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Budget slashed again

1989 Base of $62 Million reduced to $58 Million for 1990

Major new reductions in the budgets of virtually every area of the campus will be necessary as a result of cuts made to this year’s University budget, according to Chancellor Sherry H. Penney.

“Our budget suffered another serious set-back when the 1990 base was reduced to a level well below that of 1989,” she said. “I am particularly worried about the impact of the cuts on the academic area. We’ve been doing everything we can to protect academic programs, but after everything we’ve already done to meet deficiencies, these new cuts don’t leave much room for alternatives.”

According to Vice Chancellor Jean MacCormack, the subsidiary cuts made in FY ’89 left inadequate funds to operate with quality over a long term. “We have fallen far below the Regents’ standards for maintenance and equipment funds,” she said, “and the academic programs are letting us know that the shortages are affecting them severely.”

There were unavoidable increases in certain kinds of spending. The cleaning contract, for example, was up for rebidding and has not increased in five years; it is sure to go up. Salaries for new appointments to the faculty and staff during the academic year have to be annualized. Maintenance contracts must be funded. These mandatory increases, according to Vice Chancellor MacCormack, will amount to more than $1 million.

But the higher education figures in the House and Senate budgets in the Spring proposed no restoration of already reduced funds, and no new funds for cost increases. The University, with great concern, therefore implemented a reduction in force policy, eliminating 18 non-academic professional staff positions and saving $1.2 million through reduction in force and administrative restructuring. And then the final FY ’90 budget for the University cut substantially from the FY ’89 appropriation level.

“Even after the reductions in force, tuition retention and curriculum support fees,” commented MacCormack, “we still have to find $2.4 million in cuts to operate effectively at our new appropriation level.”

“The critical thing to remember,” said Vice Chancellor MacCormack, “is UMass/Boston’s budget was cut by $6 million last year.”

Dandridge appointed Dean of Education at UMB

William L. Dandridge has been named Acting Dean of the College of Education, it was announced by Chancellor Sherry H. Penney. He will serve for 18 months.

“Mr. Dandridge will bring to the College his considerable experience as a teacher, administrator and policy-maker,” said Chancellor Penney. “He has the skills and expertise we need right now as we continue the task of building a comprehensive agenda for our new College.

“I’m delighted that Bill is willing to take on this key leadership role and work closely with Provost Leverett Zompa and me, the University faculty, our teacher colleagues in the public schools and with the community at large to strengthen and focus UMass/Boston’s educational program.”

Dandridge has served as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Field Center for Teaching and Learning. Prior to that position, he was Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for the Boston Public Schools. From 1969 until 1982, he held a number of positions at the National Association of Independent Schools.

Dandridge resides in Randolph. He has a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science from Penn State and an advanced degree in Public Administration from Temple University. He assumed his position on August 1.

Anniversary Committee chairpersons named

Professor Linda Kime and University Archivist and Head of Special Collections for the healey Library Elizabeth Mock have been named co-chairpersons of UMass/Boston’s 25th Anniversary Celebration Committee, which will commemorate a quarter century of public higher education with a series of special events during the 1989-90 academic year.
Admission's Mary Mahoney rewarded with Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award

UMass/Boston Associate Director of Admissions Mary E. Mahoney, whose willingness to assume the role of acting Director of Admissions during the past academic year was hailed by Chancellor Sherry H. Penney as a magnanimous public service gesture, was awarded the Chancellor's prestigious Distinguished Service Award.

Chancellor Penney praised Mahoney's 17 years of service to the students. She will be honored at Convocation ceremonies on September 13.

"During this time Mary has met and worked with literally tens of thousands of students, exhibiting a caring, professional attitude which nurtures the development of one of the Commonwealth's most important resources, its student citizens," the Chancellor noted.

Alluding to Mahoney's expanded duties during the 1988-89 academic year, Penney said it was done "uns selfishly, willingly, and with no expectation of additional compensation."

Mahoney, a member of the executive board of Massachusetts Women in Public Higher Education, was one of 14 representatives from across the United States last fall invited by the West German government to participate in an educational conference in Freiburg, West Germany.

Mahoney and the other experts consulted with educators who are trying to expand the rigid curriculum in the German system to include more varied courses.

"They wanted to know our curriculum," Mahoney said.

The cry "Back to Basics" is frequently heard within the American educational system, notes Mahoney. She said 43 states have instituted specific requirements for students wishing to attend college. The aim is to raise the achievement level of American students, who rank ninth among the industrial nations. Their German peers, who must pass a national exam to be eligible to attend college, rank second.

Eastburn Scholarships awarded

Four Boston residents attending UMass/Boston's Institute for Learning and Teaching have been awarded Eastburn Scholarships and recently were congratulated by Boston's Mayor Raymond Flynn and UMB's Chancellor Sherry H. Penney at City Hall.

The 106-year Eastburn Scholarship was established in 1883 by John H. Eastburn, who stipulated in his will that $10,000 be left to the City of Boston to help deserving, poor scholars at the Normal School for Females, which has become UMB's College of Education.

The Eastburn Recipients were:
- Darrelle A. Boyd of Mattapan, 23, a graduate of West Roxbury High School and a member of UMass/Boston's NCAA championship women's track team;
- Peter J. Bertucci of Roslindale, a Boston Latin graduate currently practice teaching at Peabody Public Schools;
- Cynthia Braithwaites Peay of Dorchester, a mother of three who has been active in the Big Sister Organization;
- Susan King of Dorchester, married and mother of 2-1/2-year-old daughter Shauna. She is a Monsignor Ryan graduate.

UMass/Boston Associate Director of Admissions Mary E. Mahoney

Boston Globe editor Greg Moore, left, posed with minority journalism students and Boston Herald's L. Kim Tan, right, at seminar for 18 minority students held at UMass/Boston. Left to right: Moore, Song Pak, Brockton High School; Latisha Dukes, Mission High School, Roxbury, and Tan. The workshop was an intensive 10-day program.

UMB hosts journalism seminar for minority students

Former U.S. Senator Paul Tsongas was the featured speaker at the 1989 High School Journalism Workshop for 18 minority students at UMass/Boston.

Tsongas serves as Chairman of the Board of Regents of Higher Education.

The workshop was an intensive 10-day program, according to Carole Remick, Director of Cooperative Education at the Harbor Campus. Local reporters, editors and publishers volunteered their time.

TAG aids Hispanic students in Boston exam schools

Hispanic students who are accepted to Boston's exam schools are finding the transition easier thanks to a program sponsored by UMass/Boston's Institute of Learning and Teaching. A couple of hundred students who were enrolled in the three-week Talented and Gifted (TAG) summer program at the Harbor Campus celebrated their graduation earlier this month.

Chancellor Sherry Penney and State Rep. Nelson Merced of Dorchester attended the ceremony and advised the graduates to reach high for success.

Penney offered the students recent Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Carl Yastrzemski as a role model, while Merced, the first Hispanic member of the Massachusetts Legislature, addressed the children in a casual and genial manner that seemed to earmark the commencement.

"We, as a community, need your success," Merced said, eliciting rousing applause from students, instructors, and parents.

Graduating students left peers, parents and instructors smiling, performing a series of theatrical parodies they scripted and directed themselves.

Program coordinator Lucia Vasquez said the academic records of students who have participated in TAG contrast sharply with those who have not. TAG graduates, she said, have a 97 percent promotion rate. The system-wide dropout rate for Hispanic high school students is 51 percent, she said. David smiled while invoking her response to students who talk of quitting high school: "You try to drop out and I'll break your legs."

She added: "A diploma from one of these exam schools is a passport to higher education."

David said students benefit from more than academic training in Latin, Math, Reading, and Writing during the three-hour-per-day, five-day-per-week session.

"Did you see the spirit?" she asked an observer.

Indeed, the close-knit relation-ship students exhibited with each other and their teachers was different than what one might expect from a group of young adolescents.

Students cheered their teachers as mightily as their teachers did them. The instructors, full-time teachers from each of the city's three exam schools—Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy, and Boston Technical High School—are an integral element of the program's success.

"Students who participate in the program have an easier time adjusting because they already know a few other students and at least two teachers when they start in September," noted David.

"That's a big help."

The assistance does not end with the summer. David said TAG students continue to meet with instructors in one hour after-school sessions throughout the academic year.

The program for eighth graders has just completed its fifth year. David said a pilot program instituted this summer to include third, fourth and fifth graders from Boston elementary schools with high concentrations of Hispanic students has already paid dividends. Like its predecessor, the program includes a component for year-round teaching. After four months, David said, the younger children had increased test scores by an average of 10 points.

Twenty-four hours after graduation, David spent the day writing grant proposals to fund the program for next fall.

The TAG Program is one of a dozen UMB programs designed to assist Boston students and teachers. Taken together, these programs constitute the University's contribution to the Boston Higher Education Partnership, a consortium of area colleges and universities working with the schools.

UMass/Boston and Old Sturbridge Village have arranged an internship program to study and disseminate historical knowledge.

The announcement was made by UMB Chancellor Sherry H. Penney and Old Sturbridge Village President Crawford Lincoln. "We will send three graduate students in our historical archeology program to Old Sturbridge Village. There they will be exposed to experience and expertise of that fine organization—an enrichment for them both as individuals and for their program," said Chancellor Penney.

"This was achieved through the innovative effort of Professor Alan Harwood, chair of the Anthropology Department, in cooperation with his colleagues, Professors Barbara Luedke, Charles Nelson and Steve Mrozowski of Anthropology and Professor Malcolm Smuts, Chair of History. Their efforts were coordinated by the Office of Institutional Affairs.

An internship agreement between UMass/Boston and Old Sturbridge Village was jointly announced, involving, left to right: Dr. Alan Harwood, Chair, UMB Anthropology Dept.; Interim Provost Leverett Zompa; Acting CAS Dean Edna Seaman; UMB Chancellor Sherry H. Penney and Crawford Lincoln, President, Old Sturbridge Village.

Acting Dean Edna Seaman of the College of Arts and Sciences. We are grateful for their good work." Said OSV President Crawford Lincoln: "I am excited about the potential in this agreement. This merger of the public and private sectors enables us to stretch our resources."

The program involves students and faculty affiliated with the Graduate Program in Historical Archeology at UMB and the staff of The Research and Curatorial departments at Old Sturbridge Village.

Internships normally last one academic semester. Three maximum credits may be received.

The program is designed to utilize existing facilities and staff at no cost to either institution.
Anniversary Committee plans events

* continued from page 1

creation of the Boston community's public university.

Kime and Mock will organize community-wide events around six subthemes. The first will take place during Convocation and will focus on public education.

In October, health care will be the theme. The cultural diversity of the Harbor Campus will be celebrated in March. An Earth Day celebration slated for April will focus on the environment and will involve, among other departments, UMB's esteemed Environmental Science office.

In the spring, symposia will be conducted in the realms of International Perspective and the Arts. Details are still unfolding for the myriad events. More information and schedules of events will appear in News and Views.

UMass/Boston makes plans to deal with further cuts in University's budget

* continued from page 1

year." To meet this deficit, the University turned away 650 qualified students, cut 120 part-time sections, froze vacant positions, cut non-salary accounts by 8%, cut professional staff increases by 25%, established an emergency fee, and joined with other institutions in a new program to raise tuition and retain the funds from the increase.

These and other steps allowed the University to continue operations within available funds, but the vacancy rates meant fewer courses and services.

Immediately after the new cuts and Regent's allocations to the campuses were announced in July, Chancellor Penney and Provost Leverett Zompa reviewed the impact on UMass/Boston and assigned savings targets both to the academic and to the non-academic areas. Deans and Vice Chancellors are preparing recommendations due by the end of August for FY 1990 cuts in all areas.

"I'm very concerned that many academic programs now will be hit as hard as other areas of the University," said Provost Zompa. "I will work with the Deans to be sure that the effects are kept as minimal as we can."

According to Chancellor Penney, this planning for another round of one-time cuts must be seen as the first step in planning for permanent operations with a lower budget.

"All indications I get," she said, "whether from legislators, business people or other higher education officers, are to expect budgets for the next two or three years no higher than FY '90 appropriations."

The Chancellor said that she has asked the Provost and the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance to appoint Task Forces to recommend long-term changes in program offering and structure which would allow the University to maintain quality while spending less. These Task Forces are due to make preliminary reports at the end of August.

"We must maintain out commitments as an urban University," the Chancellor said. "We must continue to develop graduate programs; we must continue to offer first-rate undergraduate programs, with special concern for traditionally underserved populations; we must maintain, even expand, our research and public service commitments. We have to find ways to do these things with less money, but with no less quality. I look forward to everyone's help and support as we plan these changes during the next few months."