President’s Office says cuts may cost 1,500 jobs

Daniel J. Fitzgibbon

Gov. Mitt Romney’s proposal to reorganize the state public higher education system would cut the University’s funding by $65 million and force the layoff of 1,500 employees across the five campuses, according to analysis by the President’s Office.

According to the analysis, called a “best case scenario,” the plan would cut funding for the UMass system by 15 percent, some $15 million more than the two previous years combined. The Amherst campus would lose $30 million, followed by Boston ($10 million), Lowell ($8.9 million), Dartmouth ($6.3 million), and the Medical School ($4.6 million) under the Romney plan, says the report.

Budget officials say the governor’s proposal would also eliminate funding for Commonwealth College and the $2 million endowed chair matching funds program.

The $2.86 billion fiscal 2004 state budget filed last week by Romney calls for $150 million in savings in public higher education through a combination of regional mergers, tuition hikes, financial aid reductions and the gradual elimination of state support for some schools, such as the Medical School, Massachusetts College of Art and Massachusetts Maritime Academy, leading to their eventual privatization.

The Amherst campus would become a free-standing, research university with its own president and board of trustees, according to the Romney blueprint. The proposal calls for maintaining state support for the campus and allowing the school to retain tuition, which would be set to “market rates.” The plan also calls for increasing enrollment by 15,000 students over the next few years.

Meanwhile, the Boston, Dartmouth and Lowell campuses would become regional institutions with strong ties to nearby businesses and industries. The move, says the President’s Office, would diminish the missions of the three campuses by making them part of regional “K to job” training consortiums.

The proposal also would consolidate several state and community colleges, including Berkshire Community College and the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, and Holyoke community colleges; and Mount Wachusett Community College and Fitchburg State College. Some administrative functions across the higher education system also would be shared regionally.

The plan also targets the University President’s Office for closure. A move Romney says would save $14 million, and places all public campuses under a new secretary of education, Peter Nessen.

The President’s Office study says Romney’s plan will add two layers of “administrative bureaucracy” to higher education by establishing the secretariat of education and seven regional councils, which, the report notes, would all require staffing.

In addition, the President’s Office contends that the new organization would create a “top-down management structure” that would eliminate campus autonomy. Each state and community college currently has its own board of trustees, which share some governance with the Board of Higher Education.

This week, as Romney administration officials began pitching the budget to taxpayers around the state, Nessen said the higher education system must save $150 million and reorganization is the only road to follow.

He also denied that plans for the Amherst campus call for privatization, the term used by the President’s Office to describe the plan.

The Romney plan, which Nessen told the Springfield Union-Newspaper that “people are interpreting without understanding,” has been greeted with skepticism by lawmakers and higher education officials. Last week, Rep. John H. Rogers, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, questioned whether Romney’s streamlining plans for state government could save more than $100 million. Rogers, however, did not rule out consideration of any of the governor’s proposals, including elimination of the President’s Office.

As the state budget process continues, Rogers’ committee will develop its own version of a spending plan, which must be approved by the House before the Senate proposes its own budget. After both chambers release budgets, differences in the two bills must be resolved by a joint conference committee before final approval by the Legislature.

Once the measure is passed by the Legislature, the bill goes to the governor, who can veto sections, propose changes or sign the measure as written. Vetoes are subject to override by both chambers.

MISER shares trade data with World Trade Centers

The campus-based Massachus- setts Institute for Social and Eco- nomic Research (MISER) is sup- plying trade data information to the membership of the World Trade Centers Association (WTCA), a New York-based not- for-profit organization.

Under the agreement, the WTCA and MISER will cooperate in promoting the use of an up-to- date, comprehensive trade data base within the World Trade Cen- ters, and connected offices and organizations throughout the world.

MISER’s research involves planning, strategy and forecast- ing, with a focus on social, eco- nomic and demographic issues. It aids organizations globally with its comprehensive online trade database, Mosertrade. With de- tailed date reports, charts and maps, MISER’s user-friendly online software helps potential exporters locate the best foreign markets for their products.

“Our new relationship with MISER allows the WTCA to offer its membership a world-class data base management system at a discounted price,” said Bob DiCairano, executive vice president of the WTCA. “The TradeFlow Data system is the most compre- hensive data available to date and we are pleased to be affiliated with this organization.”

Founded in 1981, MISER is an interdisciplinary research institute of the University of Massachusetts Vol. XVIII, No. 24 March 7, 2003

for the Amherst campus of the University of Massachusetts

News Briefs

Faculty forum on war in Iraq scheduled

Faculty members are in- vited to present their views on the impending war in Iraq at a forum Tuesday, March 11, in 101 Lincoln Campus Center. The 12:15 p.m. gath- ering is being sponsored by Faculty Senate secretary Ernest May and Massachu- setts Society of Professors president Ron Story. The senate’s presiding officer, Jerry Mieur, will moderate the discussion.

Interested faculty may present their views for up to five minutes. The meeting is open to the public.

Faculty Senate to hear from Tocco, discuss science library plan

Massachusetts Board of Higher Education Chairman Stephen P. Tocco will address the Faculty Senate at its March 13 meeting in 227 Heter Hall and will take questions from the audience.

Also at the meeting will be a special report from the Re- search Library Council concern- ing its recommendation to merge the science librar- ies by next fall. The senate will hear other special reports, including one from the nominat- ing commit- tee for sec- retary of the the University. Stephen P. Tocco will address the Faculty Senate at its March 13 meeting in 227 Heter Hall and will take questions from the audience.

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No Chronicle during spring break week

The Chronicle will not pub- lish during the week of spring break, March 16-22.

Any notices or items for that time period should be submitted by 5 p.m. on Fri- day, March 7 for publication in the March 14 issue. Weekly publication will re- sume on March 28. The deadline for that issue is Fri- day, March 21.

News can be sent by e- mail (campus.editor@ urd.umass.edu) or fax (7-0044). For information, call 5-4618.

Tried and true

Students in professor Alan Lutengger’s Civil and Envi- ronmental Engineering 121, “Measurements,” use instru- ments from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance to measure the height of the Du Bois Library. Top, Jill Russell and Patrick Langmaid use shepherd’s staffs, and Wilfred Morin uses a cross. Below, graduate teaching as- sistant Chris Lillis (left), Zach Westgate, and Anthony Visniewski employ a quadrant.

Inside

A refurbished Bezanson Recital Hall set to reopen, page 4

Nurses should be politically active, says alumna, page 5

The Campus Chronicle

NUMBERS

SEE
Community team targets sexual violence

Every two minutes, a woman is raped in the United States (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2001).

Eight out of 10 sexual assaults happen to victims under the age of 25, and 22 percent of all victims are between the traditional college ages of 18-24 (California Coalition Against Sexual Assault, 2001).

Living and working on a college campus, these statistics are all too familiar. Sexual assault is a global problem, and our campus community is not immune to the social issues that surround us. At UMass Amherst, individuals, groups, departments, and organizations have been working tirelessly for decades to address issues of sexual violence on campus. The Community Advisory Team (CAT) is one of the many groups that continue to be involved in the ongoing work of violence prevention on campus, but much of the work of the CAT is behind the scenes. For this reason, the CAT decided to publicize its work to better inform the campus community about what steps the committee is taking to address the issues of sexual violence on campus in a timely, sensitive, and sustainable way.

The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Campus Life has established the Community Advisory Team for Sexual Violence Prevention to work with off- and on-campus agencies to ensure a coordinated, comprehensive, culturally competent approach to issues of sexual assault, domestic violence on the UMass Amherst campus. This approach encompasses provision of both direct services and community education to effect social change.

The Community Advisory Team is made up of representatives from campus departments and off-campus agencies that deal with issues of sexual assault, stalking and domestic violence. The CAT meets monthly and is chaired by the director of Rape Crisis and Violence Prevention Services at Everywoman’s Center.

The CAT includes representatives from the Amherst Police Department, Counseling and Assessment Services, Dean of Students Office, Disability Services, Everywoman’s Center, Greek Affairs, Housing Services, Mental Health Services, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and Campus Life, Public Safety, University Health Services and the Victim/Witness Program of the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office. The CAT also invites representatives from academic support programs, cultural centers, student centers, and other groups as appropriate.

In the past two years, the Community Advisory Team has been working to enhance the production of the “Protocol for Responding to Disclosures of Sexual Assault,” updated the anonymous Sexual Assault Centralized Report Form, and collaborated with Everywoman’s Center’s “Got consent?” poster campaign and Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaigns. The CAT continues to serve in an advisory capacity to Everywoman’s Center’s campus grant from the Office of Justice Programs, offering input and collaboration on the many projects encompassed in the goals and objectives of the grant.

For more information about the Community Advisory Team, contact Rebecca Lockwood, associate director for Rape Crisis and Violence Prevention Services at Everywoman’s Center at 5-5832.

As a community, we can end sexual violence.

REBECCA LOCKWOOD

on behalf of the Community Advisory Team for Sexual Violence Prevention

For more news...

The News Office website (www.umass.edu/newsoffice) features press releases and daily summaries of national and local news coverage about the University and related higher education issues.
MISER shares data on trade

Panel solicits proposals for diversity funds

Kurose wins IEEE award

NSF funds web-based learning system

Emory scholar to discuss Ovid

ACS honors Russell for research

Panel solicits proposals for diversity funds

The Chancellor’s Counsel on Community, Diversity and Social Justice is soliciting innovative proposals for educational activities and programs with the goals of promoting mutual respect, enhancing understanding of community, diversity and/or social justice issues and encouraging collaboration between different campus communities and constituencies.

Undergraduates, graduate students, staff and faculty, as well as individuals or groups, are eligible to apply for the grants, which range between $250 and $1,500. All awards are expected to total $50,000.

Proposed activities may include forums, speakers, film and video series, seminars, workshops, training programs, public education programs, outreach activities to secondary schools and home communities, community service programs, faculty-student collaboration to develop new courses, performance events, printed materials or posters.

Proposals are due by noon on Friday, April 4 to the Chancellor’s Counsel on Community, Diversity and Social Justice, c/o Office of Human Relations, 206 Middlesex House. Proposals may be e-mailed (joycea@admin.umass.edu) or faxed (7-2455).

Details are available online (www.umass.edu/funding/FundChancellor.html).

Kurose wins IEEE award

Elizabeth Luciano
Head Office Staff

Computer Science professor James Kurose has been selected to receive the 2001 Taylor L. Booth Education Award from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society.

The award is the highest honor in education given by the society. Kurose will receive a bronze medal and honorarium for his outstanding record in computer science and engineering education.

With nearly 100,000 members, the IEEE Computer Society is the world’s leading organization of computer professionals. Founded in 1946, it is the largest of the 36 societies of the IEEE.

Kurose adds the IEEE recognition to his many other teaching awards, including nine consecutive Outstanding Teaching Awards from the National Technological University, an Outstanding Teaching Award from the Northeast Association of Graduate Schools, and the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Outstanding Teaching Award.

NSF funds web-based learning system

Elizabeth Luciano
Head Office Staff

The new system will run as part of OWL (for Online Web-based Learning), an umbrella software system that has been used successfully at UMass and at other institutions in a number of disciplines including chemistry, physics, education, engineering, biochemistry and nutrition.

OWL software enables faculty to track students’ progress and mastery of the online material. The software also tracks students’ grades. OWL applications have been developed by the Computer Science Department’s Center for Computer-Based Instructional Technology (CCBIT). This new NSF award provides support for the development of automated tools for teaching object-oriented programming, a programming style that has become increasingly popular because of its value for managing the complexity of large programming projects.

The proposed work will develop materials that will encourage good programming habits by requiring students to become effective readers of existing programs.

Emory scholar to discuss Ovid

Garth Tissol, associate professor of classics at Emory University and a respected scholar of the Roman poet Ovid, will give a talk entitled “Consilium to the Flames: ‘Tristia’ 1.7 and the Fate of the Metamorphoses” on Thursday, March 13 at 4 p.m. in 301 Heter Hall.


The presentation, which is open to the public, is sponsored by the Department of Classics.

ACS honors Russell for research

Professor Thomas P. Russell of the Department of Polymer Science and Engineering is the 2003 winner of the American Chemical Society (ACS) Cooperative Research Award in Polymer Science and Engineering. He will share the prize with Craig Hawker of the IBM Almaden Research Center.

According to the ACS, the award recognizes the highly creative work of Russell and Hawker in the area of functional polymers and nano-structured materials both for its fundamental value and for its potential applications in nanotechnology. The award will be presented at an awards luncheon at the American Chemical Society meeting in New Orleans March. Russell and Hawker will also present a symposium at the meeting.

The Campus Chronicle
March 7, 2003

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Refurbished Bezanson to reopen soon

Sarah R. Buchholz

What started as a make-up job for Bezanson Recital Hall in 1995 has since become a full-fledged face-lift, which will culminate in an official reopening of the hall and its new lobby April 13. Over the last 14 months, the roughly 200-seat space has been under the knife to bring it up to code, make it handicapped accessible, improve its acoustics, modernize its equipment, provide it with a lobby, and beautify its features.

"It had a warm sound but a miniscule lobby," said Christopher Thornley, director of admissions and facilities in Music and Dance. "About 35 people could fit into the lobby. Everyone else had to stand outside, sometimes when it was very cold."

The prescription for the enclosed lobby and the new maple and chrome look was written over time, evolving through studies, fundraising, research, and developing tastes.

After a 1995 gift from Thomas Bezanson, son of Philip Bezanson, for whom the space was named, the department conducted an architectural feasibility study. The following year, Amherst resident and music lover Dorothy Graniss donated funds for the purchase of a new Steinway grand piano for the recital hall.

"Having this magnificent piano housed in such a waning environment," prompted the department to move forward with plans to refurbish the space, according to Marilyn Massler Kushick, the department's director of advancement. The department decided the concrete box beneath the seats has been painted a dusty rose.

The rest of the lobby is largely maple and textured chrome, with a small dark-salmon curved formica counter, which can be used as a box office or reception table.

"We didn’t have an adequate ticket counter," Thornley said. "Now we have phone jacks, and we’re hoping to get an ethernet connection that will allow a computer here to talk to the one in the Fine Arts Center Box Office."

The new Falcetti Music Lobby, which is named for a donor who was an instructor, Thornley said. "The new lighting is pre-programmed to highlight different areas. We now have access to a basement storage area from the stage and a new sound system, too."

Because the room is used as a classroom, it has ethernet connections on stage and a projection screen for instructors, Thornley said.

The new hall trades approximately 20 seats for ADA compliance and now has a little screen row across the back with seating for four wheelchair users.

The old seating has been repaired and refurbished. The metal frames are now butterscotch-colored with plush persimmon upholstery, the wooden arm rests are newly refinished. Carpeting has been restricted to the aisles. The new floor covering is plush and multi-colored. Carpeting beneath the seats was removed to improve acoustics and make maintenance easier, Thornley said, and the concrete beneath the seats has been painted a dusty rose.

"A lot of the new seating available was plastic and clearly designed to be disposable," he said, explaining why the department chose to refurbish its old seats. "These seats had already lasted 30 years."

The hall’s old piano has been refurbished, too, for use during rehearsals and classes. The two-manual and pedal tracker-action Obermaier pipe organ, which had been housed in Bezanson prior to the renovation and “is used very occasionally in recital situations,” was moved to Room 36 in the Fine Arts building to create more space on the recital hall stage.

The recital hall officially opens April 13 with a performance and reception for donors, but a tight performance schedule necessitates using it as soon as the state approves the space, which Thornley said would happen during spring break.

Above, the entrance to a new, enclosed lobby for Bezanson Recital Hall where an open walkway used to be. The overhang features lighting that illuminates the hall’s name, as well as the entrance beneath it. Below, Music professor Nadine Shank tries out the acoustics of the hall as Chris Thornley, director of admissions and facilities in Music and Dance, listens.
Alumni calls Nursing students to political action

Sam Seaver

Nursing majors need to be more politically active in order to respond to emerging issues in healthcare they will face as they enter the workforce. According to alumna Barbara Blakeney, president of the American Nurses Association.

"As students you can check nursingworld.org to read about major issues and write to your representatives in Congress. When you enter the nursing field we need you to join the Massachusetts Nurses Association to ensure your financial support and your political involvement," Blakeney said.

She added that "It makes a huge difference if I say 'Mr. President, I am here today representing 2 million nurses' rather than 'I am representing 4,000 nurses', every member counts."

She pointed out that a yearly membership equals the cost of going out for fast food once a week.

Blakeney also addressed the issue of decreased staffing levels as a result of a 1997 Medicare bill in which hospitals contracted with HMOs and public health programs were severely cut, causing layoffs and an increase in patient-to-nurse ratios.

She explained that it takes two to three years to become comfortable in the nursing field and expertise begins seven years later. A quality improvement program for new nurses is necessary to ensure effectiveness, she said.

"Anecdotes don't create policy — you must conduct detailed studies and develop scientific evidence in order to successfully pass healthcare reform," Blakeney said.

For nurses deciding whether to seek employment at union or non-union hospitals, Blakeney said, "It's an individual choice. You first need to find a place where you feel welcome and will be provided with supportive mentors, then you should consider the issue of unionization."

She added that when strikes occur, many people cannot emotionally handle the resulting turmoil in the workplace. In conclusion, Blakeney said, "Any of you can be where I am today. What you need to do is show up, do your homework, make a commitment to nursing and pick great mentors that will lead you as you grow."

Blakeney graduated from the University Without Walls program in 1976 and went on to earn her master's degree at UMass Boston.

Her professional career began in Orange, where she started a leading test center for children. As a result of her research, which found that lead poisoning was a concern in rural as well as urban areas, the program expanded to surrounding communities. She went on to work as a family planning center and then became a nurse practitioner at Boston City Hospital.

As part of her role in the American Nurses Association, Blakeney has been speaking to nurses around the country as well as working with the Bush administration on legislation for the smallpox vaccine.

HRTA center hosts Russian tourism professionals

The Center for Hospitality and Tourism Technology, Research, and Management (TRAM) hosted 10 Russian tourism professionals from Kaliningrad for a seminar on "Tourism Development: Building Community Partnerships" in Barre Feb. 21, according to associate professor Linda Lowry, who directs the center.

Speakers included Lyudmila Yan, owner of Hartman’s Herb Farm/Bed & Breakfast; Bob Paquest, treasurer of the Hardwick Community Fair; Rick LeBlanc, marketing specialist in agri-tourism at the state Department of Food and Agriculture; and Lowry.

The seminar addressed themes of effective research techniques and uses of new technology and role of community partnerships in successful tourism development, said Lowry.

The Russian tourism professionals were executive directors from businesses such as museums, accommodations, city development, agri-tourism, eco-tourism, recreational-tourism, and fairs and festivals.

According to Lowry, the seminar was the capstone of the delegation’s visit to the Bay State, which was arranged by the non-profit organization WorldBoston and funded with a grant from the U.S. Department of State. During their stay in Massachusetts, they visited the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, the Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Massachusetts Lodging Association and various hotel properties and dining establishments in the Boston area.

Food Services to co-host national conference

Food Services and Amherst College will co-host the National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUF/S) Region 1 Conference to be held on campus March 19-21.

The theme of the event, "Pioneering for Success," is intended to reflect the pioneering spirit in this valley and the goal of striving for continuous improvement, according to Chancellor John Lombardi.

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The hospitality industry takes center stage

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Brown takes reigns as new leader in Music and Dance

Sarah R. Buchholz

The Department of Music and Dance has a new interim chair, T. Dennis Brown, associate professor of Music. The first week of January, Brown took over when Roger Rideout, who had been serving as interim chair since former chair Ernest May became secretary of the Faculty Senate in 2000, stepped down.

Brown said he anticipates the interim position will run through three semesters. A member of the faculty since 1977, Brown served as the department’s associate chair from 1987 to 1992 and as its chief undergraduate advisor from 1977 to 1987. He was chair of the personnel committee for the last three years. He has served on College of Humanities and Fine Arts committee, including the dean’s advisory committee, and was a member of two Faculty Senate committees — the Campus Technology Committee and the Committee on Committees.

He was a Hevelton Teaching Fellow in 2001-2002. Because he was already scheduled to teach this semester, Brown has two courses, a graduate seminar in jazz history and a general-education course, "American Popular Music," to teach on top of leading the department this term.

"It happened very quickly," he said. "We didn’t have time to make all the arrangements."

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SITCE hosts talk on hospitality

The hospitality industry takes center stage

The hospitality industry takes center stage during the Strategic Information Technology Center’s March 12 program, where Sean O’Neill, president and CEO of Newmarket International, is scheduled to speak. The event runs from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Isenberg School of Management.

Prior to joining Newmarket International in 2001, O’Neill served as president and chief operating officer for Grand Circle Corporation, a privately held global travel organization. He spent several years with ITT Sheraton, where he served as chief information officer/senior vice president for global and distributed systems worldwide.

The Department of Hotel, Restaurant and Travel Administration is partnering with SITCE for the program.

To register for this workshop contact akelly@som.umass.edu.
Women's hoop seeded third in A-10 tourney

Five players scored in double figures last Sunday as the women’s basketball team (14-13, 6-10) closed out the regular season with a 77-68 win over Duquesne in a Senior Day game before 1,278 fans at the Mullins Center.

The five senior starters — Suvi Liivandi, Amber Sned, Jen Butler, Nekole Smith and Ebony Pegues — accounted for 76 of the 77 total points. Smith led the way with 20 points as well as hauling in five rebounds. Pegues finished with 18 points, six assists and five steals, while Butler had 16 points and 11 rebounds. Sneed scored 12 points and had nine boards, while Liivandi had 10 points and eight rebounds.

In a Feb. 27 win over Fordham, Butler scored a game-high 21 points and pulled down 19 rebounds to become the Atlantic 10 Conference’s all-time leader with 708 boards in A-10 play. Butler was named A-10 co-player of the week for the fourth time this season.

The Minutewomen are the third seed in this week’s A-10 tournament and were scheduled to face La Salle on Thursday at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston.

Minutemen aiming for 4th place finish

With the first round of the Atlantic 10 men’s basketball championship tournament scheduled to open next Monday, the Minutemen are scheduled to close out the regular season Saturday with a home game against St. Joseph’s.

Last week, the Minutemen dropped two games, including a 42-point disaster versus Temple, bringing the team’s overall record to 11-16 and 5-9 in the conference. Playing at Rhode Island last Sunday, UMass lost 65-58 as the Rams snapped a four-game losing streak.

Despite the two defeats, the Minutemen moved up to fourth place in the league standings on Monday as St. Bonaventure forfeited six conference wins for using an ineligible player. The school also cancelled its Wednesday game against the Minutemen. Atlantic 10 officials also barred St. Bonaventure from postseason play.

The Minutemen need a win or a Fordham loss to clinch fourth place. By finishing the season in fourth, the Minutemen will cinch a home game in the first round of the Atlantic 10 tournament.

UMass faces Maine in hockey playoffs

After finishing the season over .500 for the first time in Hockey East competition, the Minutemen were scheduled to open a best-of-three quarterfinal series Thursday against the Maine Black Bears (14-6-4) at Alfond Arena in Orono.

The series continues Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 7 p.m., if necessary.

Last Saturday, coach Don Cahoon got nine points from the “WAM” line of Stephen Werner, Matt Anderson and Greg Mauldin to defeat Merrimack 5-2 in the final game of the regular season.

The Minutemen ended the regular season with a 17-16-1 record and 10-14-0 in Hockey East. UMass gained the sixth seed for the Hockey East Playoffs. New Hampshire won the regular season title.

The conference semifinals will be held Friday, March 14 at the FleetCenter in Boston.
Seminar on SRAs
TIAA-CREF is offering a Financial Edu-
Seminars and colloquia
Exercise Science Seminar, "Mechani-
Economy 101," taught by Daniel DeBrew,
Ferald Hall. Refreshments at 3:15 p.m.
chemical Engineering seminar, "The
chemistry of Biopolymers in the Epicut-
"Nanostructure Physics"
Psychology Seminar, "The Theory of
"Psychology Seminar, "The Theory of

Geosciences lecture, "Hotspot Mantle
"Psychoactive Drug Abuse and the Origin

Valley geometry seminar, "Schubert

Change in redemption terms
Employees who purchase U.S. Treasury
should note that the Department of the
Treasury has changed the redemption
terms effective after January 2003.
According to Kelly Dickinson of the Di-
vision of Human Resources, EE bonds
may be purchased in $100, $200 and $500
 denominations through payroll deduction.
Employee\'s can change their purchasing
status weekly, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Human
Resources Information Center, 3rd floor
Whitmore.
Information about savings bonds is
available at the center or online (www.savings-
bonds.gov/savvivest.htm).

Subjects needed for
Nutrition study
Subjects are needed for a Nutrition De-
partment study on zinc depletion and reple-
tion on zinc status, resting metabolic
rate and thyroid hormones. Participants must
be 18-35 years old.
Contact Christopher Therbee by e-mail
cshterbee@hotmail.com or phone: 253-
3439.

Last day for "DR"
This spring semester, graduate students
to drop courses with a record of "DR" is
March 10.

First Friday
The Renaissance Center First Friday series
continues March 7 with an open house from
4-6 p.m. Open to the public.
First Fridays showcase the center\'s latest
acquisitions of rare books and other materi-
als. Refreshments will be served.

Nominations for 2004
honorary degrees
The Advisory Committee on Honorary
 Degrees will meet later this semester to
consider nominations from the campus
community for honorary doctoral degrees
to be conferred at the 2004 commencements.
Candidates for an honorary degree may
be nominated by any faculty, staff,
students or alumni of the Ambert campus.
To ensure consideration by the advisory
committee, nominations should include a
cover letter explaining why the candidate
should be considered and detailed biographical
information, such as a recent 8x10 photo
or an article drawn from a standard biographical
 reference publication such as Who\'s Who in America or the Directory of American
Scholars. In general, candidates for an
honorary degree should be individuals of ex-
ceptional distinction. Factors considered in
the deliberations of nominations include
outstanding intellectual, social or creative
achievements in a specific field of endeavor
and/or extraordinary contributions to the
University or to the Commonwealth.
Address nominations to Ernestine
Kuilen, Chancellor\'s Office, 374 Whitmore.
Nominations for those nominations for this
round of consideration is Friday, March 28.

Men needed for diabetes study
The Energy Metabolism Laboratory is
currently studying different methods of
screening and diagnosing people with ei-
ther pre-diabetes or Type-2 diabetes.

Fire Prevention Week is
October 6-10
The Office of Fire Protection Services
reminds everyone of the special week
dedicated to fire prevention and safety.
This week\'s theme is "Fire and Life in a
College Environment: The Journey T 
owards Fire Safety and Life Safety.

Seminars & colloquia

Geosciences lecture, "Hotspot Mantle
Plumes and Interactions with Oceanic
Lithosphere and Mid-Ocean Ridges,"
Jian Lin, Woods Hole Oceanographic
Institution; Friday, March 7, 3:30 p.m.,
136 Merrill.

Philosophy Department lecture,
"Hum\'s Theory of Space and Time in
its Skeptical Context," Don Baxter,
University of Connecticut; Friday, March 7, 3:30 p.m.,
206 Bartlett Hall.

Graduate Program in Organismic and
Evolutionary Biology seminar, "Interac-
tions between Hosts and Pathogens: the
Origin of a Poliarniation Mutualism in the
Mulberry Fruit, Moraceae," George
Weilten, department of plant biology,
University of Minnesota; Friday, March 7, 4 p.m.,
319 Morrill 2.

Valley geometry seminar, "Schubert
varieties and Gelfand-Cetlin polytopes,"
Mikhail Kogan, Northeastern University;
Friday, March 7, 4 p.m., 1634 Lederle
Graduate Research Tower.

Entomology seminar, "Acoustic
communication in butterflies and caterpi-
lars: sensory innovation in the Lepi-
doptera," Jayne Yack, Carleton Uni-
versity; Monday, March 10, 3:30 p.m,
Alexander Conference Room, 2nd floor,
Fernald Hall. Refreshments at 3:15 p.m.

Economic Theory workshop, "Wage
Bargaining and the U.S. Phillips Curve:
Wage Greenspan vs. Robert\" Trauma-
tized Workers\" in the 1990s,\" Bob Pollin;
Monday, March 10, 4 p.m., 9th floor
conference room, Thompson Hall.

Child and Family Studies Fortnightly
Breakfast Lecture Series, "Social-skills
training with high functioning autistic
children," Susan McQuiston, Baystate
Medical Center, Children\'s Hospital and
University of Connecticut; Wednesday,
March 11, 9:30 a.m., 343 Computer Sci-
ence Engineering.

Lithosphere and Mid-Ocean Ridges,
"Hotspot Mantle
Geosciences lecture, "Hotspot Mantle
Plumes and Interactions with Oceanic
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Chase, The Brecker Brothers and Tower of Catherine Jensen-Hole, the Jazz Lab En-rected by visiting assistant professor Chapel Jazz Ensemble led by professor day, March 11 at 8 p.m. in Bowker Audito-arming in the 22nd Annual Jazz Showcase, Annual showcase features jazz groups will be followed by an open mic night with Project 2050 will be featured. Along with traditional stage appear-ances, Playback Theater NYC often per-forms in clubs, prisons, union halls, schools, hospitals, homeless shelters and community organizations. Playback Theater’s performance is pre-sented by New WORLD Theater. Tickets are $15 general public, $8 for low-income patrons and senior citizens, and $5 for students with ID, and are avail-able through the Fine Arts Center Box Of-fice (5-2511).

FAC hosts famed Kodo drummers

The Japanese drumming troupe Kodo will perform at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall on Wednesday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m. Traditional rituals recast as theater and contemporary thoughts about ancient in-stuments both figure in Kodo’s perform-ances. Clad in sweatbands and loincloths, the ensemble performs with a tense angularity, standing in stylized, frozen gestures and moving across the stage with an animal-like, athletic grace. Using the taiko drum to explore new musical directions, Kodo finds ever-expanding possibilities in the ancient instruments. The Japanese characters for “Kodo” convey two meanings: First, “heartbeat” — the sound of the great taiko is said to resemble a mother’s heartbeat as felt in the womb. Second, read in a different way, the word can mean “children” and “drum” — a reflection of Kodo’s desire to play their drums simply, with the heart of a child.

Tickets are $10 general public, $5 for students with ID, and are available through the Fine Arts Center Box Office (5-2511).

Playback Theater NYC production combines improvisation and hip-hop

Hip-hop will meet improvisation March 11-12 when Playback Theater NYC per-forms at 8 p.m. at the East Street Studios in Hadley. The March 11 show will be a spe-cial youth-centered production in which participants in New WORLD Theater’s Project 2050 will be featured. On Wednesday night, the performance will be followed by an open mic night with Playback Theater’s Baba Israel. Along with traditional stage appear-
ances, Playback Theater NYC often per-forms in clubs, prisons, union halls, schools, hospitals, homeless shelters and community organizations.

Tip and information, call the FAC Box Office (5-2511).

Annual showcase features jazz groups

Several jazz ensembles will be perform-ing in the 22nd Annual Jazz Showcase, “Hom Band Mania and Beyond,” on Tues-day, March 11 at 8 p.m. in Bowker Audito-rium. The showcase will feature Jazz Ensemble I, directed by professor Jeffrey Holmes, the Chapal Jazz Ensemble led by professor David Sponry, the Vocal Jazz Ensemble di-rected by visiting assistant professor Catherine Jensen-Hole, the Jazz Lab En-semble directed by Susumu Watanabe, and chamber jazz ensembles and special guests. Music by Chicago, Blood, Sweat and Tears, Chase, The Brecker Brothers and Tower of Power will be performed.

In these 1970s bands, said Holmes, “horn sections were prominently featured and provided a significant part of each group’s signature. Many of these groups would allow space for jazz improvisation. Presentations of works for Jazz Showcase will be done both instrumentally and voc-ally, not only by our large ensembles, but by instrumentally correct smaller groups put together to recreate these tunes.”

Tickets are $10 general public, $5 for students, seniors and children under 18. Call the Fine Arts Center Box Office (5-2511).

Five College conference marks Haiti’s upcoming bicentennial

The Five College Center for Crossroads in the Study of the Americas (CISA) is cele-brating Haiti’s approaching bicentennial in 2004 by devoting its 2002-03 colloquium to “Trans-American Crossroads: Haiti and the Making of the Americas.”

The colloquium, which takes place March 6-7 in the Cole Assembly Room at Amherst College, will focus on Haiti’s his-torical importance in the Americas from the Revolutionary Period to the present. In six sessions over two days, distinguished scholars and writers will examine the his-tory as well as the challenges Haiti faces, as it strives to achieve political and eco-nomic equality within the contemporary contexts of transnational migration and glo-bal capitalism. All sessions for this event are free and open to the public.

One of the sessions will feature a dis-cussion of Harvard University’s Immigra-tion Project and its work with Haitian-American students in the public school system in the U.S. Local scholars Mary Renda of Mount Holyoke College and Curtis Small of the French and Italian De-partment will share the podium for a discus-sion of the historical importance of Haiti to the Americas over the past two centuries. Leslie Desmangles of Trinity College and Gerdes Fleurant of Wellesley College will address the importance of Vodou to Haiti and the Haitian diaspora. On March 6, nov-elist Dany Laferrière will read excerpts from his novel entitled “Cette Grenade dans la main du jeune Negre, est-elle une arme ou un fruit?” (This grenade in the hand of a young black man — is it a weapon or a fruit?)

Other speakers will include Sophia Castaño, Tufts University; Valerie Chanlot, Institut du Monde Anglophone, University of Paris-Sorbonne Nouvelle; Arizona State University’s Myriam J.A. Chancy; senior editor of “Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism”; Alexandra Celestin, Harvard University; Carol P. Coates, Binghamton University; Charlotte Desor, Harvard University; Georges Eugène Fouron, SUNY-Sony Brook; and Nina Glick-Schiller, University of New Hamp-shire. The conference is sponsored by the Center for Crossroads in the Study of the Americas (CISA); Five Colleges, Inc.; The Corllis Lamont Lectureship for a Peaceful World, Amherst College; the departments of English, women and gender studies, and American studies at Amherst College; the office of the dean of students at Amherst College; the departments of Communica-tion, English, Women’s Studies, and French and Italian Studies; the departments of French, Afro-American studies, compara-tive literature, and anthropology at Smith College; the school of humanities, arts and cultural studies at Hampshire College; and the department of American studies at Mount Holyoke College.

For information about the colloquium, contact Jana Evans Braziel, department of English, Amherst College, at 542-8581 or by e-mail (jebraziel@amherst.edu). More information is also available on the CISA website (www.fivecolleges.edu/cisa).

Bestor’s ‘Requiem’ to premiere

The world premiere of “Requiem,” com-posed by professor emeritus Charles Bes-tor, will be presented Thursday, March 13 at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall. The piece will be performed by the University Orchestra conducted by lecturer Lantfranco Marcelliti, the University Chamber Choir and Chorale, directed by professor E. Wayne Abergelcombe, the Wo-men’s Choir, directed by Danica Buckley, and the Da Camera Singers, directed by Gregory Hayes. The performance will also feature retired Music and Dance professor Jon Humphrey as tenor guest soloist for “Requiem”.

“Requiem” is the third and last of a se-ries of works in which I have attempted in-creasingly to generalize, with the passing of time, a private personal loss... Themati-cally it draws freely from the early chant lit-erature, contrasting and developing this material in various musical ways,” said Bestor.

Marcelliti commented “It is my inten-tion to have a new piece composed for the orchestra every year by a UMass com-posser. Dr. Bestor composed this beautiful piece for us, and it is also a way to cele-brate Jon Humphrey and his wonderful years at the school.”

In addition, “Hebribes Overture” by Mendelsohn will feature graduate student Martin Knecht as conductor and professor Miriam Whaples on harpsichord. “Song of Density” and “Nanie” by Brahms also will be performed.

Tickets are $10 for the general public, $5 for students, seniors and children under 18. Call the FAC Box Office (5-2511).