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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 can make driving risky.

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 risky driving.

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.

“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 political science majors while working substantial hours in a full- or part-time capacity.

“Fulbright 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 carrying out a research project on outcomes for women under Canada’s national health care system.

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 task.

(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 facilities 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 campus. 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 during 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 professionals 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 committees are 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 Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications of Human Genetics 1 Study 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.
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, 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 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.

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

By Leigh DePuy

Paul Atwood, a longtime veterans advocate on the deadly effects of Agent Orange and ultimate passage of a bill to reduce toxic chemical in the world after Vietnam, is one of six asked to testify in support of Resolution #0389, which establishes city purchasing guidelines to reduce toxic chemical in the world after Vietnam. "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's 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.

Paul Atwood, research associate at the Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences and faculty member in the American Studies Program, testified twice before the Boston City Council in support of a citywide dioxin pollution policy. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Leigh DePuy

Paul Atwood, research associate at the Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences 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 DeMartino, 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.

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Maya Lin Installation Planned for Arts on the Point Sculpture Park

*By Leigh DaPuy

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 May: A Strong Clear Vision.

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

As the practicality of needed parking spaces ruled out this idea, Tucker asked if she would consider designing a piece for the existing USAID-funded project McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies is initiating a nationwide effort to help combat HIV/AIDS. The project at Egerton has been endorsed by the Egerton campus. Even better, Egerton has been endorsed by the Egerton campus alone, which is estimated at 20,000 students at the Egerton campus alone, with the Egerton campus being a part of the Egerton campus and H.I.V./AIDS infection in Kenya as a whole is estimated at an annual rate of 20 percent.

Eventually, there will be approximately sixty community resource centers or branches that will receive education and communications technology access from their university hubs. The third stage of the initiative will also establish satellite centers to connect the public university campus hubs via Internet, satellite radio, telephone, and an online-director from the university. While the centers will use 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.

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. Understatement and sensitivity to the site are her hallmarks, Tucker noted, 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 made 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," said Rotrman. "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 toward an associate's degree program in one of its local community colleges. Students can also transfer up 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 technical education 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.

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)

CCDE's Center for Technical Education Marks 20 Years

By Thibe Meszelar

As the Big Dig—the largest civil engineering project in Massachusetts history—and the new campus center—the largest construction project at UMass Boston in years—both near their long-anticipated completion, thousands of laborers will be looking to find work.

Many might find it beneficial to trade sawdust for chalk dust and embark on new careers as teachers. If they go this route, it's likely they'd be the latest enrollees in courses offered by the Center for Technical Education (CTE), a division of UMass Boston that has set its sights on training the skilled laborers and technicians to be vocational-technical instructors.

According to CTE director Sumner Rotrman, nearly 20,000 men and women have made their way through his program. They have taught the skilled laborers and technicians to be vocational-technical instructors.

"Our focus has been on achieving the public mission of cultivating skilled workers," said Rotrman. "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.

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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 Jain Ruvich-Higgins, held its gift-wrap party for the Helping Hands Holiday Toy Drive on December 10 in the Wheatley Cafeteria. The event was organized by OSLCO's Beyond Our 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.
College of Public and Community Service Honors Marie Kennedy

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 brought 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 through this control over that situation.”

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

Gonzalo Bacigalupe, professor of psychology, is one of twenty scholars nationwide 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 explore 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 professionals and have minimal access to childcare, transportation, and coordinated services. The language barrier often complicates these issues. For those Latino patients who are insured, Bacigalupe finds that a major issue is having trust in their health care providers.

Bacigalupe seeks to develop meaningful knowledge for families in both Spain and the U.S., and to improve the communication between them and their practitioners. He hopes that his research will help create change in health care public policy. As a professor who has brought a new level of technology into the classroom at UMass Boston, Bacigalupe will continue to collaborate on his research via the Web once he leaves Spain.

Overall, Bacigalupe believes that this research will offer much to the UMass Boston community. He says, “This exchange will enhance UMass Boston's ability to fulfill its urban mission by developing new venues for understanding and serving immigrant students.” Bacigalupe feels privileged to study in a country that he describes as “historically tremendous, where the value of education is very high,” and he is determined to bring this knowledge back to his own community.

Fellowship applicants (cont.)

commitment for a student who will graduate summa cum laude with a double major in economics and political science, while working full-time at a restaurant he co-owns with his older brother.

Walter Martinez was another fellowship applicant celebrating at the reception. He recently learned he had been chosen as a Minority Fellow by the American Political Science Association, which grants $4,000 a year for each year of graduate study. Martinez is one of only six fellows selected nationwide to receive the fellowship this year.

“The application process for fellowships gives students an opportunity to learn more about themselves,” said Martinez, a member of the Honors Program in his senior class whose extracurricular achievements include volunteering as a student enrollment leader, working in the testing office of the University Advising Center, and serving as the UMass Boston chapter president of the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Martinez is unabashedly proud of his time at UMass Boston. “I came here just to get a degree and then go back to the workforce,” he says, describing his initial motivation in returning to school after working ten years in the retail business. “UMass Boston changed that path. It has been an incredible experience here, and I am so lucky to have met the people here through the Honors Program, and political science department.

“We’re so proud of all you’ve accomplished. I’ve always been such a proud brother,” said Chancellor Jo Ann Gora at the reception. She also extended congratulations to the faculty mentors present. “I want to thank you all for being here and for your relentless encouragement.”

The Fulbright applicants, including those who could not attend the reception—Katrina Kellogg who is applying for a study abroad in Peru and Alice Phoenix, who is interested in "security studies" in either Scotland or England—will receive news on their fellowships in the spring.

Ng eagerly anticipates the news, commenting in his speech, “We are such a powerful global community—we as Americans have much to learn from other countries, and this is the reason why the Fulbright is so important.”
PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

On December 4, Gonzalo Bacigalupo, associate professor in the Graduate 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, Fioara Bassignane, professor of modern languages, delivered the paper “Projecting Morality: The Writings of Tullia D’Aragona, Courtisan” 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 Racist?” at the College of Charleston and “Racial Discrimination and Color Blindness” at Centenary College of Louisiana.

Professors Caroline Brown of the English Department and Alexia 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 “Menstruation and the Assertion of Agency in the Novels of Jamaica Kincaid and Michelle Cliff”; Betsy Klismann presented “‘Down the Inverted Telescope’: De-situating History in Edith Wharton’s Age of Innocence”; and Gautam Premnath presented “Cosmopolitanism and Nostalgia in Amitav Ghosh.”

The Gerontology Institute at the University of Massachusetts will host a forum “Living on the Edge: Older Homeowners in Massachusetts” on December 11. Ellen Brown, assistant 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 Being: Focus on Language” and co-authored “An Interpretative Study of Martha Rogers’ Conception of Pattern” 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, delivered “The Impaired 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 “Latino 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, assistant professor of sociology, presented his paper “COMPSTAT and Organizational Change in Three Police Departments: A Comparative Analysis” at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, held in Denver, Colorado.

PUBLICATIONS

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, Jeanine Timmons, and Sheila Fecko, “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 Journal of Clinical Health-Care Research.

Two speeches by Jon Mitchell, chair of the Performing Arts Department, “Imogen Holter’s The Unfortunate Traveller” and “Early Performances at Kneller Hall of British Band Classics,” were published in the Kongresberichte Bad Waltersdorf Steiermark 2000/Lands Sudtirold 2002 by the International Society for the History of Early Music and Investigation of Wind Music.

Mary Oleksiewicz, 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 Sagos.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

James Green, professor in the College of Public and Community Service, was named associate dean of the Graduate College of Education, the Graduate College of Education, Forum 7, held in Geneva.


EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, SHOWS

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

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 Oleksiewicz, 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 Sagos.

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 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 honored for his commitment in and out of the classroom with the CM Commonwealth Award.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH

Joan Archer, professor in the College of Public and Community Service, and Robert Beattie, professor in the College of Science and Mathematics, were awarded a Community Outreach Partnership Center Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for their proposal “New Directions for Columbus Point.”

The Gerontology Institute’s Lillian Glickman and Ellen Birchenhall, 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.

MISCELLANEOUS

Sandy Blanchette, assistant dean at the McCormick 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 awards dinner for the Commonwealth Awards in Massachusetts, in September 2004.
Institute for Community Inclusion's
Working Connections Shares Successes

By Danielle Driller

On December 4, the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) celebrated a program that helps Massachusetts immigrants, refugees, and people of color find jobs. The Working Connections program teams One-Stop Career Centers with ethnic and faith-based organizations to spread the word about One-Stop's employment resources. In a year and a half, 568 new people enrolled in their local One-Stops; 510 attended workshops; 84 started ESL or vocational training; and 151 found jobs. Working Connections is funded by a $1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

The partners devised a range of tactics to bring diverse communities and One-Stops together. Several agencies filmed cable access programs. Boston's Universal Human Rights International and JobNet distributed over 2,000 flyers to houses of worship to reach sub-Saharan African immigrants.

The Southeast Asian Coalition and ValleyWorks Career Center held bilingual career workshops in Worcester. In Brockton, Asociacion San Martin De Porres taught CareerWorks staff about Latino cultural differences.

Labor Secretary Chao's regional representative, Kathleen Summers, and several other officers expressed admiration and answered partners' questions. ICI director William Kiernan complimented the agencies, saying, "We can watch these great results and share them everywhere else."

Driving Safety for Elders (cont.)

Features 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. Of the 51 directors interviewed, 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.

Also on hand to greet and speak with the new group are UMass Boston faculty and staff: Sherry Penney, Kanter Suyemoto, Andy Torres, Robert Johnson, Peter Kiang, Carol Hardy-Fanta, Vicki Milledge, and David Matz.

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.

Customers shared how Working Connections have helped them move forward.

Thuy Tran moved to Worcester ten years ago and hasn't worked since 2001. "With the help of the Working Connections project and ICI, Southeast Asian [Coalition] has helped me get some money for my new career training," she said.

Chung Lao was a mechanism in a manufacturing company in China. He is using a Working Connections stipend to take ESL classes so he can find a similar job in the U.S. Sandra Vargus, from Lawrence, thought that One-Stops offered only unemployment insurance. But after being laid off, she found both a new job and cosmetology training through the Spanish Community Program and ValleyWorks Career Center.

She intends to open a salon in two years to support her children. She said, "I am very happy right now with what I'm doing and planning for the future."

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 Brett)
The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of University Communications and Community Relations. All events are open to the public and free, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 287 and the last four digits listed below each calendar event.

Submit February calendar listings by Friday, January 16. Submit calendar listings online at www.umb.edu/news/calendar/. See the News and Events page on www.umb.edu for calendar listings online.

THURSDAY 1
New Year's Day
University closed.

TUESDAY 6
ITC Workshop: The Academic Blog
2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Healey Library, lower level. Workshop examining public web diaries. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

WEDNESDAY 7
ITC Workshop: No Static Part One: Creating a Dynamic E-Learning Space in Prometheus
1:30 - 5:00 p.m., Healey Library, lower level. Two-part workshop to introduce e-learning pedagogy and suggest strategies and techniques to use Prometheus for enhanced teaching and learning. Part Two scheduled for January 15. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

THURSDAY 8
ITC Workshop: Using Your UMB Space in Conjunction with Prometheus
1:30 - 5:00 p.m., Healey Library, lower level. Workshop on adding and updating files to personal UMB web space. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

FRIDAY 9
ITC Workshop: Working Smarter: Managing Your On-Line Class
9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Healey Library, lower level. Topics include using grade books, creating rubrics, using the files and forms features, managing e-mail communication, etc. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

SATURDAY 10
UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Basketball vs. Rhode Island College
1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7800 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

ITC Workshop: Assessment Strategies for Learning
2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Healey Library, lower level. Workshop to discuss a variety of e-learning pedagogy techniques. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

FRIDAY 16
ITC Workshop: Everything You Have Always Wanted to Know About Your Computer but Were Afraid to Ask
10:00 - 11:30 a.m., Healey Library, lower level. Workshop includes the basics and more. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

SATURDAY 17
UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. St. Michael's College
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7800 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Bowdoin College
3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Basketball vs. Rhode Island College
3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7800 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Basketball vs. St. Michael's College
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7800 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

ITC Workshop: Creating Collaborative Learning Activities for Your Web-Based Course
2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Healey Library, lower level. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

Beyond Our Backyard Community Dinner
6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Harbor Point Club House. The Beyond Our Backyard service club is hosting a dinner for the Harbor Point Community. Contact: 7-7783 or beyondourbackyard@yahoo.com

WEDNESDAY 21
ITC Workshop: Creating On-Line Tests in Prometheus
10:00 - 12:00 p.m., Healey Library, lower level. Workshop to examine several different tests created in Prometheus and instructions on how to create your own test. Presenter: Eileen McMahon. Contact: 7-3900 or www.itc.umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Basketball vs. UMass Dartmouth
7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7800 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Basketball vs. UMass Dartmouth
5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7800 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS
Beacon Fitness Center
Monday – Thursday, 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Friday, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open to faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Fitness professionals, strength equipment, racquetball, and squash courts available. Class offerings in boot camp and step classes, circuit training, weight training, etc. Contact: 7-6786 or www.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm for schedule.

Intramural Clinics
Come join a free clinic to learn the rules, how to play, and for to improve your game. Racquetball, squash, and Wally ball. Sign-up forms are at the Beacon Fitness Center. Contact: 7-7830.

Visit The Wellness Center
McCormack Hall, 1st floor. The Wellness Center offers a wide range of programs—from yoga to time management. Please check our website at umwellness.org for the most up-to-date program announcements, or contact: 7-5480.

WUMB 91.9 FM Community Journal
Sundays, 7:00 p.m. Interview with scholars, writers, and public officials examining current issues of interest to satchelers within Massachusetts. Contact: 7-6900.