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Gerontologist Studies Safety Measures for Elderly Drivers

By Anne-Marie Kent

According to the U.S. Census, more than 35 million Americans are 65 or over. Experts say that elders who continue to drive are likely to experience a feeling of control, independence, and self-sufficiency. However, questions remain about the safety of older drivers.

Thanks to an $80,000 grant from the medical foundation Charles H. Farnsworth Trust, Nina Silverstein, College of Public and Community Service professor and Gerontology Institute senior fellow, is studying ways of prolonging the safe-driving years of seniors. With co-investigator Elizabeth Van Ranst and research associate Alison Gottlieb, she is also encouraging discussion about safe driving and automobile modifications that would enhance safety for all drivers.

Safety concerns are real. According to Silverstein, researchers have documented that older drivers are likely to experience an increased accident rate per mile, even though they drive fewer miles, and that they are at a greater risk of dying in an automobile accident. Older drivers are at fault a disproportionately high percentage of the time when they are involved in accidents.

She explains that there is a statistically significant increase in functional decline among older adults as they move from the 65-to-74 age range to the 75-to-84 range. Such functional decline may make it risky for older drivers. While driving cessation is well advised for some, says Silverstein, others may benefit from using special vehicle modifications designed to keep drivers safely on the road longer. Such modifications include wider mirrors, easy grip handles, a 4-point harness, an open-arc steering wheel, and seat adjusters.

"I am an applied researcher and like making connections for people to assist in daily life and enhance their quality of living," says Silverstein.

Her study aims to increase elders' awareness of these modifications. Adaptive modifications for cars have been in use for years, but they have been marketed to people with disabilities who cannot drive without them. Silverstein believes automobile manufacturers should consider universal design for applicants for Major Fellowships, held on December 3.

"These candidates are marked by outstanding academic achievements that were reflected in their ambition and persistence in the application process," praised Monica McAlpine, director of the University Honors Program. In the past few years, the program has seen five of its students win prestigious Fulbright and Marshall fellowships. "It is a testament to the fact that UMass Boston students can compete at high, national levels," says McAlpine.

Not only in their aspirations to study abroad, the fellowship applicants share many bonds that speak to the unique dedication of UMass Boston students. The four applicants for Fulbright fellowships are all transfer students who have pursued economics and/or political science majors while carrying out a research project on outcomes for women under Canada's national health care system.

For her Fulbright year in Canada, McManus has proposed to earn a master's degree in economics while working substantial hours in a full- or part-time capacity. "It was a great opportunity to learn time management," remarked Bonnie McManus on balancing her many commitments, which include her employment at the Office of Merit Scholarships, her current course work, and a passion for running and mountain climbing. For her Fulbright year in Canada, McManus has proposed to earn a master's degree in economics while working substantial hours in a full- or part-time capacity.

"It was not a small process really helped me evaluate and focus on my long-term goal of learning Mandarin Chinese and gauge how important it is for me to go abroad. I think both the University Honors Program and the Fulbright Scholarship application really encourage us to look within ourselves." It was not a small effort.

University Celebrates Fellowship Applicants at Chancellor's Reception

By Leigh DuPuy

"I was doubting myself—and this was a very personally fulfilling experience," said Yung Mey (James) Ng of the long but rewarding process of applying for a graduate fellowship. Ng, an applicant for a Fulbright in Taiwan, was one of three students to share their academic goals at the Chancellor's Annual Reception for Applicants for Major Fellowships, held on December 3.

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Ng agreed: "This process really helped me evaluate and focus on my long-term goal of learning Mandarin Chinese and gauge how important it is for me to go abroad. I think both the University Honors Program and the Fulbright Scholarship application really encourage us to look within ourselves." It was not a small effort.

(Cont. on page 5)
Campus Eagerly Awaits Opening of New Hub for Students

By Ed Hayward

This spring semester will mark the opening of the Campus Center, a watershed event for UMass Boston that will provide students with improved services, the spaces they need, and the facilties they deserve, according to project supervisors. The 331,000-square-foot building designed by Boston architects Kallmann, McKinnell and Wood and constructed by Suffolk Construction will gradually fill with offices essential to student life and the services required by UMass Boston students.

The first new building on campus since 1982, the center will provide a dramatic gateway to the university community. It is expected to become the focal point of activity for students, faculty, staff and the wider university community.

"This building has spaces where people can get together, hang out, study, explore, eat, talk and meet with staff," said Stephen Chait, associate vice chancellor for administration and finance in charge of the project.

"That is something that everyone has said we lack. This building addresses those deficiencies." In the new center, students will find services that include financial aid, admissions, registrar, bursar, student employment, the bookstore, career services, a game room, ATMs, the student life offices, as well as the offices of the vice chancellors for student affairs and enrollment management.

Departments and services will relocate to the center in phases beginning in February and March, according to Chait and Campus Center Director Anne Devaney. The "grand opening" for students and the university community will take place the week of March 29. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for early April, and planning is under way for an opening gala fundraiser later that month.

Chait said people should not be intimidated by the size of the building, which was constructed at a cost of approximately $75 million. There are design features that incorporate sunlight, open spaces, and innovative materials, which all enhance the beauty of the building.

"The building is large, but it is extremely elegant," said Chait. "There are finishes that give a real quality to the architectural spaces." Finishes include carpeting in certain areas, terrazzo flooring on two floors, as well as wall finishes of marble, plaster, and wood.

In addition to its unusual materials, the building will be the only one on campus with its own management team. In addition to overseeing operations, Devaney will coordinate a unique building governance system.

The Campus Center Advisory Board, made up of a majority of students and representatives from campus departments, will review policies, set priorities and make recommendations, she said. The Campus Center Occupancy Council will be made up of representatives of organizations whose offices or services are in the building. Operating somewhat like a "tenants' association," the council will address a range of issues about standards for use and occupancy of the building, said Devaney.

Professor of Sociology Appointed to National Institutes of Health Grant-Review Board

By Anne-Marie Kent

What makes for a successful grant proposal? Just ask Susan Gore of UMass Boston's Sociology Department and Center for Survey Research. For the past twenty years, Professor Gore, who studies the mental health of adolescents and young adults, has served on grant-reviewing committees. Recently, she was reappointed to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center for Scientific Review's Social Psychology, Personality and Interpersonal Processes Study Section.

"Members are elected on the basis of their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors," wrote Brent Stanfield, acting director of the Center for Scientific Review, in his announcement letter. "Service on a study section also requires mature judgment and objectivity as well as the ability to work effectively in a group, qualities we believe Dr. Gore will bring to this important task."

He explained that membership on a study section represents a major commitment of professional time, as well as an opportunity to contribute to the national research effort. Study sections review grant applications submitted to the NIH, make recommendations on those applications to the appropriate NIH national advisory council or board, and survey the status of research in their fields of science.

"It is a lot of work," acknowledged Gore, who noted that the committee meets three times a year, two days a week each time in Washington D.C. Days in advance, committee members prepare for these meetings by reading proposals. The work, says Gore, is well worth it.

"It's a wonderful experience because it offers exposure to cutting-edge research in the field," said Gore. "It's even better for a young person to do this work. It's very helpful to a researcher who receives grants to see what it takes for a proposal to receive a high-priority score from the committee."

So what does it take? "First off," said Gore, "I think you have to say that the committee is constituted by social science researchers who are strongly influenced by the experimental methods associated with research in the natural sciences. Proposals, therefore, should "speak in the language of scientific methods." She added that research on easy-to-find populations, including college students and populations residing in more affluent communities, is not as desirable as research that explores the problems of diverse groups.

Dean Louise Smith noted that other UMass Boston faculty sitting on grant-review boards include Diane Paul, who serves on the Ethics, Legal, and Social Implications of Human Genetics 1 System Section of the NIH. "Their selection to these committees recognizes their eminence as researchers in their respective fields and their knowledge of the state of the art," said Smith.

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University Communications Third Floor Quinn Administration Bldg. 100 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125-3393 617.287.5380 E-mail address: news@umb.edu

Professor Susan Gore of the Sociology Department and Center for Survey Research, has served on grant-reviewing committees for 20 years. (Photo by Harry Brett)
Veterans Advocate Helps Shape Boston’s Policy on Dioxin Pollution

By Leigh DuPuy
Paul Atwood of the Joiner Center recently shared his expertise on the deadly effects of Agent Orange with the Boston City Council in their consideration and ultimate passage of a citywide dioxin-pollution policy. Atwood, a longtime veterans advocate, is one of six asked to testify in support of Resolution #0389, which establishes city purchasing guidelines to reduce toxic chemical exposure from dioxin in their fat tissues.

"Dioxin is the second most toxic chemical in the world after plutonium, and it is everywhere," says Atwood, an authority on the effects of dioxin exposure from the spraying of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. "In fact, every person has a body burden of dioxin in their fat tissues."

The landmark resolution, the first of its kind on the East Coast, marks the initial steps by Boston officials to reduce purchases of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) in construction materials and paper products whose manufacture creates dioxin as a by-product. Boston is the third city in the nation, following the lead of environmentally conscious San Francisco and Seattle, to establish dioxin reduction policies.

"We live in the most industrialized nation in the world," says Atwood, pointing to the numerous health problems that arise from exposure to toxic dioxin, a family of toxic and persistent chemicals, is known to cause cancer at extremely small doses and has also been linked to other health problems, including diabetes, infertility, and immune system suppression. "One of the more disturbing aspects of dioxin in the environment is that it is a known promoter of other carcinogens."

Atwood, a research associate with the Joiner Center and faculty member in the American Studies Program, was asked to provide testimony before the council twice, in July and October. A scholar of the Vietnam War, Atwood compiled the 1990 report "Agent Orange: Medical, Scientific, Legal, Political, and Psychological Issues," following the first national conference to examine the effects of dioxin exposure, held at UMass Boston in 1987. In his allotted ten minutes, Atwood gave evidence of the continued deadly effects of dioxin here and in Vietnam. "Nineteen million gallons of herbicide was sprayed in an area the size of Massachusetts," Atwood says of the chemical defoliant used by the American military from 1961 to 1971. Many Vietnam veterans suffer major health problems caused by their exposure to Agent Orange, and the conditions in Vietnam testify to the toxin's frightening durability. "It is in the soil and the vegetation, carried out into the water—Vietnam has the highest rates of birth defects in the world," says Atwood.

Other Boston residents who spoke in favor of the resolution include Nick DeMarino, president of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 718; Roger Swartz from the Boston Public Health Commission; and Louise Forrest Bowes from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The lead sponsor of the resolution was City Councilor Felix Arroyo, formerly of the Gaston Institute.

Women’s Studies Professor Unravels the Story of Harriet Tubman

Jean Humez, director of the Women's Studies Program, celebrates the publication of her new book, Harriet Tubman: The Life and the Life Stories, a project ten years in the making. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Kara Niemi
As schoolchildren, most of us learned that American icon Harriet Tubman rescued hundreds of African Americans from slavery in her newly published book, Harriet Tubman: The Life and the Life Stories, a project ten years in the making. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Jean Humez, director of the Women's Studies Program, celebrates the publication of her new book, Harriet Tubman: The Life and the Life Stories, a project ten years in the making. (Photo by Harry Brett)

As schoolchildren, most of us learned that American icon Harriet Tubman rescued hundreds of African Americans from slavery. In her newly published book, Harriet Tubman: The Life and the Life Stories, a project ten years in the making, Humez develops what she calls a "virtual autobiography about Harriet Tubman's life" through a discussion of the public stories Tubman told about her life and her work with the Underground Railroad. Humez spent ten years working toward this goal.

Humez became interested in Tubman's life story in 1993 during a women's studies and religion fellowship at Harvard Divinity School. "Students in the course were having a really horrible time with the book by Sarah Bradford, which is the standard biography of Tubman's life," remembers Humez. The book is written in the voice of a genteel white woman from the mid-1800s and students found the narrative distorted the facts of Tubman's life. For example, it is not Tubman who said that she had rescued three hundred slaves, it is Bradford. The students' resistance inspired Humez to write a biography that truly reflected Tubman's voice.

Born into slavery around 1820, Harriet Tubman relied heavily on her spirituality throughout her childhood and after her escape to the North in 1849. Tubman was dedicated to freeing her remaining family members and made repeated trips to successfully help dozens of slaves find freedom through the Underground Railroad. Humez says that while Tubman had pious motives in her public endeavors, she also "had a practical side to make money and support the family she brought to the North."

Tubman's inability to read or write means that scholars must rely on her oral history, and Humez "wanted to find out the most authentic core story in this material."

Humez's research on rare early publications and manuscript sources, as well as on public speeches, gives fascinating glimpses into Tubman's life. These "partial views of things we hadn't known about her feelings" helped Humez piece together her findings in chronological order and build a more accurate portrait of Tubman.

The book, billed by its publishers as a landmark resource for scholars, is what Humez describes as "not only Tubman's life story, but also her spiritual experience." Anticipating that her book will be used in a classroom setting, Humez has included a comprehensive list of primary sources and key documents that will be useful to scholars.

Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance David MacKenzie Retires from UMass Boston

David MacKenzie, vice chancellor for administration and finance, celebrated his retirement with colleagues and friends at a party in his honor on December 9. Chancellor Gora praised his service, noting his dedication in leading UMass Boston through two budget-reduction processes. MacKenzie worked for four years to safeguard the university's assets in a time of fiscal uncertainty and oversaw the plans for the Campus Center, the first new building for the university in twenty years and a significant part of his legacy at UMass Boston.

Got News?
Send us the news of your latest achievements to news@umb.edu and submit your calendar listings online by visiting www.umb.edu/news/calendar. Editorial materials for the February University Reporter and web, student, and TV monitor calendars are due January 16.
Maya Lin Installation Planned for Arts on the Point Sculpture Park

By Leigh Duffey

Maya Lin, the celebrated artist, sculptor, designer, architect, and poet, who may be best known for creating the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., has agreed to design an earthwork for UMass Boston’s Arts on the Point Sculpture Park.

"Of all the opportunities the sculpture park has presented, this is the most memorable and will be the longest lasting," said Paul Tucker, professor of art history, in a December 9 ArtTalks lecture, which included a showing of the documentary Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision.

Tucker has been credited with winning over Lin with his proposal that she create a permanent installation at the university. Following a discussion of available space at UMass Boston, Lin first expressed interest in designing a piece for the new campus center. "She is a very non-traditional artist interested in the intersections of sculpture, art, and site planning," explained Tucker.

As the practicality of needed spaces and parking areas surfaced, Tucker asked if she would consider designing a piece for the 100-by-300-foot, grassy oval in front of the new campus center. She became increasingly enthusiastic about the idea as construction on the new building progressed and another earthwork that she had designed came to fruition.

Following the completion of her current projects, which include the design and construction of six new buildings and another earthwork, Lin will visit UMass Boston in the spring to review the site for the installation, which would be the only work of its kind in the Northeast. Tucker points out that it may be some time before Lin finalizes plans for the work, but that she has said it will involve some subtle manipulation of the grassy area. Underestimation and sensitivity to the site are her hallmarks, Tucker notes, evidenced from her first earthwork of 1995 "Wave Field," which she created for the University of Michigan. It consists of a 100-by-100-foot tract of grassy land that she transformed from a flat surface into a series of 50 small, equally spaced mounds that make the site look like frozen sound ranging from a lack of work or an injury on the job, or for those who are already teaching, to help bolster the possibility of promotion.

"Our focus has been on achieving the public mission of cultivating skilled workers," says Rotman. "It only makes sense to have vocational-technical skills taught by those who have made a career using them." CTE offers a 36-credit program designed to prepare workers with at least six years’ experience in their vocational fields to teach others their trades. Graduating students become certified to teach their particular trade in Commonwealth of Massachusetts schools. Administered by UMass Boston’s Division of Corporate, Continuing, and Distance Education, CTE operates under the auspices of the university’s Graduate College of Education, which provides expertise in research, curriculum design, and the development of pedagogical competencies.

CTE provides more than just course work. Through lectures, statewide conferences, and job fairs, the center is an occupational matchmaker, helping many students find positions. CTE graduates can opt to put the majority of the 36 credits earned toward an associate’s degree program at one of local community colleges. Students can also then transfer upward to 60 credits toward a bachelor’s degree at UMass Boston. CTE has also offered over 100 post-baccalaureate courses as part of its Professional Development for Educators program.

Rotman has worked in the educational field for over 35 years and has witnessed its increased sophistication, demand, and relevance.

"Of course, if you need any more convincing, take a moment to consider the remarkable skills involved in the building of the Big Dig or that spectacular new campus center.

Mccormack School Forges Partnership to Combat HIV/AIDS in Kenya

By Margery O'Donnell

As an outgrowth of its existing USAID-funded project with Egerton University in Kenya, the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies is initiating a nationwide effort to help combat HIV/AIDS. The project at Egerton has been endorsed by Harry Brett, the first lady of Egerton University in the Northeast. McCormack School’s Dean Edmund Beard, Luci Kibaki, the first lady of Kenya, and McCormack School’s Director of Educational Programs, Edith McCormack, have been instrumental in the project’s development.

The project will take a three-pronged approach: to construct multifunctional community resource centers linked to each of Kenya’s five public universities; to collaborate with the local communities to introduce HIV/AIDS public education, treatment, and advocacy programs in each region; and to develop additional multifaceted programs to combat the economic decline directly caused by the extraordinarily high rate of HIV/AIDS. Programs at the community resource centers will include classroom sessions, peer guidance and counseling, medical care giving and treatment, and in-service teacher training, comprehensive programs for AIDS orphans, and efforts to integrate AIDS sufferers into viable economic and social roles.

On November 5, Kibaki laid the cornerstone at the first of the community resource centers at the Egerton campus. Even before the completion of the physical facility, thirty-two young men and women were chosen to become the first trainers of other out-of-school youth from the area through an initial HIV/AIDS education program. Their task is, of course, daunting.

There are an estimated 20,000 at-risk youth in the larger Nakuru region surrounding the Egerton campus alone, and HIV/AIDS infection in Kenya as a whole is estimated at upward of 20 percent.

Eventually, there will be approximately sixteen community resource centers or branches that will receive education and communications technology access from their university hubs. The third stage of the initiative will establish satellite centers to connect the public university campus hubs via Internet, satellite radio, telephone, and an on-site director from the university. While the centers will serve the nation’s university resources and distance learning links, they will be managed by a community council to ensure broad community involvement and sensitivity to community standards.

Wrap It Up! Volunteers Ready Gifts for the Helping Hands Holiday Toy Drive

Santa's helpers display gift-wrapped presents for the children under the care of the Hyde Park Department of Social Services. (Photo by Harry Brett)

UMass Boston’s Office of Service-Learning and Community Outreach (OSLCO), led by Jana Ruvich-Higgins, held a gift-wrap party for the Helping Hands Annual Holiday Toy Drive on December 10 in the Wheatley Cafeteria. The event was organized by OSLCO’s Backyard Service Club. Every year, students, faculty, and staff donate gifts for children under the care of the Hyde Park Department of Social Services. OSLCO held a pizza party later in December to give more than 100 presents to 37 children who are either homeless or in the foster-care system. A truly collaborative effort on campus, this year’s donations included more than $300 dollars in cash, including $100 from the Graduate Student Assembly.

"For some children, it is their fourth year celebrating the holidays with the Helping Hands program. UMass Boston has become a familiar and friendly place for them at the holidays," says Ruvich-Higgins.
By Leigh DuPuy

Marie Kennedy’s colleagues filled the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) Plaza for her “moving on” party, speaking of her 25 years of service with high praise and gratitude for her commitment to the college.

Since arriving at CPCS in 1978, Kennedy has served in many capacities—as professor of community planning, as well as the center head for both community planning and career programs, and program director of community planning and human services. At the time of her retirement, Kennedy was serving as associate dean for academic affairs.

Throughout her career, Kennedy was known for her ability to combine activism and scholarship. “It fueled her teaching and writing, about community development, planning, education, and participatory action research,” said Suzanne Allmendinger, director of community outreach at CPCS. In addition to her work at CPCS, Kennedy devoted many hours to assisting community organizations beyond the Greater Boston area, including those in Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, and Nicaragua.

In a planned lecture for the event, Kennedy shared some of her personal motivations for her career path and interest in transformative community planning. “Lifting the voices of those who have been silenced by lack of education, lack of English-language ability, lack of legal freedom, lack of access to the mike—this has been a quest that has defined much of my adult life and has informed my professional academic and activist practice,” she said.

Kennedy was effusive about her experience with those at the college, saying, “I have been privileged to work with and learn from remarkable students and terrific colleagues.”

In defining what she believes to be genuine community development, Kennedy noted, “A good planning project should leave a community not just with more immediate ‘products’—e.g., more housing—but also with an increased capacity to meet future needs. In other words, the process should be empowering to community members.”

Drawing from her experiences locally and abroad, Kennedy outlined what she considers to be foundations for successful transformative planning: the self-awareness of planners in recognizing their own biases; the ability to help people make informed decisions for themselves; and the critical necessity for organizing political and education strategies.

For Kennedy, it is most important to empower the community throughout the process. Kennedy closed with a description of her goals for ideal community planning: “The challenge is to constantly expand ordinary people’s self-confidence, their trust in each other, their ability to understand and strategize about their situation, and this through their control over that situation.”

Professor Wins Fulbright Senior Research Scholarship to Examine Health Care Issues for Immigrant

Gonzalo Bacigalupe, professor of psychology, is one of twenty scholars to receive the Fulbright Senior Research Scholarship. He will conduct research on health care in Barcelona, Spain, next semester. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Kara R. Niemi

Next semester, psychology professor Gonzalo Bacigalupe will pack his bags and head to Barcelona, Spain, as one of twenty psychology scholars nationwide to receive the Fulbright Senior Research Scholarship. He will spend five months exploring health care access for immigrants in Spain. He will then compare the results to his three years of research in the care provided to Latino families in Boston.

“Social scientists know little about the immigrant Latino experience in the U.S., despite the fact that Latinos are becoming the largest ethnic group in the country,” says Bacigalupe. He is eager to observe the experience of immigrants within another national and linguistic realm. Bacigalupe finds that the language barrier is a hindrance for the Latino community in the U.S. and questions whether accessibility to health care is easier for immigrants in Spain, where this barrier does not exist. He says, “I want to know whether the Latino voice is defined within a context that aids in their oppression.”

Bacigalupe will work in the Hospital St. Pau and Creu, a psychiatric medical school at the Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona—an old and cherished landmark in Spain. He will be lecturing students as well as gathering data, and he plans to assemble a research team of four to five graduate students in Spain who will conduct fieldwork and create contacts.

The research strategy involves interviewing Latino families about their experience with health care in Spain. He says, “I would like to see the three themes: family and political violence, Latino families’ health care, and multicultural family therapy.” He adds that he believes the proposal for this scholarship was “well-received because health care for immigrants is a relevant concern in Spain.”

In his previous and present research, Bacigalupe has worked with Mass Salud, which means “mass health” in Spanish. He says that the title “Mass” not only refers to the state of Massachusetts, but also suggests the health of the masses, or the massive number of concerns that Latinos face in health care.

Bacigalupe has found that Latino patients are often uninsured, seem less aware of their rights, or are less confrontational than other ethnic groups. They often have problematic relationships with health care profession-
PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

On December 4, Gonzalo Bacigalupi, associate professor in the College of Education, presented the poster “How Do Latinos Overcome Barriers to Health Care in Massachusetts?” for the Global Health Research Forum 7, held in Geneva.

On November 22, Flora Baccassame, professor of modern languages, delivered the paper “Projecting Morality: The Writings of Tullia D’Aragona, Countess” at the annual joint meeting of the American Council on Teaching of Foreign Languages/American Association of Teachers of Italian, held in Philadelphia.

James Biersteker of the Accounting and Finance Department presented the co-written paper “Strategic Assessment During Business Risk Audits: How Auditors’ Mental Representations Influence the Halo Effect on Risk Assessments” at the 2004 Auditing Mid-Year Conference.

Lawrence Blum, professor of philosophy, recently presented the addresses “Can African-Americans Be Racists?” at the College of Charleston and “Racial Discrimination and Color Blindness” at Centenary College of Louisiana.

Professor Caroline Brown of the English Department and Alexa Pollack of the Biology Department presented the workshop “Reconstructing the Paradigm: Teaching Across the Disciplines” at the Sixth Annual Multi-Cultural Conference and Curriculum Resource Fair, held on November 15 in Rhode Island.

In December, three assistant professors in the English Department delivered papers at the national meeting of the Modern Language Association: Caroline Brown presented “Metamorphosis and the Assertion of Agency in the Novels of Jamaica Kincaid and Michelle Chib,” Betsy Kimismih presented “Drown: The Inverted Telescope,” and De-situation History in Edith Wharton’s Age of Innocence.” and Gautam Premnath presented “Cosmopolitanism and Nostalgia in Amitas Ghosh.”

The Gerontology Institute and the Massachusetts Legislative Caucus on Older Citizens’ Concerns sponsored the state house forum “Living on the Edge: Older Homeowners in Massachusetts” on December 11. Ellen Berman, an associate director of the institute, led welcoming remarks.

Jacqueline Fawcett, professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, presented “The Evolution of the Science of Unitary Human Beings: Focus on Language” and co-presented “An Interpretive Study of Martha Rogers’ Concept of Patterns” at the Society of Rogerian Scholars Conference “Emerging Patterns in a Changing World,” held in Savannah, Georgia, on November 15.

Kathleen Golden-McAndrew, executive director of University Health Services and associate adjunct professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, presented “The Industrial Worker: New England Substance Abuse Trends” at the New England College of Occupational Medicine and the Massachusetts Association of Occupational Health Nurses joint annual conference.

Kevin Murphy of the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy and the Office of Institutional Research presented the paper “Exploring Diversity at Public Urban Four Year Institutions by Using National Databases” at the North East Association for Institutional Research’s 30th Annual Conference, held in Rhode Island in November.


Miren Uriarte, professor in the College of Public and Community Service, presented the keynote address “Latinos Diversity and Its Implications for Service Delivery” at Massachusetts General Hospital’s Latino Heritage Celebration and presented “Social Policy and Structural Reform in Cuba at the Start of the 21st Century” for the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Alan Waters, lecturer in the Department of Anthropology, presented the paper “The Rastafarian Representation of Africa” at the annual meeting of the African Studies Association, held in Boston on November 2.

In November, James Willis, associate professor of sociology, presented his paper “COMPEST and Organizational Change in Three Police Departments: A Comparative Analysis” at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, held in Denver, Colorado.

Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen, the Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar in Gerontology, wrote the foreword for The Encyclopedia of Retirement and Finance, which was published in November 2003 by Greenwood Publishing Group. Professor Yung-Ping also co-authored the chapter “Reverse Mortgages” in the encyclopedia.

An article by the Institute for Community Inclusion’s Allison Cohen, Jaime Timmons, and Sheila Fesko, “The Workforce Investment Act: How Policy Conflict and Ambiguity Affect Implementation,” has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Disability Policy Studies.

An article co-written by Jacqueline Fawcett, professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, “The Science of Unitary Human Beings: Analysis of Qualitative Research Approaches,” was published in Visions: The Journal of Rogerian Nursing Science. She also co-wrote “Measuring Function” for the Annual Conference of Clinical Health-Care Research.

Two speeches by Joe Mitchell, chair of the Performing Arts Department, “I’m Going Home’s The Unfortunate Traveller” and “Early Performances at Kneller Hall of British Band Classics,” were published in the Kongresbuehre Bad Waltersdorf Steiermark 2000/ Luna Sudtirol 2002 by the International Society for the Study of Traditional Music and Investigation of Wind Music.

Mary Oleksiwicz, assistant professor of music, appeared as principal flutist and soloist in a performance of Hector Berlioz’s oratorio L’Enfance du Christ, given by the Boston Chorus Pro Musica at the Mission Church on December 11 in Boston.

Professor Laura Schrader of the Performing Arts Department recently appeared in the musical She Loves Me with the Theatre Company of Saugus.

Professor Daniel Gidron of the Performing Arts Department recently directed William Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar for the Shakespeare Now! Theatre Company.

Liz Marran, assistant professor of art, exhibited her work from the “Trust Me” series, a portfolio of photo-etchings, in a group show at the OHF Gallery in Boston from December 2 through 20.

Mary Oleksiwicz, assistant professor of music, appeared as principal flutist and soloist in a performance of Hector Berlioz’s oratorio L’Enfance du Christ, given by the Boston Chorus Pro Musica at the Mission Church on December 11 in Boston.

Professor Lauren Radwin, assistant professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, published “Cancer Patients’ Demographic Characteristics and Ratings of Patient-Centered Nursing Care,” in the 2003 winter issue of the Journal of Nursing Scholarship.

Miren Uriarte, professor in the College of Public and Community Service, published the article “Holding to Basics and Investing for Growth: Cuba and Education: The Economic Crisis of the 1990s” in Pedagogy Pluralism and Practice.


EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, SHOWS

John Conlon, director of theatre programs, recently served as a Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival respondent to the Bridgewater State College producing of Tom Stoppard’s Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead.

Professor Daniel Gidron of the Performing Arts Department recently directed William Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar for the Shakespeare Now! Theatre Company.

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Professor Laura Schrader of the Performing Arts Department recently appeared in the musical She Loves Me with the Theatre Company of Saugus.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

James Green, professor in the College of Public and Community Service, began his two-year term as president of the Labor and Working Class History Association (LAWCHA). In November, Green signed a contract with the Duke University Press to make LAWCHA the official sponsor of a new quarterly journal, Labor: Studies of Working Class History in the Americas, of which Green is the associate editor for contemporary affairs.

Oscar Gutierrez, associate professor of management science and information systems, was awarded a Community Outreach Partnership Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for their proposal “New Directions for Columbia Point.”

The Gerontology Institute’s Lillian Glickman and Ellen Birchenhead, senior fellows, and Frank Caro, director, are co-investigators for a project contracted by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to help raise awareness about aging resources through publications, conferences, and regional forums.

Oscar Gutierrez of the Management Science and Information Systems Department and John McGah of the Center for Social Policy completed the report "IMPACT–Information Management, Public Affairs, Community Transformation: Third and Final Evaluation" for the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Technology Opportunities Program.

The Institute for Community Inclusion is a partner in the Massachusetts Youth Partnership for Transition State Alignment grant. The project helps local areas map their resources to aid youth with disabilities succeed in post-secondary education and on the job.

Sandy Blanchette, assistant dean at the McCormack Graduate School, attended the 2003 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Partnership Award dinner on November 5. The award, organized by the College of Arts and Sciences at Georgia State University, is given annually to honor a successful campus-community partnership.

UMass Boston will host the award dinner and preview the film, in Massachusetts, in September 2004.

MISCELLANEOUS

The College of Arts and Sciences, published "The Psychological Significance of Nature," which was published by MIT Press.
Driving Safety for Elders (cont.)

Features that would enable them to drive longer than they would without the enhancements. In a previous study, Silverstein and research assistant Jenai Murtha surveyed Councils on Aging and/or Senior Center directors about whether they thought thirteen specific vehicle features would be useful for their populations and whether they would consider sharing information on such features with elders in their communities. Over 80 percent of the 51 directors interviewed were willing to consider implementing programs to enhance elder driving, including educating elders about vehicle features.

This new study will ask similar questions of approximately 100 elders themselves, aged 70 and older, from a half-dozen or so local Councils on Aging and Senior Centers and test a method to increase the likelihood that they would become familiar with and be willing to try new vehicle features.

Councils on Aging that have expressed interest and willingness to participate in this project include those in Bedford, Brockton, Millis, Milton, Norwood, Pembroke, Sharon, Walpole, and Woburn. "My larger audience is the older person and their families--I want people to talk about safe mobility and consider the full range from pedestrian to driver, with all the alternative modes in between," says Silverstein. "Strategies that assist elders in driving safely on the road longer are likely to keep those elders engaged as active and contributing members of society."

Silverstein has been invited by the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration and the National Alzheimer's Association Public Policy Division to continue her work on elders and a range of transportation issues.

2004 Emerging Leaders Begin at UMass Boston

The 2004 Emerging Leaders Program inducts its new class of 45 fellows on January 26. The week's program begins with an overview on leadership by Marshall N. Carter, retired CEO of State Street Corporation. Later that week the new fellows will hear from the Reverend Ray Hammond of the Ten Point Coalition; Judge Sandra Lynch; Robert Mudge, CEO of Verizon New England; Ralph Marrin of Bingham Dana LLP; and Micho Spring of Weber Shandwick Worldwide.

On hand to greet and speak with the new group are UMass Boston faculty and staff: Sherry Penney, Karen Suyamoto, Andy Torres, Robert Johnson, Peter Kiang, Carol Hardy-Fanta, Vicki Milledge, and David Matt.

The 2004 fellows will also begin to work in teams on issues facing the Greater Boston region and will attend monthly leadership forums from February through July. The program is growing steadily, having received more than 100 nominations this fall for the 45 places. In addition to the new fellows, there are now more than 70 alumni of the program.

Women's Varsity Ice Hockey Wins First Five Games

The women's ice hockey team at UMass Boston, in its first varsity season and coached by Northeastern University graduate and former Team Canada player Laura Schuler, is 5-0 overall and 3-0 in its division. It is the first varsity team in school history to win the first five games of its inaugural season. (Photo by Harry Brient)

The University Reporter
### University Events Calendar

**January 2023**

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<td>MON 19</td>
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