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University of Massachusetts Boston

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Prof. Burns To Open The Chancellor's John F. Kennedy Lecture Series

Famed historian and political scientist Prof. James MacGregor Burns of Williams College will deliver the first Chancellor's John F. Kennedy Lecture at the University of Massachusetts at Boston on April 28 at 3:30 p.m. in the Science Auditorium.

He will speak on "The Leadership of John F. Kennedy."


Among his other books are "John Kennedy: A Political Profile," "Presidential Government: The Crucible of Leadership," and "Uncommon Sense."

Dr. Burns is past president of the New England Political Science Association and is the current president of the American Political Science Association.

He earned his bachelor's degree at Williams College, and after World War II service as a historian earned his master's and doctoral degrees at Harvard.

His teaching career at Williams College began in 1941 when he was appointed as an Instructor.

Chancellor Golino has invited faculty from area institutions as well as UMass-Boston faculty, community and civic leaders, and observers of the political scene to the campus lecture by Professor Burns.

Chairman of the Chancellor's John F. Kennedy Lecture is Prof. George Goodwin, Political Science.

Some Disturbing Questions

Look, friends, this threat of Nantucket to secede from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts poses monumental questions for the University of Massachusetts system and for UMass-Boston.

If secession succeeds how do appropriations come through for our educational enterprise out in the Sound?

Does Budget Director Tom Baxter file this under international programs?

Does Bette Davis take on new responsibilities?

Does President Wood have to ponder about the appointment of an Ambassador to the islands?

Does Wes Tiffney become the Island ambassador to the mainland?

How about Clint Andrews at Quaise? Does he now report his activities through UNESCO, or is it the International Affairs Secretariat of the Federal Agriculture or Interior Departments?

Who will handle visas for UMass-Boston students going on their island semester of study and research?

Will Charlie Spaulding require his Physical Plant people to have shots before going there for repairs to the property?

How does Associate Provost John Schultz handle studies on

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Some Disturbing Questions
(Continued from page 2)

water pollution in the Island’s salt marshes and tidal creeks and off the Harbor campus? Must these study reports now go through Customs?

Really, if Nantucket secedes from the Commonwealth, can we call our island facilities part of the University of Massachusetts? Isn’t it logical if the island is not part of Massachusetts then the name of our facility must be changed?

If that’s so, committees will have to be established, and you know what that means.

Nantucket, please, say it ain’t so.

Steamer Writes On Press And Supreme Court Issues

In the World Topic Yearbook—1977 Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Robert J. Steamer has two entries, one on The Press and another on the Supreme Court.

In the Press essay, Dr. Steamer reviewed significant law actions that occurred during 1976. One of the key cases for his commentary was on the opinion handed down by a county court and the Nebraska Supreme Court regarding the right of the press to report or broadcast accounts of confessions made by persons accused of a crime. The state courts ruled against the news media from disseminating testimony at a defendant’s preliminary hearing. The case before the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously overturned the state courts.

Steamer rated the 1976 year of the U.S. Supreme Court as "tranquil" but by no means "insignificant." He said the present Court "has shown less sympathy for prisoners' rights, for unlimited sexual expression in movies, and for protecting the rights of accused criminals on the basis of judicially created technical rules." The expansion of certain First Amendment rights and the amplification of its original pronouncement on abortion were other actions of the court last year.

Constitutional protection of speech and press cases were decided by the Court in the framework of expanding as well as narrowing judgments.

Disabled Student Center

The Disabled Student Center is organizing a Faculty Advisory Committee to assist in the programs of the Center. The group will be involved in reviewing the work of the Center, encouraging fuller participation of the faculty in the Center's operations, assisting in the development of a more effective relationship between disabled students and faculty members, and developing research proposals on attitudinal change. The first meeting will be April 25 at 12:30 at the Center (2/1/401). Interested faculty members should call ext. 2922 and talk to Andrea or Meg.

Fulbright Fellowship Award
To James T. Kenney, Jr.

James T. Kenney, Jr., UMass-Boston instructor in Japanese, has been awarded a Fulbright fellowship for research in Japan. While there he will conduct research on the life and writings of Haruo Sato (1892 - 1964), poet-essayist-novelist and a major figure in modern Japanese literature.

Compared with such contemporaries as Kawabata and Mishima, Sato is still little known in the West. Thus far, the Western world, notes Mr. Kenney, has not seen a single (Continued to page 4)
Fulbright Fellowship Award To James T. Kenney, Jr. (Continued from page 3)

definitive study on Sato. Of his numerous works of fiction, only one short story has been translated.

While in Japan, Mr. Kenney will examine Sato's writings, both published and unpublished. He also expects to interview members of Sato's family, publishers, biographers, and critics as well as visit Wakayama Prefecture where Sato spent his childhood.

The resultant study will attempt to trace Sato's literary life and to analyze his writings. It will include translations from some of Sato's most significant works. Mr. Kenney hopes that his study will also serve as an introduction to this major modern Japanese writer whom Western literary scholarship and reading public have neglected.

Since his arrival here, Mr. Kenney has almost single-handedly introduced the Japanese program. At present, courses include Introductory Japanese, Intermediate Japanese, Directed Study (for advanced students), and modern Japanese literature in translation. On his return, beginning with the 1977-78 academic year, he will also introduce a course on traditional Japanese literature in English translation. These courses, together with similar ones in Chinese and Chinese literature, constitute basic parts of the Asian Studies concentration at UMass-Boston. Other courses on East Asia are given by history, politics, sociology, and other departments.

Mr. Kenney came to UMass-Boston from Harvard where he taught Japanese and where he is a doctoral candidate.

Prof. Richard Robbins, Sociology, presented a paper to the annual meeting of the Association for Social and Behavioral Sciences (ASBS) in Atlanta. This is a group of predominantly black social scientists engaged in research on black social structure. Dr. Robbins, a former vice president of ASBS, reported on his research for a projected biography of the sociologist Charles S. Johnson, for which he received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1975. His paper was entitled "Black Coalition Politics and the New Deal in the Thirties: A Page from the Life of Charles S. Johnson."

One of the nation's foremost music critics will be the fourth speaker in the Distinguished Lecture Series sponsored by the Office of Graduate Studies, Monday, April 25th at 3 p.m. in the Building One Auditorium.

Michael Steinberg is now the Program Director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and his topic will be "In Beethoven's Footsteps."

When he was music critic for the Boston Globe, Steinberg won national plaudits for his knowledgeable and incisive commentary on the musical works of the country's greatest symphonies, including the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He regards the orchestra as superior, and in his current role as Program Director he is bringing the program commentaries up to the quality of the orchestra itself.

The lecture is open to the entire university community, and Dr. Robert Spaethling, Director of Graduate Studies cordially invites all to attend.