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“Exciting Times” in the Study of Coastal Ecosystems

by Jeffrey Mitchell

"I like the oceans," says marine chemist Robert Chen of UMass Boston's Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences (ECOS) Department. It's clear that he also likes the young science of oceanography, through which he pursues a lively concern for "the health of ecosystems and the health of people."

Coastal ecosystems are especially vulnerable to human influence, and contaminants in them are especially likely to threaten human health in turn. But until recently, scientific knowledge has been limited by the difficulty of testing and measurement in these constantly changing environments. That's no longer the case, thanks to new technology. A prime example is the ECOShuttle, which rests in a lab down the hall from Chen's office—when it isn't "flying" under water at depths of three to fifty meters, towed by a research vessel and controlled from above by means of an adjustable fin.

The ECOShuttle has already explored coastal areas well beyond Boston Harbor, among them Chesapeake Bay, San Francisco Bay, and the Mississippi River plume in the Gulf of Mexico. Instruments in it can measure such variables as temperature, salinity, depth, fluorescent dissolved organic matter, hydrocarbon concentrations, and dissolved oxygen. Through a tube in the tow cable, seawater can be pumped up to a shipboard lab for additional testing on the spot or for later analysis. The

continued on page 7

Who's Who Features Twelve UMass Boston Students

One is the single mother of two adopted children. Another has fifteen years of experience in public management and policy. Yet another raised $70,000 for social justice causes. They are award-winners, recipients of the Chancellor's Scholarship, Ventresca Scholarship, and other honors. All have maintained high grade point averages while performing considerable community service activities. Who are they? They are a group of twelve UMass Boston students who were nominated for recognition in the 2001 edition of Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges, an annual directory published since 1934. Campus nominating committees and editors of the annual directory have based the inclusion of these students on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for continued success.

UMass Boston students to be recognized in the upcoming volume are: Lisa Brabo, Collins Brown, Gregory Cloutier, Judith Diaz, Lauren Ellis, Cynthia Drew Eder, Jessica Liborio, Philip Mugo, Laurie Ross, Steven Solly, Mary Spooner, and Margaret Wiley. They join an elite group of students from more than 2,300 institutions of higher learning. "Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges has been recognizing outstanding students for many years," said Director of Student Life Joyce Morgan. "All of our candidates were nominated by faculty or staff members who had noticed the students' work and dedication. The recognition concentrates not only on academic success, but on leadership and community participation, attributes which we know our students possess in great quantity."

The students named in Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges had a lot to say about the value of this recognition. "You do a lot of work and no one ever seems to take no... continued on page 7

Candidates for Chancellor to Visit UMass Boston

Faculty, staff, and students are invited to meet James Wyche, Brown University, on February 27, and Jo Ann Gora, Old Dominion University, on March 15, 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room.
Vice President of Dominican Republic Signs Educational Agreement with UMass Boston

by Leigh DuPay

On February 15, the vice president of the Dominican Republic, Milagros Bosch, visited UMass Boston to discuss her experiences as a female political leader and to participate in signing an agreement between the university and the Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo. The educational agreement establishes a collaboration between the universities, which will include initiatives to create special, exchange programs; technical cooperation in the fields of information technology and distance learning; and sharing research in the social, scientific, and pedagogical areas.

Ortiz Bosch spoke of the partnership with great anticipation during the ceremony held in the Chancellor’s conference room that afternoon. Lucia David, of the Graduate College of Education, was on hand to translate Ortiz Bosch’s Spanish into English for the group of over 60 people from the university and Latino community who witnessed the signing.

"By crystallizing a collaboration with UMass Boston," Ortiz Bosch said, "We are looking at a new chapter. Speaking from a small country in the Caribbean, I ask you to give us your hand and we will walk together.” Later she noted that, "democracy is education and it breaks the last barriers. Education and technology are important for globalization.”

The seeds of the partnership first began during a visit by President Charles Cnadale and Dean Isacc Ramirez Soto to the Dominican Republic during the inauguration of President Ramirez Hipolito Mejia and Ortiz Bosch in May 2000.

For Ortiz Bosch, education always has been a priority. Following the inauguration, she was appointed as the minister of education for her country in August 2000. From a background which includes years as an accomplished lawyer, writer, and leader on the Senate floor in the Dominican Republic, she has written and sponsored legislation to support education, health, and women’s issues and initiatives. Ortiz Bosch shared these experiences as a political leader in a speech for UMass Boston’s McCormick Institute’s Center for Women in Politics earlier that morning. After the ceremony in the Chancellor’s conference room, she concluded her visit with a speaking engagement at the office of President Bulger.

Trustees Review Intercampus Collaborations and UMass Online

by Anne-Marie Kent

At the February 7 University of Massachusetts Board of Trust­es meeting held at UMass Boston, two presentations signaled major system-wide developments bringing together resources from all five campuses in the university system. The trustees learned that intercampus collaborations are linking resources, reducing cost, and expanding services to students, better use of more sophisticated technology is simulta­neously expanding the number of students the system can serve.

First, University of Massachusetts Vice President Selma Botman led a presentation on system-wide academic initiatives, focusing on the Intercampus Graduate School of Marine Sciences and Technology, the Commonwealth Information Technology Initiative, the Digital Library and other collaborative efforts of UMass librarians, and system-wide student recruitment activi­ties. According to Botman, these projects were chosen from a num­ber of successful intercampus col­laborations.

UMass Boston’s Jack H. Ar­cher, associate dean of graduate studies, reflected on his experience as associate dean of the Intercampus Graduate School of Marine Sciences and Technology, with co­presenter Brian J. Rothschild, dean of the Intercampus Graduate School of Marine Sciences and Technology and director of the School of Marine Science and Technology at the UMass Dartmouth.

Other panelists were: Ben Francikowski, director of libraries and information resources, UMass Lowell; James Kurose, professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science at the UMass Amherst, co­director of the Com­puter Network Research Labora­tory and cofounder of the Com­monwealth IT Initiative (CITI); and Steven Briggs, director of ad­missions at UMass Dartmouth.

UMass President William M. Bulger applauded all intercampus efforts, saying that they reinforce the legislative intent of 1991 which created the University of Mass­achusetts system. Bulger said that the combined strengths of the in­dividual campuses can fully serve "the economic, academic, and so­cial needs of the Commonwealth.”

He added, "The University of Massachusetts is more efficient and effective than ever before.”

Board President Grace Fey, at whose request the panel presenta­tion was made, called ideal those arrangements that are "collabora­tive, centered on students, respect­ful of faculty, and representative of administrative cooperation.” She noted that, while some activities are not prime for collaboration, others "lend themselves ideally to a system­wide approach.”

As the system is encouraging intercampus cooperation, it is also extending that cooperation online. Unveiled at the Board meeting Tuesday was UMass Online the university’s new global gateway to its online courses. The first stu­dent to click on UMassOnline.net was UMass Boston’s student trustee, Sandra Karahalis. The unveiling drew radio, television, and print coverage.

UMass Online will serve more students than any other web­based distance learning organization in New England. Over 6,000 stu­dents, who have enrolled in dis­tance learning courses, primarily on the University’s Amherst, Dartmouth and Lowell campuses, are now UMass Online students. More are expected to apply as the option is marketed. Many see the development as ideal for a public university, many of whose students have demanding work schedules and would welcome the added flexibility of online learning.

"UMass Online is the ideal blend of tradition, excellence, ac­cess, and innovation in higher edu­cation,” University of Massachu­setts President Bulger said. "We are very strongly positioned at the start to deliver high­quality edu­cational opportunities to students who are serious about learning.

With UMass Online, everybody with access to the Internet - in their home, workplace, school, or public library - can have a virtual front row seat in a university class­room.” Jack Wilson, a national distance learning innovation who came to the University of Massachu­setts from Rensselaer Poly­technic Institute, was named UMass Online CEO.

Arid the news of developments in intercampus collabora­tion and online expansion, the trustees agreed to keep at least one constant: the cost of attending the University of Massachusetts. Once again, the Board agreed to freeze tuition and instate fees at all five campuses.
Working Together: Combined Staff Breakfast Celebrates Unity

by Anne Marie Kent

Held on a sunny Valentine's Day in the Ryan Lounge, with its spectacular view of Dorchester Bay, this spring's staff breakfast marked the first combined classified and professional staff breakfast at UMass Boston. Jokingly dubbing "the Spring 2001 Love-In" by Interim Chancellor MacKenzie, the event proved to be a great success. David DeSimone, vice president for Pittsburgh Cultural Office and Finance, and Victoria Lapish, Academic Affairs, seated on the left, were among the many classified and professional staff who enjoyed the staff breakfast.

Unity was the theme of the day. Interim Chancellor MacKenzie announced his primary goal of bringing the campus together, not just at special events like this but in the work of the university, healing divisions and rallying everyone around the primary work of the institution: shaping students' lives. Recalling the recent success of the presidential debate, MacKenzie said, "The debate was one event, but in reality, every day we have shared work that is crucial to our campus mission."

MacKenzie also cited his goal of improving relations with UMass Boston and its neighbors by engaging them in dialogue regarding campus projects such as the new campus center. In addition, he announced the creation of the Community/External Relations Council, chaired by Vice Chancellor Ed O'Malley, which is bringing together members of the university community who interact with external constituencies. Noting both community and campus interest in the new campus center, MacKenzie said that the detailed plans and drawings were completed last fall along with all the necessary permits. The project went out to bid in November; bids were received in the first week of January. The cost estimate of $52 million for the project was off by 25 percent. MacKenzie reported that Michael Luck, vice chancellor for institutional advancement, has already begun developing naming opportunities for donors who may want to be associated with this prominent new building. MacKenzie said that the center may someday "become a gateway to the Harbor Islands National Park, a noteworthy addition to the Boston landscape."

MacKenzie also announced progress in the area of administrative computing: new student admission systems will be coming on line this summer; the new payroll system will be in effect in spring 2002; and the new financial system will be in place by the summer of 2002. Advances in administrative computing, according to MacKenzie, "will revolutionize how we do business on campus" and "allow us to generate reports and summaries that were impossible in the old system."

He added, "These developments are related to another goal of mine, and that is to use technology to make the campus more efficient, to provide better service, and save time and money."

Of his interim appointment as chancellor, MacKenzie said, "I can tell you, it's not an easy job, but I think it's a great honor and very rewarding. This is an institution that accomplishes wonderful things in terms of research, teaching, and in the community."

MacKenzie added that the search committee for a permanent chancellor had selected four out-of-state finalists for the position of Chancellor. President Bulger and the Board of Trustees are expected to select one of them for the permanent chancellorship.

MacKenzie ended by asking staff for their advice on how to make the campus run more efficiently, mainly because the passage of Question 4 means level budget allocations for UMass Boston. In the foreseeable future, the campus must operate within limited funds.

Closing his remarks, MacKenzie invited questions from the audience. None came, but the gesture was met with applause. Ray Forget of Biology remarked, "The chancellor seems very accessible. That's great."

Next Forum for 21st Century Focuses on City Planning

by Kim Burke

UMass Boston has begun planning for the next Forum for the 21st Century, to be held on March 28 at State Street Bank's Franklin Street Enterprise building. The topic is "Shaping the Social and Physical Character of Boston: The Role of City Planning." With all the changes being made to the face of Boston through the Big Dig and South Boston waterfront development, the forum will offer much-needed discussion of the issues of city planning.

Scheduled to speak at the forum will be Rebecca Barnes, chief city planner for Boston; Larry Beasley, the director of planning in Vancouver, British Columbia; David D'Allimore, vice president of real estate development for Pittsburgh Cultural Trust; and architect Joan Goody, principal at Goody Clancy and Associates. Curtis Davis, principal of ReBuild Collaborative, Design & City Redevelopment Management, will be moderating. The Boston Globe and WBGH are the media partners for the event.

This will be the seventeenth such UMass Boston-sponsored forum since 1996. The Forum for the 21st Century is designed to bring civic leaders and the general public outstanding speakers with exciting ideas about how to manage and take advantage of demographic and environmental changes. Previous forums have examined topics such as: Boston's young leaders; charter and charter schools; race, and the media.

Third Annual Ice Cream Social Treats Employees

by Kim Burke

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Employees enjoyed treats of Ben & Jerry's ice cream at Human Resources' Third Annual Ice Cream Social, which was held on February 14 in the Clark Athletic Center. Chancellor David MacKenzie's Resouces' Clare Poitier, and Continuing Education's Jee Lally were among the many who helped dish ice cream to their fellow employees. Pictured here: Diane Vassour, External Relations, Marie Malley, Facilities, Arlene Castino, Registrar, and Caroline Joyce, Facilities. (Photo by Harry Brett)
Celebrating Women's History Month
Join The Action: Initiatives for Mass Action for Women Audit Begin

by Carol Hardy-Fanta

The Mass Action for Women Audit, a collaborative project of UMass Boston's Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy (CWPPP) and Mass Action for Women, a Massachusetts women's organization formed in 1996 as a response to the Fourth World Conference held in Beijing. A diverse group of women from UMass Boston, Mass Action for Women, and communities around the state have been working together to generate dialogue that transcends the barriers of race and ethnicity, class, geography, age, and sexual orientation. Their goal is to conduct participatory action research on the status of women and girls in Massachusetts.

On Jan. 27, after two years of dialogue and research about both the strengths and contributions of women and girls, as well as about gaps and concerns, women came together in Westminster for a full-day retreat.

Many women from the university community were among those attending, including Tess Browne, who is the project's statewide organizing coordinator; Anne Fox, a sociologist professor and a Mapuche Wampanoag who has contributed to the project since its inception; Carol Cardoso, research associate with CWPPP; Shelly Harter and Claudia Guerrier, graduates of the CWPPP Program for Women in Politics and Government; and Carol Hardy-Fanta, former research director of the CWPPP.

The goal for the day was to take what we have learned and select a "burning issue" that reflects the gaps and concerns of women and girls in the state. The group would then decide on a plan to move ahead about change on that issue locally, regionally, and/or statewide.

Women in Greater Boston planned to start by creating handouts on resources and training for women on affordable housing and by piloting technical assistance workshops (a "Big Sister" approach) for women. Women from Cape Cod decided that they wanted to develop a relationship with the Massachusetts Women's Commission and have a public hearing on Cape Cod. They discussed exploring the possibility of having a Wampanoag woman be appointed to the Massachusetts Women's Commission and setting up a meeting of the Cape Cod Women's Action Committee with the Wampanoag Tribal Council for Women and Children.

Women from Western Massachusetts decided to support the development of a sense of collective voice among, between young women, older women, and low-income women, and to strengthen connections by establishing two or three intergenerational groups which will engage in facilitated discussions over a 10-12 week period.

Women in Southeastern Massachusetts wanted to focus on financial security. They plan to develop and implement topical workshops on practical economics for women that can be "sustained.

In addition, PowerFAIDS has enhanced the staff's ability to counsel students because it provides detailed tracking of forms, allows faster updates of information, and displays the loan history of each student.

It also gives us access to other users for advice and problem-solving.

This column is a part of a continuing monthly series featuring Best Practices at UMass Boston. Interested in highlighting your best practices? Submit your ideas to Leigh DePuy at news@umb.edu

Dorchester’s Father George Receives 2001 Quinn Award

by Leigh DePuy

Each year the Robert H. Quinn award is given to an individual who has displayed exemplary community leadership. At the fifteenth annual breakfast honoring the winner, to be held on March 21, UMass Boston will recognize Father George Carrigg, MSW, and his 31 years working to develop communities and leadership in the Harbor and Columbia Point neighborhoods.

"My goal is to try and build communities with people from all parts of the world," Carrigg said, in describing his years as an administrator and spiritual leader at St. Christopher's Church. Arriving at the parish prior to the busing crisis in the early 1970's, Father George has been credited as providing stability and guidance for the neighborhood during that tumultuous time. He developed many of his community initiatives by creating programs for children, including the early childhood program at the Notre Dame Montessori School, in 1973. He worked to establish parish youth groups and provide scholarships for college for high school graduates, and he helps run a yearly summer camp for over seventy children from the ages of three to twelve years old.

"I think you need to start off kids right," said Father George, "by providing educational experiences for preschool children. My goal is to draw parents into participation in school with the children. The success of the kids depends on interested parents." To help both children and parents, Father George created parental support groups, tutoring and mentoring programs, and leadership training programs.

Father George is also known for his community thanksgiving dinners, attended by over 500 community residents each year, and for the annual International Dinner that honors the cultural backgrounds of residents from over 26 different countries. Sensitive to cultural differences, Father George learned Spanish to celebrate Mass, counsel, and conduct outreach for residents from Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Mexico, and other Latino countries.

Father George celebrated the 44th anniversary of his ordination with his parish on February 18. "Longevity in the church has been a building, exercise," he commented. "I am very happy to receive the Quinn award for my work."

The Quinn Award was established in honor of Robert H. Quinn, whose record includes years as a speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Massachusetts attorney general, and chair of the UMass Board of Trustees.

Financial Aid Adopts PowerFAIDS as a Best Practice

by Teresa Jordan

January 2000 brought a highly anticipated and much needed change to the Financial Aid Services Office (FAS). For years FAS had muddled through with a legacy software system, but regular and complex changes in US Federal Department of Education regulations illuminated the need for a more powerful system. The FAS staff suggested PowerFAIDS as an alternative to the legacy system so the administration of aid could be expedited more efficiently.

PowerFAIDS is a powerful software program designed, marketed, and supported by the College Board. It is a windows-based system, which allows staff to become familiar with it quickly. Basic navigational training is minimal, and staff can easily become acclimated. PowerFAIDS allows exportation of files in a variety of formats, which in turn allows for quick and easy data exchange with a member on offices campus. Another benefit is the ability to customize letters quickly and easily. We can also send e-mail, thus saving time and money. In addition, PowerFAIDS can track the times, dates, and types of communication with students.

Generating reports in the old legacy system was difficult, and time-consuming, and required specific knowledge of the system. Moreover, report writing was undertaken by a limited number of staff. PowerFAIDS is so simple to use that report writing is no longer an arduous task. PowerFAIDS gives the FAS staff the ability to retrieve data from over 200 individual fields.

Year-end reports to the US Department of Education will no longer be a 30- to 60-day labor-intensive process. At the end of each fiscal year, FAS is required to complete a Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) detailing how and to whom financial aid was disbursed. PowerFAIDS includes an excellent reporting tool that can provide year-end reports in the same detail as required by the FISAP yet more quickly than the old software could.

PowerFAIDS is used nationwide at over 500 colleges and universities. Thus UMass Boston can attract and retain highly qualified, experienced, and knowledgeable staff who require a minimum amount of training. This also gives us access to other users for advice and problem-solving.

PowerFAIDS has enhanced the staff's ability to counsel students because it provides detailed tracking of forms, allows faster updates of information, and displays the loan history of each student.

In addition, PowerFAIDS allows FAS to give more time to training professional and support staff members. FAS permits more focus on customer service and professional services because of its increased integrity. Although PowerFAIDS has been in operation at UMass Boston only nine months, the staff is increasingly satisfied with the system.

Black Aviators: Flying Free

Tune into The History Channel on Saturday, March 3, at 10:00 p.m., for its documentary on black aviators. Research by UMass Boston's Philip Hart on his great-uncle James Herman Banning, one of the first black aviators in the U.S., is featured in the program.
**HOPE & GLORY**

*Essays on the Legacy of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment*

The book jacket for the recently published *Hope & Glory: Essays on the Legacy of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment*

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**Hope & Glory Receives Glowing Review**

The memory of the 54th Massachusetts regiment, the first all-black infantry, led by Robert Gould Shaw, has been celebrated in many ways. Many Bostonians and historians know the bronze-paneled monument in Boston Common created by Augustus Saint-Gaudens depicting the regiment. The unit has been an inspiration for the Robert Lowell poem *For the Union Dead* and for the popular movie *Glory.* In a February 6 book review for the *Boston Globe,* Michael Kenney writes, "The Monument—and the ideals—have now been commemorated in a richly rewarding series of 15 essays." Kenney refers to the collection *Hope & Glory: Essays on the Legacy of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment,* which is edited by Martin H. Blatt, Thomas J. Brown, and Donald Yacovone. Published by the University of Massachusetts Press in December 2000, the book examines the lasting influence of the most famous black military unit of the Civil War. It includes contributions from Stephen Belyea, David W. Blight, Thomas Cripps, Kathryn Greenthal, James Oliver Horton, Edwin S. Redkey, Marilyn Richardson, Kirk Savage, James Smethurst, Cathy Stanton, Helen Vendler, Denise Van Glahn, and Joan Waugh. U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell provided the forward for the book, describing the influences of the 54th regiment on his own career.

Paul Wright, of the Boston office of the University of Massachusetts Press, was the sponsoring editor of the book and has pointed out many of the ties the work has to Mass Boston. Most notably, the 54th regiment was the subject of a 1997 symposium sponsored by UMass Boston and inspired partly by the work of the late Edwin Gittleman, who was an expert on the topic. The favorable review by the *Globe* could be best summarized by its banner headline, which read, "'Hope' honors regiments legacy."

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**Betsy Santiago Wins Boston Neighborhood Fellowship**

Betsy Santiago, a research assistant with the McCormack Institute of Public Affairs, has been chosen as a Boston Neighborhood Fellow. The Boston Neighborhood Fellows Program provides recognition and direct financial support to individuals of creativity, vision, and leadership who work in community service in Greater Boston. The program, founded in 1991, honors its individual awardees who receive direct grants of $30,000 over a three-year period. An anonymous donor funds the program. Nominations to the Boston Neighborhood Fellows Program are made by a group of "spotters," individuals representing diverse parts of the Boston community. The spotters identify individuals who, by virtue of their leadership and service in Boston neighborhoods, qualify for this award. Santiago, a former homeless mother, was chosen for her commitment to researching the life circumstances of other destitute families.

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**Women in Music at WUMB Radio**

WUMB 91.9 FM recently took over the production and taping of *Women in Music,* a nationally syndicated public radio show that features an eclectic mix of female musicians. The program, which recently celebrated its four-year anniversary in October, has aired on WUMB for the last two years. The hour-long program features multicultural groups of female artists working independently or in female-fronted bands. The show also airs specials for holidays such as Black History Month and Women's History Month. This is the first national program that WUMB has produced. *Women in Music* can be heard on more than 90 national affiliates throughout the US. WUMB itself airs the program on Fridays at 5:00 a.m. and again at 8:00 p.m.

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**UMass Boston Remembers Elizabeth Robson**

Elizabeth Robson, a longtime staff social worker in the Mental Health/Counseling Program of University Health Services, passed away in her home on January 27. Robson had been a full-time counselor for the university since 1987. She quickly established herself as an empathic and involved clinician who was always available and an advocate for all who came to see her. She strongly promoted awareness of community resources both within and outside the university and consistently volunteered for emergencies and crisis intervention. With the development of a collaborative training program with the Graduate Clinical Psychology Program, Robson supervised university graduate students and social work interns from Boston University. She also took courses in the Sociology Department toward a certificate in alcohol and substance abuse, and was particularly proud of being on the committee that brought the AIDS quilt to campus in April 1998. Robson entered the University of Chicago at the age of 15 and, at 19, the Columbia University School of Social Work, where she earned a master's degree in social work. Following work in Chicago pursuing interests in women's issues and social advocacy, Robson came to the Boston area in 1972. She taught at Goddard College and later at Norwich University as an adjunct faculty member. She designed and led workshops on child and sexual abuse, feminist therapy, assertiveness, and social welfare services, and coauthored the 1980 book *Getting Help: A Woman's Guide to Therapy.* Elizabeth Robson had a profound effect on many of her clients and colleagues through her willingness to be engaged, to actively practice what she believed, and to "go the extra mile."

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**Labor Resource Center Receives Over $75,000 in Grants**

The Labor Resource Center (LRC), located at the College of Public and Community Service, recently was awarded over $75,000 in three grants for its research and educational programs. The LRC received $60,143 from the Case and Ford Foundations for research through a subgrant with the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR). Randy Albeida of the Economics Department will be directing the project, "Estimating the Costs of Paid Family and Medical Leave." The study complements an earlier research and policy report issued by the LRC and coauthored by Randy Albeida and Tiffany Manuel, "Filling the Work and Family Gap." The LRC and IWPR jointly will disseminate these research findings to a national audience of policymakers and advocacy organizations.

In addition, Jim Green, an LRC academic coordinator, received $16,000 from Links in Solidarity with Labor, funds which will enable the LRC to pilot a teacher-training program designed to facilitate inclusion of labor studies in Massachusetts high schools. Finally, Mary Jo Connelly, LRC research coordinator, and Pat Reece, LRC director, are recipients of a public service endowment grant for $4,500. The funding will enable Connelly to replicate the Jobs Toolkit Economic Analysis Project, a hands-on training in strategic economic analysis for community and labor organizations.

March Spotlights were written by Leigh DaPry, Eriska McCarthy, Pat Reece, and Alan Sizer.
Conference, Panels, and Presentations
CM Assistant Professor of Accounting James Bierstaker, in association with Arnold Wright, presented “The Intersection Between Auditor’s Risk Perceptions and Partner Pressure on Audit Program Planning” at the 2001 Auditing Section 25th Anniversary Celebration Meeting, held in Houston in January.

Pamela Jones, associate professor of art history, delivered the keynote address at “The Recent Study of Art and Catholicism in Late Cinquecento and Scicento Rome,” at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America at the Art Institute of Chicago on March 31.

In January, College of Public and Community Service Professor Herman Hemingway gave an invited lecture at the University of San Louis in San Louis, Senegal. His topic was “Martin Luther King Jr.: An Approach to Conflict Resolution through Non-Violence.” He also lectured on civil rights in the U.S. at Safford University Extension in Dakar, Senegal.

CM Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Management and Marketing Michael Novak will present “Will Virtual Reality: The Collision of Creativity and Commerce” at the International Business Education Conference in March in Caracas, Mexico. Another paper, “Application Papers for Learning and Assessment in Organizational Behavior Courses,” will be presented at the Applied Business Research Conference in March, also in Caracas.

Charles Meyers and the Applied Linguistics Program are hosting “The Third Latin-American Symposium on Corporus Linguistics and Language Teaching” at the Park Plaza Hotel, March 23-29. The international conference is sponsored by the American Association for Applied Corporus Linguistics.

Elizabeth Sherman, McCormick Institute, and her husband Mickey Edwards, former congressman from Oklahoma and Kennedy School professor, will be the keynote speakers at the UMass Alumni Weekend in Naples, Florida, on March 4. They will discuss the national election, its implications for both parties, and the need for reform to the electoral system.

On January 12, Vicky Stenitz, CPC, presented “Solvency Work: Researchers in the Struggle for Social Justice,” the keynote address at the 14th Annual CGU Conference on Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies, at the University of Georgia.

Dennis J. Stevens, CPC, will be delivering three papers, “Case Studies in Community Policing,” “Three Generations of Incarcerated Sexual Offenders,” and “Civil Liabilities and Arrest Decisions” at the annual conference of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, in Washington DC in April. In addition, Dorchestein’s police commander, Captain Robert Donfield, invited Stevens to sit on his Neighborhood Action Council, which reviews police and community matters.

John Warner, Chemistry Department, has been invited to give plenary lectures at the Japan Catalysis and Fine Chemicals conference and workshop in Tokyo in March. His research was featured in the article “Green Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts Boston” written by the Japanese Chemical Inorgre Ecol Engrs. in Tokyo, and in Chemistry in Britain, which featured an item on Warner’s work using DNA to make materials impurities in African computer and electronics industry.

College of Public and Community Service Associate Professor Adelaphan Dossenfeld spent the winter break in Eritrea consulting on a project to establish a training center called “Women and Justice: Educational and National Development Institute” that would help women from six ethnic groups pursue a career in the justice system within Eritrea.

Arije H. Wingo, philosophy professor and senior fellow at the McCormick Institute, participated in the Conference on the Advancement of Improvement in Teaching at UMES on Boston on January 27, 2001. His presentation was titled “The Black Chemical Inorgre Ecol Engrs. in Tokyo.” He visited the University of Wisconsin, Madison in February to deliver two presentations: “Why We Dance: Catherine of Alexandria Dancing,” to the Dance Department, and “Living Legitimacy: A New Approach to Good Government in Africa,” to the African Studies Program.

Publications

Dick Cluster, Academic Support and Honors Programs, has published several new translations of Cuban short fictions. His translations of stories by Havana writer Antonio José Ponte appear in In the Cold of the Malecon and Other Stories and by the Cuban-American writer Sonia Rivera Valdes in Forbidden Stories of Martha Venezanera.

The recently published second edition of the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians contains over a dozen articles by Joseph Dyer, Music Department, on liturgical chant topics and music theory in the Middle Ages. His essay “Roman Catholic Church Music” is one of the most extensive articles in the 29-volume Dictionary. Several of his articles have already appeared in the comparable German language encyclopedia, Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart.

Joel Gervasio, a Ph.D. student in the Environmental Biotechnology of the Environmental Sciences program, published “Forests As Providers: EcoEngrs. in Conservation: Perspectives. Winter 2001 (an article in the publication of the Massachusetts Society for Conservation Biology). His article focuses on privately-owned forests in Massachusetts, and he evaluates the mechanisms for correcting inefficiencies in land development and their effectiveness.

Stephanie Hartwell, assistant professor of sociology, published an essay, “An Analysis of Racial Differences Among Mentally Ill Offenders in Massachusetts,” in Psychiatric Services in February.

Hanging Loose, the literary magazine and press, celebrated its 30th anniversary on January 29 at the National Arts Club in Manhattan.

Dick Lourie, Publications, Mark Pawlak, director of academic support, and retired English Professor Ron Schreiber were honored guests. The two and their group, are codirectors and publishers of the magazine, which has more than 100 titles in print.


David Patterson, Music Department, has published “A Native American flute and percussion (bell, drum, notched stick, and bull-roarer)” with JP Publications, Colorado Springs.

Gopal Rao, Physics Department, and his group published “Processing of Medical Images Using Real-Time Optical Fourier Processing” in the January issue of Medical Physics in Journalism. The paper outlines an analog optical interactive technique for cancer diagnostics and the possibility of developing a low-cost, portable, battery-operated instrument. UMass Boston’s Office of Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Property is negotiating with companies to market the instrument.

Jean Rhodes, Psychology, has had her book Older and Wiser: Risks and Rewards in Youth Mentoring accepted for a spring publication by Harvard University Press.

Russell Schutt, professor of sociology, will publish Research Methods for Criminology and Criminal Justice with co-author Ronel Bachman with Pine Forge Press Publication. Also, the third edition of Schutt’s research methods book, Investigating the Social World Has been published.

Dennis J. Stevens, CPC, will publish an issue of Civil Liabilities and Selective Enforcement in the March issue of Law and Order. The journal also has accepted "The Elton Savory Murder Investigation," an article written by Stevens and Sgt. Roy Chambers, a member of the Boston Police Department and a CPC student.

Also, Community Policing Consortium has published Stevens’ and coworker Capt. Michael F. Masterson’s article “Measuring Community Policing at Madison Police Department.”

CM Assistant Professor of Management Science and Information Systems Patrick Bhatia has ongoing work forthcoming in the Quarterly Journal of Electronic Commerce. “Aesthetics and Web Site Design” was coauthored with Harold Daniel and Hampton Griffin of the University of Maine.

Xuwen Wang, Environmental, Coastal Ocean Sciences Department, recently published “Radon: radiogenic and stable carbon isotope compositions of organic compound classes in sediments from the NE Pacific and Southern Oceans” in Marine Chemistry.

Researchers at the Center for Social Policy have recently released a study “Homeless Management Information Systems: An In-Depth Look,” which is a tool for communities looking to upgrade or implement such systems. The report reviews several leading software products, analyzes costs associated with operating them, and reviews the data elements collected by available software products.

Research and Grants
Bob Bowen of the EDDOS center was awarded an “Outstanding Achievement Award in Teaching” for academic years 2000-2001, which was announced Dec. 28, 2000 by Christine Armelt-Kibul, dean, CAS Science Faculty.

CM Assistant Professor of Management Science and Information Systems Pratyush Bhatia has received a Public Service Endowment Award for his research on “Assimilation of Internet Based Technologies in Small and Medium Sized Manufacturers.”

Carol L. Cardozo and Linda K. Suissman, research associates at the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, have completed a study of the mental health needs of women who are in transition from welfare to work. The research analyzes the literature and reviews several programs across the country designed to meet the complex needs of this population. It will be available in March.

David Giesiow, adjunct professor of voice in the Music Department, received a grant from the Smithsonian Arts Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council to serve as an artist in residence at Somerville High School. He will coach the choral conductor and work with students in the high school chorus during the 2001 semesters.

College of Public and Community Service and Latin Studies Professor Ramona Hernandez, and her co­principal investigator, Silvio Torres­Santillan, director of the CUNY­Distinguished Scholar Institute at the City College of New York, have been awarded $76,000 by the Rockefeller Foundation for a major transnational community-based research project entitled “Up from the Margins: Diversity as a Challenge of the Democratic Nation.”

Seth Minkoff of the Department of Hispanic Studies/Latin American Studies Program has been awarded the Endowed Faculty Development Award for his proposal on “Symptom and Epistemology in Guatemalan Spanish,” which explores his ongoing research into relationships between and among the different Latino cultures. The Endowed Faculty Career Development Fund was established by UMass Boston’s rear faculty members, with the award being distributed by the Awards Committee.

The Center for Immigrant and Refugee Community Leadership and Empowerment (CIRCLE) and the College of Public and Community Service have received $18,000 in funding from the Massachusetts Campus Compact for a community-based research project (ACE, Accessing College Education) that will explore the barriers immigrants face in accessing higher education. Further funding of $33,000 will be available to extend this one-year project over a three-year period. Sarah Bartlett and Elaine Ward are co-principal investigators.

The Center for Social Policy has received a 2001 Public Service Endowment grant from the University for Research and Community Support Network in Massachusetts. The $3,500 grant will be used to disseminate findings from three recent CFP studies on the challenges emergency service providers face in their struggles to respond to the needs of families.

Appointments and Honors
The McCormick Institute’s Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy will be undergoing a change in leadership. Former director Elizabeth Sherman has stepped down to devote more time to writing and teaching. Ann Freinos, Women’s Studies Program, and Catherine Lynde, chair of the Department of Economics, will serve as interim co­directors of the Center for the spring semester and serve as a transition to the new Center leadership.
ECOSanction is versatile enough to measure organic carbon, for example, in three dimensions six times a second. It’s not versatile enough for shallow estuaries, but a new mini-shuttle will soon answer this need. Such technology is supporting a number of major studies. One deals with endocrine disruptors, which after growth and development or reproductive success. For example, says Chen, “if juvenile male trout are caged in the River Thames, they become feminized because of chemicals in the water.” Endocrine disruptors, says Chen, “may be the next wave of contaminants the EPA has to look at. There may be 40,000 contaminants that disrupt endocrine systems at some level.”

Together with Ana Soto of Tufts Medical School, Chen will be using an MIT Sea Grant to analyze endocrine-disrupting chemicals in Massachusetts Bay. Soto has developed a biosensor that uses human breast cancer cells to detect substances that may affect humans and other organisms. The biosensor is extraordinarily sensitive to estrogenic activity but does not identify individual substances; Chen and his associates will analyze seawater and sewage samples that have shown high rates of activity, and identify its sources. Another substance often found in coastal waters is caffeine. “If you find caffeine,” says Chen, “you might find other things—pesticides, pharmaceuticals, human pathogens, other sewage-derived contaminants.” Caffeine is also much easier to measure than these dangerous substances, and Chen is therefore exploring its relationships with them.

Yet another project is a study of colored organic carbon in estuaries, funded by the Office of Naval Research. “The Navy’s interested,” says Chen, “because they want to know all about the optical properties of water, which affects surveillance of underwater activity from space. But the study has other applications too. ‘We’re burning fossil fuels and increasing greenhouse warming,’” says Chen. Much of the burnt matter has been traced, but scientists puzzle over a “missing sink” of atmospheric carbon dioxide. “No one knows where it’s going. And to know where it’s going is critical to predicting what’s going to happen as CO2 increases,” Chen will pursue the possibility that some of the “missing sink” is dissolved organic carbon in the coastal ocean.

And soon, Chen hopes, the National Science Foundation will fund a new proposal for supporting thirty graduate students in work on recovering coastal ecosystems, of which Boston Harbor itself is a remarkable example. These “healing” ecosystems present unique problems for science, since no one has seen their like before. About half of the students would be based at UMass Boston, while others would study at other UMass campuses or at Florida A&M University, a partner institution. Their presence would generate an abundance of new research activity, and they themselves would become the “next generation of scientists” to oversee the recovering ecosystems.

Chen speaks with pleasure of the ECOS department, which he joined in 1993. He admires his colleagues’ work in environmental science and policy—they’re “very good at it”—and he enjoys the environment in his department. “What has kept me here,” he says, “is that we’re a very close-knit group. We actually collaborate! We have lunch together, we talk together, we share ideas—and we’re growing now. These are exciting times.”

Chen Research (cont.)

Register Today!
The Learning Center will be offering the following workshops in March:

**March 1**  Power Breakfast
Intermediary Power Point 2000
Customer Service Training
Jenzabar.com

**March 3**  Advanced Word 2000
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**March 5**  Customer Service Training
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**March 14**  Introduction to HTML
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**March 19**  Customer Service Training
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**March 20**  Virtual Forum
Advanced Word 2000
Advanced HTML

**March 21**  Customer Service Training
Introduction to Outlook 2000
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**March 22**  Sizing up!
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**March 23**  Customer Service Training
Jenzabar.com

**March 26**  Web Workshops!
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**March 27**  Intermediate Dreamweaver
Web Workshops!

**March 29**  Word to the Web
Web Workshops!

Contact the Learning Center for more information. See [www.learningctr.umb.edu](http://www.learningctr.umb.edu); e-mail learningctr@umb.edu; or call 617-287-3990.

Who’s Who Students (cont.)

Of Kenya.

Judit Diaz, another international student, came to UMass Boston as a political refugee. She fled persecution in her native Cuba for "bringing bread to political prisoners." She said, "I was expelled from medical school in Cuba for political reasons. I was terribly humiliated, but I am here now, studying biology, pursuing my dream of becoming a doctor." She looks forward to applying to medical school soon.

Like Diaz, each of the named students has a unique story. For Collins Brown, a nighttime toll-taker for the Massachusetts Turnpike, a chance meeting with University President William Bulger led to his return to college. Recognizing the president, Brown struck up a conversation. "He encouraged me to go back to college, to apply at UMass Boston," Brown now continues to work nights to support his two children. Active in his church and community, he was also named "Outstanding Future Professional" by the Massachusetts Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.
Thursday 1

Learning Center Course L-900: Power Breakfast
8:00 - 8:30 a.m., Learning Center, Healey Library, Lower Level. Meet with the UMass Boston community, enjoy refreshments, and share ideas about web development in a casual environment. Call 7-3990 for more information.

Genealogy Lecture Series: A Journey through Time, Looking at Records that Can Help You Find Your Family's Ancestral Home
8:30 - 9:00 p.m., Massachusetts State Archives Meeting Room, Columbia Point. Featuring James P. Duffy, reference archivist, Massachusetts State Archives. Admission and parking are free for all genealogy lectures. For more information, call the Commonwealth Museum at (617) 727-9208.

Friday 2

Biology Department Seminar: "Millennial-Scale Climate Instability and Ocean Circulation during the Paleocene-Eocene Epoch"
2:30 p.m., Science Center, 1st Floor, Room 6. Featuring Maureen Raymo, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Boston University. All are invited to attend. Call 7-6650 for more information.

March 5 - 10

Admissions On-The-Spot Week
Appointments Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Appointments with admissions counselors, who will review a student's credentials and render a decision that day. Program is geared for the transfer population. For more information, call 7-6600.

Monday 5

Environmental Studies Green Bag Seminar Series: Hazardous Waste Recycling at UMass Boston
2:30 - 3:20 p.m., Wheately Hall, 2nd Floor, Room 032. Featuring Zehra Schneider, UMass Boston Health and Safety Office. For more information, call 7-7476.