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## **The UMass/Boston Friday Report #5**

*News and information about and for  
the Community from the Chancellor's Office*

November 22, 1991

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**Better Jobs for Hospital Workers** -- The Labor Studies Program recently received a \$270,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to evaluate an experimental project that places workers from nine hospitals throughout the state in educational courses and internships designed to prepare them for better-paying careers in the health care field. This initiative, known as the Worker Education Program, was begun in 1990 by leaders from two local labor unions, the Massachusetts Division of Medical Security and the Labor Studies Program. The participating hospitals include Boston City, Burbank (Fitchburg), Cape Cod, Falmouth, Framingham Union, Hale (Haverhill), Hillcrest (Pittsfield), Jordan (Plymouth) and North Adams Regional. Hospital workers take courses in basic college-preparatory skills and medical terminology, and receive training for careers as X-ray technicians. According to **Andres Torres**, Labor Studies research director, the evaluation will determine if the program works and can be replicated elsewhere. "Before we can recommend it," he says, "we must be certain that this is an inherently valid project. We want it to succeed, not solely on the efforts of a few very committed people, but because it's a sensible, well-conceived plan."  
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**COMEC Campaign Underway** -- Chair **Harold Horton** of the 1991 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Employees Campaign (COMEC) on the campus would like to remind the University Community that the fund drive this year is focusing on increasing the number of contributions made. Says Horton: "Each year, the COMEC campaign raises funds for people in the Commonwealth who are truly in need. No contribution is too small." For more information on the campaign, call Horton at 7-5880.  
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**First Business Breakfast** -- **H. Jay Sarles**, president and chief executive officer of Fleet-Norstar Holding Company (it owns Fleet Bank, the former Bank of New England franchise) is the keynote speaker at UMass/Boston's First Annual Business Breakfast next Tuesday, November 26th, at the Colonnade Hotel. At the breakfast, alumnus **Alton J. Brann**, president and chief operating officer of Litton Industries, a Fortune 500 technology company in California, will receive the Chancellor's Medal for his distinguished career in business. Brann, who excelled in calculus and Russian language courses while earning a bachelor's degree in mathematics at the University in 1969, is among three business executives being honored. The others are **John W. Logue**, president and chief executive officer of the Carney Hospital, who will receive the College of Management's Advisory Board Award for Distinguished Service; and **Brian F. McNamee**, proprietor of an accounting firm, who will receive the College's Alumni Award for Distinguished Service. Faculty and staff wishing to buy tickets for the breakfast should call Frank Fletcher (7-5320) no later than Monday.  
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**Leadership Series Ends** -- **George M. Carlisle**, CEO of Scitex  
(Over)



## **Friday Report Cont'd**

American Corporation, became on Monday the final speaker in the College of Management's Leadership Series, organized by Boston Edison Chairman **Stephen J. Sweeney**, executive-in-residence at the College. According to Acting Dean **Daniel Shimshak**, those attending the talks and Q & A sessions held by the ten executives found them very interesting. Said Shimshak, "I am very excited that these ranking business leaders gave their time to come here and help us out and share with us their wisdom." Besides Carlisle and Sweeney, those who spoke to the students included **Dan Berkery**, CEO and general manager, WSBK-TV, Channel 38; **William Connell**, CEO of Connell Limited Partnership; **Gary Countryman**, CEO of Liberty Mutual Insurance; **James Coopersmith**, general manager of WCVB-TV; **Cathy Minihan**, first VP and COO, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; **E. James Morton**, CEO of John Hancock Insurance; **Paul O'Brien**, CEO of New England Telephone; and **Arnold D. Spenser**, CEO of Uno Restaurant Corporation.

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**Annual College Fair** -- On Thursday, November 14th, the Undergraduate Admissions Office held its eighth annual college fair for Boston public school students. More than 2,000 students attended the event at the Clark Athletic Center. Meetings were held with high school guidance counselors, who also sat in on courses conducted by the following professors: **Fred Danker**, American Studies; **Lucille Kaplan**, Anthropology; **Eric Strauss**, Biology; **Walter Weibrecht**, Chemistry; **George Smith** and **Robert Crossley** and **Duncan Nelson**, English; **Marshall Shatz**, History; **Guy Hogan**, Math/Computer Science; **David Patterson**, Music; **Martin Andic** and **Lawrence Blum**, Philosophy; **James Ward**, Political Science; **Patrick McNamara**, **Jill Rierdan** and **Dennis Byrnes**, Psychology; and **Alfred Hoelzel**, Modern Languages.

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**Biomedical Conference** -- The Center for Community Planning and the Labor Studies Program at CPCS are holding a forum at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26th, at the Downtown Center to explore the impact of biomedical developments on Boston communities. The forum, *Boston: A Biomedical Frontier, Hype or Hope?*, will present the results of a study which examines whether the growth in the biotechnology industry can revitalize neighborhoods and provide jobs.

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**Faculty & Staff Notes** -- Political Science Professor **Keitha S. Fine** was one of two North Americans attending an international conference on national minorities in Central and South East Europe that was held last week in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia. She spoke on *Ethnic Identity and Nation-State Formation: Comparative Perspectives*. While abroad, she also completed arrangements for another study trip for University students to Eastern Europe next June and July. • **Richard F. Delaney**, director of the Urban Harbors Institute, presented an overview of recent trends and issues affecting coastal communities and ports in the U.S. at an international workshop on the topic held at La Seyne-sur-Mer near Marseille, France. • **Burton Holmes** of the Division of Continuing Education reports that over 150 persons attended a conference November 9th at the campus on *Support for Families with Mentally Ill Members: Policy, Clinical, and Research Issues for the 1990s*. Sociology Professor **Paul R. Benson** helped to organize the meeting.