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# University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 9, No. 65

January 20, 1976

## Presidential Candidate

When Presidential candidate Terry Sanford of North Carolina was in Massachusetts recently, campaigning for his bid to win Bay State electors to his cause he was a house guest of Prof. and Mrs. Hogarty (College III) at their Marblehead home.

The former Governor of North Carolina, and presently on leave from his post as President of Duke University, was tired from strenuous campaigning. He asked if a local doctor could look at him for chest pains he was experiencing, and a young reporter from the local paper overheard the conversation. Within an hour it was on the nation's wire services that Sanford was taken to the Salem Hospital for a heart condition. It turned out it was just a case of fatigue and a minor circulatory problem. Sanford is now back on the campaign trail.

Prof. Hogarty first met the Democratic statesman in 1964. He and Ann Hogarty are assisting him in the Commonwealth. Incidentally, Sanford expressed his great pleasure to the Hogartys that UMass-Boston will be the site of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library.

## Snow

Some questions have been raised about snow emergency procedures.

When classes are in session and there are forecasts about imminent snow storms. Physical Plant employees are notified to come to work to battle the storm. This could be any period from 24 to 12 hours before classes are scheduled to begin.

If the storm is of sufficient severity, consultations are made by Physical Plant, Campus Security, and Academic Affairs to come to a decision on whether classes will be cancelled. This is a University decision.

If the decision is made to cancel classes, the Public Relations Office is advised and the information is given before 6 a.m. to four major radio stations: WHDH, WEEL, WBZ, and WRKO.

Cancellation of classes does not mean that the work schedule for professional and classified staff is cancelled. All are expected to report to work.

If the snow storm is of extreme severity, and if the Mayor of the City of Boston declares an emergency which bans travel into the city, the professional and classified staff are not ex-

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Snow  
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Science Career Day At  
Westwood High School

pected to report to work. This type of emergency declaration by the Mayor is extremely remote. The last time this happened was in the late 1960s.

Westwood High School recently conducted a Science Career Day for their students, recruiting many members of the community engaged in various aspects of science professions.

Prof. Ernest Becker (Chemistry) was one of the participants, advising students on careers in chemistry and at the same time advising them about the science curricula at UMass-Boston.

Science Department teachers at the school were enthusiastic about their program and lauded Prof. Becker for his contributions.

Cloak and Pencil

Dr. John Conlon (Teacher Certification Program) has joined the distinguished list of literary reviewers for the Sunday Herald-Advertiser. Conlon's expertise is in Educational matters, but one of his interests happens to be in the genre of Agatha Christie and other great mystery writers. A recent Conlon review was on Arthur A. Cohen's A Hero in His Time that may not have come to come up to Hercule Poirot or Miss Marple standards but the hero, one Yuri Maximovich Isakovsky is "neither a tragic hero nor the hero of romance; nor is he fully an absurdist hero: finally he is Yuri Maximovich, renunciant hero, transcending categories." The yarn is about a poet whom the KGB uses to pass information via a microdot on a page of poetry sent to a New York literary agent.

Kudos to Registrar's Office

Beyond the call of duty should be the dozen or so people in the Registrar's Office who, on Sunday, January 12th, spent a day at the office. It was a special day of splendid teamwork that meant much to the orderly commencement of the Spring semester.

As we know, students preregister for their Spring courses. The information on the course, time of class, place, name of instructor, number of credits and other information is put into computers. The individual printouts for each of more than 6000 returning students and other new students who preregistered were picked up at the Amherst campus on Saturday. The Sunday operation was stuffing the envelopes for each of the students for a Monday morning mailing.

The time factor involved was that these schedules had to be delivered to the student's home to make the special Friday, January 16 add/drop information available within a reasonable time.

Good teamwork!

Needs of Elderly and  
Chronically Disabled

The January 8 issue of The New England Journal of Medicine carries a report on a survey determining the needs of the elderly and the chronically disabled conducted by The Survey Research Program, a facility of UMass-Boston and the Joint Center for Urban Studies of MIT and Harvard University.

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Needs of Elderly and  
Chronically Disabled  
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The extensive survey was conducted for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health.

Part of the background and the survey findings are listed here:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has been engaged in a concerted effort during the past few years to de-institutionalize patients who occupy facilities designed to provide more intensive services than they medically require. The process of discharge from hospitals or other facilities is complicated because community or home-based support services are too often insufficient. The choice between either being in an institution with unneeded services and being on one's own without needed services is really no choice at all. Planning the correct mix of community and home-based support services is no easy task, as recent attempts to formulate state plans for new Title XX programs have demonstrated. The potential consumers of such services include not only those who have been discharged from hospitals or other institutions but also those trying to remain as self-sufficient as possible to avoid entering institutions.

The Survey Research Program recently conducted a state-wide probability survey of noninstitutionalized elderly and chronically disabled persons 18 to 65 years of age in Massachusetts from November, 1974, through February, 1975. The purposes of the study were to determine the need for long-term-care facilities, the health-status and health-service needs, and the patterns of unmet needs for other non-health services for these high-risk target populations.

After the survey teams had screened 8600 households, they conducted 45-minute personal interviews with 1625 persons 65 years of age or over, and 386 chronically disabled persons 18 through 64 years of age. The areas of focus in the questionnaire included perceived level of functioning, activities of daily living, health-care history, services currently received, morale, family and social environment, house-keeping, food shopping and preparation, transportation, emergency assistance, housing and personal economics. In short, the questionnaire assessed the level of basic or raw needs of the subjects, how they went about meeting those needs, and what parts, if any, of the basic or raw needs were, as yet, unmet.

Persons judged to be a risk for potential institutionalization and a control group (100 each) received a follow-up clinical assessment by a team of health professionals. The results of the clinical assessment support the general results of the survey. Very few elderly persons would have to be placed in nursing homes to receive proper care. Although most elderly persons have no major problems with daily essentials, a small proportion (1 to 7 per cent) could use some support services from outside the home.

The survey indicated that, of approximately 600,000 persons in the state 65 years of age and over, the proportions who were unable to meet a specific need were as follows: transportation, 7 per cent; food shopping, 7 per cent; personal  
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Needs of Elderly and  
Chronically Disabled  
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care; 6 per cent; social contacts, 5 per cent; food preparation, 5 per cent; housekeeping, 5 per cent; emergency assistance, 3 per cent; social interaction, 1 per cent; and medical or paramedical assistance, 1 per cent. The operational definitions in a study such as this are critically important. In general, these need categories covered the following areas: transportation, difficulty in traveling beyond one's walking range; food shopping, getting food into the housing unit; personal care, accomplishing four activities of daily living (dressing, bathing, feeding and grooming); social contact, focus on a positive quality to a person's social interactions; food preparations, getting food on the table; housekeeping, difficulty in doing the tasks; emergency assistance, availability of another person to render assistance in an accident or emergency situation; social interaction, opportunity for daily conversations with other people; and medical or paramedical assistance, judgements made by health professionals during clinical assessments.

The Administration on Aging, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has now funded a follow-up report to this study. Second personal interviews will be conducted with the original elderly respondents a year later, and the analyses will seek to understand developing indexes that can predict changes in health status or need status among the seniors. Several other methodologic issues pertaining to the value of self-report survey information in health research will be studied.

Honored by French Government

Prof. Mary-Lee Evans Kimball (French II) has been honored by the French government "for services rendered to French culture." In ceremonies held at the French Consulate in Boston the French government awarded her the insignia of "Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes academiques." Making the presentation was consul general Alain Grenier. Attending the ceremony was Prof. Kimball's family, including her husband Dr. Chase Kimball, Professor-emeritus at Suffolk University, and their daughters Elmira Lee, Helen Chase, and Mary Eliza, and two grandsons.

Mrs. Kimball has been a member of the faculty at UMass-Boston since the university opened in 1965, and is now directing the Year-in-Paris program.

University Police

The Office of University Police, formerly located on the second level of the Administration Building, is now located in larger quarters at the G-1 level of the Library Building. Acting Chief James Lovett and his staff are working out of Room 0153.

Prof. Hamilton

Dr. W. Roy Hamilton, Jr., Commonwealth Professor, is now devoting full time to teaching as a member of the faculty of the Politics Department of College II. His office is on the fifth floor, Room 257.

During his service as Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, he was the driving force in many aspects of university life, especially in the construction of the Harbor Campus.