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Reporter

News and information about the University of Massachusetts Boston

Volume 3
Number 4
December 1998

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Biology Professor Studies Endangered Right Whales

Right whales came by their name because they are slow moving, have lots of blubber, and tend to float when killed, making them the "right" whales to kill in the eyes of hunters. Researchers estimate that as many as 80,000 to 100,000 northern right whales once roamed the North Atlantic Ocean. Now, the numbers are fewer than 300. Even though they have been protected from hunting since 1935, the northern right whale's numbers do not appear to be increasing.

For the past three years, Biology Prof. Solange Brault has been studying data on northern right whales to assess their health and prospects for survival. Along with colleagues from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, the New England Aquarium, and several graduate students, Brault has been analyzing extensive photographic records of individual northern right whales which date back to 1980. The records identify them by their calluses and scars. Some of the whales have names— Stumpy, Quasimodo, and Radiator—the latter so named because of a distinctive pattern of scars on his back made by a boat propeller.

Brault gathers information about when and where the whales have been sighted, and if and when an identified female is accompanied by a calf, using the photo records and a method known as "mark recapture analysis."

This method, which is used to track populations of small mammals and birds, usually requires animals to be captured, tagged, released, and then monitored at intervals to estimate population size and survival rates. In the case of the northern right whales, the photographic records serve as "tags," allowing them to be monitored by researchers who follow their seasonal movements.

"Our goal is to find out what is the survival rate, and what is the fertility rate, so that we can know if the population is increasing or

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The People Behind ARD

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Send your news items to:
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Looking for Suddi St. Ives on a Wednesday afternoon? You probably won't find her at her desk in Graduate Admissions. And now that you think about it, where has HR's Robert Rutirasiri been every Tuesday morning? What's going on?

Suddi and Robert are part of a growing number of people who take time out of their busy work schedules to attend weekly Administrative ReDesign (ARD) project team meetings. Since ARD was first commissioned by the Board of Trustees in 1995, well over 100 employees have been involved in project teams whose charges vary from designing an institution-wide customer service training program, to creating an comprehensive encyclopedia and archive of University information. Each of these teams contributes to the process of review and improvement that helps us re-think the services we offer and how we offer them.

The people behind ARD seem to unanimously agree on one of the most important aspects of the process: bringing together a diverse mixture of people from throughout the University and utilizing their areas of expertise to find out how we get things done faster and more easily than we have in the past.

Bob Gettman, associate provost and veteran of at least three ARD committees, notes, "It's interesting to be in these meetings and see how all kinds of employees—from directors to classified staff members—have discussions about how we can improve the

system. In these meetings you find that everyone has a chance to voice their opinions and to be heard: this is not just a top-down directive."

As a member of the "Experiencing the Community" team, Joel Grossman believes that ARD has been especially effective in bringing together people who might otherwise never meet: "Really anything that brings people together from departments that don't usually work together helps to bring about a sense of community." The groups focus on building this sense of community because it is crucial to bringing about the kind of changes meant by the ARD process. "If you don't have people on board," Grossman said, "you won't get very far."

So when you see a co-worker rushing out of the office with notepad and overstuffed folder in hand, be assured that their time is well spent, and don't forget to ask about the latest ARD developments.

—by Ellen Evans



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In Depth With The Joiner Center

Veterans of the Armed Forces have always been a significant portion of UMass Boston's student population, with an estimated average of 950-1,000 enrolled on campus annually. It is thanks to veterans that the University is home to the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences, founded in 1982. Named after its first director of veterans affairs, the Joiner Center combines the study of war and its aftermath with veterans' issues and advocacy.

"The Center's focus is local, but our issues are national and international in scope, and that's the right model, especially in a university like this," says Kevin Bowen, director of the Joiner Center. "So many of our students are here because of some conflict somewhere in the world."

The Center's activities range from advising student veterans, to sponsoring conferences on the needs of veterans on the local and national level; hosting Vietnamese scholars, teachers and writers; and sponsoring workshops, including its well-known Writer's Workshop, now in its 11th year, and a summer workshop for teachers who want to incorporate the teaching of the Vietnam War into their curricula.

The Center brings in speakers, sponsors poetry readings, and undertakes a variety of research projects. It is also home to several unique archival collections from the Vietnam War, including the Captured Documents Collection—700,000 documents,

including diaries, battlefield orders, and correspondence of Vietnamese soldiers and civilians. Several archival collections of photographs from the war are also held by the Joiner Center.

The Center's focus on Vietnam, almost three decades after the end of the war, remains strong. "From 1973 to 1988, there was a sort of amnesia, along with the embargo on exchanges between Vietnam and the United States. In 1988, when Vietnam began to let our veterans return, there was an opportunity to undertake important academic research, and the Joiner Center was in a unique position, as both a veterans and an academic institution. This was something that the Vietnamese could understand and respect," says Bowen.

The Center's efforts resulted in a number of initiatives and programs. A growing relationship with the Vietnam Writers Union has resulted in exchanges, translation projects, and other activities. *Mountain River*, an anthology of poetry by Vietnamese writers in translation, edited by Bowen, Nguyen Ba Chung, and Bruce Weigl, was published in October.

An annual veterans conference in Washington D.C. sponsored by the Center, brings veterans together with members of Congress to discuss matters of concern to veterans. In addition, a study focusing on finding ways to increase small business opportunities for service-disabled veterans nationwide, has received a \$360,000 grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Paul Camacho, the Center's director for special projects, will conduct the study with assistance from Henry Turner of the Minority Business Assistance Center.

Now, as the end of the 20th Century nears, it is a natural time to reflect on the mission of the Joiner Center, says Bowen. "The world has changed, but our constituency remains veterans. The war experience has been transforming for us, but it reaches into larger issues. In the 1960s, the American people thought about themselves in a global context, and since then, that vision has shrunk. But not for many veterans. Their battlefields now are places like veterans homeless shelters, landmine campaigns, and the world's veterans foundation," says Bowen. "These people came out of the Vietnam war experience, and this is heartening and amazing to me at the end of the Century."

'Bomb' Exhibit Highlights Goals at Harbor Art Gallery

Anyone walking into the Harbor Art Gallery to view the exhibit, "Bomb" on display last month, would be unsure which piece to look at first — a series of bright paintings with a dark theme hung in line on one wall while 3-D art exhibits pushed their way toward viewers from across the room. Chairs became artistic statements and photographs pulled the eye.

Quite a few students and faculty had already stopped by to view the exhibit, even before the Nov. 19 delayed opening reception. Nothing could make Gallery Director Noel McKenna happier. "[I want to] create a space where people feel welcome," he said, "come in and look at the work, drink a cup of coffee, read a paper, or converse."

"Bomb" was a visiting exhibit from the Artists for Humanity, a non-profit organization which encourages teens from the inner city to try their hands at creating art. The group exhibited here two years ago, but had not returned since. McKenna hopes now to make it an annual tradition.

Artists for Humanity allows students to participate as they choose. "They come and go as they feel they need to," said McKenna. But most students stay. Hired staff combined with volunteer Boston artists teach six different art media: painting, photography, 3-D, ceramic, graphic design, and set design. They work out of a 35,000

square foot space on A Street in South Boston.

"They cultivate these young individuals' talents," said McKenna. "It teaches skills to generate income off making artwork." As opposed to the "starving artists" stereotype, these students sell their work to business partners who pay them a commission.

Grants and corporate sponsorships additionally fund Artists for Humanity. Co-founder and director Susan Rodgers reports the program enrolls about 40 students now, and she hopes to see it grow. "It's a great way to apply your skills to both commercial and fine art," she said. "It gets the kids seeing how their skills apply to the rest of the world."

"We're breaking new ground every day in ways young people can participate in the adult world," Rodgers continued. McKenna remains impressed by the group's output. "These kids are cranking out artwork like crazy," he said.

The students were able to select which pieces went into "Bomb," the exhibit's chosen name because, "it was all about having an impact," said Rodgers. "And 'the bomb' is slang for really awesome."

"It's part of urban lingo," said McKenna, "something that's cool, that's interesting, stimulating."

If you missed the exhibit, the Carnegie Mellon Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching filmed a documentary including a portion on Artists for Humanity, and interviewed McKenna in the Harbor Art Gallery. McKenna expects the film to air nationally on PBS in about six months. And Artists for Humanity plans a new exhibit at the Boston Public Library in February.

The Harbor Art Gallery's next exhibit, the craft of Renaissance painting from artist and Massachusetts College of Art professor David Addison Small, will open mid-December. While the Gallery normally sponsors three exhibits each semester, McKenna is hoping to increase that number to match the increasing traffic in the space.

McKenna credits much of that interest to student organizations and clubs which hold their meetings in the Gallery. Once someone steps into the space, McKenna said, he or she tends to return. "They decide they like what they're seeing on the walls and come back," he said.

McKenna aims to represent a variety of artists and media. And he hopes somewhere along the line, a piece will stimulate emotion.

"[The artists] put themselves on a limb," he said. "To get the most out of the work you have to create an environment that matches that free quality... Even arguing about the work, that's what it's about."

L'Air du Temps Brings Musique Extraordinaire to Boston Area

One recent evening, three very different musical acts took to the stage of the Regattabar in Cambridge. The first, a jazz trio led by pianist Pierre Hurel, performed original works and interpretations of jazz standards. The second was chanteuse Françoise Kucheida, whose renditions of classic French songs are in the cabaret tradition. The third was guest performer Pierre Barouh, who produced Kucheida's first award-winning record in 1996 (when she was 52 years old). He is perhaps best known to American audiences as the author of the songs from the popular 1960s French film, "Un Homme et une Femme" (A Man and a Woman). He performed his well-known "La Samba Saravah."

This was just one of the 16 musical events of *L'Air du Temps*, a festival of music from the French-speaking world brought to the Boston area by Modern Languages Prof. Brian Thompson—festival founder, executive producer, manager, sound and light technician, master of ceremonies, and roadie.

Since 1993, Thompson's festival has been bringing a wide variety of French and French-influenced musical artists to the Boston area. Besides venues such as the Regattabar, The French Library, and the Wilbur Theater, this year Thompson arranged for six schools to host concerts, reaching

more than 2,000 students in the process. Thompson had just completed a CD of *L'Air du Temps* artists, which he distributes to the press and to teachers as a learning aid for teaching French to their students.

Overall, Thompson was pleased with the turnout for the concerts, although the eight-day festival always leaves him in need of a good rest. "Each year, I ask myself if I am going to do this again—but the music is so good, and it deserves to be heard, so that will probably win out next year over other things that I could do with my time," Thompson says.

'Africans in America' Producer Addresses Conference on Race, Media, and Higher Ed

Commenting on why the time was right in 1998 for his widely acclaimed television documentary on slavery, "Africans in America," Producer Orlando Bagwell said that it was because the money, research, and the resources necessary to "bring alive history that is about to be forgotten," were finally in place.

But there was another set of reasons, he added. They have to do with "our ability to stare slavery in the face," and face our own emotions and pain. Maybe even feel some triumph and healing.

"As a nation, we were ready...to engage the story of slavery in all its complexity," Bagwell concluded.

Bagwell was the keynote speaker at a recent conference, "The Media's Message: Race, Representation, and Higher Education," which was held Nov. 16 at the JFK Library.

A diverse group of community leaders, media representatives, academics, students, and activists came together to discuss representations of minorities in the media, and examine what can be done to make those powerful images more accurate and valid.

The morning's main event was a town hall meeting and panel discussion on representations of race in the media. Panelists included public relations executive Kelley Chunn, Boston Globe reporter Zachary Dowdy, UMass

Boston Profs. Reebee Garofalo and Paul Watanabe, Cheryl Imelda Hampton of National Public Radio, and Prof. Elizabeth Amelia Hadley of Simmons College.

In the afternoon, workshops were held, each focusing on a different medium. The workshop on film was led by English Prof. Linda Dittmar; the workshop on documentaries was led by Prof. Robert Hall of Northeastern University; and the workshop on television by Prof. Judith Smith of the American Studies department. The conference was sponsored by the Center for the Improvement of Teaching, the Chancellor's Office, and the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

Biology Professor Named Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

Biology Prof. Manickam Sugumaran has been awarded the distinction of Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). This honor is granted based on the efforts of an individual toward advancing science or fostering applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished. Sugumaran's research into the mechanisms by which insects develop a protective outer shell or cuticle, has garnered approximately \$3.6 million in research funds. Sugumaran was one of 283 AAAS members to be chosen as fellows this year. The AAAS, which represents the world's largest federation of scientists, has more than 144,000 members, and publishes the weekly, peer-reviewed journal, *Science*.

GCOE/Dorchester High School Partnership Receives Technology Grant

UMass Boston's Graduate College of Education and Dorchester High School have been selected as one of 30 professional development school partnerships to participate in the "Virtual PDS Consortium" of the National Institute for Community Innovations. The Consortium will help the GCOE/Dorchester High partnership infuse technology into the curriculum, and support teacher in-service and preparation. The partnership will receive \$31,000, plus free on-site and on-line technical assistance, and costs will be covered to send a team of

university/school educators to a professional development conference. Members of the team will be chosen in the near future. June Kuzmeskus of the Massachusetts Field Center for Teaching and Learning is presently on special assignment to coordinate the partnership.

Jennings Appointed National Scholar for African-American Churches Project

James Jennings, director of the Trotter Institute, has been appointed as a National Scholar for the *Project on the Public Influences of African-American Churches*, a three-year research project aimed at understanding the role of Black churches in public life and civic activism in the United States. The project is sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts Foundation and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga. Jennings will help design the research questions for examining the role of Black churches, and he will write a case study of Black churches in Boston. He is one of 23 scholars named to the project.

Nursing Student Completes Requirements for Program's 1st Doctoral Candidacy

Mary Elizabeth Harrington has completed the requirements to become a candidate for the degree of Ph.D. in Nursing. Her thesis will examine secondary prevention issues in post-myocardial infarction patients. She will assess variations in practice among primary physicians, cardiologists, and nurse practitioners. "It's wonderful to be celebrating both Mary Beth's accomplishment and another

sentinel event for our Ph.D. program," says Gail Russell, program director. "We are on target with our timeline for the program's development, and we look forward to our next milestone, which will be Mary Beth's dissertation research followed by graduation."

New UMass Medical Center Program Seeking Participants

The Center for Adoption Research & Policy at the UMass Medical Center in Worcester is the first university-based program in the United States dedicated solely to the issues of adoption and foster care. The center, directed by Peter Gibbs, is surveying faculty, staff and students at all UMass campuses to assess interest in participation in research studies on topics such as child development and family functioning in relation to adoption and foster care. Those with a personal connection to adoption or foster care are invited to complete a short survey form. The Center also seeks study participants with no involvement in adoption or foster care for comparison studies. Further information and the survey are available by calling the center at 508-856-5397. Information can also be found on the Center's web page at <http://www.ummed.edu/main/purpose/htm>.

Japanese Labor Culture in the 1930s is topic of Visiting Professor's Talk
Professor Toru Shinoda of Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, presented a lecture on the topic of "How Workers Justify Their Cause: Japanese Labor

Movement Culture in the 1930s," on Nov. 11. His presentation focused on the case of the 1936 Geisha Girls Protest Movement, which demanded from their management an end to despotic management practices and extra commissions, and respect for the girls' individuality. An unusual aspect of the strike was the geisha girls' decision to climb a holy mountain, which convinced the public of their sincerity. The strike was successfully settled through police arbitration—a model virtually unknown in the U.S. Shinoda's talk was followed by a response from Prof. Michael Novak of the College of Management and CPCS Prof. Jim Green of the Labor Resource Center. This program was part of an ongoing series on "Westernization vs. Modernization in East Asia" sponsored by the Program in East Asian Studies.

Irish Poets Present Readings

Irish poets Catherine Phil MacCarthy and Ciaran Carson presented their latest works to full audiences in separate readings Nov. 3 and 4. Dublin resident MacCarthy read from her new book, "The Blue Globe," a reflection on the world of female experience drawing from personal events. Editor of the "Poetry Ireland Review," this was MacCarthy's second UMass Boston reading. Belfast poet Carson made his UMass Boston debut by reading from his three new books: a collection of his own poems, a collection of translations, and his memoirs, "The Star Factory." Carson, a T.S. Eliot Prize winner for "First Language," focuses on Belfast during the bombings. The poets'

visits were sponsored by the Irish Studies Program and the Joiner Center. They are part of both programs' efforts to bring literature and global experiences to the UMass Boston campus.

DCE to Offer Courses at Quincy College in January

Beginning in January of next year, the Division of Continuing Education at UMass Boston will begin a collaboration with Quincy College. Continuing Education will be offering advanced-level courses at Quincy College, which will be transferred to UMass Boston automatically if and when a student transfers from Quincy. This partnership marks a first for Continuing Education. Malisa Roberts, director of credit programs for the division, recently explained in an article in the Quincy Patriot Ledger that "we have never offered courses at Quincy College. And this is the first time we've offered advanced-level courses at a non-UMass Boston campus." The courses, which are the same as courses offered at UMass Boston, include economics, history, criminology/sociology, English, and psychology. —By Patrick Dwyer

WUMB to Showcase First Night Events This New Year's Eve

WUMB 91.9 FM will be very busy this New Year's Eve. The station will be a major participant in Boston's First Night '99, showcasing performances and providing live broadcasts. The

UMass Boston folk and jazz station will broadcast performances by some of Boston's premiere contemporary and traditional folk artists live from the Church of the Covenant at 67 Newbury St. in Boston. WUMB will also provide a live broadcast from the Hynes Convention Center which will feature Haitian, Cape Verdean, and Motown/Oldies music. In addition, the station will provide emcees for concerts at various locations throughout Boston.

First Night '99 will be Boston's 23rd annual New Year's Eve Celebration. Originally conceived in Boston, First Night has become a model for New Year's Eve celebrations throughout North America. Visit the First Night web site (www.firstnight.org) for a complete listing of events.

—By Patrick Dwyer

Holiday Party Takes Place December 17

Faculty and staff are invited to join in the spirit of the season at the University's holiday party, which will take place on Dec. 17 beginning at 2:30 p.m., in the McCormack cafeteria.

Years of Service Reception Held Nov. 22

Timed in the spirit of the Thanksgiving season, the second "Chancellor's Years of Service Reception" was held in the Wheatley Cafeteria on Tuesday, Nov. 24. The event, which honors employees as the University's most valuable asset, recognized a total of 202 faculty, professional staff, and classified staff members this year.

The idea for the "Years of Service Reception" originated from conversations Mary Grant, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, had with university employees. Grant then presented a written proposal, developed by the Years of Service Committee, to the Chancellor and Executive Staff, where it was enthusiastically received. In its first year, the reception was attended by approximately 700 employees. According to Clare Poirier, a member of the Years of Service Committee, "Feedback was very positive and encouraging. This year we invited all employees, and recognized those with 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 years of service."

One employee recognized at the reception was Brigid Wyse Casey. Casey, currently the administrative assistant for the Undergraduate Teacher Certification Program, has worked in several offices during her 10 years at the University. Casey came to UMass Boston as a student, and worked part-time, then full-time, in the office formerly known as Student Information Services. She also worked in the

Chancellor's Office and in the Office of Community Relations and Special Events before moving to her current position.

Casey cites several reasons behind her longevity at the University, including the enjoyment of an academic setting, the beautiful location, and the sense of pride and excitement she feels watching students reach their goals at Commencement. When asked to name the best thing about the University, she does not hesitate: "The best thing about working here is the people."

Honored for 15 years of service, Noel Cotterell echoes Casey's sentiments. Calling himself a "people-person," Cotterell says the warm and friendly atmosphere created by the people with whom he interacts is one reason he has remained at the University. Also an alum, Cotterell began working in the Publications office as a work-study student. Currently he is the University Production and Advertising Manager.

"One of the reasons I have stayed here so long is that it's been a place for me to learn and grow," says Cotterell. "There are a lot of opportunities for development here. You can take classes with distinguished faculty members, or utilize the Learning Center."

Faculty member Lois Rudnick saw what she terms "a strong student-centered vision" at UMass Boston when she first

taught Freshman English 25 years ago. Today Rudnick has a joint appointment to both the English and American Studies departments, and is director of the American Studies undergraduate program.

Rudnick cites University support of continued faculty development as one of the reasons she has remained. She also describes UMass Boston as an environment that values her commitment to teaching. "(The University) has given more than lipservice to the importance of teaching," she says.

UMass Boston students are another reason Rudnick has chosen to spend so much of her career here. When asked to describe the student-body, Rudnick uses words like "very motivated," "grounded," "eager," and "unassuming." Rudnick says that because large numbers of students face multiple demands on their time, she has become more creative as a teacher. She credits the busy UMass Boston student population with challenging her and helping her to develop her teaching skills. Last year Rudnick received national recognition of her teaching skills, as the 1997 recipient of the Mary C. Turpie Award given by the American Studies Association.
—by Kelly McLaughlin

Reshaping UMass Boston's Visual Identity: A Look at the Formal and Informal Logos

Progress continues to be made on the new logo front. The images below are a preview of what's to come. Work is still being done on the style guide for the UMass Boston campus. Once the guide is completed and approved by both the President's and Chancellor's office, it will be available elec-

tronically, as well as in print for the university community. Job requests submitted to Central Reproduction to use the new logo have been approved, on a case by case basis, by the University Communications Office. This process will continue until the style guide is available for

general distribution. The President's Office has mandated that all the campuses within the UMass system have until January 2000 to fully implement the new logo on all print materials.



Formal logo



Informal logo

Northern Right Whales Research

continued from page 1

decreasing," says Brault. "Right whales are long-lived—30 years for males, 50 years for females. We know that in the 1980s females appeared to have calves on the average of once every three years: One year for feeding and care of a new calf, one year for rest, and one year for gestation," explains Brault.

In the 1990s that pattern appears to have changed. "We don't know why. It could be due to either aborted fetuses, or early death of the calves," says Brault. "But there is an indication of lower fertility."

There have been other indications that the whales' normal patterns of behavior are disturbed. Every summer,

researchers go to the Bay of Fundy to observe a group of northern right whales at their summer feeding grounds. This year, the whales left early. The reason is unclear, but Brault thinks that it may have to do with changes in the patterns of ocean currents in the North Atlantic. This in turn affects where the whales find their main source of food, tiny, shrimp-like creatures called copepods.

In addition, the whales still face many other dangers. For one thing, the coastal areas these whales inhabit are also major shipping lanes. "The right whales sleep on the surface of the water, and we know they get hit by ships," says Brault.

They also get entangled in fishing nets and gear. Brault says that things can be done to improve whales' chances for survival. Fishing gear modification, such as "pingers" attached to nets to warn the whales away, and early warning systems for ships, which alert the crews to whales in their path, are two examples.

Brault's research interests are life cycle processes and how they influence survival and reproduction within animal populations. She and her colleagues have received approximately \$50,000 in funding from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust and The Northern Marine Fisheries Service for the northern right whale studies.

Publications

Prof. **Esther Torrego** of the Hispanic Studies Program has written a book, *The Dependencies of Objects*, Linguistic Inquiry Monograph 34, published by MIT Press.

Gerontology Institute Director **Francis G. Caro** is co-author of *Personal Assistance: The Future of Home Care*, published by the Johns Hopkins University Press in October.

Communications and Theater Arts Prof. **Diane Almeida's** essay on Shakespeare's "Sonnet 55" appears in *Masterplots Poetry Supplement* published by Harper Collins in October.

English Prof. **Vincent Petronella's** article, "Robert Browning, Julia Wedgewood, and the Neo-Classical Style," has been published in volume 14 of *Ars Ceramica*. Petronella is also the author of "Shakespeare's Dramatic Chambers," which will be published in the upcoming volume of essays honoring Professor Emeritus G. Blakemore Evans of Harvard University, editor of *The Riverside Shakespeare*.

Conferences and Presentations

Psychology Prof. **David Lisak** and **Paul Miller, M.A., Adam Conklin, M.A., and Leah Altschuler, M.A.**, all students in the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology, and **Jim Hopper, Ph.D.**, a graduate of the program, presented a panel discussion, "Causal Mechanisms in the Cycle of Violence," at the the Annual Conference of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 21. Evidence presented by the panelists, based on data from nine studies of over 2,000 subjects, links childhood physical and sexual abuse with the perpetration of interpersonal violence.

Joel Grossman, coordinator of the Health Promotion Program, attended a conference, "Education as Transformation: Religious Pluralism, Spirituality, and Higher Education," at Wellesley College in September. Grossman made two presentations: "The Role Student Affairs Can Play in Student's Spiritual Life," and "Joy and Spirit," a group participation in comedy improvisation.

History Prof. **Malcolm Smuts** delivered a paper, "Peace and Politics of the Early Stuarts as Reflected in Court Culture," at an international conference in Osnaebruck, Germany, "Peace and the Reconstruction of a European Vision." The conference commemorated the 350th anniversary of the Treaty of Westphalia, which ended the Thirty Years War.

English Prof. **Lloyd Schwartz** read his poetry at the North East Popular Culture Association conference held in Boston on Nov. 6. He also participated in the Robert Lowell reading at the Blacksmith House in Cambridge on Nov. 9.

English Prof. **Vincent Petronella** presented a paper, "George Bernard Shaw's Late Victorian View of the Philanthropist-Recipient Relationship," at the Northeast Conference on British Studies, held at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., in October. He also presented a lecture, "Robert Browning and Bernard Shaw," at the New York Browning Society, and will address the Wedgewood Society of Boston on "Shakespeare in the Age of Wedgewood," in the near future.

Harold Horton, associate director of the Trotter Institute and member of the Graduate College of Education faculty, spoke at Rhode Island College on Nov. 10 on the topic of "Lessons Learned: Testing Teachers & Education Students in Massachusetts and New York."

Officer **Richard Lee** of the Department of Public Safety presents a talk at the Massachusetts Neighborhood Crime Watch Commission's conference in Worcester on the topic of crime prevention and community policing in a university setting, on Dec. 2.

Nursing doctoral student **Margaret Singer, MS, RN.**, spoke at the Third Annual Northeast Regional Psychiatric Nursing Conference on "A Creative Technique for Promoting Interdisciplinary Patient Education" on Nov. 6.

ECOS Prof. **Jack Archer** presented an invited paper at the "Law of the Sea/Ocean Governance" meeting at the sixth annual meeting of the Ocean Governance Study Group at the University of California at Berkeley, Oct. 30 and Nov. 1. His paper discussed the various ocean bills considered in the 105th Congress. Prof. Archer also attended a meeting in Richmond, Va., of the U.S. and European partners in an exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and the European Community. UMass Boston is one of six U.S. and European universities taking part in the program. Through it, three ECOS students will participate in internships and training programs in Europe this Spring.

The Gerontology Institute held a "Student Town Meeting on Social Security Reform" on Nov. 16. James Roosevelt, associate commissioner for retirement policy of the Social Security Administration, presented the keynote address. Other speakers were Kenneth Steiner, vice president for pension and social security studies at the American Academy of Actuaries, and **Yung-Ping Chen**, Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar's Chair, Gerontology Institute and Program.

Performances

John Henry, a play by Prof. Emeritus **Louis E. Roberts** of the Division of Communications and Theatre Arts, will have its American Premiere at the McCormack Theatre on Dec. 4. A portion of the proceeds from the performances will go to the Little People's Research Foundation. The play is supported in part by Labor for the Arts.

Music Prof. **Peter Janson**, director of the University Jazz Band, was the performing musician at the recent memorial service for Prof. **Edward Strickland**, which was held Nov. 6 in Healey Library.

Dissertation Defense

Clinical Psychology doctoral candidate **Gemima Remy-St. Louis** will defend her dissertation, "Ethnicity and Identity Formation in Haitian Adolescents: A Cultural-Developmental Approach to Psychosocial Functioning," on Dec. 9 at 10 a.m., in the Provosts Conference Room, 8th floor, Healey Library.

Grants, Awards, and Honors

Prof. **Lena Sorenson** of the College of Nursing has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar position at the University of Tromsø in Norway for the Fall 1998 semester.

History Prof. **Spencer DiScala** will edit a new series of books on Italian and Italian American Studies from 1700 to the present, for Praeger Publishers.

The **Office of Public Safety** has been awarded a second hiring grant from the Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Program. The \$150,000 grant will allow the hiring of two full-time officers.

Prof. **Donaldo Macedo** of the ESL/Bilingual Graduate Studies Program, has been awarded three new grants totalling over \$1 million: the World Languages Center Parent English Literacy Training program has received over \$795,000 to train 30 teachers per year for five years; an ESL Training Grant provides \$131,674 for 30 scholarships for ESL teachers to pursue masters degrees in ESL studies; and a \$118,000 Bilingual Teachers Training Grant will train 30 bilingual teachers to meet the needs of students in bilingual programs in Massachusetts.

Gerontology doctoral student **Lona H. Choi** has been awarded a 1998 Andrus Minority Predoctoral Leadership Development Fellowship by the Gerontological Society of America.

ECOS Profs. **William Robinson** and **Robert Chen** have been chosen as members of the newly constituted Outfall Monitoring Science Advisory Panel (OSMAP) by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The committee will review studies conducted in Boston Harbor and Massachusetts Bay related to the new outfall pipe, for possible environmental effects.

GCOE Prof. **Linda Eisenmann** of the Higher Education Administration Doctoral Program has been named to a three-year term as associate editor of the *History of Education Quarterly*.

Sociology Prof. **Russell Schutt** has been nominated for the presidency of the Eastern Sociological Society by its nominating committee.

Correction

Because of a reporting error in last month's issue, a grant from the National Science Foundation for a project, "Genetic Variation in Widely Distributed Deep-Sea Molluscs: The Role of Oceanographic and Topographic Features," was incorrectly attributed. The grant was awarded to Biology Professors **Michael Rex** and **Ron Etter**.

Announcement

If you have lost something on campus, The **Office of Public Safety** would like to remind you to contact them. From August to October of this year, the Office of Public Safety returned 42 items, worth a total of \$1,291.05 to their owners.

New Partnership

The **Learning Center** has entered into a partnership with the Teaching, Learning and Technology (TLT) Group, the technology affiliate of the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE). During this academic year, TLT Group President Steven Gilbert and Vice President Stephen Ehrmann will conduct workshops on campus for faculty interested in using technology to support teaching and learning. The Learning Center is being promoted nationally by the TLT Group, as a model for professional development at higher education institutions.

In the News...

English Prof. **Lloyd Schwartz** read two poems about his mother, "Two Horses" and "He Tells His Mother What He's Working On," followed by a conversation about visiting her in a nursing home, on the *National Public Radio* show "Fresh Air" on Nov. 4. His radio essay on Judy Garland aired on "Fresh Air" on Nov. 6.

History and Africana Studies Prof. **Julie Winch** was one of several on-camera authorities who spoke on a variety of topics for the PBS series, "Africans in America" which broadcast in October. Students **Raymous Mitchell** and **Kareem Wade** appeared as actors in the series.

Carol Hardy Fanta of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy and **Regina Rodriguez-Mitchell** of the Trotter Institute wrote an op-ed, "Boston councilors out of step on minority hiring" which appeared in the *Boston Globe* on Nov. 10.

Snow Policy and Announcement Procedures 1998-1999

We want to take this opportunity to update you on the Snow Day Policies and the procedures to be used for making the announcement for closing of the campus. In the event that a snow storm, or other inclement weather presents a risk for our faculty, staff and students in commuting to or from the campus, the Provost and the Deputy Chancellor will make a determination of the appropriate campus response. The following is information you will need in the event of weather emergencies.

UMB Main Switchboard number 287-5000 will carry a voice mail announcement which notifies callers if the campus will be open for operation. Please do not call the public safety offices. The phone lines must remain open in case of emergency.

University Website - The bulletin board at the UMB website will contain weather announcements. The internet address is http://www.umb.edu/news_and_events/

Radio and TV Stations that will carry the UMB Announcement. Please listen to the radio and TV stations starting at 5:30 a.m. rather than call the Public Safety Office phone, as we would like to keep that line free for emergencies.

WBZ TV (Channel 4)
WRKO AM (680)
WUMB FM (91.9)

WCVB TV (Channel 5)
WBZ AM (1030)
WBUR FM (90.9)

WHDH TV (Channel 7)

What the Announcement will say and what it means for Campus Operations:

University Closed/Classes Canceled— All classes canceled, all offices and the library closed, only designated and assigned snow day personnel will report at regular time. (Notification by Radio and TV).

No Morning Classes— Classes will begin at 11:30 a.m. All morning classes are canceled, classes will resume at 11:30 a.m. Snow day personnel will report at regular time, all others at 10 a.m. (Notification by Radio and TV).

No Evening Classes— All classes beginning at 4 p.m. are canceled. Snow day personnel will work their regular hours, all others will be allowed to leave by 4 p.m. (Notification by Radio and TV). On the campus, the Office of Human Resources will start a telephone tree notification system by notifying Deans and Directors, who will then contact the various units in their areas. Class cancellations at off-campus sites due to weather conditions will be announced on local radio stations where the sites are located.

Transportation:

The UMass shuttle from the Campus to JFK station will continue to operate even though classes may be canceled. In the event of an early closing or late opening, the shuttle will continue to operate for several hours after the closing and before the opening. Of course, weather conditions may cause delays.

Food Services:

Every effort will be made to have some level of service available in the Quinn Building when the Campus is open for operations. Menu may be limited.

Athletic Events

If the University closes early, and there is an athletic event scheduled, the Athletic Department, after consultation with Public Safety, will determine if the event can occur. If canceled, the Athletic Department will have a recording on the main University phone line — 617-287-5000.

Day Care Center

If the University is closed the Day Care Center will be closed. If there is an early dismissal the Day Care Center will arrange with the parents for appropriate pick up time.

Special Events and All Other Activities on the Campus

If you have a need to inquire about the operation of Continuing Education, the library or special events scheduled to occur on campus during the weekend, you should call the main campus number 617-287-5000 and there will be a recording to provide specific information about these activities or direct you to further information.