Retired Faculty Council has its First Meeting

In June of 2009, a new council created to keep Retired Faculty engaged with the university long after their retirements held its first meeting. The Retired Faculty Council met with Provost Winston Langley, members of the Provost’s Office, and University Advancement for the first time. Provost Langley greeted the members of the council, who are as follows: Honorary Chairs Ruth Butler, Professor Emerita of Art, and Joel Blair, Professor Emeritus of English; Quentin Chavous, Africana Studies; Patricia S. Davidson, Professor Emerita of Mathematics; Michael P. Greeley, Mathematics; Herman Hemingway, Criminal Justice; Jack F. Looney, Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences; Monica E. McAlpine, Professor Emerita of English; Peter J. McClure, Professor Emeritus of Marketing; Dirk Messelaar, Continuing Education; Martin H. Quitt, Professor Emeritus of History; Fuad Safwat, Professor Emeritus of Biology; and Myron R. Segelman, Professor Emeritus of Nursing.

UMass Boston’s Annual Retired Faculty Reunion Luncheon

On October 2nd, 2009, Provost Winston Langley welcomed 80 retired faculty and their guests to the Twelfth Annual Retired Faculty Luncheon. Jack Looney, a retired faculty member from the department of Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences, served as the luncheon’s master of ceremonies, and Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Ellen O’Connor, presented recent updates to the university’s Master Plan.

During the lunch, last year’s recipient of the Faculty Career Development Award, Professor Erin O’Brien (Political Science), shared with the group that she used the award to support a research project on the politics of race, gender, and deservedness as it relates to bankruptcy policy. She believes this issue has particular relevance given our urban

Message from the Provost

Greetings! I am pleased to be a part of the first issue of the Retired Faculty Newsletter, which directly resulted from the recommendations of the Retired Faculty Council. I look forward to using this newsletter as a way to keep Retired Faculty apprised of the ongoing work of the university and about their fellow Retired Faculty colleagues. I am very interested in the concerns of our Retired Faculty, and I will do my best to keep finding ways for all to be actively engaged as a vital part of our university. Retired Faculty are at once our roots, our guide, and our inspiration.

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In this meeting, the retired faculty discussed several new ideas to increase their opportunities for collaborative involvement with the university. The three principal areas of the discussion were departmental engagement, Commencement, and communication. The Council suggested that they would like to work with department chairs to find out how retired faculty could get involved with departmental activities, including lecturing, mentoring, and working with junior faculty. In addition, the Council suggested that Retired Faculty would like to be invited to Commencement each year. And, finally, the Council said that they would like to see improved communications between the university and Retired Faculty via email, inclusion (when possible) in the *UMass Boston Magazine*, and by means of the very newsletter that you are reading right now.

University Advancement gave the Council an update on the Faculty Career Development Fund, from which one or two pre-tenured faculty members receive research awards. These awards are presented at the Annual Retired Faculty Luncheon. It was at this luncheon meeting in the Alumni Lounge that the Provost announced that he and the Chancellor would be providing the sum of $3,000 to match the award. This past year’s fund received over $4,700 in donations and is funded primarily by retired faculty.

The Retired Faculty Council is meeting again in February 2010, and will be discussing the 2010 Faculty Career Development Fund, an update on Commencement (which will be on June 4, 2010), and an update on communications. Following the updates will be an open discussion of the Council, Provost’s Office, and University Advancement. If you have an idea that you think would be interesting for the Retired Faculty Council to discuss at their meetings, please contact: Rajini Srikanth at 617-287-5521.

To learn more about what’s happening in the Provost’s Office, visit us at: [http://www.umb.edu/academics/provost/](http://www.umb.edu/academics/provost/)

Or contact the office at:
Telephone: 617-287-5600
Location: Quinn Administration Building, 3rd floor, Room 61A
For Retired Faculty Newsletter story ideas, please ask for Aimee Blaquiere.

**Upcoming Events**

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<td>June 4, 2010</td>
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<tr>
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**Teaching Opportunities**

If you are interested in teaching a course or doing a guest lecture for the Honors Program, please contact Rajini Srikanth at 617-287-5521.
Master Plan Update

In the not-too-distant future, the UMass Boston skyline will be dotted by the steel booms of construction cranes as the campus embarks on constructing the first two buildings described in its master plan. The plan is providing flexible and living guidelines for the transformation of the physical campus to meet the strategic goals and priorities of the university over the next 25 years. Its framework is now in practice as the campus moves forward with the development of two new academic buildings: an Integrated Sciences Complex (ISC) and a general academic building.

UMass Boston is partnering with the Commonwealth’s Division of Capital Asset Management and the UMass Building Authority on detailed planning for the first phase (approximately the first ten years) of the master plan. After thoughtful consideration of options, the practice field at the campus entrance has been selected as the site location of the ISC, providing the campus with a new front door. It is anticipated that the ISC’s design will

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Retired Faculty Luncheon (cont. from page 1)

mission and these difficult economic times. “The Faculty Development Award has assisted me in producing sound research that can inform these key policy questions,” said Professor O’Brien.

Provost Langley announced the two recipients of the 2009 Faculty Career Development Award: David Pruett, of the Performing Arts Department, and Eileen Stuart-Shor, of the Nursing Department. Retired Faculty that served on the committee that reviewed the applicants were Patricia Davidson (Mathematics), Herman Hemingway (Criminal Justice), and Jack Looney (Environmental, Ocean and Earth Sciences). Professor Pruett plans to use the award for three areas related to his research: to purchase a Middle Eastern lute called an ‘ud; to attend the annual Arab Music Retreat at Mount Holyoke College in Hadley, Massachusetts; and to purchase additional instruments to start a Middle Eastern chamber ensemble at our university.

Professor Stuart-Shor plans to use her award to support her research initiative “Kenya Heart and Sole: The Afya Njema Project.” This project focuses on improving cardiovascular outcomes for an underserved population with low socioeconomic status in Kenya. It builds on Roxbury-based work she has done in a clinical trial of a culturally relevant multiple cardiovascular risk reduction intervention program in an underserved African American community.

This year’s Retired Faculty Luncheon will be held on October 1st, 2010. An invitation will be sent to all Retired Faculty this summer. This story has been compiled from a Spotlight Article written by Nanette L. Cormier in University Advancement.
be developed by 2011 with construction targeted for completion by 2013.

The general academic building will be constructed at the site of the Beacons Lot with its placement helping to define a new Central Quad (a large public space) while reinvigorating pedestrian traffic patterns on campus. A designer is expected to be selected by fall 2010.

In addition to planning for these two new academic buildings, the campus is planning to renovate existing buildings and is moving forward with utility and roadway projects that will support both new and existing facilities.

We're looking forward to keeping you updated on master planning efforts. To read more about UMass Boston's master plan, please visit: www.umb.edu/administration_finance/masterplan.