

University of Massachusetts Boston

ScholarWorks at UMass Boston

1983-1991, News & Views

University Publications and Campus
Newsletters

3-19-1984

News & Views - Vol. 02, No. 09 - March 19, 1984

University of Massachusetts Boston

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_newsandviews



Part of the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#), and the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "News & Views - Vol. 02, No. 09 - March 19, 1984" (1984).
1983-1991, News & Views. 20.
https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_newsandviews/20

This University Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications and Campus Newsletters at ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. It has been accepted for inclusion in 1983-1991, News & Views by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. For more information, please contact scholarworks@umb.edu.

Briefly . . .

Roast politician and corned beef and cabbage was on the menu of Senate President William M. Bulger's annual St. Patrick's Day bash broadcast "live" for the second straight year by UMass/Boston's WUMB-FM (91.9) on Sunday, March 11.

The broadcast took place from the Bayside Club on East Eighth St., South Boston starting at 9:45 a.m. through the noon conclusion.

Major political leaders, including Presidential candidates, were on hand along with the flower of Massachusetts politics and leading jurists.

D. Leo Monahan, UMass/Boston's Director of Public Information, anchored the broadcast, which was replayed on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17, 4-6 p.m.

Patricia A. (Pat) Monteith, General Manager of WUMB-FM and Assistant General Manager Thomas D. Callahan produced the program, which proved very popular with area listeners last year.

UMass/Boston's Biology Dept. had an exhibit in "Carnivorous Plants" at the annual Spring Flower Show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society" at Bayside Mall.

The educational exhibit drew great comment. It showed plants from many areas of the world which had evolved ways to catch insects for nutrition. It explained various trapping mechanisms.

Last year UMass/Boston won a gold medal in the educational category. The show runs through March 20.

Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan will join 500 celebrities and community/business leaders on March 25 in Bowl For Kids' Sake at Boston Bowl on Gallivan Blvd. as part of the Big Brother and Big Sister programs.

UMB plans center for training of bi-lingual education instructors

UMass/Boston may become a national center for the language and culture of the Cape Verde Islands thanks to a federal Title VII grant of \$300,000 which provides for tuition-free training for 40 bilingual education instructors in four minority languages: Cape Verdean, Portuguese, Franco-American and Haitian.

When the University merged with Boston State, the grant moved with it. Dr. Richard W. Newman of Wollaston is Director of the Title VII program and Bilingual/ESL Graduate Studies.

This program helps serve the growing number of immigrants in New England. Also two Bilingual/ESL grant proposals were recently funded: a computer-aided instruction program and a research grant for the linguistic analysis of Cape Verdean.

A South East Asian component will be added to the Title VII Bilingual Teacher Training Program to aid local school systems which have had an influx of Laotian, Cambodian and Vietnamese students explained Dr. Newman.

When the program began at Boston State the largest group that was served was the Hispanics. The Hispanic population has been steady in Boston for 10-15 years, so the teaching corps is more established than it is for the more recent immigrant groups.

Initially, uncertified teachers or people who have never taught are used in the school system simply because they know the language of a recently immigrated group. Gradually these teachers are replaced with traditionally qualified teachers. The same is true today, said Dr. Newman.

"If you take the Vietnamese teachers, you'll find who were pharmacists, doctors, lawyers - as they were trained in Vietnam. Since they can't get comparable positions here, they have become teachers. They need specific training in that area."

Dr. Newman termed the computer-aided instruction program — designed to introduce the use of computers to bilingual teachers — a tremendous area of development.

"There are very few people who are working with computer-aided instruction in foreign languages and in ESL instruction. We're probably breaking new ground there. Most of the applications

"The Theme of Loss in Old Age: The Physical Self" is the topic of the two-day session (March 30-31) the University's Gerontology Institute is holding at the UMass Medical Center in Worcester.

This is the First Annual National Conference on Aging. Additional two-day conferences will be held April 13-14 and April 27-28.



Dr. Richard W. Newman

with computers are in the math/science area. And most of the local school systems have been buying microcomputers, but they probably have not been putting enough resources into the teacher training necessary to make complete use of these new instruments. We have 25 teachers from the community signed up now. That number will probably increase in the fall as we move on with the program."

The research grant for the linguistic analysis of the Creole of Cape Verde, an unwritten language, will result in a standard orthography for Cape Verdean and later in the composition of a book for those interested in that language said Dr. Newman.

"Since Cape Verdean is a mixture of African languages and Portuguese, there are two ways you can go in the spelling. You can make it resemble an African language or make it resemble Portuguese. There are advantages and disadvantages to both. We have distributed questionnaires down in Cape Verde and among local Cape Verdeans asking for their reactions. The Cape Verdean government is very much interested in this. There's a tie-in with the Cape Verde Islands and the government down there," said Dr. Newman, who feels that this research should establish UMass/Boston as the national center for Cape Verdean language and culture.

Dr. Joseph Cooney of the Environmental Science program drew a good-sized audience to his recent lecture on Oil Pollution and Microbes, part of the Distinguished Lecture series sponsored by Dr. Fuad Safwat's Office of Graduate Studies and Research.

20th anniversary profiles

Dr. John Ryan recalls the chaos and courage of UMB's beginnings

As president of Indiana University, John W. Ryan oversees the operation of eight campuses, including a medical school, and the education of 83,000 students.

Back in the summer of 1965 Dr. Ryan, a Ph.D. in Political Science and Public Administration, could be found at almost any hour of the day in a cubbyhole office of the old Boston Gas Co. building in Park Square preparing for the first class of UMass/Boston... 1244 freshmen.

Dr. Ryan agreed to become the first Chancellor of UMass/Boston at the request of former UMass President John Lederle when the much-needed school was still a figment of the imagination of some courageous visionaries.

The challenge he faced in June of '65 was to open the school three months later in the gas building which had not even been purchased by the state, let alone renovated for a university.

Recently Ryan, who left UMass/Boston in June, 1968 to go to Indiana, recalled how the job in Boston got done and remembered the days "in that little hide-away office" when he pencilled out on ordinary yellow-lined legal paper the first class schedule for the new university.

Starting almost from zero to launch a major urban university is still the most unique experience of his life, Ryan said.

"Looking back, I wish I'd saved that first class schedule — I remember I did it in No. 3 lead pencil and it was scratched out here and there. But it was not the sort of thing one would keep. It would be nice to have it now. I just wonder how many men alive had that kind of opportunity," he mused.

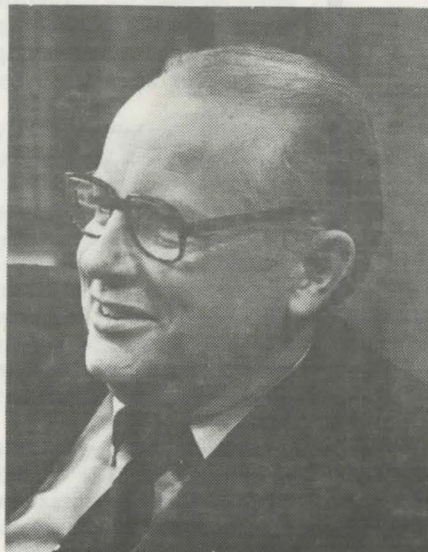
Ryan said it is hard to imagine what it was like in 1965 when one looks at UMass/Boston today. "The university is out there, a vital, throbbing, tangible and real thing. Its future is a fairly good bet."

But in 1965, he recalled, when nothing was in place, it took "a good deal of courage to help bring something into being."

Ryan credited the dedication of the founding faculty, administrative staff and the unfailing support from state and city officials for the University's emergence as a vital part of Boston's academic structure.

From the first, Ryan said, "We had in mind a first rate public institution in Boston that would provide opportunities to young people in Boston and to what are now called non-traditional students, and we wanted to do that from the word go."

"Today," he said, "the University, in



Dr. John W. Ryan

"Looking back, I wish I'd saved that first class schedule — I remember I did it in No. 3 lead pencil and it was scratched out here and there. But it was not the sort of thing one would keep. It would be nice to have it now. I just wonder how many men alive had that kind of opportunity."

really a very short period of time, has established itself as a credible public higher education community, both in teaching and in research, to deal with the needs and the realities of urban life in Boston."

As he outlined that first class schedule, Ryan kept two things in mind: One, that the University would be involved in the education of both traditional and non-traditional students and, two, that all of this would be going on in cramped quarters, replete with the confusion of renovations going on in the gas company turned university building.

"We constructed a curriculum that had a certain requirement of basic content to a baccalaureate degree. We tried to organize our subject matter in areas rather than in departments, that is, biological, physical, and social sciences, humanities, mathematics, and we

required that language be taken and certain history courses," he said.

"On one hand this simplified the development for a student of his or her freshman and sophomore year program... and it accommodated to the difficulty of assembling a faculty of qualified people... we simply appointed first those we needed first," Ryan continued.

"On the other hand, it made us, all of us, work very hard on curriculum development and even teaching methodology development. The faculty members had to do double duty," he said, "not simply as professors and teachers and researchers who had to keep up with the momentum they brought with them, but also they had to help us evaluate students on the admissions committee, or help determine priorities in acquiring equipment and finding more space as we needed it."

"We wanted to develop a curriculum strong in the liberal arts sense at the undergraduate level but that also was a quality program for preparing students for subsequent education either in the professions, medicine, dentistry, law and journalism, or graduate studies," Ryan said.

In retrospect President Ryan believes he and those who worked with him in the early days of UMass/Boston were successful in their efforts to launch a school offering quality education.

"I don't, of course, have direct access to the information," he said, "but I think that, even from that very first class, we had young people go on to distinguish themselves in professional education and graduate education."

During that crucial summer of '65, the gas building was worked on feverishly.

"In order to meet the code we had to put in two new stairwells. We renovated classroom floors, two laboratory floors, the fourth floor we made into a library and on the third floor we put in some food service and a student lounge," Ryan recalled.

Renovation continued after school officially opened. The chemistry and biology labs weren't completed until November. Ryan said the professors had to organize their courses to put off lab work until the last part of the semester.

Ryan stayed on in Boston to supervise the growth of UMass/Boston in its early days and to help plan the new Harbor Campus.

He stayed in contact with the University here. "I have never lost my interest in the institution and in the people I worked with," he said.

He sees the primary purpose for a school of higher education such as UMass/Boston still as important as ever. "There is nothing that has changed about the fundamentals of urban society either in the world or in Massachusetts that would cause me to think the school would have any different role to play

• continued on next page

Daughters of Malcolm X and Dr. King bring "Nucleus" to UMB

"A union that would have happened."

This is how Yolanda King, daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King, and Attalah Shabazz, daughter of Malcolm X, characterize their collaboration in "Stepping Into Tomorrow", a blend of music, comedy and drama that was performed recently at UMass/Boston's Harbor Campus.

King and Shabazz, co-artistic directors of the New York-based, seven member troupe Nucleus, appeared as part of Black History Month activities.

In her introduction, Jocelind Gant, Director of Affirmative Action and one of the organizers of Nucleus' appearance, commented on the indelible mark Malcolm X and Dr. King have made on black history.

Shabazz and King, who met in New York City as a result of interviews for "Ebony" magazine, feel their working together is a kind of destiny.

King feels that their collaboration "...symbolizes the coming together that was not allowed to come together..." referring to their fathers.

Both women feel that the media portrayed their fathers only as adversaries, at odds over the course the civil rights movement should have taken."

"Our union is very symbolic," Shabazz said, "not because of our own accomplishments, which are small, but because of who are fathers were, and how separate the media maintained their philosophies, their ideals, their tactics. How different the public always made them seem when their hearts were very much the same. Just the way they went about it (civil rights activism) was different."

Malcolm X — who was publicly critical of Dr. King's movement — and King did meet briefly at a 1963 Washington, D.C. march press conference.

"They had a high respect for each other," said Shabazz. "When Dr. King was in prison in Selma, my father went down to visit him, but the authorities would not let him in. When my father was killed, Dr. King wrote my mother a letter of support. Our fathers were —



Attalah Shabazz (left) and Yolanda King

towards the end of my father's life (Malcolm X was killed in 1965) — very much in support of each other. They realized that they needed each other to make what they were working towards work."

"Today the University, in really a very short period of time, has established itself as a credible public higher education community, both in teaching and in research, to deal with the needs and the realities of urban life in Boston."

• continued from page 2

than we thought of in the 1960's. I think those fundamentals are the same and the University has made a very good response to them," he concluded.

Dr. Ryan received his B.A. degree from the University of Utah, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Indiana University.

In 1962 and 1963, he was executive assistant to the president and secretary of UMass/Amherst.

He left that position to become vice president of academic affairs at Arizona State University before coming to UMass/Boston in 1968.

He is the author of numerous publications and research, including "Local Government in Thailand;"

Dr. Weibrecht named chairman of 20th Anniversary Committee

Walter E. Weibrecht, Ph.D., Chemistry Professor at UMass/Boston, has been named chairman of the Coordinating Committee arranging events for the University's 20th anniversary, it was announced by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan.

Weibrecht replaces George Goodwin, Jr. of Newton, a Political Science Professor who was forced to step down from the position due to a recent eye operation.

Both men are popular faculty members at the Harbor Campus and go back to the beginnings of UMass/Boston when the seeds of quality public higher education for Boston's urban population were being sown.

Weibrecht is president and treasurer of the Board of Governors of the

UMass/Boston Faculty Club. He has much experience in arranging extra-curricular events and has moved enthusiastically into the spot vacated by Goodwin to "firm up," as he said, a host of events scheduled for the rest of the year to celebrate the school's 20th birthday.

He was born in New York City and raised in Weehawken, N.J. Weibrecht received his B.S. in chemistry from Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York and was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard in 1963-'64.

He joined the chemistry department at UMass/Boston in 1966.

"Wisconsin State Fair: Its Modern Role and Objectives;" "Political Pressures on the University;" and "Devising Better Ties Among All Welfare and Related Programs."

He has been a member of a large number of organizations, including the Air University Board of Visitors, American Council on Education, American Judicature Society, American Political Science Association, Association of American Universities, Association for Asian Studies, and the Council for Financial Aid to Education.

News & Views is a bi-weekly publication of the UMass/Boston Office of Public Information. News items should be addressed to:

Office of Public Information
Third Floor, Administration Building
Harbor Campus

Director: D. Leo Monahan
Editor: Stephen Moniak
Assistant: Claire Gallagher
Staff Writers: Jean Cole Harris
Kathleen O'Malley
Garry Puddister
Staff Photographer: Leo Tierney

Briefly . . .

• Continued from page 1

Dr. David Landy, professor of Anthropology, has completed a most productive sabbatical leave. In addition to four publications, he made presentations in Newport, R.I. and Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

Dr. Landy also began to serve his term as President of the Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences. He served as President-elect from November, 1982 to November, 1983.

At the 11th International Congress in Vancouver, Dr. Landy presented a paper: "Pibloktoqand and Eskimo Nutrition: Possible Implication of Hypervitaminosis A."

The following clinical nursing students and faculty received an official citation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives: Frances Portnoy, consultant; Laura Glover, faculty; students: Joan Fleming, Elaine Havey, Joanne Knight, Michael Menke, Myrne Ravitz, Mitchell Silver, Sophie Tzetinovich and Anne Vernon.

On Friday, March 30 and Saturday March 31, 21 students from the College of Management will assist Dorchester and South Boston residents with their tax returns free of charge. It's part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistant Program (VITA). For information: John Lerner, 929-7089.



Dr. Linda Gordon

Dr. Linda Gordon, UMass professor of History, 1983 Gugenheim Fellowship winner and a fellow in the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College, spoke at a women's history conference at Radcliffe to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Schelsinger Library on the History of Women in America.

The two-day program was held during National Women's History Week. Dr. Gordon spoke on "Perspectives on the History of Family Violence."



Left to right: Dr. Edmund Traverso, director of Continuing Education; Teacher-of-the-Year Kathleen Hughes of Hingham, and Dr. Gerard P. Antonellis, aide to Dr. Traverso.

Continuing Education program honors Mass. Teacher of the Year

UMass/Boston's Center for Occupational Education honored Kathleen Hughes at a recent breakfast on the Harbor Campus. Ms. Hughes, a Hingham resident and Scituate teacher, was the recipient of the Massachusetts Board of Education's Teacher of the Year Award.

Ms. Hughes, a special needs teacher with the Scituate public schools, developed a model program through which her class of multi-handicapped, mentally-retarded students were trained in job and life skills which prepare them for jobs in the service economy.

She attributed inspiration for her program to a UMass/Boston course she took entitled "Vocational Education Programming for Students with Special Needs." The course is the only one of its kind in eastern Massachusetts.

More than 100 school superintendents, district coordinators, principals and public and private educators participated in the Center's first major conference, "Accessing Employment and Training Funds."

The Center for Occupational Education falls under UMass/Boston's Division of Continuing Education.

A \$64 million bond issue, passed by the UMass Board of Trustees and a \$32.3 million capitol outlay budget signed by Governor Michael Dukakis will allow the University to combine investment capitol and public funds toward major building and renovation projects at its three campuses.

Legislation expanded the Building Authority's jurisdiction, confined to Amherst for its 20-year history, to extend throughout the state.

The Authority now can undertake projects at Boston and Worcester as well as at Amherst. UMass/Boston will receive \$6.25 million in capitol outlay for projects such as building renovations, library repairs, a bus terminal and purchase of equipment which will enable expansion of the computer and environmental science programs.

An exhibition of photographs by Brian Thompson (French) will run through March 31 at the Library of the

Weston School of Theology/Episcopal Divinity School, Brattle & Mason St., Cambridge.

There was an opening reception March 11. Entitled "Earthen Vessels," the show includes largely photographs of inner-city youngsters from the Uphams Corner neighborhood of Dorchester, involved in various activities from volleyball at UMass/Boston to mountain-climbing in Northern Vermont.

The Biology Department's Spring Seminars continue. March 23: Dr. Peter Ashton, Director of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, on "Deforestation and Land Use in the Humid Tropics: A Biologist's Perspective." March 30: Dr. George Woodell, Marine Biological Laboratories, Woods Hole, on "CU2 Problem: Scientific Puzzle and Political Dilemma." Both seminars are at 2:30 p.m. in room 11-1-209. All are cordially invited.