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University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 9, No. 64

January 13, 1976

Political Economists

Charles Betsey, an instructor in the Department of Political Economy, College II, is taking a leave of absence until September, 1977, to become the Director for Economic Research at the Black Economic Research Center in New York City.

Prof. Laurence Shute is chairing a session entitled "Decision Making in Private Firms: Evaluation of Theory and Ideology" at the Association for Evolutionary Economics Meetings in Dallas. Professor Shute is also a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Economic Issues which is the publication of the Association for Evolutionary Economics.

Prof. Raymond Torto, Chairman of the Department of Political Economy, has recently published two papers: "The Implications of Ignoring the Endogeneity of Federal Reserve Behavior", Southern Economic Journal, Fall, 1975. And "The Strategy of Monetary Policy" published in the Review, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, October, 1975.

Campus Police Exams

An examination for positions of Campus Police Officers --- Grade II, will be given on January 30, 1976 at 1:00 p.m. in College II room 423 on the 2nd floor.

The purpose of this examination is to establish an eligibility list in anticipation of approval for the University to fill vacant Campus Police positions on the basis of critical need.

Those interested in becoming applicants should contact Ms. Muriel Ridley, Personnel Office, 1st floor of the Administration Building, Exts. 2262 or 2263.

Lest We Forget

Remember the December storm of snow, piling up to whatever it was. For the first working day after the storm it was expected that the roadways on campus would have been shoulder high in the white stuff. The sanding and salt machine had been found to be unoperative, but did that stop our Physical Plant staff? Not at all. Manually the sanding and salting operation took place. This is easier written than done. It demanded a great deal of work, many hours, and challenge that was met. The roadways, stairways, and plaza were cleaner than a hound's dentures. Nice job!

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Thursday, January 15th, is an official State holiday, commemorating Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. All Offices of the university will be closed. Friday, January 16th, we resume our appointed tasks.

Civil Liberties in the United States

Atty. William Eisen returns to campus next week to teach the Constitutional Law course on Civil Liberties in the United States. He will be giving an analysis on Supreme Court rulings on desegregation, sexual discrimination, demonstrations, criminal law, pornography, freedom of speech, press and religion on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

The lawyer-educator, now associated with the law firm of Lourie and Cutler, taught this course last year while he was a special assistant on legal affairs for Chancellor Golino.

St. Thomas Aquinas Day Lecture

The Second Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Day Lecture will be held in the Faculty Dining Room on the 3rd floor of College I at 12:30 p.m. on January 28th. The menu for the luncheon will be the same as the Faculty Club in College II.

After the meal, Rev. Richard J. Clifford, S.J., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Old Testament and Ancient Semitic Languages at the Weston School of Theology and Harvard University, and editor of the "Catholic Biblical Quarterly" will speak about "The Catholic Intellectual's Contribution to Higher Education".

The members of the Campus Ministry staff look forward to meeting faculty and staff at the January 28th lecture-luncheon.

Reservations should be made by January 23 at the Campus Ministry Office, College II, 2/622, Ext. 2919.

Reporting of Accidents ---- Liability Insurance Program

All faculty and staff should be aware that relative to the recently purchased liability insurance program, it is requested that any incident, no matter how minor, involving bodily injury or property damage to members of the public, students or employees of the University be reported in writing to the Treasurer's Office in Amherst to the attention of Donald W. Madsen as soon as possible. This office has been charged with the responsibility of reporting these incidents to the various insurance companies. Your cooperation in this vital matter is important. Forms for this purpose may be obtained from Mr. Madsen.

Snow

When the weather outside is frightful, and bad enough for cancellation of classes, announcements will be made starting at 6 a.m. on radio stations WEEI, WRKO, WBZ, and WHDH.

Class cancellations do not mean that the staff does not report to work. The only time that staff would not be required to report for work is when the Mayor of the City of Boston would declare an emergency banning travel into the city.

Travel

Arrangements have been made with a local travel agency for the handling of transportation and hotel reservations necessary for authorized State funded travel.

The agreement provides that reservations may be made through the agency, which will then bill the University. Travelers will thus be spared long waits for reimbursement for those expenses.

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Travel
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Anyone with plans for authorized travel should contact the Office of Administration, Ext. 2495, to take advantage of this service.

Watching Them At State

One of the fascinations of American political life is people watching. Will Kennedy run for President? Will Ford flip on a ski trail? Will Reagan survive New Hampshire? But watching the Henry Kissinger and Daniel Moynihan picture is equally fascinating. For those who have wondered how foreign policy can be effective when it is created in a place known as Foggy Bottom makes the picture even more interesting. Arnold Beichman, Politics II, is one of the better known Kissinger-Moynihan watchers. One of his next forays into Kissinger-watching will be at the 17th Annual Convention of the International Studies Association in Toronto, February 25th, when he will be a panelist on the topic of "Henry Kissinger and American Foreign Policy." Theme of the conference is Reconciliation Amidst Power Diffusion.

Apparently, Beichman himself is being watched as a Kissinger-Moynihan watcher. A recent column in the London Times, in praise of Moynihan's open-minded and open-mouthed UN speeches, Bernard Levin says he stands on the "same side as such American heroes of mine as Professors Sidney Hook and Arnold Beichman, and such British freedom-fighters as Mr. Reginald Prentice."

Kennedy Library Sidebar

TIME, 12/8, reported the decision of the Kennedy Library Trustees to locate the museum-archives at UMass-Boston under the heading "UMass-1, Harvard-0.

This article lauded the superb efforts of President Robert Wood to win the library for our campus, cited Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis' excellent impressions of this site, dropped in a Cantabridgian boorish commentary, and added a disparaging TIME writer's observation about the geography of the site. Overall, not a bad story.

The Public Relations Office took exception to the geographical reference. The letter for reason of space was not published. But for better or worse, you may be interested that Martha Kennedy Babcock, for the Editors of TIME, writes, "We think construction in the historic area of the University will be exciting and invigorating." She also expresses their best wishes for a "successful groundbreaking!"

Busing: The Solution
That Has Failed to Solve

Under that headline in The Nation section of the New York Sunday Times, 12/21, educational historian Diane Ravitch of Teachers College, Columbia University, had a full page essay on this confusing, complex, and controversial social and educational issue.

Prof. Ravitch reviews the busing question, starting with the historic Supreme Court decision in 1954, *Brown v. Board of Education*, through sociologist Dr. James Coleman's studies, and fundamental questions to be answered in the future by the courts and Congress.

She cites research on the question by Prof. Nancy St. John, Sociology II:

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Busing: The Solution
That Has Failed to Solve
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"The latest over-all assessment of the educational effect of school desegregation is Nancy St. John's "School Desegregation: Outcomes for Children." Dr. St. John, who describes herself as a committed integrationist, reviewed over 120 studies and found contradictory evidence of gains and losses for black pupils. The usual result of the best-designed studies was "no difference" between segregated and desegregated black children on academic measures.

"On the question of black children's self-esteem, Mrs. St. John contraverted the conventional belief that it was low. Black children in many of the studies were found to have higher self-esteem than white children. Black children in predominantly white schools were often found to have lower self-esteem than blacks in segregated schools. Some studies found no difference, but rarely did any researcher find that black self-esteem was increased in desegregated schools."

Art Award Winner

Regina Roth, a freshman at UMass-Boston, was awarded a gold medal by Scholastic Magazine in its national art competition for a print entitled "Hockey Gear" she executed last spring when she was a student at Watertown High School. Our applause for Regina.

Wilde, Wasted Genius

A new biography on Oscar Wilde by H. Montgomery Hyde, Farrar, Straus, Giroux, was reviewed by Prof. Shaun O'Connell in the Boston Globe, 1/4, and O'Connell says the study is "unadventurous but fully engaging."

O'Connell adds, "Though I also find Hyde disproportionately interested in the endless nemesis of Wilde's trials and too little concerned with Wilde's writings, his study brings together all the relevant documents of Wilde's life, presents them in orderly fashion and allows us to arrive at our own conclusions. Though one might reasonably hope for more from a biographer, one usually gets less."

"The Instant of Knowing"

Although what follows pertains to a November article in National Geographic about the Library of Congress, our sense is that it applies to every library, especially our own at UMass-Boston.

The essay cites Josephine Jacobsen, a former consultant in Poetry to the library who reflected on the 'instant of knowing' which she described as coming about through "a knowledge of what we already knew, become so devastatingly fresh that it could be contained no more than a flash of lightning."

And essayist Fred Kline in a tribute to the Library of Congress says, "The thunder and lightning, wind and rain from those storms of the mind raging here promise energy enough to create many a new world."

So be it.