the past for clues to the origins of global warming, and to experiments like JRGCE to assess how severe the problem will be in years to come, but to begin ad-
ressing the problem itself there’s no time like the present.

University Community Responds to Hurricane Katrina Disaster

Rouge, thinking they’d be gone for about three days. He grabbed a few t-shirts, shoes, and clothes, he said.

With his home and car de-
stroyed, and even his college
records at UNO ﬂooded, he took
UMass Boston up on its offer to take in students hit by the hurri-
cane. He had to piece together his transcript from memory.

“They took care of every-
thing,” he said of the university
staff. “They bent over back-
wards to accommodate me.”

Now Alcazar plans to stay in Boston and graduate from UMass Boston in May 2006. His fiancée is seeking employment as a nurse, and he said everyone they’ve come across has “been wonderful. They all go out of their way to help. When people realize where we’re from, they offer every courtesy they can make.”

The couple is enjoying Boston so far, and even took in a Red Sox
game, courtesy of UMass Boston.

“We both love Boston,” Alcazar said. “It’s something new for us. We both consider ourselves very lucky. We got out there in time and didn’t encounter any difﬁcul-
ties. We could be a lot worse off.”

New faculty member Valera Francis, director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Pro-
grams, lost her childhood home in New Orleans to Katrina.

“My childhood house is gone, that whole neighborhood, where my mother still lives in (our) family home, it was sub-
merged,” Francis said.

Her family has lived in the Big Easy for generations, and her mother, sister, and daughter managed to evacuate to Jack-
son, Mississippi, before the storm hit. Francis’s extended and immediate family all live in the city.

She said her family was lucky, and all had the means to evacu-
ate before Katrina struck. None had to go to an emergency shel-
ter, but now family members are staying with friends across the country, she said. Now she and her family members are “just waiting for the word” so they can return to their devastated homes and “see if anything is salvageable.”

Two faculty members trav-
elled down to Louisiana to as-
sist with the hurricane disaster-
relief efforts last month. Bill Silvestri, a technical assistant at the Center for Social Policy (CSP), along with fellow faculty member Michael Faris, flew
down to the hurricane-ravaged area to help shelters document the needs of hurricane evacuees.

“One thing that’s really im-
pressive is the amount of in-
volvement of the faith commu-
nity and how everybody has pulled together,” Silvestri said
during a cell phone interview from a shelter in Shreveport.

“Unfortunately, because the government wasn’t here…”

The 52-year-old UMass Bos-
ton alumnus and retired Na-
tional Guardsman, who’s worked for the center for six years, is assisting the U.S. De-
partment of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for about two weeks.

The center, which had done work with emergency and homeless shelters in Massachu-
setts, is helping the four hurri-
cane-ravaged states coordinate temporary housing assistance for the evacuees.

“We’ve been doing technical assistance nationally for HUD for the past four to ﬁve years and we’ve learned a lot through our experience here locally…about how to improve service delivery in shelters so that people get the resources they need,” Donna Haig, Friedman, CSP director, said.

That expertise led the “folks at the federal level to think about us as resources at this time,” she said.

Down in Louisiana, Silvestri, a Quincy resident, said the two coworkers are “working with vol-
unteers running the shelter…to assess the needs of the community…and communicate those needs directly to HUD.”

At the shelter he was work-
ing at on September 16, about 300 to 400 hurricane evacuees were being helped with housing assistance, he said.

“What we usually do is ob-
serve the operation…in order to coordinate the work of several different agencies involved…to coordinate the case-management effort,” he said.

“Because everything hap-
pened so quickly, there was a lack of coordination,” Silvestri said of the multi-agency hurri-
cane-relief effort. “One bad thing is people have had to give their information over and over and over again.”

“Our effort is to get everyone
using a management informa-
tion system, and not to have to continuously repeat their infor-
mation,” he said of the evacu-
ees, most of whom didn’t have
identiﬁcation or documents.

“It’s really coordinated case management.”

He said the goal of providing resources to the evacuees is to aid them in ﬁnding suitable tempo-
rary shelter. “The idea is to at least provide temporary housing for at least three to six months,” Silvestri said.

CSP has “always specialized in homeless services,” he said, noting that the homeless popu-
lation in devastated areas could increase up to fourfold.

“Our goal is to move the population into temporary hous-
ing so emergency shelters are not totally overwhelmed,” he said.

Efforts on campus continue in large and small ways to reach out to the Gulf State victims. Stu-
dents raised $450 during the ﬁrst week of classes, a contribution sent to the Red Cross. Faculty
and staff efforts include those of Connie Chan and Carol Chan-
dle, who both provided counsel to evacuees living at Ortiz Air
Force Base on Cape Cod.

October 2005 • The University Reporter • 3
Boston Folk Festival Welcomes Music Fans Back for the Eighth Time

By Anne-Marie Kent

On September 24 and 25, UMass Boston was once again home to the Boston Folk Festival, presented by WUMB 91.9 FM. Now in its eighth year, the festival drew fans from as near by as Dorchester and as far away as England. In all, over 20 states and four countries were represented.

Featured artists included Suzanne Vega and Patty Griffin. Perhaps best known for her commercial hits “Tom’s Diner” and “Luka,” Vega paved the way for many current singer/songwriters. Griffin is one of the most gifted singer/songwriters to emerge from the Cambridge folk scene. Other performers included Chris Smithere, Lori McKenna, Guy Davis, David Massengill, Maria Sangiolo, Annie Gallup, and Cozy Sheridan.

Music acts performed on the large field stage, a waterfront pavilion stage, and a coffeehouse venue set up in the Ryan Lounge. On Saturday, there was a silent auction of dozens of items, including song sheets, pictures, and albums signed by musicians, including Eric Clapton, Neil Young, James Taylor, Paul Simon, Bruce Springsteen, Arlo Guthrie, Yo-Yo Ma, and Bob Dylan.

Food and craft vendors lined the perimeter of the field stage, in part powered by “The Great Renewable Energy Show” van, which offered an educational display of renewable energy models. Also on the field stage were kids’ activities, including kite-making and other crafts. And on display were works of art done by youth from the Dot Art program. Students from UMass Boston’s Golden Key Honor Society collected food donations for the Boston Food Bank and cash donations for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

“Your year’s Folk Festival was a true celebration of community—the members of the folk community who got to enjoy some of the finest talent in the country, the UMass Boston community who worked and volunteered to support the festival and help makes it a success, and the local neighborhoods and organizations who benefited from fundraising opportunities made available to them at the event,” said executive director Pat Montenori, who was named winner of the annual Jerry Christen Memorial Award from the Boston Area Coffeehouse Association at a special reception Saturday night.

The award recognizes her work on behalf of the preservation of folk music and the advancement of contemporary folk through Folk Radio WUMB and the Boston Folk Festival on UMass Boston’s campus.

UMass Boston Welcomes First Class of Students from Tsinghua University

An inaugural group of undergraduates from China’s Tsinghua University have started their first semester as students at UMass Boston. Through a collaboration between Kathleen Teahan, vice chancellor of the Division of Enrollment Management, and Marc Messenker, dean of the Division of Corporate, Continuing, and Distance Education (CCDE), five students are living in the Boston area and attending the university, either as fully matriculated students or studying toward future matriculation through CCDE’s University Preparation Program. The students, and those who are working to make their stay fun and productive, are (left to right): Michael Todorovsky, administrative coordinator for the Division of Enrollment Management; Stanley Wamuchu, director of CCDE’s International Programs and University Preparation; Wang Peng from Wuhan; Cui Li Li from Chengdu; Ren Huaruo (Roy) from Shenzhen; Yiruo Zhao from Guangdong; Chen Gang (Richard) from Shenzhen; and Kathleen Teahan of the Division of Enrollment Management. The effort is part of a larger outreach to China through CCDE’s China Programs Center and International Programs unit, which offers students the opportunity to study at UMass Boston for a semester or longer. Thirty-five students are planning to attend in the future. (Photo by Harry Brett)

2005 Athletic Hall of Fame Class Inducted

In a ceremony scheduled for October 13, UMass Boston will celebrate the achievements of its 2005 Athletic Hall of Fame class, a group of outstanding former student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and friends of the athletics program.

Recipients include: John Buckley ’66, basketball; Carlos Fernandez ’99, soccer; Jackie James ’90, indoor/outdoor track; James Kent ’75, football and lacrosse; James Loscutoff, basketball coach; Robert Quinn ’59, hockey; Carol Thomas ’87, basketball and indoor/outdoor track; Charlie Titus, vice chancellor for athletics and recreation, special projects and programs, for his work as an administrator and basketball coach; the 1986-7 NCAA champion women’s indoor track and field team; and the 1981-2 men’s ice hockey team. The recipients were voted in by a 14-member Hall of Fame committee in May and are the third class to be inducted since the formation of the Hall of Fame in 2003.

The event will take place on Thursday, October 13, at 6:00 p.m., in the Campus Center ballroom. Contact the Department of Athletics for more information: 617-287-7815.

UMass Boston to Train Librarians for 21st Century

In partnership with Simmons College Libraries, UMass Boston will use a $6,187,773 federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to provide internships to 144 Massachusetts high school students in efforts to recruit future librarians. The three-year project, which has a special focus on recruiting minorities and those who are the first in their families to attend college, will build on pilot internship programs to develop a curriculum that could be used for any library.

According to Healey librarian George Hart, the federal grant is a direct outcome of a library project funded by a $4,400 grant two years ago to offer library and information science internships to minority high school students. “It all started with an idea from Janet Stewart in the library,” remembers Hart. Growing with the participation of Simmons College and a subsequent grant Simmons received from the H.W. Wilson Foundation, the latest grant will fund an internship curricu- lum that will be available nationally and is predicted to have a significant impact, says Hart.

Got News?
Send it to news@umb.edu.

UMass Boston to Host City Council Debate

Eight candidates running for Boston City Council will be invited to a debate focused on issues facing ethnic minorities, to be held on October 19 at UMass Boston’s Campus Center. Callie Crossley, a veteran journalist and contributor to WGBH’s “Beat the Press,” will moderate the forum.

A panel of journalists from several city and the media that keep them informed. “We believe this will mark the first time that Boston’s vibrant ethnic pub-
lications, including the Bay State Banner, Boston Haitian Reporter, Boston Irish Reporter, and El Mundo, will ask the candidates to address a wide range of issues, with a particular focus on those that affect ethnic groups in Boston. “We believe this will mark the first time that Boston’s vibrant ethnic media have joined forces to emerge from the Cambridge folk scene. Other performers included Chris Smithere, Lori McKenna, Guy Davis, David Massengill, Maria Sangiolo, Annie Gallup, and Cozy Sheridan.

Food and craft vendors lined the perimeter of the field stage, in part powered by “The Great Renewable Energy Show” van, which offered an educational display of renewable energy models. Also on the field stage were kids’ activities, including kite-making and other crafts. And on display were works of art done by youth from the Dot Art program. Students from UMass Boston’s Golden Key Honor Society collected food donations for the Boston Food Bank and cash donations for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

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Got News?
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Division of Marine Operations Receives Grants for New “Green” Research Vessel

By Leigh DuPuy

With the award of two new grants, the Division of Marine Operations (DMO) moved one step closer to its goal of bringing a state-of-the-art research vessel to UMass Boston. The M/V Columba Point, presently in the final stages of construction, will provide environmentally friendly transportation for education and research projects in and around the Boston Harbor Islands.

The two grants support DMO’s “green goal” of promoting environmentally safe practices in water transportation. “We aim to be a model of environmental sustainability in Boston Harbor,” says Chris Sweeney, DMO director. For example, DMO received a $6,000 grant from the State Office of Sustainability to help outfit the new vessel with ultra-low-sulfur fuel, which releases less carbon monoxide and fewer hydrocarbons than does regular diesel. This, combined with new Tier-2 EPA-compliant engines, helps the vessel to “burn cleaner fuel,” says Sweeney.

DMO’s green technologies program also received a $105,175 grant from the Executive Office of Transportation for an innovative water program. The division qualified for the grant by designing the M/V Columba Point to meet eight green technology criteria, including the incorporation of a low wake system, which is less damaging to the environment and to small craft that operate in and around Boston Harbor; the use of environmentally friendly e-paint; and the installation of recycled rubber tire matting for the vessel’s carpet.

Grants like these also help DMO use environmentally friendly supplies and vendors, which can be more expensive than their non-green resources. Eventually, the 110-passenger research vessel will be used for educational and research purposes—for undergraduate and graduate classes in oceanography, for example, and K–12 science education programs. The U.S. Coast Guard-certified vessel will also be used to provide summer marine transportation to Boston Harbor Islands and offer a new venue for faculty and student events and weekend trips. For Sweeney, these grants not only help to make M/V Columba Point a reality for UMass Boston, but also help DMO attain a loftier goal. “We want to be a leader in providing renewable source and sustainability for the marine transportation world,” he says.

Princeton Review Rates UMass Boston as Best in the Northeast

By Leigh DuPuy

The Princeton Review ranked UMass Boston as a top institution in its 2006 survey of colleges and universities The Best Northeastern Colleges. Based on institutional data and surveys of students, editors of the guide described the university as “a school about serious learning.” It offers an affordable option for working adults and traditional commuters who want to “get a real education in a great city for a great price.”

The Princeton Review asked $3,000 students to rate their schools on a variety of factors ranging from the teaching abilities of their professors to campus food. Students at UMass Boston frequently praised its small classes, its diverse student body, and its urban location.

UMass Boston was one of 224 colleges and universities selected from the District of Columbia and eleven states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Visit www.princetonreview.com to see UMass Boston’s review.

$600,000 Raised for Komen Race for the Cure, Held at UMass Boston

By Leigh DuPuy

Wendy Overly, assistant professor of theatre arts, is coaching actors in Showtime’s new series “The Brotherhood” on how to speak convincingly as residents of the Smith Hill neighborhood of Providence, Rhode Island. (Photo by Harry Brett)

The storyline may sound familiar: two brothers, who grew up in a close-knit, working-class neighborhood, take very different paths into adulthood, one a politician and one a criminal. “I’ve heard it described as ‘The West Wing’ meets The Sopranos,” says Overly.

A resident of Providence, Overly did intensive field research, using iTalk technology and an iPod to compile several interviews with people in the neighborhood. “I even recorded my daughter’s crossing guard,” she remembers. From these interviews, she made compact disc recordings for the actors, complete with drills that helped them to re-create the specific sounds of the dialect and master the “phoneme changes.”

She then coached the actors one on one. Trying to navigate between a distinctive accent, which is defined as a national sound, and dialect, which is a regional sound, was a challenge for the project, as three of the actors she coached were not American. “Jason Isaacs is British, Jason Clarke is Australian, and Fionnula Flanagan is Irish,” she says. Overly also coached Annabeth Gish, who hails from Ohio, and Ethan Embry, who is originally from southern California.

Not only did she have to teach the actors how to fully master the dialect while in character, Overly had to work out how to blend some existing dialects with the Providence dialect. Flanagan, who has a “beautiful Irish brogue,” says Overly, plays the mother of the clan. The writers incorporated her heritage into the story, having the character migrate from Ireland to Providence when she was fourteen. “We had to figure out how to integrate the brogue and get these two dialects to coexist,” says Overly.

In addition to her preparatory coaching, Overly is sometimes on set during filming, monitoring dialogue with a headset in “video village.” She is then on hand to help the actors make any adjustments needed in between scenes or in a retake.

Recommended to the project by a colleague at Trinity Repertory Company, Overly has been on the set since June, working fourteen-hour days, five days a week during the summer months. A relatively new faculty member, she recently began her second fall teaching at the university. Now that classes have resumed, her duties on set will diminish.

Overly believes that when actors are most successful in mastering a dialect, they don’t have to think about it. “The hardest thing to do, for all actors, is to leap from the technical to the organic. And you can’t be fully invested in the role if you are too preoccupied with the technique,” she says.

Top UMass Boston Grads Share Their Success Stories

By Leigh DuPuy

Wendy Overly, assistant professor of theatre arts, is coaching actors in Showtime’s new series “The Brotherhood” on how to speak convincingly as residents of the Smith Hill neighborhood of Providence, Rhode Island. (Photo by Harry Brett)

When complete, the 110-passenger research vessel will be used as a small ship cruise vessel that operate in and around Boston Harbor Islands and offer a new venue for faculty and student research programs. The U.S. Coast Guard-certified vessel will also be used to provide summer marine transportation to Boston Harbor Islands and offer a new venue for faculty and student events and weekend trips. For Sweeney, these grants not only help to make M/V Columba Point a reality for UMass Boston, but also help DMO attain a loftier goal. “We want to be a leader in providing renewable source and sustainability for the marine transportation world,” he says.

Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino and Chancellor Michael F. Collins joined 6,000 participants at the 13th Annual Komen Boston Race for the Cure, held on September 18 at UMass Boston. Runners, walkers, and people of all ages completed the 5k distance and raised more than $600,000 in their efforts to eradicate breast cancer. This is the second time UMass Boston hosted the event. The race, which began at the Clark Athletic Center, followed a scenic route along the Dorchester waterfront. (Photo by Allison Duffy)

I Talk technology and an iPod to compile several interviews with people in the neighborhood. “I even recorded my daughter’s crossing guard,” she remembers. From these interviews, she made compact disc recordings for the actors, complete with drills that helped them to re-create the specific sounds of the dialect and master the “phoneme changes.”

TALKING ABOUT DIALECT

“Dialects are reflective of the socioeconomic fiber of the community, characterized by unique phonetics, melody, cadence, and rhythms,” she explains. An authentic dialect is especially integral to this project’s character development.

“Accents are a part of your identity which defines who you are and where you came from,” she says. Wendy Overly, assistant professor of theatre arts, is coaching actors in Showtime’s new series “The Brotherhood” on how to speak convincingly as residents of the Smith Hill neighborhood of Providence, Rhode Island. (Photo by Harry Brett)

“Regional accents were a big part of Irish culture,” she says. “They are part of the Irish identity.”

From southern California. Overly also coached Annabeth Gish, who hails from Ohio, and Ethan Embry, who is originally from southern California.

Not only did she have to teach the actors how to fully master the dialect while in character, Overly had to work out how to blend some existing dialects with the Providence dialect. Flanagan, who has a “beautiful Irish brogue,” says Overly, plays the mother of the clan. The writers incorporated her heritage into the story, having the character migrate from Ireland to Providence when she was fourteen. “We had to figure out how to integrate the brogue and get these two dialects to coexist,” says Overly.

In addition to her preparatory coaching, Overly is sometimes on set during filming, monitoring dialogue with a headset in “video village.” She is then on hand to help the actors make any adjustments needed in between scenes or in a retake.

Recommended to the project by a colleague at Trinity Repertory Company, Overly has been on the set since June, working fourteen-hour days, five days a week during the summer months. A relatively new faculty member, she recently began her second fall teaching at the university. Now that classes have resumed, her duties on set will diminish.

Overly believes that when actors are most successful in mastering a dialect, they don’t have to think about it. “The hardest thing to do, for all actors, is to leap from the technical to the organic. And you can’t be fully invested in the role if you are too preoccupied with the technique,” she says.

By Leigh DuPuy

The Princeton Review ranked UMass Boston as a top institution in its 2006 survey of colleges and universities The Best Northeastern Colleges. Based on institutional data and surveys of students, editors of the guide described the university as “a school about serious learning.” It offers an affordable option for working adults and traditional commuters who want to “get a real education in a great city for a great price.”

The Princeton Review asked $3,000 students to rate their schools on a variety of factors ranging from the teaching abilities of their professors to campus food. Students at UMass Boston frequently praised its small classes, its diverse student body, and its urban location.

UMass Boston was one of 224 colleges and universities selected from the District of Columbia and eleven states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Visit www.princetonreview.com to see UMass Boston’s review.

By Leigh DuPuy

With the award of two new grants, the Division of Marine Operations (DMO) moved one step closer to its goal of bringing a state-of-the-art research vessel to UMass Boston. The M/V Columba Point, presently in the final stages of construction, will provide environmentally friendly transportation for education and research projects in and around the Boston Harbor Islands.

The two grants support DMO’s “green goal” of promoting environmentally safe practices in water transportation. “We aim to be a model of environmental sustainability in Boston Harbor,” says Chris Sweeney, DMO director. For example, DMO received a $6,000 grant from the State Office of Sustainability to help outfit the new vessel with ultra-low-sulfur fuel, which releases less carbon monoxide and fewer hydrocarbons than does regular diesel. This, combined with new Tier-2 EPA-compliant engines, helps the vessel to “burn cleaner fuel,” says Sweeney.

DMO’s green technologies program also received a $105,175 grant from the Executive Office of Transportation for an innovative water program. The division qualified for the grant by designing the M/V Columba Point to meet eight green technology criteria, including the incorporation of a low wake system, which is less damaging to the environment and to small craft that operate in and around Boston Harbor; the use of environmentally friendly e-paint; and the installation of recycled rubber tire matting for the vessel’s carpet.

Grants like these also help DMO use environmentally friendly supplies and vendors, which can be more expensive than their non-green resources. When complete, the 110-passenger research vessel will be used for educational and research purposes—for undergraduate and graduate classes in oceanography, for example, and K–12 science education programs. The U.S. Coast Guard-certified vessel will also be used to provide summer marine transportation to Boston Harbor Islands and offer a new venue for faculty and student events and weekend trips.

For Sweeney, these grants not only help to make M/V Columba Point a reality for UMass Boston, but also help DMO attain a loftier ambition. “We want to be a leader in providing renewable source and sustainability for the marine transportation world,” he says.
PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

In September, Jorgelina Abbate-Vaughn, assistant professor in the Graduate College of Education (GCOE), gave an invited presenta-
tion on preparing teachers for urban settings at the AACET- Wingpread conference “Language, Curriculum, and Community in Teacher Preparation.”

Elsa Auerbach, professor of English, gave a plenary address, “English in a Globalizing World,” and presented the workshop “Using Photos as a Tool in Participatory Curriculum Development at the 12th Annual Regional TESOL conference.

Chris Bobel, assistant professor in the Women Studies Program, presented “I’m Not an Activist, Though I’ve Done a Lot of It.” Doing Activism, Being Activist, and the Gendered Perfect Standard in a Contemporary Movement” at a section on collective behavior at the American Sociological Association’s annual meeting.

Jim Campen, research associate in the Gastón Institute, presented “Borrowing Trouble” for a forum on predatory lending, sponsored by Office of Fair Housing for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Professor Conni Chan of the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) presented the paper “Asian, Elderly, and Gay: Is Anyone Out There?” and was a cochair and discussant on a symposium on the psychological aspects of ex marriage in Massachusetts at the annual American Psychological Association’s convention.

The Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences (EEOS) Department’s Mary Davis and William Reckten presented the poster “Revisiting the Quincy Bay Contamination Study–2005” at the EPA 2005 National Forum on Contaminants in Fish.

Alexander Des Forges, assistant professor of Chinese, presented “Questions of Genre in Qing Vernacular Fiction and Literary Prose” at the International Conference of Asian Scholars, held in Shanghai, China.

In August, Linda Dinamar, professor of English, presented the paper “Geographcs of the Heart: Dis- courses of Homeland in Israel/ Palestine” at a conference on documentary films, held in Montreal.

Clare Golomb, professor emerita of psychology, presented the paper “Representational Conception in Two- and Three-Dimensional Media: A Developmental Perspective” at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, presented the paper “Race, Gender, and Descriptive Representation” at the American Political Science Association’s annual meeting. She also participat-
ed in a “Meet the Editors” launch of the Journal of Women, Politics and Policy, which she coeditls with Heidi Hartmann.

Roderick Jensen, the Brain Distinguished Professor of Physics, Biology, and Mathematics, and director of the Center for Environmental Health Science, and Technology (CEHST), presented “Homogenomics: Using DNA Microarrays to Discover Genomic Biomarkers in Blood” at the international “Chips to His” conference. The invited talk featured the DCA microarray and bioinformatics capabilities of Jensen’s new biotechnology center.


Melanie Jordan of the Institute for Community Inclusion gave three presentations with the Department of Mental Health to staff on work options for subsidized housing tenants who have disabilities.

Peter Jiang, professor of education and director of the Asian American Studies Program, spoke as an invited panelist on “Community, Neighborhoods, Families, and Schools” for the Boston Teacher Residency Program, held at the New Boston Pilot Middle School.

Donaldal Macado, Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Education, was a plenary speaker at the international conference “IV Jornadas de Desarrollo Humano y Educacion,” held in Madrid.

Kathleen Golden McAndrew, assistant vice chancellor of student affairs and executive director of University Health Services, presented “The Identification and Evaluation of the Impaired Employee” at the “Art of Safety” at the IASTED International Conference on Modelling, Simula-
tion, and Optimization.

Nina M. Silverstein, associate professor of geology, served as an expert on the panel “Development of an Older Driver Self- Screening Guide Based on Health Concerns Associated with Aging,” held at the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute.

Nancy Stuber, associate professor of art, presented the paper “Heritage: Visualizing History and Cities” at the international conference “Changing Boundaries: Architectural History in Transition.” It was cosponsored by the Society for Architectural Historians and the French National Institute of Art History.

Lauren Sullivan of the Anthropol-
ysis of Sport, and the Department presented the paper “The Early Classic of the Three Rivers Region” on north- western Belize at the 2005 Belize Archaeology Symposium.

Jun Suzuki, assistant professor of computer science, published and presented two poster papers with graduate student Paskorn Champrasert at the 8th IEEE International Conference on Cluster Computing. He also published the article “Multiprogrammed Modeling Turinpe: A Model-Driven Framework for Domain-Specific Software Development” with graduate student Xingwen Li.

Thomas O’Grady, professor of English and director of Irish studies, gave the keynote address for the Benedict Kiely Literary Weekend, held in Omagh, North- ern Ireland, in September.


EEOs and economics professor David Terlka and two of his colleagues presented the results of the study “The Marine Science and Technology Industry in New England” to the New England Study Group at the Federal Reserve Bank on September 20.

Robert Weiner’s analysis of Moldovan-Russian relations was published online on September 8 by the Eurasian Heritage Foundation, Russian Federation. Weiner is a professor of political science.

PUBLICATIONS

Origins of European Printmaking: Fifteenth-Century Woodcuts and Their Public, coauthored by David S. Arscott of the Art Department, was published in September by Yale University Press and the National Gallery of Art. The book accompanies the exhibition of the same title organized by the National Gallery of Art and the Germanisches Nationalmuseum in Nuremberg.

Retired CPCs faculty member Alice Barton published the novel South Station with Universe.


Debra Hart and Karen Zimbrick of the Institute for Community Inclusion published a chapter on students with intellectual disabili-
ties for the book Going to College: Expanding Opportunities for People with Disabilities.

Linda Huang, assistant professor of biology, published the coauthored article “The Smk1p MAP Kinase Negatively Regulates G1c2, a 1,3, 4-glucan Synthase, during Spore Wall Morphogenesis in Saccharo-
myces Cerevisiae” in the Proceed-
s of the National Academy of Sciences. Undergraduate Hugh K. Doherty is the second author.

Science and Fascism: The Case of Enrico Fermi,” an article by history professor and chair Spencer DiScala, was published in September in Totalitarian Movements and Political Religions.

In September, the Chemistry Department’s Jason J. Evans, assistant professor, and graduate student Xungwen Li published their work on developing a method for efficient analysis of fats in Rapid Communications in Mass Spec-
trometry. Li defended her master’s thesis on the topic in July.

Anamarja Frankic, EEOs assistant professor, published the article “A Protected Environment in the Adriatic Area: A Key for Sustain-
able Development in the Western Balkans” in the book Global Market Briefings: Doing Business with Croatia.


Roderick Jensen presented the poster “Using Photos as a Tool in Participatory Curriculum Development at the 12th Annual Regional TESOL conference.

Karen Riccirchi, assistant professor of mathematics, presented the paper “The Impact of Regional Geologic Variation on Robust Groundwater Remediation Design” at the IASTED International Conference on Modelling, Simula-
tion, and Optimization.

Nina M. Silverstein, associate professor of geology, served as an expert on the panel “Development of an Older Driver Self- Screening Guide Based on Health Concerns Associated with Aging,” held at the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute.

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Jun Suzuki, assistant professor of computer science, published and presented two poster papers with graduate student Paskorn Champrasert at the 8th IEEE International Conference on Cluster Computing. He also published the article “Status of Technology Adoption in Micro, Small and Medium Manufacturing Firms in Boston: A Value-Chain Perspective” in Proceedings of 2005 IJMA International Conference.


Debra Hart and Karen Zimbrick of the Institute for Community Inclusion published a chapter on students with intellectual disabili-
ties for the book Going to College: Expanding Opportunities for People with Disabilities.

Linda Huang, assistant professor of biology, published the coauthored article “The Smk1p MAP Kinase Negatively Regulates G1c2, a 1,3, 4-glucan Synthase, during Spore Wall Morphogenesis in Saccharo-
myces Cerevisiae” in the Proceed-
s of the National Academy of Sciences. Undergraduate Hugh K. Doherty is the second author.
A review of Present/Tense: Poets of the World, edited by Mark Pavlik, director of academic support services, was published in the August 2005 issue of Peace Work.


Roderick Jensen, the Brain Distinguished Professor of Physics, Biology, and Mathematics, and CEHST director, published the paper “Nanorods, Cornerstones of Artificial Nanorods,” which was accepted into the Proceedings of Human Blood Reveals Biomarkers for Huntington’s Disease,” in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Marlene Kim, associate professor of economics, published the article “Women’s College—The Division of Human and Other Public Systems,” in the University of Hong Kong for the “Management Implications: Looking Ahead.”

Mohammad H. Tadjikj, assistant professor of sociology, edited a double issue of the European Society for the Study of Self-Knowledge, which included papers by thirteen undergraduate students. Tadjikj also served as associate editor of a double issue of Discoveries of Social Practice, which contained the proceedings of the second annual Social Theory Forum.

Professor Commin Chao of CNSH screened and counseled evacuees from Hurricane Katrina at Otis Air Force Base. He is working in collaboration with Ocean Nanotech, LLC. He is working in collaboration with Ocean Nanotech, LLC.

Meng Zhou, EEOs associate professor, was appointed as an at-large delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging. He is working in collaboration with Ocean Nanotech, LLC.

Newly enrolled students who were attending schools in New Orleans, Orlando Alacaz and Ann Shumaker, were featured in a September 14 article in the Boston Herald.

Francoise Carre of the Center for Social Policy was quoted in August’s Commonwealth Magazine for a story on contingent employment.

On September 1 and 2, WRZ AM, WCVR, and WJFX featured interviews with Chancellor Michael F. Collins, who discussed UMass Boston’s offer of emergency admissions to students affected by Hurricane Katrina. Additional coverage included the Boston Globe, NECN, WHDH, WJFX, and CBS 4.

On September 14, Michael F. Collins, chancellor of UMass Boston, was featured in an article in the Boston Herald and was interviewed on WRZ-Radio’s “The Paul Sullivan Show.” He was also featured in an article on September 16 in the Patriot Ledger.

GCOE professor Melissa Perrow was quoted in the online Boston Globe on September 12 on educating children from Louisiana who are living at Otis Air Force Base.


Oscar Gutierrez, associate professor of management information systems, has been appointed associate dean for the College of Management.

A new book by Kevin Murphy, adjunct professor of history, is a finalist for this year’s Massachusetts Memorial Book Prize. Revolution and Counterrevolution: Class Struggle in a Moscovite Metaphor, is being described as "which exemplifies the best and most innovative new writing in or about the Marxist tradition.”

Janet M. Wagner of the College of Management, was appointed an American Council on Education Fellow and will spend the 2005–2006 academic year at the University of Albany.

Newly enrolled students who were attending schools in New Orleans, Orlando Alacaz and Ann Shumaker, were featured in a September 14 article in the Boston Herald.
Calendar of Events

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. To request off-campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits below each event.

Submit November calendar listings by Friday, October 14 to umb.edu/news/calendar/.

Tuesday 4

**Yoga for All**
3:30 – 3:50 p.m., Tuesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, Room 6-61. For all levels. Students: free; Faculty/staff: $5.00. Yoga mats will be provided. Contact: 7-5680 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: 
Women's Volleyball vs. Regis College
6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

**Friday 7**

**Biology Seminar Series:**

**Plant Stress Response to the Environment:**
Poly cyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Science Center, 1-106. Featuring Adam Colon-Cerro of UMass Boston. Contact: 76690 or maria.mahony@umb.edu.

**Saturday 8**

The Dominican American National Roundtable: 8th Annual National Conference
6:00 – 8:30 p.m., Campus Center. Featuring workshops on health, economic development, Dominican identity, civic involvement, education, government, and other contemporary topics. Select sessions will be held on October 9. Contact: info@dancg.org.

UMass Boston Beacons: 
Women's Soccer vs. UMass Dartmouth
1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

Wednesday 5

**Yoga for All**
1:30 – 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center, Room 6-61. For all levels. Students: free; Faculty/staff: $5.00. Yoga mats will be provided. Contact: 7-5680 or linda.jorgensen@umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: 
Men's Soccer vs. Clark University
3:30 – 5:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

College of Management (CM) Presents: Meet the Accounting Firms
4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom, 3rd fl. Annual career discussion for CM students and alumni who work in accounting field. Contact: 7-7734 or maryann.macachian@umb.edu.

M.A. English Program Colloquium Series: Practicing What You Teach: Teaching the Writing of Fiction While Writing
5:30 – 6:45 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 6-909. Featuring Professor Aleksandrs Melncukis. Open to all. Contact: 7-6702.

Thursday 13

2005 Hall of Fame Induction Banquet
6:00 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom, 3rd fl. Ceremony to honor outstanding former student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and friends of the athletics program. Contact: 7-7802.

**Friday 14**

**Biology Seminar Series:**

**Behavioral Sanitization in a Rat Model of Parkinson’s Disease:**
Dopamine-Glutamate-Adenosine Interactions
2:30 – 4:00 p.m., Science Center, 1-06. Featuring Alexia Pollack of UMass Boston. Contact: 7-6690 or maria.mahony@umb.edu.

**Saturday 15**

The Institute for Community Inclusion Policy Conference: A Collaborative Transition Process
8:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Best Western Sovereign Hotel and Conference Center, West Springfield, MA. Conference for those interested in improving postsecondary outcomes for youth. Featuring keynote speaker David R. Johnson. A second conference will be held on October 28 in Marlborough. Contact: www.communityinclusion.org or 7-64314.

Tuesday 18

UMass Boston Beacons: 
Women’s Tennis vs. University of Southern Maine
1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

Monday 19

UMass Boston Beacons: 
Women’s Tennis vs. Framingham State College
5:30 – 7:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

**Tuesday 20**

Gastorn Institute Speaker Series: 
Transnational Remittances and the Integration of Authorized and Unauthorized Mexican Immigrants
1:00 – 2:30 p.m., Campus Center, 3-3540. Featuring Enrico Manoli, professor of economics. Contact: 7-5791.

**Thursday 22**

**Biology Seminar Series:**

**Public Health:**
The Dynamic Role of Information Technology in Organizations
6:00 – 7:00 p.m., Quinapa Administration Building, Chancellor’s Conference Room, 3rd floor. Featuring Edvard Exposito, vice president of information technology, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Contact: 7-7734.

UMass Boston Beacons: 
Women’s Volleyball vs. Roger Williams University
6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

Monday 24

Diversity Luncheon Series: 
Education in Social Justice: Discussion of Lesbian, Gay, and Transgender Identities
12:15 – 1:30 p.m., Campus Center, Bay View Conference Room, 3-3540. Featuring Deborah Cohen and Vail Kahn of the University Health Services’ Counseling Center. The first 20 students to register by October 19 will get a free lunch. Contact: www.umbwlc.org or edna.presley@umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: 
Women’s Soccer vs. Emerson College
3:30 – 5:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

Tuesday 25

College of Management (CM) Presents: CMI: College of Management Investigation Prevention Program: Auto Glass Etching
8:00 – 9:00 p.m., Parking garage, upper level. Auto glass etching is a process that permanently etches your vehicle identification number into all windows and mirrors of your car and helps deter auto theft. The fee is $10.00 and it takes 20 minutes. The parking fee will be validated. Contact: 7-7780.

M.A. English Program Colloquium Series:
What Compositionists Have to Say about: What Compartmentalists Do: Following the Development of an Idea in the Work of Mike Rose
3:30 – 6:45 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 6-909. Featuring Professor Judy Golzman. Open to all. Contact: 7-6702.

Boston City Council Debate
7:00 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom, 3rd fl. Debate featuring eight candidate running for Boston City Council. Sponsored by the Ethnic Media Project at the Center for Media and Society. Contact: 7-6798.

Saturday 29

UMass Boston Beacons: Men’s Soccer vs. Keene State College
1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. See complete schedule at www.athletics.umb.edu. Contact: 7-7802 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

**Miscellaneous**

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
Wednesday, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., Campus Center, 4-4201. Meeting for people involved in recovery from alcohol or drug abuse. All are welcome. Contact: Sean Greene, 7-7981, sg@19.org.

Campus Ministry

Includes interfaith Bible study, gospel choir club rehearsals, Catholic mass, Christian ecumenical worship, justice coalition workshops, etc. Contact: 7-5839 or www.umb.edu/students/campus_ministry.

Clark Athletic Center 
See www.umb.edu/sports for schedules, rosters, coaches, building hours, community member program, Beacon Fitness Center membership, etc. Contact: 7-7801.

CPR Classes/Certification
October 4 and October 19. Class for non-health-care providers open to UMass Boston community members. Class is free; $10 for a certification card. All participants must give one-week notice to cancel registration. Classes run through December. Contact: www.umbwlc.org or Fred.titus@umb.edu.

Instructional Technology Center (ITC) 
Interested in expanding your technology horizons? Visit the ITC website at www.umb.edu/its, or contact 7-2990.

Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution (MODR)
MODR is a new institute on campus whose mission is to provide leadership in dispute system research, design, and training through economic and policy research and practice. MODR provides conflict management practice in all sectors. Visit the office in McCormack Hall, 1-627.

Overeaters Anonymous (OA) Meeting
6:45 – 7:45 p.m., Wednesdays. Does food rule your life? OA is a fellowship of people who share the common problem of eating out of control. Contact: 7-635-7209.

WUMB 91.9 FM Commonwealth Journal
Sundays, 7:00 p.m. Interviews with scholars, writers, and artists examining current issues of interest to the people of Massachusetts. Contact: 7-6706.