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5-2-1989

### News & Views - Vol. 07, No. 09 -May 2, 1989

University of Massachusetts Boston

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#### Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "News & Views - Vol. 07, No. 09 -May 2, 1989" (1989). *1983-1991, News & Views*. 92.

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## UMB offers new Ph.D. in Gerontology

UMass/Boston will offer a Ph.D. in Gerontology—only the second program of its kind in the country—as a result of the recent approval of the state's Board of Regents of Higher Education.

The four-year program will admit approximately 12 students each year for high-level training in the problems of the aging.

A multi-disciplinary course, it will have a special focus on social policy and will draw on the resources of the University's Gerontology Institute and the newly-formed Department of Gerontology in the College of Public and Community Service.

Announcing the new program, first to be established in any East Coast university, Chancellor Sherry H. Penney said that it is "not only appropriate for the University, but also for the Commonwealth, a national leader in the field of gerontology. I expect the new program to produce graduates who will be prepared to assist the state and the nation in responding to the issues of the aging."

The only other Ph.D. program in gerontology was established recently at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Noted Dean of Graduate Studies Fuad Safwat: "UMass/Boston over the past several years has undertaken a series of steps to position itself as a major local and national center for gerontological teaching, research and service. These steps involved establishing the Gerontology Institute, creating the Gerontology Department and the funding by the Legislature of the Frank J. Manning Scholar's Chair in Social Gerontology.

"The Regent's recent approval of the Ph.D. program in Gerontology

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## College of Nursing granted \$1 million

Congratulations abound at UMass/Boston's College of Nursing, which in June will award Master's Degrees for the first time but right now is celebrating a \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The grant will be used to begin a new clinical concentration and enhance an existing one in the Master's program. It also will allow the College of Nursing to expand from 20 the number of students annually accepted into the Master's program.

Beginning in September 1989, graduate students of nursing will have the opportunity to pursue a clinical concentration in Adult Critical Care, a field focusing on acute, life-threatening health



Discussing award of \$1 million in grants to UMB College of Nursing were, left to right, Associate Dean Susan Haussler; Dean Brenda S. Cherry, and Dr. Pearl Rosendahl, Critical Care Program director.

problems. Previously, Master's candidates chose among clinical concentrations in two areas, Gerontology and Family Health.



R. Bruce Oliver of Adams St., Milton, presented check for \$2500 to UMass/Boston Chancellor Sherry H. Penney for Chancellor's Student Support Fund. Mr. Oliver made the contribution because his daughter Susan had found her niche at the University, majoring in Russian and carrying a GPA of 3.93. She's bound for Brown and graduate school. Mr. Oliver's employer—the John Hancock Insurance Co.—provided matching funds for the donation.

"In effect," said College of Nursing Dean Brenda S. Cherry, "the Department of Health and Human Services is telling us that they agree with our proposal, and that there is a need in this area for personnel trained in critical care.

"We're not looking to be in a maintenance mode."

The grant ensures funding for three years for the Critical Care concentrations and enables the University to hire one full-time and several part-time instructors. The program will be subject to reviews every six months by Health and Human Services officials. Funds will be released on a yearly basis, according to Cherry.

Dr. Pearl Rosendahl will serve as Program Director. She is currently developing course prospectus for next fall.

The Critical Care program has been awarded an initial \$192,389, to be followed by sums bringing the three-year total to \$492,681.

The Gerontology program's three-year funding totals \$527,137, for a total of \$1,019,818 for the two highly-needed programs.

A portion of the funding will be used to upgrade the Gerontology program concentration. Two full-

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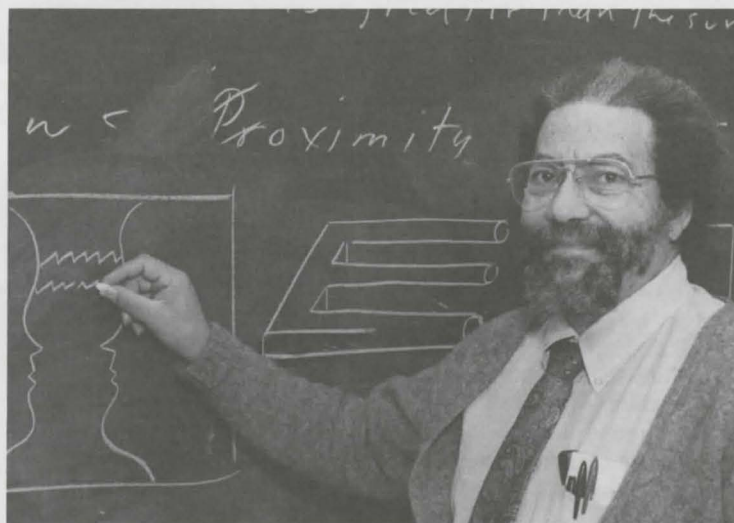


## Psychology Prof. Edward Strickland gains recognition for his artistic accomplishments

UMass/Boston associate professor of psychology Edward Strickland has viewed the world through many sets of eyes. One of seven children of blue-collar parents, a victim of discrimination, and a respected artist and professor, he has witnessed the base and the sublime that humanity has to offer.

Strickland's experiences—from the brutal lynching of blacks in the 1940's to his own intellectual acceptance of the last two decades—are brought to life on canvas. Today, there is temperance in his manner, but that was not always so.

Ordered 30 years ago to vacate his Lower East Side Manhattan apartment because his skin was the "wrong" color, Strickland responded not with anger but a fundamental curiosity for the human condition.



Professor Edward Strickland

How was it that inner city landlords were able to exploit human fears for profit, Strickland wondered? What was it that caused people to act irrationally?

A husband and father of three small children at the time, Strickland went to college in search of answers. He switched his print shop job to nights and enrolled in New York University's undergraduate program.

Education has not given the 58-year old Strickland all the answers, but it has provided perspective.

"I understand better where people are coming from," he says now. "And how to react appropriately."

Strickland enhanced his study of the mind with the stroke of a brush. His pencil drawings and pastel paintings have gained widespread recognition.

Strickland was one of only 34 in his class at Fine Arts Public High School in Newark, New Jersey. He attended Cooper Union school in New York City, and at age 19 has his first exhibit, at the 44th Street Gallery. Young artist Strickland preferred the mean city streets as his subject, with emphasis on events like police brutality and the other forms of overt discrimination endemic to black life in America.

Strickland says his theme kept him outside the mainstream. He refused to bend and satisfy art gallery directors seeking non-controversial art.

"They wanted a non-political,

bland kind of statement," he says. "That wasn't me."

Last year, a 40-year retrospective of Strickland's paintings entitled "Night and Day People and Places" was displayed at Northeastern University's Afro-American Artists in Residency Program.

In earlier years, Strickland derived inspiration from rooftop views of Brooklyn, New York. Later he found creative energy from midnight walks with his dog through Brookline. Recently, the Arnold Arboretum, which is several blocks from his Jamaica Plain home, has provided direction.

"Increasingly," Strickland says, "the human figure has been coming back into my painting."

His belief in the beauty and uniqueness of humans has been amplified with paintings juxtaposing human beings and mannequins.

The Massachusetts Council on Arts and Humanities is currently providing funding for Strickland to study the complex interplay between conscious and subconscious thoughts in the artist's creative process. Research will be completed by June. A book may follow.

## Nursing grant

• continued from page 1

time instructors and several secretarial positions have been created.

Dean Cherry believes UMass/Boston's strong reputation for producing nurses who care for the elderly will be elevated.

"The University will be known internationally for its Gerontology studies," she predicted.

"This is a real boost, a real shot in the arm," hailed Susan Hausler, Project Director and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. She credited Dr. Frances Portnoy, former interim Dean of the College of Nursing, with being instrumental in the development and preparation of the proposal.

Hausler said the awarding of the grant in part represents a recognition of the increased significance of the Gerontology field and the international responsibility of caring for a burgeoning elderly population.

## Dr. Fiorenza delivers annual St. Thomas Aquinas lecture



Campus minister Rev. Jerry Hogan, left, poses with Lucie Ferranti of the Campus Ministry office and Prof. Francis Schussler Fiorenza of the Harvard Divinity School.

One of the foremost Roman Catholic theologians in the United States, Professor Francis Schussler Fiorenza of Harvard Divinity School, delivered the 16th annual St. Thomas Aquinas lecture at a luncheon sponsored by the Catholic Campus Ministry.

Prof. Fiorenza received his S.T.B. from St. Mary's University in Baltimore and his Ph.D. in theology from the University of

Munster, Germany. He had previously taught at the University of Notre Dame and the Catholic University of America.

At Harvard, he holds the Charles Chauncy Stillman Professorship in Roman Catholic Theological Studies.

The topic of his lecture was "Liberation Theology, Marxism and the Church."



# Lucretia Crocker Program inducts first Fellows at UMB

The first Fellows were inducted recently into the Lucretia Crocker Teachers Academy at UMass/Boston at the Faculty Club in the Healey Library.

The Lucretia Crocker Program is a new state-wide program to support school improvement through the dissemination of exemplary programs developed by Massachusetts teachers.

Lucretia Crocker was an educational reformer of the late 19th century in Massachusetts. After the Civil War, she helped to establish educational programs for emancipated Blacks. She returned to Boston and—at a time when women did not have the

right to vote or hold office—organized a slate of women who were elected to the Boston School Committee.

Above all, she is remembered and honored for her commitment to increased access to educational opportunities for Blacks and women.

Each year the Lucretia Crocker Program will award Fellowships to public school teachers who have developed and/or implemented innovative and effective educational programs.

The Lucretia Crocker Fellows inducted were: Susan Bangs, Andover; Rose Beauchesne, Somerville; Elaine Capobianco,



Participating in Lucretia Crocker Teachers Academy ceremony were, left to right: Joyce Kraback, Class of 1987; Vice Chancellor Jean MacCormack, who delivered the introduction; Chancellor Sherry H. Penney, and Susan Szachowicz, Class of 1986.



Chancellor Sherry H. Penney, left, addressed audience at Lucretia Crocker Teachers Academy induction ceremonies in Faculty Club.

Walpole; Patricia Fletcher, Amherst; Shirley Griffin, Shirley; Anne Homza, Lawrence; Glenice Kelley, Lynnfield; Peter Kostek, Florence.

Also: Maureen Mahoney, Stoneham; Sandra Mears, Newburyport; Lucille Oulette, Beverly; Carol Pelletier, Middleboro; Cleopatra Peterson-Knight, Hull; Francine Wacht, Cambridge; Mary Blythe, East Greenwich, R.I.; Patricia Bradbury, Cumberland, R.I.; William Brooks III, Princeton; Dr. Leland Clarke, Weymouth; Janet Allen, Shrewsbury; Joyce Kraback, Providence, R.I.; Thomas Landenburg, Arlington; Roberta Loy Loyko, Belchertown.

Also: Priscilla Miller, Westhampton; Janet Palladino, Lexington; Kevin O'Reilly, Beverly; William Paquette, Holyoke; Richard Sinkoski, Belchertown; Kathleen Smith, Newton; Marna Bunce, Amherst; Joy Buhler, Centerville; Carolee Varga, Lynn; Pauline Boutin, North Andover; Barbara Shea, Merrimack, N.H.; Samuel Slarsky, Littleton; Susan Costa, Easthampton; Terri Caffelle, Oxford.

Also, Susan Szachowicz, Brockton; Mary Ann Thompson, Mattapan; Ed Nazzaro, Saugus; Nancy Rillings, Ashfield; Karen DeRusha, Sudbury; Bruce Robert Dean, Princeton; Faye Ruopp, Auburndale.

## STATEMENT FROM THE CHANCELLOR

UMass/Boston, as you know, has suffered a series of drastic budget cuts in the past ten months which have forced us to turn away students, hold 12% of our positions vacant, and reduce our support accounts like academic equipment and publications to a very restricted level.

As I examined likely funding levels for UMass/Boston for the next fiscal year, based on the Commonwealth's fiscal crisis and the legislative reaction to it—especially the House-passed budget—I determined that I had no choice but to ask the Trustees for permission to take decisive action; namely, to establish a policy for the reduction in force for non-academic professional staff due to the unavailability of funds.

The reduction-in-force policy calls for a selection of those functions which will cause the least damage if we suspend them. These are *not* excess activities or ones whose loss we will not feel, but are activities that under these circumstances we will have to forgo.

This decision will mean the loss of approximately eighteen positions from our administrative/professional staff. We are already operating with a 12% reduction in staff and have, as the University community knows, taken a number of actions earlier in order to deal with the fiscal crisis on campus.

These reductions in force have serious implications for all of us individually and as an institution,

but we must do all that we can to preserve our academic mission and I see no other way to protect the quality of the education and

research being carried on at UMass/Boston.

Sherry H. Penney  
Chancellor



William Connell, left, Chairman & CEO of Connell Limited and Chairman of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, posed with UMass/Boston College of Management Dean Arnold K. Weinstein at recent appearance at a breakfast lecture series held on the Harbor Campus. Connell spoke on "Corporate Commitment to the Community—Making Massachusetts Work Better."



# Adaptive Computer Lab expands disabled student services

"Access is not just ramps and elevators," says Andrea Schein, director of the Disabled Students Center at the UMass/Boston Harbor Campus.

To support her statement, she talks about how students with disabilities are opening the doors of opportunity at UMass/Boston's new Adaptive Computer Laboratory, the most progressive such facility in any New England college.

The lab, converted from the old Braille room on the sixth floor of the Healey Library, represents one of the most exciting breakthroughs in years, according to Schein.

Lab Manager Charlotte Corbett says students with disabilities now freely use word processors and perform other computer functions, reducing their competitive disadvantage in the classroom.

State-of-the-art IBM and Apple computers speak aloud, print out Braille, translate spoken word into text, and generally smooth the bumpy educational ride that physically impaired students must confront.

The lab, which Corbett, Schein, and John Murphy, assistant director of Computing Services, had envisioned for two years, opened in the fall as a joint venture of the Disabled Student Center and

Computing Services. Inquiries since from other universities have been numerous, Corbett says, and have enhanced UMass/Boston's status as one of the region's foremost schools in providing support services to the physically handicapped.

She estimates that 25-40 students use the lab on a weekly basis. One of her students, a 42-year old man with cerebral palsy, has used the technology to draw his first-ever piece of art. She recently hired him as a lab consultant. Another student's ingenuity has led him to type on a computer keyboard using his nose.

Removing obstructions for students in wheelchairs was one of the principles guiding the physical design of UMass/Boston and providing support services on campus is a natural extension of that effort.

Staff at the Disabled Student Center include notetakers, readers, exam assistants and sign language interpreters, through a scarcity of the latter is a problem shared by area schools. Schein says this summer UMB will begin offering sign language courses in hopes of developing a pool of interpreters, who can earn \$18-\$25 per hour depending on their proficiency.

Students with disabilities can



Andrea Schein, director of UMB's Disabled Student Center

participate in sports at Clark Athletic Center, where Nils Jorgensen, a wheelchair athlete himself, serves as "adaptive" athletic director. A hydraulic chairlift allows access to the swimming pool. Special tables make it easier for handicapped students to change clothes.

Schein says tumbling barriers between the able-bodied and disabled populations is growing easier because of the trend in American schools toward mainstreaming students.

In general, she believes the climate at UMass/Boston is accepting toward people with disabilities. Yet there is room for improvement.

Schein teaches a course dealing

with disabled persons and the law and says she still occasionally encounters students with narrow perspective.

"They say things like, 'I'd kill myself if I was blind,'" she says. "It's sad that they don't value life more."

Schein says the next step in acceptance—one borne out of mutual needs—is for employers to invite disabled persons into the workforce.

Economic forecasters predict America will suffer a labor shortage as it approaches the 21st century. Schein believes companies which previously deemed employing disabled persons as an act of charity will soon demand their help.

UMB's Project REACH (Realizing Educational and Career Hopes), which aims to stimulate this resource by encouraging high school students with disabilities to consider attending college, has included the Adaptive Computer Laboratory as part of its campus tour.

"Disabled kids are often on the bottom in terms of thinking about reaching their potential," Schein says.

With some technical assistance, UMass/Boston is hoping to change that.

## Carol DeSouza cited for work on behalf of disabled

Carol DeSouza of UMass/Boston was presented the President's Special Recognition Award at the annual conference of the New England Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (NEAEOPP).

Ms. DeSouza is director of UMB's Access Program and served as Chairperson of the Committee on Disabled Students Concerns.

The award was presented in recognition of her commitment to NEAEOPP as well as for her efforts and advocacy in providing quality services for students with disabilities.



Access Director Carol DeSouza

NEAEOPP is the regional arm of the National Council of Educational Opportunity Association.

## Gerontology Ph.D. program

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ogy is a significant step in enhancing the University as a major focus for gerontological education and social policy research."

UMass/Boston's core faculty will include, among others: Scott Bass, Ph.D., Director of the University's Gerontological Institute; Yung-Ping Chen, Ph.D., holder of the Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar's Chair in Social Gerontology; Francis G. Caro, Ph.D., Director of the Gerontology Institute Research Division; Robert Morris, D.S.W., the Cardinal Medeiros Visiting Lecturer and Senior Fellow in the Gerontology Institute; Frances L. Portnoy, Ph.D., R.N., Professor

at the College of Nursing; and Wornie L. Reed, Ph.D., Director of the University's William Monroe Trotter Institute.

Information on the application process for the Ph.D. program will be available from the Gerontology Center. The first students will be admitted in September 1990.

News and Views is a bi-weekly publication of the UMass/Boston Office of Public Information. News items should be addressed to: Office of Public Information, Third Floor, Harbor campus, Boston, MA 02125.

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