ICI receives $16.8 million grant to improve employment services for people with disabilities

The Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) has been awarded a $16.8 million, five-year grant by the U.S. Department of Education—the largest in UMass Boston’s history—to help state agencies assist those with disabilities find paid work in their communities. One of the project’s two primary goals is to create a model for agencies, train agencies to implement the model, and evaluate the model’s effectiveness.

The project will focus on people who receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and are using their state’s vocational rehabilitation agency services. Those who are eligible for both SSDI and state vocational services are likely to have significant disabilities, including physical, health, psychiatric, sensory, intellectual, communication, and others. In most cases, these people acquired their disability after taking part in the workforce for some number of years and contributing to Social Security.

According to ICI Director Dr. William Kiernan, “Persons with disabilities who are on SSDI have worked in the past and many have expressed an interest in (cont’d on page 8)

Massachusetts Life Sciences Center awards $2 million for UMass Boston cancer center

On January 26th, the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) awarded UMass Boston a $2,000,000 capital grant to establish the Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy (CPCT), and is part of a planned $10,000,000 investment by the MLSC.

A joint effort of UMass Boston and the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center (DF/HCC) Partnership, they have already made important strides in addressing racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic disparities in cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality. “This is a tremendous milestone in establishing a scientific facility on our campus to do translational research, partner with industry, build capacity for basic biomedical science, provide new workforce development opportunities, and deliver new products that will make an impact in the clinical market. Most important, however, is that the new center will help us address our community’s needs for justice in accessing cutting-edge cancer (cont’d on page 12)

Inside...

New strategic initiatives for strengthening our research enterprise p. 2

Faculty Profiles:
• Lloyd Schwartz p. 3
• Laura Hayman p. 4
• Russell Schutt p. 5

Landmark international behavioral epigenetics conference held at UMass Boston p. 6

New Sponsored Awards pp. 7-8

Carnegie Commission on Higher Education classifies UMass Boston as a Research University with High research activity p. 8

Brian Halley on readings ‘round campus p. 9

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs: Whom to Contact p. 10

Research Compliance: Why we comply p. 11

Accolades for Jacqueline Fawcett and Robyn Hannigan p. 12

More Faculty Success Stories at www.umb.edu/research
New strategic initiatives for strengthening our research enterprise:  
A new era in science research, teaching, and learning

UMass Boston is a student-centered, urban public research university. Our new strategic plan has an important focus on transforming UMass Boston into a nationally and internationally distinguished public urban research university. At the same time, we are maintaining our historical commitment to excellent teaching and civic engagement. In 2011, we will make a bold statement about our future when we break ground for our Integrated Sciences Complex (ISC).

With nearly 220,000 gross square feet of space and sustainable design, the ISC will be a catalyst for cutting-edge laboratory research, training, and teaching. The following key features will be included:

- (1) wet and dry labs and support space for research programs in biology; chemistry; physics; engineering; psychology; and environmental, earth, and ocean sciences;
- (2) the new Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy;
- (3) the new Developmental Sciences Research Centers;
- (4) a psychology observation facility;
- (5) four undergraduate biology teaching labs;
- and (6) an interdisciplinary "sandbox" for undergraduate research.

The ISC will play an instrumental role in helping us to recruit and retain outstanding faculty and students.

For details, visit www.umb.edu/masterplan/projects/integrated_sciences_complex/.

The Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Strategic Initiatives and the Office of University Communications are pleased to bring you this October-December 2010 issue of RISC Quarterly. In addition to RISC, University Communications produces The Point, UMass Boston’s biweekly faculty/staff electronic newsletter delivered by e-mail.

What is The Point?
The Point covers academic and research news, community projects, recaps and previews of conferences, and of course stories about the faculty and staff who make UMass Boston a great, student-centered, public research university.

How do I submit items or story suggestions?
Submit both to the e-mail address News@umb.edu. If submitting photos, please include the photographer’s name, the names and titles of everyone pictured (if available), and send the highest-quality image that you can (i.e., the original file size, rather than something which was modified for the Web, a PDF, or Word file).

Please understand that all submissions are subject to editing for length and conformity to our style guidelines. If you plan to submit an article-length item, we suggest that you send a message to the e-mail address News@umb.edu and request our style guidelines before you start writing. To learn more about The Point, please visit the web page www.umb.edu/news/thepoint_entry/about_the_point/.

Questions?
Please feel free to contact any one of the University Communications staff listed below at the e-mail address News@umb.edu.

DeWayne Lehman
Pamela Worth
Crystal Bozek
Faculty Profile: Lloyd Schwartz, Ph.D.

In 1994, Lloyd Schwartz was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for criticism.

His three books of poems, These People; Goodnight, Gracie; and Cairo Traffic, have been published by Wesleyan University Press and the University of Chicago Press. Both are distinguished presses with outstanding poetry series.


“I've been very lucky in my life,” Schwartz says. “My career has consisted of having the chance to do many of the things I love doing the most, and I've been richly rewarded for some of those things. I went to a public college [Queens College in New York City] and I was determined to repay what I was given by teaching in public higher education. That's one of the reasons I'm happy to be working at UMass Boston.”

In 1978, after working for several years as a freelance music critic for The Boston Herald, Schwartz began working for the Boston Phoenix, where he soon became the classical music editor. He also wrote about music for the Atlantic Monthly and was soon invited to be the classical music critic for National Public Radio's Fresh Air, when it went national in 1987. For his articles on music, he was awarded three ASCAP-Deems Taylor Awards and, in 1994, the aforementioned Pulitzer Prize for criticism.

In 1970, Schwartz met Elizabeth Bishop, a poet he had long admired, and in 1976 he completed his Ph.D. thesis at Harvard on her poetry—a dissertation that was published by Garland. Shortly after, a colleague who was trying to put together a collection of essays on Bishop, turned over the project to Schwartz, and in 1983 Elizabeth Bishop and Her Art was published by the University of Michigan Press. The anthology was the first on Bishop, and it also included work by her that was reprinted for the first time.

In 1994, Schwartz's teaching was honored with a named professorship, the Frederick S. Troy Professor of English. "Even more rewarding," Schwartz beams with pride, "many of my students have gone on to outstanding graduate programs, to win significant grants and scholarships, to publish books, and to become teachers and program directors."

Pulitzer Prize for Criticism

3 ASCAP-Deems Taylor Awards for his articles on music

Pre-eminent national authority on the American poet Elizabeth Bishop

5 published books of poems and criticism

Recipient of the UMass Boston 2010 Chancellor's Distinguished Scholarship Award
Faculty Profile: Laura Hayman, Ph.D., RN, FAAN

I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took an excuse.
—Florence Nightingale

In 1983, as an assistant professor of nursing and chair of the University of Pennsylvania (Penn) Nursing of Children Program, Laura L. Hayman received the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching. More than 100 letters in support of her nomination were received by the review committee. Students rated her courses among the most valuable in the curriculum, and said for her “the phrase ‘students come first’ is her way of life.” Colleagues added that “scholarship, coherent writing...an infectious love for her discipline combine with the development of younger faculty as teachers.”

All that Hayman has accomplished in life she has done with great purpose, leading to her current destination as associate dean for research and professor of nursing in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Since her days as a nursing student at Penn during a clinical rotation in community nursing, Hayman has been involved in the field of public health. “I saw the potential for making a real difference in the health and healthcare for children and families beyond the hospital environment,” she says. Since then, she has worked on several population based research studies regarding cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk, a multi-faceted disease she feels has many interacting causes.

Hayman’s program of research and scholarship has focused on primary prevention of obesity and CVD in children, adolescents, and families. Initiated with a multidisciplinary, longitudinal National Institutes of Health-funded study of biobehavioral risk factors for CVD in children and adolescents, her current work, in collaboration with colleagues from the UMass Boston College of Nursing and Health Sciences and Children’s Hospital Boston, focuses on theory-based, technology-mediated interventions designed to promote physical activity and fitness and reduce risk factors for CVD in children. “Substantial data indicate that health-related lifestyle behaviors contribute to CVD, diabetes, obesity,” Hayman says. “These behaviors are influenced by numerous societal-level system factors that go beyond the individual...

Multi-level policy changes will be needed to reverse the epidemics of CVD, diabetes, and obesity and enhance the health of the public—the health of future generations.”

She has served in numerous leadership roles with the American Heart Association (AHA), including chair of the Council on Cardiovascular Nursing and liaison to the Atherosclerosis, Hypertension and Obesity in the Young Committee of the Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young.

In 2009, she received the Council on Cardiovascular Nursing’s Distinguished Achievement Award at the AHA’s Annual Scientific Sessions. This award, given every three years by the Council, recognizes individuals who have made substantial professional contributions to the field and to the mission and goals of a specific AHA council.

In presenting the award, Dr. Sandra Dunbar, current chair of the Council on Cardiovascular Nursing, lauded Hayman’s contributions and accomplishments.

“It’s all about making a positive difference in the human condition,” Hayman says. To that end, her goals at UMass Boston include continuing her collaborative, cross-disciplinary program of research, facilitating the development of young faculty investigators and student researchers, and contributing to the university’s research mission focused on improving the health and well-being of vulnerable populations, nationally and globally.

- $4.1 million in federal and state grants
- 7 books and 10 book chapters published
- 90 articles published in journals
- Recipient of the American Heart Association Council on Cardiovascular Nursing’s Distinguished Achievement Award
- GoKids! Boston™ Director of Research
Faculty Profile: Russell Schutt, Ph.D.

If we really want to fight the alligators of health inequalities, we have to drain the swamp.
—Sir Michael Marmot, former chair of the World Health Organization Commission on Social Determinants of Health

In recognition of his commitment to making the world a better place through his research, Professor of Sociology Russell K. Schutt received the Chancellor’s Distinguished Service Award at the University of Massachusetts Boston commencement exercises in June 2007.

“Through his commitment to excellence, UMass Boston and service, he inspires in others that it is possible to work harder to do more,” one nominator wrote. “He embodies what it means to be a professor, but more importantly a professor at UMass Boston—a place steeped in the community and public service.”

“I am myself a graduate of a public urban university, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and I feel students at a school like ours deserve the best from their faculty and can achieve at the highest levels with the appropriate opportunities,” Schutt said when presented with the award. “I have been very committed to providing opportunities for our students to engage in the types of research projects that both allow them to develop their skills and interests and also provide meaningful service in the urban community.”

Upon earning his PhD from the University of Illinois, Chicago, and completing his postdoctoral fellowship at Yale University, Schutt joined UMass Boston in 1979 as an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology. Since his arrival, he has had a profound impact on shaping the department, the university, and the community.

As graduate program director, Schutt is credited with developing the Graduate Program in Applied Sociology into what “may well be the best program in applied sociology in the United States,” according to one academic reviewer. As chair of the Department of Sociology, Schutt helped create the criminal justice major, recruit new faculty, mentor existing faculty, and lead a major academic review.

The author of Investigating the Social World: The Process and Practice of Research (now in its 6th edition, and recently published in Chinese) and of Organization in a Changing Environment, co-author of Responding to the Homeless: Policy and Practice, and co-editor of The Organizational Response to Social Problems, Schutt has authored or co-authored more than 50 articles and book chapters on topics including homelessness, mental illness, law, substance abuse and sociology. His publications in peer-reviewed journals range in focus from the effect of social context on cognition, satisfaction, and functioning to the service preferences of homeless persons and service personnel, the admission practices of craft unions, and the social factors in legal decisions.

Schutt’s latest research book, Homelessness, Housing and Mental Illness (2011, Harvard University Press) examines the divergence of consumer housing preferences and clinician housing recommendations, the meaning and impact of mental illness, the consequences of substance abuse, the process of developing social relations, changing staff roles and empowering tenants within group homes, and the impact of these factors on residential stability. This work contributes to a growing literature on the influence of the social environment on attitudes, behavior, and cognitive functioning.
Developmental Sciences:

**Landmark international Behavioral Epigenetics Conference held at UMass Boston**

In October 2010, the University of Massachusetts Boston cosponsored and hosted the landmark international conference, “Behavioral Epigenetics,” exploring how environmental factors affect alterations in behavior by biochemically changing the function of genes or gene expression without affecting the basic gene structure.

The conference covered recent advancements in research on how environmental factors can affect behavioral outcomes such as learning, memory, mental, illness, normal development, and developmental psychopathology via epigenetic modulation. The New York Academy of Sciences and Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University co-sponsored.

“It is not an exaggeration to say that this conference brought together the best researchers in the newly emergent field of behavioral epigenetics with its promise for changing how we understand normal and abnormal human development,” said Dr. Ed Tronick, university distinguished professor of psychology, and lead conference organizer.

The agenda was organized by Tronick with leading researchers Dr. Barry Lester, professor of psychiatry and human behavior and professor of pediatrics at the Alpert Medical School, and director of the Brown Center for the Study of Children at Risk, and Dr. Eric Nestler, Nash Family Professor of Neuroscience, director of the Mount Sinai Brain Institute, and chairman of the Department of Neuroscience, Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

“No longer can we argue over which has a greater impact, genes or the environment,” Tronick asserts. “Both are inextricably linked.”

Family Professor of Neuroscience, director of the Mount Sinai Brain Institute, and chairman of the Department of Neuroscience, Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

Particular attention was paid to how prenatal and postnatal environmental factors, including parenting, affects alterations in behavior (e.g., post-partum depression, addiction, and neuro-developmental disorders) and child development via epigenetic modulations, and the implications of these processes for therapeutics.

“No longer can we argue over which has a greater impact, genes or the environment,” Tronick asserts. “Both are inextricably linked.”

Tronick is a world-class researcher and teacher internationally recognized for the still-face paradigm, which has become the research standard on social emotional development in the fields of pediatrics, psychiatry, clinical and child psychology, and nursing.

With plans for the new Developmental Sciences Research Center at UMass Boston moving forward rapidly, campus leadership is placing great emphasis on interdisciplinary teams that combine basic and translational research in the life and social sciences. The new center will also build upon the UMass Boston Department of Psychology’s stellar track record in research that addresses brain science, autism, and infant-parent mental health in the 0-5 population.

**Epigenetics in context at UMass Boston**

This research is also linked with a dynamic group of biology researchers studying basic cell signaling mechanisms in model organisms. The center will adopt a life-science perspective that includes cognitive and behavioral neuroscience, as well as molecular developmental neuroscience and developmental regulation of morphogenesis and cellular function in diverse cells.

For more on Dr. Tronick, see: [www.umb.edu/research/orsp/edtronick/](http://www.umb.edu/research/orsp/edtronick/).
For more on the conference, see: [www.nyas.org/behavioralepi](http://www.nyas.org/behavioralepi).
New Sponsored Awards

Randy Albelda, Economics, CLA
$30,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the project “Occupational Exit of Family Child Care Providers.”

Paul Watanabe, Institute for Asian American Studies, Peter Kiang, Curriculum and Instruction, CEHD, and Joan Becker, Academic Support Services
$2,000,000 from the U.S. Department of Education for the project “UMass Boston Asian American Student Success Program.”

Christa Beranak, Anthropology, CLA
$24,671 from the Newton Historical Society to provide technical services.

Lois Biener, Center for Survey Research
$50,000 from the National Cancer Institute for the project “Tobacco Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Evaluation Network.”

Jennifer Bowen, Biology, CSM
$231,000 from the National Science Foundation for the project “Environmental Control of Microbial N20 Fluxes and DIN Loss in Salt Marsh Sediments.”

John Butterworth, Institute for Community Inclusion
$65,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Sciences for the project “Development of a Statewide Employment Solution Team.”

Bob Chen, Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences, CSM, and Arthur Eisenkraft, Curriculum and Instruction, CEHD
$855,000 from the National Science Foundation for the project “Collaborative Research: COSEE: Ocean Communities in Education and Social Networks.”

Donna Haig Friedman, Center for Social Policy, MGSPGS
$85,000 from the Family-to-Family Project Inc., to provide consulting services. The prime sponsor is The Oak Foundation.

William Kiernan and Susan Foley, Institute for Community Inclusion
$16,800,000 by the U.S. Department of Education for the project “Improving Employment Services for People with Disabilities.”

Robert McCulley, Institute for Community Inclusion
$500,000 from the Boston Public School System to provide “Vision Services.”

Celia Moore, Developmental Sciences Research Center
$7,000 from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center in support of the Behavioral Epigenetics Conference held at UMass Boston on October 29-30, 2010.

Julie Nelson, Economics, CLA
$9,000 from the nonprofit Ecotrust to develop new research materials on the subject of ethics and economics.

Anita Poon, Institute for Asian American Studies
$50,000 from the South Cove Nursing Facilities Foundation to “Conduct a Study on Care and Living Options for Chinese American Elders in the Greater Boston Area.”

Anthony Roman, Center for Survey Research
$194,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to design and conduct the “2011 Youth Health Survey.”

Gary Siperstein, Center for Social Development and Education
$324,000 from the U.S. Department of Education to provide rehabilitation services to Brockton, MA.

Salome Aguilera Skvirsky, English, CLA

Heidi Stanish, Exercise and Health Sciences, CNHS
$22,033 from the University of Massachusetts Medical School for the project “Training Long Term for Leadership Education in the Neurodevelopmental Sciences.” The prime sponsor is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Greg Sun, Physics and Engineering, CSM
$352,000 from the U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research for the project “The Longwave Silicon Chip.”
ICI receives $16.8 million grant...  
cont’d from page 1

returning to the workforce. This project will identify and support the public vocational rehabilitation system to assist these individuals in returning to work, increasing their income, and again becoming part of the broader workforce.”

Kiernan believes the project can serve as a catalyst for long-term, substantial improvement in employment outcomes “because it is the first time resources on a scale this large will be used to observe and evaluate existing state vocational rehabilitation services for SSDI customers across the country.” Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. in Washington D.C. will provide the ICI with technical assistance.

By achieving all of the above, Kiernan and his ICI colleagues hope to realize the project’s second primary goal; demonstrating the value of employment services to SSDI beneficiaries, the Social Security Administration, other state and federal agencies, disability advocates, politicians, employers, and the nation’s citizenry.

UMass Boston classified a Research University with High research activity

On January 18, 2011, the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education released its 2010 Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, and UMass Boston is now a Research University with High research activity.

The first doctoral degree program at UMass Boston started in the early 1980s. The first doctoral degree was awarded in 1988. UMass Boston became a Doctoral/Intensive institution in 2000 and was classified as a Doctoral/Research institution in 2005.

The Doctorate-granting institutions include institutions that awarded at least 20 research doctorates in 2008-09. Professional and Professional doctoral degrees (J.D., M.D., Pharm.D., Aud.D., DNP, etc.) were not counted for the purpose of this criterion. Doctorate-granting institutions were assigned to one of three categories based on a measure of research activity. It is important to note that the groups differ solely with respect to level of research activity, not quality or importance.

New Sponsored Awards...cont’d from page 7

Joan Becker, Academic Support Services
$20,000 from The Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust to support the Urban Scholars Program.

Alix Contave, Trotter Institute for the Study of Black Culture
$15,000 from the Foundation to Promote Open Society to support the Haiti Higher Education Consortium Meeting.

Patricia Monteith, WUMB Radio
$177,956 Community Service 2011 Grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Zong-Guo Xia, Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Strategic Initiatives
$291,600 earmark from the U.S. Department of Energy for the “Establishment of the Northeast Coastal Watershed Geospatial Data Network.”

Allen Gontz, Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences, CSM
$8,636 from the Apex Companies for the “New Bedford Harbor Submerged Cultural Heritage Survey.”

Wei Ding, Computer Science, CSM
$19,786 from The Ohio State University Research Foundation for the project "Outreach: Crater Seeker for Mars and Beyond." The prime sponsor is NASA.

Bela Torok, Chemistry, CSM
$28,000 from the Rosztoczy Foundation to support Anna Tomin to conduct research under Torok’s mentorship.

Debra Hart, Institute for Community Inclusion
$75,000 from the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission for the project “FY2011 Transition Works.”

Joan Becker, Academic Support Services
$5,000 from the Lincoln and Therese Foundation, Inc., to support the Urban Scholars Program.

Francoise Carre, Center for Social Policy, MGSPGS
$14,974 from the Russell Sage Foundation for the project “Retail Work Round the Globe.”

Eric Blaser and Zsuzsanna Kaldy, Psychology
$457,000 from the National Eye Institute for the project “Infants’ Visual Working Memory Tested with Salience-mapped Objects.” (cont’d on page 12)
There are many changes happening all around campus, in terms of both physical space and mentality. It seems there are more events going in every building, from conferences to lectures to readings, and attendance is generally strong. As an editor for the UMass Press, I am particularly interested in events around books and authors, and I was delighted to attend and to organize talks this past fall semester.

On October 7th, Dean Steve Crosby of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies introduced Senior Fellow and renowned biographer Nigel Hamilton at a reading, celebrating his new Book, *American Caesars: Lives of the Presidents — from Franklin D. Roosevelt to George W. Bush* (Yale University Press). Hamilton spoke about how the project came together and what he learned in writing the book. The engaged audience asked great questions which Hamilton handled deftly, sharing his own favorites and least favorites, and truly humanizing these towering American figures.

On October 14th, the English department held the 6th Annual Shaun O’Connell Lecture, where Paul Harding read from his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *Tinkers*. The story of Harding’s rise to fame is a well-told and inspiring one, which has certainly been much discussed amongst publishing professionals and authors. Harding graduated from the prestigious Iowa Writer’s Workshop. Post-graduation his many submissions of fiction to agents and editors resulted in only negative replies. When he finally sent *Tinkers*, the somewhat experimental novel made up of intertwining memories, to the tiny Bellevue Literary Press, editorial director Erika Goldman fell in love with Harding’s manuscript. The novel sold very well thanks to independent booksellers, won the Pulitzer, and has since spent many months on *The New York Times* best-seller list. One can understand why after listening to Harding read selections from his book during the lecture.

I then had the pleasure of putting together a reading on November 4th by Professor Shaun O’Connell to celebrate his new book, *Boston: Voices and Visions*. O’Connell gave a wide-ranging yet cohesive talk about Boston’s cultural history, interspersed with wonderful quotes from some of the strongest pieces in the collection. We were delighted to have in attendance many of O’Connell’s colleagues from his four plus decades of teaching, including

There were many other readings on campus this past fall: the Joiner Center for the Study of War and Consequences and the Creative Writing Program co-hosted poet Yosef Komunyakaa; Mark Pawlak, director of Academic Support Programs, author of multiple books, and editor at Hanging Loose Press, read his deceptively simple poetry; the Research Center for Urban Cultural History hosted Nick Bunker who discussed his new book on 17th century Boston; and the Hispanic studies department hosted Richard Zenith, who discussed his Portuguese translations. While reading is often a solitary activity, the shared experience of attending a reading and engaging with an author’s ideas builds a real sense of community, and gives that author a chance to grapple with ideas in a way many find truly satisfying. I hope we see more readings across campus in the months ahead.

*Brian Halley on readings ‘round campus*

Brian Halley on readings ‘round campus

From the University of Massachusetts Press

*Boston: Voices and Visions, Edited by Shaun O’Connell, UMass Boston*

“*This excellent anthology brings together a broad, diverse, and well-chosen collection of primary readings, with substantial introductory essays...*” — Joseph A. Conforti, author of *Imagining New England: Explorations of Regional Identity from the Pilgrims to the Mid-Twentieth Century*
Office of Research and Sponsored Programs: Whom to Contact

Interim Director: Dr. Zong-Guo Xia, Vice Provost for Research and Strategic Initiatives
Deputy Director and Research Business Manager: Paul Mullane
Quinn Administration Building, 2nd Floor Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Telephone: 617.287.5370, Fax: 617.287.5396 www.umb.edu/research/orsp/orsp

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP), a unit of the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Strategic Initiatives, is the central unit for assisting faculty, staff, and students with submitting proposals for external funds for research, scholarship, education and training, and service and outreach activities to support UMass Boston’s mission.

Please note the following four requirements before you begin work on your proposal:

1. Without exception, all proposals for external funds are to be submitted through the ORSP.

2. As soon as possible, contact the appropriate ORSP staff member and have them review the terms and conditions of the RFP, PA, etc. to ensure the university is eligible to submit a proposal.

3. Approval of your department chairperson, program director, etc.

4. Your proposal for external funds should be submitted to the ORSP at least 5 business days prior to the sponsor’s deadline for receiving your proposal.

What follows is the list of whom to contact when you have questions on preaward, postaward, or research compliance services and processes.

Preaward Research Services and Support

Institute for Community Inclusion; College of Management; College of Public and Community Service Maggie Mode, 617.287.4392, maggie.mode@umb.edu

Postaward Research Services and Support

Institute for Community Inclusion; College of Management; College of Public and Community Service Maggie Mode, 617.287.4392, maggie.mode@umb.edu

College of Science and Mathematics; University College Shala Bonyun, 617.287.5592, shala.bonyun@umb.edu

College of Nursing and Health Sciences; McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies; College of Liberal Arts Timothy O’Brien, 617.287.5449, timothy.obrien@umb.edu

College of Education and Human Development; all free-standing institutes and centers (except the Institute for Community Inclusion) and remaining units Paula Noonan, 617.287.5371, paula.noonan@umb.edu

Research Compliance

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Administrator Kristen Kenny, 617.287.5374, kristen.kenny@umb.edu

Chair of the IRB Paul Nestor, Professor of Psychology, paul.nestor@umb.edu

Chair of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee William Hagar, Associate Dean, College of Science and Mathematics, william.hagar@umb.edu

Time and Effort Certification (ECRT) Assistant Beth Farnham, 617.287.7914, bethany.farnham@umb.edu
The university’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) must review all research and research-related activity proposed by any member of the UMass Boston community involving human subjects. This requirement is based on our assurance given to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that all UMass Boston faculty members, students, administrators, and staff members are aware of and follow all federal rules and regulations concerning the protection of human subjects in research as contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45, Part 46. Failure to follow the policies and procedures governing research with human subjects can result in serious penalties for the individual, sanctions against the university, including substantial fines, the suspension of federal funds (including federal student financial aid funds), and debarment of all researchers at the university from seeking extramural support for sponsored research.

It is a requirement of the university that human subjects training be completed by all faculty, staff, students, and study coordinators involved in human subject research. The Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) was founded in March 2000 as a partnership between the University of Miami and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to develop a web-based training program in human subjects research protections. To complete the training, please visit www.citiprogram.org.

Student research must also be reviewed by the IRB. Students who serve as principal investigators on their own research are required to complete CITI Training. Faculty who serve as advisors to students on research must also complete CITI training. To avoid any delays with regard to IRB review, make sure everyone involved in the study has completed training prior to submitting research protocols for IRB approval.

For more information about university requirements for IRB approval, please contact IRB Administrator Kristen Kenny at 617.287.5374 or via e-mail at kristen.kenny@umb.edu.

As the research funds awarded to the university continue to grow annually, so does our commitment to compliance. As stewards of the funds we receive from the federal government and other sponsors, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is charged by the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees with increasing and strengthening our compliance processes and procedures in conjunction with the regulatory landscape and industry best practices.

Given our evolving culture of enhanced accountability, time spent working on a grant (i.e. effort) must be retroactively reported and certified by principal investigators. This process is called Effort Reporting.

Compliance with effort certification is a policy of the University of Massachusetts System. In addition, effort certification is mandated by the federal government to ensure financial accountability.

Prior to 2009, effort reports were completed on paper. Now, the University of Massachusetts requires all principal investigators to use the web-based technology ECRT to certify their effort. ECRT, or Effort Certification and Reporting Technology, also archives principal investigators’ certification data for future access. Although technology can at times be intimidating, researchers need not worry. Recent process improvements within the ORSP have allotted the compliance team additional resources for training and outreach throughout UMass Boston. Web videos, PowerPoint presentations, and in-person consultations are available to new and experienced ECRT users alike.

Consistent compliance with effort certification requirements helps protect the university as well as principal investigators from significant fines and penalties that may be, and often are, imposed due to unfavorable federal audits. For example, the University of Connecticut was fined $2.5 million for non-compliant effort reports in 2006.

If you are a principal investigator who has not yet used the ECRT program, or you are concerned you might not be in compliance with policy or law, visit the Time and Effort Certification/Reporting web page or contact ECRT Assistant Bethany Farnham at 617.287.7914 or by e-mail at bethany.farnham@umb.edu.
**Accolades for**

**Jacqueline Fawcett, PhD, RN, FAAN**

Professor of Nursing Jacqueline Fawcett, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been named one of the top 20 most influential in the nursing field by Masters In Nursing Online. Dr. Fawcett is an internationally recognized authority on conceptual models of nursing and nursing theory. Her ongoing programs focus on functional status in normal life transitions and serious illness and women’s responses to cesarean birth. She currently holds teaching and research positions at UMass Boston’s College of Nursing and Health Sciences. She is the author of numerous books, book chapters, and journal articles. Her colleagues describe her as one of the most influential scholars in the nursing profession. Dr. Fawcett is one of five editors of an international journal, *Journal of Advanced Nursing*.

**Robyn Hannigan, PhD**

Professor of Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences Robyn Hannigan was recently elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for her contributions to science and technology. She is also a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow, and the 2007 recipient of the American Chemical Society Award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students into Careers in the Chemical Sciences. Her research and student mentoring have been highlighted by the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science, AAAS, and the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Hannigan’s current research focuses on the study of the chemical record of climate change preserved in estuarine and ocean sediments and biominerals. She and her students hold several patents in areas of sample introduction technologies for mass spectrometric identification of important metals in biological samples. Dr. Hannigan started a company with former students, GeoMed Analytical, which uses geochemical methods to study human health and food resource issues such as food sourcing and metals in disease treatment and diagnosis.

**$2 million grant for UMass Boston cancer center...cont’d from page 1**

"If there is one thing that we’ve learned about cancer during the past quarter century, it is that cancer is not one disease but instead hundreds, and each cancer is often unique to each patient,” said Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, director of the DF/HCC and president of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This grant will help the university to take the final steps toward opening the CPCT, which will begin operations shortly in the UMass Boston Venture Development Center. Two years ago the MLSC awarded the campus a $750,000 new faculty startup grant to recruit a nationally recognized scientist and academic to plan and oversee the growth of the CPCT.

**New Sponsored Awards...cont’d from page 8**

Michael Johnson, Public Policy and Public Affairs, MG-SPGS, Jeffrey Keisler, Management and Marketing, CM $375,000 from the National Science Foundation for the project "Collaborative Proposal: Decision Models for Foreclosed Housing Acquisition and Redevelopment."