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# The UMass/Boston Friday Report

Volume 1, Number 18  
May 15th, 1992

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

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**Campus Site of Conference on the Homeless --** Advocates for the homeless, public policy specialists and health care practitioners will gather on the campus on Wednesday, May 20th, for a day-long conference on the homeless. The conference is sponsored by the McCormack Institute. It will take place from 9:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. at the University Club, located on the 11th floor of the Healey Library. Registration for the May 20th conference will be held from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. Boston Mayor **Raymond L. Flynn** will deliver an address during a luncheon that will begin at about 1:15 p.m. As president of the National Conference of Mayors, Flynn has directed a special task force studying issues related to homelessness. The keynote address will be delivered at 10:00 a.m. by **Audrey Rowe**, the commissioner of income maintenance for the state of Connecticut. The conference coincides with publication of the *New England Journal of Public Policy's* 811-page special issue titled *Homelessness: New England and Beyond*. The issue contains more than 60 articles both by homeless persons and by many specialists, including human service advocates, social workers, mental health professionals, housing experts, psychologists, sociologists and anthropologists, among others. A biannual publication of the McCormack Institute, the special issue is edited by **Padraig O'Malley**.

The first panel discussion of the conference will begin at 10:30. Among those participating are: **Leona Smith**, president of the National Union of the Homeless; **Kim Hopper**, president of the National Coalition for the Homeless; **Gus Newport**, of the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative; and Sister **Richelle Friedman**, of NETWORK, a Boston-based organization that assists homeless people. **Sandy Matava**, a senior fellow at the McCormack Institute, will moderate the discussion. Conference participants will break into a number of small groups and will hold discussions from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Following Mayor Flynn's remarks at the luncheon, special presentations will be made by **Sue Marsh**, executive director of the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, and by **Richard Doyle**, of the Homeless Civil Rights Project. A second panel discussion that starts at 2:30 p.m. will bring together a number of authors whose articles are published in *Homelessness: New England and Beyond*. It will be moderated by **Vincent McCarthy**, president of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health, Inc., and **Danna Mauch**, a principal in PDM Health Strategies. The afternoon panelists include UMass/Boston sociology professor **Russell Schutt** and Dr. **Stephen Goldfinger** of the Massachusetts Mental Health Center and Harvard Medical School. The two men are authors of a study that analyzed emergency and specialized mental health centers, and examined the characteristics and needs of the clients who use them. Others who will be involved in the discussion are **Elizabeth Mulroy**, of the Boston University School of Social Work, and **Richard Tessler**, of the Social and Demographic Research Institute at UMass/Amherst.

**Campus Notes --** WUMB-FM received a Gold Award from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for its involvement with "In the Best Interests of the Children." Producer **Thomas D. Callahan** compiled excerpts for broadcast to support



pediatric AIDS awareness week. The station also recently won first place in public affairs programming in the AP Broadcaster Awards for its program "Commonwealth Journal." • The American Chemical Society has completed its evaluation of the University's chemistry program and the society, in a letter to Chancellor **Sherry H. Penney**, notes: "Your chemistry department has made good progress in the development of its program, and the Committee concluded that the program meets the spirit and interest of the ACS guidelines for approved schools. I am pleased to advise you of the decision of the Committee to include the name of your institution on the list of colleges and universities approved by the American Chemical Society." Professor **Walter Weibrecht** was responsible for organizing and carrying the ACS certification to completion. • **Mark Doolittle**, a third-year doctoral student in the environmental sciences program, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship that will allow him to work six to eight months at the University of Saskatchewan. There he will be learning and applying a technique for studying growth of microorganisms on surfaces. In particular, Doolittle will be looking at viruses which infect bacteria found in polluted waters, a focus of his dissertation research. • Recently, CAS Dean **Richard Freeland** was the subject of a *Boston Globe* profile following the publication of his book, *Academia's Golden Age: Universities in Massachusetts 1945-1970*, by Oxford University Press. Freeland's book examines the evolution of higher education in the U.S. since World War II by focusing on eight institutions in the Boston area. They include the University of Massachusetts, Harvard, MIT, Boston University, Boston College, Northeastern, Brandeis and Tufts.

**UMass/Boston and Hanging Loose Press** -- Three members of the University community are the editors and publishers of a book that recently was lauded in a May 3rd article in *The New York Times Book Review*. The book, *The Business of Fancydancing*, is a collection of short stories and poems by **Sherman Alexie**, a Spokane/Coeur D'Alene Indian who grew up on the Spokane Reservation in Wellpinit, Washington. It was edited and published by Hanging Loose Press, a small company operated by **Dick Lourie**, an editor in the Publications Office, **Mark Pawlak**, a math instructor and director of the CAS tutorial program, and **Ron Schreiber**, a professor of English. **Robert Hershon**, a New York City resident and one of the company's founders, is also involved. Hanging Loose Press publishes a poetry journal -- *Hanging Loose* magazine -- three times a year, and books of poetry and fiction. Alexie's poetry has appeared several times over the years in the magazine. *The Business of Fancydancing*, according to **James R. Kincaid** in the *Times*, is a poignant portrayal of life on the reservation and "is so wide-ranging, dexterous and consistently capable of raising your neck hair that it enters at once into our ideas of who we are and how we might be, makes us speak and hear his words over and over, and call others into the room or over the phone to repeat them. Mr. Alexie's is one of the major lyric voices of our time." Hershon, Lourie, Schreiber, and now-retired Columbia University professor **Emmett Jarrett** started Hanging Loose Press in New York City in 1966. It was a period, observes Lourie, when many aspiring publishers began taking advantage of technological advances that made it easier to produce large volumes of printed material. "There are probably several hundred small poetry presses around the country," he says. "Many of them started during the sixties, although ours has been around longer than most." Lourie, who has been writing poetry for 30 years, says that Hanging Loose Press derived its name from the colloquial style of poetry the four men admire.

**A Correction** -- In the last issue of *The Friday Report*, the date of the University Commencement in a story about honorary degree recipients was wrong. Commencement this year is on Saturday, May 30th. The Editor regrets the error.