Kamal Bawa to Receive World’s First Major Award for Sustainability Research

The Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters (DKNVS) has announced that Kamal Bawa, distinguished professor of biology at the University of Massachusetts Boston, is the 2012 recipient of the Gunnererus Sustainability Award, the first major international award for research on sustainability.

Society President Kristian Fossheim said in a press release, “The DKNVS aims to make this a global prize of quality and importance worthy of comparison to the Nobel Prizes in science.” The selection of Bawa took place after a jury process in which five internationally prominent researchers considered a number of international nominees from many countries. “We are very pleased to have selected such a worthy winner of the first Gunnererus award,” said Fossheim.

A pioneer in tropical biology and international conservation, Bawa joined the UMass Boston Department of Biology in 1974. Bawa is most noted for his pioneering research on population biology in rainforest areas. His wide span of work includes groundbreaking biological discoveries made in Central America and in the Western Ghats and the Himalayas in India. Specifically, he explores the role of institutions and market-based approaches to conservation, with a focus on the relationships among poverty, institutions, and community-based conservation. (cont’d on page 12)

About the Institute for Community Inclusion
There are no disabled people; only people with disabilities.

Led by Director William Kiernan, all of the Institute for Community Inclusion’s (ICI) efforts stem from one core value - that people with disabilities are more of an expert than anyone else. Therefore, people with disabilities should have the same rights and controls and maintain lives based on their individual preferences, choices, and dreams.

For over 40 years, the ICI has worked to ensure that people with disabilities have the same opportunity to dream big, and make sure their dreams are a fully included, integrated, and welcomed reality. As a leader not only in Massachusetts, but also nationally and internationally, the ICI strives to create a world where all people with disabilities are welcome and fully included in valued roles wherever they go, whether a (cont’d on page 6)
Where once stood a mill of tell-tale faded red clay bricks and darkened mortar, there is a clearing of muddy earth and concrete fast giving rise to the shape of things to come - the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center (HPC) in the Town of Holyoke.

The HPC represents the most significant collaboration among government, industry and public and private universities in the history of the Commonwealth, and is the first facility of its kind in the nation.

Founded by the University of Massachusetts (UMass), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston University, Northeastern University, and Harvard University, when completed the HPC will be a state-of-the-art facility for housing the hardware supporting the combined computational research needs of these institutions. Until now, this research has taken place within individual universities and has been limited by the capacity of their respective campuses.

Today, virtually no major breakthrough, be it designing a new drug, developing new materials for clean energy, or addressing climate change, can happen without computation. In silico experimentation adds a powerful new dimension to knowledge discovery in all fields, alongside theory, laboratories, and information technology.

With the increasingly integrated role of computation in fundamental and applied research, the HPC represents a critical piece of infrastructure that will continue to fuel the world-leading innovation economy of Massachusetts through cooperative research, education, and outreach activities.

The HPC academic and industry partners already provide a rich set of opportunities for graduate, undergraduate, community college, and K-12 students. The prospect for the partner institutions to expand upon those opportunities by integrating and further leveraging these programs will be greatly enhanced by the development of the HPC and lead to significant social and economic benefits for Massachusetts and the greater region.

For UMass, the benefits and opportunities are manyfold. In addition to serving as a leader of and full participant in this unique enterprise, the university can now pursue with a much greater potential for success research and development opportunities with private universities and industry. UMass will gain much-needed strategic academic infrastructure at substantial financial savings, by investing in a facility with economies of scale, major public/private subsidies, and substantial energy savings. Using green facilities design, the HPC will serve as a showcase for concepts of green computing.

Though still under construction, the HPC has sparked research collaboration among Boston's research universities on a variety of significant scientific challenges, awarding $600,000 in seed grants to seven multi-university teams on issues ranging from the ecosystem off the New England coast to medical imaging to the speed of computing itself.

For more on the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computer Center, visit www.mghpcc.org.
Faculty Profile: Dan Simovici, Professor of Computer Science

“The most profound technologies are those that disappear; they weave themselves into the fabric of everyday life until they are indistinguishable from it.” —Mark Weiser (1952-1999), Chief Scientist at Xerox PARC

As the relatively new discipline of data mining continues growing at what seems the speed of light, it is our own Dan Simovici whose peers throughout the world recognize him as one of the field’s founders.

“Data mining is still a very young and interdisciplinary field of computer science,” explains Simovici. “Certainly it has in some cases successfully demonstrated the potential to assist governments in identifying potential terrorist threats, local law enforcement agencies in predicting the location and frequency of crime, the buying behavior of consumers, and many other fields, for example, biomedical, climate change, and health care.” It is in large part thanks to Simovici’s research and prodigious scholarship that many state-run entities and private research and development enterprises are turning to and relying more and more on data mining.

The author or coauthor of 18 books and monographs, Simovici’s latest book, *Linear Algebra Tools for Data Mining*, will appear at the World Scientific in March 2012 (see page 8 for a complete list). He is also author or coauthor of 145 research publications.

Data mining occurs as the analysis step in the larger process known as knowledge discovery in databases, or KDD: selection; preprocessing; transformation; data mining (or analysis); and interpretation/evaluation. Data mining is more broadly identified as artificial intelligence or machine learning. So, in essence, Simovici constructs instruments for knowledge discovery by combining techniques from artificial intelligence, databases, and statistics.

Simovici explains that the information we obtain from artificial intelligence or machine learning can vary greatly in quality. “We ask computers to process large amounts of data collected, cleaned, and then inputted by human beings. These data are only as complete and as accurate as we can make them. We then ask the computers to identify typical or atypical patterns of human behavior using algorithms designed by us.”

In other words, the analyst who interprets and then evaluates the likely occurrence of those events could be wrong. While this is not as significant of a problem when attempting to determine the pizza-buying behavior of large numbers of customers, it could result in an hair raising or potentially deadly event for an individual who is mistakenly identified as a potential terrorist threat.

Another facet of Simovici’s research is his activity in the realm of multiple-valued logic. He served as the chair of the Technical Committee of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, or IEEE, for Multiple-valued Logic, and is currently the managing editor of the *Journal of Multiple-valued Logic and Soft Computing*. He also served as general chair or program chair for several editions of the International Symposium for Multiple-Valued Logic.

As a visiting professor at the University of Tohoku in Sendai, Japan and at the University of Science and Technology in Lille, France, he gave many invited presentations at international meetings. In the fall of 2011, he was an invited speaker at the Concept Lattices and Applications conference in Nancy, France. Five of his former PhD students are currently working in academia or in industry in the United States, Poland, and Turkey.

Simovici joined the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science (later the Department of Computer Science) in 1982. As director of the department’s graduate programs, he is the second director of the department’s MS program - a position he has held since 1985 - and the founding director of its PhD program.

He earned his PhD degree in mathematics from the University of Bucharest, Romania in 1974 and he holds MS degrees in electrical engineering and in mathematics. His initial field of interest was theoretical computer science. It was in 1982 when he became interested in databases and later in data mining.
Faculty Profile: **Lizabeth Roemer, Professor of Psychology**

“When we simply experience fear just as it is - without our opinions, judgments, and reactions - fear is not nearly so frightening.”—Ezra Bayda, Zen teacher and author of *Saying Yes to Life, Even the Hard Parts*

Since her arrival at UMass Boston as an assistant professor in 1996, Lizabeth Roemer’s trajectory in clinical psychology, as a teacher, researcher, and scholar, has been rocketing upwards thanks to her endless passion for “taking on the challenge of integrating the theoretical with the applied.”

“The field of clinical psychology has always held a particular interest for me because it affords me the opportunity to pursue intellectual, scientific inquiry that has real world, practical implications,” explains Roemer.

She earned her PhD and MS degrees in clinical psychology from Pennsylvania State University, and her BA in psychology, with honors, from Northwestern University. Some of her other achievements include serving as the principal investigator of research grants in excess of $2.3M awarded by the National Institute of Mental Health, five books published, and more than 55 peer-reviewed articles published.

Roemer’s scholarly work focuses on the dynamic interconnections between science and practice in clinical psychology. As a result, she pursues descriptive and experimental studies of clinically-relevant processes, as well as scientific evaluation of a newly developed treatment drawn from basic research findings.

“I am interested in increasing our understanding of how individuals respond to distressing emotional experiences in ways that interfere with, or promote, optimal functioning across a range of contexts,” says Roemer. “The aim is to improve treatment of clinical problems mostly within the context of anxiety disorders, particularly generalized anxiety disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder.”

She has also mentored doctoral students examining those same questions in relation to panic disorder, social anxiety, hostility, deliberate self-harm, and the psychological consequences of racial discrimination. Her emphasis has been on the ways avoidant responses to internal experiences may exacerbate clinical problems and interfere with the quality of life, while accepting, or being mindful of, responses that may enhance functioning and increase flexibility.

This area of study led Roemer and Susan Orsillo of Suffolk University to develop an acceptance-based behavioral therapy for chronic, excessive worry and tension that interferes with life. They recently put their research findings into practice by publishing a clinician’s guide, *Mindfulness and Acceptance-Based Behavioral Therapies in Practice*, and a self-help book, *The Mindful Way Through Anxiety: Break Free from Chronic Worry and Reclaim Your Life*.

Roemer’s teaching takes place in multiple contexts: in large and small undergraduate classrooms; in foundational and advanced clinical psychology graduate courses; and through mentoring and supervising undergraduate research apprentices, honor students, and doctoral-level graduate students. “In each context, I aim to help students develop a sense of their own competence and efficacy, while learning how the science and theory of our discipline is relevant to their and other’s lives,” she explains.

At the undergraduate level, this may take the form of learning how the careful study of psychological challenges and resilience relate to topics of concern to them. In doing so they learn to critically assess research and theory, rather than accepting an author’s word for the appropriate conclusions to draw. Some students learn to design and conduct relevant research studies and disseminate findings.

At the doctoral level, this begins with learning the general theoretical and empirical basis of important areas of clinical psychology, along with a sophisticated understanding of scientific inquiry that allows them to actively engage literature in their area of study and then go on to design and conduct rigorous studies with practical implications. Within her research team, doctoral students learn to mentor undergraduates and collaborate with one another.
Crystal Schaaf, Professor of Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences

“It suddenly struck me that that tiny pea, pretty and blue, was the Earth. I put up my thumb and shut one eye, and my thumb blotted out the planet Earth...I felt very, very small.”—Neil Armstrong, astronaut, while on the Moon

Active in the field of remote sensing for more than 25 years, Crystal Schaaf uses remotely, or satellite, sensed data for environmental modeling and monitoring for land use management, urban land cover assessment, ecological, agricultural, and hydrological monitoring, and atmospheric and environmental forecasting, to name just a few.

She has published nearly 100 articles and served as the principal or co-principal investigator of research grants totaling $22.2 million from NASA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Science Foundation.

Schaaf is now working on the development and use of operational products from NASA’s MODerate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS) to monitor the Earth’s environments from the Terra and Aqua polar-orbiting space platforms. She is a science team member for both MODIS and the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) sensor on board the newly launched Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership Preparatory Project Platform, or the precursor to the next generation of national meteorological satellites.

“The need to accurately monitor global surface albedo and capture surface land cover variability for climate and weather applications will continue into the future with such operational missions,” says Schaaf. “However, some of the most exciting new research work will be focused on applications that directly utilize radiative, phenological, and structural information derived from remotely sensed data.”

With the above in mind, she looks forward to training more students, in the classroom as well as through an active research program, to use these new satellite-derived data sources. “Doing so will improve our ability to monitor the environment, assess the impact of human activities, and inform efforts to mitigate the degradation of terrestrial, coastal, and marine environments in the future.”

Initially trained as a research meteorologist, she earned her BS and MS degrees in meteorology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While there she carried out her research, under Dr. Reginald Newell, investigating the Walker Circulation and its impact on El Niño events. In fulfillment of her ROTC obligations and due to her advanced degree, she was assigned to the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (now Phillips Laboratory) at Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford, Massachusetts as an atmospheric research officer.

After four years of active duty, she joined the Laboratory as a civil servant. As part of the research team focused on improving the Air Force operational cloud detection algorithm, she became interested in characterizing surface properties to better distinguish cloud features.

During this time, she fulfilled a lifelong interest in archaeology by obtaining a second master’s degree through Harvard University Extension. Her work focused on the Moche civilization of Peru. Through a very generous collaboration with researchers at Ohio State University, she was able to use their oxygen isotope records from the Andean Quelccaya Glacier to show that the Moche people appear to have experienced a severe and prolonged drought in 562-594 A.D. In response, as evident in the archaeological record, the Moche made the necessary changes in their settlement and cropping patterns to ensure their survival.

From 1990-1994, Schaaf entered the Boston University (BU) Department of Geography as a PhD candidate and began her work with Dr. Alan Strahler and the MODIS Team focusing on the refinement and validation of a geometrical-optical anisotropy and albedo model. In 1996, she left civil service to join the BU research team and work on both the MODIS products and definition of the VIIRS algorithms. It was in 2003, after the successful launches of the Terra satellite in 1999 and the Aqua satellite in 2002, that she assumed leadership of the MODIS Albedo effort.

To learn more about Professor Schaaf’s current research, turn to page 8.
state public vocational rehabilitation agencies assist people with disabilities find paid work in their communities. Led by Kiernan, the project staff are creating a national model for the public vocational rehabilitation system, they will eventually train agencies to implement this management model, and, finally, they will evaluate the model’s effectiveness.

Under Kiernan’s leadership, the ICI, which is a joint venture of UMass Boston and Children’s Hospital Boston, has been designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration of Developmental Disabilities as a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service. Also, the ICI has provided training and technical assistance in 47 states.

In FY 2010, the ICI was awarded $12.9 million in sponsored funds, and in FY 2011, the total amount grew to an impressive $17.1 million. Just as impressive, from FY 2005 to FY 2010, Kiernan was directly responsible for bringing to the ICI $70.68 million in sponsored grants and contracts.

Kiernan is the author of six books and more than 125 articles and reports emphasizing employment and public policy development in adult disability services. Considered an international expert by his peers, he has worked extensively with the public and private employment and training systems at the state and national levels and served as an international consultant in seven countries.

The ICI has approximately 180 staff members, including graduate assistants. One third of the staff are persons with disabilities, while about 7 out of 10 have a disability or an immediate family member with a disability.

In 2010, Kiernan was awarded a $16.8 million, five-year grant by the U.S. Department of Education - the largest in UMass Boston’s History. The grant’s purpose is to help the school, workplace, volunteer group, home, or any other part of the community.

During his March 2011 testimony before the U.S. Equal Opportunity Employment Commission, Kiernan stated, “The evolution of the self-advocacy movement has again shown that persons with disabilities do not want to live in poverty, work in segregated settings, or be told what they have to do. Many in the self-advocacy movement seek to be involved and have adopted the mantra ‘Nothing about us without us’...There are clear messages coming from the self-advocates and students with disabilities that employment and getting out of poverty are a goal for them.”

“There are clear messages coming from the self-advocates and students with disabilities that employment and getting out of poverty are a goal for them.”

In 2010, Kiernan was awarded a $16.8 million, five-year grant by the U.S. Department of Education - the largest in UMass Boston’s History. The grant’s purpose is to help the

Promoting the Inclusion of People with Disabilities...cont’d from page 1

There are no disabled people; only people with disabilities.
National Centers Operated by the Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass Boston

(1) The **Leadership in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND)** is an interdisciplinary training grant that provides training opportunities for professionals from more than 20 discipline areas in developmental disabilities. LEND trainees spend up to one year at the ICI working in the Children’s Hospital Boston Department of Developmental Medicine as well as the UMass Boston ICI site in developing clinical and research skills in the field of developmental disabilities. Trainees represent a range of disciplines including pediatrics, neurology, psychiatry, dentistry, nursing, speech and language, audiology, special education, social work, psychology, rehabilitation, law and family advocacy at the master’s, doctoral and post-doctoral levels. (Funded by the HRSA’s Maternal Child Health Bureau)

(2) The **National Research and Demonstration Center on Postsecondary Education for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities** has established the ICI as a national resource in the movement of students with intellectual disabilities from school into postsecondary settings. (funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research)

(3) The **National Service Inclusion Project** is a training and technical assistance center that works to promote national service as an effective strategy for including persons with disabilities in “giving back” to the community. (funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS))

(4) The **NextSTEP National Project** links national service and employment for the purpose of demonstrating that national service can be an effective gateway to employment for persons with disabilities. (funded by the CNCS)

(5) The **National Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Vocational Rehabilitation Management** examines state-of-the-art strategies in strategic planning, quality assurance, and human-resource management across industries. (funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research and the Rehabilitation Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Education)

(6) The **Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)** builds the capacity of the public VR program to improve employment outcomes for people with disabilities. This is achieved through providing state VR agencies and others working in this area with policy research, training, and technical assistance. The Center also functions as a national hub for policy and operations data pertaining to public employment services for people with disabilities.

These students are from more than a dozen institutions of higher education, and the vast majority of students at the ICI are from UMass Boston.

In the past decade, the ICI has evolved from a center providing training as well as exemplary clinical and evaluation services to a comprehensive program with activities and offerings akin to many of UMass Boston’s high-achieving academic departments. Disability is and will continue to be present across all populations, with selected conditions reflecting the economic, social, and cultural features of those communities, while in others the metabolic, genetic, or traumatic events which are typically cultural and geographically blind. “Our experiences are that the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all major life areas, regardless of the culture, requires not the fixing of the individual but the adaptation of the community,” observes Kiernan.

Reducing the dissonance between societal expectations and the interests and preferences of persons with disabilities is at the heart of greater inclusion. This comes about through increased skills and capacities, greater acceptance by the broader community, and the utilization of strategies and interventions that have broader relevance to the community at large.

“Our challenge locally, nationally, and globally is to identify and document strategies that are universal and benefit all, increase the skills of those supporting persons with disabilities, and support the acquisition of skills among persons with disabilities,” outlines Kiernan. At the same time, Kiernan believes we need to develop accommodations that will reduce the impacts of certain disabilities, and support the general community in recognizing that disability is part of the natural human experience.
On October 28, 2011, at 2:45 am PST, Crystal Schaaf stood with the large crowd of team members and their families at Santa Barbara’s Vandenberg Air Force Base counting down the NASA launch of its next-generation weather satellite.

“You see this huge blast of light and then, seconds later, the sound of the boom,” said Schaaf, professor of environmental, earth and ocean sciences at UMass Boston. “Then it starts rising up, quite slowly, into the air and heading out away from us.”

As the satellite was heading out to space, Schaaf said she saw the smaller rockets that were giving it extra propulsion burn off, “almost like a little sparkle of light leaving the burning trail behind it.” Because it was a clear night, Schaaf watched the satellite rise for almost 10 minutes.

The satellite is carrying Schaff’s Earth observing instrument that will collect data on both long-term climate change and short-term weather conditions, also known as Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite. The satellite will build on more than four decades of Earth observation to help better understand our climate.

“It’s not the one you see on the Weather Channel,” Schaaf said of the satellite. “This is some really impressive stuff. The satellite accumulates pictures similar to a standard weather satellite, showing land and ocean surfaces, cloud cover and temperatures, but with a large number of spectral bands at much higher resolution.”

On October 28, 2011, an arc of light illuminates the pre-dawn sky at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, as a rocket launches with its payload of the next-generation weather satellite that will provide critical data to help scientists understand the dynamics of long-term climate patterns and help meteorologists improve short-term weather forecasts.

“You can see the fall colors from space,” Schaaf said. “We can get coarser resolution weather data more frequently, but this is really high resolution spectral information that we get daily and can use to monitor the Earth.”

Schaaf said that the satellite builds on the success of the decade-old MODerate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS) program, for which she was also a part of the science team. Originally a research satellite, MODIS has evolved into more. “It’s not just a research thing,” she said. “They’ve become pretty key to real-time applications.”

It was a whirlwind trip for Schaaf, who flew out to California the day before the launch, stayed up all night to watch it, and flew back that same day. Her UMass Boston students followed the launch via the NASA website.

Schaaf described the satellite’s path as similar to that of a ball of twine moving over the Earth’s poles and around the earth, crossing the equator at each time at around 1:30 p.m. “It gets a glimpse of everywhere on Earth once during the day in the light and once in the dark.”

In addition to using the data for short-term weather forecasting and longer-term climate models, scientists are also able to monitor wild fires, view storm damage, assess snowpack for water and irrigation, track deforestation, evaluate agriculture for crop yields and famine relief, observe the health of rangelands, establish ocean productivity, and even monitor the impact of silt, nutrients, and pollutants along the coasts and at the mouths of rivers such as the Mississippi.

With current satellites aging quickly, and the next satellite not slated to go up for another four or five years, Schaaf was grateful to see this one launched. “We’re very relieved that it made it into orbit.”

Satellites such as MODIS and now this newest one are usually expected to stay in orbit for five years. But if nothing goes wrong they have enough fuel to stay up for 15 to 20 years. The MODIS satellite that went up in 1999, for example, will run out of fuel in 2017. “You pray and hope for six years, and if you get past that you’re pathetically grateful,” Schaaf said.
Luncheon Honors Faculty, Staff, Student Researchers

On December 12, 2011, the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies hosted the 5th annual luncheon for honoring faculty, staff, and student researchers.

Chancellor J. Keith Motley welcomed the more than 300 guests (including nearly 150 tenure-track and tenured faculty members). “Our teaching, our research, our scholarship, our innovative ideas, and our creative pursuits are now and forever intertwined. They are the basis upon which we are fast gaining recognition as one of the nation’s top urban public research universities,” Motley said.

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Winston E. Langley added, “Part of the mission of this university is to see to it that we will insist on combining our research approaches and our languages—that cognitive diversity be part of what we seek.”

Vice Provost and Dean Zong-Guo Xia noted that between September 1, 2010 and August 31, 2011, at least 36 books were published by faculty, 26 from the College of Liberal Arts alone, and $53.6 million in external research funding was received, with the Institute of Community Inclusion bringing in $17.1 million. More than 140 graduate and undergraduate students published full-length papers in peer-reviewed journals, books, and conference proceedings.

“As we move forward, you have an obligation to keep us on track, to make sure we are deeply rooted in our tradition, that we never forget why we are here. We are here because of our students,” Xia told faculty and staff members. “We need to remember what distinguishes us from Harvard, MIT, and other prestigious universities. You chose to be here because of our public and urban mission.

“In the end, it is up to our graduates to, when they leave UMass Boston, do what you have been doing. The chain reaction has enormous power. Their accomplishments, their impact across the world, will make us a truly distinguished urban public research university.”

Xia said goals for 2012 include the expansion and strengthening of the undergraduate research experience, a significant increase in funding for undergraduate research, and the creation of awards for outstanding undergraduate research and undergraduate research mentors.

Books and Monographs by Dan Simovici

3. Linear Algebra for Data Mining and Pattern Recognition, appeared at World Scientific, 2011.
11. Introduction to Algebraic Coding Theory (with I. Creanga), Editura Didactica si Pedagogica, Bucharest, 1975, 248p. (in Romanian)
17. Algebraic Theory of Semigroups with Applications (with I. Creanga), Editura Technica, Bucharest 1977, 256p. (in Romanian)
This is a new calendar year, if not academic year, and the spring semester started off with two exciting author events here on campus where we toasted faculty accomplishments.

It was wonderful to see students, faculty, and staff members take time out of their busy schedules to join us in these two celebrations of publications.

**February 16: Celebrating John Tobin’s Success**

The first event was a reception and reading in honor of a major achievement. In 2011, Professor John Tobin celebrated forty years of service here at UMass Boston, in the English department. On Thursday, February 16th, from 3 to 5 pm, the Office of Faculty Development held a reception in the Chancellor’s Conference Room to celebrate the publication of the *Evans Shakespeare Editions*, a series of nine Shakespeare plays edited by Tobin which were all published, one by one, in 2011.

For each play, Tobin selected a top Shakespearean scholar to contextualize that play, making the volumes valuable teaching resources. (He himself worked on Hamlet.) Tobin provided a lecture under the title, “Editing Anonymous, Editing Shakespeare,” and then signed books, which were available for purchase. Professor Tobin provided great insight into one of the most famous – and famously debated – literary figures.

**February 23: Celebrating Bonnie Miller’s Success**

We celebrated another professor’s publication in February. At the end of 2011, the University of Massachusetts Press published *From Liberation to Conquest: The Visual and Popular Cultures of the Spanish-American War of 1898*, by Assistant Professor Bonnie Miller from the American Studies department here at UMass Boston.

This fascinating book examines the nation’s leading media makers in this period – editorialists, cartoonists, filmmakers, photographers, and stage performers – to show how Americans’ opinions of the U.S. war with Spain over territories in the Caribbean and the Pacific changed before, during, and after the war itself. The book includes 88 illustrations to help readers understand the visual culture of the period.

Miller explained how she began researching the Spanish-American War, which lasted only three months, as an undergraduate, and expanded this research over the last decade. She then read a few pages of her book, focusing on the famous Battle of San Juan Hill and its portrayal in popular culture at the time. Once again, and intrigued audience asked great questions and the author signed copies of her book.

UMass Boston is a university campus bustling with exciting research across many disciplines. These two events in February provided a great opportunity for our community to show its support for this unique and impressive research in the humanities and to share with your students the work of your talented colleagues.

*Brian Halley can be contacted at brian.halley@umb.edu or 617.287.5610.*

---

**From the University of Massachusetts Press**

*From Liberation to Conquest: The Visual and Popular Cultures of the Spanish-American War of 1898*,

by Bonnie Miller, UMass Boston

“A remarkable feat of archival research...This will be an important book that will further our understanding of this complicated moment in American history.”—David Brody, author of *Visualizing American Empire*
New Sponsored Awards

Joan Becker, Academic Support Services and Undergraduate Studies
$10,000 from the Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial as instructional support for the Urban Scholars Program. (2012)

$10,000 from the Bank of America Merrill Lynch Foundation as instructional support for the Urban Scholars Program. (2012)

$50,000 from the Boston Cradles to Career Grant Initiative as instructional support for the Urban Scholars Program. (2012)

$25,000 from the State Street Foundation as instructional support for the Urban Scholars Program. (2012)

$25,000 from the Amelia Peabody Foundation as instructional support for the Urban Scholars Program. (2012)

Keith Bentele, Sociology
$17,051 from the Russell Sage Foundation for the project “Evaluating the Performance of State Social Safety Nets.” (2012)

Arthur Eisenkraft, Center of Science and Math in Context
$630,000 from Black Hills State University in support of his project “An Examination of Science and Technology Teachers’ Conceptual Learning through Concept-Based Engineering.” The National Science Foundation is the prime sponsor. (2012-2015)

Sheila Fesko, Institute for Community Inclusion
$310,000 from Rutgers University as FY 2012 support for the “National Technical Assistance and Research Center to Promote Leadership for Employment for Adults with Disabilities.” The prime sponsor is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2012)

Gabriel Ghinita, Computer Science
$36,500 from Purdue University for the project “Privacy Enhanced Secure Data Provenance.” The prime sponsor is the National Science Foundation. (2012)

Lisa Kennedy Sheldon, Nursing
$20,000 from the Oncology Nursing Society in support of the project “Predictors of Discussion and Treatment of Psychosocial Concerns.” (2012-2014)

Winston Langley, Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and Joan Becker, Academic Support Services and Undergraduate Studies
$155,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education for their initiative “Increasing Graduation Rates and Learning Assessments.” (2012)

Zhongping Lee, Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences
$36,500 from Mississippi State University for the project “Physics-based Ocean-color Algorithms for Water-quality Products of Coastal and Inland Waters.” (2012)

Benyamin Lichtenstein, Marketing and Management
$11,875 from the Massachusetts Committee for Public Counsel Services to carry out the project “Managing Rapid Growth with New Systems: The Case of the Committee for Public Counsel Services.” (2012)

Donaldo Macedo, Applied Linguistics
$1,836,000 from the U.S. Department of Education for the instructional and training program “Math Sheltered English Teacher Training Project.” (2011-2014)

Steve Crosby and Robbin Peach, Collaborative Institute for Oceans, Climate, and Security
$518,000 from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation for the project “Addressing the Human and National Security Threats Emerging from Climate-Induced Changes in Marine Environments.” (2012-2013)

Marc Pomplun (Associate Professor of Computer Science)
668,000 from the National Science Foundation to support his project “Semantic Guidance of Visual Attention.” (2011-2013)

Wichian Rojanawon, Gerontology
$50,000 from the Bernard Osher Foundation as operational support for the UMass Boston Osher Life Long Learning Institute. (2012)
New Sponsored Awards...cont’d from page 11

Anthony Roman, Center for Survey Research
$203,000 from the U.S. Census Bureau for the project “Affordable Care Act Pretesting.” (2012)

Crystal Schaaf, Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences
$62,000 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in support of her project “NOAA’s Preparatory Project Program for Albedo Environmental Data Record Validation.” (2012)

Ilyitch Tabora and Sonnya Espinal, Institute for Learning and Teaching
$460,000 from the Boston Public Schools (BPS) to administer the BPS Talented and Gifted Program. The U.S. Department of Education is the prime sponsor. (2012)

Edward Tronick, Psychology
$419,000 from the National Institutes of Health to support his project “The Electrophysiological Indices of Infants Memory for a Social Stressor.” (2011-2012)

Emily Wiemers, Economics
$62,000 from the University of California, Los Angeles to support her project “Aging, Work, and Intergenerational Obligations.” The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation is the prime sponsor. (2012)

Jack Wiggin, Urban Harbors
$61,000 from the nonprofit Third Sector New England in support of the “2011 Ecosystem Health Indicators Conference and Development of Additional Recreational Boating and GIS Maps.” (2011)

Bawa to Receive First Major Award for Sustainability Research...cont’d from page 1

Bawa told a Norwegian newspaper that he was very pleased about the recognition.

“A large part of my work during the last several years has been the establishment of ATREE, a nonprofit conservation and development research think-tank in India. In January 2011, a University of Pennsylvania study ranked ATREE nineteenth among the environmental think-tanks in the world, and implicitly the first in Asia, and now the Gunnerus Award. I am naturally very happy,” he said.

The Gunnerus award is the first major international prize for outstanding scientific work that promotes sustainable development globally, and will be awarded every two years starting in 2012. The award is named after DKNVS’ founder, Bishop Johan Ernst Gunnerus (1718-1773), and is the result of a collaboration between DKNVS, Sparebank1 SMN, and the society Technoport. DKNVS has been responsible for the international launch, and the selection of the winner.

Norway as a country is associated with the term “sustainability” from former Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland’s report to the U.N. Now its environmental capital, Trondheim, has established the world’s first major award in the globally important new research area of sustainability. It should also be noted that the award will be given at the 25th anniversary of the Brundtland report, and may be regarded as a celebration of that event.

Bawa will receive the Gunnerus Gold Medal and the award of 1 million NOK (U.S. $190,000) during a ceremony in Trondheim, Norway on April 17.

Contributing Writers

Special thanks are due Martha Scanlon of University Communications and Web Services for her page 8 story, “NASA Weather Satellite Launches with Crystal Schaaf’s Research Instrument Aboard,” and Colleen Locke, University Communications for her page 9 story, “Luncheon Honors Faculty, Staff, Student Researchers.”