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University of Massachusetts Boston

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University of Massachusetts at Boston

Melissa Lewis Richter

Professor Melissa Lewis Richter, a pioneer in adult and continuing education and in the study of human genetics and hunger drives, died Thursday, November 28, of cancer, at her home in Providence, R.I. A native of Mount Vernon, N.Y., she was 54.

Dr. Richter, a leading educational administrator and physiologist, was Director of the Carnegie Corporation Project for Women in Higher Education, Women and Career Options at UMass-Boston. The project is a consortium of several colleges in this area. At the time of her death she was preparing a manuscript on comparative human behavior and sex differences.

In 1969 at Sarah Lawrence College she established the first program leading to the degree of Master in Medical Genetics. She also served as Dean of Graduate Studies and professor of psychology and biology there.

Dr. Richter also had taught or held research appointments at Duke University, Vassar College, and the University of Connecticut. Her scientific work was sponsored by the United States Public Health Service as well as the Jeremiah Milbank and Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundations.

During World War II, Melissa Richter worked as a riveter and welder in a machine plant, and in 1944 joined the Women's Army Corps, in which she served as a sargent, until 1946. She received her B. A. from Sarah Lawrence College in 1947; her M. A. from Duke University in 1951; and her Ph. D. from the University of Connecticut in 1959.

A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society of Human Genetics, the New York Academy of Science and the Radcliffe Institute, Dr. Richter was cited in 1973 by the March of Dimes National Foundation for her innovations in medical genetic information services.

Dr. Richter leaves her sister, Althea Lewis Ewald and her brother, Roswell Lewis.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 21 at 11:00 a. m., Manning Chapel, Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. In lieu of flowers please send memorial contributions to: Melissa Richter Fund, Box 1931, Brown University, Providence, R.I. 02912.

Chancellor Golino and the University Community profoundly regret her death and extend our sympathy to Dr. Richter's family.

United Way

The UMass-Boston community has made donations or pledges for the United Way that have reached the highest amount in the University's 10 year history.

United Way campus chairman William R. Hamilton Jr. has expressed his sincere thanks to all the donors from departments throughout the University.

Hamilton was especially appreciative of the assistance given by campaign vice chairmen Provost Robert Spaethling, Vice Chancellor LeVester Tubbs, and Thor Olson, Director, Administration and Finance.

Special thanks also were given to Group Leaders Anne Verret, Helen Kirby, Elizabeth Marotta, Mary Ungerman, William Bailey, Jeanne Sullivan, Lisa Buckler, Judith Emme, Daniel Cooper, Maryanne O'Brien, and Loretta MacDonald.

The total amount: \$7,737! This is a 28-percent increase over a year ago. And, if there are still cards outstanding in departments, kindly send them to Robert Brady at Vice Chancellor Hamilton's Office, Administration Building.

Criminology Speakers

Two members of the Department of Sociology, College I, presented papers at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology held in Chicago last month. Professor Siamak Movahedi presented a paper titled "Experimental Artifacts in Criminological Research" and Professor Gerald R. Garrett co-authored a paper with former UMass-Boston student, Ms. Constance M. Breece entitled "Women in Policing: Changing Perspectives on the Role."

Political Economy Panelists

Three members of the Department of Political Economy, College II will be attending the Allied Social Science Association meetings in San Francisco between Christmas and January.

Professor Laurence Shute will be presenting a paper entitled "Institutionalism and Marxism" in a session entitled "Alternative Types of Economic Theory." The session is sponsored by the Union for Radical Political Economy. Professor Shute is in his first year at UMass-Boston.

Professor Raymond Torto will be presenting a paper on the "Strategies of Monetary Policy" in a session sponsored by the Econometric Society. Professor Torto is the Chairman of the Department of Political Economy, College II.

Professor Harold Wolozin will be a discussant in a session entitled "Private and Public Planning in the Automobile Industry." This session is sponsored by the Association for Evolutionary Economics.

Foreign Language Consultant

Dr. Rodney E. Harris (French, College II) has returned from Denver, Colorado, where he was consultant on Francophone literature at the meeting of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. His textbook was the basic text used for the French African Section of this meeting.

Fire Chiefs Symposium

Fire Chiefs from across Massachusetts will attend a one-day educational symposium on Friday, December 13 at the Harbor Campus.

Among the topics under discussion at the Conference will be:

- Availability of federal funding for local fire departments;
- New techniques for mutual aid in the fire service;
- Uniform fire incident and on-the-scene investigation systems;
- Binding arbitration;
- Equal employment opportunity (N. A. A. C. P. v Beecher).

Following the opening remarks of the State Fire Marshal, Joseph Sneider, the Fire Chiefs will hear Dr. Joseph Clark who currently serves as the Acting Administrator of the newly created National Fire Prevention and Control Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. This new agency is mandated by the "Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974" which was signed into law by President Ford earlier this month.

Conference participants will receive, for the first time, copies of the U.S. Department of Labor regulations for firefighters subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act. Representatives from the Regional Wage and Hour Division Office of the Labor Department will be available to answer questions concerning the potentially significant impact these regulations will have on local fire department manpower staffing requirements.

The symposium is sponsored by the Institute for Governmental Services, directed by Maurice Donahue. The symposium coordinator is James Samels.

Campus Guides

If your Department is having guests or groups on campus for meetings, and you need copies of the Campus Guide, please call the Public Relations Office at Ext. 2345.

Campus Police Promotions

Four campus police officers have won promotions to the grade of Sargent after evaluations were made by a Board of Review. Congratulations are in order for Dennis Ahern, Edward Cox, Julius Hayes, and Paul Maloney.

Institutional Economics

Professor Harold Wolozin in the Department of Political Economy of College II has been invited to participate in the preparation of a book of essays in honor of Professor K. William Kapp, who is retiring from the University of Basel. Professor Kapp was the only Professor at the University who taught economics from an institutional perspective which is a perspective of the department of Political Economy here at UMass-Boston. The book will provide a fundamental contribution to the much neglected field of institutional economics and deal particularly with such problems as the "integration of social science method, and history of economic thought", "social cause and disruption of environment" and "problems of underdeveloped countries." Professor Wolozin will be writing an essay on institutional economics and the image of man.

Science and Sociology Meetings

The Department of Chemistry sponsored a seminar on Organic Derivatives of Cobalt Rhodium and Iridium by Marvin D. Rausch Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, last week. Synthetic, spectral, structural, and bonding implications in certain of these systems were discussed.

William Heronemus, Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, an international authority on the use of solar and wind power spoke here last week on "Energy Alternatives -- the Need and the Possibilities". This colloquia on Environment, Energy and natural resources was sponsored by Professor David Jhirad, Department of Physics, UMass-Boston.

The College I and II Sociology Departments co-sponsored a colloquium yesterday by Dr. Alvin Poussaint, Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Poussaint spoke on "Self-Concept in Black Youth" in the College II Faculty lounge.

Day Care

The Day Care Policy Advisory Board is seeking nominations from faculty and staff for membership on the Board. If you are interested, send your name and campus affiliation to the Day Care Center, College I lounge by December 13th. If you have any questions, call Ext. 2446.

Admissions Open House

Between 400 and 500 school principals, guidance counselors and teachers will be on campus tomorrow (Wednesday) for the Open House sponsored by the Admissions Office. Faculty are invited to participate to talk with these educators about UMass-Boston academic programs.

Red Letter Day

This box score is a historic first for UMass-Boston, our first win in basketball.

UMass-Boston Runs Over Emerson, 89-62

Freshmen Marshall Cooper and Michael Mitchell collected 14 and 12 points respectively last night as UMass-Boston cruised past Emerson, 89-62, at Browne & Nichols gym, Cambridge.

Emerson's Connie Smith led all scorers with 17 points.

UMASS (89)		EMERSON (62)	
Loud	1	Hitt	1
Beatty	3	Powell	1
Kean	0	Fox	0
McManus	1	Johnson	1
Baumer	5	Smith	6
Mohila	2	Paltheal	4
Hartfield	1	Richard	1
Taylor	4	BiW	2
Debutis	2		
Cooper	6		
Stoddard	1		
Mitchell	5		
Jones	3		
Totals	34	Totals	19