

University of Massachusetts Boston

## ScholarWorks at UMass Boston

---

1983-1991, News & Views

University Publications and Campus  
Newsletters

---

8-31-1987

### News & Views - Vol. 06, No. 01 - August 31, 1987

University of Massachusetts Boston

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university\\_newsandviews](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. 06, No. 01 - August 31, 1987" (1987).  
*1983-1991, News & Views*. 68.  
[https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university\\_newsandviews/68](https://scholarworks.umb.edu/university_newsandviews/68)

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](mailto:scholarworks@umb.edu).

un-3 2-56.2

# UMASS BOSTON NEWS & VIEWS

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1



AUGUST 31, 1987



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



Dr. Betty Diener, new UMB Provost

## Dr. Betty Diener appointed Provost/Vice Chancellor

"The quality of the faculty," says Dr. Betty Diener, was one of the things that impressed her most when she assumed duties as Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UMass/Boston.

"It may sound like flattery, but I think our faculty must understand that it has one of the strongest collective vitae I've seen in a public university, both in terms of their own doctoral programs and their productivity."

Dr. Diener was appointed after a nation-wide search that took several months. The appointment, announced by Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan, was confirmed by the University's Board of Trustees.

She succeeded acting Provost, Dr. Joan Liem, who returned as Chair of the Department of Psychology, a post she left in January, 1987.

"I am delighted to have someone of Betty Diener's experience and talent join me in leading the campus at this crucial time in our history as we prepare to take the next steps toward becoming the nation's model for the urban public university," said Chancellor Corrigan.

Dr. Diener comes from Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA. She was Secretary of Commerce and Resources, Commonwealth of

Virginia, from 1982-86.

As a member of Gov. Charles Robb's Cabinet, she was responsible for policy development and direction

□ continued on page 4

## Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan announces resignation

Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan announced his resignation a year hence – as of August 31, 1988 – to the Board of Trustees. He was named Chief Executive at UMass/Boston in May, 1979 and is the senior head of the American Public Urban University system.

His nine year's service means he has headed UMass/Boston for nearly 40 percent of its history.

"It has been an exciting time to be Chancellor for UMass/Boston and it is no exaggeration to say that there has never been a dull moment," said Chancellor Corrigan in a six-page statement.

"The institution's relatively negative public image has been turned around, and the fact that UMass/Boston is a full-fledged member of the Greater Boston college and university community is now generally acknowledged.

"The quality of the faculty and programs, always of the highest calibre, has become more widely known and students and alumni



Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan

alike share a renewed feeling of pride and self confidence – especially as they find themselves in increasingly more important positions in business, industry and government.

"Since 1979 we have moved from being an almost completely undergraduate liberal arts institution to a

□ continued on page 3

## The Boston Globe

### Sparking UMass-Boston

*Editorial reprinted courtesy of The Boston Globe, August 11, 1987*

Robert Corrigan's resignation as Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts at Boston is unfortunate and untimely. His leadership was exactly what the urban campus needed when he arrived eight years ago – and still needs.

Corrigan has an unerring sense of what a city-based public institution of higher learning is all about. He lifted UMass/Boston out of third-rate status in a hodgepodge of buildings around Park Square. Today, its waterfront campus houses a university that is a remarkable reflection of metropolitan Boston in its student diversity and is a proud example of excellence in teaching.

Forty percent of its students come from the city; two-thirds live within Route 128. A majority

of undergraduates are the first in their families to go to college. Half are women and 20 percent are minority – the highest minority enrollment of any public university in New England.

Much of this is Corrigan's doing. He stressed affirmative action in recruiting students and faculty. Of the 30 institutions of higher education in metropolitan Boston, UMass/Boston has the highest percentage of black faculty members. Its employment of minorities extends across the board, exceeding the record of any public or private university in New England.

Nor did he tolerate lax academic standards. More PhD holders from Harvard teach at UMass/Boston than at any other school, except Harvard itself. And the original focus on undergraduate study was widened to include graduate

and professional programs.

It was Corrigan's vitality that sparked the school's rise to prominence. Most students work, so he stressed flexibility and innovation. He made day care available for student-mothers. In 1986, *Time* magazine named UMass/Boston one of "nine hot colleges."

Corrigan's resignation stems from a controversy over university trust funds. Although auditors found no inappropriate personal use of the money, he voluntarily repaid \$3,000 in questioned expenses. Although his judgment on the expenses may have been too casual, no one suggests wrongdoing.

As the Harbor Campus enters an era of rebuilding and renewal, Corrigan's resignation will be keenly felt. Great care must go into choosing his replacement.



## Faculty Lecture Program reaches out to area schools

UMass/Boston faculty voluntarily reach out to public and private secondary schools in the Greater Boston area.

Since 1984, some 130 UMass/Boston professors have given university-level talks on academic disciplines ranging from Biology to Philosophy and from The Classics to Psychology, to high schoolers in their own schools. They lecture for free and on their own time in the Faculty Lecture Program (FLP).

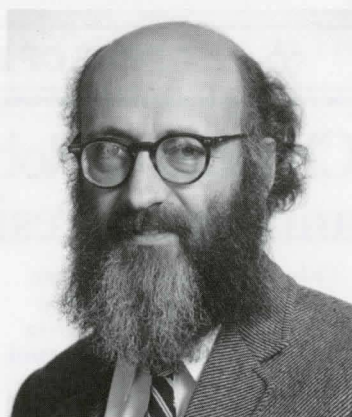
"We wanted high school students, their teachers and parents, to get to know UMass/Boston and its top-notch faculty. This is the taxpayers' university," says associate professor of Anthropology, Larry Greene.

Greene, then head of the Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, suggested the faculty speakers program. Don Costello, special assistant to Associate Dean John Conlon, of the College of Arts and Science, agreed to help launch it. Greene recruited faculty. Costello recruited high school principals and department heads interested in bringing students UMass/Boston faculty speakers at no cost.

"Our faculty is great. They certainly responded when I explained the program's goals and asked for volunteers," says Greene, who also wears the hat of director of the Biology of Human Population Program.

The program's goals are to:

- give students a sense of university level subjects;
- familiarize high school students, faculty and parents with UMass/Boston;



Prof. Larry Greene



Don Costello

- prepare students for higher education; and
- Establish school and university relationships for the exchange of ideas and academic teaching techniques

To do this, Costello set up a pilot program with principals at some 50 high schools in the area. "Our faculty visits the school

twice during the academic year and provide talks on specific subjects for students in those disciplines," explained Costello.

Subjects range from anthropology to psychology including biology, political science, physics, and languages.

At Natick High School, music students learned what Dinosaurs and Mozart have in Common, from David Patterson, UMass/Boston professor of music.

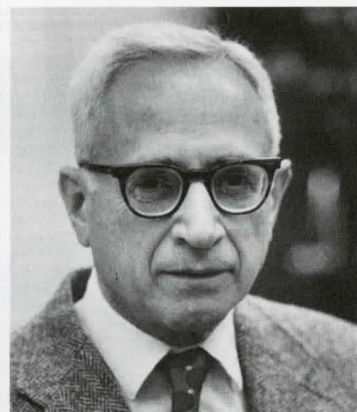
"Music evolves from nature's heartbeat—the slow pulsation of the dinosaur, the fibrillation of the hummingbird. And man's capability to combine the primal beat with ideas and emotions into a musical form," explains Patterson.

While at Madison Park High, Professor Robert Bowen, of Environmental Sciences, explained to students just why they should care about the clean-up of Boston Harbor: "You'll be paying billions for the clean-up, as taxpayers. And without a clean harbor you're deprived of a resource for recreation, like swimming, and healthy seafood."

Other lecture titles vary from "The Birth of Quantum Mechanics; Do People Do What They Know to Be Morally Right?," to "Science for Human Survival." The program now covers 75 high schools in the area.

Headmaster at Madison Park High School, Curtis Wells, says of the program, "It's a great opportunity for students to dialogue with university level instructors. And for the professors to see what kinds of students are in the public school setting."

## Dr. Becker awarded a Fulbright



Prof. Ernest I. Becker

A Fulbright Fellowship has been awarded UMass/Boston Chemistry Professor Ernest I. Becker of Newton.

Dr. Becker will lecture in chemistry at Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey, starting September, 1987.

"This is a great honor. I really was hoping the Fulbright Fellowship would come through," said Professor Becker, who has been a member of the UMass/Boston faculty for 22 years.

Recently, Professor Becker was elected a fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Professor Becker has authored more than 100 professional papers and has edited seven books. He was Chairman, Department of Chemistry, 1965-72.

## B r i e f l y . .

Dean Anne K. Kibrick of the Nursing School has been appointed to Lt. Gov. Evelyn Murphy's Blueprint 2000 project. Dean Kibrick will be concerned with Human Support elements of the Blueprint 2000 project, which hopes to articulate what Massachusetts will look like in the year 2000, what we want it to look like and to develop action to get the desired future.

□

Materiel Manager Joe Bloomstein raised more than \$1,000 for the Red Cross by lining up financial backers for his 56-lap assault on the 25-yard lanes in the Clark Center swimming pool. Bloomstein

had some 40 backers, heaviest contributors of whom were his two sons in the construction business. This has become an annual effort on Bloomstein's part.

□

Jocelind E. Gant of Newton, Director for Affirmative Action, was the recipient of the 1987 Education Award for her contributions to the UMass/Boston Community. The award was presented by the Union United Methodist Church, of which Rev. Charles Stith is Senior Pastor, during its annual Women's Day Service.

Ms. Gant also was the cover article topic in Connecticut-based

*Insight* magazine, a career forum for Black educators.

□

Jennifer Presley of Institutional Research and Planning has been elected North Atlantic Regional Representative for SCUP—The Society for College and University Planning. She also is on the Board of Directors for the national organization. Her territory covers the New England states and the northeast Provinces of Canada.

□

Dr. Harold Horton, Athletic Academic Coordinator, has been named to serve on the 1987 Student-Athlete Recognition Commission of the National Association of Academic Advisors

for Athletes, commonly known as the N4A.

□

Professor Lois Rudnick reports a tremendous reaction to the conference exploring issues that led to the birth of the modern American Theatre held in Provincetown, birthplace of the Provincetown Players.

The three-day event drew coverage in *The Boston Globe* and *New York Times*. It was sponsored in part through grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

□

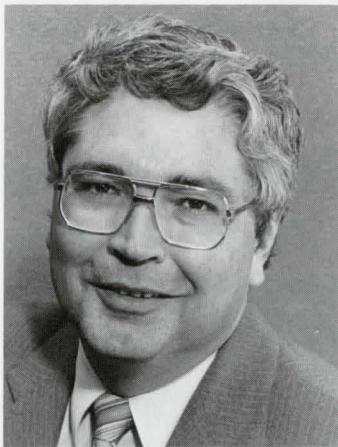
Official groundbreaking for a new JFK/UMass/Boston T station  
□ *continued on page 4*



## E. Wallace Coyle honored for Distinguished Service



ABOVE: Finalists for Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award pose with: Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan, center. Left to right: Prudence King, former Associate Vice Chancellor for Planning; Mary Mahoney, Assistant Director of Admissions; Chancellor Corrigan; Linda Anderson, Associate Director of Student Financial Management and award-winner E. Wallace Coyle, Director For Writing Proficiency in the College of Management.



LEFT: Prof. E. Wallace Coyle

## Chancellor Corrigan Resigns

□ continued from page 1

much more comprehensive university center with vastly augmented graduate offerings and professional programs."

Chancellor Corrigan cited "a number of independent institutes have been established" during his tenure, naming the McCormack Institute, the Trotter Institute for the Study of Black Culture, the Gerontology Institute, the Urban Harbors Institute and the William Joiner Center.

"It is with very mixed emotions that I inform you of my decision to resign, effective a year hence," continued Chancellor Corrigan. "It is my intention to return to teaching and research, a prospect which excites me greatly.

"But it is equally true that I have enjoyed my work as Chancellor and the opportunity provided me to join with the UMB faculty and staff in building what many have come to believe is 'the model for urban universities.'

"The past eight years have been both stimulating and satisfying ones for me. . .

"I have been in administration for over 15 years and I have increasingly lost touch with the research and teaching that so dominated my early years in the profession. These are my roots and I feel a need to return to them.

"After eight years of a fairly active role in the community, I hope to maintain an involvement in aspects of urban life where my experience may prove useful. It may be that the challenge of another administrative position will prove enticing but at this point in my life it is the lure of the classroom and the library that is most intense. . .

"I want to assure you that my enthusiasm for the future of UMass/Boston is not in any way diminished."

Chancellor Corrigan, 52, said he plans to finish a book he is writing on poet Ezra Pound, and start researching another book on Black American women novelists.

## Dr. Jane Roland Martin cited for Distinguished Scholarship

Professor Jane Roland Martin of the Philosophy Department has been awarded the 1987 Chancellor's Distinguished Scholarship Award and will be honored at Convocation on Sept. 23, 1987.

Dr. Martin, recent winner of a Guggenheim Fellowship, was selected on the basis of her nominated book, *Reclaiming a Conversation: The Ideal of the Education Woman* (Yale University Press, 1985.).

Three other nominees for the Chancellor's Distinguished Scholarship Award were cited by acting Provost Joan Liem as one of her final official acts:

- Professor Richard Horsley, Religious Studies Program, for his book, *Bandits, Prophets & Messiahs: Popular Movements at the Time of Jesus.*
- Professor Robert Steamer, Political Science Department, for his book, *Chief Justice: Leadership & the Supreme Court.*
- Professor Fatemah Zahedi, for her article, "Data-Base Management System Evaluation and Selection Decisions."

The Award carries a \$2,000 honorarium and a course load reduction.



Prof. Jane Roland Martin

Dr. Martin received an A.B. from Radcliffe, 1951, an M.Ed. (1956) and a Ph.D. from Harvard (1961). She has taught at Brandeis University, University of Denver, University of Colorado, Harvard, University of Alberta, Canada, and Boston University.

She joined the UMass/Boston faculty as Associate Professor of Philosophy in 1972 and in 1980 was named Professor.

Lauded UMass President David C. Knapp:

Bob Corrigan has brought stability to the University in Boston and has transformed the Harbor Campus into a true urban university center. . . And, almost singlehandedly, he accomplished one of the few successful mergers in contemporary public higher education—that of Boston State College with the University. . . I personally, and the University as a whole, greatly appreciate his devotion to making this a better academic institution.

Noted *The Boston Globe* in an editorial (see page 1):

"Corrigan has an unerring sense of what a city-based public institution of higher learning is all about. He lifted UMass/Boston out of third-rate status in a hodgepodge of buildings around Park Square."

An editorial in the *Dorchester Reporter* said:

"We hope that the UMass Board will note that our Chancellor has been successful in operating UMass/Boston and that his easy accessibility has made him a popular figure in our community."

## "A Word of Support for the Chancellor"

Excerpted from the *Dorchester Reporter*

It was almost 20 years ago that the state identified the Columbia Point peninsula here as the site of the new campus of UMass/Boston. In the ensuing years, there was a ripple of anxiety over the arrival of the university in our community. . .

Now, two decades later, and 15 years after UMass opened here, the campus is the daytime home of 14,000 students during the spring and fall semesters,

and another 6200 persons are taking summer courses there. Yet the negative impact feared by some has never materialized.

Much of the credit can be given to the vigilance of the several chancellors of UMass, most recently Robert Corrigan, who has headed the campus since 1979. Corrigan has been active from the start in community affairs, involving himself in the local Kiwanis Club and the Board of Trade, as well as making himself available at numerous civic

association events through the community.

At his direction, the extensive facilities of the UMass Athletic Center, complete with ice skating, swimming pool and basketball gymnasium is totally open to community residents. University officials estimate that the Kit Clark Center there offers 6000 hours of recreational opportunity each year to community residents. . .

Corrigan has made sure that

□ continued on page 4



## Dr. Betty Diener appointed Provost

□ continued from page 1

for 17 state agencies, 51 citizen boards and commissioners, and a total biennial budget of \$955 million. Previously, Dr. Diener was Dean of the School of Business Administration at Old Dominion, 1972-82.

Dr. Diener was graduated from Wellesley College in 1962 with a major in Political Science. She received an MBA (1964) and a DBA (1974) from Harvard Business School, one of the first women to receive either degree from that school.

"When Old Dominion recruited me to become dean of the business school, I became familiar for the first time with the emerging urban university, the role that it serves in a community and its increasing importance on the educational scene," said Dr. Diener.

"I was impressed there and impressed here with the large number of highly-qualified students who need to attend college in their home areas. And I was impressed with the commitment the state made to provide that kind of education, at reasonable cost, at a convenient location and of the highest quality.

"One of the exciting things about such schools is the move to increasingly sophisticated academic programs, increasing numbers of doctoral programs, increasing emphasis on research and yet an equally strong commitment to teaching.

"The thing that interested me most at UMass/Boston was its style and selected areas for emphasis—the Urban Harbors Institute, Environmental Science, the McCormack Institute, the Trotter and Joiner Institutes. A lot of these things are ones in which I take a personal interest. An example is Urban Harbors since I have a background working with Chesapeake Bay in Virginia.

"My role, I feel, is to help the University continue along the path it has chosen, which is undergraduate teaching combined with growth and development of graduate programs and research with a strong emphasis on the institutes.

"There is always a need for a very strong public university, even when you're surrounded by some of the finest private universities in the nation and, indeed, the world."

## UMB sponsors Project Reach at Burke High

UMass/Boston recently completed a six-week program in Project Reach at the Jeremiah E. Burke High School, Dorchester.

The program is designed to provide Boston-area special needs and disabled adults the ability to succeed in a post-secondary setting with career and educational counseling.

Project REACH stands for Realizing Educational and Career Hopes. It was funded via a U.S. Dept. of Education Talent Search Grant within the Division of Student Affairs at UMass/Boston.

Project Reach is the first and



Project Reach counselor Cheryl Koki, right, stands at blackboard for students at Jeremiah E. Burke high school. Left to right: Rachel Grinnel, Jesse Rucker, Kelly O'Keefe, Michelle Samson, Ricardo A. Smith and John Harrison.

only talent search program specifically targeted towards special needs individuals to be funded by the U.S. Dept. of Education.

Cheryl Koki served as UMass/Boston's counselor.

## Word of Support

□ continued from page 3

the University community remains open and accessible to the residential community. Fund raising dances are often held there, the local youth soccer program has use of the university's soccer fields, and numerous residents have taken advantage of the many evening and summer programs which Corrigan has administered so effectively.

And last year, our local university was identified by *Time* Magazine as among the top 10 "up and coming" universities in the country. Quite an achievement for such a young school. . . .

We hope that the UMass Board will note that our Chancellor has been successful in operating UMass/Boston, and that his easy accessibility has made him a popular figure in our community.

## Briefly . . .

□ continued from page 2

took place in mid-July. Construction on the \$13.5 million project began in June and is expected to last two years.

Once the station is completed, South Shore riders can go directly to the UMass Harbor Campus, the JFK Library and Columbia Point where the housing development is undergoing extensive renovation.

"The whole area has become a major part of activities in this city and is of regional significance," said State Transportation Secretary Frederick P. Salvucci.

*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, Boston, MA 02125.

Director: D. Leo Monahan

Editor: Stephen Moniak

Assistant: Diane Vasseur

## New England String Quartet in residence at UMass/Boston



New England String quartet players Heidi Yenney, Magdalena Suchecka-Richter, Holly Barnes Morrison and Kris Yenney will play four concerts under the burgee of UMass/Boston this academic year.

The New England String Quartet will be in residence at UMass/Boston for the 1987-88 academic year and will give a series of four concerts, according to Dr. David N. Patterson, Chairman of the Music Department.

Formed in 1985, the New England String Quartet has performed at Tanglewood.

Three native Californians and Magdalena Suchecka-Richter, born in Gdansk, Poland, make up the Quartet. The Californians: Heidi Yenney, who received her bachelor of Music Degree from the New England Conservatory; Holly Barnes Morrison, who was graduated from Indiana University and received a Masters degree from Boston University, and Kris Yenney, who received her Masters Degree from the New England Conservatory.

Ms. Suchecka-Richter was a prize-

winner at the International Young Artists' Competition in Paris in 1975. In the United States, she has studied at Boston University, the Longy School and the Julliard School in New York.

In its opening concert on Friday, October 2, 1987, the New England quartet will play works of Beethoven, Schumann and Shostakovich with Marek Zebrowski, pianist and UMass/Boston faculty member. This will be held in the McCormack Hall Auditorium on the Harbor Campus.

The remaining concerts will be held Sunday, November 22, at the Longy School of Music, Cambridge; Friday, April 1, 1988, at McCormack Auditorium, Harbor Campus, and on Sunday, May 8, 1988, at the First and Second Church, Marlborough Street, Boston.

All concerts are free and open to the public.