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THE UNIVERSITY Reporter

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October 2007



Grant and Sponsored Program Awards Reach New High

By Jim Mortenson

Thanks to the outstanding work of faculty, staff, and students, in academic year 2006-2007 UMass Boston set a new record for grant and sponsored program awards: \$41.8 million, a 7.9 percent increase from the previous year, and an astounding increase of 50.6 percent in the last five years.

“Not so long ago, UMass Boston was not a research institution. I’m very pleased to say that that is no longer the case,” said Chancellor Keith Motley. “But even as we take our place in the ranks of other research colleges and universities nationally and in the area, and proudly note the good that our research provides for the world, we’re especially proud to say that we’re the only public research university in Boston.”



UMass Boston students Krissy Larkin, Pete Gangemi, and Kate Johnson, and volunteers Mike McIntosh and Ayse Yeager excavating a trough. (Photo by Ken Stuart)

“We continue making great strides in obtaining external funds to support our many research, training and education, and public service programs,” said Paul J. Fonteyn, provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs. “Our reputation as a successful urban, research university has never been better, and, thanks to our faculty and staff, our students and the citizens of Massachusetts are benefiting directly from our achievements.”

Leading the way with last year’s largest award was William Brah, executive director of the new UMass Boston Venture Development Center (VDC). In fact, the VDC is so new that it has yet to officially open its doors—that will happen in June 2008—but Brah has already been awarded a \$4.95 million grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office

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Program brings more diversity to nursing

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McCormack School Conference to Bring Together Truth and Reconciliation Leaders

By Will Kilburn

Last month, McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies professor Pádraig O’Malley was in Finland, where he’d organized peace talks between Sunni and Shiite leaders from Iraq. This month, he’s back in Boston, where the McCormack School will host representatives from six countries that have begun the healing process after being torn apart by sectarian violence.

To be held October 23 through 25, the conference, titled “Truth and Reconciliation Commissions: Do They Do Justice to Justice?,” will explore a concept O’Malley, holder of the John Joseph Moakley Chair of Peace and Reconciliation, has worked with for years: that people from divided societies can help others in divided societies.

“We’re hosting delegations from four countries that have had truth and reconciliation commissions—Guatemala, El Salvador, Chile, and South Africa—and putting them together with delegations from two countries that are trying to begin the process of

reconciliation—Northern Ireland and Serbia,” said McCormack School Dean Steve Crosby. “The road to reconciliation is long and tortured, but we hope that Pádraig O’Malley can use the expertise that he’s gathered over the years, and the legacy of Joe Moakley, to get the journey on that road started.”

While the conference will include full-group meetings as well as a public component, O’Malley says that the greatest benefit of conferences like this one are the personal relationships that form out of the public eye.

“We put a lot of emphasis on what we call ‘one-on-ones,’ conversations with whatever individuals you want, in a room, on your own, with nobody else present,” said O’Malley. “People always say something slightly differently when they’re just talking to one person than when another person is present, and often are very honest once they have reasonable trust in the person they talk to.”

It’s a concept that O’Malley has seen work many times before,

whether between people from far-apart countries who form mentor/mentee relationships, or between people from the same country who are on opposite sides of a violent conflict. First involved in peace work in 1972 when he helped organize a fundraiser in Dorchester for the families of the victims of the Bloody Sunday massacre, O’Malley said he and his co-activists later sought to take a more proactive role.

“At the time, I said, ‘Why are we always just raising money for the families of dead people?’” he recalled. “We had this crazy idea of trying to bring all the parties together.”

The first big experiment came in 1975, when he helped bring over 30 representatives of warring parties in Northern Ireland for a weeklong conference at UMass Amherst. Years later, some of the same people who attended that conference went to South Africa to mentor leaders there. Most recently in Finland, O’Malley says the Iraqi delegates immediately formed bonds with the Northern Irish and South

African peace leaders who had been invited to help bring the two Iraqi sides together.

“The premise that we were operating from—that people from divided societies are in a better position to help people from other divided societies—was quite apparent after the first day and a half of interaction between the Iraqis and the Northern Irish and the South Africans,” said O’Malley. “They could share things and understand each other in a way that people from normal societies wouldn’t really understand.”

The public is invited to a panel discussion in the Campus Center ballroom on Thursday, October 25, from 7 to 9 p.m. To register, call 617-287-5550.

Grant and Sponsored Program Awards (cont.)

(continued from page 1)

of Economic Development. The VDC, which will be located on the third floor of Wheatley Hall, will support and showcase new research collaborations between the university’s researchers and their external partners.

Now in the third of a five-year \$12.5 million National Science Foundation grant, UMass Boston received \$2.7 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 Sevian, 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.

Alice Carter, professor of psychology, was awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the internationally prestigious foundation Autism Speaks. Carter serves as principal investigator for the project “A Multi-Site Randomized Trial of the Hanen More Than Words Intervention,” a methodologically sophisticated clinical research study. As part of the project, she is collaborating with nationally renowned autism researchers at The May



William Brah, executive director of UMass Boston’s new Venture Development Center. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Institute-National Autism Center, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Miami.

Building on its commitment to public service, UMass Boston was awarded a \$634,000 grant from The Corporation for National and Community Service to support the Community Technology Center (CTC) VISTA Project. The project provides administration and coordination for the recruitment, placement, and ongoing support of 40 AmeriCorps VISTA members in CTCs across the country. Peter Miller, College of Public and Community Service, is the project’s principal investigator.

The U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education awarded UMass Boston a five-year, nearly \$2 million

Title III grant to increase student retention through improved articulation, transfer, and enrollment systems. The initial year of funding is \$565,000. Joan Becker, associate vice provost for academic support services, leads a project team that includes Kathleen Teehan, vice chancellor for enrollment management.

UMass Boston will take a bilateral approach, coordinated through a Transfer Center, to improving transfer student retention. The first component will focus on curriculum and program articulation through the development of a comprehensive and systematic process involving faculty-to-faculty work groups for the preparation

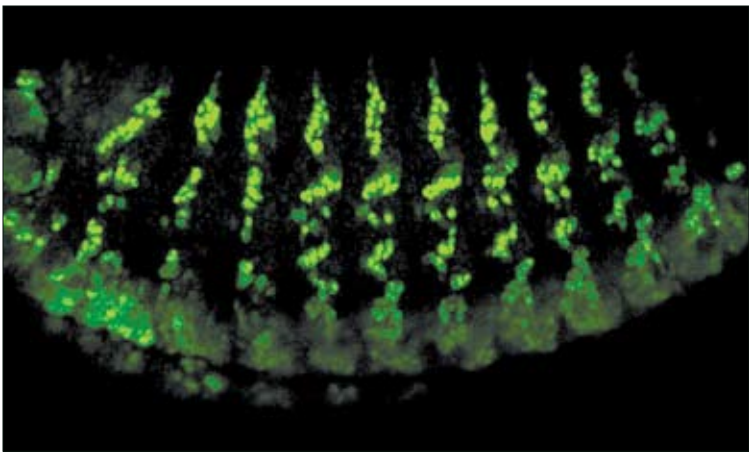
2011, the project seeks to increase enrollment through improved recruitment, retention, and graduation of transfer students, and improve the transfer retention rate by 10 points and the transfer degree completion rate by 5 points over the year 2003.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded UMass Boston’s Fiske Center for Archaeological Research a prestigious \$240,000, three-year grant. Dr. John Steinberg, the project’s principal investigator and Fiske Center scientist, his colleagues based at Northwestern University, Penn State University, University of Iceland, UCLA, and the University of California-San Diego, and UMass Boston students spent six weeks this

divided from earlier and larger farmsteads. This subdivision appears to be an important part of the creation of substantial economic inequality of later Norse and medieval Iceland.

Alexey Veraksa, assistant professor of biology, was awarded a \$390,000, three-year NSF grant for the project “Molecular Scaffolds in *Drosophila* Signal Transduction.” Development of multicellular organisms critically depends on the activity of several evolutionarily conserved signaling pathways. Veraksa uses *Drosophila* (i.e., fruit flies) as a model experimental system to address two key questions: 1) how cells control the precise quantity of signals transmitted through these signaling pathways, and 2) how cells integrate and interpret different signaling inputs to make an appropriate cell fate choice.

“Any award of funds from an external agency that directly supports UMass Boston’s research, teaching, and public service missions is invaluable,” said Richard F. Antonak, vice provost for research. “Research informs teaching, teaching informs research. And research activities are a fundamental part of the university’s service programs. Taking this approach benefits our university community and the many diverse groups we serve. We need all faculty and staff to continue contributing to growing the university’s research enterprise. They have done a superb job, and our students and the people of Massachusetts are counting on all of us to reach for and achieve even greater levels of success.”



Peripheral nervous system of a *Drosophila* (fruit fly) embryo. Image courtesy of the UMass Boston Imaging Center, Biology Department.

and approval of articulation agreements with UMass Boston’s five top, two-year transfer institutions.

The second component will use portal technology and a new on-line advising system to substantially increase student access to information and services. By

past summer conducting the first of three seasons of archaeological fieldwork in Skagafjörður, Iceland.

Steinberg’s fieldwork compares large and small Viking farmsteads in order to understand how and why the smaller farmsteads were apparently sub-



Above: Chancellor Motley makes a point during his convocation speech, “Toward the Student-Centered, Urban Public University of the New Century.”

Left: Chancellor Keith Motley with Dr. JudyAnn Bigby, Massachusetts Secretary of Health and Human Services, who spoke at Chancellor Motley’s convocation.



Faculty and staff donned denim shirts to serve up barbecue during the first week of school.

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Boston Folk Festival Celebrates Ten Years

by Anne-Marie Kent

On the occasion of WUMB 91.9FM's twenty-fifth anniversary in September, *Boston Globe* radio reporter Clea Simon wrote an article tracing the roots of the station back to 1968, when then-student Pat Monteith and her friends were interested in starting a radio station. Meanwhile, a Cambridge-based folk station changed format, leaving thousands of folk music fans disappointed. Monteith and company saw an opportunity and UMass Boston's WUMB was founded to meet the high demand for folk music.

If attendance at the tenth annual Boston Folk Festival, held at UMass Boston on September 16, is any

indicator, folk music is still going strong twenty-five years later.

"We had an incredible day: fantastic weather, great performances, and a sellout crowd," said Monteith, who noted that this year's festival had a special local focus. "All of the performers were Massachusetts residents for at least two years, many living here a lifetime," said Monteith, adding that the festival gave those performers opportunities to play together on stage.

Boston music critic Steve Morse remarked, "The seriousness of the audience was matched by the sincere, often brilliant, music that I heard." He added, "I don't think I've ever seen an audience that listened more intently."

There was much to be intent about.

On Sunday, Vance Gilbert, Ellis Paul, and Jess Klein opened the main stage together on Sunday to the delight of the blanket-to-blanket field stage crowd. Other main-stage artists included Chris Trapper, Lori McKenna, Jake Armerding, Red Molly, and Bill Morrissey. For those seeking a coffeehouse atmosphere, the Ryan Lounge offered an indoor oasis, with artists such as Dave Crossland, Bill Staines, Geoff Bartley, Cindy Bullens and the Pine Hill Ramblers. Outdoors on the campus plaza, the Summer Acoustic Music Week Stage featured performers such as John MacLean, Mary Lou Ferrante, Melissa Fleming, and

Charles Ortonani.

Despite chilly temperatures in the late afternoon, the field stage filled to capacity for the final set, featuring Patty Larkin, Chris Smither, and Erin McKeown.

Monteith noted that while the festival looked back, commemorating its own tenth anniversary and the twenty-fifth of the station, it also looked forward, featuring a new Youth Songwriting Division in the pre-festival Songwriting Contest, held Saturday night. Judged by folk notables Mark Erelli and Catie Curtis, the contest awarded honors to Larry Plitt of Wenham and Sarah Borello of Dighton.

The festival would not be complete without volunteer Janice

Mahoney, who works in UMass Boston's Budget Office, running the children's arts-and-crafts area, which was full of activity this year. Other UMass Boston volunteers included Christine DePalma, now of the Venture Development Center, who oversaw UMass Boston's Golden Key Honor Society's effort to help the local community. Countless jars of peanut butter were collected, along with over 150 books that were donated to the South Boston Boys and Girls Club.

Other tables offered shoppers a world of options, including artwork, crafts, clothing, and a variety of food choices representing various ethnic cuisines. Back again this year, Stormy the Duck delighted young children and brought their parents a lesson about protecting the environment.

"We hit some significant milestones this year, but we're not stopping too long to look back," said Monteith. "There's so much more for us to do in the future as a public radio station. That's what's really exciting."



WUMB General Manager Pat Monteith then... (Photo by A.L. Alexander)



... and now. (Photo by Harry Brett)



The field in front of the outdoor stage was packed at the 2007 Boston Folk Festival. (Photos by Harry Brett)



The Beacon paid a visit to the first annual UMass Boston/BC High Community Sports Outreach Clinic. (Photo by Harry Brett)



Students pitched in on Good Neighbor Day. (Photo by Harry Brett)

COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT THINKS GLOBALLY

MBA Students Travel to China to Study Entrepreneurship

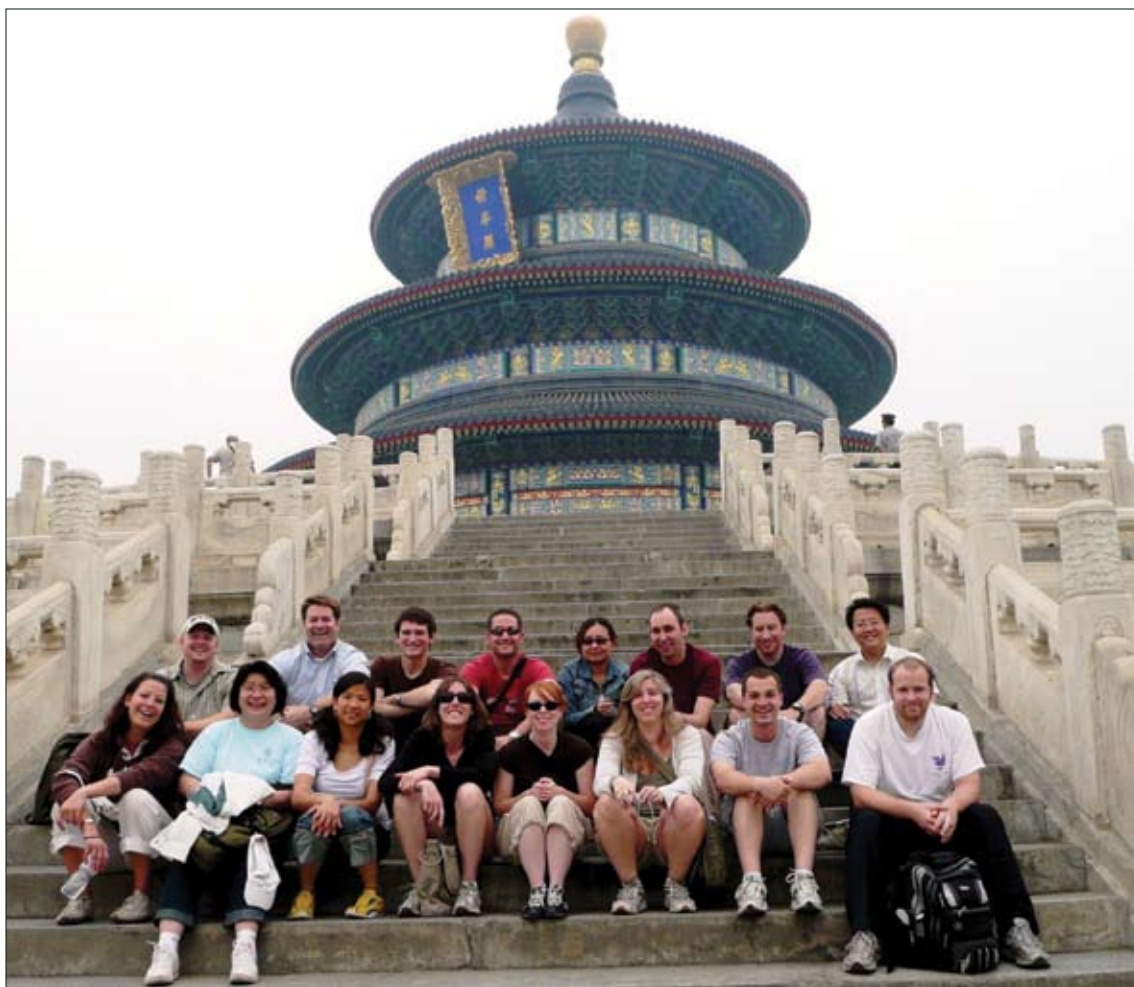
By Ed Hayward

A class of 16 graduate students from the College of Management spent two weeks in Beijing this summer, where they met with executives from some of the country's leading companies as they immersed themselves in the city's booming corporate sector and cultural history.

Led by Professor Raymond Liu, the course "Entrepreneurship in China and the U.S." included students from the college's master's degree programs in business administration and accounting. The students lived at China's prestigious Tsinghua University in Beijing and combined their company visits with tours of local historic sites such as the Great Wall and the Forbidden City.

For Liu, a native of China who is a tenured professor of marketing, introducing American business students to entrepreneurs and executives in China provides critical exposure to China's supercharged economy.

"This is a great opportunity for UMass Boston management students to hear from the leaders of some of China's biggest companies, as well as executives launching their own start-ups," said Liu. "This class offers the chance to talk to leaders of companies that are part of one of the most powerful economies we've ever seen, and lets our students see firsthand the dramatic transformations affecting many aspects



UMass Boston MBA students in front of Hall of Prayer for Good Harvest at the Temple of Heaven, Beijing, China.

of Chinese society."

The growing international component offered by the graduate programs in the College of Management – which will soon add an M.S. in International Management – is part of a value-added strategy the college has undertaken to connect graduate business students with the powerful international trends of rapidly globalizing economies. Other international courses include trips

to India and Ireland.

"We are Boston's public business school and that requires a focus on developing business leaders who can look at the Massachusetts economy with a global perspective," said Dean Phillip Quaglieri. "An understanding of international management and economic trends is directly relevant to local expertise. The Massachusetts economy is a global enterprise, and our faculty and

students examine these trends in exciting and dynamic ways."

Stephanie Reck, a first-year student in the MBA program and president of the Graduate Business Association, took the course to add an international perspective to her portfolio. "Having international business exposure gives us a competitive edge in the increasingly crowded MBA space, while the networking opportunities and knowledge that

can be attained from spending two intense weeks with a small group of people further enhances the experience," said Reck, a marketing assistant with Elixir Pharmaceuticals.

This trip's itinerary included visits with executives at companies in the areas of banking, health care, high tech, automotive manufacturing, equity brokerage, real estate development, publishing, and the bond market.

In between company visits, the group saw some of China's most treasured historic sites, including the Great Wall, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace, and the tomb of Ming Dynasty emperors. Further explorations were made at some of Beijing's most well-known restaurants, to sample the many varieties of Chinese cuisine, as well as forays to Beijing's shopping districts for firsthand lessons on product, price, and promotion.

"There are, of course, many distinct differences between the economies and governments in the U.S. and China," said Liu, who is currently conducting research into Internet marketing and corporate decision-making in China. "Americans are searching for and finding business opportunities in China and Asia. This course gives our students the chance to not just see these developments, but to make contacts and perhaps pursue opportunities of their own after they graduate."

International Program to Launch in January

By Lissa Harris

On any given day on the UMass Boston campus, the typical student goes to class with sneakers from Thailand, a pencil from China, a notebook full of paper milled in India, and an apple freshly flown in from New Zealand.

With the world growing ever smaller, globalization is a fact of life in nearly every business. It's a reality that hasn't escaped the notice of the College of Management: In January, the College will begin offering a new master's degree program in international management.

"Our student body is international. We live in an international city," said Philip Quaglieri, dean of the College of Management. "You can't really deliver a quality

business degree today without a full-fledged orientation toward international business."

The new degree program is the fruit of several years of planning and consulting with businesses to find what they're looking for in graduates, Quaglieri said.

"We're really trying to pick up the longer-term trends, where organizations are growing and what their needs are. Not today's needs, but the changing dynamics of an industry, and where that industry will be in 10 or 15 years," he said.

In the last few years, the College has begun to offer courses that take students abroad for hands-on training in international business. Students in the new program will have the opportunity to

travel to China and India, meeting with top executives and immersing themselves in local culture. Another course on Ireland is currently in development.

The new degree program will require between 30 and 45 credits, and is expected to admit several dozen students a year. Students who have already fulfilled some of the program's requirements will be able to complete the degree in one year.

The new program is part of an ongoing effort to expand the College. Since earning accreditation from the elite Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business in 2000, the College of Management has been growing steadily, both in size and in the breadth of its educational

offerings. Graduate enrollment, currently around 500 students, has roughly doubled, and the university has added two other new master's programs—in information technology and accounting—alongside the MBA, which has been offered since the mid-1980s.

While an MBA alone is still a fine credential, there is an increasing demand in the world of management for people with specialized knowledge, Quaglieri said. "Those are truly dedicated students, and they are positioning themselves for careers that are quite important in organizations. They have a deep technical understanding beyond the general manager's degree of an MBA."

Over the next couple of years,

the College also plans to add a new master's degree program in finance, and a bachelor's degree in information technology that will be jointly given with the Department of Computer Science. A longer-term goal for the College is to start a doctoral program in business.

With the array of specialized degrees, the College is aiming to compete successfully for talented graduate students and faculty with top private schools in Boston and the best public universities around the country, Quaglieri said.

"The College of Management is very ambitious. It's probably audacious," he said. "We don't compare ourselves to the middling of the crowd. We go up against the best."

Graduate Students Get Up-close Look at Indian Economy

By Kaushik Prakash

The second-fastest-growing economy in the world became the classroom for a group of current and aspiring graduate business students, who participated in the University of Massachusetts Boston's first foreign-study program in India this summer.

Students enrolled in the summer-session College of Management graduate course got a firsthand glimpse of the effects of globalization and sustainable development trends during their two-week visit to New Delhi, which was led by CM's Graduate Programs Director, William Koehler. Students were hosted by the Jaypee School of Business, one of the country's premier institutions, located in Noida, an industrial suburb of India's capital city.

"I found my trip to India very enriching in various perspectives, and it helped me reinforce my knowledge about the challenges of globalization," graduate student Christel Medenouvo said. "It also allowed me to broaden my vision of the world and discover a new place full of opportunities. Moreover, as an

international student, I got the opportunity to add something to my American experience by living two intensive weeks with Americans abroad."

During the tour, UMass students participated in joint classes on the state of the Indian economy and culture, and worked on several presentations with their Indian peers. Notable among them was the presentation on the topic of "Retail Marketing: Customer Sustenance." With valuable insights from UMass students on companies such as GAP Inc. and Target, the class was able to study the important aspects of "Environmentally Responsible Business Models" adopted by these companies.

The program featured guest lectures by high-level officials in the Indian government as well as representatives from private industry: Rohit Dewan, head of campus relations at Hindustan Computers Limited (HCL), gave students an insight into the growth of the Indian IT industry, while Pankaj Shreyaskar, deputy secretary of the Central Information Commission, spoke about government policies and efforts toward streamlining



CM graduate students capped off their trip to India with a visit to the Taj Mahal.

government-industry interactions. Other visiting speakers presented such topics as Indian venture capital, the emerging Indian business process outsourcing industry (BPO), Indian investment, and the foreign exchange climate.

In addition to classroom time, the group also took field trips to places such as the production

plant at Hero Honda Limited (the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles), Dell Computer's call center operations and facilities, and many of Delhi's cultural and historic landmarks, including the Taj Mahal.

UMass students shared a great rapport with their Indian counterparts at Jaypee, and found that each group was able to

complement the other's learning skills. By the end of their visit, they were able to understand each other well, and enjoy and respect each other's culture.

"Even more valuable than the lectures, company visits, or cultural excursions were the strong bonds the students formed with their Indian MBA colleagues," said CM's Koehler.

Program Seeks to Increase Diversity in Nursing

By Maria Helena Serpa

For nearly a decade, a team of dedicated professors and health care professionals headed by Dr. Linda Dumas of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences have been working to bring the nursing profession something it needs more of: diversity.

The effort began in 2000, when Dumas and then-professor Marguerite Matisse discussed the possibility of obtaining a diversity grant, the goal being to train nurses whose cultural backgrounds make them better able to serve a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual population. "People tend to listen more to folks who understand them, who are culturally relevant to them," says Dumas. "The people who have traditionally gone into nursing are white, middle-class men and women."

But diversification is an enormous challenge, complicated by layers of social and cultural biases and, according to Sharon Perryman, the Nursing Scholars faculty advisor, barred by firmly rooted institutionalized impediments.

An expert on diversity, Perryman brings not only an insider's perspective on how best to serve students, but extensive experience managing nurses.

"Less than 10 % of nurses are minorities," says Perryman, "and more than 80 % of nurses have master's degrees, yet less than 5 % of those in academia are minorities."

After conducting small studies over a period of three years with spotty funding—including an anonymous gift of \$10,000—Dumas and project manager Peter Terres finally developed a model that became the Bringing the Best to Nursing program (BBN), funded in 2003 by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) with a grant of \$800,000.

"We were able to give students scholarships and stipends and have up-close and personal relationships with them, and after a while they began to trust all of us," says Dumas, the program's project director. "But I think that the most important thing was

that they had each other—more than us, more than the money, more than the activities and the community work, they had each other—and that works."

The program did in fact work—quite well. A total of 133 students went through it with nearly a 100 % retention rate. The BBN program was structured on the basis of peer groups led by community members, close faculty contact and advising, and community mentoring and involvement. Through these activities, in concert with the rigorous nursing curriculum at UMass Boston, BBN students, with histories ranging from a Polish woman with a background in midwifery to a Nigerian man saddled with the financial responsibility of his family back home, flourished in a program that offered them the structure and support systems necessary for success.

In 2006, Dumas applied for a continuation of the Bringing the Best to Nursing grant, but despite the promise shown by the program, funding was denied. Dumas

continued her work despite the lack of support, working closely with seventeen students and providing them what she could. Ultimately, with the encouragement of the HRSA, Dumas reapplied for funding, restarting it as the Nursing Scholars program after being awarded a \$1.3 million grant. Now welcoming its first students this fall, the program provides financial, academic, and social support each semester to 30 students. Though the goal and the structure of Nursing Scholars remain consistent with the BBN program, Dumas has had the benefit of experience and analysis to develop a best practices model that will better serve the students and ensure even greater success.

"This program is different in that the focus is really on getting the model out so that other people could use it," says Dumas, "so that we know exactly what works and what doesn't."

In addition to the focus on providing a working model, an even stronger engagement with the community is planned for

the Nursing Scholars program. Dumas has teamed up with Joan Becker of Pre-Collegiate and Educational Support to work in conjunction with the Health Careers Opportunities Program. Over three years, the Nursing Scholars will serve as mentors to 300 local high school students to introduce them to the nursing profession.

Dumas believes the program's eventual impact will be broadly felt. "We want diverse nurses to go out and better represent the people in the community, and by doing that, give them better access to health care," she says. But the immediate impact will be on her students.

"I would hope to see a trajectory where they would become leaders in whatever they chose to do," she says, "and that some of the qualities instilled in them would stay with them, would raise their self-esteem and prepare them better to take on a leadership role as a nurse manager in a variety of settings. That's what we hope to see."

New CIO Sees Big Picture, Byte-Size Details

By Danielle Dreilinger

If you could improve one thing about UMass Boston's computer system, what would you choose? Anne Agee has that choice. And the first focus of the new Chief Information Officer and Vice Provost for Information Technology is upgrading the campus wiring.

It may sound dull, but it's not—in fact, it's crucial. "So many other things depend on that," she says. After all, some of the wires carrying UMass Boston data are 15 years old; would you want to use a 1992 computer today?

Agee can see both the big picture and the small details. Take the university's new data center, which opened this summer. The secure area protects the university's servers and a new high-performance computing cluster against overheating and fire. "It isn't someplace a lot of people will come to see," Agee acknowledges. But it's necessary, she says, for UMass Boston to heighten its profile as

a research institution. Why? If UMass Boston doesn't improve its technology infrastructure, soon it will be ineligible for National Science Foundation grants.

That kind of vision is fitting for a woman whose career has spanned everything from tech support to literature.

Not surprisingly for a person with the middle name "Scrivener," Agee started her academic career as an English professor at Anne Arundel Community College in Maryland. Twenty years ago, the college had the opportunity to get state funding for a computer teaching lab and needed someone to take charge. Most faculty were put off, but Agee "thought it would be really fun," even though at the time computer science "just wasn't something that girls did."

The experience changed her career and "transformed how I thought about teaching," she says. Students using computers "took so much more ownership

of the learning." Agee became the college's help desk and system administrator. She eventually moved to Virginia and Connecticut for public higher education technology jobs before coming to UMass Boston.

Agee acknowledges women technology chiefs have been rare. But while the typical CIO started off as a programmer—and was usually a man—there are now other options. People with strong communication skills and a teacher's perspective can be at an advantage.

Agee has no shortage of plans for the coming year. She wants to upgrade tech support by letting confused users track requests and logging better statistics about services. She'd like to teach the UMass Boston community Internet security basics—"even really simple things like how to create a strong password," she said. As for the education side—her initial love—she's considering upgrading Vista so students can create portfo-

lios of work across classes.

With strategic planning underway, Agee thinks the time is ripe to work technology into UMass

Boston's future. "I have to support where we are now," she says, "but I also want to work to think ahead."



Chief Information Officer and Vice Provost for Information Technology Anne Agee. (Photo by Harry Brett)

Research Office Leader Helping Craft New Identity for UMass Boston



Assistant Vice Provost for Research and Executive Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Michelle Auerbach. (Photo by Harry Brett)

By Maria Helena Serpa

As the new Assistant Vice Provost for Research and Executive Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Michelle Auerbach is taking the reins of UMass Boston's research work with the intention of steering the university toward a livelier and more connected research environment, not only within each of the five campuses but throughout the system as a whole. In her new role, Auerbach hopes to ensure that UMass Boston gets the recognition it has earned as a major research institution.

After spending nine years as the director of research and administration at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Auerbach is excited by the research potential of UMass Boston.

"I like the idea of how diverse it is," says Auerbach, "and I was really surprised to learn that it was

as large as it was. I was unaware that it had this thriving research community and program and I was very excited by the prospect of being part of it."

Having earned an M.S. in counseling psychology and a B.A. in psychology from Northeastern University, Auerbach realized early in her career the benefits to be derived from working in research. Compared to her experience in a clinical setting, Auerbach found that efforts in research had broader implications and, ultimately, a more powerful impact. "Using new treatments and new medications," she says, "and helping people to improve with new cutting-edge technologies—I thought, 'That's the way to go.'"

Thanks to this decision, UMass Boston will benefit from Auerbach's extensive experience.

"It's a great research program," she says. "What I'm hoping to do

is help to raise the profile of it and continue to foster a research community environment, and to try to have more collaboration and more exchange." As director of research at McLean, a teaching hospital affiliated with Harvard, she managed about \$50 million worth of funds. Auerbach also brings an extensive background working with the National Institutes of Health, an experiential benefit that will create more possibilities for the university's research community.

"We want to provide more training and educational opportunities for principal investigators and grant administrators to help them identify funding opportunities," says Auerbach. "We want to work with the research community to improve the whole research endeavor at the university, inter-campus, as well as collaborating outside to improve and advance the program."

C A M P U S N O T E S

PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

Assistant Professor **Laurie L. Charlés**, of the Department of Counseling and School Psychology in the Graduate School of Education, co-presented two workshops at the 8th Advances in Qualitative Methods Conference, held September 21-24 in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies **Wanda Rivera-Rivera** presented a paper, "Historical Memory and Political Agency in the Prison Testimonies of two Dominican Women: Carmen Josefina 'Piky' Lora and Teresa Espailat," at the Latin American Studies Association, held in Montreal, Canada, from September 5-8.

College of Management associate professor **Pratyush Bharati** presented

"Reaching New Heights and Seeing New Realities: A Study of Software Services in an Emerging Economy," at the Proceedings of the Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS), August 9-12.

Professor and chair of the Department of Economics **Arthur MacEwan** delivered a paper on "Washington Dollars and the Puerto Rican Economy: Amounts, Impacts, Alternatives," to

the Vigésimacuarta Asamblea Anual de la Asociación de Economistas de Puerto Rico, San Juan, August 24. MacEwan also participated in a panel presentation to la Asociación Interamericana de Hombres de Empresa on "Oportunidades Comerciales ante CAFTA, NAFTRA y CARICOM."

Connie Chan, professor and chair of the Department of Public Policy and Public Affairs at the McCormack Grad-

uate School, presented on the following symposium panels at the American Psychological Association Convention in San Francisco: "Ethics and Legal Issues regarding suicidal college students," and "Ethics and Psychology: The top questions posed to the APA Ethics Committee." Professor Chan was also elected as a Fellow by the American Psychological Association's Division 45, the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues.

CAMPUS NOTES

Assistant professor in the Biology Department **Linda Huang** gave a talk at the 23rd International Conference on Yeast Genetics and Molecular Biology in Melbourne, Australia, on July 4, 2007. The title of her talk was “The MAP kinase encoded by SMK1 negatively regulates 1,3-beta-glucan production during spore wall morphogenesis.” Hugh Doherty, who received his BS in June, was a co-author. This work was also presented at the Yeast Cell Biology meeting held August 15-19 at Cold Spring Harbor, New York.

College of Management professor **David Levy** offered the keynote address to United Nations Ambassadors and others at a working retreat on climate change held at Stony Brook University in New York. The retreat, organized by the Delegation of the European Commission to the United Nations and the Alliance of Small Island States, was focused on the corporate strategic response to climate change.

Giorgio Gotti, assistant professor in the Department of Accounting and Finance in the College of Management, presented his paper “The Effect of Corporate Governance Regulatory Intervention on Firm Decisions and Market Reactions, the Italian Case” at the 4th International Workshop on Accounting and Regulation, organized by the European Accounting Association and held in Siena, Italy, September 20-22.

Director of Writing Assessment **Anthony Petruzzi** gave a presentation, “Using Portfolios to Assess Departmental Outcomes,” to the English Department at Holy Cross College on August 16.

Director of the Urban Harbors Institute **Jack Wiggin** made two presentations, “A Statewide Boating Access Inventory and Economic Models to Forecast Boater Demand and Site Suitability” and “Yesterday and Today: Maintaining the Working Waterfronts of Gloucester and Nantucket, Massachusetts,” at Coastal Zone 07 in Portland, Oregon, in July.

Professor of Sociology **Russell Schutt** gave a talk, “The Housing Preferences of Homeless Persons with Mental Illness: Causes and Consequences,” at the 2nd International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, held at the University of Granada, Spain, on July 11.

PUBLICATIONS

Associate Professor **Stephanie Hartwell** of the Department of Sociology contributed chapters to the books *More of a Danger to Myself: Community Re-entry of Dually Diagnosed Females Involved in the Criminal Justice System*, published by Rutgers University Press, and *Social Integration* (Mental Health, Social Mirror), published by Springer.

Director of Academic Support Programs **Mark Pawlak** published his creative work in *Polish American Studies*, the semiannual publication of the Polish American Historical Association. Fourteen pages of this publication were devoted to Pawlak, including the essay “Preface to a New Edition of ‘The Buffalo Sequence’ and an afterword, and five poems on Polish themes spanning his writing career. Pawlak will also be a featured reader on October 17 in the Cervena Barva reading series held at the Pierre Menard Gallery in Harvard Square, Cambridge.

Assistant professor in the Graduate College of Education **Jorgelina Abate-Vaughn** had two articles published over the summer: “The graduate writing challenge: a perspective from an urban teacher education program” in the *Action in Teacher Education* journal, and “Writing: A taken for granted assumption in teacher education?” in the 2007 Online Yearbook of the Urban Learning, Teaching, and Research SIG of the American Educational Research Association (AERA).

Professor of English **Pamela Annas** recently published a review of *Baghdad Burning: Girl Blog from Iraq* and *Baghdad Burning II: More Girl Blog from Iraq* in *Women’s Review of Books*, September/October 2007.

Assistant Professor of English **John Fulton** published his third book of fiction, *The Animal Girl: Two Novellas and Three Stories*, with Louisiana State University Press. He will be reading from his book at UMass Boston on October 4, at Jamaicaaway Books and Gifts on October 5, and at Brookline Booksmith on October 22.

Assistant Professor of History **Ruth Miller** published an article, “Politicizing Reproduction in Comparative Perspective: Ottoman, Turkish, and French Approaches to Abortion Law,” in *Hawwa: Journal of Women in the Middle East and the Islamic World*.

Assistant Professor of Sociology **Mohammad Tamdgidi** edited three issues of *Human Architecture: Journal of the Sociology of Self-knowledge (volume V)*. The first issue is titled *Othering Islam*; the second issue, titled *Insiders/Outsiders: Voices from the Classroom*, is composed of 14 papers, including those authored by 12 UMass Boston students. The third special double-issue, titled *Reflections on Fanon*, includes 4 keynote addresses and 33 articles by various local, national, and international faculty and student scholars. Tamdgidi’s paper “Intersecting Autobiography, History, and Theory: The Subtler Global Violences of Colonialism and Racism in Fanon, Said, and Anzaldúa” was published among others in the latter collection.

Associate Professor of English and Director of the University Honors Program **Rajini Srikanth** published two recent articles, titled “Over-

whelmed by the World: Teaching Literature and the Difference of Nations,” in *Pedagogy*, and “When Empathy Disappears: The Disconnect Between African American and Asian American Muslims,” in *Works and Days: Intellectual Intersections and Racial/Ethnic Crossings*.

University archivist and curator of special collections in the Healey Library **Elizabeth Mock** co-edited the *Hanoi Journal* with Suzanne McCormack. The original of the journal, by Carol McEldowney, is held in the Archives and Special Collection Department. This is the first time a document owned by the library has ever been published.

Lecturer in English **Laurie Marks** has written her eighth novel, *Water Logic*, published by Small Beer Press. She was also the guest of honor at Wiscon, a feminist science fiction and fantasy convention. Small Beer Press will also publish her next novel, the last of the four-book Elemental Logic series, titled *Air Logic*. In addition, her short story “How the Ocean Loved Margie,” a contemporary fantasy story based on the traditional Scottish ballad “The Grand Selkie of Sule Skerrie,” was included in *So Fey*, a story anthology published in September by Haworth Press.

Professor in the English Department **Thomas O’Grady** published his essay “My Coeval Archtop” in the summer issue of *The Massachusetts Review*.

Associate Director of the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences **Paul Camacho** wrote an article for the latest issue of *Armed Forces and Society*, titled “Civil-Military Relations – Who Are the Real Principals?,” A Response to “Courage in the Service of Virtue: The Case of General Shinseki’s Testimony before the Iraq War.”

Director of Writing Assessment **Anthony Petruzzi** published an article, “Nihilism, Errancy, and Truth in Pirandello’s *Così è (se vi pare)*,” in *Italica: Journal of the American Association of Teachers of Italian* (83.3 & 4).

Director of the Urban Harbors Institute **Jack Wiggin** co-authored a chapter titled “Creative Zoning: Putting the Teeth in Your Planning,” with Jay Wickersham and Glenn Garber, in *Preserving and Enhancing Communities: A Guide for Citizens, Planners, and Policymakers*, published by UMass Press.

Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar’s Chair of the Gerontology Institute **Yung-Ping Chen** published the article “Flexible work options for all,” in *European Papers on the New Welfare*, No. 8. Chen was also interviewed by the *New York Times* about her work.

Associate professor of Africana Studies **Marc Prou** co-authored *Haitian Creole for Health Care*, published by EducaVision and Caribbean Studies Press.

Associate Professor **Alexander DesForges**’s book *Mediasphere Shanghai: The Aesthetics of Cultural Production* has been published by the University of Hawaii Press.

EXHIBITS, READINGS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

Senior lecturer in the English Department **Rebecca Saunders**, along with the FireDog Theatre, Inc., presented a storytelling/puppet performance and workshop demonstration at the Allston Village Street Fair on September 23.

Pulitzer Prize winner for criticism and professor of English **Lloyd Schwartz** participated in the Marathon Reading of Jack Kerouac’s *On the Road* in Lowell, Massachusetts, during the 50th anniversary celebration of its publication.

Professor of the Performing Arts Department **David Patterson** had two recent compositions, “The Hermit Thrush Orchestra Plays Bill Evans” and “The Hermit Thrush Orchestra Plays Vivaldi,” aired by WMOR FM and WMOR.org of Provincetown.

Assistant Professor of English **Patrick Barron** gave a reading from the recently published *The Selected Poetry and Prose of Andrea Zanzotto* at the American Academy in Rome. The publication, which was edited and translated by Barron, is the first comprehensive collection in 30 years to translate Zanzotto’s work for an English-speaking audience.

Training associate in the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) **Amy Gelb** hosted *Employment for All*, which was aired on Charter’s Channel 3 in Worcester. The show is geared to people with disabilities who are looking for work as well as any job seeker or person with an interest in employment or the employment field. *Employment for All* can be seen on Charter’s Channel 3 on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11 a.m. beginning in the first week of October and will run for five weeks.

GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

Robert Weiner, Graduate Program Director of International Relations in the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, will work with the Washington-based organization Global Integrity to analyze the level of corruption in Romania and Moldova for the year 2007. Global Integrity’s project is partially financed by the World Bank and will cover over 60 countries. This is the second year that Weiner is working with the organization.

Arthur Eisenkraft, Distinguished Professor of Science Education and Director of the Center of Science and Math in Context (COSMIC), received a \$1,664,000 grant from the National Science Foundation

to investigate the efficacy of a new professional development model for high school teachers. The model will merge traditional professional development with innovative distance learning approaches. This five-year study will include teachers from Boston, Los Angeles, Baltimore, and other urban areas. The professional development model will support teachers using Active Physics and Active Chemistry curricula (both developed by Eisenkraft and colleagues).

Ron Etter and **Mike Rex**, professors in the Biology Department, were awarded a National Science Foundation grant in September for \$592,104 to continue their work on evolution in the deep sea.

Darren Kew, associate professor of dispute resolution, traveled to Sierra Leone in August as part of an international delegation to monitor the historic elections there on behalf of the National Democratic Institute of International Affairs (NDI). Kew was an election observer in Nigeria for its 1999 and 2003 elections, and assisted the Carter Center in its observation of the 2007 Nigerian elections.

Ivan Sascha Sheehan, lecturer in the Dispute Resolution Department, testified at a Congressional Briefing in Washington, D.C., on September 10. The event, titled Empirical Analyses of Counterterrorism Interventions, was intended to provide members of Congress, the government, and academia with the latest empirical research related to counterterrorism interventions.

Dan Hellin and **Kristin Mallek** of the Urban Harbors Institute are assisting municipalities around Boston Harbor to develop an application for a No Discharge Area (NDA) designation, which would prohibit the discharge of all boat sewage into the harbor. If approved by the EPA, this NDA would make Boston the largest city and working port on the East Coast with such a designation.

The Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution has been awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of State for an exchange program that will connect Nigerian youth leaders and members of civil society organizations working to bridge that country’s Muslim-Christian divide with American experts in conflict management and resolution. The program has been initiated and will be led by assistant professor Darren Kew.

APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Rona F. Flipppo, professor of education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Graduate College of Education, has been invited and has accepted membership on the editorial review board of *Literacy Research and Instruction*, the new refereed journal of the College Reading Association.

CAMPUS NOTES

Lecturer in English **Teresa Cader** won the Journal Award from Ohio University Press and the Norma Farber First Book Award from the Poetry Society of America, for her book *Guests*.

Director of the Institute for Community Inclusion **William Kiernan** will become president of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) at the organization’s annual meeting on November 14. AUCD is a network of interdisciplinary centers advancing policy and practice for and with individuals with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and communities.

Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies **Chris Bobel** was selected to chair the Graduate Consortium for Women’s Studies for the 2007-08 academic year.

Jorgelina Abbate-Vaughn, Assistant professor in the Graduate College of Education, has been honored with a Fulbright Scholar award to research teacher education policy and its impact on awareness and tolerance for diversity in urban-

marginal schools in the Dominican Republic. She will be hosted by the Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo, the oldest university in the Western Hemisphere.

EVENTS

Sherry Penny, professor of leadership and founding director of the Emerging Leaders Program in the College of Management will host the program’s sixth anniversary at a lunch at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The program will honor its 2007 cohort, the 45 individuals who have completed the program, and welcome the individuals who have been admitted for January 2008. Special guest will be Governor Deval Patrick, who will welcome the guests. Four of the graduates of the Emerging Leaders Program now serve on the staff of the governor. Paul Levy, CEO of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, will deliver the keynote address and share his thoughts on leadership. Attendees will include alumni of the ELP, program sponsors, and corporate and community leaders.

Director of the University Honors Program **Rajini Srikanth**, Assistant Professor of Political Science **Leila Farsakh**, and Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies **Elora Chowdhury** successfully organized and hosted a five-day conference on “Engaging Islam: Feminisms, Religiosities, and Self-Determinations,” which brought to the UMass Boston campus 30 renowned scholars of Islam and feminism.

UMass Boston’s Mass. Memories Road Show and WGBH collaborated on a “Tell Your Story” day at the Veronica Smith Senior Center in Brighton on September 7. Timed to coincide with the release of *The War*, Ken Burns’ documentary about World War II, the event invited World War II veterans to bring in letters and photos to be scanned into a digital archive. The Mass. Memories Road Show is an initiative of the Massachusetts Studies Project at the Graduate College of Education, the Institute for Learning and Teaching, and the Healey Library.

On September 19, the College of Management hosted a Meet the Accounting Firms session at the Cam-

pus Center, where more than 250 students met with recruiters from a number of top accounting firms.

IN THE NEWS

Assistant Professor of Political Science **Jalal Alamgir** spoke in a live interview for WBAI Radio in New York on the political situation in Bangladesh on August 28.

The director of the McCormack Graduate School’s Give US Your Poor initiative, **John McGah**, was interviewed for an article in *Paste* magazine on the development and release of the benefit CD titled, *Give US Your Poor: 17 New Songs to End Homelessness*. Give US Your Poor will also be featured in the next *Rolling Stone* magazine issue.

The director of the McCormack Graduate School’s *Give US Your Poor* initiative, **John McGah**, was interviewed on WBZ-TV’s 6 O’Clock News as part of a featured story on the Give US Your Poor CD release on September 25 and the related UMass Boston/City of Boston benefit concert for homelessness November 16,

2007, featuring Natalie Merchant, Mighty Sam McClain, and Mario Frangoulis at the Strand Theater in Dorchester.

John McGah, director of the McCormack Graduate School’s *Give US Your Poor* initiative, appeared in the news on UPN-38 TV speaking to the recent modest decline in the federal poverty rate. He spoke on behalf of the McCormack Graduate School Dean’s Office.

Christian Weller, an associate professor in the Department of Public Policy and Public Affairs at the McCormack Graduate School, appeared on the Los Angeles-based syndicated Mario Solis Marich radio show, and on “Against the Grain,” broadcast from WTPL in Concord, New Hampshire, speaking about the housing market and on the estate tax. He was also quoted in a *Washington Post* front-page story, “Area Leads Nation in Putting Off Retirement,” on September 12, in a September 16 *New York Post* story, “Consuming Fire,” on consumer debt’s impact on the economy, and in *Builder* magazine in a story about a cut in the federal funds target rate.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of Marketing and Communications. 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.

Friday 5

Biology Department Seminars 2:30 p.m., Small Science Auditorium, S-1-006, Fridays through December 14. “Sperm delivery in flowering plants: the control of pollen tube growth,” by Peter Hepler, UMass Amherst.

Tuesday 9

Entertainment & Promo Club Info Table 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Campus Center, first floor, U01-1500. Table to promote student organizations and campus-wide events taking place. For more information, contact 7-7950 or 7-7952.

Leif Ericsson Day Noon – 1:30 p.m., Campus Center Bookstore. John Steinberg of the Fiske Center will talk about his research and excavations in Iceland, and Nancy Marie Brown will give a short lecture and sign copies of her book *The Far Traveler*:

Voyages of a Viking Woman, about Gudrid, a remarkable Viking Age woman.

Graduation Orientation Programs 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., Campus Center, 3rd floor, conference room 3545. For more information, contact Cheryl Harris at 7-5700.

Nietzsche Lecture and Dinner 6 p.m. “The Good, the Bad, and the Sanctimonious: What the *Genealogy of Morals* Tells Us About Transphobia” will be presented by Richard Juang at the 2nd meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Nietzsche Association. A light dinner will be served. For room information and to RSVP, please email heike.schotten@umb.edu.

Wednesday 10

Stretch Your Body, Stretch Your Mind: Chair Yoga 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 4th floor student lounge, 0148. This Gerontology Institute-conducted Yoga program teaches you about breathing, postures, the pranayama and more. For more information, contact 7-7090.

College of Management Master Planning Workshop 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., Campus Center, 3rd floor, conference room 3545. For more information on this event contact Effie Godinho 7-7702.

Changing Lives Through Literature Women’s Program 7:30 – 9:00 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 1st floor, classroom 0048. For more information, contact 7-6754.

Thursday 11

Breakwater Reading Series 5 p.m., Campus Center Bookstore. Readings by MFA Creative Writing Students, including poet Gregory Stenta, poet Jeffrey Taylor, and fiction writer Alex Gang. Reading will be followed by a 30-minute open-mic period.

Friday 12

Biology Department Seminars 2:30 p.m., Small Science Auditorium, S-1-006, Fridays through December 14. “Whale whisperer: using sound to protect marine species,” by Leila Hatch, NOAA.

Monday 15

Gerontology Speaker Series 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m., Wheatley, W-3-125. “In the Country of the Old: Population, Aging and the Future of Social Change,” by Steven Cutler of the University of Vermont.

Friday 19

Homecoming Harbor Tours for Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs 1:00 – 6:00 p.m., Fox Point Docks, aboard the M/V *Columbia Point*. For more information on the tour, call 7-5800.

Biology Department Seminars 2:30 p.m., Small Science Auditorium, S-1-006, Fridays through December 14. “Last chance to know: using the literature and a genome to explore the biogeography of an ectomycorrhizal fungus,” Anne Pringle, Harvard.

Saturday 20

Open House 2007 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Campus Center, upper level, main lobby (U500). The Undergraduate Admissions Office conducts an information session for prospective students. Call 7-6106 for more details on the open house.

Monday 22

Gerontology Speaker Series 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m., Wheatley, W-3-125. “Aging Policy after Communism: The Case of the Czech Republic,” by Steven Wisensale of the University of Connecticut.

Tuesday 23

MFA Reading Series 11:30 a.m., Campus Center Bookstore. Creative Writing faculty poets Teresa Cader (*The Paper Wasp*) and Thomas O’Grady (*What Really Matters*) read from recent work.

Wednesday 24

Book Party for Louise Dunlap 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 4th floor, student lounge 0148. The Labor Resource Center is organizing a book party for Louise Dunlap’s new book, *Undoing the Silence: Six Tools for Social Change*. Contact Wally Soper, 7-7426

Friday 26

Biology Department Seminars 2:30 p.m., Small Science Auditorium, S-1-006, Fridays through December 14. Jill Miller, UMass Amherst.

TAG Halloween Celebration 8:00 – 11:30 p.m., Wheatley Hall, 1st floor, Snowden Auditorium (0088).

Tuesday 30

Welcoming Reception for Andrew Grosovsky 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Campus Center, 2nd floor, University Dining Club, section B. For more information, call 7-5777.