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# Reporter

NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

Volume 2  
Number 1  
September 1997

## Conferences are Highlights of Summer '97

This summer, UMass Boston took a leading role in hosting several international and national meetings. A brief summary of four conferences follows.

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For the Urban Harbors Institute staff, the summer of '97 will likely be remembered as the summer of Coastal Zone '97 (CZ '97). As co-sponsor and primary coordinator of the conference, they hosted 1,100 people from 50 countries at Boston's Park Plaza Hotel from July 19-25.

Participants discussed issues from treating oil spills to revitalizing urban waterfronts. Richard Delaney, Director of the Urban Harbors Institute and Executive Officer for CZ '97, said that one critical step discussed was the establishment of a federal inter-agency to coordinate coastal management. "Right now, 31 of 35 eligible states have coastal management frameworks, and each state has a working mechanism. What is missing is a mechanism on the federal level," says Delaney, who is hopeful that such an initiative will go forward.

Encouraging the involvement of the individual in coastal issues was also stressed. "It is the thousands of small decisions on the local level that ultimately determine the health of our coastal resources," says Delaney.

\*\*\*

A Social Security Town Meeting, co-sponsored by the Gerontology Institute and 40 other organizations, was held at UMass Boston on July 21. Over 250 people came to hear three members of the National Advisory Council on Social Security discuss the administration's reform proposals.

Although Social Security is presently sound and growing, by the year 2019, revenues and interest will not meet demand. Proposals for change range from maintaining social security as is, but loosening restrictions on investments, to incorporating publicly or privately held

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# Student Wins \$20K From NIH

## The University Reporter

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When opportunity came knocking for Chukwuka Okafor, the door was already open. The junior biochemistry major wastes no time waiting for things to happen.

He has developed a protocol for total protein separation from E.coli culture. He landed a research position in the laboratory of Dr. Kenneth Bridges, professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and director of the Sickle and Thalassemia Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and in laboratories at Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Quest Diagnostics.

One of Okafor's most recent achievements may be the most significant in helping him reach his goals of attending medical school, earning M.D. and Ph.D. degrees, performing clinical work and research, and becoming a medical school faculty member.

The Roxbury resident was awarded the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds. One of 20 students selected from a national pool of 220 applicants, he will receive up to \$20,000 per year for tuition, educational and living expenses. In return, he has agreed to two service obligations to the NIH: a 10-week, paid summer laboratory experience at NIH in Bethesda, Md.; and a year of NIH research service (post-graduation) for each year of scholarship support.

The scholarship program was established to encourage students from disadvantaged backgrounds

to pursue educational and career opportunities in biomedical research. According to the NIH, students from disadvantaged backgrounds are from low-income families, or from environments that inhibit (but do not prevent) students from obtaining the knowledge, skills and ability required to enroll in undergraduate institutions.

Born in Boston, Okafor was educated in Nigeria, where he worked 40 hours a week to finance his high school education. He returned to Boston at age 16 and earned an academic scholarship to attend UMass Boston. Though making little more than minimum wage, Okafor sends money to his parents, who live in Nigeria on a combined annual income of about \$510.

"Even going to college, I have a lot of discouragement from different people," Okafor said. But the number of believers grows with each achievement.

Dr. Judith K. Gwathmey, research professor of medicine and director of the Integrated Physiology Research Laboratory at the Boston University School of Medicine, said she feels proud and honored to have had Okafor train in her laboratory at Harvard Medical School.

"As a practicing physician, in your lifetime you can impact and save maybe hundreds or thousands of lives. As a researcher, you can impact millions," Gwathmey said. "He will be a physician and a researcher," she said of Okafor. "It's very clear that this man will impact millions of lives."



# In Depth With New Provost Edward Glynn

Edward Glynn is often asked how he handles the "step down" from 12 years as president of St. Peter's College and one year as president of Gonzaga University to his current position as provost. Some suggest he's helped by being in the same city as the Boston Red Sox, a team he's adored since the 1940s, or by having an office view of another favorite pastime, sailing.

But Glynn insists his new job is no demotion, and his cheerful countenance adds credence to a reply skeptics would consider lip service: "This is the most exciting job on campus."

He, of all people, would know.

Glynn's acceptance of the position of interim provost, replacing Louis Esposito, who has returned to the faculty, allows UMass Boston to tap a well filled with 40 years of experience at several of the nation's top universities.

He has been called assistant professor to director to academic vice president at institutions including Georgetown University, Woodstock Theological Center, and Churches' Center for Theology and Public Policy. He has served on boards of trustees at 17 educational institutions. In addition, Glynn has earned six degrees from Fordham University, Woodstock College, Yale Divinity School and Graduate Theological Union, and has completed studies at several other schools.

First introduced to UMass Boston during a 1989 visit, Glynn said he has been attracted to the university's mission. "I was impressed then with what the university was doing. I was very much impressed with the strategic plan, and I still am," he said.

"I have strong convictions that two of the nation's problems are the quality of urban life and the quality of urban education," Glynn said. He cited UMass Boston's strategic plan and general education reform as two "exciting" ways to battle this national challenge.

Glynn is no stranger to urban campuses. At Georgetown University, he was active with the Community Scholars Program which provided Washington, D.C., students with scholarships to attend the university.

As president of St. Peter's College in Jersey City, N.J., Glynn initiated the graduate program, started residence facilities, and recommitted St. Peter's strong involvement in urban education. During his tenure, the college received several million dollars to set up an Institute for the Advancement of Urban Education.

At Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., Glynn was committed to diversifying the school's student body and staff. "Father Glynn is one of those rare leaders out there," Bob Bartlett, director of cultural diversity at Gonzaga told *The*

*Spokesman-Review*. "He came here with a message that was different and refreshing. When he pushed for better race relations, my spirit was lifted," Bartlett said.

At UMass Boston, where minority students make up 33 percent of enrollment, and nearly three percent are non-resident or international students, Glynn's commitment to diversity makes his fit with the university even more snug. "Cities are made up of lots of different people. I think we're all in this together," he said.

Glynn is known for being energetic, open-minded and constantly interacting with students. At Gonzaga, for example, he conducted "fireside chats" to foster dialogue with students. "I desire open lines of communication," he said. "I like to promote extensive conversation."

When Glynn speaks of his managerial style, concepts of strong leadership, organization and fostering creativity come to mind. "I like clear lines of responsibility," he said. "We have to urge people to be independent and encourage initiative."

Glynn said he has been well received at UMass Boston and looks forward to meeting more faculty, students and staff. "I'm impressed with the quality of the people I've met here and their enthusiasm for the mission of the school," he said.



# Welcome to New Faculty, Administrators

On university campuses throughout the country, September is a month of new beginnings. Here at UMass Boston, we welcome the following new administrators and faculty members for the 1997-98 academic year.

Dr. Edward Glynn, S.J. has assumed the position of provost on an interim basis. He comes to UMass Boston from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, where he served as president and academic vice president (see our interview with Provost Glynn on page 3). Dr. Glynn replaces former provost Louis Esposito, who has returned to the economics department faculty.

Professor Richard J. Clark has been appointed dean of the Graduate College of Education on an interim basis. Prof. Clark comes from UMass Amherst, where he taught in the School of Education for 29 years. Prof. Clark replaces former dean Eleanor Kutz, who now holds a joint appointment to the Graduate College of Education and the English Department faculties.

Professor Richard S. Lyons has been appointed deputy provost for the 1997-98 academic year. Prof. Lyons has served the University in many roles, including associate dean of CAS, associate provost, and chair of the English department.

Professor Neal Bruss has assumed the responsibilities of dean of the liberal arts faculty for the 1997-98 academic year. A member of the English department since 1973, Prof. Bruss was most recently associate dean of the

Liberal arts faculty. He takes the place of Woodruff Smith, who has returned to the history department faculty.

The new Labor Resource Center at CPCS will be directed by Patricia Reeve, former associate director of the Labor Studies degree program. An experienced labor educator and researcher, she has been active in the labor movement, serving as director of Nine to Five: The Organization of Women Office Workers. Reeve has also been appointed adjunct assistant professor of labor studies.

The activities of the Division of Global Studies will be jointly overseen on an interim basis: Prof. Ann Cordilia will oversee the development of international curricula; Michael Mahan of University Advising will oversee relations with international students; and Dean of Continuing Education Theresa Mortimer will be liaison for diplomatic and other international guests to our campus. Former director of Global Studies Sheila Post has returned to the English faculty.

We also welcome the following new faculty and look forward to their contributions to our students and in their fields of scholarship:

Anthony Baxter, Assistant Professor  
Ph.D. program, GCOE

Don Belton, Visiting Assistant Professor  
English Department, CAS

James Bennett, Lecturer  
Accounting and Finance, CM

Mitchell Chang, Assistant Professor  
Ed.D. Program, GCOE  
(begins January, 1998)

Sherry Cunningham, Assistant Professor  
Psychology Department, CAS

Kathy Fabiszewski, Lecturer  
Nursing Program, CN

Joseph Ginhardt, Assistant Professor  
Biology Department, CAS

Stephanie Hartwell, Assistant Professor  
Sociology Department, CAS

Ramona Hernandez, Assistant Professor  
Latino Studies, CPCS

William Holmes, Visiting Associate  
Professor  
Criminal Justice Program, CPCS

Susan Jackson, Lecturer  
Management and Marketing, CM

Karla Rae Klein, Assistant Professor  
Psychology Department, CAS

Margaret McAllister, Lecturer  
Nursing Program, CN

Nadim Rouhana, Associate Professor  
Dispute Resolution Program, CPCS

Gail Russell, Assistant Professor  
Ph.D. Program, CN

Patricia Suyemoto, Assistant Professor  
Secondary Education, GCOE

Margaret Wagner, Assistant Professor  
Art Department, CAS

John Warner, Associate Professor  
Chemistry Department, CAS

Brian White, Assistant Professor  
Biology Department, CAS

Pepper Williams, Assistant Professor  
Psychology Department, CAS



# Six New Academic Programs Offered

Beginning this fall, the University of Massachusetts Boston will offer six new academic programs.

The College of Arts (CAS) and Sciences offers the following undergraduate programs:

- The American Studies major focuses on the rich diversity of the people and culture of the United States. Lois Rudnick is program director.
- The new joint Criminal Justice program allows the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) and CAS to share a core curriculum of seven courses. Gerald Garrett is

director of the joint program.

- Students can now specialize in Environmental Studies, in addition to completing a major within an academic department. Students enroll in one of two program tracks: The Environmental Science Track, designed for students in the natural sciences, or the Environment and Society Track, for students in the social sciences or humanities. Roger Wrubel is director of the Undergraduate Environmental Studies Program.

New graduate programs follow:

- Graduate students interested in developing a theoretical background for work in research and development divisions of biotechnology companies or biomedical research labs may now earn the Graduate Certificate in Biotechnology.
- The College of Nursing offers two new post-master's certificates: Family Nurse Practitioner and Gerontological/Adult Nurse Practitioner.

## Campus Educators in the Vanguard

*"It's all about not putting kids in boxes. Looking around the room, you saw creativity, innovation, and enthusiasm for the teaching and learning process. No one was saying 'We've found the answer,' but everyone is looking to improve and change."*

*Janice Magno  
Center for Social Development  
and Education*

On June 11, the Vanguard Showcase, held at UMass Boston for a second year, capped another year of exceptional, hands-on educational work in the Boston Public Schools (BPS) by members of the Vanguard Partnership.

The Partnership, an alliance between the Boston Public Schools and thirteen area colleges and universities, was established

in 1993, prompted by the Massachusetts Education Reform Law. The objective of the partnership is to find ways to include students with special needs in regular classrooms, and at the same time improve teaching and learning for all students. Twenty-four partnerships created displays for the Showcase highlighting ways to accomplish this goal.

"We see different schools doing different things," said Janice Magno, Coordinator of Professional Development at the Center for Social Development and Education (CSDE), who oversees the Center's partnerships with eight Boston Public Schools. "One school may focus on a multiple intelligences curriculum, another on flexible grouping strategies, for example."

Magno says that what binds all the efforts are sound pedagogy, best practices, and a program tailored to fit the school and its students. In addition to CSDE's partnership work, the Graduate College of Education's Professor Glenn Mitchell of the Special Education Program oversees a partnership with Hyde Park High School.

On hand to offer his congratulations was BPS Superintendent Thomas Payzant, who told 125 participants that he appreciated their willingness to share best practices. "Being chosen twice to host the Vanguard Showcase is a real honor," says Karen Cote, who coordinated the Vanguard Showcase for the CSDE. "It shows our special relationship with the Boston Public Schools that they look to us to pull the event together."



# Grad Students Offer Free Computing Services

It has happened to most of us, probably too often than we care to recall. We work tediously on the computer and say to ourselves, "There has to be a better way to do this." Faculty members with this nagging doubt or with any other computing problem, can utilize a free campus resource, the Computing Services Graduate Assistant Program.

Entering its third year, the program has hired about 12 graduate assistants annually who consult with faculty members on call and with projects such as mail merges and World Wide Web pages.

Bucking the stereotype of computing assistants who know how to fix a problem but lack the social skills to explain the problem or its solution, graduate assistants in Computing Services are selected not only for their technical abilities, but also for their people skills. "We have been extraordinarily lucky to attract people with good computer backgrounds, the ability to articulate, and the willingness to go the extra mile," said Wayne Hatmaker, program director. "We tell all the graduate students it's Computing Services with an accent on the 'Service,'" he said.

An initial idea behind the program was to provide each of the university's five colleges with a graduate assistant from that college, providing the college with an assistant who was not only knowledgeable about computers, but about the field of

study as well. The applicant pool, however, was not representative of each college. Today, the graduate assistant may not be students in the colleges with which they work. Nevertheless, as the first line of technical support, the graduate assistants are close and can be reached quickly and easily.

Susan Barricelli is a graduate assistant pursuing an M.A. in elementary education. Her placement in her home college, Graduate College of Education (GCOE), is a win-win situation. "For me, it has worked out great. I get to learn about technology, but I also get to learn about education," she said.

Diane D'Arrigo, assistant dean of the GCOE, said Barricelli was "terrific" and "very accessible." "She was housed in the College 20 hours a week and helped faculty and staff in a number of ways," D'Arrigo said. "For some of the faculty she made an enormous difference."

Both parties expressed enthusiasm for working together. "I want to stay in the Graduate College of Education. If I do that, I'd like to talk a few more people into getting web sites up," Barricelli said.

"Susan was housed in an area of the college that wasn't as central as I would have liked," D'Arrigo said. "I think more people could have access to her services if we would have housed her in a more

central location. We plan to do that this year," she said. Barricelli, however, will spread her expertise to a wider segment of the campus this year. Computing Services expects to provide GCOE with a student who will live up to Barricelli's standards.

Graduate assistants often find themselves in the position of teacher as opposed to student. They provide private tutorials for some faculty. Often, when a faculty member is uncomfortable with teaching a technology, the graduate assistants will step in. "One of the things we have done and will continue to do is to go into the classroom and do any type of technology instruction," Hatmaker said. "They can either bring their class to us, or we can go to them."

UMass Boston is not the only university where student computing assistants experience a role reversal. "The one advantage I have to having the graduate students is that there are situations where I'm asked to provide coverage for classes because a faculty member isn't really comfortable in teaching a technology subject," said Barbara E. McMullen, director of academic computing at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

"The role of the student teaching the faculty has had very interesting cultural results here at Marist," McMullen said. Faculty take more chances with technology and develop trusting relationships with students, she said. UMass Boston has seen similar results.



# .....

## Profs' Research to Affect America's Youth

The findings of two professors whose research won national recognition and financial support could influence the quality of life for many young Americans.

Sociology professor Susan Gore was awarded a \$2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for her project "Reducing Mental Health Risk in Young Adult Transitions." Gore, along with research fellows Robert H. Aseltine and Mary Ellen Colten of the Center for Survey Research, will study the transition high school students make in planning their immediate futures. Over the course of five years, they will interview 1,370 high school seniors with two addi-

tional follow-up interviews over the next three years. According to Gore, the transition from high school is a major normative event in early adulthood characterized by significant developmental challenges and occurring during a period of documented mental health risk. "Despite the importance of this life transition in the young adult period, it has received virtually no attention in mental health research," Gore wrote in a summary.

Dr. Peter N. Kiang, associate professor in the Graduate College of Education and American Studies Program, was named a 1997-98 National Academy of Education Spencer Postdoctoral

Fellow. The fellowship is intended to enhance research in education by developing new talent in the many fields of education scholarship.

Kiang will use the \$40,000 award to address the absence of significant research on Asian American youth in hopes of giving scholars and practitioners a realistic understanding of their strengths, needs and conceptions of leadership. "As a result of my study, scholars and practitioners will have a realistic understanding of Asian American students' experiences as well as a grounded theory to support Asian American youth leadership development," Kiang said.

## .....

## Prof Tracks Harbor Pollutants with Fiber Optics Grant

Sometime next year, a small, computer-controlled, submersible vehicle known as a "fish" will be loaded with fiber optic cables and other sensors and equipment, and lowered into Boston Harbor. As it undulates its way through the water, it will relay three-dimensional data about the various organic materials it encounters directly to the computers of Prof. Robert Chen and his fellow researchers from the Environmental, Coastal and Ocean Sciences program (ECOS).

Surveys of dissolved organic matter, including some serious pollutants, in Boston Harbor and at three other sites—Chesapeake Bay, San Diego Bay, and San Francisco Bay—will provide information to help scientists sort out the kinds of pollution they

are finding, their sources, and their fate once they are in the water.

Chen will use the fiber-optic sensors to measure the fluorescent components of organic materials found in sewage effluents and soil and urban runoff. Various natural organic matter and contaminants can be identified by their fluorescent "signatures."

"The advantage of using fiber-optic technology is that we get the information immediately, and on site," says Chen, thus eliminating the need to bring samples back to a laboratory on dry land for analysis. This "real-time" aspect of the data is important because of the transient nature of organic materials as they make

their way into these waters and then are disbursed by currents and tides.

Chen's research has won him a coveted Office of Naval Research (ONR) Young Investigators Program grant in the amount of \$300,000, plus \$139,000 for equipment. Only 28 of the 300 proposals submitted to the Young Investigators Program were funded this year. Chen has been the recipient of several other grants for his work in this area. His co-researchers in this project are research associates Bernie Gardner and Xuchen Wang and doctoral candidate Steve Rudnick, all of the ECOS program.



## Publications

Prof. **Robert Johnson** of the Dept. of Africana Studies has co-written a book, *Shona*, with Dr. Gary Van Wyk. *Shona* is part of the 56 volume "Heritage Library of African Peoples" published by The Rosen Publishing Group of New York City.

Prof. **Roger Wrubel**, director of the Undergraduate Environmental Studies Program has co-written an article, "Regulatory Oversight of Genetically Engineered Microorganisms: Has Regulation Inhibited Innovation?" in the July issue of the journal *Environmental Management*.

*The Women Carry River Water*, a volume of poetry by Vietnamese author Nguyen Quang Thieu, has been translated by Prof. **Martha Collins** of the English department and published by the University of Massachusetts Press.

## Grants

The **Center for World Languages and Cultures** received a \$102,000 grant from the University of Puerto Rico to provide a summer English program for 30 students. The Center has also received several grants in conjunction with the graduate programs in bilingual and ESL studies totalling over \$400,000 for 1997-98.

**Richard Delaney** and **Jack Wiggins** of the Urban Harbors Institute have been awarded a \$9,000 grant from the City of Boston's Environmental Office to develop an existing use and physical constraint map of Boston Harbor.

The **Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy** will participate in \$75,000 study investigating alternative sentencing for female substance abusers in the state criminal justice system. The study is funded by the Massachusetts Legislature.

Five faculty members, **Arthur MacEwan**, economics; **Margaret McAllister** and **Victoria Palmer-Erbs**, Nursing; **Frank Porrell**, Gerontology; and **Meredith Ramsay**, political science were awarded public policy summer research grants by the McCormack Institute.

## Appointments

Professor **Bette Woody** of the Human Service Program, CPCS, was a visiting professor in Yale University's Community Renaissance Fellows Program this summer. She presented recent research on Boston's neighborhood retail centers as new urban economic models.

Prof. **Victoria Palmer-Erbs** of the College of Nursing was chosen as an American Psychiatric Nurses Association delegate to the American Nurses Association Credentialing Center.

**Gillian Krajewski** will serve as the acting director of the Graduate Programs in Dispute Resolution while Director David Matz is on sabbatical until Spring of 1998.

## Conferences and Presentations

**Melodie Wenz-Gross**, senior research associate with the Center for Social Development and Education, presented a poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for

Research in Child Development. Her presentation was "Stress, Social Support and Adjustment During the Transition to Middle School."

The Urban Harbors Institute co-sponsored the annual conference of the Environmental Diversity Forum, *Neighbors and Neighborhoods in Partnership*, at UMass Boston in June. **Jack Wiggins**, assistant director of the Urban Harbors Institute, is vice president of the Forum.

McCormack Institute Senior Fellow **Al Cardarelli** was honored at a June luncheon by the Boston Police Department for his report on the restructuring of the Municipal Police Department.

**Zelda Gamson** and **Catherine Burack** of NERCHE conducted a Project Colleague institute in Sturbridge, MA., July 21-24, to show faculty associates how to design workshops to create community-based programs. Profs. **Peter Kiang** and **Cass Turner** attended as faculty associates.

## Acquisitions

The **Archives and Special Collections** department of Healey Library has acquired the Hanoi Journal of community organizer and anti-war activist Carol McEldowney, who died in 1973 at the age of 30. McEldowney travelled to Hanoi, North Vietnam, in 1967 to observe and record uncensored images during the Vietnam war.

## Faculty and Staff in the News...

"US college in Bulgaria could be a model for the post-Cold War world," an op-ed by

**Robert Woodbury**, McCormack Institute Director, appeared in the *Boston Globe* June 21.

McCormack Institute Senior Fellow **Padraig O'Malley's** op-ed, "Will peace be a casualty of Northern Ireland's marching season?" appeared in the *Boston Globe* July 12.

Dr. **Allan Sloane**, project director of the McCormack Institute's Big Dig Study was interviewed by *WLVI-56*, *WBZ-4*, and *New England Cable News* on July 30.

Prof **Andres Torres'** op-ed, "Boston's 'job gap' for minorities" appeared in the *Boston Globe* on August 3.

**Hubie Jones**, Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Urban Affairs, was interviewed on Acting Governor Paul Cellucci by *WCVB-5* on August 10.

CPCS Prof. **James Green** was interviewed on the UPS strike by *WLVI-56* August 19 and 21.

Lou DiNatale, senior fellow of the McCormack Institute, was interviewed on Washington D.C.'s *WABU-FM* regarding the receiverships for the cities of Chelsea, MA, and Washington, D.C. on August 23.

## In Memoriam

**Gilman Hebert**, an instructor in the Bilingual/ESL master's program, passed away July 8 at the age of 51. Mr. Hebert was a respected educator whose special areas of interest were methodology and Franco-American culture. He also served as Director of Bilingual Education in the Massachusetts Department of Education for 15 years.



# U.S. Education Official Visits Campus

One of the nation's top education officials spent two days in Massachusetts, at the invite of Center for Occupational Education.

Patricia McNeil, the U.S. Department of Education's assistant secretary for vocational and adult education, spent June 10-11 discussing vocational education with members of the state's vocational education community, comprehensive school system personnel, and college and university representatives.

McNeil was greeted officially by Chancellor Sherry H. Penney and Sumner Rotman, director of the Center for Occupational Education.

On June 11, McNeil presented

"Future Federal Direction for Vocational-Technical Education Legislation for the 21st Century" to 130 educators at the Center for Occupational Education Statewide Conference, held in Marlborough. In her presentation, she discussed the need to re-tool vocational education in response to changes in the workplace and also talked about President Clinton's proposal to use federal funds for vocational education.

"Vocational technical education is a critical part of preparing young people with the strong academic and technical skills they'll need to succeed in the 21st century," McNeil said. "President Clinton proposes new legislation that stresses student achievement,

program quality, and program accountability. This legislation will help states and communities re-tool vocational education in high schools and post-secondary institutions to meet the needs of students for the Information Age," she said.

In evaluating the conference, 19 percent of respondents called McNeil's presentation outstanding, and 62 percent rated it excellent. "Too often, these types of presentations dealing with national issues tend to be stilted and officious," an anonymous respondent wrote. "The secretary's message gained impact as she presented herself as a 'real' person with issues and problems much like the rest of us," the respondent said.

## UMass Boston First to Improve University

The *UMass Boston First* Campaign has impressed the most cynical of philanthropic professionals because of its ability to adapt traditional capital campaign practices to its own innovative design and mission. As the first capital campaign in UMass Boston's 33-year history, the Campaign has been a catalyst to achieving many University "firsts" as well as becoming the force behind the development of a University identity.

The *UMass Boston First* Campaign has acquired over \$17 million in private contributions toward its goal of \$50 million by end of the year 2001. The new funds for endowment, capital projects, and academic programs are essential to:

- enhance and maintain the

quality of UMass Boston faculty,

- ensure that UMass Boston remains accessible to students with the motivation and capacity to succeed,
- support new and continuing academic and research initiatives, and
- upgrade the total education environment, including campus facilities and technological resources.

One of the most exciting aspects of *UMass Boston First* is the philanthropic enthusiasm that it has attracted. We have received gift commitments of almost \$400,000 from several of the system-wide University Trustees, principally Charlie Hoff (\$200K), Myra and Bob Kraft (\$100K), Grace and Ted Fey (50K), and

Robert and Marybeth Haynes (10K). The students have also managed to contribute an initial sum of \$101,000 toward scholarships from the revenue they derive from student-run Wit's End Cafe and other activities on campus. This is indeed unusual and impressive, and they have committed an additional \$45,000.

The *UMass Boston First* Campaign has stirred the imagination of alumni, faculty, and friends, motivating thoughts of a revitalized University. The plan is to continue pushing against old ideas and attitudes to create a vibrant University environment; to transform the physical structure into an arena of art, culture, theater, politics, and world-class academics; and, of course, to meet the \$50 million challenge.



# Creating Community At Convocation '97

Convocation Day is an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to celebrate the opening of the new academic year. It is a day when the community can come together, whether formally at the Convocation Breakfast, or more casually, when students, faculty, and staff meet for food, music and fun on the plaza.

This year, Convocation activities on September 10 highlight two milestones: Chancellor Penney will reflect on her tenth year leading the campus and the upcoming inauguration of William Bulger as the 24th President of the University of Massachusetts. President Bulger will present the keynote convocation address at the Pre-Inaugural Convocation Breakfast, which will be held in the Clark Athletic Center.

In addition to the by invitation only Pre-Inaugural Convocation Breakfast, day-long events will be taking place on the plaza and at other locations on campus. Information tables and free giveaways will be available on the plaza over the course of the day, and vendors will sell their goods on the plaza between Wheatley and McCormack. Free food and music will be available throughout the day.

Musical groups will be performing for the campus community throughout the day at various locations on campus. Check the day's schedule of events for locations. Performers include the Dixie Jazz Kings; Tribal Trash, a group of young Bostonians who play on plastic buckets, pans, and various household items; Division Street; Inca Son; violinist Colin Matthews; Mary Jane and the

Smoking Section; Nova Trova; and juggler and comedian Peter Panic.

Open houses will be held at Casa Latina, 10 to 7 p.m.; the Women's Center, 2 to 4 p.m.; and the Veteran's Center, 2 to 6 p.m.

"I hope we see a 'coming together' of students, support staff, administrators and faculty to share in the festivities," says Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Jan Robinson. "We have plenty of reason to celebrate the new school year, including a decade of leadership from Chancellor Penney and the inauguration of President Bulger," she adds. Robinson was one of a number of administrators who worked to put together the all-day events of Convocation Day '97 under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Michael Luck.

## Center to Use Funds to Study Women in Labor Movement

The Labor Resource Center, through a collaborative partnership with the Women's Institute for Leadership Development (a statewide organization based in Boston), has received funding through the Heinz Family Foundation for research on economic security issues for Massachusetts women.

Through an initial \$5,000 grant, the Center will continue Phase I of the research this fall. Included in the phase is a review of the literature and identification of research gaps. The Center plans to submit a second, larger grant proposal to conduct needed research identified in Phase I. Cheryl Gooding, the Center's

research coordinator, is the principal investigator. Randy Albelda of the Economics Department is also working on the project as an associate of the Center.

The Labor Resource Center also played a key role in developing and attracting funding for a new statewide program, in partnership with the Women's Institute for Leadership Development. The project, called "Women Organizing Women," will expand work by the Women's Institute for Leadership Development to include strategies to help women union members in the following areas:

- organizing to utilize their

unions as a strong voice for women workers;

- building alliances between women in unions and women in community organizations;
- strengthening efforts to organize women into unions.

The project recently received grants totaling \$35,000 from the Fund 2000 and the Ms. Foundation. The Center will conduct research related to the project and produce several briefing papers in the fall or winter. Gooding will conduct research with Susan Eaton of the Radcliffe Public Policy Institute. Easton will also join the center as an associate. Patricia Reeve is the new director of the Labor Resource Center.



# Summer Lures International Students to UMass Boston

UMass Boston hosted more than 110 international students in programs this summer.

The Intensive English Language Program, sponsored by the Center for World Languages and Cultures, hosted 30 students from the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras from June 1-28. Arriving with low English proficiency levels, students were required to speak English exclusively, even in their Tufts University residences. After 98 hours of coursework, proficiency levels increased remarkably.

Ismael Ramirez-Soto, dean of the College of Public and Community Service, credits the program's success to its balance of culture and language. June was broken into weekly themes: Boston History and Culture; American Society and Media; Ethnicity, Race and Gender; and American Music, Literature and Art.

Depending on the theme, the group would visit places such as The Freedom Trail, WGBH and The Boston Globe. "They liked the combination of the tours and having tutors and faculty accompanying them on these tours," Ramirez-Soto said.

Two other language programs, sponsored by the Division of Continuing Education, intertwined language and culture. The American Seminar Program, a partnership with Chukyo University in Nagoya, Japan, hosted 40 students and two faculty members July 18-Aug. 8. The students, mostly sophomores studying to become English teachers or lawyers, took in a Red Sox game, shopped in Harvard Square and visited the Museum

of Fine Arts, Sturbridge Village and the Berkshires.

"The curriculum is very intensive. They are basically in class all day," said Theresa Mortimer, dean of the Division of Continuing Education. "Even the cultural activities are integrated right into the curriculum," she said.

The same was done for the 26 students from Korea, Indonesia, Mexico, Ecuador, Taiwan, France, Germany and Hong Kong who attended the Summer Program in English Language and U.S. Culture for International Students. With varying levels of English backgrounds, the students spent their mornings reading, writing, speaking and listening, preparing in part for the afternoon's field activities.

Management, not language, was the focus for 13 middle level Argentinean executives during in the Advanced Executive Seminar in Modern Management Techniques held July 14-25. Taught in Spanish by primarily UMass Boston faculty, seminars focused on state of the art management methods.

Many international students are interested in attending UMass Boston as a result of the summer programs in which they participate.

According to Fernando Colina of the Center for World Languages and Culture, four students from the University of Puerto Rico were sent applications for graduate study at UMass Boston. "When there was a show of hands asking who wants to return, they all raised their hands," Colina said.

Mortimer said the ultimate goal for many students in the Summer Program in English Language and U.S. Culture for International Students is to attend UMass Boston.

"What's very interesting with this group is that some of them are staying on with us to continue their English language studies," Mortimer said. Several students from the Division of Continuing Education's summer programs have enrolled in a pre-college program being held this fall.

## McCormack Hosts South African Leaders

Four South African policymakers spent June 24 - 28 studying local government in the Boston area. Hosted by McCormack Institute's Center for Democracy and Development were provincial ministers Sicelo Shiceka of Gauteng Province and Darkie Africa of Northwest Province; Lynelle John, member of the White Paper Working Committee; and Rudolph Mastenbroek, national policy coordinator, African National Congress.

Accompanied by Senior Fellow Padraig O'Malley, Visiting Fellow Leonard Robinson, and Margery O'Donnell, the visitors met with campus and local officials to discuss revenue, Chelsea's bankruptcy and water distribution center, youth violence prevention, community development, empowerment and grassroots construction. They also toured Cambridge, discussed finance, training, the Internet and housing integration.



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## Summer Conferences

*continued from page 1*

individual retirement accounts. A three-hour question and answer period followed the presentations.

The meeting was the brainchild of Prof. Yung Ping Chen, who said there should be security guarantees while the system experiments with new approaches. "I would avoid any reform plan that places participants in financial jeopardy," he says.

He added, "Judging by the questions and comments, most people came to the meeting with a point of view, but if forums like this can be held frequently, I think we will begin to see some merging of opinions."

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Studies indicate that four out of ten college students are considered "binge drinkers." Despite this, faculty often don't see what they can do about it. A three-day national think-tank on how faculty can help reduce alcohol and drug abuse on college campuses was held here July 10-13.

According to Sociology professor Gerald Garrett, UMass Boston participants offered their experiences in "curriculum infusion"—integrating information on abuse prevention into courses in psychology, sociology, criminal justice and applied research. "We explained how we placed the issue into disciplines where you wouldn't usually find it," he says.

For example, Health Services' annual drug and alcohol use survey was redesigned by students in an applied sociology course. "Now, Health Services has valuable data on the nature of substance abuse, and we've incorporated this into the curriculum as part of instruction and state-of-the-art research," he says.

UMass Boston participants were Profs. Garrett and Xiaogang Deng of the sociology department, graduate student Joseph Bebo, and Linda Jorgensen, director of the PRIDE program. The meeting was sponsored by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention.

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"Building Our Future on Yesterday's Success" was the theme of the 20th international conference of AHEAD, (Association on Higher Education and Disability), held in Boston July 15-19. Carol DeSouza, AHEAD conference chair and president-elect, enrolled her UMass Boston colleagues in providing workshops and activities for the 1100 attendees, who came from the U.S., Canada, England and Australia. "The World of Adaptive Technology," a day-long program of activities held at UMass Boston attracted 60 people. Ray Kurzweil, inventor of the reading machine, was honored with an award at the conference banquet.

"Participants had fantastic professional development opportunities, and were able to interact with many beyond our usual membership—including people from the City of Boston, vendors, the press, and the high-tech community," says DeSouza.

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