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University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 8, Number 43

June 11, 1974

Commencement

Looking back on last week's Commencement brings to mind that it really is the students' day, and one for their parents and friends to long remember.

Since it was the first one at the Dorchester campus, it can be marked as a historical milestone in the university's history.

Many, many thanks are due to a number of people who made the event work as smoothly as it did. The committee members and the marshals were listed on the program, but in addition were the people working with Bob Gorman in Physical Plant, the Security people, the Transportation people, and many more. For them, many sincere thanks.

More than 5,000 attended, and as the Boston Globe's Jeremiah Murphy said, "The University of Massachusetts at Boston held its commencement (yesterday), and that always is a special time and not merely because it was the first graduation at the new Columbia Point campus."

"It is a special time because most of the graduates had worked damn hard to be there in those academic caps and gowns, so you could feel the reflected glow of their achievement and the obvious pride of their parents, and I don't care how sappy that may sound."

Chancellor Golino, who was observing his birthday on graduation day, remarked that "We have been building for ten years. We are on the threshold of a major new period of development. If we are permitted to go on, we will create here in Boston a public university that can be a full partner in educational service with the private universities of the area. The next decade is crucial. We are ready to do the work. I have restated my pledge. I now ask that those finally responsible in government and the university reaffirm their commitment to what has been one of the most meaningful ventures in the history of our country: Free public higher education for all who seek it."

On our roster of 835 who earned Bachelors degrees and eight who won their Master's--running from Yisihak Abraham to Arthur Anthony Zervas, Jr. ---it was a good day. May the years ahead produce for the individuals concerned and the Commonwealth at large a continuation and the necessary enlargement of educational opportunities at the Harbor campus.

Appointment

Larry Branch of Survey Research Program of UMass-Boston was appointed by Governor Sargent to the Massachusetts Commission to study Growth Patterns and the Quality of life in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Fulbright Lecturer

Christopher W. Gay, English I, has been awarded a lectureship in American language and literature at the Maria Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin, under the Fulbright-Hays program with Poland. He will be teaching courses in American literature, the contemporary novel and composition during the 1974-75 academic year.

Summer Research Grants

Five members of the College I Department of Sociology have been awarded Summer Research Grants by the University of Massachusetts at Boston. The five recipients and their research topics are as follows:

Mr. John Dickinson - "A Comparison of Day Care Centers and other Pre-School Arrangements as between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany".

Mr. Herman James - "The Effects of Universal Health Insurance on Medical Services in Canada".

Mr. Gregory Johnson - "Inculcating Individual Responsibility in Herion Addicts: A Study of Methods".

Ms. Susanne Morgan - "Decisions in Childbirth".

Mr. Richard Robbins - "Weiterswiller: A Study of Village Transition in Alsace".

Holiday

June 17th, Bunker Hill Day, is a Suffolk County Holiday which will be observed as a full holiday by all state employees.

Vacation Policies

David Edmonds, Director of Personnel, points out that vacation policies in the "Red Book" of the Commonwealth, are useful information at this time of year.

I. The vacation year shall be the period July 1st to June 30th, inclusive.

A. All persons (regularly funded "01" employees as well as those on grants and trust funds designated to allow benefits) shall be credited as of June 30th with vacation leave with pay, not to exceed the following:

1. For less than one year's service, beginning after July 1st and completed on June 30th, vacation leave of one day (.833) for each calendar month, not to exceed ten days. Vacation leave credit will begin at once for persons starting work on the first working day of a calendar month; otherwise, on the first day of the following calendar month. Persons subject to this paragraph having an aggregate of more than one day of leave without pay in any calendar month shall not receive a vacation credit for that month.

2. For service of one year beginning July 1 and completed on June 30th up to and including four years' service completed on June 30th, vacation leave of two weeks, (twenty-two days consistently, or a prorated portion thereof, for professional employees).

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Vacation Policies (Continued)

3. For service of the fifth year completed on June 30th up to and including nine years' service completed on June 30th, vacation leave of three weeks.
 4. For service of the tenth year and each year thereafter completed on June 30th, vacation leave of four weeks.
- B. For both classified and professional employees, vacation leave earned during any vacation year shall be credited on the last day of the fiscal year and shall be available during the next vacation year. (In the case of any temporary employee whose services terminate on the last day of the fiscal year, he or she shall be credited with earned vacation and shall be paid therefor forthwith).
1. Department heads shall grant vacation leave at such time during the vacation year as will best serve the public interest. Preference should be given persons on the basis of years of employment by the Commonwealth.
 2. Vacation allowance shall be granted in the Vacation year in which it becomes available, unless in the opinion of the supervisor it is impossible or impracticable to do so because of work schedules or other emergencies. In no event, however, shall vacation leave credit be carried over for more than one year. Any vacation leave credit not used by the end of the first vacation year after it was credited must be taken in the succeeding year. The department head is charged with the responsibility of seeing that vacation is taken in the succeeding year in order that the employee may not lose vacation credits. A department head should also make it clear to a person who is resigning near the end of the fiscal year that it would be in his or her best interest not to resign until the end of the first working day in July, in order not to lose vacation credit for the entire preceding fiscal year.

Finally, vacation pay advances in blocks of five days only are available. Such advances must be requested at least three weeks before vacation begins. Forms for advances are available in the Personnel Office. Because of the close of the fiscal year and the administrative rescheduling and computing that takes place, advances may be received in paychecks beginning July 12th and thereafter, but not before that date.

For any clarification regarding the above matters or any not mentioned, please contact the Personnel Office, Ext. 2271, 2272.

Garrity Lectures

Professor Monique Garrity (Economics) has been making additional speaking appearances. At the end of April she gave a lecture at Hampshire College on "Problems of the Haitian Economy." At the May 31-June 2 meeting of the Black Economic Research Center Board of Directors Meeting at Mound Bayou, Mississippi, she was a guest speaker, and was a participant on June 7 in a seminar meeting on "Social Scientists and the Making of Public Policy" at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education.

Parking Fees

A new schedule of parking rates went into effect this week:

- (1) .50¢ for the first half hour.
- (2) .50¢ for the next full hour.
- (3) Any time beyond the hour and a half would be charged the \$1.50 daily rate.

A ticket book system, calling for the sale of a book of 10 tickets for \$10. to be used within a subsequent 30-day period, also began this week. In effect, if you drive your car at least 10 times a month, you get a reduced rate.

Chancellor Golino said, "We are instituting these two changes in the hopes that it will serve the campus with an even more equitable and fairer parking fee structure, while at the same time maintaining at least the same level of revenue in order that we can continue to support the free shuttle bus connection with parking revenues."

Summer Working Hours

Department Heads are authorized to adjust working hours for the summer.

A Department Head has the discretion to schedule any or all employees under his/her jurisdiction to any hours between 7.30 A.M. and 5.00 P.M., provided that the total number of hours worked remain the same.

In accordance with State law, all major departmental offices must remain open during the official working day (8.30 A.M. to 5.00 P.M.). Telephone service must be maintained during these hours, and a supervisory or professional employee must be available.

Robinson Elected

Professor Eric Robinson (History I) has been elected to the Advisory Council of the Society for the History of Technology which publishes Technology and Culture. He has also been elected to the Advisory Council of the Business History Review, published by the Harvard Business School. He recently was a participant at a colloquium at Burndy Library which reviewed "The Interaction of Science and Technology in the Industrial Age."