Professor of Exercise Physiology Examines Weight Control and Physical Activity in Cancer-Risk Reduction

By Leigh DuPuy

Current statistics reveal a grim reality about our ability to achieve and maintain a healthy body weight. About 63 percent of Americans are currently overweight or obese, and Massachusetts' residents are following the latest trend. Nearly six out of ten adults in the Commonwealth are considered obese. And it's not just about how our waists look in our favorite pants; being overweight predisposes more than 100 million Americans to a host of chronic diseases and conditions. Of particular concern is the growing number of overweight children and adolescents, which has more than doubled in the past 30 years alone.

Studying the relationship between physical fitness and one's health, weight, and disease control is the crux of Kyle McInnis's groundbreaking work in exercise physiology. "In the United States alone, approximately 300,000 deaths each year are attributed to a combination of dietary factors and physical inactivity -- the two primary culprits of obesity -- making these lifestyle habits second only to cigarette smoking as the leading cause of death," says McInnis, professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

In one of his latest projects, McInnis is researching how physical fitness and a healthy diet can impact cancer prevention. "While overweight and insufficient physical activity are clearly associated with cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and a host of other conditions, conclusive scientific evidence is also accumulating that these lifestyle factors greatly increase cancer risk, particularly in the colon, breast and endometrium," he says.

McInnis has received $150,000 from the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center for a two-year research study to investigate weight control, physical activity, and cancer-risk reduction among women living in urban areas. Professor Andres Torres of the Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy, Paul Watanabe, codirector of the Institute for Asian American Studies, and Castellano Turner, interim director of the William Monroe Trotter Institute for Community Development and Public Policy, are collaborating with researchers at the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center on a study evaluating how lifestyle changes affect cancer risk in urban women. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Gastón, Trotter, and Asian American Institutes Mobilize New Majority Conference

By Thijs Masselaar

Minorities have become the majority in Massachusetts.

According to the Census 2000, Boston's constituents are mainly people of color. This vast "minority" population, however, remains relegated to the margins of the city's political, economic, and social structures.

But three UMass Boston leaders have accepted the call to help consolidate Boston's minority leaders against this glaring disparity.

At the request of city councilors Chuck Turner, Felix Arroyo, Charles Yancey, and others, Andrés Torres of the Gaston Institute, Paul Watanabe of the Institute for Asian American Studies, and Castellano Turner, interim director of the William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black Culture, spearheaded October 15's New Majority Conference. (Photo by Harry Brett)

UMass Boston Tops Corporate Reputation Survey

By Leigh DuPuy

UMass Boston received kudos from Massachusetts business leaders in a new survey ranking the reputations of the Commonwealth's leading private and public organizations. The Massachusetts Corporate Reputation Survey (MCRS) ranked UMass Boston 18th out of 144 companies, with a score indicating the university had a very good reputation in Massachusetts. UMass Boston earned its place in the top 20 with organizations such as Harvard University, Tufts Health Plan, Reebok International Ltd., and Children's Hospital.

"We know the many reasons why UMass Boston is top-notch," said UMass Boston Chancellor Jo Ann Gora, but "it is enormously gratifying to see the business world recognizing the quality of education we provide, our dedication to community service, and the contributions of our gifted graduates who go on to work in all sectors of Massachusetts organizations.

The MCRS was conducted by asking Boston-area business leaders to rate Massachusetts businesses, universities, and hospitals on a variety of criteria. Conducted in September, the survey asked 201 Massachusetts executives to rate a select list of 144 Massachusetts companies and universities. (Cont. on page 2)
College of Management Unveils Financial Services Analysis; Federal Reserve's Roger Ferguson Lends National Perspective

By Leigh DuPuy

As the region inches toward economic recovery, College of Management (CM) faculty have unveiled a comprehensive analysis of the future of the financial services industries in the Commonwealth for discussion with industry trailblazers, top business leaders, and the Federal Reserve's Roger Ferguson at the Boston Stock Exchange (BSE). CM Dean Philip Quaglieri kicked off the conference with a ceremonial bell-ringing on the floor of the stock exchange, surrounded by Kenneth Liebler, chairman and chief executive officer of the Boston Stock Exchange, Chancellor Jo Ann Gora, and Arindam Bandopadhaya, professor of accounting and finance and coauthor of the report "Down but Not Out: The Future of the Financial Services Industry." Meeting in The Vault, a one-time bank vault converted into meeting space, Bandopadhaya presented the report's key finding that though the industry's fortune may be temporarily down, its future is bullish and the Boston area and Massachusetts will continue to benefit from the industry's strengths.

The report, developed by CM's Bandopadhaya, Miranda Detzler, and Mohnish Habib, with assistance from Lawrence Franko, predicted a continued demand for financial services, firm growth for the mutual fund industry, and a changing role for asset managers. The report also warned of future industry mergers and hedge fund competition.

"This is a provocative report," said Paul Connolly, vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, who moderated a high-powered panel with Charles Clough, founder and CEO of Clough Capital Partners; Edward D'Alelio, former manager of Putnam Investments; Michael DiBiase, senior vice president of Fidelity Investments; and Dennis Ferro, CEO and chief investment officer of Evergreen Investments. Delving into the report's discussion of hedge funds, industry consolidation, and outsourcing of technology, the panel provided a wide range of discussion as to what the future holds for the mutual fund industry and financial services overall in Massachusetts.

To provide a national scope, Roger W. Ferguson, vice chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, examined the evolution and performance of the financial services industry in his keynote address, a revisiting of issues outlined in his 1998 address at CM's first conference examining the industry.

"Turning first to the recent recession and our unusually slow recovery, I think that the most remarkable fact regarding the banking industry during this period is its resilience and retention of fundamental strengths, even at those institutions whose earnings were negatively affected by the slowdown," said Ferguson, who expressed optimism in the industry's complex landscape.

He continued, "I would argue that the U.S. banking structure has generally remained competitive, and in some cases has become more competitive, over the recent period of intense merger activity and institutional and legislative change. I am optimistic that this dynamic competitiveness, helped along every now and then by anti-trust enforcement, will continue."

The full text of Ferguson's keynote address and the report "Down but Not Out: The Future of the Financial Services Industry" are available at www.mgrnt.umb.edu/

Senator Kennedy in Talks with UMass Boston to Establish New Center for Study of the Senate

By Joe Peters

UMass Boston's role as a major policy shaper in the region and country will be getting another boost in the near future if an agreement is reached on a center and program named in honor of Senator Edward M. Kennedy. The three-party proposal involving the JFK Library and Museum, UMass Boston, and Senator Kennedy's office is still being negotiated, but it likely will involve Kennedy's papers residing at the JFK Library and an academic center, possibly named the "Center for Study of the Senate," housed at UMass Boston.

A formal agreement may be presented to the UMass Board of Trustees as early as its November 5 meeting. While the JFK Library is a federal operation, it resides on UMass Boston property. Any exception, such as that for the papers covering Senator Kennedy's four decades in Congress, would require UMass approval. Many other institutions were rumored to be interested in Kennedy's papers. UMass Boston emerging as the prime candidate signals the campus's rise as a major policy institution.

"We think of this as a major coup," UMass Boston chancellor Jo Ann Gora recently told the Associated Press. "[Kennedy] arguably has had the most significant impact on the development of major policy issues of any senator in the twentieth century."

"There would be no American democracy without the United States Senate, and it is difficult to imagine the Senate without the powerful voice of Edward M. Kennedy," UMass interim president Jack Wilson added in an interview with The Boston Globe. "The University of Massachusetts is pleased to forge this exciting new relationship with the senator and the Senate."

Negotiations between Kennedy and UMass reportedly began about a year ago when the senator met with former UMass president William Bulger and Kennedy's mantra of serving the working class apparently made the campus with major political figures and events. In December 1998, Healey Library became the repository for Judge Arthur Garrity's papers in the landmark case that resulted in a new busing plan for Boston students. In October 2000, the campus hosted the first presidential debate of the election season. In August of this year, the university formally constituted the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, uniting the McCormack Institute with the gerontology, public policy, and public affairs graduate programs. October saw the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy host the New England Women's Political Summit.
Special Olympics Inc. Designates the Center for Social Development as Regional Collaboration Center

By Leigh DuPay
On September 26, Timothy P. Shriver, chairman and CEO of Special Olympics Incorporated, and Chancellor Jo Ann Gora signed an agreement designating the university’s Center for Social Development and Education (CSDE) as a Regional Collaborating Center (RCC) for research and education to enhance the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities. This is the second such center, the first being Wenzhou Medical College in Shanghai, China.

Over the past several years, Special Olympics Inc. has turned to the University of Massachusetts Boston and the Center for Social Development and Education to lead its effort in research-based initiatives and to drive its worldwide call to action. This relationship began with the evaluation of the United Sports program within the United States.

The establishment of the Regional Collaborating Center (RCC) follows on the heels of the completion of a landmark study evaluating worldwide attitudes toward individuals with intellectual disabilities. This nine-country study shows that the general population lacks an appreciation of the range of capabilities of individuals with intellectual disabilities, and therefore has low expectations of how much they can achieve. The study also reveals that the world still believes individuals with intellectual disabilities should work and learn in segregated settings, apart from people without disabilities.

“This exciting and groundbreaking research that the center has carried out has broadened our understanding of the many barriers that people with intellectual disabilities face as citizens of the world,” said Chancellor Gora.

“Over the coming years, I envision the Regional Collaborating Center will embark in critical endeavors that will brighten the horizon for people worldwide.”

“I think the work of Gary Siperstein and the Center for Social Development and Education is unique,” said Shriver. “The center is a force for the global reshaping of how people perceive those with intellectual disabilities by promoting acceptance, tolerance, and change. It is incredible to have this kind of academic muscle behind this scientific and social change force—we’re very excited.”

CSDE will take on the RCC’s mission to provide assistance and consultation to researchers and program providers.

“The research opportunities and policy changes are unlimited with the creation of this Regional Collaborating Center,” said Siperstein. Also, notes Siperstein, the work that RCSU will further expand an international recognition of UMass Boston.

In the last month, the RCC has received requests to expand the multinational survey in South Africa and India to provide technical assistance to coaching programs within the US, and to begin planning for a survey of youth around the world, beginning with Japan this coming winter.

In addition, the RCC is working with the President’s Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities to design and implement a major national awareness campaign to improve the social acceptance of individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Gary Siperstein, director of the Center for Social Development and Education, Chancellor Jo Ann Gora, Timothy P. Shriver, chairman and CEO of Special Olympics, Inc., and Jennifer Norins, research coordinator for the Regional Collaboration Center, gather for the official signing of the agreement. (Photo by Harry Brett)

University Welcomes New Dean for College of Science and Mathematics

By Jim Mortenson
Kenneth P. Sebens has finally come home. With considerable experience at local universities Harvard and Northeastern, Sebens will move here from the University of Maryland (UM) in December to begin his appointment as the first dean of UMass Boston’s new College of Science and Mathematics.

“I can’t express how much I am looking forward to returning to New England, especially Boston, and helping lead the faculty, students, and staff of the new college to national prominence as a center of research and teaching excellence,” Sebens said.

Sebens’s research and administrative experience, particularly in the marine environmental sciences, is consonant with UMass Boston’s current and future interdisciplinary research and teaching goals. From 1991 to 1997, Sebens was director of UM’s system-wide Marine Eutuine Environmental Sciences Graduate Program, one of the largest such programs in the country. He also served as director of Northeastern’s Marine Science Center as well as its East-West Marine Biology Program from 1985 to 1991.

“I have a great deal of experience in developing and assessing science curricula and programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels,” Sebens said. “I am looking forward to working with the college’s faculty and staff to provide our students with better and more useful programs of study and research.”

Sebens brings an outstanding record of achievement in both research and scholarship to UMass Boston. He is an expert in the marine ecology of coastal regions, with a focus on benthic populations and community-ecosystem studies in both temperate and tropical locations. Over the past 25 years he has published more than 75 papers and book chapters, and obtained more than 30 grants for research. In 1982, the journal Ecology published his paper “The Limits to Indeterminable Growth: An Optimal Size Model Applied to Passive Suspension Feeders,” which earned him the Ecological Society of America’s 1983 George Mereen Award for outstanding ecological research published in the United States and Canada. He is also an American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow and received a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award in 1998.

At present, Sebens is carrying out two major research projects, both funded by the National Science Foundation for up to 25 years. One is an investigation of community and population dynamics that highlight long-term (1978-2003) changes in rocky subtidal habitats in Massachusetts. “The project is one of the most extensive long-term studies of subtidal marine communities anywhere in the world,” Sebens said. The other project examines the effects of water flow, nutrient availability, and zooplankton capture on reef coral nutrition and growth.

“Chancellor Gora and I are very pleased that Dr. Sebens has made a commitment to lead our new College of Science and Mathematics,” said Provost Paul Fonteyn. “His success in building and strengthening science programs will mean greater research opportunities for our faculty and I’m happy to say, our students.”

Sebens has taught undergraduate and graduate courses throughout his career, even during his administrative appointments. He has developed lecture and laboratory courses in oceanography, theoretical ecology, tropical ecology, and marine ecology, and graduate courses and specialized seminars in marine ecology. His courses often include strong hands-on field and laboratory components owing to his conviction that such activities stimulate student interest and enthusiasm for any science.

“Teaching and student learning are always uppermost in my mind whenever I consider academic and administrative issues and matters,” Sebens observed. “So I believe that strong research programs make faculty better teachers. Our students deserve the best science faculty and programs that we can provide.”

Sebens earned a B.A. in biology from the University of Connecticut in 1972, and a Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Washington in Seattle in 1977. His first academic appointment was as an assistant professor and later associate professor of organismic and evolutionary biology at Harvard University from 1977 to 1985.

Protect Yourself Against the Flu!

On November 3, the University Health Services (UHS) Department of General Medicine will conduct its annual Flu Vaccine Clinic. The clinic will run for two weeks, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary. The cost for the influenza vaccine is $10 for students and $20 for faculty and staff. This year UHS is also offering FluMist, a live intranasal influenza vaccine, for $30.

The influenza vaccine is recommended for everyone who wants to minimize their risk of catching influenza. People who are allergic to eggs or have a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome should discuss the risks versus benefits of the influenza vaccine with their primary care providers. If you have a high fever or are ill, you should wait until you are improving to receive your influenza vaccine.

Live, intranasal influenza vaccine is also available. FluMist, an attenuated vaccine that is delivered through the nose, is sprayed into the nostrils, is approved for use in healthy people ages 5 through 49.

The University Reporter • 3
Inaugural Hall of Fame Banquet Inducts Five

By Thyi Messealae

After championship victories slip into memory, the crowning achievement for any athlete is the day he or she is awarded one of the few spots in the Hall of Fame. And now UMass Boston student-athletes can dream of this honor too, as the Department of Athletics officially hung its first plaques last month.

On the evening of October 8, the UMass Boston Athletic Department held its inaugural Hall of Fame banquet. Four individuals and one team were inducted. "While we're still a young program," says Charlie Titus, athletics director, "after 23 years as an NCAA member, it was clearly time to enhance a growing athletic tradition here." "It's well overdue," echoed Luke Griffin, special assistant for development. "We've been in the talking stages of this for a long time. It's great to see it come together finally." UMass Boston—as well as the former Boston State—athletes, coaches, administrators, and friends of the athletic program were all treated to a festive evening. WHZ-TV reporter and former Boston State student-athlete (hockey and baseball) Dan Rea served as master of ceremonies.

"Dan has been very loyal to the university over the years, and because of his line of work we felt he would be a perfect choice as emcee," said Titus. Former Celtics Hall of Famer and acclaimed speaker Wayne Embry delivered the keynote address.

A 12-member committee, consisting of mainly tenured athletic staff and former athletes, voted in the inductees in April. The following inaugural members were enshrined in the Beacom's Hall of Fame last month: Genesia Eddins, UMass Boston Women's Indoor/Outdoor Track, 1985-1988, was the most impressive track and field athlete during the mid to late 1980s, when the Beacom's dominated the sport. She earned All-American status in 15 events and won eight NCAA individual championships over her four-year career.

Eileen Fenlon, UMass Boston Women's Basketball, 1987-1990, the university's only women's basketball player to have her number retired, also holds three school records, including the single-season point total of 490.

John "Boo" Rice, Boston State College/UMass Boston Men's Basketball, 1979-1982, played the first three years of his career with Boston State (1979-82) and in his senior year (1982-83) led the UMass Boston Beacons to their first NCAA basketball tournament appearance. He is the only men's player to have his jersey retired.

The 1985-86 Women's Indoor/Outdoor Track teams both rolled to NCAA Division III titles, making UMass Boston the first school to win both championships in the same school year.

For more information about the Hall of Fame and nominations, visit www.athletics.umb.edu/

Institutes Drive the New Majority Conference

Participants crowded the room for the October 13 New Majority Conference. (Photo by Harry Brett)

(Cont. from page 1)

and Castellano Turner of the Trotter Institute hosted a daylong initiative, The New Majority Conference, October 18.

The conference represents a launching pad for a movement against the under representation of Boston's communities of color, as well as a way to begin uniting these communities.

"We accepted this role as the facilitators of this initiative, as it's consistent with our mission—the inclusion of all communities," Watanabe said. "We have been perceived within the city as the first place to go for this sort of thing.

according to Watanabe, UMass Boston is the only campus in the city that has ethnic research institutes specifically interested in Boston.

"The three of us were approached by community politicians to establish a forum where different constituencies could come together regarding Boston's changing demographics," said Torres.

"People sent us notes along with their conference registration money saying they've been waiting years for this," Watanabe added.

While the upcoming Democratic convention next summer was not the sole impetus for increased organization among Boston's communities of color, it has been a catalyst. The Boston officials' claim of the city's racial diversity was used as a major selling point to the Democratic Party when it came time to secure a convention site.

The three expressed disgust for what they see as the "same old" political pandering tactics.

"All the [racial diversity] hubbub surrounding the convention is so ironic, because for a major U.S. city we are still incredibly segregated," said Torres. So how will the New Majority Conference work to break down the so-called color wall?

Morning discussion groups covered issues from civil rights to community development and after lunch attendees broke into strategy sessions to consider their steps to action.

This conference serves as an attempt to stop the usual fractured relations between various ethnic groups, Turner said. In the year leading up to the conference, separately each community group spent months refining their priorities.

"It was gratifying—and hopeful—that when the lists were put down, they had articulated very similar ideas," said Turner. "All we are helping to do now is provide the context for them to come together.

"It respects them to bring them all together," said Watanabe. "What a resource they all can be, so I hope that we all listen to them, that they will listen to each other. This has the potential to be very powerful.

Torres, Watanabe, and Turner all admit to being uncertain about exactly how the work done at the conference will translate in the long term. But they know what it could mean for the near future.

"Some possible outcomes that people want to see include the realignment of city councils, redesignating, and some kind of change in the accepted democratic institutions," said Turner.

"The institutes will document this initiative, analyze, and interpret the work that comes out of the conference," said Torres. "This could trigger some process towards a transformation.

Support for this initiative has been provided in part by grants from United Way of Massachusetts Bay and the Foley Hoag Foundation.

McInnis has teamed up with researchers from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard School of Public Health to focus on how lifestyle changes can promote increased exercise participation, improved eating habits, and weight loss in overweight women in urban areas.

"This region of the population? Unhealthy weight and sedentary lifestyle, and the chronic diseases associated with these habits, are particularly prevalent in those with lower socioeconomic levels and in some racial ethnic minorities," says McInnis. Like cardiovascular disease, such disparities in cancer risk are highly related to lifestyle, social, or cultural factors, making this disease highly preventable.

The study that is now under way is part of a growing collaboration between the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and UMass Boston.

McInnis is also unveiling a landmark study on the benefits of walking for weight control at the prestigious American Heart Association (AHA) Scientific Sessions in November.

Embargo until the morning of the meeting, the study was one of two chosen from over 4,000 research presentations to be featured for a major national and international news release at the AHA meeting, which is attended by more than 30,000 cardiologists and cardiovascular specialists. It is expected that the video news release, which was taped on the UMass Boston campus in early October, will be aired on a large number of TV news programs across the United States and will be seen by an estimated 2.5 million people.

"Professor McInnis has hit a grand slam for UMass Boston," praised Chancellor Jo Ann Gora. "His work promotes all three of the university—research, recognition, and reputation."

His latest study examines the impact of self-paced walking on the health of people who are overweight. "Only about 15 percent of adults in the United States regularly engage in the modest amount of activity that can obtain health benefits," says McInnis.

More information on this study and clips of the national video news release will be available on the UMass Boston home page after November 8.
**Professor Is Honored for Contributions to Multicultural Education**

Vivian Zamel, professor of English, was honored at the October 30 Freedom to Learn Dinner. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Melissa Fassell
Beloved UMass Boston professor Vivian Zamel was recognized for her career-long contributions to multicultural education at the Freedom to Learn Dinner, held at the International Institute in Boston on October 30. Presented by MATSOL (the Massachusetts Association of Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages), the award was given to just four recipients.

Not surprisingly, Zamel was thrilled to receive the award: “It is always a delight to be recognized by fellow teachers and students, especially in a local context—and to feel that the graduate students that I’ve taught are sharing in that honor,” said Zamel.

A self-described “teacher as researcher,” Zamel began her work in the late 70s when she started to explore what happened to the ESOL students she taught—focusing on the question “Why do they write the way they do?” This became the basis for her work in other ESL courses and with graduate students who would eventually become ESOL teachers, allowing Zamel’s literacy research to come full circle. Zamel then expanded her focus to include teachers across the curriculum whose linguistically diverse student populations required them to modify their teaching methods. “If you imagine your work as a teacher as a process of learning itself,” says Zamel, “it shifts your role completely.”

One of the other four award recipients was Professor Zamel’s co-author, Bentley College professor Ruth Spack. A result of their mutual affinity for investigating writing, composing processes, and acquisition of literacy, professors Zamel and Spack have been working together since the early 80s. They’ve co-authored three books, including Negotiating Academic Literacies: Teaching and Learning Across Languages and Cultures, Envisioning ESL Pedagogies, and one to be released this coming spring, Crossing the Curriculum. This latest book examines the experiences of both ESL students and the faculty that teach them, most of whom are from UMass Boston. The research focuses on what happens to linguistically diverse students in non-ESOL courses.

**Got News?**
Submit Campus Notes to news@umb.edu and calendar listings online at www.umb.edu/news/calendar/.
Editorial materials for the December University Reporter and web, student, and TV monitor calendars are due November 14.

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**Historian’s New Book Examines Politics, Society, and Culture in 20th-Century Europe**

By Peter Gremmen
If you’ve visited history professor Spencer Di Scala’s office recently, chances are he offered for your inspection his copy of the Massachusetts Bay Colony charter. Think of that document, which was used for the better part of a century before being adapted for the U.S. Constitution, as an emblem of the historiographical methods Di Scala has favored in more than three decades as a scholar and teacher.

It’s not enough, Di Scala believes, to simply dismiss a view of history as erroneous; instead, the thesis in question must be reexamined and rejected. In his recently published textbook Twentieth-Century Europe: Politics, Society, Culture (New York: McGraw-Hill, 816 pp.), Di Scala—director of the graduate program in history and a noted expert on modern Italy—does that and more.

The book, Di Scala’s sixth, is a comprehensive analysis of twentieth-century Europe that takes a novel approach to both its subject and to pedagogy in general. Di Scala faults some observers for giving too much attention to the century’s most conspicuous events, like world war and the ideological struggle between East and West. “Many historians are carried away by generalizations, trying to make everything fit into a scheme,” he says. “I view the period from a post-Cold War perspective—one that focuses on long-term trends that revolve around cultural developments.”

Early-century advances in science have a special prominence in Di Scala’s reassessment. “Revolutions in ideas in the world of physics—including quantum mechanics and relativity theory—brought a breakdown in the ‘certain view of the world’ offered by Newton,” says Di Scala. This fundamentally changed many thinkers’ worldwide view, presenting for the first time a seemingly irrational natural order.

It makes sense, therefore, to explore unconventional sources when writing twentieth-century history—what Di Scala calls the “hidden, unseen, and mystical aspects of life.” To be sure, Di Scala has his own strategies: “I attempt to bring the real lives of people into the picture—the life of the people and leaders felt it was worth seeking, says Di Scala, it was bound to come about as soon as circumstances permitted. “Ten­ dencies that seem minor and that are overwhelmed by more spec­ tacular events can later come to the fore,” he points out.

Perhaps the most important lesson Di Scala’s approach to history teaches: As with the prin­ ciples of governance set down in the colonial charter he displays in his office, sometimes it takes a long while before world affairs allow a concept to find its full expression.

**Summit Addresses Political Future of Women**

By Anne-Marie Kent
Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maine have never elected a woman governor. Vermont and New Hampshire have never sent a woman to the U.S. Congress. In the last year, Mas­ sachusetts watched as an acting governor withdrew her election bid and the Democratic woman nominee lost in a contest where 18- to 25-year-old women voted for her male GOP opponent at a rate greater than that of male voters of the same ages.

Hundredsof women—in­ cluding some well-known po­ litical figures—gathered October 26 and 27 at the JFK Li­ brary to discuss the future of women in politics in Massachu­ setts, at the inaugural New En­ gland Women’s Political Summit, presented by UMass Boston’s Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy.

“This summit is the first time women from the six New En­ gland states have come to­ gether like this,” UMass Boston’s Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy (CWPPP), remarked. “It’s a summit—not just a conference—women worked together to develop concrete tar­ gets for each state and indi­ vidual action plans for increas­ ing women’s political participa­ tion, representation, and influ­ ence region-wide.”

The center, in collaboration with a national partner, the White House Project, and regional partners, the Coalition of New England Women’s Commissions, and the YWCA New En­ gland Regional Council, is organizeing the call to action events.

The summit opened with a look at the critical shortage of women elected to local and statewide offices in Massachu­ setts and states throughout the region. Moderated by ABC News’ Martha Raddatz, the for­ um “Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Women in American Poli­ tics” drew on the expertise of U.S. Representative Loretta Sanchez (D-California) and former Massachusetts acting governor Jane Swift.

Swift returned on October 27 when the summit recon­ ciled to join an impressive roster that included former Vermont governor Madeleine Kunin and Massachusetts’ governor Kerry Healey. Other high-profile participants in­ cluded honorary co-chair Gloria Larsen, chairwoman of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority; Connecticut State Treasurer Denise Nappier; Melba Denepa, president of the Rhode Island Latino Civic Fund; and Roni Thaler, executive director of the Massachusetts Women’s Political Caucus.

Each attendee received a 250-page publication called Women in New England Politics: A Profile and Hand­ book for Action,” published by the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy. It included: a regional overview of the current political status of women in New England; a chapter on the status of women in each state (includ­ ing a history, analysis of the factors that explain their cur­ rent status, and strategies for change); a full bibliography; a directory of political resources for women, and a Summit workbook.

Hardy-Fanta noted that the center will be following up to track participants’ progress on implementation of the ac­ tion plans. The center will also monitor and report on progress in women’s represen­ tation in state, local, state, and national levels over the next several years.

The Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy serves as a public resource for women in Massachusetts. The center is committed to advance­ ing women’s participation in the public life of Massachusetts, the New England region, and the nation.
Lives "...1935"

Historians of Mexico, held in

Ann Blum, assistant professor of

Studies

experts, held at the UMass

Chen delivered the speech

On September 22, Lloyd Schwartz, Frederick S. Troy Professor of

English, gave a reading of his

poems as keynote speaker for the

38th annual Conference on English in the Two-Year College. Schwartz also gave a poetry reading for PEN

New England at the Hotel

Marlowe on October 22.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Connie S. Chan has been appointed interim dean of the College of

Public and Community Service. Chan has served as co-director of the UMass Boston Institute to

Asian American Studies since 1993.

J. Shoshanna Ethel of the College of Public and Community Service and Carol Hardy-Fanta of the Center for Women in Politics and

Public Policy received the "Best Paper Award" for their paper

"Grounded in the Reality of Their Lives" from the Women and

Politics Section at the 2003 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association.

Professor Phyllis Freeman of the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy was appointed co-editor of the Journal of Public Health Policy.

Professor Anna Madison of the Human Service Department has been elected as a member of the Board of Directors of the Boston Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Keith Motley, vice chancellor for student affairs, received the American Red Cross Clara Barton Honor Award for Meritorious Volunteer Service on October 21 for his significant contribution to the American Red Cross.

Professor Diane Paul of the Political Science Department and Ph.D. Program in Public Policy was appointed to serve as a member of the Ethical, Legal, and Scientific Implications of Human Genes 1 Study Section for the Center for Scientific Review at the National Institutes of Health for a three-year term ending June 2006.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH

Paul Atwood of American Studies and the Joiner Center will lead a program of lectures/discussions in June 2004 on "America in the 1960s" from a grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association.
Third Celebration of Collaborative Leadership

By Sherry Penney

The third annual leadership lunch sponsored by the College of Management's Center for Collaborative Leadership was held October 15 at the Fairmont Copley. Approximately 250 business leaders and their nominees attended to congratulate the 2003 cohort for completion of the leadership training program. There were 39 participants in 2003, half of which represented Boston's minority communities, hailing from the corporate, non-profit, and governmental sectors.

Sherry H. Penney, professor of leadership, welcomed the guests and introduced the principal guests, which included members of the Center's Board of Advisors, as well as business and community leaders.

Marshall N. Carter, retired CEO of State St. Corporation, congratulated the fellows and presented them with certificates. Former governor and presidential candidate Michael S. Dukakis delivered the principal address, on the need for enlightened leadership and for an action project of the Center for the need for more legal assistance, to the rigors of sports conditioning.

Ten Ewing, labor extension coordinator at the CPCS Labor Resource Center, was interviewed by Barry Nolan of CNBC's Nightbook on September 15 for a program on overtime and the Bush administration's attempts to change current overtime regulations.

Avery Faigenbaum, associate professor of exercise science and physical education, was quoted in the October 16 Boston Globe on the importance of preparing children for the rigors of sports with youth conditioning.

In September, Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, was interviewed on WHYN Newstalk 360's "Reporters Roundtable" on the New England Women's Political Summit and provided commentary for New England Cable News's News Night.

Esther Kingston-Mann, professor of history, was quoted in the Christian Science Monitor on October 14 on her philosophy of teaching students to think critically.

Kyle McNnis was featured in a major national and international video news release created by the American Heart Association (AHA) touring his study on walking for overweight people.

Sherry Penney, professor of leadership, and fellows from the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) were interviewed on WHDH-TV's "Urban Update" on October 12.

Stephen Silliman, assistant professor of anthropology, was quoted in New London, Connecticut's The Day regarding his collaborative archaeological field project with the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation.

Over the past 10 years, NEPAP has served over 2,900 people through individual assistance. Benefits valued at over $13 million have been recovered for clients. Testimonials from clients underscore the difference the project has made in their lives: "It is because of you and your agency that I am able to become more independent, not have to depend on Welfare, or leave the house I have worked so hard to keep," says one.

For many clients, the NEPAP has ended long-standing frustrations: "There is no doubt in my mind that for all my trying to collect a small pension from a multi-billion dollar-corporation, I would never have realized results...But the New England Pension Assistance Project interceded on my behalf, and as a result, I have finally received a check," says one.

The world of pensions and retirement income is a complex maze of government and corporate pension policies, Social Security, federal regulation, and financial investment.

NEPAP provides workers, retirees, and their families with personalized pension information and assistance. The project deals with all types of retirement plans, whether sponsored by a private employer, a union, or a governmental entity.

The project uses attorneys, law students, professional staff, and trained volunteer counselors to interview and investigate claims of beneficiaries. Staffers help clients obtain documents explaining their pensions, fill out forms to apply for their pensions, locate bankrupt or defunct plans, and find proof of work histories and any other documents needed to claim a pension.

NEPAP also conducts active and continuous outreach to make more people aware of their pension rights and to make them aware of the fact that the project is the only organization in New England offering free pension assistance.

NEPAP has received support from the University of Massachusetts Boston, and grants from the U.S. Administration on Aging, the Massachusetts Bar Foundation, the Commonwealth, the American Express Foundation, the Ameritas Foundation, the University of Massachusetts Medical School, the Dorothy and John Heinz III Charitable Fund, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs, and the Boston Commission on the Affairs of the Elderly.
WEDNESDAY 5
Harbor Art Gallery Exhibit: Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf? 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., weekdays, and 12:00 - 5:00 p.m., Saturdays. McCormack Hall, Harbor Art Gallery, 1st Fl. Art project by alumnus K. Woman Birth Mothers to coincide with Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Contact 7-7988.
Beacon Fitness Center Aerobic Classes Beacon Fitness Center, McCormack Hall, 1st Fl. Every Wednesday: Muscle Conditioning, 12:30 p.m., Yoga, Step, and Heart Time 6:30 p.m. All members can take part in classes with no extra cost. Contact: 7-6784 or www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm for schedule.
ECOS Fall 2003 Seminar Series: Bioavailability and Nutrient Quality and Biotic Integrity 2:30 - 4:35 p.m., Science Center, 1-006. Featuring Jeffrey Hughes, Assistant Biology Department, Wellesley College. Contact: 7-7440 or timothy.odonnell@umb.edu.

THURSDAY 6
Anthropology Lecture: Hawaii’s Russian Adventure: A New Look at Old History 2:30 p.m., location TBA. Featuring Peter Mills of the University of Hawaii at Hilo discussing his archeological and historical research into 19th-century interactions between Native Hawaiians and Russians in the Pacific. Sponsored by the Anthropology Club and Department. Contact: 7-6854 or stephen.sllenamar@umb.edu.
Graduate Student Assembly Meeting 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., Wheatley Hall, Student Lounge, 4th Fl. Also on November 13. Visit www.gsas.umb.edu for details. Contact: 7-7975 or gssassembly@umb.edu.
FRIDAY 7
Beacon Fitness Center Aerobic Class: Power Box 12:30 p.m., Beacon Fitness Center, McCormack Hall, 1st Fl. Every Friday. All members can take part in classes at no extra cost. Contact: 7-6784 or www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm for schedule.
Biological Seminar: Hithroughput RNAi Screening in Drosophila Cells 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., Science Center, 1-006. Featuring Norbert Perimon from Harvard Medical School/Howard Medical Institute. Contact: 7-6400 or diana.ryudy@umb.edu.
SATURDAY 8
UMass Boston Sailing Program 12:00 - 7:00 p.m. Free to UMass Boston students. Also on November 15, 12, 22, and 29. For more information, contact: 7-7833.