Chemistry Chair Leads Research on Solar Energy, Water, and Hydrogen in Creating a New Fuel Source

By Peter Grennen

It's proof that Occam's razor still compels. Recent efforts to find alternatives to fossil fuels seem to have been guided by the principle—named for the fourteenth-century philosopher William of Occam—that in science the familiar should be preferred to the unknown, the simple to the more complex. And a research team headed by Chemistry Department chairman Stuart Licht is continuing this trend back to basics, having demonstrated an energy-producing technique that makes thorough use of one of nature's most plentiful resources.

Certainly, the fuel now being touted as gasoline's successor is as simple and familiar a substance as there is. The state of the art in this area of research is an energy cell that burns hydrogen, the most basic and abundant element in the universe. Problem is, thus far attempts to mass-produce hydrogen fuel have been anything but productive: Most naturally occurring hydrogen is found in chemical compounds, and isolating a pure form of the gas is both difficult and costly. What's worse, the current method of choice requires steam and natural gas, a pollutant like any other fossil fuel.

Solar generators of hydrogen do away with natural gas in favor of two other commodities nature provided in abundance: water and sunlight. The electrical energy contained in light from the sun is used to split water molecules into separate hydrogen and oxygen molecules. "This is a fundamental step in hydrogen production," says Licht, "because it confirms that we can create tremendous amounts of hydrogen simply by using solar energy and water."

The method is safe for the environment—it's only by-product is water—but it has not proved to be cost-effective, since it is only 18 percent efficient. This means that the amount of hydrogen generated by the process stores 82 percent less energy than does the light used to produce it.

Licht's technique markedly improves upon those numbers—and without materially altering the model. The process uses the thermal energy produced by the infra-

(Cont. on page 7)

New College of Public and Community Service Interim Dean Leads with Enthusiasm

By Leigh DuPuy

A longtime scholar of psychology, former co-director of the Institute for Asian American Studies, and a veteran marathoner, Connie Chan is well known for her drive and enthusiasm. Embracing her latest challenge, Chan has taken the helm as interim dean of the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS).

While Chan knows CPCS well, having served as a faculty member there for twenty years, she has found a new perspective on the college since being named interim dean in October 2003. "It's very interesting to see the college as a whole, with all of its connections to the university, its students, alumni, and community," she says.

Chan says CPCS students may be different in age or experience, but she emphasizes that this difference is not a reflection of an inability to succeed academically. "Our students typicall y have five years and their transcripts do not reflect their abilities now or their promise. We want to evaluate candidates based on their potential to flourish in academia now."

Many students attracted to

(Cont. on page 7)

IN THIS ISSUE
Page 3 UMass Boston study finds smoking ban does not deter patrons.

Page 5 Professor wins award for research linking women's health and literacy.

University Communications
UMass Boston
100 Morrissy Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3393

Non-Profit
Organization
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 52094
Massachusetts Leaders and Shakers Gather at State House Reception for UMass Boston Alumni

By Leigh DuPuy

As the temperature sank to single digits on the dark streets of Boston, a welcoming glow was spreading through the Office of the Senate President in the State House.

Alumni of UMass Boston and Boston State College who have supported public higher education in good and bad times-and others who do not. Leonard cites his research, he says, is to discern why some high schools work and others do not.

Leonard cites a study done in Chicago, where the only common denominator found among successfully reformed urban schools had to do with a "high sense of trust."

"We don't talk about that. It's kind of hard to define, but I think we all know what it feels like," says Leonhard.

"It's interesting to me to look back through the history of events here in Boston and think about what we have done to build trust or to betray trust. How much of that is even a part of our vocabulary?" Although Gonsalves is known for her system-wide work relating to the MCAS test, she also does research in the area of student and school culture, both of which are relevant to this notion of "hard-to-describe" factors such as trust.

Just before the closure of Dorchester High School, she produced an assessment of the student culture there. "Basically it wasn't a cohesive student culture. We're trying to uncover how the school got to that point," she adds. "Even though the book deals with history, it's really about reform.

One helpful aspect of reform in Dorchester has been the shrinking of the community of students-from a sea of 900 students to more manageable 300-student sub-schools, each with its own identity and physical space. And, as Gonsalves, the UMass Boston community development partners Therese Murray, Jo Ann Gora, and Lida Harkins, state representative and assistant majority floor leader.

"I always tell people that. Laskey was one of the many alumni who filled the second floor of the Senate President to share thoughts on the university and the importance of public higher education.

Read the full article online at [The University Reporter](https://www.umb.edu/news).
Patrons of restaurants, bars, and nightclubs are not deterred by the smoking ban, according to a survey by Lois Biener, a senior researcher at the Center for Survey Research. (Photo by Richard Howard)

By Ed Hayward

The number of immigrants from Central and South America living in the Boston area has increased significantly during the 1990s, transforming the Latino population and providing significant settlement challenges to social service agencies, a new study by UMass Boston researchers has found.

Guatemalans, Hondurans, Salvadorans, and Colombians came to Massachusetts in record numbers during the 1990s, according to the study by students and faculty in UMass Boston’s Ph.D. Program in Public Policy in collaboration with Centro Presente, a Boston nonprofit group that serves new Latino immigrants, and the Mariugo Gastion Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy.

The 2000 U.S. Census reported that there are 49,101 persons from El Salvador, Colombia, Guatemala, and Honduras in Massachusetts, an increase of 65 percent since 1990. The largest growth has been among Salvadorans (137 percent) and Colombians (131 percent). Today these four groups account for 11.4 percent of the Latino population.

*Immigrants make up over 75 percent of these groups, and more often if a smoking ban were in place. In fact, 31 percent said that they would eat out more often. Sixty-one percent said that their patronage would not change. These figures suggest a net increase in restaurant patronage as the result of a ban on smoking.

Survey numbers in 1995 for bars and nightclubs were similar: only 11 percent of those surveyed said that they would frequent bars less often. Twenty percent reported an intention to go out more often, and 69 percent said their patronage patterns would not change.

“Even at that time, most of the population believed that secondhand smoke posed serious health risks,” says Biener. "The support for smoke-free restaurants has increased steadily throughout the 1990s among nonsmokers and smokers alike.”

In 2001, Biener and her Center for Survey Research team launched a major new study of tobacco use in Massachusetts with support from the National Cancer Institute. It is a longitudinal study of Massachusetts adults and youth, designed primarily to examine the impact of local tobacco-control policy and mass media on adult smoking cessation and youth initiation.

“The data on adult smokers provides us with some initial hints about how the Boston smoke-free workplace ordinance may have influenced their patronage of restaurants and bars, as well as their support for smoke-free policies,” explains Biener.

The initial interview was conducted between January of 2001 and June of 2002. Looking at smokers interviewed a second time after May 3, 2003—after the Boston ordinance was in effect—Biener compared the change from Time 1 to Time 2 for smokers in Boston versus smokers from other Massachusetts towns.

“The Boston sample is quite small—only 49 people—but they are reasonably representative of Boston smokers,” says Biener. Preliminary data on this cohort of Massachusetts smokers indicate no negative impact of the May 2003 regulation on patronage. If anything, they reported going out to bars and clubs more often after the ban than before. When asked how often they went out to bars and clubs in their town, 47 percent of Boston smokers said “often or always.” Interviewed after the ban, 50 percent of the same group said “often or always.”

“It is also apparent that support for smoke-free bars was higher among Boston smokers than those in other towns prior to May 2003 and has increased, both in Boston (from 17 to 23 percent) and in other towns (from 10 to 13 percent),” says Biener. “Smokers apparently realize that even they benefit from cleaner air.”

Members of the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy who authored a study finding a significant increase in immigrants from Central and South American living in Massachusetts: Miren Uriarte, lead faculty member in the practicum, Robert Kramer, Megan Halloran, Susan Kelly, and Phil Granberry. Not pictured: Sandra Winkle.

Graduate Applications on the Rise

Graduate applications are up by 23 percent in comparison to Spring 2003 enrollment figures, as more and more people are choosing UMass Boston as a place to further their educational and career goals.

“This is a turnaround and a bit of a trend upward in graduate applications,” says Kathy Teahan, vice chancellor for enrollment management, who cites an increase in general marketing of UMass Boston’s graduate offerings in outdoor advertising, radio, and print outlets.

The sluggish job market may also have inspired many to return to the classroom, either to expand skill sets or to explore different educational goals.

According to the Department of Institutional Research, doctoral programs in computer sciences, environmental sciences, and nursing have seen a significant increase in graduate applications. A rise in the number of applicants has also been seen in master’s offerings in business administration, computer sciences, counseling, education, English, environmental sciences, gerontology, history, nursing, and special education.

The University Reporter
CNHS Professor Examines Retention of Home Health Care Nurses

By Ed Hayward

In an effort to help bolster the ranks of home health care nurses needed to care for America’s aging population, UMass Boston professor Carol Hall Ellenbecker and a colleague from Marymount University have been awarded a three-year, $828,000 grant from federal health officials.

Ellenbecker, principal investigator, and Leslie Neat, a professor at Marymount University, received funding from the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to study job satisfaction for home health care nurses and the factors that encourage nurses to remain on the job.

"With an aging population and the increasing desire for seniors to live independently at home, the shortage of home health care nurses is becoming serious," said Ellenbecker, who directs the Ph.D. in Nursing Program at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, the leading supplier of trained nurses in Massachusetts.

The study comes as the United States copes with an ongoing nursing shortage that could soon reach critical proportions. If allowed to continue, the shortage could harm the quality of care that people receive or, in some cases, even prevent people from receiving the care that they need. Severe nursing shortages are expected in 2010 as baby boomers reach retirement age and the demand for health care services increases.

Ellenbecker is familiar with the home health care delivery system, having served as a visiting nurse and directed a home health care agency. Her research focuses on the exploration of health care delivery systems for the purposes of expanding knowledge on health policy—evaluating policies with an eye toward ensuring quality and expanding access to care.

Ellenbecker is a frequent contributor to community-based publications such as Home Health Care Management and Practice, the Journal of Community Health Nursing, and Caring magazine.

The current award is the culmination of a two-year effort that began in the spring of 2001 with an internal faculty grant for development support. During the proposal effort, Ellenbecker assembled a team of experts from the university, as well as researchers and policy experts from Washington, D.C.

"It's exciting to work at UMass Boston," said Ellenbecker. "The resources are extensive and really contribute to the university's research mission." Project participants include the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, Brian Clarridge and Anthony Roman from the Center for Survey Research, and Frank Porell, a faculty member at the Gerontology Institute. Linda Samia, a registered nurse and a student in the Ph.D. in Nursing Program, is serving as project coordinator.

More research assistants will be added as the work of collecting voluntary survey responses from an estimated four thousand home health care nurses throughout New England begins. As she assembles results during the next three years, Ellenbecker expects the data will contribute to the formulation of policies to address the shortage of home health care nurses.

"The demand for home health care services is expected to dramatically increase in the future due to the aging population, advances in technology, and changes in medical practice," said Ellenbecker. "These factors have made the retention of experienced, qualified nursing staff a priority. Understanding the factors, institutional and personal, that contribute to remaining in the profession will be a crucial contribution to quality care for home health care patients."

Healey Library Receives Treasured Dorchester Pottery Collection

By Sara Baron

Images of ancient artifacts, writings, and ruins bring to life the study of ancient languages, archaeology, and Greek civilization for students in Professor Keller Barnard's classes. A professor of classics, Barnard uses PowerPoint presentations to display major concepts and images.

"There is really no way to teach students about a civilization two or three thousand years old without images to help make it more real," she says. Barnard found PowerPoint presentations to be more flexible than traditional slides and uses the program to import images, intersperse text, and mark materials.

Her course websites offer links to all class presentations, as well as an image library, outlines, key concepts, and study guides.

Barnard also provides links to written texts and primary sources available online. As it can be difficult to find a textbook that covers everything Barnard needs for a course, she is able to supplement her chosen textbooks with online links.

Barnard also teaches an interactive television course on ancient languages for students at UMass Boston and UMass Lowell. Blending traditional language courses with blackboard tutorials, CD-ROM, and language drills, and general conversation are possible in a mediated environment with the help of technology.

Barnard uses technology to create online flashcards and translations so that students in both locations can learn simultaneously. By putting these materials online, students in Lowell have access to the same information as students in Boston. Another positive aspect of using technology in her classes is the increased learning opportunities for all students. In addition to the course website, she provides the image library on a CD-ROM for students who do not have easy access to the Internet.

Barnard believes that students are intrigued by the technology she uses in the classroom and find they have fun learning history and languages through in-class technologies and the course website.

Barnard encourages other faculty who may be interested in teaching with technology to play with technologies and start with a project that is personally convenient or will help them save time. Her own introduction to PowerPoint was based on ease of use, and led to her saving time while enhancing her teaching and student learning. Barnard also encourages faculty to get help from each other and the technology specialists at the Instructional Technology Center.
CPCS Professor Receives National Academy of Education Award for Adult Literacy Research

By Leigh DuPuy

One of the greatest predictors of a child’s success in school is a parent’s educational level, says Lorna Rivera, professor of sociology and community planning in the College of Public and Community Service. Yet adult literacy education is largely ignored in discussions on the importance of K-12 and higher education. With the award of a postdoctoral fellowship from the National Academy of Education (NEA) and Spencer Foundation, Rivera hopes to rectify this neglect.

She will use the fellowship to write a book analyzing ethnographic data she gathered while interviewing formerly homeless women of color throughout Greater Boston and New England from 1995 to 2000. She has been primarily interested in examining the positive changes that adult literacy education has on their lives.

“Are they engaged in healthier lifestyles? Invested more in their children’s education? Has their participation improved their socioeconomic status? Do they vote?” Rivera asks. “Are they more likely to leave violent relationships?”

This last question is especially important, as family violence is one of the biggest impediments to adult literacy education. Rivera also found that women felt pressured to give up their pursuit of education to enroll in welfare-to-work programs while others relied to use their education to become more politically aware.

“Many of the women living in shelters were dedicated and focused on getting their high school diploma—they believed that education brings opportunity,” Rivera says of those she spoke with for her 1995 – 2000 study. She will use the data she collected to conduct follow-up interviews with both groups to see where they are now.

“The book will also discuss the qualitative differences in life circumstances and socioeconomic status for the women who completed their General Education Diplomas (GED) compared to those who did not,” says Rivera. Rivera became interested in adult literacy education while researching her master’s thesis on how illiteracy affects women’s health. In working with Puerto Rican elderly women living at La Alianza Hispana in Boston, she found many of the women were on medications but couldn’t read the labels. This work also inspired her doctoral research about the impact of popular education on homeless mothers.

To further women’s literacy, Rivera works as co-chair of the Board of Directors for WE LEARN (Women Expanding Literacy Education Action Resource Network) and has helped to bring a “Women and Literacy” conference to UMass Boston for teachers, researchers, writers, and community activists. “The conference will address the lack of relevant reading materials available for women,” says Rivera. The conference, to be held on March 27, will hold workshops, panel discussions, and solicit contributions for the Change Agent newspaper.

“Adult literacy education doesn’t receive a lot of attention,” says Rivera. “I’m excited for this kind of exposure.”

Gerontology Institute Examines Rising Costs of Homeownership for Massachusetts Elderly

By Robert Geary

Older homeowners in Massachusetts are confronted with obstacles that make “aging in place,” continuing to live in the homes they have occupied and would choose to remain, an increasingly difficult proposition. The problems senior citizens face, especially moderate to low-income homeowners, was the focus of a recent State House forum, which was sponsored by the Gerontology Institute of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies and the Massachusetts Legislative Caucus on Older Citizens’ Concerns.

The public forum brought together experts in consumer law, elder and consumer advocacy, and property assessment and taxation. Ellen Bruce, associate director of the Center for the Elderly, welcomed the 150 or more attendees and panelists, who included Leonard Raymond, executive director of Homeowner Options for Massachusetts Elderly; Anne Carney, co-chair of the legislative committee for Mass Association of Assessing Officers; and Odette Williamson, who is staff attorney of the National Consumer Law Center.

All speakers stressed the many problems elder homeowners face in today’s fiscal environment. Nearly 70 percent of elders living in Massachusetts own homes, and many are finding the rising costs for maintaining these homes to be a burden.

The panel agreed on three major factors that threaten moderate to low-income homeowners’ abilities to age in place: property tax burdens, rising costs of home maintenance, and debt burdens, including loans from predatory lenders for whom older homeowners are particular targets.

Carney, who also serves as assessor for the town of Easton, stressed how steep increases in property taxes have placed many older people in disastrous financial conditions, while local municipalities struggle with their diminishing budgets to provide core services. In the past eight years, property taxes have increased as much as 50 percent in some communities.

Home maintenance, especially for the older structures that many elder homeowners own, is costly and rising, easily draining the incomes of those with modest assets, according to Raymond. To remain in their homes, many elders need to install adaptive equipment to cope with disabilities and increasing frailty. While there are revenues available for such installations, few know about them. Panelists stressed the need for educational programs to increase awareness of the options available to elders.

Raymond estimated a 164 percent increase in debt burdens experienced by senior citizen homeowners over the last 10 years. With property values at an all-time high in Massachusetts, the resulting higher costs for insuring that property have been keenly felt by homeowners with limited incomes.

While tapping into equity through loans can be a secure way for homeowners to meet financial obligations, predatory lenders have aggressively targeted elders, especially the most socially isolated, offering loans that appear deceptively attractive. Odette Williamson said that many elders think they are not qualified to take on secured loans, a belief encouraged by predatory lenders, causing owners to end up with little or no equity in their property. Foreclosures have become more common for elder homeowners.

Several area councils on aging were represented and told of strategies they have offered their clients, such as reverse mortgages and working with heirs to help the elders meet their financial needs. Going forward, when the state’s current financial status improves, all agreed that legislation should be enacted to increase homeowners’ asset and exemption limits.

UMass Boston Alumni Magazine Out Now!

The next issue of the alumni magazine UMass Boston has “hit the stands,” highlighting events that transformed the campus throughout the fall, such as convocation celebrations, The New England Women’s Political Summit, and the formation of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies. Alumnus Robert von Rimscha ’79 shared his experiences as a world-traveled journalist and Kathleeone Card ’76 spoke of her career in ministry. The latest issue is displayed on the 2nd floor of the Quinn Administration Building and around campus.

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 are due February 13.
Elza Aurbach, professor of English, was the keynote speaker at the joint conference "Adult Education at the Crossroads: Community Voices and Social Justice" sponsored by the UMass Boston group and the Mexico Coalition for Literacy and New Mexico Adult Education Association.

Lawrence Blum, professor of philosophy, presented the paper "Virtue and Race" at a Philosophy Department Colloquium, held at Duke University in December.

François Carrel, research director of the Center for Social Policy, attended a conference, "Exposure to Violence in Childhood," held in India in January. Academics reflected on labor issues following visits with self-employed women (tobacco workers, cigarette rollers, construction workers).

Carol Chandler-Rourke of the English Department spoke on "Programs for Refugee Elders" at the national refugee resettlement conference, held in Washington, D.C., and facilitated a panel on the "Health Needs of Refugees" at the statewide "Building Bridges" conference, held in Springfield, MA.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, addressed women who are elected municipal officials at the annual convention of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, held on January 16.


Professor Pamela Jones of the Art Department presented the paper "André Malraux, the Tabaco de Tabaco" at a three-day international conference on the writer, held at the Université Hassan II in Casablanca, Morocco.

In November, Felicia Wilczenski, associate professor in the Department of Counseling and School Psychology, along with graduate students Susan Cooney and Barbara Ball, presented the paper "Service-Learning in Graduate School: Building Communities and Careers" at the International Service Learning Research Conference.

In January, Julie Winch, professor of history, presented the paper "James Forrest, William Lloyd Garrison, and 'The Spirit of the Times'" at an American Society of Church History conference.

Give Us Your Poorest, the Center for Social Policy, and McCormack Graduate School for Policy Studies co-hosted the "Being the Children Home: The Will to End Homelessness," featuring Marian Wright Edelman, which was held in New Hampshire on Martin Luther King Day.

PUBLICATIONS

Julia Brennan, assistant professor in the Department of Accounting and Finance, published the article "Evaluating the Tax Benefits of Deducting Stock Market Losses in IRA's" with a colleague in the "Journal of Financial Service Professionals.

The article "Assessment of Young Children's Social-Emotional Development and Psychopathology: Recent Advances and Recommendations for Practice" co-authored by Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology's Alice Carter and N.O. Davis, was published in the Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry.


Robert Crossley, professor and chair of the English Department, has completed a monograph and compiled the bibliographies for the 25th anniversary edition of Octavia Butler's Kindred, published in the Black Women's Writers Series by Beacon Press.


Professor Pamela Jones of the Art Department published the article "Italian Devotional Paintings and Flemish Landscapes in the Quadratere" of Cardinals Giustiniani, Borromeo, and Del Monte" in "Storia dell'Arte.


"Crisiude's Preudence," a study of Chaucer's influence of the future, has been published by Monica McAlpine, professor of English and director of the University Honors Program, in the annual volume Studies in the Age of Chaucer.

Cheryl Nixon, assistant professor of English, published the essay "The Surrogate Family Plot in the Annesley Case and Memoirs of an Unfortunate Young Nobleman" in the last volume of "T. Tall and Collection The Eighteenth Century Novel.

Susan Otopow, associate professor of English, Dispute Resolution, coauthored the paper "Justice and Identity: Changing Perspectives on 'What Is Fair,'" was published in "Personality and Social Psychology Review.

The article "Developing Emerging Talent Now for Top Spots" by Sherry H. Penner, professor of leadership in the College of Management, was published at the January 2004 issue of Women's Business.


The article "Diversity Research as Creative Learning" by Karen Suyemoto, assistant professor of psychology, and Peter Kiang, professor of education and director of the Asian American Studies Program, was published at the Academic Exchange Quarterly.

Clinical psychology graduate students Matthew T. Tall and Kristyahn Salters, program alumnus Kim Grant, and Lizbeth Roemer, associate professor of psychology, published the article "The Role of Experiential Avoidance in Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms of Disability, Depression, and Somatization" in the "Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease.

Orxam America recently released Cahà: La Politica Social en la Enmascarada, the Spanish translation of Miriam Urriarte's monograph on Cuban social policy responses to economic crisis in the 1990s. The journal Pedagogy, Pluralism and Practice published "Holding to Basics and Investing for Growth: Cuban Education and the Economic Crisis of the 1990's," by Uriarte, who is a senior research associate at the Gastin Institute.

Xuchen Wang and Robert Chen of the Environmental, Coastal and Ocean Sciences (ECOS) Department published the paper "Sources and Preservation of Organic Matter in Plum Island Salt Marsh Sediments: Long-Chain n-alkane and Saturable Carbon Isotope Compositions" in "Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science.

Xuchen Wang, Robert Chen, and Julie Cailin of the Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sciences Department coauthored the paper "Bacterial Roles in the Formation of High Molecular Weight Dissolved Organic Matter in Estuarine and Coastal Waters: Evidence from Lipids and Compound-Specific Isotopic Ratios," which was published in "Limnology and Oceanography.

EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, SHOWS

John Fulton, assistant professor in the English Department, read from his recent work at the Blacksmith Reading Series in Cambridge in December. His debut novel, More Than Enough, published in 2002 by Picador USA, was recently published in French by Bay Random House, who also published the translation rights.

Lloyd Schwartz, the Frederick S. Troy Professor of English, led the "Poetry for Peace" event held on January 28 at the Hopedale Unitarian Parish.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Lester Goodchild, dean of the Graduate College of Education, was elected to the statewide Board of the Massachusetts Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. Goodchild was selected from a group of representatives from the state's teacher education programs.

Philip Hart, retired UMass Boston faculty member, and his wife Tanya received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Brotherhod Award in recognition of their work in bringing together people across racial, class, religious and ethnic boundaries, including their lifelong involvement with the YMCA.

Linda Huang, assistant professor of biology, has been invited to join the Faculty of 1000 Biology, an online research tool published by BioMed Central that highlights the most interesting papers being published in the field of biology.

Dean Philip Quagliari of the College of Management has awarded the 2003 Dean's Awards for Distinguished Research to Joan Tous, associate professor in the Department of Management and Marketing, and James Bierstaker, associate professor in the Department of Accounting and Finance.

Anthony Petruzzi was appointed the director of writing assessment, responsible for the current writing proficiency requirement. Petruzzi received his Ph.D. in English from the University of Connecticut, and has taught composition at the University of Nebraska, Kearney (UNK), Bentley College, and Boston University.

Marietta Schwartz has been appointed the interim university director of undergraduate education. Schwartz has been active in collegial governance, serving as faculty co-mentor of what was the College of Arts and Sciences Senate and recently as chair of College of Science and Mathematics Senate.

Changing Lives through Literature, a community program hosted by UMass Boston for ten years and taught by Taylor Steohr, professor of English, has received the New England Board of Higher Education's Award of Excellence. The award will be given on February 27.

Peter Taylor, graduate program coordinator of the Critical and Creative Thinking Program, has been appointed the director of the Science, Technology, and Values Program.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH

The Gerontology Institute's Ellen A. Bruce, principal investigator, and Laura Henn Russell, project director, were awarded a planning grant from the Boston Foundation to build an Elder Self-Sufficiency Standard Project for Massachusetts. They will develop a reality-based cost-of-living measure for older households in Massachusetts.

Joan Garity, associate professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, completed training in the Boston Foundation's End-of-Life Care Issues by the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) funded through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She is one of the nation's graduate nursing faculty nationwide to participate.
In December, Center for Social Policy researchers Michelle Kahan, Jennifer Raymond, and Consuelo Greene completed their final evaluation report of the One Family Scholar project, sponsored by the One Family Campaign.

Kenneth C. Kleene, professor of biology, received a three-year $181,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for his project “Control of mRNA Translation during Spermatogenesis.” The objective of this grant is to identify RNA sequence elements and protein factors that regulate the timing of translation of an mRNA encoding a cysteine-rich protein.


Kristyal Salters, graduate student in the Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology, received the Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award, a National Institutes of Mental Health Fellowship award.

Jim Campen, professor of economics, was quoted in the Patriot Ledger on January 6 on his report that black home buyers are more successful in getting mortgages in Randolph than any other suburban community around Boston.

A proposal for funding long-term care by Ying-Ping Chen, professor of gerontology and the Frank J. Manning Emeritus Scholar in Gerontology, was the subject of the “As We Age” column in the Charlottes Observer on January 6. Chen’s funding model is also explained in the current Policy Brief, issued by the Center for Home Care Policy and Research.

Lou DiNatale, director of the Center for Social Policy, was quoted on the results of a University of Massachusetts poll measuring voter opinion on Massachusetts government, reform plans, Speaker Thomas Finneran, and the Romney administration in the Boston Globe on January 15.

Carol Ellenbacker, director of the undergraduate nursing program, was quoted on the impact of nursing shortages in home health care in the Boston Globe on December 25.

Tim Hasci, instructor in the History Department, published the review “Tales from the New York Times Book Review on January 4.

Kyle McInnis, professor of exercise science, was quoted by the LA Times, WBZ Radio, Prevention Magazine, Web MD, and Women’s Health on the benefits of moderate walking. McInnis has been quoted widely on his study presented, at the American Heart Association’s annual conference in November.

On December 18, the Boston Globe quoted Miren Uriarte, senior research associate at the Gaston Institute, on the changing face of Latino Massachusetts.

The contributions of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies and its staff were highlighted in the New Woodfield column in the Boston Herald on December 28.

On January 13, the Patriot Ledger profiled the College of Public and Community Service’s new degree program: Community Media and Technology.

---

**Campus Notes**

Hydrogen fuel (cont.)

red portion of the sun’s energy spec­ trum to heat water to 600 degrees Celsius. The water is then placed in an alkaline solution and sub­ jected to electrical energy that splits it into hydrogen and oxygen mol­ ecules.

The technique’s efficiency rating of 30 percent is attributable in large measure to its full-bore use of the sun’s output. “The key difference is the use of the thermal portion of the photons,” says Licht. “We’re taking advantage of the entire spec­ trum and using different portions of it to achieve different ends.”

It’s a development that could help make hydrogen as easy to ob­ tain as any other fuel source. Till then, however, this science must answer to the “dualism” science of economics. Hydrogen is still four times as expensive as gasoline, and fuel cells are ten times more expen­ sive to build than a conventional automobile engine. Experts say that for hydrogen fuel cells to see widespread use in cars, these costs must be drastically reduced.

Not to suggest that the cars are about to join the Hindenburg on the scrap heap of hydrogen-fueled inventions. Research in this area, lately given greater urgency by world geopolitical events, continues to be a priority in industrialized nations. “Solar (power) is opening up a lot of very exciting possibil­ ities,” said Licht. “We’re heading toward a society that uses clean hydrogen as its primary fuel.”

It’s been said there’s nothing new under the sun—and Licht’s work lends new meaning to that claim. As scientists continue to shine light on as-yet-unexplored areas of our physical environment, discoveries such as this one may well lead them to conclude that finding sustainable energy sources is simplicity itself.

---

**Chan (cont.)**

CPCS majors and graduate pro­ grams are those who are looking for an opportunity to apply knowledge to their career, Chan notes. The graduate programs in dispute resolution and human ser­ vices have been perennially popu­ lar with applicants and CPCS is moving forward in developing new undergraduate degrees, with the new Community, Media, and Technology degree up and run­ ning and a degree in Community Studies under current review by the Board of Trustees. Chan points out that younger students are also applying to CPCS, at­ tracted by its focus on social jus­ tice and diverse perspectives.

Future projects for Chan in­ clude working on CPCS’s revised curriculum, which now offers flexible concentrations within ex­ isting majors. “We are offering a more integrative approach and allow our students to design ma­ jors that, for example, can com­ bine human service competencies with concentrations in advocacy or law,” she says.

The college is also striving to engage more of its alumni in re­ cruitment efforts and future mentoring relationships with stu­ dents. Chan hopes the creation of a community advisory board, including local leaders, alumni, and community activists, will help further recruitment, mentoring, and funding of programs.

I am always looking for cre­ ative ways to help fund the pro­ grams that benefit our students, whether it’s financially through scholarship programs, or in pro­ viding students support such as tutoring and advising,” says Chan.

While finding her time as dean busy and challenging, Chan clearly revels in the experience. “I love hearing from students, fac­ ulty, and alumni—I am so enthui­ siastic about the college.”

Chan arrived at UMass Boston in 1982 with an A.B. in psychol­ ogy from Princeton University and an M.A. and Ph.D. in clinical psychol­ ogy from Boston University. She served as co-director for the Institute for Asian American Stud­ ies from 1993 until recently, and was promoted to full professor in 1998. “When not in her offices at CPCS, Chan can be found train­ ing for her 13th consecutive Bos­ ton Marathon in April 2004.

---

**UMass Boston Signs Contract to Maintain Spectacle Island Marina**

By Leigh DePuy

Throughout its highly colorful history, Boston Harbor’s Spectacle Island has been the site of a one­ time quarantine station, illicit summer resorts, a glue factory, and a dump. In June 2004, UMass Boston and its students will be on hand as Spectacle Island opens as a 10-acre public park.

David MacKenzie, former vice chancellor for administration and finance, and Chris Cweeney, director of the Division of Marine Op­ erations (DMO), signed a one­ year, $50,000 contract to maintain a new marina facility located on the island, owned by the State De­ partment of Conservation and Recreation.

Combining the entrepreneur­ ial with education, the university will offer students the opportunity to learn firsthand how to manage and work at a marina or boatyard facility. To prepare, interested stu­ dents will complete an independ­ ent study, “Fundamentals in Marina Management Planning (EGS 478),” held in the spring se­ mester. Students will then be paid a competitive salary at the marina for 12 weeks in the summer of 2004.

Students will work with DMO staff to maintain the facility, which will include up to 36 boat slips. Plans for the island—transformed into 36 boat slips. Plans for the island—transformed into a 10-acre public park with 56 boat slips. Plans for the island—transformed into a 10-acre public park with 56 boat slips.

The Division of Marine Op­ erations has considerable exper­ tise in education and marine op­ erations. Since 1990, DMO has maintained and managed a fleet of vessels, moorings, docks, and provides other marine services while fostering educational pro­ grams in the neighboring harbor islands.
MONDAY 2
Campus Ministry Open House and Coffee House/Talent Share 2:30 p.m., McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd fl. Join university chaplains for food, fun, and fellowship. Contact: 7-5839 or maggie.cahill@umb.edu.

TUESDAY 3
UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Ice Hockey vs. Wesleyan University 7:00 – 9:00 a.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7880 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

WEDNESDAY 4
WUMB CD/LP Donation Drive 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. WUMB Radio, Healey Library, lower level. Donate unwanted CDs and LPs for music sale on March 6 – 7. Contact: 7-6900 or www.umbfolkfest.org.

ECO-tours of the Campus 8:30 a.m., Quinn Administra­ tion Building (service area), Room 1, upper level. Learn about "green" efforts at UMass Boston. Bring a warm jacket for tour. Also on Febru­ ary 11 and 18. Contact: 7-5083 or emm.green@umb.edu.

THURSDAY 12
Harbor Art Gallery Opening Reception: "Honey, You Can't Keep the Bees!" 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., McCormack Hall, Art Gallery, 1st fl. Reception for collaborative show featuring the work of fashion designer Michelle Fourier, architect Bill Fran­ cisi, textile artist Newt Sow­ er, and photographer E.R. Hergert. Light refreshments will be served. Contact: 7-2388 or harbor.gallery@umb.edu.

UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Basketball vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7880 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

FRIDAY 6
Biological Seminar: Tropical Rainforests and Climate Change: New information about Malaysian Borneo 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., Science Center, 1-006. Featuring Lisa Delissio from Salem State College. Contact: 7-6000 or diana.rudy@umb.edu.

SATURDAY 7
UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Ice Hockey vs. St. Michael's College 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7880 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

TUESDAY 10
Gaston Institute Speakers Series: Amending the Definition of the Contemporary Immigrant: Author: Rooting/Dominating American Organizing in New York City 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Healey Library, Library Staff Lounge, 11th fl. Featuring Ana Apricost, professor of anthropology. Contact: 7-5791.

WUMB 91.9 FM
WUMB Music Marketplace - Used CD/LP Sale March 6 - 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Healey Li­ brary, Provost Conference Room, 8th fl. Co-sponsored by the Mauricio Gaston Institute. Contact: 7-335-5480 or www.miramcoa.org.

UPCOMING
WUMB Music Marketplace — Used CD/LP Sale March 6 - 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., March 7 - 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., UMass Bos­ ton. More than 20,000 CDs and LPs for sale: rock, classical, folk, jazz, blues, Cadi, and more. Contact: 7-6791 or bostonfolkfest.org.

SATURDAY 14
UMass Boston Beacons: Men's Ice Hockey vs. Skidmore College 7:00 – 9:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7880 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

SATURDAY 21
UMass Boston Beacons: Women's Basketball vs. Eastern Connecticut State University 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Clark Athletic Center. Contact: 7-7880 or david.marsters@umb.edu.

MONDAY 23
M3—Monthly Monday Movies: Bruce Almighty 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd fl. Discussion of theological issues and images in movies. Participants are asked to pre-screen movie. Contact: 7-5383 or adrienne.berryton@umb.edu.

WEDNESDAY 25
Ash Wednesday Mass and Distribution of Ashes 12:30 – 1:30 p.m., McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd fl. Ashes available from 12:30 p.m. to closing. Contact: 7-5383 or maggie.cahill@umb.edu.