Biology Professor Sees Energy Consumption at Ecological Crossroads

By Peter Grennan

Jeff Dukes’s profession allows him to explore the natural world to his heart’s content. But he never imagined how much it would force him to consider nature of another sort—human nature. Now, faced with mounting evidence of environmental damage caused by reckless consumption of fossil fuels over many years, he is appealing to humanity’s nobler instincts in an effort to return our planet to ecological health.

A terrestrial ecologist with a doctorate from Stanford University, Dukes recently joined the UMass Boston Biology Department after doing postdoctoral work at Stanford and the University of Utah. Among his scholarly projects is an ongoing inquiry into human sphere of activity. The disintegration of the earth’s ability to process them.

"Carbon dioxide buildup is changing the planet faster than before, and we’re using resources faster than was thought," says Dukes. If attitudes toward energy consumption are at the heart of the problem, the solution has to involve the art of persuasion—and another of Dukes’s projects may well do the trick here: Using published data in a series of calculations that measure loss of solar energy from photosynthetically fixed carbon atoms in oil, coal, and natural gas, he set out to determine how much ancient plant matter is needed to meet our energy requirements today.

When the number crunching stopped, Dukes had some startling results: He estimates that about 98 tons of prehistoric plant material went into every gallon of gasoline we put into our vehicles. And as if that figure were not eye-popping enough, he offers another way to interpret the data: “Every day, people use the fossil-fuel equivalent of an acre of forest, just to commute to work. And they’ll do this without even thinking about it.”

In order to restore the balance, Dukes believes, we need to rethink our systems, not just our actions. “Ecosystems become more vulnerable to such attacks when certain by-products of human ingenuity—like automobile exhaust—outstrip the earth’s ability to process them,” he adds.

Increasingly these days, this discussion has become a hot topic on the campus of a small university. “This is a wonderful time in our campus’s history,” says Chancellor Jo Ann Gora. “We are so excited about the services the Campus Center will offer our students to realize a fuller educational experience at the university.”

“Once the occupancy permit and expect to be moving departments into the building and launching services in time for opening events beginning March 31,” said Anne Devaney, Campus Center director. She added that while not all departments and services may be moved in by then, there will be a week of grand opening events March 31 through April 3, including bands, an auction, electric bull riding, sumo wrestling, and even a chance to throw a pie at a cut-out of Vice Chancellor Keith Motley. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for April 2, and planning is under way for an opening gala fundraiser later that month, which will raise money for student scholarships.

Once all the offices are moved in, students will find services that include financial aid, admissions, registrar, bursar, student employment, the bookstore, career services, a food court with offerings of sushi, roll-ups, and Cappuccinos, a game room, ATMs, the student life offices, as well as the offices of the vice chancellors for student affairs and enrollment management. “This building has spaces where people can get together, hang out, study, explore, eat, talk, and meet with staff,” said Stephen Chaite, associate vice chancellor for administration and finance in charge of the project.

“The building is large, but it is extremely elegant,” added Chaite. (Cont. on page 4)
Psychology Researchers Find Sleep Shortage Takes Toll on Middle Schoolers’ Self-Esteem and Mental Health

By Anne-Marie Kent

Feelings of depression and low self-esteem plague children as they advance through middle school because they get increasingly less sleep, according to a new study completed by UMass Boston psychology professor Jean Rhodes, Ph.D., with colleagues Katia Fredriksen, Ranjini Reddy, and Niobe Way.

"Sleep clearly played a significant role in predicting depressive symptoms and self-esteem during adolescence," says Rhodes.

Their research is published in the journal Child Development in their January–February issue. Attempts to improve the health, quality of life, and academic careers of adolescents should consider the importance of a good night's sleep, she says. A grant from the Spencer Foundation supported the study.

"Elevated levels of depression and drops in self-esteem are seen as inevitable hallmarks of adolescence," says Rhodes. "Yet these results suggest that such changes are partially linked to a variable—sleep—that is largely under individual, parental, and even school control." Rhodes stresses that any attempt to improve the quality of life for adolescents and reduce their risk to a range of negative health, academic, and emotional outcomes should consider the importance of a good night's sleep.

The students were asked about the number of hours they slept each night and what grades they received in school. They also answered questionnaires designed to measure depressive symptoms and assess self-worth.

Rhodes and her colleagues found that students who slept fewer hours in the sixth grade had lower self-esteem, higher levels of depressive symptoms, and worse grades than students who got more sleep. During the three years of middle school, they also found a steady decline in the average hours of sleep, which apparently led to declines in self-esteem and grades, and a rise in depressive symptoms.

Girls had a harder time than boys in getting enough sleep, she says. They got more sleep than boys as they started middle school, possibly because girls enter puberty earlier, which creates a greater need for sleep. While levels of sleep dropped for both boys and girls over time, the decline was steeper for girls, Rhodes says.

On average, boys and girls went to bed at the same time. But girls woke up earlier, which other researchers have attributed to longer morning grooming times or a greater burden of household chores compared to boys.

This study has important implications for research and policy, says Rhodes.

The research has received widespread coverage in mainstream media, including NPR's "All Things Considered," the New York Times, ABCNews.com, the Boston Herald, and Scripps Howard News Service.

Chancellor Named One of the Family

Who do you think of when you visualize the movers and shakers of Boston? UMass Boston Chancellor Jo Ann Gora has made the ranks of the area's leaders and personalities in a new book, All One Family, which features the photography of Bill Brett and highlights people who have made significant contributions to Boston. She was recently photographed for the coffee-table book, due out in stores this summer, in familiar spots around the city, including the catwalk and the new Campus Center. Others profiled in the book include college presidents, the last three Mayors, directors of museums, and others who help to make Boston what it is today.

New Trustee Vows to Bring Student Voice to the Table

By Leigh DuPuy

Jamal Brathwaite is UMass Boston's newest student trustee, ready to volunteer bold ideas on behalf of his peers. "UMass Boston students have gone without a voice at the Board of Trustees for too long," says Brathwaite, who was appointed to the post after a previous student trustee did not attend meetings. "I will be that voice."

So, what will he be bringing to the table at the next board meeting? "I really want to work with the board to improve UMass Boston's ability to provide students with high-quality higher education, as well as to create more of a student culture," says Brathwaite. "I'd like to see UMass Boston offer more of a social outlet, which would help create more of a student culture and work with administration to implement systems that more efficiently cater to the needs of our unique student body. The Campus Center is a great start to fostering this change."

His goals include working with the university to secure a bigger portion of public expenditures devoted to UMass Boston, increasing library hours, and lobbying for dorms. He talks of creating a student-nominated teaching award as a way to reward excellent faculty members and suggests implementing a ten-year plan for UMass Boston to ascend to second-tier rankings, a must, Brathwaite says, "for the only public university in the intellectual capital of the world, Boston."

In addition to attending Board of Trustee meetings, Brathwaite will serve on four standing committees for academic and student affairs; administration, finance, and audit; athletics; and development.

Brathwaite's energy and activism are constants in a schedule that includes full-time commitments to school and work. Working 40 hours a week as a legal assistant to Putnam Investments, he is also a graduating senior pursuing a major in economics and political science.

This kind of juggling is nothing new to Brathwaite. He has served in teaching, research, and resident advising capacities for the W.E.B. Du Bois Institutes at Harvard and Princeton Universities, the John F. Kennedy School of Government and the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). He has also devoted time as the founder of Boston Community Initiatives, tutoring economics at UMass Boston, and helping to implement the Dorchester High School Dental Clinic Program in collaboration with the Codman Square Health Center, to name just a few of his activities.

Brathwaite's personal aspirations include becoming an economic policymaker in the public and private sectors, a career he is sure to pursue upon graduation in August 2004.
Ecosystems (cont.)

of all the plant matter that grows on land and in the oceans over the course of a whole year," he says.

The study, which appeared in the November issue of Climatic Change, is a way of quantifying the unsustainability of society's energy-use patterns in the face of consumer indifference to the problem. "Fossil fuel has accumulated for millions of years, but we are clearly running through it quite fast," Dukes says. Seoboting conclusions all—with dire implications for our long-term survival. But Dukes has no desire to be alarmist; he is content if his work prompts humans to do what they do better than any other species. "I'm hoping that it will make people think," he says.

Duke's future world of right-thinking people will have an energy mosaic that includes wind and solar power, as well as fuels harvested from the earth's current plant matter. But however energy needs are met, it must be with an eye toward the welfare of the entire planet. "By minimizing energy demands and carefully selecting energy-capture and -generation technologies, we can limit human impact on other species," he predicts.

A desirable outcome, to be sure. For if the species Homo sapiens ever does learn to curb its fondness for wretched excess, it may find it live quite comfortably in its own atmosphere after all.
New Center for Media and Society at UMass Boston

By Ed Hayward

The New Center on Media and Society has been added to the research and policy lineup at the John W. McCormick Graduate School of Policy Studies to link UMass Boston to the world of media and communications practice.

Approved in January, the center is directed by Ellen Hume, a former White House correspondent for the Wall Street Journal who is now a senior research fellow teaching media analysis at UMass Boston. Hume has already planned an April 7 conference on campus featuring ABC News commentator George Stephanopoulos and a round-table on ethnic and community news media in Boston.

“We needed a way to build a bridge between the academic community and the world of professional journalism and communication,” said Hume, a former executive director of the Shorefront Center on the Press at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. “For starters, the center will provide access and the tools our students need to understand the role of the news media.”

Hume said the focus of the center will include programs and research for the audiences and producers of print and electronic media. Hume and American Studies Professor Mark Schlesinger are also reviewing the possibility of developing a Media and Communication Studies major with a focus on similar issues of theory and practice.

The center begins its work by focusing on two themes: news media and political power, and ethnic and community journalism.

The Center for Media and Society and the McCormick Graduate School will kick off their new partnership with the April 7 conference “Dangerous Intersection: Where Media and Politics Collide.” The program, underwritten by FleetBoston Financial, begins with keynote speaker Stephanopoulos, a former White House media advisor. The day-long series of seminars also features a discussion on emerging trends in ethnic journalism in America, and the release of a poll on the Massachusetts voter’s news consumption and political attitudes.

The conference fits with the unique contributions Hume hopes the center can make to the community at large, not only locally but nationally and internationally.

“We hope that the conversations that need to be held among politicians, citizens, academics, and journalists about standards, ethics, and impacts of the news can be held here on a neutral ground of the university,” Hume said.

Hume has created a partnership with Harvard University’s Nieman Program for journalists to produce a special daily student newspaper, The Boston Beez, during the Democratic Convention in Boston from July 26 to 29. The UMass Boston-Harvard newspaper project will focus on the media’s role at the convention, along with other political news. Nieman official Seth Effron, assisted by Hume and an associated newspaper columnist David Nyhan, will edit the newspaper, which will be distributed free to the participants at the convention.

“It will be a real boot camp for student journalists. We teach about theories and case studies in the classroom, but I also want interested students to get a taste of the challenges of daily journalism,” said Hume.

There are openings left for the project, Hume said. Students interested in applying should send a resume, writing sample, and letter of interest by April 26 to Ellen Hume, Room 6-086, Wheatley Hall.

Anti-Violence Activist Wins Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leadership

Local anti-violence advocate Isaura Mendes will be honored for her work fighting for peace at the Robert H. Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leadership. She is seen here with photographs of those who have been victims of violence.

By Leigh DePuy

As Boston officials fear a sharp rise in the number of recent homicides signals a new level of street violence, UMass Boston will honor a woman who is dedicated to teaching children about peace and counseling those who have lost family members.

For her community activism in Dorchester and Roxbury, Isaura Mendes, a mother, grandmother, and anti-violence leader, will receive the 2004 Robert H. Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leadership.

“I want to reach out to survivors who have lost family or have had children who are victims of violence,” says Mendes in describing her mission. She knows how this feels firsthand, having lost her son in 1995 to street violence.

Frustrated and angry by his senseless death, she turned to activism, working with other community leaders to hold the First Annual Parents’ and Children’s Walk for Peace in July 2000, attracting 300 marchers in its inaugural year. The annual march is now in its fifth year.

Shannon Flaherty, a colleague who nominated Mendes for the award, describes her as a “tireless leader in the fight against violence in the Dorchester and Roxbury neighborhoods.” A list of her achievements includes work co-organizing the Groom/Humphrey’s Resident’s Organization, which received one of the top Crime Watches award by the City of Boston, completion of the Police Academy’s Resident’s Training Program, and working closely with the Louis D. Rice Institute, an organization that visits families who have lost loved ones. With the help of the Casey Foundations’ Family Strengthening Small Grants Fund, Mendes has also helped establish the Bobby Mendes Peace Legacy.

For her many projects, Mendes received the 2002 Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus “Profile of Courage” Award.

Mendes, who immigrated from Cape Verde when she was fifteen, has lived in Upham’s Corner for 37 years. Though she struggles to define why the neighborhood changed, she identifies violence as fueling such changes. “The kids grow up and get into trouble,” Mendes says. “We have so much murder in the community like we never did before.”

The mother of four and a grandmother to six, Mendes knows children and believes in the importance of talking to them about violence and peace. Reckoning positive behavior, she takes the neighborhood children out when they get good grades on report cards. “If they earn A’s and B’s, I take them to the diner or to the movies,” says Mendes.

Education is clearly important to Mendes, who balances her activism with pursuing her own education through a literacy program at The Little House in Dorchester.

This is the eighteenth year the university has given the award to an individual who has displayed exemplary community service. The spirit of the award is modeled after Robert H. Quinn and his commitment to higher education and the community. As a member of the House of Representatives, Quinn co-sponsored the legislation that created UMass Boston and has worked for over 38 years to make higher education available to all the citizens of Boston. The breakfast will be held at the university on March 16.

Staff Scoops for Social

The numbers speak for themselves, as the old saying goes. Approximately 200 to 300 UMass Boston employees took a break from their daily work to enjoy the 6th Annual Ice Cream Social, held on February 5 in the Clark Athletic Center. Served by their colleagues, employees finished off 30 gallons of ice cream, 30 cases of root beer, and toppings that ran the gamut from cherries to nuts, Oreos, M&Ms, hot fudge and caramel. On hand to scoop the Hood ice cream were Chancellor Jo Ann Gora; Clare Forier, director of personnel services; Carol DeSouza, ADA compliance officer; Keith Moore, vice chancellor for student affairs; and Mark Preble, interim director of human resources. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Campus Center (cont.)

“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 bi- and primary colors.

In addition to its usual 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.

The first new building on campus since 1982, it will provide a dramatic gateway to the campus. Designed by Boston architects Kallmann, McKinnell and Wood and constructed by Suffolk Construction, the building offers a welcome contrast to the red brick and cinder-block construction found in other campus buildings. In the new building, floors are carpeted in muted shades of sage and tan and walls are light, with many windows to let in light and expose views of the cityscape and ocean. 4 • The University Reporter
A Recognition of Scholarship: Professor Joins Intellectual Greats

By Melissa Fassell

What do Albert Einstein, John Dewey, Margaret Mead, Jean Piaget, and UMass Boston Distinguished Professor Donald Macedo have in common? They are all recipients of one of the most prestigious awards in education—selection for membership in the Laureate Chapter of the Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.

Kappa Delta Pi is a community of diverse scholars dedicated to recognizing scholarship and excellence in education, promoting the development and dissemination of educational ideas and practices, enhancing the continuous professional growth and leadership of its membership, fostering inquiry and reflection on significant educational issues, and maintaining a high degree of professional fellowship.

This international award recognizes the Applied Linguistics Graduate Program Director's long list of scholarly contributions and the influence of his work in the United States and around the world. Macedo's work has been published not only in English but Cape Verdean, Greek, Portuguese, and Spanish. He has co-written a number of books and articles with influential world-renowned thinkers like Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, and Paolo Freire. Macedo is known as the leading Freirean scholar.

"I am honored to be the recipient of such an important award, especially since it will serve as an additional opportunity of reaching out to educators about the importance of critical literacy and education for social justice," says Macedo.

According to Macedo, contrary to popular belief and dominant ideology, schools do not always serve the best interests of their students. Combined with media and other social institutions, he believes educational institutions often stifle critical thinking by creating a pretext of equality and perpetuating ignorance through what Macedo refers to as a process of "stupidification" or forced submission of the mind.

Joe Kincheloe, author of the soon-to-be-released Critical Pedagogy Primer, describes Macedo as a key founder in the study of critical literacy: "a central figure in critical pedagogy who has played a principal role in constructing a literacy of power for use in critical pedagogy."

Macedo recently co-edited a book with Howard Zinn, author of A People's History of the United States, to be published late this summer, which examines what the editors consider to be the present-day educator's dilemma of teaching the virtues of democracy within a society that they term a "hypocrisy that enables the manufacturing of consent for unjust and illegal actions in today's world."

Never an "easy A" professor, Macedo's students regard him with a mix of respect and veneration. Practicing what he preaches, Macedo empowers his students with an emancipatory literacy, teaching them to make sense of their position in society while learning to deal with many ways of seeing and being that are not their own. It is his hope that they will recognize the power of literacy, acknowledging it in their own educational and social practices.

Macedo holds a B.A. in Spanish from UMass Boston, an M.A. in Spanish Literature from New York University, an Ed.D. in Applied Psycholinguistics from Boston University, and a Ph.D. in Language Behavior from Boston University. In addition to his work at UMass Boston, he has taught at Cornell University, Boston University, Rhode Island College, Eastern Nazarene College, and Harvard University.

Changing Lives Through Literature Program Receives Excellence Award

Taylor Stoehr, professor of English, has worked with the Changing Lives Through Literature program at the Dorchester District Court for ten years. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Anne-Marie Kent

For the past ten years, UMass Boston English professor Taylor Stoehr has worked with other college professors, probation officers, judges, and people from the local community in the Changing Lives Through Literature program at Dorchester District Court. Designed to engender a new sense of purpose in the lives of probationers, the program offers small, supportive groups of participants innovative explorations of ideas using carefully chosen texts.

As a volunteer, Professor Stoehr has seen firsthand the value of the program, which received new recognition last month when the New England Board of Higher Education awarded Changing Lives Through Literature its annual award for excellence. Last year, the program received an Innovation in Education grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a website and training materials to expand its reach.

The program was founded in 1991 by UMass Dartmouth Professor Robert Waxler and Judge Robert Kane. By the summer of 1993, forty men had completed the course, with recidivism rates half of what would be expected. The Dorchester program was founded in 1994 by Presiding Justice Sydney Hanlon, along with Probation Officers Deirdre Kennedy, Teresa Owens, John Christopher, John Owens, and James "Bobby" Spencer, as well as Professors Brian Murphy and Taylor Stoehr. Stoehr's group currently uses Frederick Douglass's Narrative of the Life of an American Slave along with other supplementary texts.

Stoehr says that the crucial discoveries come during the intense conversations the readings provoke each week, the back-and-forth that goes on in small group discussions. "Students profit most of all from the simple act of coming together to talk about their own plight as citizens judged lacking in the virtues that give society its coherence and stability. Struggling to understand what the world offers, demands, owes, or withholds from them, and sharing their opinions with growing respect for other voices and views, they can learn to take themselves seriously in a new way. If they do, their lives will have changed," says Stoehr.

The students themselves confirm the value of the program. Says one spring 2002 student, "It seems like before I came to this program I was going numb. I can't remember the last time I picked up a book to read it or even skim through it. I also have a better relationship with my girlfriend. I try to think about other people's feelings now. It just isn't about me anymore." His classmate adds, "The most important thing that I've learned is that I really can learn. All these years I've been thinking that I could not read or write."

Seen Around Campus...

Harbor Art Gallery Shows Off "Props"

Michelle Fournier, handmade clothing designer from abandoned industrialists, Bill Frangisco, architect from the firm Streakowski Hoyt and Raymond, and Rhonda Hergert, professional photographer, celebrate the opening of their exhibit "honey, you can't keep the props," which highlights their handiwork and is now showing at the Harbor Art Gallery.

Musicians Eager to Play for WUMB

On February 5, Peter Tork (right), former member of the Monkees, visited WUMB Radio to play a live guitar session with James Lee Stanley and interview with radio announcer Marilyn Rea Byers (center). Earlier, famed folk artist Richie Havens came to the studio to perform. "They know it's a great way to reach folk fans," said Brian Quinn, program director, of the many musicians who want to play at the station. "More than 80,000 listeners tune in to 91.9 FM via the radio and the Internet per week."

Photos by Harry Brett
Elsa Auerbach, professor of
CONFERENCES, AND
leagues the chapter "The Logic of
and Language Learning,
CAMPUS
awareness to Massachusetts state
Technological Education Connec­
Institute for Community Inclusion,
presented" Accessible Web Design:
at the Boston Area Advanced
formed Services University of the
College of Nursing and Health
In February, doctoral students
Education's Leadership in Urban
Paiewonsky
at Somerville High
High
What I Mean : Preparing to Leave
In February,
Southeast Asian Americans in K-12
delivered the address "Asian
American
Chair for Multicultural
Polytechnic
University,Michi
Annual Mexico/
Paso,
Jean
Benoit Duteurte,
professor of
modern languages, is leading a
foreign-language bookstore in
Gretchen Umholtz, lecturer in the
Classics Department, presented the
paper "Left-Wing
Exceptionalism in
films and
Paul Sartre,
American studies, presented
a book written by
Spencer
Tang, assistant professor of
Italian in
Peking University.

Elina Varney of the Institute for
Community Inclusion discussed
how to improve services for job
seekers with disabilities at One­Stop Career Centers in Michigan
and Maryland.

The Institute for Community Inclusion's Jason Wheeler
and Paula Sonnick presented
a workshop at the National Service­
Learning Conference on the
experiences of youth with disabili­
ties in service-learning.
On February 11, Robert Werner,
chair of the International Relations
track in the Master of Science in
the Public Affairs program,
participated in the panel "Air
Travel Security and International
Relations." On February 7, more than
people attended the Give Us Your
Poor Project of the Center for Social Policy's forum "Out of the Box: A Community Action Forum to End Homelessness in Greater Boston," held at UMass Boston.

Ellen Varney of the Institute for
Community Inclusion discusses
how to improve services for job
seekers with disabilities at One­Stop Career Centers in Michigan
and Maryland.

The Institute for Community Inclusion's Jason Wheeler
and Paula Sonnick presented
a workshop at the National Service­
Learning Conference on the
experiences of youth with disabili­
ties in service-learning.
On February 11, Robert Werner,
chair of the International Relations
track in the Master of Science in
Public Affairs program,
participated in the panel "Air
Travel Security and International
Relations." On February 7, more than
people attended the Give Us Your
Poor Project of the Center for Social Policy's forum "Out of the Box: A Community Action Forum to End Homelessness in Greater Boston," held at UMass Boston.

PUBLICATIONS
James Bierstaker of the Accounting and Finance Department published the coauthored article "Highlights of Auditing Approachs" in The Auditor's Report.
Francoise Carre, research director for the Center for Social Policy, published a book review of Temporary Work: The Gendered
Rise of a Precarious Employment Relationship in the journal Relations Industrielles/Industrial Relations.

A third edition of Italy: From
Revolution to Republic. 1700 to
Present, a book written by Spencer D'Arcy of the History Department, has been published by Westview Press.
Winston Dripps, assistant professor in the Department of Earth and Geographic Sciences, coauthored the chapter "Groundwater Issues
in Water: Science, Policy, and Management: Water Resources Monograph.
Jacqueline Fawcett, professor in the Management Science and Information Systems Department, published the article "A Longitudinal Examination of Web Technology Adoption and Implementation among Small and Micro-Sized Businesses" in the Journal of Entrepreneurship.

Asokal Meckynzuk, director of the Creative Writing Program, has published an excerpt from his new novel in Irish Fages and has had another section accepted for publication in the Antich Review's summer fiction issue.


Sathasivam Mathiyalakan, assistant professor in the Management Science and Information Systems Department, published the article "A Longitudinal Examination of Web Technology Adoption and Implementation among Small and Micro-Sized Businesses" in the Journal of Entrepreneurship.

Asokal Meckynzuk, director of the Creative Writing Program, has published an excerpt from his new novel in Irish Fages and has had another section accepted for publication in the Antich Review's summer fiction issue.


Sathasivam Mathiyalakan, assistant professor in the Management Science and Information Systems Department, published the article "A Longitudinal Examination of Web Technology Adoption and Implementation among Small and Micro-Sized Businesses" in the Journal of Entrepreneurship.

Asokal Meckynzuk, director of the Creative Writing Program, has published an excerpt from his new novel in Irish Fages and has had another section accepted for publication in the Antich Review's summer fiction issue.


Sathasivam Mathiyalakan, assistant professor in the Management Science and Information Systems Department, published the article "A Longitudinal Examination of Web Technology Adoption and Implementation among Small and Micro-Sized Businesses" in the Journal of Entrepreneurship.

Asokal Meckynzuk, director of the Creative Writing Program, has published an excerpt from his new novel in Irish Fages and has had another section accepted for publication in the Antich Review's summer fiction issue.


University Opens Environmental Citizenship Academy

By Jack Wiggins

Residents from all over Boston are learning new approaches to improving the environmental quality of their neighborhoods by attending the Environmental Citizenship Academy (ECA) at UMass Boston. The ECA completed a successful pilot session this past fall and is currently registering participants for the spring session of seminars, workshops, and field studies designed to prepare citizens to better understand and address ecosystem and human health problems associated with the urban environment.

The goal of the ECA is to increase citizen participation in urban environmental issues. The academy's approach stresses the importance of each citizen's everyday experience and local knowledge as the basis for environmental action. The curriculum covers ecosystem science, urban development, environmental laws and governance, and the techniques for influencing policy and solving environmental problems through collaborative efforts at the community level. Through lectures, interactive problem-solving exercises, and site visits, students gain the knowledge and skills needed to protect natural resources and improve the environmental quality of their communities.

The academy draws upon the considerable environmental expertise found throughout the university. UMass Boston faculty, staff, and students are involved in designing, administering, and teaching the Academy's program. Collaborators include Bill Robinson of the Environmental, Coastal and Ocean Sciences Department, Rob Beattie from the Environmental Sciences Program, Jack Wiggins of the Urban Harbors Institute, and Nancy Wong, a graduate student in the Sociology Department who serves as the academy's coordinator. Alice Ingerson, a cultural anthropologist, is a key partner and strategist from outside the university. The ECA also draws upon several area nonprofit advocacy groups, government agencies, and private firms to ensure the students receive broad "real world" perspectives.

The ECA is supported by a grant from an area foundation which allows Boston-area residents to participate tuition-free. The Environmental Citizenship Academy was initiated by and is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Bette Woody, a longtime UMass Boston faculty member and community activist.

Donna Haig Friedman, director of the Center for Social Policy, participated in a panel on homelessness that was broadcast live on WMBR-FM on February 12.

Carol Hardy-Fanta, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, was quoted by the Boston Globe on February 1 on Charlestown resistance to a proposed Homeland Security detention center.

David Howard, an undergraduate honors student, was quoted in the Boston Globe on February 8 about his ability to leverage a 2003 internship with the Massachusetts Democratic Party into a paid position.

Harriet Tubman: Her Life and Her Life Stories by Jean Hamer, director of the Women's Studies Program, was featured in the Baltimore Sun on January 26, the Boston Globe on February 5, and the New York Times Book Review on February 15.

John McGah, senior research associate at the Center for Social Policy, spoke about the recent activities of the Give Us Your Poor: Homelessness and the United States project for a January 12 article in Banker & Tradesman. He also participated on the project's February 7 community action forum on WBZ Radio.

Sherry Penney, professor of leadership at the College of Management, participated in a new TV program, "Ready for College," produced by the Higher Education Information Center through the Boston Neighborhood Network.

Marc Prou, assistant professor of Africana Studies, was quoted in the New York Times on January 30 on Haiti's embattled political situation. He was also interviewed by WHDH-TV's "Urban Update" to discuss the significance of the Haitian Bicentennial Celebration on January 1.

Research by Jean Rhodes and Katia Frederiksen of the Psychology Department linking self-esteem to the deep patterns of middle-school children was reported by NPR's "All Things Considered" on February 4.

Lisa LaPuh was appointed the new director of the Dance Program. LaPuh earned her B.A. from UMass Boston and an M.E.A. from the Boston Conservatory. She is also the artistic director of the Cambridge Chamber Ballet.

Joe Marrone of the Institute for Community Inclusion was appointed a member of the National Alliance on Secondary Education and Transition's national panel.

Liz LaPuh was appointed the new director of the Dance Program. LaPuh earned her B.A. from UMass Boston and an M.E.A. from the Boston Conservatory. She is also the artistic director of the Cambridge Chamber Ballet.

Debra Hart of the Institute for Community Inclusion was appointed a member of the National Alliance on Secondary Education and Transition's national panel.

Caroline Coscia of the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy was hired by the Boston Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to conduct a community profile of breast cancer incidence and treatment options in Massachusetts.

In March, Sherry Penney, professor of leadership in the College of Management, visited the National University of Ireland Maynooth campus as part of an evaluation/quality review visit. Previously, Penney has chaired sixteen regional accreditation teams in the U.S.

Edic Mas, a doctoral student in the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy, successfully defended her dissertation "Why Are the Roots and Potential of Precariously Environment-Mental Action in Three Vermont Watersheds."

Walter Martinez and Jeffrey Morgan, two political science majors and honor students, had their proposals accepted for presentation of their honors-thesis research at the Undergraduate Research Conference in April.
TUESDAY 20
Chemistry Seminar: Fascinating Adventures in the Progress of a Drug from Concept to Commercialization 4:30 p.m., Science Center, Chemistry Conference Room, 1st fl. Feat. featuring Mokund S. Chughrade of Pharmaca, Inc. Contact: 7-6130.

MCCORMACK Graduate School of Policy Studies Lecture Public: Globalizing Culture: Multicultural Cities and the Future of Racism 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Healey Library, University Club, 11th fl. Feat. Michael Keith, director of the Centre for Urban and Community Research, Goldsmith College, University of London. Keith is the 2007 Robert C. Wood Visiting Professor in Public and University Affairs. Contact: 7-5533.

TUESDAY 24
Joiner Center Spring 2004 Film Series: No Man's Land 2:30 p.m., Healey Library, Media Auditorium, lower level. Part of "Images of War - A Series of International Films from Algeria to Vietnam." Contact: 7-7380 or andrew.wight@umb.edu.

MARCH
Student Affairs Campus Center Opening Events: Breakfast 8:45 - 9:45 a.m., Campus Center, Alumni Cafe. Join the Yahs and start your school day off right! Contact: 7-7590.

Student Affairs Campus Center Opening Events: Raise Your Voice Campaign 12:30 - 5:30 p.m., Campus Center, University Dining Cafeteria. Exercise your civil rights and participate in the Itc web and student government election. Contact: 7-7590.

Student Affairs Campus Center Opening Events: Hypnotist in the Ballroom 12:30 - 6:00 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom. Come be entertained! Contact: 7-7590.

MISCELLANEOUS

Beacon Fitness Center Beacon Fitness Center - University of Massachusetts, Waltham. Holds open houses through equipment purchase, racquetball, and squash court availability charts. For schedule, see www.umbwellness.org or call 7-7600.

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 web site at umbwellness.org for the most up-to-date program information. Contact: 7-7381 or andrew.wight@umb.edu.

WUMB 91.9 FM Commonwealth Journal Sundays, 7:00 p.m. Interviews with scholars, writers, and public officials discussing current issues of interest to the people of Massachusetts. Contact: 7-6900.

TUESDAY 23

MCCORMACK Graduate School of Policy Studies Lecture Public: Globalizing Culture: Multicultural Cities and the Future of Racism 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Healey Library, University Club, 11th fl. Feat. Michael Keith, director of the Centre for Urban and Community Research, Goldsmith College, University of London. Keith is the 2007 Robert C. Wood Visiting Professor in Public and University Affairs. Contact: 7-5533.

TUESDAY 24
Joiner Center Spring 2004 Film Series: No Man's Land 2:30 p.m., Healey Library, Media Auditorium, lower level. Part of "Images of War - A Series of International Films from Algeria to Vietnam." Contact: 7-7380 or andrew.wight@umb.edu.

MARCH
Student Affairs Campus Center Opening Events: Breakfast 8:45 - 9:45 a.m., Campus Center, Alumni Cafe. Join the Yahs and start your school day off right! Contact: 7-7590.

Student Affairs Campus Center Opening Events: Raise Your Voice Campaign 12:30 - 5:30 p.m., Campus Center, University Dining Cafeteria. Exercise your civil rights and participate in the Itc web and student government election. Contact: 7-7590.

Student Affairs Campus Center Opening Events: Hypnotist in the Ballroom 12:30 - 6:00 p.m., Campus Center, Ballroom. Come be entertained! Contact: 7-7590.

MISCELLANEOUS

Beacon Fitness Center Beacon Fitness Center - University of Massachusetts, Waltham. Holds open houses through equipment purchase, racquetball, and squash court availability charts. For schedule, see www.umbwellness.org or call 7-7600.

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 web site at umbwellness.org for the most up-to-date program information. Contact: 7-7381 or andrew.wight@umb.edu.

WUMB 91.9 FM Commonwealth Journal Sundays, 7:00 p.m. Interviews with scholars, writers, and public officials discussing current issues of interest to the people of Massachusetts. Contact: 7-6900.