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Reporter

News and information about the University of Massachusetts Boston

Volume 3
Number 7
March 1999

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Attention faculty and staff:

*It's on campus interviewing time!
Don't let your students miss out!
Please refer them to the Career
Services website, at [http://
omega.cc.umb.edu/~careers](http://omega.cc.umb.edu/~careers) for a
list of participating companies, or
send them to Mc-3-615 to pick up
a copy of the Career Services job
bulletin today!*

Residents Say 'Act Regionally' in McCormack Study

Should we in Massachusetts cooperate with our closest neighbors to conduct business, educate our residents, develop infrastructure, promote trade, and control pollution? On which issues should we view ourselves as New Englanders, rather than as residents of one of six states which comprise our small region of the country?

The answer to these questions may surprise you. A recent survey on the topic of regionalism, conducted by Lou DiNatale, senior fellow of the McCormack Institute, indicated that respondents from all six New England states see benefits to viewing ourselves regionally, and had very strong ideas about the issues and kinds of activities that would benefit from regional cooperation.

Education was high on everyone's list. Respondents from four of the six states ranked K-12 education as the issue New England political leaders should tackle first. The cost of higher education was also seen as an obstacle or a major obstacle to economic growth in New England by 76 percent of respondents overall. A regional state university of New England was also attractive to those polled, with 78 percent of respondents saying they believed this would be very effective or somewhat effective, if it shared academic resources and reduced administrative costs. "Education is a dominant issue," says DiNatale. "New England defines itself around education, so it is well worth noticing that people are concerned about educational costs."

The Future of New England survey project actually includes two polls, which were sponsored by the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE) and the McCormack Institute. The other poll surveyed New England opinion leaders (college presidents, state legislators, directors of public policy think tanks, foundation heads, and others) and was prepared by the New England Public Policy Collaborative of the NEBHE.

In some ways, says DiNatale, the voice of the people is ahead of the
continued on page 12



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University Communications
Third Floor
Quinn Administration Bldg.
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3393
(617)287-5300

E-mail address:
univ_report@umb.cc.umb.edu

Annemarie Lewis Kerwin
Editor

Annette Fernie
Associate Editor

Joyce Doyle
Senior Staff Writer

Joe Peters
*Web Communications Specialist
and Staff Writer*

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Send your news items to:
The *University Reporter* at the
above mailing or e-mail
address.

ARD Eyes Streamlined Student Services

Recently, Ard spoke with a cousin whose success in children's television made him think that aardvarks might just be more popular than purple dinosaurs. So, two weeks into the spring semester, Ard decided to change majors from accounting to theater arts. He also thought that it might be best to take only one or two classes to make time for the offers which were sure to come flooding in.

While these may appear to be two relatively simple changes to Ard's schedule, they actually involve a good deal of interaction between many offices: the Advising Center, to help Ard figure out what credits he has and what will apply to his new major; the Registrar's Office, to change Ard's major and register him for new classes; the Financial Aid office, to decide if Ard has enough credits to be eligible for financial aid; and finally the Bursar's Office, to reimburse Ard for the courses he has already begun. In addition, meetings had to be scheduled, forms completed, and Ard probably had to stand in line more often than he cared to.

The Administrative Re-Design group called Services to Students has set out to streamline this complicated process. This group is considering three important aspects of improving the services available to students. First: using technology to provide certain basic services when the student needs them, where ever the student might be. For example, transactions like changing an address, paying a bill or declaring

a major could be conducted at home or at a kiosk on campus without involving a staff member or filling out a form. Second: integrating more complex services. In other words, schedule changes like Ard's which involve many offices and cross organizational boundaries could be simplified if the necessary information was centralized and accessible to all the offices. Third: making information about services available to students at any point in their academic career. That is, delivering information on options like career counseling and studying abroad whenever the student needs it.

As the Services to Students group continues its work this semester, it will be focusing on some specific benchmarks or "milestones of service" to find out how these services can be improved in the three areas mentioned above.

This is certainly good news to Ard, a naturally shy aardvark who has since decided to change his major back to accounting.
—by Ellen Evans



Trustees Vote Tuition & Fee Rates

Tuition and fees at UMass Boston will rise 3 percent, or \$125 per year, in 1999-2000 over the current rates. The Board of Trustees voted the increase, along with setting rates at the four other University of Massachusetts campuses, at its meeting last month.

On average, the University of Massachusetts tuition and fees are rising at a lower rate than the current 1.6 percent inflation, according to President William Bulger. And, in fact, UMass Boston's average undergraduate annual tuition will decrease from \$1,904 to \$1,809 for Massachusetts residents. However, UMass Boston will increase its fees, mainly based on a new technology fee, creating the total tuition and fee increase. "We are being sensitive to pressures on students

and parents," said Bulger. Tuition and fee costs remain lower than they were in 1996.

The new technology fee, which will be charged to all students, will be put directly into a special fund reserved to meet additional student technology requirements. Some of the specific impacts the fee will have include:

- Increasing section availability for courses;
- Additional faculty for critical programs;
- Upgrading and replacing instructional equipment in the teaching labs;
- Increasing resources for the library;
- Improving facilities, particularly public spaces and classrooms;
- Upgrading of the student technology labs;

- Increasing technology lab hours;
- Increasing hubs for easier access to the UMass Boston network from off campus;
- Outfitting more classrooms for multimedia and technology access;
- Over two years, improving technology available for students to register, apply for financial aid, get awards, grades, and transcript availability; and
- Increasing financial aid.

"If they don't put those labs in and that technology in," said Trustee Chair Robert Karam, "it's like not giving [students] books 20 years ago." The university implemented a cost containment effort in 1996. Once the second most expensive of the six New England public higher education systems, UMass now ranks fifth.

Research Database Ready for Faculty Input

One of the central elements to UMass Boston's mission is serving the community beyond its student body. As a public university, UMass Boston is a public resource, but like so many public resources, it can be overlooked easily if it's not in someone's backyard. So if you can't bring the public to you, what about bringing you to the public? That's at least part of the approach behind an internet-accessible faculty database being developed by UMass Boston. The database is now ready for faculty input and can be accessed via the world wide web at <http://www.cs.umb.edu/~serl/facdb/>

The project actually demonstrates the collective power of academia. Developed by the Math & Computer Sciences Department's Software Engineering Research Laboratory (SERL), the database highlights the skill of SERL in addition to opening the resources of individual faculty to the world.

Most universities list somewhere, somehow, the resources of their faculty. This database stands out among others in its recording and search of a variety of criteria. From an attorney looking for an expert witness in a rare field to an individual suffering from an affliction looking for people who have published research on his or her disease or disorder, this

database links faculty to the people who need them.

SERL Director Bob Morris says he expects it will take a few months before the database fills up. "We did a lot of research before we put this together, and what we found is the success is entirely dependent on how many people get involved," he said.

As the mechanics of the database have just been finished, it is now up to faculty to join in the project. The easiest way is to visit the site and fill out the form. It takes about 15 minutes or so to input all the information. All the information submitted is confirmed as coming from the person in question before it is added to the database.

Italian Consul General De Masi Visits Campus

Approximately 50 university and local community members welcomed new Italian Consul General Piero De Masi to UMass Boston at a reception Feb. 10. The gathering was an opportunity for UMass Boston to strengthen its ties with the Italian Consulate and highlight some of the Italian and Italian-American programs in the works.

"I am so delighted," De Masi said of the reception, his first at a higher education institution. While he acknowledged he will concentrate on the traditional task of the Consul General, which is to care for the needs of the area Italian community, De Masi said he hopes to meet many people and make many community connections.

"There is no other place in the world where such a concentration of knowledge and research is every day working toward the progress of human kind," he said.

De Masi also expressed an interest in continuing the Italian Consulate's cooperation with the University. Italian Professor Daniele Benati has been on the UMass Boston faculty for four years. In addition, Prof. Spencer DiScala has been working with the JFK Library on an Italian panel discussion planned for March 23. And other projects are planned.

In her remarks, Chancellor Sherry Penney pointed to UMass Boston's commitment to diversity and its connection to the local

Italian community. "Our location in Boston, which is surrounded by neighborhoods with deeply rooted Italian families, enhances that diversity and our connection with Italy."

Members of the Italian community, representatives from Italian-American organizations and reporters from local Italian newspapers attended the reception. De Masi has been formerly stationed in South Africa, Czechoslovakia, Chile, East Germany and Namibia. His territory now includes Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire.

The Millennium Nears: How's Boston Doing?

Consider New Year's resolutions: As the calendar resets, most of us set goals for the coming year. That's the emphasis on seeing 12 months go by. Imagine the emphasis on seeing 1,000 years go by. That was the challenge for the Forum for the 21st Century, a discussion sponsored by UMass Boston, that addressed a celebration and New Year's resolution big enough for a millennium at its Feb. 18 meeting.

The Forum pulled together a group of panelists with diverse perspectives on Boston's celebration, including Geri Guarino (executive director of First Night), Michael Taylor (president of Boston 2000), David Davies (a director of information technology for the state's Department of Revenue), moderator Paul Guzzi (ceo of Boston

Chamber of Commerce), Hillel Schwartz (scholar and millennium consultant) and Richard Landes (co-founder of Boston University's Center for Millennial Studies). But the common theme among them probably was summed up by David Lee, partner of an urban design firm in Boston.

"I like to party as much as the next person, but I also want to make sure everyone is invited to the party and that they are healthy, well-fed and well-paid."

From addressing class disparity, to celebrating women and minorities in Boston's history, to determining those societal ills that we don't want to bring forward into the next millennium, the audience and panelists turned over the stones of nearly every

social issue in the city. Still, underneath those stones, there weren't many easy answers.

However, Schwartz, who has consulted on the millennium to groups around the world, said that Boston appears ahead of many cities and countries, not only in its planning but also in its desire to shape its future.

"You are all going to be asked by your children, 'What did you do in 2000?'" he said. "If you tell them you watched a ball fall on television, they won't be very impressed."

"If on the other hand you show them schools, forests, open land, running water and say 'This is what I did,' then I think they will be very impressed."

Two Full Lives—And a Well Deserved Award

Living on her own. Taking college courses in English, economics, history, political science, and Spanish. Holding down two jobs. Tending a little cousin on Fridays and holidays. Providing emergency mediation services at schools after racial clashes. Somehow finding time to study and sleep.

That sounds like enough to fill two ordinary lives, but for UMass Boston sophomore Kenisha Stewart it's typical. On March 10 her busy schedule will get busier still when she heads downtown to the Westin Hotel to receive the 1999 Youth Award of the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ). The award recognizes "outstanding leadership and commitment to improving intergroup relations between people of different backgrounds in their communities."

Stewart, now 20, first got interested in mediation through the SCORE program at Boston English High. SCORE, which is overseen by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, uses trained students to mediate conflicts among their peers. Stewart handled more disputes than any other student, became one of SCORE's most trusted mediators, and built a reputation as an eloquent spokesperson for mediation as a successful alternative to violence.

Former Attorney General Scott Harshbarger took notice. "I came to know and respect her perseverance and her commitment to making a difference in the lives of her peers," he said in nominating Stewart for the NCCJ award. After she graduated from English, she joined Harshbarger's office as an intern, working on the Safe Neighborhood Initiative, serving as a member of the Child Labor Task Force, and also joining the statewide Conflict Intervention Team. Now, between classes, she's an investigator in the office's Unemployment Fraud Division—and on weekends she holds another job as an undercover store detective. Along the way, she's also been a peer leader at the Roxbury Health Center and an HIV/AIDS counselor at the Codman Square Health Center.

In Stewart's other life she's a full-time student in the College of Arts and Sciences, majoring in criminal justice and considering a minor in psychology. "It really interests me to see how differently people think from one another," she says. As for the law, it has attracted her since childhood, when courtroom dramas glued her to the TV screen. Now she knows that "it's not like that in real life," but she's still fascinated, especially when attorneys use their legal and mediation skills "to help someone who was obviously violated by someone else."

After UMass Boston Stewart wants to go into juvenile probation work, and at the same time to attend law school, with a prosecution career in mind. "That's the side of the law I've been seeing," she says. If she were on the other side, she "would feel uncomfortable defending certain types of cases," such as cases of child molestation or murder. "I just love working with people," she adds. "I love working with people to the point where I can actually help them. And that's why I've always felt that I would rather stay in the public sector. I know the money's in the private sector, but I'd prefer to work in the public sector because I'd have more influence on people."

How does Kenisha Stewart achieve what she does? "You can do anything you want if you have good time management," she says. Once in a while she reaches a point where she's "just completely burnt out," but then she tells herself "I've just got to keep dealing with it—and keep pushing."

And she has somewhere to go. "I have a lot of high goals," she says. "In middle school I wanted to be a probation officer. In high school I wanted to be a lawyer. Now that I'm in college I have the goal of becoming a judge. So it seems like the higher I go in education the higher I start shooting for."

—by Jeffrey Mitchell

●
Opening Available for Resident Directorship of UMass/Baden-Württemberg Exchange Program

Applications are now being accepted for a resident director of the University of Massachusetts Baden-Württemberg Exchange Program for 1999-2000. Candidates must be tenured members of the UMass faculty, with a doctorate, fluent in German, and experienced in graduate and undergraduate advising. Some acquaintance with the German university system is advisable. Interested persons are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to the Baden-Württemberg Program, International Program Office, William S. Clark International Center, UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA, 01003. Additional information is available from Stefanie Bergmann in the same office, at 413-545-2710 or email at sbergman@ipo.umass.edu. Applications must be received by March 12.

●
Profs. Jones, Bassanese play roles in Caravaggio Exhibit at BC

Art Prof. Pamela Jones was one of a team of curators developing the exhibit, "Saints and Sinners: Caravaggio and the Baroque Image," which opened Feb. 1 at Boston College. She also contributed an essay, "The Power of Images: Paintings and Viewers in Caravaggio's Italy" to the exhibit catalogue. Caravaggio's painting, "The Taking of Christ," which has left Ireland only twice since it was rediscovered in 1990, is a centerpiece of the exhibit. Prof. Fiora Bassanese of the Modern Languages Department will speak at the affiliated interdisciplinary symposium, "Religious Culture in

Caravaggio's Italy," on the topic of Veronica Franco, a 17th century Italian courtesan and writer, on March 20 at Boston College. The exhibit will run at Boston College through May 24.

●
Sustainability Clinic Draws Interest from Across the Campus

Creating a more sustainable community at UMass Boston was the topic explored by approximately 45 faculty, staff and students at a Sustainability Clinic sponsored by the Urban Harbors Institute on Jan. 28. Several fundamental principles of sustainability include reducing consumption, cutting waste, the efficient uses of energy (as well as consideration of renewable vs. fossil fuels) among others. According to Richard Delaney, director of the Urban Harbors Institute, the clinic gave participants a chance to find out about sustainability efforts already underway, such as the Procurement Department's efforts to get recycled paper for University business cards, and the Facilities Department's trial plan to use recycled carpeting. An ad hoc committee was formed to meet again and work out an action agenda to share with the rest of the University. "Everyone, in their capacity can play a role in tailoring more sustainable activities," says Delaney. "I thought the clinic was a terrific success."

●
Promoting Learning through Student Engagement is Theme of CIT Conference

The Center for the Improvement of Teaching (CIT) sponsored its yearly Conference on Teaching

and Transformation on Jan. 29. The conference presenters were all UMass Boston faculty from across the curriculum and from a range of colleges and disciplines. Sessions focused on a range of teaching and learning issues, and offered participants the opportunity to consider ways in which learning can be promoted through student engagement. Several presentations explicitly dealt with the challenges and benefits of building diversity into courses. The rich array of presentations is best illustrated by some of the session titles: "Beyond Spell-Check: Strategies for Advancing Novice Writers Understanding of Revision," "Implementing Innovative Teaching Strategies," and "Intersections of Race and Class in Teaching and Learning." Over 115 faculty, staff, and students registered for this year's conference. CIT is planning a number of forums and luncheon series discussions for the Spring. Watch for flyers announcing these events. For more information about CIT, contact Prof. Vivian Zamel, acting director of CIT for spring 1999 at 7-6740 or Jackie Cornog, CIT administrative assistant at 7-6767.

●
New Director of Institutional Research and Policy Studies joins University Community

Jennifer Brown joined the campus community on Jan. 11 as director of institutional research and policy studies. Brown comes to UMass Boston from the Connecticut State University system, where she served as executive officer for academic affairs and research, with responsibility for institutional research

among other duties. Trained as a sociologist with an area of interest in demography, she received her undergraduate degree from the University of Reading in Berkshire, England, and her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut.

Seminar on "New Water Wars" to be held March 31

Sandra Postel, director of the Global Water Policy Project in Amherst, will present a special seminar, "The New Water Wars: Food Security, Ecosystem Health, and the Politics of Scarcity" on March 31 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in Lipke Auditorium. Postel is the author of *Last Oasis: Facing Water Scarcity*, published by W.W. Norton. *Last Oasis* is the foundation for the final film program of the PBS series, *Cadillac Desert*, which aired in 1997. There will be a luncheon/discussion with Postel prior to the seminar. For more information, contact Roger Wrubel, director, Environmental Studies Program, at 7-5778. The seminar is sponsored by the Undergraduate Environmental Studies Program along with the ECOS Department and the Urban Harbors Institute.

Technology and Higher Ed Expert Steven Gilbert Leads Workshop March 17-19

A Feb. 8 luncheon with Steven Gilbert, noted expert and president of the TLT Group, the teaching, learning and technology affiliate of the American Association of Higher Education (AAHE) was attended by approximately 40 representatives of higher ed institutions in New

England, where guests learned more about Gilbert's model for meeting organizational and technological challenges. UMass Boston will also host Gilbert's upcoming three-day workshop, March 17-19, which is expected to draw between 200 and 300 participants who wish to learn more about the TLT model, which includes engaging faculty, students, staff and administrators in looking at institutional planning and implementation of academic uses of technology. The AAHE recently adopted UMass Boston's Learning Center as a national model for university teaching and learning centers. As a result, Anthony Martin, Learning Center director, traveled to Minnesota in January to give a workshop on setting up similar centers at other universities.

Biology Prof. William Hagar Recognized at Urban Scholars Middle School Science Fair

Prof. William Hagar was thanked for 15 years of support he has offered students in the Urban Scholars Middle School program, and for serving eight years as a judge at their Science Fair, on Feb. 13. Hagar was presented with a plaque along with testimonies from Mike Benway, middle school coordinator for the Urban Scholars Program, Chukwuka Okafor, a UMass Boston biochemistry student who teaches in the Urban Scholars Program, and Carleton Johnson, a 30-plus year veteran teacher at South Boston High School, all of whom have worked with and been influenced by Hagar's dedication to science education. Although Hagar was surprised and pleased by the recognition, he shared credit with

his colleagues for their involvement with science education, noting their enthusiasm for the sciences and the impact it has on students and fellow teachers. "Although they say I have affected them, I think we all affect each other," Hagar said.

WUMB Presents Wednesday "Live at Noon" Series, and Holds a Record/CD Sale

Stop by the Ryan Lounge Wednesdays at noon, and enjoy live performances by local singer/songwriters courtesy of *WUMB 91.9 FM* Radio's "Live at Noon" series. The concerts, broadcast live, began Feb. 17 when the featured artist was Kris Delmhorst, followed by the Feb. 24 performance by The Steaks. In March, "Live at Noon" will feature Kyle Shiver (3/3), Mica Richards (3/10), Lucy Kaplansky (3/24) and Ken Batts (3/31). Concerts are co-sponsored by the Offices of Enrollment Services and Communications, and Student Affairs. Mark your calendars for *WUMB's* second record and cd sale to benefit the Boston Folk Festival. The sale, which will be held Saturday (9a.m. to 5p.m.) and Sunday (noon to 5p.m.), March 20 & 21 in McCormack Cafeteria. More than 20,000 used records and CDs will be available at reduced prices. Collectibles, new CDs, and tapes will also be available. The cost of parking will be reduced on Saturday and free on Sunday.

GCOE/Dorchester High School Partnership Gains Momentum

In the spring of 1998, a \$1 million gift from alumna Pamela Trefler offered UMass Boston's Graduate College of Education (GCOE) and Dorchester High School (DHS) the freedom to create a new teaching and learning environment for students—one based on the best ideas of educators and support staff from both institutions. As a result, a new vision of DHS is beginning to unfold—and many changes are coming about at both institutions.

Several steps have already been taken to begin implementing changes at DHS. One major goal is to reconfigure traditional classroom patterns to create small learning communities at the 950-student school, where regular classroom ratios of students to teacher are 33:1. Small learning communities based on public service, technology, and entrepreneurship are already established, and the process of developing small learning communities will continue.

Twenty-three UMass Boston student/tutors joined DHS classrooms in January, to support teachers and students, while DHS teachers are serving as mentors to GCOE students working at the high school, and as instructors and co-instructors in the GCOE's programs. By way of professional development, more than 60 of the 80 teachers at DHS will have participated in a UMass Boston course on literacy development by the end of the year. On both sides of the partnership, participants are offering their ideas, their intellectual resources, and their experiences to each other in

a way that they could only dream of before, thanks to the Trefler grant.

"What we are forming is really a professional development school, which is a big culture change in both places," says June Kuzmeskus, the Graduate College of Education/Dorchester High School Partnership coordinator. "It means we're moving toward a reciprocal, co-equal relationship, with teacher preparation on site, connected to professional development, and with a systematic inquiry into teaching and learning."

Another major goal of the partnership is under development: a year-long, pre-service, professional teacher preparation program named "Teach Next Year," a new pathway of the GCOE's masters of education program. Ten to 15 masters students will be accepted into "Teach Next Year," which begins at the end of August 1999. The program will provide students with an intensive, DHS-based experience in which they will work their way up from student teachers to full-time teachers with a reduced load over the course of a year.

The partnership's implementation of so many potentially far-reaching changes for the first time in a Boston Public School is really the opportunity to blaze a new trail in public education.

While the collaboration between UMass Boston and Dorchester High School, with its fresh infusion of resources seems new

and exciting, in fact the relationship between the two institutions has long roots. It was in the aftermath of desegregation of the Boston Public Schools in the 1970s that the courts paired Boston-area colleges and universities with individual Boston high schools. UMass Boston and DHS were paired then, and have worked together since, although lack of resources often prevented efforts to implement new ideas. Last year, 97 percent of the DHS teachers who voted on whether to implement the partnership gave their stamp of approval, which means almost unanimous support for the course that the GCOE and DHS have embarked upon together.

"The grant allows us to do many things we've wanted to do for years, but lacked the sustained resources for...now we can do things we never dreamed of. This partnership is an initiative of depth and complexity, and has never been done before in the City of Boston," says Charles Desmond, associate chancellor for school and community collaborations, who has worked closely with DHS staff for many years. "Everyone involved is looking to make it built to last."

\$1 Million Gift Establishes First Endowed Chair in Math and Computer Science

In keeping with a pattern of philanthropy set several years ago, Alton Brann, UMass Boston '69, recently pledged \$750,000 to establish the first fully endowed chair in math and science. UNOVA Inc., headquartered in Southern California and the company for which Brann serves as president and ceo, will match his gift with \$250,000, making the total of Brann's contribution \$1 million dollars. With state matching funds at \$500,000, the contribution to UMass Boston comes to \$1.5 million.

This is Brann's third major gift to the University. While serving as president and ceo of Litton Industries, Brann, with a \$150,000 gift, established the

Litton Scholarship. A total of \$7,000 is awarded annually to two or more juniors and seniors studying math, computer science and physical science. When Brann left Litton Industries to become the chairman and ceo of Western Atlas, he established the Alton Brann Endowed Scholarship with a \$75,000 gift. "Alton Brann has set a wonderful example of continuous, faithful and generous giving to his alma mater," said Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement Michael Luck.

A native of Portland, Maine, Brann earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from UMass Boston in 1969. While

pursuing his degree, Brann worked at Dynamics Research Corporation based in Wilmington. He remained with that company until 1973, when he left to become president and ceo of Litton Industries in Beverly Hills, California.

In addition to being active in several professional associations, Brann is an honorary co-chair of the *UMass Boston First* Campaign Cabinet, the university's first capital campaign, which was launched in October 1996 to raise \$50 million dollars. To date, the campaign has raised \$28 million.

Weld Speaks at East Asian Lecture Series

The idea to study the positive and negative influences of Western culture on East Asian countries is not a new one, but it is a growing trend among scholars. At least Michael LaFargue, director of East Asian Studies, thinks so. And so do the average 20 to 30 participants attending each of LaFargue's "Modernization vs. Westernization in East Asia" lecture series.

The latest forum in the series, "Legal Reform in East Asia: From Grand Theories to People Concerns," was presented by Susan Weld, well-known professor at Boston College and associate at the East Asian Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School, and the wife of former Massachusetts governor William Weld. Weld focused on conflicting

concerns driving East Asian law reform from three angles — modernization of law from within, modernization of law from without, and modernization of law from the top down.

"Is modernity a western project?" she asked her audience. "It seems unlikely there will be only one path." In fact, Weld surmised the world is experiencing what can be termed, "multiple modernity."

Coupled with Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences Director Kevin Bowen's comments on Vietnamese efforts in updating copyright law, and Harvard Law School East Asian Legal Studies Program affiliate John Ohnesorge's discussion of the International Monetary Fund and World

Bank's imposition of conditions on government loans, Weld's lecture hit LaFargue's target — to create an active discussion of the imposed westernization of East Asia.

LaFargue says past cultural clashes can often relate to today's experiences. "The West has, over the last century and a half especially, had a lot of destructive effects in imposing our behavior." LaFargue has three additional forums prepared: "Asian Values, Western Values, and Human Rights" on March 3; "China and the Internet" on March 24; and "Can Vietnamese Culture Survive Rapid Modernizations: Quick Noodles or Sticky Rice?" on April 21.

Publications

20 Little Piano Pieces from Around the World, by Music Prof. **David Patterson**, illustrated by **TenBroeck Davison '82**, has been published by G. Shirmer, Inc.

Deborah Hirsch, director of the New England Resource Center for Higher Education, has written an article, "Changing Faculty Roles: Opportunities for Collaboration," which appears in *Partners in Learning: Creating Academic Affairs/Student Affairs Partnerships to Enhance Student Learning and Faculty Development*, edited by James Martin and Sheila Murphy.

An article, "Organizational Structures for Community Engagement," written by **Sharon Singleton**, **Deborah Hirsch**, and **Cathy Burack** of NERCHE appears in *Colleges and Universities as Citizens*, published by Allyn & Bacon.

Sociology Prof. **Xiaogang Deng** has co-authored a book chapter, "The Structural Changes in Community and Work Unit in China," which appeared in *The Social Transition in China*, published by the University Press of America.

Prof. **Pepi Lestyna** of the Bilingual/ESL Graduate Studies Program has written a second book, *Presence of Mind: Education and the Politics of Deception*, published by the Westview Press.

A new book, *The Poems of Callimachus*, written by Prof. **Frank Nisetich**, Chair of the Classics Department, has been accepted for publication by Oxford University Press. An excerpt, "The Bath of Pallas," appears in a recent issue of *Compost Magazine*.

Dr. **Bernie Gardner**, research associate of the ECOS Department, co-authored an article, "Upward transport of oceanic nitrate by migrating diatom mats," which appeared in the journal *Nature*, vol. 397.

An article by Prof. **Joseph Dyer** of the Music Department, "Tropis semper variantibus: Compositional Strategies in the Offertories of Old Roman Chant," appeared in the annual *Early Music History*, published by Cambridge University Press.

Honors and Appointments

Deborah Hirsch, formerly associate director of The New England Resource Center for Higher Education, (NERCHE), assumed the role of director of the Center upon the retirement of Zelda Gamson. **Cathy Burack** has been appointed associate director of the Center. The following individuals have been appointed to NERCHE for an upcoming term:

—**Hannah Goldberg**, former provost and vice president for academic affairs at Wheaton College, to senior associate;

—**Ellen Porter Honnet**, counseling and consulting psychologist and independent consultant, to visiting fellow;

—**Tammy Lenski**, independent educator and professional facilitator, and president of Lenski Associates, to visiting fellow;

—**Amy Kirle Lezberg**, former associate director of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, to visiting fellow;

—**Stephen J. Nelson**, research associate in education at Brown University, to visiting fellow;

—**Elsa Nunez**, professor of English at Wheelock College, to visiting fellow;

—**Ellen S. Switkes**, assistant vice president for academic advancement at the University of California, to visiting fellow.

Daniel Robb, graduate program director of the College of Management, was awarded a LAM Technologies Fellowship to attend the National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals (NAGAP) Advanced Professional Development Workshop Jan. 22-24 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Robb was one of two individuals to be selected nationally for this fellowship.

Diane Dujon, CPCS director of independent study, was inducted into the *Who's Who of American Women, 1999-2000*. Dujon's book, *For Crying Out Loud*, and her Unsung Heroine Award from Rosie's Place were among her accomplishments cited.

Prof. **John Warner** of the Chemistry Department has been appointed to the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Science Advisory Board and has been asked to serve on a National Science Foundation review panel for its "Technology for a Sustainable Future" Program. He has also been asked to serve as a technical advisor to Australia's Green Chemistry Program, and to serve on an American Chemical Society committee to review graduate education in chemistry.

English Prof. **Martha Collins** and **Nguyen Quang Thieu** have won a \$500 Finalist Award from the American Literary Translators Association for their translation of Thieu's poems, *The Women Carry River Water*, published by the University of Massachusetts Press in 1997. The translation project was supported by the William Joiner Center.

Presentations and Conferences

Music Prof. **Joseph Dyer** presented a paper, "The Music of Monasticism," at a symposium on *Western Plainchant in the First Millennium: Studies of Medieval Liturgy and its Music*, held at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in January.

Four members of the English department presented papers at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association of America: Prof. **Elizabeth Fay** on the lyrical ballads of Wordsworth; Lecturer **Gillian Gane** on postcolonial language in the

works of Salman Rushdie; Prof. **Louise Smith** on ordinary rhetoric and academic writing; and Prof. **Rajini Srikanth** on the South Asian Diaspora in America.

Sociology Prof. **Xiaogang Deng** presented two papers, "The Sensual Dynamics of Property Crime," and "The Reciprocal Relationship Between Offenders and Victims: A Test of Violent Network Thesis," at the 1998 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, held in Washington, D.C.

CPCS Prof. **Madhulika S. Khandelwal** presented "Mapping the Geographies of Asian America" at the annual East of California Asian American Studies Conference hosted by the University of Michigan in October.

Prof. **Mitchell Chang** of the GCOE's Higher Education Administration doctoral program presented "The Impact of Diversity on Student Learning" at the Invitational Symposium and Working Research Meeting on Diversity and Affirmative Action sponsored by the Spencer Foundation and the American Council on Education in January. He was also the plenary speaker at the American Council on Education's Technical Assistance Workshop on College Admissions and Affirmative Action, speaking on "Research on the Benefits of Diversity."

English Prof. **Rajini Srikanth** moderated a panel discussion on "The Future of the South Asian American Community: Where Will Assimilation Take Us?" at Harvard University in

February. She also co-led a December roundtable discussion on "Prospects for Change: South Asian Americans and the Curriculum and Institutionalization of Asian American Studies" at New York University.

The following presentations were made by **ECOS Department faculty and graduate students** at the annual meeting of the Society of Limnology and Oceanography held Feb. 1-5 in Santa Fe, New Mexico:

—**J. Callahan** and **R.F. Chen**, "Characterization of dissolved organic matter in surface waters of Boston Harbor and Chesapeake Bay;"

—**R.F. Chen**, **G.B. Gardner**, **Y. Zhang** and **P. Vlahos**, "Chromophoric dissolved organic matter in Chesapeake Bay;"

—**G.B. Gardner**, **R.F. Chen**, **S. M. Rudnick**, **E. Peter** and **T. Goodkind**, "Development of an undulating, towed vehicle for the study of coastal biogeochemistry;"

—**S. M. Rudnick**, **R.F. Chen**, and **G. B. Gardner**, "Time-resolved, laser-induced, fluorescence monitoring and modeling of pyrene concentration and distribution in Boston Harbor;"

—**P. Vlahos**, **R.F. Chen**, and **G.B. Gardner**, "Delivery of dissolved organic carbon to the mid-Atlantic Bight from Chesapeake and Delaware Estuaries;" and

—**C. Pliskain**, **M. Brzezinski**, **F. Lipschultz** and **G.B. Gardner**, "New estimates of upward oceanic nitrate fluxes by migrating diatom mats."

In the News...

David Addison Small's show at the Harbor Art Gallery was extended through Feb. 13 after receiving several positive reviews in the local media, including *The Boston Globe*, during January.

Hélène Ragoné of the anthropology department was consulted for an article on ovum donation which appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* on Feb. 3.

Prof. **Avery Faigenbaum** of the Human Performance and Fitness Program was interviewed by *WCVB-TV 5* on youth fitness and obesity at the Beacon Fitness Center on Feb. 12.

Biology Prof. **Garrison Wilkes** was a guest on *WBUR-FM* talk show, *The Connection*, on Friday, Feb. 5, for a discussion on genetics and agriculture.

Debra Wein, general manager of the Beacon Fitness Center, was interviewed by *FOX 25* television on the cardiovascular benefits of a new exercise rage, Tae-bo on Feb. 17. Wein also appeared on *FOX 25 News* on Feb. 22 on making a commitment to healthful eating and exercise.

Innovation

UMass Boston's **MUSE Distance Learning**, in cooperation with the **Division of Continuing Education**, has created a professional development course for teachers in the Sandwich

Public Schools. Currently, teachers in Sandwich and on Martha's Vineyard, communicating with instructors via video link, participate in a professional development course entitled "Net Gains." Teachers gain web literacy through the course, developing curricula that integrates web resources into their classrooms. A \$30,000 grant from the Department of Education to the Sandwich Public Schools funded development of the course.

New Faces on Campus

Giovanna Negretti has joined the staff of the Gastón Institute as outreach coordinator. In her new position, Negretti will direct the Latino Leadership Opportunity Program (LLOP), coordinate the annual Speakers Series, and act as liaison for selected outreach activities. Negretti holds a bachelor's degree from Emerson College.

Performances

Prof. **John Conlon** of Communication and Theatre Arts is currently in rehearsal as attorney Watson Frye in *Close Ties*, which will be presented at the North Quincy Alumni Theatre in mid-March. He is also participating as a judge in the Boston Globe-Massachusetts School Drama Festival which will be held this Spring.

Theatre Arts student **David Dowling** directed *Endgame* by Samuel Beckett through Feb. 27 at the Peabody House Theatre Coop in Somerville, which was founded by a group including several UMass Boston Theatre arts students and alums.

Regionalism Survey

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opinion leaders, with 90 percent of household respondents reporting that regional approaches to New England's economic issues are very or somewhat important to them. Among opinion leaders, 88 percent think that it is important to work regionally towards some goals, but only 36 percent have actually collaborated with counterparts from other states or countries.

In addition, DiNatale says that the public is somewhat more farsighted than the politicians in seeing the need for new technologies. "There's a good deal of support among the public for economic projects that are described as examples of public cooperation. The old debate is about high speed railways, so that

you can commute to your job in, say, Burlington, but the public is saying lets go to the next place—make it possible for me to get connected via telecommunications so that I can work at home."

DiNatale says that while political institutions have a stake in maintaining their distinctions, the population sees the benefits of moving beyond them. Take, for example, the support of the public for the idea of a regional university. "The public wants to move beyond parochialism," says DiNatale.

DiNatale conducted the survey in January as part of the UMass Poll, a quarterly survey research vehicle of Massachusetts public opinion sponsored by the UMass Economic Project, and the Donahue and McCormack Institutes. The poll was expanded

in this case to include a New England sample, at the request of NEBHE.

The surveys were also the basis for a conference held Feb. 3 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, which attracted political, corporate, and education leaders from New England. Topics at the day long meeting ranged from the New England Patriots move to Hartford, to the question of what would be the capitol city of a future state of New England. It was sponsored by the NEBHE's New England Public Policy Collaborative, which is co-chaired by Robert Woodbury, director of the McCormack Institute, and John Hoy, president of the NEBHE. The surveys can be downloaded from the website of the New England Board of Higher Education at <http://nebhe.org/PolCollab>

Research Grants Awarded to Faculty, Staff, From External Sources

Since November, University faculty and staff have won funding for a wide variety of continuing and new research projects from external sources, according to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. Grants include a \$292,966 grant to Anthony Roman, Senior Research Fellow of the Center for Survey Research for a study entitled "College Drinking Revisited," \$100,000 to Prof. Robert Chen of the ECOS Department for a study of biological cycling of colored dissolved organic matter in coastal waters, \$100,000 to GCOE Prof. Joseph Check for the Boston Writing Project, and \$95,169 to Chemistry Prof. D.V.G.L.N. Rao for a study, "Nonlinear Optical Interactions in Solid Host Materials."

Approximately \$9 million in grant funds have been brought to the University for this fiscal year as of mid-February. "These grants reflect the high regard that funding sources have for the research that is undertaken both within academic departments and the institutes here. Both our regular faculty and institute research fellows contribute to a campus culture that increasingly understands the centrality of research to our urban mission," says Martin Quitt, dean of graduate studies and vice provost for research.

Faculty Internal Grants Program Deadline is March 22

For Spring 1999, several changes have been made to the Faculty Internal Grants Program. Chancellor Sherry Penney has in-

creased available funds from \$44,500 to \$92,000. In addition, the funds have been divided between two competitions. The Support for Proposal Development competition encourages the development of high quality research proposals to external funding agencies. Up to \$60,000 is available, with a maximum award of \$7,500. The Support for Faculty Scholarship competition encourages scholarly activities that may lead to publication, display or performance, but are not appropriate to external funding. Up to \$32,000 is available, with a maximum award of \$4,000. Full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty are eligible to apply to one competition. For details, call Marguerite McLellan, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, at 7-5709.