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3-27-1992

Friday Report - Vol. 01, No. 14 - March 27, 1992

University of Massachusetts Boston

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Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "Friday Report - Vol. 01, No. 14 - March 27, 1992" (1992). *1991-1996, Friday Report*. 14.

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The UMass/Boston Friday Report

Volume 1, Number 14
March 27th, 1992

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

Bush Aide To Speak Here At March 30th Fund Raiser

Sichan Siv, who is in charge of liaison to the Asian community for the White House, will speak on the campus Monday, March 30th, at a celebration of Asian American teaching, research and service. A Cambodian refugee, Siv is the first Asian American ever to serve as deputy assistant to the president. The event, to be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the University Club on the 11th floor of the Healey Library, features a panel of Asian American faculty, students and community leaders discussing the importance of Asian American teaching and research for the University and the Asian American community. The panel will include UMass/Boston political scientist **Paul Watanabe** and **Regina Lee**, director of the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants.

Money raised by the March 30th conference will help support the newly-established Fund for Asian American Studies, the eventual founding of an Asian American Institute, and the ongoing work of generating Asian American-related courses and acquiring books and periodicals. UMass/Boston has the most developed Asian American Studies curriculum of any campus in New England. This semester courses are offered on Asian American history, Southeast Asian refugees, Asian American women, and Boston's Asian American communities. Students also are working as interns in Asian American community organizations throughout the Boston area.

Campus Notes...

Urban Harbors Institute Director **Richard F. Delaney** moderated a roundtable discussion at the United Nations on March 10th concerning integrated coastal and ocean management. The meeting was attended by U.N. delegates who are developing agreements and positions that will be adopted by the "Earth Summit" meeting in Brazil this June. More than 100 world leaders are expected to attend the summit. The roundtable was organized by Delaney and Professor **Jack Archer** of the Environmental Sciences Program. Both are members of the International Coastal and Ocean Organizations. • On March 18th, the

Healey Library hosted a Boston Library Consortium All Committee/Task Force meeting. Says the library's **Panit Satyasai-Crimmin**, "Those attending the session reviewed the consortium's plans and activities for the coming year."

Assistant Professor **Glenn DeSouza**, College of Management, reports that his article, "Designing a Customer Retention Plan," has been published in the March/April issue of the *Journal of Business Strategy*. • The Gerontology Institute and Center was well represented at the recent meeting in Baltimore of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE). The UMass/Boston unit was involved in sponsoring four papers, three symposia, one discussion session and one pre-conference workshop. In addition, according to Director **Scott Bass**, "We are active in two AGHE study sections and have representatives on three organizational committees." Bass will chair AGHE's Public Policy Committee next year. Six doctoral students attended the Baltimore conference, and all were involved in presenting papers or participating in the discussion sessions. • The Catholic Campus Ministry invites faculty and staff to attend its annual St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture and Luncheon at noon, Wednesday, April 1st, in the conference room of the University Club. The guest speaker will be **Thomas Groome**, professor of theology and religious education at Boston College. He will speak on "Aquinas, Reason and Faith: The Role of the University."

The University has joined forces with the Boston Computer Society to hold a Macintosh user's show, otherwise billed as a "MegaMeeting," tomorrow and Sunday at the Clark Athletic Center. The objective of the show is not marketing but to display products that make the Macintosh more useful. Admission is free to society members and students, faculty and staff of the University. For more information, call

7-5520. • Professor **Barry Bluestone**, political science, is the co-author with **Jerome M. Comcowich** of the University of Hawaii at Manoa of an article, "The Time Has Come to Establish Income-Contingent Student Loans" in the March 18th issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

5-K Run To Benefit Children with AIDS

A five-kilometer run and a two-mile walk around the Harbor Campus will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 11th, to benefit In the Best Interests of the Children (ITBIC), a non-profit volunteer group that promotes awareness about children with AIDS. The event is part of the second annual Massachusetts Pediatric AIDS Awareness Week from April 3rd to the 13th. The money raised will help children's AIDS programs at Boston City Hospital, Children's Hospital and the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester. Registration for the event, sponsored by the College of Nursing and its Human Performance and Fitness Program, begins at 9 a.m. at the Clark Athletic Center. The entry fee is \$10; \$3 for students. There will be refreshments and prizes, including a limited number of running shoes donated by New Balance. Runners and walkers can also receive free testing for blood pressure and body fat composition. Professor **Kyle McInnis**, an exercise physiologist, will supervise the testing. Call **Gail Arnold**, director of the Human Performance and Fitness Program, at 7-7488, for further information..

UMB Unit Receives Grant To Encourage Teaching Careers

The Field Center for Teaching and Learning has received a \$4,000 grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation of New Jersey to institute a program that seeks to encourage talented high school students to pursue careers in teaching. The University is one of 50 grant recipients selected from over 1,800 applicants nationwide. The program, called a "Celebration of Teaching," will bring as many as 150 juniors from 18 public high schools in Boston, Somerville and Quincy to the Harbor Campus on June 4th for a day-long seminar designed to introduce them to various aspects of the teaching profession.

Program leaders have asked instructors at the high schools to nominate students who are ranked in the top 30% of their classes and are interested in becoming teachers. "We want to

attract people into this program, and hope some day we will be welcoming them into the teaching ranks," says **Sharon Hartley**, associate director of the Field Center. The June 4th event will include remarks from several educators and roundtable discussions by small groups of students and teachers on the nature of the teaching profession. There also will be an hour-long pantomime musical that will focus on the challenges students face in choosing a career. The students will be invited to return to the campus in September to learn about the University's teacher preparation programs from faculty and staff.

The Field Center is a statewide network of educators established in 1985 to strengthen and improve schools and teaching in the Commonwealth. It has been located UMass/Boston since 1989 and currently has about 8,000 members from Massachusetts and 14 other states. Through conferences, forums and publications the center promotes and supports professional development of teachers and provides opportunities for professional collaboration.

Focus on a Graduate

Joe Lazzaro, a 1987 UMass/Boston graduate, is director of adaptive technology for the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind. He is guided in his work by the philosophy that blindness is little more than an inconvenience. As a blind student on the campus, Lazzaro helped establish the adaptive computer laboratory and also began his own business, Talking Computer Systems, which for a while sold adaptive computer equipment to companies. The University's lab now has about \$60,000 worth of adaptive computer equipment and serves some 300 students. Lazzaro's state office over the years has donated more than \$1.5 million in special equipment to disabled workers and students throughout the state. Adaptive technology is equipment that allows those who are disabled to live more independent lives. In the workplace, it could be a machine that enlarges type, or a computer that translates written words into speech. Says Lazzaro, who lives with his wife Cindy in Watertown, "Adaptive technology is anything that helps people perform something they otherwise couldn't do. It doesn't have to be super high tech."

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