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# THE UNIVERSITY Reporter

Volume 13, Number 2

October 2008



## In Convocation Address, Chancellor Calls For Expanded Access to Higher Education

By DeWayne Lehman

Chancellor J. Keith Motley kicked off the 2008-2009 academic year with a convocation address that called for increased investment in public higher education, and challenged elected leaders and the university community to work toward expanding the role of public colleges and universities in addressing the challenges facing the nation. The chancellor's address led a day of convocation activities at the campus, including remarks by UMass President Jack Wilson and Massachusetts Secretary of Education Paul Reville, a cook-out for the university community on the front lawn of the Campus Center, and an evening community reception.

In his second convocation speech as chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Boston, Dr. Motley outlined the challenges and the important role of public research universities in a



*Even in difficult times, said Chancellor Motley, UMass Boston continues to make progress. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

statewide environment that often favors private higher education.

"We are facing a new frontier in the United States and in Mas-

sachusetts.... The challenges on our frontier have to do with global economic and technical competition, global warming,

crumbling physical infrastructure, fossil fuel scarcity, unprecedented diversity, increased  
*(continued on page 3)*

## Record-Setting Year for Grants and Sponsored Programs

By Jim Mortenson

Records are made to be broken, and once again the faculty, staff, and students of UMass Boston set a new record in FY 2008 for grant and sponsored program awards—\$45.4 million, an 8.77 percent increase from the previous year.

"I am so pleased that we have solidified and are continuing to enhance our reputation as a research university," said Chancellor J. Keith Motley. "Now, as I stated in my recent convocation address, we need to look at our various research projects, see who is working on what and how the cross-pollination of efforts can have a multiplier effect. That's the purpose of the new research clusters we have formed."

Motley went on to say how he believes that the soon-to-open Venture Development Center will  
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## Venture Development Center: An Engine for Innovation

By Geoffrey Kula

After six months of construction, the former cafeteria in Wheatley Hall is in the final stages of its transformation into the Venture Development Center, a collaborative and cross-disciplinary research space that will stimulate innovation among students and faculty, and help drive the Massachusetts economy.

The 18,000-square-foot facility, designed by Sasaki Associates, Inc., and built by J & J Contractors, Inc., is outfitted with four wet labs (two with fume hoods, and another two with the option of installing them at a later date), and two dry labs, as well as ten offices, which are expected to be licensed for 18- to 24-month periods. The Center will also feature space for conferences, presentations, and meetings. Two-thirds of the space will be dedicated to "non-hard sciences," and, in a throwback to its roots, the VDC will also house a coffee bar, around which Vice Provost for Research Richard



*VDC Director William Brah. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

Antonak hopes "A-ha!" moments will happen as researchers cross paths in what he envisions as "a home away from home for visionaries."

On the organizational side, the VDC will draw on the combined century-plus of business experience of its staff, including William Brah, assistant vice provost for research and executive direc-

tor; John Ciccarelli, associate vice chancellor for government relations, public affairs, and economic development; Susan Daudelin, director of industry relations; and Christine DePalma, program director. The team will help entrepreneurs who are looking to develop a business plan, get funding, and make the connections necessary to take an idea

from concept to reality. Furthermore, by facilitating partnerships between the university, private industry, state, local, and federal government agencies, as well as quasi-governmental institutions, the VDC will enhance the school's mission of forging stronger ties with the community, one of the cornerstones of the university's Strategic Plan. For Brah, increasing the cachet of the university to that of its peers across the river will, in his words, "extend the Red Line."

"We're trying to bring innovation to this side of town," he said, noting that he sees the VDC as a way to expand UMass Boston's reach not only in Greater Boston, but also across the state and around the globe. Students will also benefit: The VDC will link them to paid internships, sponsor a business plan competition each year, and provide mentorship from an entrepreneur-in-residence, Dan Phillips, who has funded a dozen UMass Boston  
*(continued on page 3)*

# MBA Students Learn About Global Economy in Kazakhstan

By Brian Middleton

Many Americans, if asked to play word association, would probably follow “Kazakhstan” with “Borat.” But this Central Asian nation of more than 15 million citizens, far from being the agrarian backwater portrayed in Sacha Baron Cohen’s 2006 mockumentary, is an emerging industrial and financial leader in its region, one of the world’s fastest-growing oil producers, and a target of more than \$40 billion in foreign investment in the past decade.

Kazakhstan’s impressive economic growth has brought both opportunities and challenges, making it a fertile environment for the study of international business. To that end, UMass Boston’s College of Management (CM) and Division of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education (CCDE) have collaborated to develop a new program, “Focus on Kazakhstan and Central Asia: International Perspectives on Business and Government,” that saw its first successful run this June. CM Director

of Graduate Programs William S. Koehler and CCDE International Programs Director Stanley Wanucha described the month-long program as even more successful than they had expected.

When asked why Kazakhstan was chosen as a study abroad destination for MBA students, Koehler offered several reasons, starting with the nation’s growing economic importance: “The recent developments in the country as far as exploitation of natural resources played a big role. With

oil at \$130 a barrel, Kazakhstan becomes more relevant than at \$30 a barrel.”

Another reason to study in Kazakhstan is its diversity. Koehler describes the republic as “one of the truly ethnically and religiously diverse countries outside Europe and North America.” Ethnic Kazakhs make up just under 60 percent of the population, with a smorgasbord of ethnic groups making up the remainder, including Russians, Ukrainians, Germans, and various Central

Asian peoples such as Uighurs and Uzbeks. This diversity is largely a product of the Soviet era, as Kazakhstan was a frequent destination for dissidents and ethnic minorities deported from European Russia by the Stalinist regime during the 1930s and 1940s.

The Kazakhstan program structure was similar in most respects to other CM/CCDE partner programs that have run successfully in China and India

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## Grants and Sponsored Programs *(cont. from page 1)*

play an integral role in bringing together multidisciplinary teams of faculty and research staff to obtain external grants and contracts. This approach is increasingly important, as federal sponsors such as the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) now often require multidisciplinary, and sometimes multi-institutional, approaches to conducting research.

Interim Provost Winston Langley echoes Motley’s approach: “We are on the cusp of challenging the traditional boundaries of thinking at institutions of higher education. The cross-pollination the chancellor espouses will be perhaps the most critical factor in shaping our identity and success as a research institution in the years ahead. Our students, especially our undergraduate students, have much to gain should we succeed.”

UMass Boston was awarded a \$7.7 million, five-year grant by the NIH to establish an exploratory center for health and health care disparities that is dedicated to community-based participatory research. UMass Boston, the Harvard School of Public Health, and Brigham and Women’s Hospital have partnered with Cherishing Our Hearts and Souls Coalition of Roxbury, Massachusetts, to conduct health disparities-related research projects; offer research training, with an emphasis on community-based participatory research, to faculty, students, and community stakeholders; and build a neighborhood-based infrastructure that can partner with academic institutions in Boston to research and implement best practices in community-based participatory research and



*Ron Etter (crouching) led a team of scientists and students on a research cruise to the western North Atlantic to collect samples from the deep sea. Left to right: Eric Pante, Rob Jennings, Carol Stuart, Boris Shoshitaishvili, George Hampson, Melinda Yang, John Zardus, Martine Wagstaff, David Lake, Beth Boyle, Mike Rex, and Steve Aubrey. (Photo by Stan Isabel)*

academic-community partnerships. Professor Celia Moore, Department of Psychology, is the project’s principal investigator, and faculty from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the College of Public and Community Service are contributing their research expertise.

Professor Ron Etter, Department of Biology, was awarded a \$592,000, three-year basic research grant from the NSF for his project “Evolution of Deep-Sea Molluscs.” Etter’s research will contribute significantly to answering the two most basic questions about evolutionary diversification in the vast deep-sea environment: Where does it occur? And how does it occur? It will also create a solid conceptual and methodological context for future evolutionary studies in the deep sea.

The NIH awarded Associate Professors Rachel Skvirsky and Adán Colón-Carmona, Depart-

ment of Biology, a \$1.4 million, four-year grant to enhance the academic and research experiences of underrepresented students at the undergraduate level, in order to increase the number pursuing doctoral study in biomedical fields and attaining doctoral degrees. The project’s official title is the Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity, or IMSD, at UMass Boston. A key component of this project is UMass Boston’s partnership with the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center, the main goal of which is to address health disparities in minority populations and to improve research, training, and outreach opportunities for minority students.

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation awarded a three-year, \$8.2 million grant to the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies to focus on developing information and tools that improve the integration of natural and social science with ocean

management. Stephen Crosby, dean of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, and his colleague Robbin Peach, a senior research fellow, are the project’s co-principal investigators. The grant focuses on science integration efforts that will directly support the state’s formal ocean management planning and decision-making processes.

Peach and her colleagues on the Massachusetts Ocean Management Task Force initiated the concept of securing a grant. The Task Force, composed of state and local officials and private individuals representing diverse ocean user groups, met between June 2003 and March 2004 to develop recommendations for state action. To maintain momentum, Peach organized a group called Massachusetts Ocean Partnership (MOP), now housed at UMass Boston.

With the Moore Foundation grant, MOP will tackle questions such as what tools exist and what tools need to be developed to evaluate economic trade-offs when considering resource management options. MOP also will convene working groups in a nonregulatory setting to seek collaborative solutions to difficult ocean management issues and options for consideration in formal decision-making processes.

Now in the fourth of a five-year \$12.5 million National Science Foundation grant, UMass Boston received \$2.6 million to continue leading the work of the Boston Science Partnership (BSP). The BSP brings together three of Boston’s major educational institutions—UMass Boston, Northeastern University, and the Boston Public Schools—to raise student

achievement in science among all students in Boston, from grade six through the university level. Hannah Sevan, who holds a joint appointment as associate professor of chemistry in the College of Science and Mathematics (CSM) and of curriculum and instruction in the Graduate College of Education (GCE), is the project’s principal investigator as well as the partnership’s leader. The project is based in the Center of Science and Mathematics in Context, or COSMIC, a CSM/GCE joint venture.

The NSF awarded UMass Boston a \$1.6 million, five-year grant for the project “Active Physics.” Research Professor Arthur Eisenkraft, of COSMIC, is the project’s principal investigator. In partnership with Boston University, Boston Public Schools, and the Los Angeles Unified School District, Eisenkraft will develop, implement, and study a dual model of professional teacher development. The dual model will combine traditional professional development with an online professional development platform known as the Active Physics Teachers Community.

“Our research accomplishments were many and varied this past year,” said Vice Provost for Research Richard Antonak. “I am looking forward to another year of providing and enhancing an environment that encourages our faculty and staff to reach for and achieve even greater successes. Our faculty and staff are superb. And I am especially excited to be able to provide them with additional research infrastructure and innovation support in the form of the Venture Development Center.”

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# A Facebook Group for Safety Awareness

By Anne-Marie Kent

Known primarily for its place at the start of every academic year, September has a new official identity nationwide. It's now Emergency Preparedness Month.

Throughout the year, UMass Boston has made significant strides to refine its emergency preparedness planning and now—just in time for Emergency Preparedness Month—has unveiled the “UMass Boston Safety Awareness” group on Facebook.

“It's one of many avenues we're pursuing to increase awareness,” says Chief Information Officer Anne Scrivener Agee, co-chair (with Vice Chancellor Ellen O'Connor) of the university-wide Safety Committee and chair of the Safety Awareness Subcommittee.

“It's a place where people can find general safety information about safety at UMass Boston, share their ideas on the message wall, learn about the campus emergency notification system, find event dates, and look at photos from past training exercises,” says

Agee, who notes that the site will soon feature videos produced by the UMass Boston Video Production Center, with involvement from UMass Boston Athletics. Created in early September, the Facebook group currently boasts a membership of fifteen.

UMass Boston is not alone in this foray onto Facebook for emergency preparedness. The University of Maryland and others have established these groups, which offer the benefit of interactive communication and idea-sharing. In addition, UMass Boston has other active Facebook groups, including groups for alumni and fans of the university.

“Nationwide, the expectation is there that colleges and universities will develop and maintain a high level of preparedness and that they will be creative in pursuing that goal. Using Facebook is a great way to be creative and get people to pay attention to safety,” says Richard Lee, assistant director of Public Safety, who is a certified critical scene incident management trainer

for the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators.

He notes that the Facebook page is just one of many safety-related initiatives under way on campus. Some 2,000 safety awareness bookmarks developed by Agee's subcommittee are being distributed by the campus bookstore, Healey Library, Student Life, and others; matching posters are prominently displayed throughout campus. Fire drills have taken place through the month of September, and Government Relations and Public Affairs staff are being trained in crisis call answering. The Safety Committee completed its second tabletop exercise in Incident Command System training on September 29, and GRPA and IT will conduct a tabletop exercise on October 2.

During October, the university's Needs Assessment will be reviewed and the appendices to the Emergency Operations Plan will be refined and incorporated into the larger plan, just in time for its first annual revision in December.

## Convocation (*cont. from page 1*)

private and public debt, and a public education system that is starved,” said Chancellor Motley. “We must commit ourselves to a system of education—led by public research universities—that produces the best basic and applied research on terms equal to the best at any private university, link that research with the best teaching, and link teaching and research to the mission of transforming societies into more wholesome environments for human social, moral, and spiritual habitation.”

Chancellor Motley also highlighted UMass Boston's accomplishments over the past year, noting the growth in student enrollment to over 14,000 and an increase in research funding to over \$45 million. Even in difficult economic times, he said, UMass Boston has made progress in serving the most economically, racially, and ethnically diverse student body in New England, increasing its need-based financial aid allocation by over 15 percent

to \$4.8 million. Also, 2007-2008 saw the university raise a record \$17 million in private donations, \$3.3 million over the goal for the year.

“With energy and creativity, we can brighten the future of the University of Massachusetts Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and future generations of students,” Chancellor Motley told the crowd of more than 200 people gathered in the Campus Center ballroom, then challenged them to do even more. “If we want to harness our skills to solve the nation's problems, we at this university are going to have to work for it. If we want to become the world-class student-centered public research university that we all aspire to, we are going to have to work for it.... You are the right people at the right time serving the right institution.”

For a transcript of Chancellor Motley's Convocation Address, visit [www.umb.edu/chancellor/speeches.html](http://www.umb.edu/chancellor/speeches.html).

## Venture Development Center (*cont. from page 1*)

student scholarships over the past 15 years.

The idea of the VDC, which will begin operations in early 2009, has been germinating for years, Antonak said, but it was a university-commissioned report by the Battelle Technology Partnership Practice that helped solidify an action plan. The study defined the school's sponsored program strengths, identified where there was room to grow, and suggested opportunities; one of those suggestions involved building stronger ties with business partners. But UMass Boston didn't have interdepartmental or intercollegiate programs in place, which industry partners prefer to work with when conducting research aimed at putting new products on the market.

“We needed resources that allowed this collaboration,” Antonak said. “Before the VDC, the university's resources were there, but they were ‘siloed’—they existed and, up to this point in time, thrived independent of each other, each in its separate location on campus.” The VDC team therefore had a twofold mission from the onset: Create a space for collaboration, and change the mind-set of academics used to working on projects only with their own team.

“The trick is to push research from projects to programs,” Brah said, noting that the VDC's predecessor—the Venture Development Group—has been a key part of



Two views of the VDC's open work area. (Photo by Harry Brett; rendering by Sasaki Associates)

several success stories over the past four years, including GoKids Boston, and physics professor Gopal Rao's Fourier Phase Contrast Microscope among them.

Development of an idea from concept to reality will be aided by the VDC in three phases, said Antonak.

“Once a prototype is developed, we will move the project to an incubator to test the proof-of-concept,” he continued. “Partners—angels, venture capitalists—will be brought in to make the product viable. Finally, we move to a manufacturer or production plant or a company is spun out of the incubator, yet it remains under the wing and guidance of all involved.”

Developing the VDC itself also involved some friends in high places, said Brah, noting former Chancellor Jo Ann Gora's influence on the project.

“She set out to make UMass Boston a true research university

and connect the school with Boston proper and its economy and resources,” he said. “Our job is to translate that vision into reality.”

This vision, Brah continued, was also shared downtown.

“UMass President Jack Wilson recognizes that all great universities have built [a facility like the VDC],” he said, adding that Chancellor Keith Motley's support for the project has also been crucial. “He was visionary to commit that space at a time when, all across the school, people were stacked on top of each other. He knows the value of this for the university.”

Remarkably, UMass Boston is expected to derive that value—including an important boost to the total amount of research dollars (\$45 million in the most recent fiscal year) flowing in to the university—without needing to invest any university money. The Department of Energy provided \$1.4 million for the VDC's feasibility study, demolition, and



construction; State Senator Jack Hart's 2005 economic stimulus bill, aimed at investing in science and technology innovation in the state, provided \$5 million; \$1.5 million came from the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration, which recognized that the state's “innovation economy” had largely bypassed Dorchester; while \$10 million from the state's life sciences initiative will help fund a new cancer research center in partnership with Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Institute.

What the VDC accomplishes with that money and the brainpower of the university's faculty, students, and staff will be measurable on many levels. Brah expects that within three years, at least one of the eight Battelle study-identified faculty groups “will really take off”; that there will be a company living out of the VDC; and that at least one of the city's prestigious founda-

tions will be a partner. Antonak added that while traditional ROI benchmarks are important, those incalculable are equally so.

“ROI is not just money; it's not just quantitative,” he said. “For UMass Boston, ROI equals intellectual property, students hired, royalties, grants ... but a huge portion of it is changing the culture.”

“We want to make investments in creative ideas that will build our reputation, which in turn will help us recruit faculty and students,” he explained, citing the creation of Google while its founders were at Stanford. “That will endear us to local and federal government officials and improve the standing of the university. I know we'll have achieved that success when I'm interviewing a prospective psychology professor or student—or the next provost!—and they tell me the reason they want to come to UMass Boston is because of the VDC.”

# Fans, Performers Brave Blustery Weather at Folk Festival

By Kaushik Prakash  
and Patty Domeniconi

Tropical Storm Ike gave the outdoor portion of the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Boston Folk Festival a thunderous reception. Lawn chairs and colorful umbrellas dotted the outdoor venue, where hundreds of guests had braved the weather to support the artists and make the event a success.

“My wife Rachel and I are regulars at all the area folk festivals, and we eagerly watch out for the Boston one every year,” said attendee Mike Donovan. “The Boston Folk festival has always had a great mix of both young and experienced performers,” added Rachel Donovan.

The festival officially began on Saturday, September 13, with the songwriting competition for up-and-coming performers. Nick Lattanzi of Belmont took first place in the youth division, and Oen Kennedy of Paris, Maine,



*A windblown John Gorka (left) and Grammy winner Kathy Mattea on the main stage on Sunday. (Photos by Hary Brett)*

won the adult division. Both winners performed their winning song on the main field stage Sunday to rousing applause.

Headlining Sunday’s main event was Kathy Mattea, a Grammy-winning veteran of both the country and bluegrass genres of music. She was born into a coal miner’s family, and her most recent album,

“Coal,” is inspired by the 2006 Sago Mine disaster, which killed twelve miners. Festival-goers also enjoyed the preeminent male singer/songwriter of the new folk movement, John Gorka, Grammy-nominated songwriter and Austin Music Hall of Fame inductee Eliza Gilkyson, the unique mix of Henry Butler, and the enduring music of

David Buskin and Robin Batteau. Fans got to see why a stunning list of musicians have recorded the music of Cliff Eberhardt, as well as one of the brightest stars currently rising in the already bright Boston folk scene, Eilen Jewell. Another crowd favorite was Susan Werner, who holds multiple degrees in voice, including a master’s from Temple University.

Having lived in Venezuela, Holland, Norway, Texas, New York City, and England, and having played music as diverse as blues, jazz, and heavy metal, Pat Wictor give the Boston audience his unique take on folk music, as did New England’s own Jason Spooner of the Jason Spooner Trio. Annie Lynch and the Beekeepers, meanwhile, masterfully blended cello, accordion, mandolin, guitar, bass, and even a bow and saw into an old-time Americana sound that took the audience to another world and back.

Representing the newest generation of folk performers was 18-year-old Emily Elbert, a full-time student at Berklee College of Music. The Boston crowd loved the wit and charm of Andrew McKnight. And after listening to the clear Delta blues-influenced guitar of Danielle Miraglia, it’s surprising to find she’s a native of Revere. The future for folk music in Boston is looking bright, thanks to stars like Chris O’Brien and Jud Caswell, who got first place in the 2006 Boston Folk Festival Songwriting Competition.

“We’ve been regulars at the WUMB festival year after year for seven years now,” said Susan Carpenter, who had driven to Boston from Andover with her daughter Elizabeth and newborn grandson Ben. “All I can say is that going forward, the Boston Folk Festival is assured to have three generations of ardent fans.”

## Kazakhstan (*cont. from page 2*)

in recent years, comprising a mix of lectures and discussions, company visits, guest speakers from government and industry, and cultural experiences. The program’s academic component comprised two three-credit courses that counted toward the MBA specialization in International Management, with a research paper required to complete the program.

However, the Kazakhstan program differed from those offered in other international venues in one important feature: a reciprocal arrangement that put four Kazakh graduate students in the classroom alongside the six UMass Boston students, then brought all ten participants to UMass Boston for two additional weeks of study to conclude the program. While in Kazakhstan, the students lived in Almaty, the country’s former capital and largest city, and studied at KIMEP, the Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics, and Strategic Research.

The idea for this integrative arrangement emerged gradually over the course of a planning process that took more than a year, according to Wanucha.

“As soon as it became clear that KIMEP students could manage coursework in English—fortunately, in most universities in Kazakhstan, courses are taught both in Russian and English—and that their students were equally interested in the academic focus we were proposing, we settled on the idea of our students sitting side by side with the students from Kazakhstan,” he said. “It really

is the ideal model: Since these are short-term programs, you have to make the most of your time abroad, and there’s no better way to gain insight, perspective, and concrete understanding about a foreign environment than to study and converse with peers who live in the host country.”

The result was a program that succeeded on multiple levels. “Our students mixed with the host students both academically and personally,” Koehler notes, adding, “we were surprised at how well the two groups got along—we had hoped for it, but hadn’t necessarily expected it.”

Asked to sum up the importance of a program like this for UMass Boston MBA students, Koehler replied, “The conventional wisdom on study abroad is all correct—students get exposed to different ways of doing business, learn about opportunities for business collaboration on a global scale, begin to appreciate the way that varied cultural norms impact business dealings and negotiations, and develop a greater respect for the value of other cultures.

“A more fundamental result is that MBA students, by being taken out of their accustomed surroundings and experiencing ‘otherness,’ become far more open to unconventional and creative approaches to problem-solving, question their own belief structures, and are then able to listen more receptively to the ideas and needs of others. In short, students become more flexible and less self-centered in their thinking.”

## Programs Boost Chinese-Language Skills for Area Students, Teachers



*The summer programs’ days began with Tai Chi on the plaza. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

By Brian Middleton

High school and middle school students and teachers from across New England took advantage of a unique opportunity to improve their skills in Mandarin Chinese at a pair of summer programs held at UMass Boston from June 29 through July 25.

The Mandarin Language Summer Camp brought 52 students to the campus for a four-week program combining Chinese-language instruction at three skill levels with cultural and historical education. Students were selected based on recommendations from their teachers; those accepted were given free tuition.

“There has been a blossoming of Chinese language being taught in New England public and private schools,” said Renee Covalucci, assistant director of the summer camp program, who described the camp participants as “a population of motivated youth who...will make a difference. One could feel their eager-

ness and energy. Students who self-select to study Mandarin for four weeks of summer must be of a special breed.”

The Chinese Language Teachers Summer Institute was composed of two two-week sessions. The first session was focused on preparing participants to pass the Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL) exams, while the second session, aimed at teachers with three or more years of Chinese teaching experience, combining technology training with advanced pedagogical skills and resources. Both programs aimed to benefit the body as well as the mind by incorporating Tai Chi exercises into the daily schedule of activities.

The student program in particular drew raves from visiting evaluators, who praised the instructors for their “exemplary organization” and creative teaching materials, and concluded: “The University of Massachusetts at Boston Chinese program is a

model of excellence in design, planning, materials development, and execution in every way, and is a best practices model for new programs.”

The programs were presented by the UMass Boston China Program Center, the University of Massachusetts Confucius Institute at UMass Boston, and the Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools (CLASS), with sponsorship by STARTALK. Launched in 2007 by the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland, STARTALK awards grants to educational and cultural institutions to sponsor summer programs serving teachers and learners of Arabic and Chinese. STARTALK is funded jointly by the Director of National Intelligence and the Department of Defense as a component of the National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) announced by President Bush in January 2006.

# Research Director Gets Details So That Others Can See Big Picture

By Anne-Marie Kent

It's no wonder that director of Institutional Research and Policy Studies Jennifer Brown and her staff have a hard time making small talk at parties about what it is that they do.

"It's a joke in the profession," she explains in her office in the Quinn Building. "Our own families have a hard time understanding what it is that we do. Basically, I tell people that I count things."

Of course, it's a bit more complicated than that: Brown is part detective, part debunker of myths, and part problem-solving, storytelling institutional historian.

A quilter in her spare time, Brown has a knack for seeing patterns and putting them together, a skill that she also applies to her job, a vital skill as Brown and her staff focus their energies on the university's Master Plan effort.

"We're trying to figure out what we might look like as a university in the future, so that space planners have information they need to help determine space allocation. We're also working with a group of folks educating the community," says Brown, who credits her staff with sharing both her enthusiasm for the work and a willingness to educate others.

"I think I have the best staff on campus. They genuinely want to help people find answers and explain data," says Brown. "We

help frame issues, verify claims, and debunk myths. We also keep a lot of facts and figures on hand; leaders need to have someone who knows all this complicated data and can retrieve it quickly."

Over the past decades, Brown has held leadership positions in several professional associations, such as the Association for Institutional Research, the Northeast Association for Institutional Research, and the National Postsecondary Education Cooperative, and was recently elected to the Board of Directors for the Association for Institutional Research. Brown will also serve as the Forum Chair for the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Association for Institutional Research Forum, to be held in Atlanta in the spring of 2009, where institutional researchers from around the world will gather to compare notes, and find colleagues who understand their language.

"In each particular business, there is a different language for knowledge. Higher education is one such sector. In addition to all the mandated reporting responsibilities, we try to measure things to help people make informed decisions. Data gives you the parameters of a situation or an issue, but there are always other dimensions that numbers can't tell," says Brown, repeating a favorite quote by sociologist Pauline Bart: "Everything is data, but data isn't everything."



Jennifer Brown (center) with the Institutional Research team (l. to r.): Diann Simmons, Kevin Murphy, Kim Puhala, Bruce Haimowitz, Jim Castiola, Annie Lin, Jen Skinnon. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Of course, data can be useful when it comes to myth-busting. Brown, who holds a doctorate in sociology, says, "It's known as the 'de-bunking' science."

But deconstructing myths and putting together a story rooted in data is easier said than done. Myths can have sticking power. Take, for example, the persistent but not quite accurate notion that UMass Boston primarily serves older students.

"People talk about older students," says Brown, "but what we really mean is that while traditional-age college students are 19 to 22, ours are 19 to 25."

Other popular perceptions about UMass Boston are more accurate, says Brown, pointing to the university's diverse student population. Key to understanding

this ever-changing picture is the work of staffer Kevin Murphy, who explored the university's role in educating immigrants in his PhD dissertation.

"Classic measures of race and ethnicity don't even begin to describe the diversity that exists here at UMass Boston," Brown says. "It's very much tied to our urban mission."

Over time, says Brown, perceptions about the university change, as do expectations of universities in general. In the nine years since she's joined the university after serving as executive officer for academic affairs and research for the Board of Trustees of Connecticut's state university system, Brown has seen a definite trend toward accountability.

"This work is growing by leaps and bounds. The federal govern-

ment wants to know more and more about our institutions," says Brown. "We provide information to the Board of Higher Education, the President's Office, and the U.S. Department of Education's Integrated Post-Secondary Data System. In each of these cases, issues of accountability and assessment are constantly expanding what we do."

The media is also demanding: College guides, college boards, and *U.S. News & World Report* all want to know details so that potential students and their families can compare.

"All of these aren't mandated, but we can't afford *not* to be in them," says Brown. "The work we do is absolutely critical, because you need to know things that are very measurable."

## New Dean of Graduate Studies Aims To Help Undergrads Too

By Lissa Harris

Psychology professor Joan Liem has only just gotten started as dean of graduate studies, but she's already proving her commitment to the job by making some big sacrifices: Before accepting the post, Liem was scheduled to go on sabbatical in January. That, she said, will have to wait.

"I've had a hard job convincing my husband that that was a smart thing to do," she laughed.

In the meantime, she'll have her work cut out for her. On September 1, Liem, a veteran educator and researcher with a long history of service to the university, assumed her new position, a role that was elevated this year to a deanship to reflect the growing importance of graduate study at UMass Boston.

Since joining the faculty in 1974, Liem has juggled a variety of academic and administrative roles on campus, along with conducting research on at-risk adolescents and young adults. She has also served on the boards of directors for the American Psychological Association's Division 35 - Society



Dean of Graduate Studies Joan Liem. (Photo by Harry Brett)

for the Psychology of Women, and the Ignacio Martin-Baró Fund for Mental Health & Human Rights.

But Liem's proudest accomplishment is probably UMass Boston's PhD program in clinical psychology. The program, which Liem was instrumental in building and has directed for over a decade, is known nationally for excellence, and was ranked by the Chronicle of Higher Education in 2006 as the tenth best in the country.

"I feel like there's something quite special here, and I feel I've helped develop that," she said.

Liem's experience building

strong graduate programs will serve the university well, said Winston Langley, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"She is someone who interacts very well with people of different interests, some often conflicting," said Langley. "She is extremely insightful and creative, and she knows the university well."

Liem is taking the reins at a time of major change and growth for UMass Boston. Several new graduate programs have been announced in the last year, and more are in the works, while the university's strategic plan

anticipates growth in graduate programs across the campus over the next several years.

"We have to think very carefully about how that growth is going to occur—how much of that is going to be new programs, and how much is going to be the result of strengthening and growing existing programs," Liem said. "I think that's always a delicate balance."

Among her priorities, she said, is ensuring that growth at the graduate level helps enrich undergraduate education rather than competing with it—a balancing act she's familiar with in her own research group, where undergrads work alongside PhD candidates. She's also committed to getting the word out to the public about the university's graduate programs.

"It's going to be important for UMass Boston to establish itself as a university that people think about not just as an undergraduate teaching university, but as a university that has a rich array of graduate programs," she said.

Liem admits to feeling a little conflicted about leaving the program she's spent most of her ca-

reer building and nurturing.

"I've been involved with this graduate program for well over 20 years. It's hard to imagine not being its leader," she said. "But I'm really looking forward to my new roles and responsibilities."

Although she may be taking on a wider role, Liem isn't leaving the Psychology Department behind entirely: She'll continue to do research and act as a mentor to half a dozen graduate students, the newest of which is just beginning in the PhD program this fall. And while she'll be missed by her colleagues in psychology, said Benjamin Donner, a soon-to-be-graduated PhD candidate in Liem's research group, it's the rest of the university's gain.

"She is one of a kind," he said. "She's very dedicated to the mission of the program, and UMass Boston's mission in general, with its emphasis on less-advantaged populations. And she works harder than anyone I've ever met in my life, but not at the expense of her humanity and her relationships. Ask anyone in her lab—she's just rare that way."

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# College of Management Launches Master of Science in Finance Degree

By William Koehler

The College of Management has introduced a new graduate degree program, the Master of Science in Finance (MSF), for the fall 2008 semester. The MSF is a ten- to fifteen-course program which provides a comprehensive, in-depth education in corporate finance and investment management for students interested in careers in finance and accounting. Students who earn the MSF degree will be well-positioned for professional opportunities as financial analysts, portfolio managers, accounting managers, budget analysts, controllers, financial planners, and business analysts, among other career paths. While many MSF graduates will pursue careers in the investment field, the degree opens the door to a number of opportunities within corporate finance as well: MSF degree holders are in high demand in the life sciences, information technology, manufacturing, and retail fields, for example. The average starting salary in Boston for those earning the Master's in Finance degree is about \$80,000.

The rigorous curriculum of the MSF is designed to aid students in earning professional certifications as well, such as the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), Certified Financial Planner (CFP), Certified Public Accountant (CPA), and Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designations. The MSF builds upon the CM's established strengths in graduate finance education, represented by its practice-oriented research, internationally recognized faculty, successful alumni, and competitive student population.

Financial services is "the second-largest employer in the Com-

monwealth of Massachusetts" after the health care industry, and "salaries and job growth are still very robust, despite the recent troubles in the credit and housing markets," says Professor of Finance Atreya Chakraborty. The U.S. mutual fund industry is centered in Boston as well; many of the world's largest mutual fund providers and servicers are headquartered here, including Fidelity Investments, State Street Corporation, Massachusetts Financial Services, Putnam Investments, Liberty Mutual, John Hancock, and Brown Brothers Harriman. Other major financial services firms, including Bank of America, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Ernst & Young, Deloitte & Touche, Wellington Management, JPMorgan Chase, and Bank of New York Mellon, have large presences in greater Boston. Many alumni of the College of Management's undergraduate and graduate programs hold managerial positions with these major firms and regularly offer workshops, lectures, and master classes for the graduate business students at UMass Boston.

The curriculum of the MSF program is designed to provide a solid foundation in the fundamentals of management as well as comprehensive training in corporate finance and investment. The MSF program's Business Core comprises coursework in accounting, economics, and organizational behavior; students with undergraduate or prior graduate work in business administration or a related field can waive these prerequisites. The Finance Core covers all aspects of the field, including advanced corporate finance, financial mod-



College of Management Director of Graduate Programs William Koehler and Accounting & Finance Department Chair Arindam Bandopadhyaya. (Photo by Harry Brett)

eling, portfolio analysis, financial statement analysis, mergers and acquisitions, and international financial management. Students in the MSF program can choose from over twenty relevant elective courses, ranging from Risk Management, Derivatives, Federal Tax Planning, and Global Investment Management, to Managing Mutual Funds, Massachusetts in the Global Economy, Health System Financial Management, and Real Estate and Economic Development, among others.

As the home of the Financial Services Forum (FSF), the College of Management represents an ideal environment in which to study finance.

"The Financial Services Forum is an industry-focused research center and think tank which brings together professionals from New England's leading corporations with scholars and researchers from academic institutions to examine the challenges and op-

portunities of the financial services industry," says Professor of Finance Arindam Bandopadhyaya, Director of the Forum and Chair of UMass Boston's Accounting & Finance Department.

The Financial Services Forum hosts frequent conferences, symposia, and lectures on topics of importance to the industry. Recent events have included "Sarbanes-Oxley and Corporate Liability," "The Future of the Hedge Fund Industry," and "The Angel Investors Forum." The FSF has also released recent *Alerts* analyzing the state of the five largest financial institutions in Massachusetts and a *Report* on the economic performance of the New England states. Students in the College of Management's MSF and MBA programs play an active role in helping to organize these events and have presented their research at these events. Several master's candidates currently conduct research for the Forum

with Professors Bandopadhyaya, Chakraborty, and James Grant in Finance and Professor Anne Jones in Accounting.

To be admitted to the MSF program, applicants must demonstrate both the qualifications and potential that spell success in graduate business study. While prior academic record, professional achievements, and GMAT score are important factors, "we also look beyond these criteria to get a sense of an applicant's maturity, motivation, and interpersonal skills," says College of Management dean Philip Quaglieri. The MSF program, he said, "provides a hands-on, 'roll up your sleeves' approach" to finance education, utilizing case studies and real-world projects in addition to case analysis.

Prospective students can obtain more information about the program at [www.management.umb.edu](http://www.management.umb.edu) or e-mail the Director at [mba@umb.edu](mailto:mba@umb.edu).

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## C A M P U S N O T E S

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### PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

Undergraduate Gerontology Program director **Nina M. Silverstein** gave an invited presentation, titled "Dementia, Driving and Community Mobility: Framing the Discussion," on September 9 at the GRECC Driving & Dementia Conference, held at the Minneapolis VAMC Geriatric Research & Education Clinical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Center for Women in Politics & Public Policy director **Carol Hardy-Fanta** presented the paper "Expanding Categorization at the Intersection of Race and Gender: 'Women of Color' as a Political Category for African

American, Latina, Asian American, and American Indian Women" at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA) in Boston on August 30. She also served on a panel, titled "State of Intersectionality Research," as part of an APSA Short Course on August 27.

Professor of Art **Pamela Jones** will present the paper "The Cults of San Carlo Borromeo & Mary Magdalene in Seventeenth-Century Rome: Bare Feet, Humility, & the Holy Nail of Christ's Passion" at the British School at Rome on October 22.

Professor of Philosophy **Lawrence Blum** gave the keynote address, titled "Equality, Diversity, and

Solidarity as Educational Values in Western Multi-Ethnic Societies" at a workshop on Solidarity and Individualism in Education and Educational Research at the University of Göteborg, in Göteborg, Sweden.

In June, Professor **Rona Flippo** of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the Graduate College of Education made an invited featured presentation to faculty and students at Southern University of New Orleans, titled "The 'Expert Study,' Delphi Technique, and Professional Scholarship."

**Sherry Penney**, professor of leadership in the College of Management, spoke at the Women's Forum at Brown Brothers Harriman Bank on September 29 about the challenges

facing women leaders in business and how to deal with them. On October 16, she will speak at the opening session of the HERS (Higher Education Resource Services) fall executive leadership forum at Wellesley College to women leaders in higher education.

Professor of Philosophy **Jennifer Radden** spoke at the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Program of the Boston Colloquium for Philosophy of Science on September 15. Her topic was "Contagion, Suggestibility and Identification in Freud's Group Psychology."

### PUBLICATIONS

Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science **Jun Suzuki** and PhD candidate Hiroshi Wada

were two of the three coauthors of the article "A Model-Driven Development Framework for Non-Functional Aspects in Service Oriented Architecture" in the August edition of the *International Journal of Web Services Research*. Suzuki and PhD candidate Pruet Boonma also coauthored the article "Biologically-Inspired Power Management Strategies for Wireless Sensor Networks" in the *Handbook of Wireless Mesh and Sensor Networking*, published by McGraw-Hill in August.

Associate Professor of Anthropology **Stephen Silliman** published an article in the June issue of *American Anthropologist* titled "The 'Old West' in the Middle East: U.S. Military Metaphors in Real and Imagined Indian Country."

# CAMPUS NOTES

Labor Resource Center director **Susan Moir** coauthored a chapter, titled “The Boston-Area HASWIC Research Circle: An Innovative Participatory Method for Coloring in the Picture of a Special Work Environment,” in *Point of Production: The Social Analysis of Occupational and Environmental Health*, published in September by Baywood.

The Labor Resource Center has published the latest in their *Future of Work Paper Series*, “Building Trades Apprentice Training in Massachusetts: An analysis of union and non-union programs, 1997-2007,” authored by LRC program manager **Annetta Argyres** and director **Susan Moir**.

Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs **Christian Weller** cowrote with Kate Sabatini an article titled “From Boom to Bust: Did the Financial Fragility of Homeowners Increase in an Era of Greater Financial Deregulation?” in the *Journal of Economic Issues*.

Professor of Philosophy **Lawrence Blum**, Associate Professors **Pepi Leistyna** and **Lilia Bartolome** of Applied Linguistics, and former Economics Department chair **Arthur MacEwan** all had articles reprinted in *Controversies in the Classroom: A Radical Teacher Reader*, published by Teachers College Press. The articles were originally published in the journal *Radical Teacher*.

Assistant Professor of Anthropology **Patrick Clarkin**’s article “Socio-economic correlates of current and regular smoking among college students in Rhode Island” will appear in an upcoming issue of the *Journal of American College Health*.

Assistant Director of the Institute for Asian American Studies **Shauna Lo**’s article, “Chinese Women Entering New England: Chinese Exclusion Act Case Files, Boston, 1911-1925,” appeared in *The New England Quarterly*, September 2008.

Professor of Sociology **Russell Schutt** recently updated his book *Investigating the Social World* for its sixth printing by SAGE Pine Forge.

A book edited by Center for Rebuilding Sustainable Communities After Disasters director **Adenrele Awotona**, titled *Rebuilding Sustainable Communities in Iraq: Policies, Programs and International Perspectives*, has been published by Cambridge Scholars Publishers.

In July, Professor **Rona Flippo** of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the Graduate College of Education published her fifteenth book, *Handbook of College Reading and Study Strategy Research*, published by Taylor & Francis / Routledge. She also wrote two chapters in the new *Handbook*, “Test Taking” and “Reading Tests,” as well as the Preface. Three other members of the faculty of the Graduate College of Education also contributed chapters: Assistant Professor **Tara Parker** wrote “Policy Issues”; Assis-

tant Professor **Janna Jackson** wrote “Reading/Writing Connection”; and Assistant Professor **Jorgelina Abbate-Vaughn** wrote “Addressing Diversity.” Also, Flippo’s book *Assessing Readers: Qualitative Diagnosis and Instruction* went into its sixth printing in June.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences professor **Jacqueline Fawcett** published the article “Advancing development of nursing theory: An innovative approach” in the *Journal of Advanced Nursing*.

Associate Professors **Pepi Leistyna** and **Linda Dittmar** of the English Department coedited a special issue for *Radical Teacher* called “Teaching Post-Colonial Literatures in the Age of Empire,” for which they cowrote the introduction.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences professor **Jacqueline Fawcett** and associate professor **Joan Garity** recently published the book *Evaluating Research for Evidence-Based Nursing Practice*, published by F.A. Davis Company.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences associate professor **Joan Garity** will be listed as a reviewer of two texts on ethics forthcoming from Pearson and one on Alzheimer’s disease by Western Schools.

Professor of Music **Jon C. Mitchell**’s latest book, *Ralph Vaughan Williams’ Wind Works*, has been published by Meredith Music Publications.

College of Public and Community Service associate professor **Lorna Rivera**’s book, titled *Laboring to Learn: Women’s Literacy and Poverty in the Post-Welfare Era*, has been published by University of Illinois Press.

Professor of English and College of Liberal Arts associate dean **Pamela Annas** published two poems recently: “Navy Brat” in *nibble* (#3) and “Seventh Month” in the anthology *Hunger and Thirst*, published by City Works Press.

Assistant Professor of Sociology **Mohammad H. Tamdgidi** edited and published four new issues of volume VI (2008) of *Human Architecture: Journal of the Sociology of Self-Knowledge*. *Human Architecture* is printed in hard copy, compiled in major sociology and social science databases, and is also available freely online at [www.okcir.com](http://www.okcir.com).

## GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

College of Public and Community Service associate professor **Joan Arches** in collaboration with the Division of Athletics, Recreation, Special Projects and Programs, were recipients of the University of Massachusetts President Wilson’s Grant for Creative Economies. They will be working with the Division of Student Affairs to enlist service-learning students in a community-university partnership looking at the role of arts in enhancing social-emotional

development and literacy in preschoolers.

Assistant Professor **Zsuzsa Kaldy**, Associate Professor **Erik Blaser**, and Professor **Alice Carter** of the Psychology Department received a \$125,000 award from the 2008 UMass President’s Science and Technology Fund on June 24. The title of their proposal is “Development of screening tools for early detection of anxiety disorders.”

## APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Professor of Higher Education and Senior Associate with the New England Resource Center for Higher Education **Dwight Giles** has been selected as the National Society for Experiential Education’s Researcher of the Year Award for 2008.

Professor **Rona Flippo** of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the Graduate College of Education was honored as a Sustaining Member of the College Reading Association (CRA) and featured in their Spring/Summer 2008 Newsletter, *Reading News*.

## EVENTS

The Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, the Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Public Policy and Community Development, and the William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black Culture were among the cosponsors of the Reception of the Race, Ethnicity and Politics Section of the American Political Science Association at its Annual Meeting in Boston on August 30.

Assistant Professors of Management and Marketing **Theodora Welch** and **Pacey Foster**, and Assistant Professor of Sociology **Laura L. Hansen** organized and presented an interdisciplinary Social Network Analysis Workshop, sponsored by College of Liberal Arts, College of Management, and the Office of the Provost on July 31.

## IN THE NEWS

Associate Professor of Economics **Ellen Frank** appeared on NECN’s *NewsNight* program on September 17, offering advice on how working people can avoid or limit financial pain during economic downturns.

Associate Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs **Alan Clayton-Matthews** was quoted in the September 12 *Boston Business Journal* about the housing market in Massachusetts, titled “Housing experts: Bottom is near,” in the *Boston Globe* in a September 14 story about the state job market, in the *Patriot Ledger* in an August 30 story titled “More families living paycheck to paycheck,” and on the *Wall Street Journal*’s Digital Network on September 4 in a story about Massachusetts employer confidence.

Physics Department chairman **Bala Sundaram** and assistant director of

technical operations **Annie Stefanik** were quoted in the *Boston Globe* on September 14 in a story about the Arthur W. Martin Observatory, titled “Stars may shine again at observatory.”

Professor of Psychology **David Lisak** was quoted in the *Boston Herald* on September 15 in a story about the film *Spitting Game: The College Hook Up Culture*.

The Boston Folk Festival was mentioned in September 12 *Patriot Ledger* and September 11 *Brockton Enterprise* profiles of Kathy Mattea, one of the festival’s performers, and was listed and previewed in the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Herald*, the *Watertown Tab & Press*, the *Waltham Daily News Tribune*, the *Hartford Courant*, and the *Metro-West Daily News*.

If you’d like to be reminded about **University Reporter Campus Notes and Calendar deadlines**, send an email to [news@umb.edu](mailto:news@umb.edu). To get on the list for “UMass Boston in the News,” a daily email of press clips about UMass Boston, email [kaushik.prakash@umb.edu](mailto:kaushik.prakash@umb.edu).

The Venture Development Center was the subject of feature stories in the August 28 *Dorchester Reporter* and the September 12 *Boston Business Journal*.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute was prominently featured in the *Dorchester Reporter* in an August 28 story about local seniors who are going back to school.

The Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy’s **Paige Ransford** was quoted in the *Boston Globe* on August 28 in a story about rehabilitation programs for incarcerated mothers at MCI-Framingham. The story also mentioned a CWPPP research report which found that most of the women in the state’s prison system have children.

Head women’s basketball coach **Shawn René Polk** was quoted in the *Boston Globe* on August 28 in a story about a basketball league she works with in West Medford, titled “After dark days, players light up the competition.”

Former university police officer **Henry Gravelle**, who recently published his 10<sup>th</sup> novel, titled *The Bamboo Heart*, was profiled in the *Waltham Daily News Tribune*.

Center for Women in Politics & Public Policy director **Carol Hardy-Fanta** was quoted in *USA Today* on September 10 in a story titled “Getting to the meat of oft-heard political jab,” and quoted in the *New Paper—Asia One*, the *Electric New Paper*, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, *El Nuevo Herald*, and the August 25 *Modesto Bee* (California) about leadership qualities in women, and in the August 25 *Boston Herald* about the reaction of Hillary Clinton supporters in Massachusetts to the selection of Delaware senator Joe Biden as the vice presidential nominee. She was also quoted in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and interviewed on NECN, WBZ-TV, and WGBH’s *Greater Boston with Emily Rooney* about the impact Alaska governor Sarah Palin may have on the presidential election.

A recent study about union apprenticeship programs by the Labor Resource Center was cited in an August 26 *Boston Business Journal* story about growth in the construction industry.

Professor of Philosophy **Mitchell Silver**’s book *A Plausible God* was mentioned in the *Christian Post* on August 25 in a story about the attempt to construct a modern concept of God.

Urban Scholars Program teacher **Paul Meoni**’s new role as chairman of the Randolph School Board was the subject of a *Patriot Ledger* article on August 25.

## Helping the Disabled Get AHEAD



(Photo by Harry Brett)

*Career of Teaching.” Other presentations in this “strand” included graduate students with disabilities in health professions and law. Carol also served as the program chair for this series of presentations.*

*On the panel this year were representatives from private institutions and community colleges, and one special panelist—Mary DeSouza, Carol’s daughter—who teaches an online course through CCDE and has worked with the Massachusetts Department of Education and the Graduate College of Education in the preparation of teachers in the area of math education. Mary discussed the technology available for accommodating prospective teachers with disabilities in the state certification exams as well as the clinical setting itself.*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## OCTOBER

All events are open to the public and free unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits listed below each event. Submit events to [news@umb.edu](mailto:news@umb.edu).

### Monday 6

**Urban Spaces Symposium: Constraint and Mobility in the City**  
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Healey Library, 11th floor. Sponsored by the UMass Boston Research Center for Urban Cultural History. Speakers include Tyrone Simpson of Vassar College, Betsy Klimasmith of UMass Boston, and Sarah Luria of Holy Cross. For more information, call 7-6715.

### Tuesday 7

**Business Strategy Basics**  
6 p.m. – 8 p.m., Copley Square Library, 700 Boylston Street, Boston. Whether you're about to start a business or are already running one, the key to success is having a strategy. This workshop will introduce you to business strategy: its origins, application, and a variety of important models and principles. For more information, call the Massachusetts

Small Business Development Center at 7-7750 or register online at [www.sbdc.umb.edu/training](http://www.sbdc.umb.edu/training).

### Friday 10

**Breakwater Reading Series**  
7 p.m., Porter Square Books, Porter Square, Cambridge. UMass Boston fiction writer Jennifer De Leon and poet Jeffrey Taylor will read their work alongside Emerson College poet Matt Summers and nonfiction writer Marc Velasquez. Sponsored by the UMass Boston and Emerson College Graduate Writing Departments. Call 7-6736 for more information.

### Monday 13

**Columbus Day**  
University closed.

### Thursday 16

**Testimonios AfroPuertorriqueños**  
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Chancellor's Conference Room. Multimedia presentation will examine the myths of national homogeneity and racial democracy in Puerto Rico, and challenge the tenets of Puerto Rican racial discourse and traditional methods of producing knowledge about the AfroPuerto Rican experience.

**DisABILITIES Round Table**  
1:00 – 2:45 p.m., Ross Center (Campus Center, UL, Room 211). The Center for Students with DisABILITIES is hosting Round Table Talks, where you can meet fellow students and discuss issues that you feel need to be brought to attention. You will also hear a few words from author Haywood Fennell, a student at the university. Light refreshments will be served. For details, call Shanea Nelson at 7-7965.

### Friday 17

**NECIT Annual Conference**  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m., McCormack Hall, third floor, Ryan Lounge. Annual conference of the New England Center for Inclusive Teaching includes workshops and presentations for faculty and graduate students on issues of teaching and learning in colleges and universities. Sponsored by the Department of Leadership in Education in the Graduate College of Education. For more information, contact Jay Dee at 7-7694.

### Saturday 18

**Open House**  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The university welcomes students who are look-

ing to start a college experience, transfer from their current college, or advance themselves in one of our world-class graduate programs. For details or to volunteer for the event, contact Liliana Mickle at 7-6100.

### Thursday 23

**Erasing Indians: Investigating Accounts and Denials of Genocide and Ethnocide in Native New England**  
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Healey Library, Media Auditorium. Co-sponsored forum on Native history, presented by the Wampanaog Indigenous Program at Plimoth Plantation. Contact Barbara Davis 7-6850 for more information.

**The Center for Collaborative Leadership's Annual Emerging Leaders Luncheon**  
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Westin Copley Place Hotel, Back Bay. Event celebrates and honors the 2008 Emerging Leaders Fellows. Keynote speaker and award-winning journalist Liz Walker will be giving the keynote speech, entitled *Leading with My Heart: How I Learned to Take Risks*. Cost of the luncheon is \$75. For more information, please contact Andrea Wight at [leaders@umb.edu](mailto:leaders@umb.edu) or 7-3890.

### Saturday 25

**Remembering Home: Memories of Living in Public Housing in Boston**  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Healey Library. Local residents with connections to public housing are invited to bring two or three family photographs to contribute to a statewide educational website at [www.MassMemories.net](http://www.MassMemories.net). The event is free and open to all. For more information, call 7-5929.

**Dorchester Open Studios**  
12 noon – 5 p.m., Harbor Art Gallery. Also Sunday Noon – 5 p.m. The Harbor Art Gallery is part of the 7th annual Dorchester Open Studios, featuring the work of 100 artists in nine locations across Dorchester.

### Monday 27

**Unnatural Causes: Race, Inequality, and Reproductive Health**  
5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m., Healey Library, 11th floor. The McCormack School's Center for Women in Politics & Public Policy will host a film screening and panel discussion on health disparities and reproductive health. The event will feature a networking reception and resource tables beginning at 5:30, with the screening starting at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

## CAMPUS NOTES

A November 2007 study by the McCormack Graduate School's Center for Social Policy was cited in a September 11 *Boston Globe* story, titled "Numbers of homeless in downtown Plymouth rise sharply."

The Urban Harbors Institute's coordination of the Massachusetts CoastSweep was mentioned in the *Mattapoissett Sentinel* on September 11, in the Newburyport *Daily News* on September 9, and in *South Coast Today* on September 16.

Chancellor **J. Keith Motley**'s convocation speech, in which he called for the expansion of access to college education, was the subject of a September 9 *Boston Globe* feature story.

The selection of McCormack Graduate School doctoral candidate **Aundrea Kelley** as the state's acting commissioner of the Board of Higher Education was the subject of a September 5 *Boston Globe* article.

Associate Professors of Biology **Rachel Skvirsky** and **Adan Colon-Carmona** were featured in a *Color* magazine story about the Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity (IMSD), which is funded by a \$1.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

**Chris Sweeney** and **Sachin Gupta** of Marine Operations were mentioned in a September 7 *Boston Globe* story about UMass Boston's harbor cruises, "Noon island cruise a deal for those stealing away."

University Police Officer **Gregg Hartnett**'s organization of the first annual Officer Jamie Cochrane Memorial Road Race was the subject of a September 8 *Boston Globe* article, "Race held in tribute to fallen officer."

Nantucket Field Station director **Sarah Oktay** was quoted in a September 5 *Nantucket Inquirer and Mirror* article about the increase in tick-borne diseases and their impact on wildlife on the island.

In August, Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs **Christian Weller** was interviewed by Minnesota Public Radio, WCVB-TV, the *Washington Post*, MarketWatch.com, Reuters newswire, Thomson Reuters business wire, AOL Television, Yahoo! UK and Ireland, the *Indianapolis Star*, the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Express Buzz.com and The Standard.com.

Veterans Upward Bound program director **Barry Brodsky**'s collaboration with two playwrights to stage a play about the Vietnam War at Boston Playwright's Theatre was the subject of a *Boston Globe* story on September 5.

Professor Emerita of Art **Ruth Butler** was featured in a September 4 *New York Times* art and design column, "Author Gives Voice to Artists' Silent Muses, Their Wives."

Associate Professor of Africana Studies **Marc Prou** was quoted in the South Florida *Sun-Sentinel* on September 4 on the punishment that a Haitian-American couple was sen-

tenced to for giving home remedies to sick children.

Professor of Political Science **Paul Watanabe** was quoted in the *Boston Herald* on September 4 in a story titled "Bristol Palin gets caught in blogs' web," twice on September 17 in stories about the state senate primary race won by Sonia Chang-Diaz, and the victory by U.S. Senator John Kerry in the democratic primary. Watanabe was also quoted on the Web site PolitickerMA.com in an August 29 story, titled "Local analysts give Palin pick mixed reviews," and in the *Boston Globe* in an August 29 story, "How leaders warmed a State House chill."

A joint study published in 2004 by UMass Boston and Harvard University about misclassified employees in Massachusetts was cited in the *Boston Herald* on August 31.

McCormack Graduate School dean **Steve Crosby** and Professor of Political Science **Paul Watanabe** were quoted in the *Boston Herald* in an August 30 story about former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney, titled "Silver lining for 'viable' Mitt Romney."

A book edited by Professor **Rona Flippo** of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the Graduate College of Education, titled *Preparing Students for Testing and Doing Better in School*, published by Corwin/Sage, had two reviews: the journal *Balanced Reading Instruction* and *The Midwest Book Review*.

Professor of History **James Green** was

quoted in an August 30 *Boston Globe* story about the growth of union membership in the Boston area.

Associate professor of Chemistry **Bela Torok** and graduate student Shainaz Moula Landge were the subjects of a *Wall Street Journal* Digital Network story about Landge being named the winner of this year's MJ Collins Award, which recognizes

outstanding research by a student in the field of microwave chemistry.

Associate Professor of Women's Studies **Chris Bobel** was quoted in a June 14 *Wall Street Journal* article regarding the death of international breastfeeding advocate and co-founder of La Leche League International, Edwina Froehlich.

### Student Volunteers Help Out the Next Generation on Fall Good Neighbor Day



Students Steve Pirrello and Tory Fahey on Fall Good Neighbor Day. (Photo by Idil Abubakar)

The Office of Student Leadership and Community Engagement kicked off the year with the Annual Fall Good Neighbor Day on September 5. Dorchester Cares is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to coordinate, develop, and institutionalize comprehensive community-based programs to support families and prevent child abuse and neglect in target neighborhoods in Dorchester. This year UMass Boston students decorated 83 bibs and 38 onesies to be donated to the group's Welcome Baby Project. Other events coming up this semester include the Boston Pumpkin Festival Monthly Service Day on October 18 and Hunger and Homeless Week from November 17 through 22. For more information on Community Engagement programs call 7-7966 or join our listserv at [communityservice-join@lists.umb.edu](mailto:communityservice-join@lists.umb.edu).