"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, water can be pumped up to a shipboard lab for additional testing on the spot or for later analysis. The

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Who's Who Features Twelve UMass Boston Students

by Anna-Marie Kent

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 service activities.

Who are they? They are a group of twelve UMass Boston students who were nominated for recognition in the upcoming volume 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 the 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.

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-

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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 DuPuy

On February 15, the vice president of the Dominican Republic, Milagros Ortiz 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 Provost Charles Cnudde and Dean Isac 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 shares 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 Trust- ees meeting held at UMass Bos- ton, 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 sophistica ted technology is simulta neously expanding the number of students the system can serve.

First, University of Mas sachusetts Vice President Selma Botman led a presentation on sys tem-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. Ar- cher, associate dean of graduate studies, reflected on his experience as associate dean of the Intercampus Graduate School of Marine Sciences and Technology, with co­ presenter 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 Frankowski, director of libraries and information resources, UMass Lowell; James Kurro, professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science at the UMass Amherst, co­ director of the Computer Network Research Labora tory and co­ founder 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 Massa­ chusetts system. Bulger said that the combined strengths of the in­ dividual campuses can fully serve the "economic, academic, and so­ cial 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 "fend themselves ideally to a system-wide 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 stu­ dent to click on UMass Online.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 web-based distance learning organization in New England. Over 6,000 stu­ dents, 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, ac­ cess, and innovation in higher edu­ cation," University of Massa­ chusetts President Bulger said. "We are very strongly positioned at the start to deliver high-quality 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 class­ room," Jack Wilson, a national distance learning innovator who came to the University of Massa­ chusetts from Rensselaer Poly­ technic Institute, was named UMass Online CEO.

Arid the news of developments in intercampus collabora­ tion 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 increase fees at all five campuses.
Working Together: Combined Staff Breakfast Celebrates Unity

Martha Kelly, Administration and Finance, and Victoria Lapish, Academic Affairs, seated on the left, were among the many classified and professional staff who enjoyed the staff breakfast.

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 dubbed "the Spring 2001 Love-In" by Interim Chancellor MacKenzie, the event proved to be a great success.

Joanie Donahue of the Enterprise building. The 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 Dettimore, 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 was 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 pilot schools, race, and the media.

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 23 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 with 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.

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Third Annual Ice Cream Social Treats Employees

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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 Resource's Clare Poirier, and Continuing Education's Joe Lally were among the many who helped dish ice cream to their fellow employees. Pictured here: Diane Vassour, External Relations, Marie Malloy, Facilities, Arlene Castello, Registrar, and Carolyn Joyce, Facilities. (Photo by Harry Brett)
Dorchester's Father George Receives 2001 Quinn Award

by Leigh DuPuy

Each year the Robert H. Quinn award is given to an individual who has displayed exemplary community leadership. At the fifteenth annual UMass Boston's Center for Women has displayed exemplary community response to the Fourth World conference held in Beijing. A diverse group of women from UMass have attended the conference in Beijing. A diverse group of women from UMass have attended the conference in Beijing.

Father George Carrell of St. Christopher's Church has been the project's statewide coordinator, Anne Fox, a sociologist professor and a Massapequa 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's Program for Women in Politics and Government; and Carol Hardy-Fanta and 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 in order to fix the problem.

Women in Southeastern 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 discussion 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.

Financial Aid Adopts PowerFAIDS as a Best Practice

by Teresa Jorden

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 within a department and with offices on campus. Another benefit is the ability to customize letters quickly and easily. We can also send email, 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 know-how. The PowerFAIDS system now 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.

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 DuPuy at news@umb.edu.

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 is 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 Massapequa 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's 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 in order to fix the problem.

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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.
**SPOTLIGHTS**

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

### 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 bas-relief 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 is referring 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. The book's essayists cover these influences from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. 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 ties the work has to Mass Boston. Most notably, the 14th 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."

### 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 six individuals annually 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.

### 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 U.S. WUMB itself airs the program on Fridays at 5:00 a.m. and again at 8:00 p.m.

### 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 empathetic 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 co-authored 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.”

### 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 grant with the Institute for Women’s Policy Research (IWPR). Randy Albeda 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 co-authored by Randy Albeda 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 trainer-training program designed to facilitate inclusion of labor studies in Massachusetts high schools.

Finally, Mary Jo Connelly, LRC research coordinator, and Pat Reeve, LRC director, are recipients of a public service endowment grant for $3,500. 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 DePuy, Emily McCarthy, Pat Reeve, and Alan Sieber.
CAMPUS NOTES

Conference, Panels, and Presentations
CM Assistant Professor of Accounting James Bierstaker, in association with Arnold Wright, presented “The Interrelation Between Auditor’s Risk Perception and Partner Pressure on Audit Program Planning” at the 2001 Auditing Section 25th Anniversary Celebration 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 Seicento 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 Henningsvær 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 a Safford University Extension in Dakar, Senegal.

CM Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Management and Marketing Michael Novak will present "The Notion of Gift: The Collision of Creativity and Commerce" at the International Business Education Conference in March in Cancun, 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 Cancun.

Charles Meyers and the Applied Linguistics Program are hosting the Third North American Symposium on Corpus Linguistics and Language Teaching” at the Park Plaza Hotel, March 23-26. The international conference is sponsored by the American Association for Applied Corpus 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 3. They will discuss the national election, its implications for both parties, and the need to reform the electoral system.

On January 12, Vicki Steinitz, CPC, presented “Sedentary Work: Researchers in the Struggle for Social Justice,” the keynote address at the 14th Annual GUIG 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, Dorchester’s police commander, Captain Robert Donford, invited Steven to sit on the 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 Innovation Institute, and in Chemistry in Britain, which featured an item on Warner’s work using DNA to make materials impermeable in aeronautics and electronics industry.

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

Ajme H. Wingo, philosophy professor and senior fellow at the McCormick Institute, participated in the Conference on the Advancement of Improvement in Teaching at UMMS on Boston on January 27, 2001. His presentation was titled "Ethics Medicus". Wingo visited the University of Wisconsin, Madison in February to deliver two presentations. "Why We Dance: Catheter Culture in the Dance Department, and "Living Legitimacy: A New Approach to Good Government in Africa," to the African Studies Program.

Publications

Dick Cleaster, Academic Support and Honors Programs, has published several new translations of Cuban short fiction. 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 River Valdes in Forbidden Stories of Marta Veneranda.

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 italigrical 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 Gerveaux, a Ph.D. student in the Environmental Biotechnology of the Environmental Sciences program, published "Forests As Providers: Impact of Forestry Practice and Management on Wildlife Ecology,” in the 2001 edition 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.


Hanging Loose, the literary magazine and press, celebrated its 35th 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 third edition of "The McCormack Honor's Program" will be 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.

Xuexun Wang, Environmental, Coastal and Ocean Sciences Department, recently published "Radarcator 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 "Harmless 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 packages.

Research and Grants
Bob Bowen of the Ecosdepartments was honored with an "Outstanding Achievement Award in Teaching" for academic year 1999-2000. It was announced Dec. 28, 2000 by Christine Armest-Kibel, dean, CAS Science Faculty.

CM Assistant Professor of Management Science and Information Systems Pratyush Bhattachar also received a Public Service Endowment for his research on "Assimilation of Internet Based Technologies in Small and Medium Sized Manufacturers.

Carol L. Cardozo and Lisa K. Sussman, research associates at the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, have completed a study of the mental health needs of those 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 Gesiess, adjunct professor of voice in the Music Department, received a grant from the Somerville 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 semester.

College of Public and Community Service and Latino Studies Professor Ramona Hernández, and her co­principal investigator, Silvio Tamres ­Saillant, director of the CVU­ Dominican Studies 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 "Syntax and Epistemology in Guatemala Spanish,” which explores his ongoing research into relationships between syntax and sociolinguistics. The Endowed Faculty Career Development Fund was established by UMass Boston’s retired faculty members; the award was 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 major transnational community-based research project (ACE, Accessing College Education) that will explore the barriers immigrants facing 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 Real Change. The Center for Community Support Network in Massachusetts. The $3,500 grant will be used to disseminate findings from several 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 Freines, Women’s Studies Program, and Catherine Lynde, chair of the Department of Economics, will serve as interim co-directors of the Center for the spring semester and serve as a transition to the new Center leadership.

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6
Chen Research (cont.)

ECOSFante 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 development. For example, says Chen, "if juvenile male rainbow 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 disruptors in Massachusetts Bay. Soto has developed a bioassay that uses human breast cancer cells to detect substances that may affect humans and other organisms. The bioassay is extraordinarily sensitive to estrogenic activity but does not identify individual substances; Chen and his associates will analyze sewage and seawater 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 the visibility 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 AMU 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 collabo rate! We have lunch together, we talk together, we share ideas—and we're growing now. These are exciting times."

Tuesday 6

Reading in the Bilingual/ESL Classroom Lecture Series 4:00 - 6:30 p.m., Wheatley, 2nd Floor, Room 200. Featuring Barbara Flores. "Bilingual and Competing Paradigms in Reading." For more information, call 7-5760.

Wednesday 7

ECOS Study Lecture Series: "Modernization vs. Westernization in East Asia" 2:45 - 4:15 p.m., Wheatley, 8th Floor. Provost's Conference Room. Professor Wang Kai-fu, Bridgewater State College, will discuss "Tradition, Modernity, and Globalization in South China and Hong Kong." WUMB Member Concert Featuring Christopher Williams 7:30 p.m., Media Auditorium, UMass Library, Seating limited. Call 7-6000 or reservations.

Friday 9

Biological Department Seminar: "Understanding the Role of Acin in Arabidopsis Root System Development" 2:30 - 4:00 p.m., Science Center, 1st Floor, Room 6. Featuring Brian Rotledge, Zhe New England. All are invited to attend. Call 7-6950 for more information.

Monday 12

Learning Center Course L-900: Web Workgroup 5-week Seminar 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Learning Center, Health Library, Lower Level. Seminar designed to help you create a departmental or a course web site, evaluate your content, and determine the look and structure of your site. Call 7-3790 for more information. Also held in 2-week seminars on Monday, 21, 22, 27, and 28.

Environmental Studies Green Bag Seminar Series: Citizen Stewardship of the Boston Harbor Cleanup 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 1st Floor, Room 012. Featuring Bruce Sarrac, Beacon Save the Harbor/Save the Bay. For more information, call 7-2476.

Monday 13

Reading in the Bilingual/ESL Classroom Lecture Series 4:00 - 6:30 p.m., Wheatley, 2nd Floor, Room 200. "What is Reading?" Featuring Kevin Schmitt. For more information, call 7-5760.

Wednesday 14

ECOS Seminar: "Developing Innovative Technology for Tomorrow's Cooks" 2:30 - 4:00 p.m., Science Center, 1st Floor, Room 6. Featuring Dwight Trewhko, co-director, NOAA, Estuarine Reserves Division. For more information, call 7-4440.

Thursday 15

Geronotology Institute Speaker Series: "Social Security Reform in the United Kingdom" 1:00 - 2:30 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 4th Floor. Featuring Professor John Williamson, Department of Sociology and Center for Retirement Research, Boston College.

Friday 16


Saturday 29

Geronotology Institute Speaker Series: "How to Approach Irish Genealogy on the Internet" 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Massachusetts State Archives, Delaware, Tennessee, WebMaster. Thara. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call the Commonwealth Museum at 617-727-9286.

Family Alcoholism Series Seminars offered by Pride Program to provide insight into family alcohol problems. "AAOD Support Group: "Mondays, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.; "Recovery Support Group: "Wednesdays, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.; "How to Help a Friend with an Alcoholic Drug Problem." Thursdays, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Beacon Fitness Center" The Beacon Fitness Center's membership is free for all students and available for a small fee to faculty, staff, and alumni. Guests of operation. Monday and Wednesday, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Health Promotion Programs (7-5685): Offers programs in meditation, tai chi, yoga, studying smarter, weight management, smoking cessation, and AIDS awareness. Call 7-5685 or see online calendar at www.umb.edu/news_events/umb_calendar for more information and schedule.