Evening in Honor of Teaching salutes 21 from UMB faculty

“It is fitting and proper that we begin the celebration of our 125th anniversary with an Evening in Honor of Teaching,” said University of Massachusetts President David Knapp as he hosted University professors in a dinner at the Museum of Science.

There were 21 UMass/Boston teachers in the audience of 84 honored over the three campuses including Amherst and the Medical School in Worcester.

Guest speakers included Alvan S. Ryan, Professor Emeritus of the University of Massachusetts and recipient of an honorary degree at the Boston campus. He was a founding faculty member and the first Chair of the Humanities Division at UMass/Boston. Dr. Ryan was of the Class of 1934 at Massachusetts State College.

The other featured speaker was Michael G. Kammen, Newton C. Farr Professor of American History and Culture at Cornell University.

Said President Knapp:
“This evening the University salutes women and men who have been honored on our campuses as teachers of distinction during the past five years. Through them we also pay tribute to several thousand additional faculty members who, for 125 years, have shaped the lives and minds of the youth of this Commonwealth.

“Like our sister land-grant universities across the country, we were created to bring a new concept of education to the service of democracy. Our purpose was to provide educational opportunities for the sons and daughters of workers and farmers, in the words of the Morrill Act, ‘the industrial classes.’

“The comprehensive three-campus University of Massachusetts system of today bears little resemblance to the small agricultural college which was founded at Amherst 125 years ago. Yet, at each stage of

UMB honors Robert H. Quinn with building dedication

The Robert H. Quinn Administration Building will be dedicated on Sunday, April 10, 1988 at 2 p.m. at UMass/Boston’s Harbor Campus.

The building is named in honor of the former Speaker of the House, Attorney General and Chairman of the Board of UMass Trustees.

U.S. Senator Warren Rudman of New Hampshire, an old Quinn friend, will be the featured speaker on the program.

A native of Dorchester and now a Milton resident, Quinn, as House Speaker, co-sponsored with Senate President Maurice Donahue and Senator George Kenneally the legislation creating the University of Massachusetts at Boston. It was signed in June, 1964, by Gov. Endicott Peabody.

University of Massachusetts President David Knapp lauded Quinn for his efforts.

“As a leader in bringing the University to Boston and as Chair of the Board of Trustees, Bob Quinn has served well both the University and the Commonwealth,” said President Knapp.

“In both roles, he has combined a keen interest in youth and education with the political skills necessary for translating ideals into reality. The University, as it now stands, is indebted to him for his support.”

Said the Hon. Maurice Donahue:
“Bob Quinn was an outgoing and affable legislator, bright and articulate. He was a brilliant debator. His approach was fresh and disarming. He could be tough when the situation demanded it.

“Bob was an excellent Speaker of the House who was extremely successful in securing passage of important legislation. Even though his tenure as Speaker was brief

Prof. Alvan S. Ryan addresses honored faculty members. More photos, page 3.

Hon. Robert H. Quinn

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Prof. Pat Turner plays role in award-winning documentary

When Pat Turner observes black comedians like Eddie Murphy and Richard Pryor, she sees more than showmen capitalizing on the gift of humor. She sees the perpetuation of a pernicious stereotype — that of the dimwitted, happy-go-lucky black.

"The highest paid black entertainers are all comedians," Turner points out. "That is the role the American public finds most appropriate."

Turner, an associate professor in the Black Studies program at UMass/Boston, served as a script consultant and appeared on screen in "Ethnic Notions," an award-winning documentary examining the history of black stereotypes in America.

The program, which was honored as the Best Documentary of 1987 by the San Francisco International Film Festival Golden Gate Awards, was on Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) stations around the country in February. It was broadcast Feb. 6 on Channel 2 in Boston, and will be shown on campus April 6.

"Ethnic Notions" is a chronological examination of the most pervasive stereotypes. "It's not really about black people," says Turner. "It's about the perception of black people in the minds of whites."

The production traces the evolution of pre-Civil War themes such as the minstrel show performer, the "mammy" stage and "dancing darky," and moves ahead to the predominant stereotype of the post-World War I era, that of the threatening, virile black male.

Turner said comics like Murphy and Pryor are the extension of a powerful stereotype of the 1920s — Stepin Fetchit, a black movie character whose dull mind and shuffling gait were popular among white audiences. Critically acclaimed black actors, Turner said, have never achieved the box-office appeal of white counterparts.

The impetus for "Ethnic Notions" was provided by Marlin Riggs, a filmmaker who recruited Turner to help him work on the film while she was a graduate student at the University of California/Berkeley in 1982.

Due to its heated subject matter, the film initially encountered resistance from prospective backers.

"The issue of controversy plagued it," Turner said. "PBS turned us down the first time."

The film eventually debuted in February, 1987. It was viewed by critics at an international film festival in West Germany last year and will be repeated at the International Public Television Festival in Philadelphia next month.

Turner, who arrived at the Harbor Campus in the fall of 1986, currently teaches courses in Black History, Folklore, and the Black Image on Stage, Screen, and Television. She has shown the film to students.

Filmmaking is something that appeals to Turner. "You can reach a far greater audience through film than you can through teaching," she said.

Turner, who was raised in eastern Long Island, received a bachelor's degree in political science from SUNY-Oneonta in upstate New York. She lives in Brockton with her husband, Kevin Smith, and their 4-month-old son.

UMB hosts 15th annual St. Thomas Aquinas lecture

"There has been a qualitative change in the way that the Roman Catholic Church reacts with the political order since the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s," said Rev. David Hollenbach, S.J. in the 15th annual St. Thomas Aquinas luncheon and lecture recently at the Harbor Campus.

Fr. Hollenbach is professor of moral theology at Weston School of Theology in Cambridge. He recently spent a sabbatical year as a visiting fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University.

Campus chaplain Fr. Jerry Hogan and Lucie Ferranti of the Catholic Campus Ministry Office organized the lecture, an annual event on campus.

"The Church’s social mission, therefore, is religious," said Fr. Hollenbach. "Its purpose is for the transformation of society in order to bring about God’s Kingdom. Thus the Church’s mission has social and political implications.

"For example, in the Catholic Bishops’ recent pastoral letter on the U.S. economy, the bishops stated that the Church has the duty to defend the dignity of human persons, to strengthen the bonds of solidarity within society, and to uncover the deeper meaning of human work."

Fr. Hollenbach’s teaching and scholarship have placed him at the forefront of the dialogue among major Roman Catholic moral theologians in the United States. He received his doctorate in 1975 from Yale University in the field of religious ethics. He has written two books and numerous articles.

Evening in Honor of Teaching

Among UMass/Boston professors honored at recent dinner were, left to right: Joseph A. McHugh, professor of accounting and finance; Frances L. Portnoy, professor of nursing; Susan Gore, associate professor of sociology, and Michael F. Gibbons, associate professor of anthropology.

Dr. James Campen, Chairperson, Economics, left, chats with Prof. Louis Ferleger at 125th anniversary dinner at Museum of Science.

President David Knapp poses with UMB's Isabelle Mao, associate professor of Chinese.

Pausing for the cameraman were UMass President David Knapp, left, and Robert W. Gaimond, professor of Biology and winner of the Distinguished Service Award in 1987.

David Hunt, right, associate professor of History, poses with Prof. Susan Gore and her husband Neil at 125th anniversary Evening in Honor of Teaching hosted by President David Knapp.

All smiles from the Boston Campus flashed from Bettina Harrison, left, associate professor of Biology, and Delores Gallo, associate professor of Critical and Creative Thinking.

Joseph A. McHugh, professor of Accounting and Finance, right, poses at dinner with Chairperson Dr. Lal Chugh.

Smiles flashed from Vincent A. Cristiani, left, professor of school psychology, and John Tobin, professor of English.
Kelly Cichy named Research Development Coordinator for Graduate Studies office

As UMass/Boston strives to become a leader in the field of research, it is behind-the-scenes people like Kelly Cichy who acquire the backing for such efforts.

Cichy, 30, was named Research Development Coordinator for the office of Graduate Studies and Research at the Harbor Campus.

In her duties, Cichy aids faculty members in their efforts to secure external grant funding support for research projects. Cichy helps to map strategy, identify funding sources, and assist in the development and writing of proposals.

For colleges and universities in the business of gathering research dollars, these are not the most agreeable times.

"The national picture is very tight," Cichy said, a fact which makes submitting concise and convincing proposals more important than ever. The trend is toward collaborative research projects. "They're looking for people from different areas with different expertise to work on projects," Cichy added.

Cichy received her start in the grant funding business as an undergraduate at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, helping prepare grant proposals for a museum in nearby Carondale.

After earning a B.A. in English, Cichy attended Southern Illinois University and pursued dual interests—a masters degree in Anthropology and a position with the school as Grant Information Specialist.

At UMass/Boston, Cichy can tap into a national computer information bank known as SPIN (Sponsored Projects Information Network), which keeps tabs on funding sources.

"A lot of sources are published," Cichy said, "But with some, we have to initiate contact, and SPIN allows us to do that."

Cichy, who hopes to enroll in a doctoral program in sociology, lives with her husband in Beverly.

UMass honors its outstanding faculty at anniversary dinner

its development, the University's character has been shaped far more by those who have come to teach than by any other forces. This is still the case today.

"On all three campuses—Amherst, Boston and Worcester—the University is indebted to men and women, like those we honor this evening, for their dedication to learning and teaching."

At each stage of its development, the University's character has been shaped far more by those who have come to teach...This is still the case today.

—UMass President David Knapp

"Because teaching is an experience in intellectual sharing, we have asked our honored guests to bring with

them both students and faculty colleagues. In this way, we honor not only teachers, but teaching as the heart and soul of this University."

Honored from the Boston campus:

Vincent A. Cristiani, professor of School Psychology; Robert Crossley, Associate Professor of English; Lynn F. Dhority, Associate Professor of German; Louis Felger, Associate Professor of Economics; Delores Gallo, Associate Professor of Critical and Creative Thinking; Michael F. Gibbons, Associate Professor of Anthropology; Arthur A. Goldsmith, Assistant Professor of Management; Susan Gore, Associate Professor of Sociology;

James Leland Groove, Professor of English; Robert W. Guimond, Professor of Biology.

Also, Bettina Harrison, Associate Professor of Biology; Francis R. Hart, Professor of English; David Hunt, Associate Professor of History; Isabelle Mao, Associate Professor of Chinese; Joseph A. McHugh, Professor of Accounting and Finance; Frances L. Portnoy, Professor of Nursing; Henry Raimondo, Assistant Professor of Economics; John Shane, Associate Professor of Physics; A.P. Simonds, Associate Professor of Political Science; Carol Smith, Associate Professor of Psychology; John Tobin, Professor of English.