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University of Massachusetts Boston

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Internships Awarded to Clinical Psychology Graduate Students

Nine fourth and fifth-year doctoral students in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program at UMass Boston will soon begin American Psychological Association (APA) internships around metropolitan Boston. According to Professor Joann Liem of the Psychology Department, "These internships involve supervised training in psychotherapy and psychological testing and assessment with children, adolescents, and adults."

Mary Kiely, another fifth-year student, will intern at the Boston Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center. According to Dr. Terence Keane, Chief of Psychology Services at the VA, Blackburn and Smith "were very highly considered because they competed quite well." Blackburn and Smith were chosen out of 140 national applicants for 14 available spots.

Four-year student Leon Franklin will intern at the Center for Multi-Cultural Training in Psychology at Boston City Hospital and the Boston University School of Medicine. Last year only three students were accepted into the program out of 57 applicants.

The Gradate Student Services Office has established two $500 grants to help defray the costs of dissertation and pre-internship expenses. Dr. Robert W. Spayne Research Grant, named for the retiring graduate dean, is awarded for work leading to a master's thesis. The Craig R. Rollinger Memorial Research Grant, named for a late UMass Boston doctoral student, is awarded for work leading to the doctoral dissertation.

UMass will establish a consortium of colleges and universities to work together with the federal Sea Grant Program, to focus on the state's fishing industry, President Michael Hoiker has announced.

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The Center is conducting a four-year longitudinal study of over 1,000 fifth-grade students as they move into middle school. "Our belief is that the seeds of dropout occur in middle school. Alienation begins to set in and then adjustment problems become apparent, while cliques begin to form," stated Siperstein.

Six interns selected from among 175 nationwide applicants from last year, were announced. Among 175 nationwide applicants from last year, only eight were chosen.

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"These students to qualify for internships, they must complete the required course work, master's theses, and practice. Their doctoral dissertation proposals must also be approved by dissertation committees.

Staff members Carole Upshur and Alison Gottlieb, are investigating how older parents, particularly those who are ready to retire, cope with their physically and mentally-challenged children.

In April the Center collaborated with Everett Public Schools on a Parent University Day at the Center school. Everett parents of children with and without disabilities attended workshops to improve parenting skills. "This is an innovative approach to developing the social competence of children. School readiness is often reflected in the freedom of stress in the home," explained Siperstein.

"Our center has a low profile on campus, but we have a high impact on the community," said Siperstein. "It represents the mission of the UMass Boston campus as far as working in the community and with other universities, at a national level," continued Siperstein.

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UMass Boston’s Field Center for Teaching and Learning Promotes State Education and Leadership

The Massachusetts Field Center for Teaching and Learning at UMass Boston held a conference in April in which UMass Boston served as one of the “down links” for the broadcast of the Washington D.C. education summit meeting, Key to the Future: National Summit on World Class Education for American Children. Other sites were in Los Angeles, Chicago, and Atlanta.

At UMass Boston, Brenda Dann-Messier, regional representative of the Secretary of Education, moderated a panel discussion of educational concerns. It consisted of William L. Dandridge, dean of the Graduate College of Education, Lois Harrison-Jones, superintendent of Boston Public Schools; Roger Harris, principal of the Timilty Middle School in Roxbury; Neil Sullivan, director of the Boston Private Industry Council; Ed O’Connell a staff member of the U.S. Office of Education; and Palmer Swanson, executive director of the Cambridge School Partnership. One of the topics discussed in the conference was establishing a world-class standard for Boston education with parents having a voice in the process, according to Dandridge.

The Field Center supports Massachusetts educators by promoting teacher leadership and effective class room practices. The Center also puts educators in contact with policy makers, encourages educators to reflect and write about teaching, and organizes retreats and publishes training materials. The Field Center has been engaged in these other activities:

- It sponsors a state-wide conference on “Teachers’ Voices: Reflecting, Writing, and Sharing.” June Kuzmeskus, associate director of the Center, stated that “writing is encouraged to promote personal and professional development for educators. This way, they can go back and apply that to their teaching activities.”
- On May 3rd the Center hosted 32 educators from across the state at a conference on Professional Development: Building Professional Culture.
- The Center also publishes books about mentoring and information on the construction of development grant proposals.
- The Center’s Teacher Study Group Program funds twelve $700 grants that support the investigations of significant school-based issues, allowing teachers to play an active part in school improvement.

UMass Boston’s contribution to the 1994 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Campaign (COME C) campaign was $26,648, according to Professor Harold Horton of the Trotter Institute and the Graduate College of Education, who is the director of the campus campaign. This is a significant rise from the $14,850 contribution made in 1991.

Massachusetts’ 29 colleges and universities donated $658,000 out of a total of $1.5 million for the fund drive. The totals were announced at the April COMEC Breakfast, hosted by Chancellor Sherry H. Penney.

Forum Invites Discussion of 25th Earth Day

Progress made in the Commonwealth in protecting the environment was announced on April 21st at an Environmental Policy Forum moderated by Richard Delaney, the director of the Urban Harbors Institute, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Earth Day.

- Senator John Kerry explained that clean rivers around the state have increased by 55% during the past twenty years.
- Environmental Policy Agent Region 1 Director John Devillars stated that the amount of lead present in the water is down by 90%.

City of Boston Environmental Chief Carleen Douglass Stone emphasized that by 1998, 80% of the population in the United States will live in cities, and that the government must now enact legislation to help air and water pollution.

Kerry stated that Massachusetts has had “major public health benefits” from such legislation as the Clean Water Act. However, he stressed that the environment is still a matter that needs government attention. According to Delaney, “the feeling that people left with was that there is a clear challenge today that needs to be responded, to both in Wash-ington and here in the state and city, in order to maintain the progress we’ve made in the last 25 years.”

The forum was a very lively and substantive exchange of ideas from the top environmental leaders from Massachusetts concerning the current state of the environmental movement. Each speaker offered a retrospective look at the 25th anniversary of Earth Day, combined with a prospective look at where he or she believes the movement is going in the next 25 years,” said Delaney.

Madeline Walsh of the Urban Harbors Institute organized the forum with assistance from MASSPIRG and Environmental Science students Christine Linestrum and Jacqueline Ritchie.

The forum was sponsored by UMass Boston radio station 91.9 WUMB FM, the Urban Harbors Institute, MASSPIRG, the Department of Geography, the Clean Waters Club of the Environmental Sciences Program, Harbor Exploration, the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and Save the Harbor.

“Of all these groups worked extremely hard to get the word out on Earth Day. The forum was one of the activities of an entire month of Earth Day activities sponsored by UMass Boston” stated Walsh.

On May 19th, Pulitzer Prize winner Doris Kearns Goodwin will speak at the Betty Teynor Scholarship dinner of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy. Contact Jain Ruvidich at 287-6785.

Attention Readers

Send news information to Donna Roseto or Neal Bruss at the Office of Public Information, Second Floor, Quinn Administration Building.

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