The Campus Chronicle

For the past week I’ve tried to write despondenstly about the terrible budget cuts that are forcing the closure of the Chronicle, but after 17 years with the paper, I feel as if there’s been a death in the family.

In the three weeks since the Chronicle topped the chancellor’s initial list of budget cuts, my staff and I have come to realize that the sense of overwhelming loss is one shared by many people on and off campus. Faculty, retirees, classified and professional staff, legislators, and alumni have called or written to express their appreciation for our work and to share our sadness that with this issue, it is coming to an end.

During its early years, the Chronicle was a weekly experiment in institutional communication. There was, quite rightly, a great deal of suspicion about the “administration paper” and its reporting. As time passed and administrations changed, the Chronicle developed into something different than most in-house organs. We were allowed a level of autonomy to report the news in a straightforward, fair and even-handed manner. With our credibility established, the Chronicle became an important counterpoint to the student paper and provided readers with a campus perspective. Issues of often ignored in the local press.

In recent years, I have sometimes described the Chronicle as published by the administration, but “owned” by its readers, who suggested stories, wrote letters, criticized or praised our work, and embraced the idea of a community newspaper that served all campus employees. As of June 13 as legislators approved a conference committee proposal that cuts funding for the University system by 18.5 percent or $80.5 million.

The $22.3 billion fiscal 2004 state budget package passed easily with the House voting 118-37 in favor of the measure and the Senate approving the plan by a vote of 32-6. The budget is now before Gov. Mitt Romney, who has 10 days to sign the budget, issue vetoes or suggest changes. If Romney leaves the UM system intact, the funding for the five-campus system will drop from $436.276,144 to $355.764,464, which includes an estimated $28 million in tuition paid out by out-of-state students that the Amherst campus will be allowed to retain as part of a two-year pilot program. Under the experimental program, the state will bear the fringe benefit costs for employees paid from the funds during fiscal 2004.

The legislative budget level funds Commonwealth College at $1.715 million, but contains no funding for the endowed chair matching fund incentive program or library acquisitions. Funding for the state scholarship program was reduced $9.2 million to $82.4 million and the earmark for the UM system for needs-based financial aid reduced by $1 million to $8.6 million. Lawyers also approved an early retirement incentive allowing state employees to add five years to their age or years of service to qualify for higher pension benefits. The program will include employees paid from federal, trust and capital funds.

The application window is dollars to $1.25 million. Athletics was cut $50,000 in addition to $2.5 million already on the table. Director Ian McCarville said Athletics had developed five possible “wide-ranging” models/strategies for cutting its budget.

“They involve both changes in intercollegiate programs and personnel reduction,” McCaw said.

Both the Campus Chronicle and a category labeled “Design and Production” were cut an additional $40,000. The cut to the Chronicle is a salary line. Steve Robbins, director of Creative Services, said the nature of the design and production cut has yet to be determined.

Marie Hess, retiring deputy director of the Fine Arts Center, said the additional cuts to the FAC were “such a shock.”

“Almost 50 percent of our campus support,” she said. “It’s all state money, so that’s all salaries.”

Hess said the FAC would try to mitigate the personnel cuts by spreading the reductions to programming and maintenance.

Legislatore cuts UMass by $80.5m

Lombardi to seek fee hike, makes deeper reductions

Sarah R. Buchholz

Chancellor John V. Lombardi announced an additional $5.66 million in budget reductions in a June 24 memo to the campus.

The reductions, paired with the $15.8 million in cuts Lombardi previously announced for a total of $21.5 million, put the campus just over halfway toward covering a $41 million gap in funding for fiscal year 2004.

The reductions came in the form of staff, programming, and non-tenure-track faculty if at all possible.

Advancement and Alumni Affairs saw their budget cut more than double from $180,600 to $380,600. Research Affairs took a $200,000 hit raising its budget reduction half a million. The capital plan reduction was doubled to total $1.6 million, academic losses will lose an additional $50,000 to bring its losses to date to $1.6 million, and the estimated reduction to central university assessment was increased by half a million
Letters to the Chronicle

The last word from Rob Brooks
Dear Campus Chronicle old friend,
Good-bye, and thank you for your many years of good and faithful service to the campus community.
When I first came to UMass in 1964, we were both young. (You aged more gracefully than I.) As the Weekly Bulletin, you were mimeographed and coming of age, and so was I (except for the “being mimeographed” part.) You helped to orient me and to inform me what was going on, when, and where. An invaluable service to a neophyte administrator whose job description, in part, required knowing what was going on.
In my middle and later years, we both became more sophisticated (at least you did) when you metamorphosed into The Campus Chronicle. As the campus grew, sources of information and commerce were harder to come by, and to rely on — and thus, you became all the more invaluable — if only to confirm what it is I thought I already knew, or had heard, or thought I had heard (especially). It certainly beat having to check with multiple sources via the electronic world.
In retirement (2001) you were even more of greater service — for, whatever reasons, I wanted to stay connected to the University in some ways, and you were the primary source by which I was able to do so.
So I will miss you, and your dedicated staff of editors and office support. You can be assured in retirement that your job was well done — and although you in no way deserved to be “liquidated” — be assured that your passing will not go unnoticed. And, as is so often the case, I can also most guarantee that your passing will be all the more grievous as time goes on.
Your epigraph may have been best expressed by Bill Moyers: “The printed page conveys information and commitment, and requires active involvement. Television conveys emotion and experience, and it’s very limited in what it can do logically. It’s an existential experience — there and then gone.”
Thank you Fitz, Sarah, and Stan.

Robert N. Brooks
Retired director, Visitor Relations

A mighty sad day
It is a mighty sad day to see the Chronicle, our only in-house paper for news and PR, done in by budget cuts. It, I predict, will be sorely missed. Thank you for all your years of service to the campus community and for a paper that did a great job at UMass.

JAKE BISBEE
Director, Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium

Deep and profound sadness
There are no words to express the deep and profound sadness I feel for the demise of the Campus Chronicle. This excellent source of information illuminated the POSITIVE aspects of the campus, yet was tempered with a no-nonsense vision of “the real deal.”
This commitment to telling the Amherst campus story without whitewash is valued by the University’s advocates as a vital component of the Ambassadors Network/Advocacy Programs and has aided in its growth and development over the past 15 years. I especially have valued the vast institutional memory of Fitz, and the collaborative and creative spirit of the Chronicle staff as a whole.
Perhaps the next iteration of the Campus Chronicle will be the flagship campus’ phoenix rising from the ashes of budget cuts. I hope sooner rather than later.

CHERYL L. DUKE
Coordinator, Advocacy Programs

Multi-lingual schisms’ staged at Amherst
New WORLD Theater will present Project 2050’s “Multi-lingual schisms,” a new theater work by area youth from varying ethnic, racial, cultural and religious backgrounds, on Saturday, July 12 at 3 and 8 p.m. and Sunday, July 13 at 3 p.m. at Holden Theater in Amherst College.
The semester is the culmination of summer workshops with scholars and artists in which they created the pieces prior to the performance. The performance explores the possible outcome from the dual facts of growing linguistic diversity in the U.S. and the looming extinction of bilingual education and affirmative action programs.

The group will explore the “whys” of resistance movements and pursue the questions of ‘what next’ for future activism.

Tickets are $12 general public, $8 for low-income patrons and seniors, and $5 for students with ID, and are available by calling the Fine Arts Center Box Office (413-545-4818).

Jazz in July performances listed
The annual Jazz in July series returns July 7-18 with several public performances. A faculty lecture/performance and demonstration series will be held July 7-10 and 14-17 from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Bezanson Recital Hall.

Club Jazz in July performances will be presented in the Lincoln Campus Center. On July 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Amherst Books there will be a book signing, performance and readings from “Such a Sweet Thunder” by Black American Musician and Professor JULIUS LESTER.

Also on July 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Amherst College, there will be a faculty lecture/performance and demonstration series held July 7-10 and 14-17 from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. in Bezanson Recital Hall.

Club Jazz moves to 1009 Campus Center from 7-10 p.m. There is no cover charge.

Loss of Chronicle is a ‘tragic consequence’
I am writing with a heavy heart to express my gratitude — and I am certain that of a great number of faculty and staff as well as those who work here at the Renaissance Center — for the superb achievement you and your staff have accomplished for our campus with limited funding and support. As someone who once wrote for the Providence Journal and The New York Times, I have admired, from the very first, your even-handedness, your comprehensiveness, and your fairness in reporting on our campus, and the imagination and wit that you have also shown to lift our spirits even when you inform us. I would have known far less about my fellow workers without the Chronicle.

Arthur F. Knox
Professor of English and director, Renaissance Center

Chronicle and Sherer’s photos will be missed
In retirement (2001) you were even more of greater service — for, whatever reasons, I wanted to stay connected to the University in some ways, and you were the primary source by which I was able to do so.
So I will miss you, and your dedicated staff of editors and office support. You can be assured in retirement that your job was well done — and although you in no way deserved to be “liquidated” — be assured that your passing will not go unnoticed. And, as is so often the case, I can also most guarantee that your passing will be all the more grievous as time goes on.

Your epigraph may have been best expressed by Bill Moyers: “The printed page conveys information and commitment, and requires active involvement. Television conveys emotion and experience, and it’s very limited in what it can do logically. It’s an existential experience — there and then gone.”

Thank you Fitz, Sarah, and Stan.

ROBERT N. BROOKS
Retired director, Visitor Relations

Best wishes and appreciation
The Campus Chronicle has fostered a sense of community through good times and bad. Daniel Fitzgibbons and his staff have served us well, and they are entitled to our unstinting appreciation and best wishes for the future.

JOHN MOORE
Professor, Psychology Department

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chancellor of the Board of Higher Education to identify job titles which could elect to retire as early as Aug. 29. The measure calls for a refill cap on work-related sick-leave funded positions and the cap does not affect positions applied to funded federal, trust or capital accounts. Payments for accrued sick leave and vacation time would be made in four equal payments during the next four years.

Finally, the Legislature approved a tiered system of health insurance programs for state em¬ployees, with workers earning less than $35,000 continuing to pay 15 percent. Employees earning $35,000-$45,000 will now pay 20 percent and new employees hired after July 1 will pay 25 percent. New retirees will pay 15 percent.

Legislature sends budget to Romney

Additional reductions detailed by chancellor

The Board of Trustees awarded tenure to 17 faculty on the Amherst campus at its May 7 meeting and approved an offer with tenure to two incoming faculty members.

The newly tenured group com¬prises the following associate professors: Paul Barnett and Kent Fiske of the Natural Re¬sources Conservation; Jeffrey Eldon of Plant and Soil Sciences; Deborah Good of Veterinary and Animal Sciences; Steven Sandler of Microbiology; Elizabeth Harvey of Psychology; Laura Jenner of Geological Science; Lisa Chasan-Taber of Biostatistics and Epidemiology; Blair Perto of Me¬chanical and Industrial Engi¬neering; Debra Felix of Miller of Classics; Tayeb El-Hibri, director of Near Eastern Studies; Max Page of Art and Art History; James Gladden of Sport Management; Kathleen Davis of Teacher Edu¬cation and Curriculum Studies; Narayana Menon of Physics; Joseph Berger of Educational Policy, Research and Administra¬tion; and Brian O’Leary, History.

The board also approved tenure for new Biology associate professor Tobias Baskin, who will join the department in the summer. Baskin studies the role of the cytoskeleton and the cell wall in plant morphogenesis and worked in the Interdisciplinary Plant Group at the University of Mis¬souri, where he also was an associ¬ate professor.

Note: a professor in the Philosophy Department in the fall.

Khadija Diakite

Dozens of sports camps, spe¬cial interest organizations and professional groups will meet on campus this summer under the auspices of Conference Services.

The groups come to UMass for various reasons, according to Mary Terry, director of Confer¬ence Services: “We offer a quality service in an accommodating set¬ting. It’s quiet. We have a lot of space. Each of the four dining services can fit 1,000 people at a time, which is an attraction for many groups.”

One of the larger and more un¬usual conferences, the American Guild of English Handbell Ring¬ers, will be scheduled to arrive this week.

Founded in 1954, AGEHR is dedicated to advancing the musi¬cal art of handbell/handchime ringing through education, com¬munity, and communication. About 800 of the guild’s 9,100 members are expected to attend.

Youth groups have been com¬ing to the campus during the summer since the start of the pro¬gram. “... Kids love to come here. For many in their first exposure to a university setting,” said Terry.

Some of these summer youth groups include Skills Basketball School, College Connection Field Hockey, Easton Softball Develop¬ment School, Mass Soccer Mini Program, Teen Conference, North Shore Upward Bound Program 2003, Team Camp Basketball School, Overnight Basketball School, Championship Swim School, Holyoke Upward Bound Program, Easton Pitcher-Catcher School, Mass Soccer Boys Ad¬vanced Program, All Star La¬crosse School, Girls Advanced Soccer Program, Mass Soccer Elite School, American Studies Associates, Massachusetts Youth Summer League, Shoot & Save White Mt. Sports, Percus¬sion School, Drum Major School and Cheerleaders all spanning from June-August. These youth groups would span anywhere from 30 to 300 people.

A number of special interest organizations also are slated to visit campus, according to Terry. The New England Camera Club Council, an organization of ama¬teur photographers and a peren¬nial favorite for many years, arrives next month.

About 350 guests are sched¬uled to attend the state Collectors and Treasurers Association meet¬ing in mid-August.

Other scheduled conferences include the Summer Program for Undergraduate Research (SPUR), Convention of the Oral Survey Association Lecture, Federal Fa¬cilities Clean-Up Workshop 2003, Western Massachusetts Cul¬ture Conference, Arts Extension Summer Institute, Massachusetts Tournament of Champions Referees, Jazz in July, Union Leadership Admin¬istration Conference, Eastern Conference Workforce Democ¬racy, School Counseling Leader¬ship Institute, Institute of Office Of¬ficers Annual School. Atten¬dance for these groups ranges from 10 to 1,300 participants.

The groups are also able to provide focused counseling services and coordinate with teachers, parents, administrators, and community leaders to make sure all students have opportunities for support for academic, career, and social and emotional develop¬ment.

Conference of all sizes expected on campus this summer

The new vision for school counselors is to develop a role in defining and carrying out the counseling function. It is not just about giving information and resources to serve all children’s learning needs.

Partners are able to carry out this goal for several reasons. As stated by the brochure, the pro¬gram allows school counselors to build problem-solving teams to support students’ learning and development.

They are also able to provide focused counseling services and coordinate with teachers, parents, administrators, and community leaders to make sure all students have opportunities for support for academic, career, and social and emotional develop¬ment.
Fulbrights send faculty to Quebec, S. Africa

Patrick J. Callahan
NEWS OFFICE STAFF

Two faculty — Leonce Ndikumana, associate professor of Economics, and Alice Nash, assistant professor of History — have received Fulbright teaching and research grants for the 2003-04 academic year. Nash has been selected as the Fulbright-Université de Montréal Visiting Chair for 2003-2004. Ndikumana will be at the University of Cape Town’s School of Economics in South Africa, from July 2003 to June 2004.

The purpose of the Fulbright Scholar Program, founded in 1946, is to build mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and other countries. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and because they have demonstrated extraordinary leadership potential in their field.

Nash will conduct research on a new project, “Colonial Fires and Cooking Fires: A Comparative Study of Gender and Colonization at Kahnawake and Odanak, 1700-1850.” This study will look at how gender was expressed in everyday life as well as in intertribal political contexts such as the Wabanaki Confederacy and the Seven Nations of Canada.

Nash also will teach an undergraduate seminar in the spring 2004 term. The seminar is a modified version of her course, “Deerfield 1704:” developed and taught in fall 2002. In “Deerfield 1704,” students studied the 1704 attack on Deerfield by a mixed war party of French, Mohawk, Abenaki and Huron raiders from multiple perspectives, drawing mostly on English sources. Class trips included visits to Deerfield as well as a four-day trip to Quebec to visit three native reserves as well as Montreal and Quebec City. At the University of Montreal, Nash will teach “Deerfield 1704: Problèmes en l’histoire coloniale de l’Amérique du Nord,” drawing on both French and English sources. Students will have an opportunity to visit Deerfield and participate in some of the activities scheduled to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the 1704 attack.

From July to December 2003, Ndikumana will teach a macroeconomics theory course in the new “Collaborative Economics Ph.D. Program,” which was inaugurated in 2002 and is supported by the African Economic Research Consortium, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. The program is offered in collaboration with eight other universities in sub-Saharan Africa. The emphasis of the program is to build a strong combination of sound economic theory and African empirical applications, he says.

From January to June 2004, Ndikumana will conduct research on the role of financial markets (banks and stock markets) in mobilizing savings and promoting business investment in developing countries in general and with a case study on South Africa. Ndikumana will be accompanied by his family and says the grant is an opportunity to promote ties between the economics departments at UMass and the University of Cape Town, and for his children to experience the South African culture.

Clean water act

Jane Szelewicki, control systems specialist for the Physical Plant Utilities Office, collects water samples from the Isenberg School of Management’s new air conditioning system.

She bioscans the cooling system water of every building on campus for bacteria each week.

Right, Szelewicki uses an ultrameter to test pH and conductivity levels in the School of Management’s new water cooling tower.

Szelewicki invites anyone who would like to take a tour of the water treatment program to call her at 5-3454.

Grain & Chaff

Teaching fellow

Mary Deane Sorcinelli, associate provost and director of the Center For Teaching, has been awarded a Whiting Foundation Fellowship for 2003-04. It will allow her to travel for research on trends in college teaching and learning at universities in Ireland and England. She will be hosted by the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) at the National University of Ireland Galway, which was recently named Irish University of the Year.

Conference calls

Lecturer Ulrike Brisson of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures last month gave talks at two conferences. She discussed “Time-Space-Authority: Ida von Hahn-Hahn’s Orientale Briefe” at the conference “Time-Space-Gender: German Women Writers of the 18th and 19th Centuries” held May 9-11 at Georgetown University and “From Ethnicity to Sovereignty: The Appalachian Trail — An American Fantasy” at the 14th Annual American Literature Association Conference held May 22-25 in Cambridge.

Bluesman report

Steve Tracy, associate professor of Afro-American Studies and resident blues player, reports that his band, Steve Tracy and the Crawling Kingsnakes, has played recently in Deerfield, Easthampton and Bondville. Tracy was also recently interviewed for a one-hour radio documentary on the life and legend of Hank Williams, produced by David Barnett for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland.

On a more academic note, Tracy’s essay “Black Twice” was just published in the Cambridge University Press Companion to Blues and Gospel Music; and his book, “A Historical Guide to Langston Hughes,” a collection of essays he edited is due out from Oxford University Press in November. Tracy also penned two essays and a chronology for the book. Also due out in November is the “Cambridge University Press Companion to the African American Novel,” which contains an essay by Tracy.

Tracy also is serving on the National Blues Education Advisory Board for the “Year of the Blues” project. This board recommends material for and oversees lesson plans that are generated for middle and high school programs in history, literature, and music in conjunction with the upcoming “Year of the Blues” programs to be featured on PBS beginning in the fall.

Fun with food

Dianne Z. Sutherland, registered and licensed dietitian at Food Services, received third place nationally for the “Most Creative Nutrition Promotion” from National Association of College and University Food Services for developing and implementing “Do You Want to be a MEAL-MONARCH?” for students for National Nutrition Month in March. The promotion was a spin-off of Regis Philbin’s “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?” but instead of general trivia, she substituted nutrition and dining commons trivia. Minute Maid, Tyson and Cains sponsored the event by providing the prizes. Students signed up to be contestants, had the fast finger question (in this case, fast hand-raising question) and then the student who made it to the hot seat had the three life lines: 50:50, Phone (or Ask) a Friend and Ask the Audience. A grand prize of a DVD player was awarded at each dining commons.

Starr power

Irene Starr, former director of the Foreign Language Resource Center, received a Lifetime Achievement Award on June 19 at the biennial meeting of the International Association for Language Learning Technology in Ann Arbor, Mich. The award recognizes major contributions to IALLT and the profession. Starr’s members were among the first to recognize the benefits of using technology and multimedia in education.
Goodwin receives USDA Secretary’s Honor Award

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Ann Veneman presented Steve Goodwin, associate dean of the College of Natural Resources and the Environment with the 2003 USDA Secretary’s Honor Award on June 13 at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, D.C.

Goodwin received the award on behalf of the members of Multistate Research project NE-179 — Technology and Principles for Assessing and Retaining Postharvest Quality of Fruits and Vegetables. NE-179 was selected for the award in the category of “Promoting Health by Promoting Access to Safe, Affordable, and Nutritious Food.”

Goodwin is the administrative advisor of this research project which involves 26 participants from 13 states.

“The Honor Awards highlight the dedication and talents of USDA employees who contribute in so many ways to improving the world around us,” said Veneman. “Each of these honorees is to be commended for their accomplishments in public service.”

Kielson given Pillar Award

Gail Kielson, coordinator of the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Project at Everywoman’s Center, recently received a Peace Award from the Massachusetts Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Project of the Department of Public Health.

The awards are given to individuals, groups or agencies that are working to promote peace and break the cycle of domestic violence in the rural communities of Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire counties. The goals of the project are to educate the public on domestic violence, and to serve children who have been exposed to violence in their households and their non-offending parents.

Kielson was presented the Pillar Award, given to an individual who exemplifies advocacy in working with survivors of domestic violence.

Kielson has been engaged in violence prevention work and providing advocacy and support for victims/survivors of domestic violence for more than 20 years, and has coordinated this project since its inception in 1998. In this capacity, she provides community education, professional training, and conferences on domestic violence and child witness to violence issues for community groups, faith communities, health and human service providers, law enforcement, and school personnel, and support and advocacy for victims/survivors throughout the hilltowns of west Hampshire County.

Self-starter

Three-year-old Songsten Norbu decided to push his own stroller as he and his babysitter walked past Curry Hicks Cage last week. His mother, Tashi Zangmo, is a graduate student in Education.

Physical Science and Engineering Library to close during August for renovations

The Physical Sciences and Engineering Library in the Ledelle Graduate Research Center will close for renovations during the month of August. Improvements slated for the library include a new lobby, fresh paint, new carpeting and furnishings, and alterations to allow public access to the elevator.

Prior to the renovation, Library staff, students and faculty volunteers are working every day from 8:30 a.m. to noon to move 100,000 volumes out of the building. Their goal is to pull, box and process at least 2,500 volumes a day, and send them up to the Five College Library Depository in South Amherst. The move will allow for the merging of the Biological Sciences Library into the Physical Sciences and Engineering Library next January.

There are several critical steps involved in such a move. First, materials in the depository are arranged by size, not by subject or call number. The books must be packed into size-appropriate boxes, as books are not shelved individually. Each item’s record in the library catalog must be updated, so when a researcher seeks one of the relocated items, a new location (PC Depository) will appear. A link to an online form will enable users to request delivery of materials from the depository. The usual turnaround time on requests is 24 hours during weekdays.

Items moving to the depository are lesser-used materials. Lists of the specific titles scheduled for transfer to the Depository are available online (www.library.umass.edu/whatsnew/transfers.html). Materials at the depository may also be consulted on site by appointment. Contact the depository by e-mail (bunker@fivecolleges.edu) phone at 542-8231.

Last March, the Faculty Senate voted to support the Research Library Council’s recommendation to consolidate and reorganize the Biological Sciences Library in Morrill and the Physical Sciences and Engineering Library into a single Integrated Sciences and Engineering Library. The report stated that the best site for the integrated library is the space currently occupied by the Physical Sciences and Engineering Library in Ledelle.

Mass. Flower Growers fund Extension research projects

The Massachusetts Flower Growers Association recently awarded $10,000 to the Floriculture Extension Team to support two ongoing research projects.

Professor Roy Van Ditmarsch, chair of the Floriculture Program and research assistant Suzanne Lyon of the Entomology Department have been working to introduce the use of biological controls to manage the whiptail problem faced by many Massachusetts ornamental plant growers. The current phase of the project is aimed at reducing the cost of biological control agents used instead of conventional pesticides.

Crystal Cox, who is an associate professor of Plant and Soil Sciences, is working with Extension educators Paul Lopes and Tina Smith on various issues of water quality. The team is assisting greenhouse growers with water problems associated with alkalinity, pH, contaminated supplies and conservation. The 2002 drought and the demands of the expanding ornamental plant industry have made water resources a priority.

Wood is becoming recognized as a highly attractive structural material for large-scale building projects throughout the world, according to architects, engineers, construction technologists and academics who attended a May 9 conference organized by Peggi Clouston, assistant professor in the Building Materials and Wood Technology Program in the Department of Natural Resources Conservation.

The conference, which took place at the Foxwoods Resort and Casino in Ledyard, Conn., attracted about 110 experts from the New England states, eastern Canada and the Carolinas who discussed the most recent advances in structural and architectural wood design, said Clouston. Contemporary architecture in wood was highlighted throughout the day and examples of commercial, governmental and institutional structures employing novel uses of timber and engineered wood composites were presented. In addition to emphasizing wood’s natural beauty, many projects featured non-traditional building profiles including oval and parabolic shapes. Advances in wood processing technology and use of computer-controlled machinery, leading to highly sophisticated structural detailing, were partly credited for this new design ingenuity, according to Clouston.

The environmental benefits of using wood was also emphasized during the conference. According to Clouston, recent research has shown that based on life-cycle analysis — quantifying energy and environmental costs of all life stages of products including material extraction, processing and manufacturing, transportation, installation, service maintenance and use, and recycling — wood typically requires less energy and has lower levels of pollutants when compared with steel or concrete.

Clouston said she believes that in the future, more structures in the Northeast will demonstrate this creativity with wood. “Timber engineering is a relatively new field to many. The first step towards seeing something innovative with wood structures is to inspire the design community. The next step is to teach them how it can be done.”
Pressing matters: A look back at 18 years of the Chronicle

O’Brien, who said the Chronicle was created as a way to allow faculty and staff to have a voice, wrote: “This newspaper is a public voice for the academic community.”

In the early days of the Chronicle, the policy was to summarize letters and respond to their conclusions. This continued until the Chronicle faced some criticism in the May 30, 1980 issue. In that issue, the Chronicle published a letter to the editor and several responses to it. This was done to make sure that the Chronicle was providing a public forum for readers to express their opinions.

In later years, letters became a staple of the Chronicle. The Chronicle continued to respond to letters that criticized individuals or policies. They also encouraged students to write and ask for responses to their own letters. For instance, in 2001, the Chronicle published a letter to the editor that criticized the Chronicle, and the Chronicle published a response to it.

One of the most challenging tasks for the Chronicle was to develop a consistent delivery service. Initially, they used a large courier route to deliver the newspaper. But that’s not to say it always went smoothly. People often sent letters and once the crew decided to close the van’s side door and speed virtually an entire edition across the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue as they took the turn.

One of the Chronicle’s most memorable stories was when a group of students and faculty, chain letters, appeals from all sorts of organizations to the University, the Chronicle received a letter from a obviously disturbed man in Atlanta who offered to share 25 percent of his $50 billion wealth to the federal government if the Chronicle would help publicize his preoccupation by a range of federal agencies because of a bad used car deal with a friend of Jimmy Carter. If only we’d taken him up on it.

And speaking of Jimmy Carter

When 150 demonstrators opposed to CAO re-recruitment on campus occupied Museum Hall on Nov. 24, 1986, the group led by Abbie Hoffman and Philip Allan and Fred Tillis and Robert Berman and John Scibak, argued that “Measuring the value of a ‘community newspaper’ was first puzzled, but then amused.

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A sampling of photographs by

Stan Sherer

Since the Chronicle's seventh issue, Oct. 18, 1985, Stan Sherer's photographs of the campus and those who inhabit it have delighted readers.

Across the top: Whether capturing the interaction of light, shadow and water (as in the 1991 photo of a puddle taken outside Thompson Hall), documenting the animal world (as in the 1987 image of two pigs or the adjacent picture of Nick Formentera holding George, a two-week-old goat, at a Stockbridge School of Agriculture conference), covering the arts (as in a 1986 photo of traditional Cambodian ballet in Bowker Auditorium), bringing to life the news (as in the 1986 illustration of the Great American Smokeout) or following the creation and maintenance of buildings and fixtures around campus (as in the 1996 photo of roofers working on Marcus Hall), Sherer found beauty at UMass in places both obvious and unexpected.

The remainder of this page, clockwise from above: Paul Utgoff, now associate professor of Computer Science, crosses a rope bridge during an ROTC Easter Seals promotion in 1988; a door latch in Stockbridge Hall; trash cans outside Washington tower during the 1991 summer residence hall clean-up; and Donna D'Andrea working in the University Gallery.

The remainder of the opposite page, clockwise from bottom right: An undated still life from Stockbridge Hall; also undated, a 24-hour karate training; students bellying up to the dessert bar at the Big Lunch, part of Homecoming Weekend 2000; Morrill Greenhouse gloves in 1995; a grounds worker in 1988 after completing a project; Phyllis Gedeon and Claude Seide pose in front of the Whitmore Administration Building with the help of a friend in 1997.
Obituaries

Patricia Silver, Education professor and LD expert
Sarah R. Buchholz

Patricia Silver, 60, of Ashfield, professor of Student Development and Papil Personnel Services and graduate and undergraduate program coordinator for the School of Education, died June 20. She served the University for 21 years and had planned to retire June 20.

Sally Freeman, retired director of Counseling and Assessment Services, said Silver created Learning Disabilities Support Services, which she directed for 14 years, from 1982.

The disabilities act was passed in the mid-80s, nearly the only disabilities services the campus had were for physically handicapped students, Freeman said.

“At the time the legislation passed, there were many, many students already [diagnosed with learning disabilities] on campus,” she said.

She stepped forward to do it — built it from nothing to a major program that has helped hundreds of handicapped kids. It was amazing the work and energy she put into it. It was ‘part time’ and she had a reduced teaching load, but she would end up with this program about 100 percent of the time. She’d work at all day and then teach her classes at night.

“She created all of the policies and procedures and worked really hard building an advocacy [net-work]. There was a lot of faculty resistance. But when she was a consummate professional, she shouldered a lot of grief and really created the space for these students to come to the University and have a good chance to get a degree.”

Freeman said faculty began to come around once they, with Silver’s help, discovered that many students with learning disabilities also were exceptionally bright and with the right support could be outstanding students. ”She believed in [the stu-dents], and she was right,” Freeman said.

Silver was a founding member of the Berkshire Assessment Team — a volunteer group of psychologists, Communication Disorders faculty and spe-cial education specialists.

“It was designed for a whole lot of students who were show- ing academic struggles, to refer them somewhere,” Freeman said.

“She helped set up a thorough di-agnostic process” to help the team, with the help of faculty and staff referrals, “found kids with serious problems that were not identified.”

“She was a considered expert in this area internationally. She made a major contribu-tion to this campus and to college students, really, throughout the nation because it was a model program for other schools.

“It was her heart and soul that was in this. She was a remarkable human being with incredible en- ergy, incredible determination, and incredible will to make this happen.”

Silver presented and published dozens of papers, many in collaboration with other scholars, evaluated programs; gave workshop; sat on panels; and served as a consultant for many pro- grams.

Patricia Silver

In the community, she was a Girl Scout leader, president of the Ashfield Historical Society, a par-ent advocate and a supporter of and participant in oral history projects. She was dedicated to ex-ploiting her own path as a daugh-ter of a coal miner to a career at a university. A book in press. “Out of the Dark: Stories and Reflections of the Journey from the Coalfields to Academia,” reflects her long-standing interest in that experience.

She held a B.S. in elementary education from Concord College in Athens, W.Va., and an M.A. in elementary education and an Ed.D.in reading from West Vir-ginia University. She leaves her husband, David Silver, and a daughter, Jes-ica, of Ashfield.

A memorial service is sched-uled for 1 p.m. Saturday, June 28, at the First Congregational Church in Ashfield.

Memorial gift may be made to the Patricia Silver Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Connie Bunker, Business Office, School of Education, 126 Furcolo Hall. Makes checks payable to “Univer-sity of Massachusetts.”

Elizabeth I. Kramer

Elizabeth I. Kramer, 86, of Northampton, a retired senior typographer, died May 26 in Northampton Nursing Home.

She served the University for more than 13 and a half years be-fore retiring in 1977. She also had a long-standing interest in that campus, she said.

“Elizabeth I. Kramer was the head of the Typographic Department, and one of the older typographers,” Freeman said.

“Kramer was a gentle, very quiet lady, who was kind and very nice to the young typographers,” Freeman continued.

Elizabeth I. Kramer

He directed the Waltham Bot-anical Field Station between 1955-62 and taught for 1949-51 at Virginia Technological University and from 1952-55 at the Inter-American University for Agricul-tural Sciences in Costa Rica.

A lifetime member of the Mas-sachusetts Nursermen’s Asso-ciation and a member of science research societies Sigma Xi, he was a frequent speaker at many conferences.

A U.S. Navy veteran, he was a lieutenant on an aircraft carrier, the USS Saratoga.

He held a bachelor’s degree from Texas Tech University and a master’s degree and doctorate from Cornell University.

He was an elder at College Church in Northampton.

He leaves his wife of 49 years, Martha J. Kramer; and other family.

Elizabeth I. Kramer

Frank Skroski

Frank Skroski, 80, of Whately, a retired custodial supervisor, died June 17 after a brief illness. He served the University for nearly 25 years before retiring in 1988.

He lettered in football, base-ball and basketball at Deerfield High School before leaving in 1943 to be a tail gunner in a B-24 as an Army Air Force Technical Sergeant. He flew 48 combat mis-sions in 93 days and brought home the Overseas Service Bar, the American Theater Ribbon, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon with four Bronze Stars, the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and the Distinguished Unit Badge with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

His wife, Helen, predeceased him.

He leaves his sons, Donald of Whately and Frank of Lovelock, Nev.; a sister, Wanda Default of Whately; and other family.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Holy Name of Jesus Church, Thayer Street, S. Deerfield 01373.

Frank Skroski

The second biannual East Ger-man Film Institute, sponsored by the DEFA Film Library July 7-13, will host more than 30 schol-ar representing eight countries, and an academic disci-pline.

The public is invited to free screenings at Smith College and Northampton Academy of Mu-sic, featuring 15 films from seven countries of the former East Bloc (all with English subtitles).

The week-long series of work-shops on the topic “DEFA and Eastern European Cinemas” will be led by Barton Byg of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Eric Rentschler of Harvard University, and Katie Trumper of Yale Uni-verse. In addition to local and international scholars specializing in the Institute’s topic, two film-makers will be on hand to discuss works marked by political turning points and international themes.

Treating issues of film culture in generally called “new Europe,” the workshops will study the dia-logues that took place — and still take place — between national film cultures in Eastern and Cen-tral Europe and between present and past.

Principal themes of discussion are “Memory of Violence,” “Youth and De-Stalinization,” “The Return of History as Film,” and “From Vences to Dissent.”

Directors Dietmar Hochmuth and Vojtech Jasny will present to discuss their films. Jasny’s critical satire “Cassandra Cat” (1963) will be screened July 11, and juxtaposed with the East Ger-man film it inspired, which was banned — along with many other works — in 1965.

Jasny left Czechoslovakia after the “Sage Song” (1962) was sup-pressed by Warsaw Pact troops in 1968, and now lives in New York.

Hochmuth, director of “Loca-tion Hunting” (1990) to be screened July 10, represents a young East German generation frustrated by repressed fundamentalism and the conditions for artists since Ger-man reunification. Like many col leagues, Hochmuth “looks East” for a sense of film history and cultural context.

Speakers among the event include the Max Kade Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the DEFA Founda-tion (Berlin), film and video dis-tributors PROGRESS Film-Verleih and ICESTORM International, and German and (Eastern) European Studies throughout the Five College conferences.

Major support also has been received from Smith College, the Academy of Music and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Re-search.

For information, film schedules and notes, check the DEFA web-site (www.smash.edu) or call 5-6681.

The Campus Chronicle
**Weekly Bulletin**

**WFCR hosts nine-day trip to Berlin in October**

Public radio station WFCR-FM, in partnership with Cross-Culture of Amherst, is hosting a nine-day trip to Berlin, Germany from Oct. 11-19. Modeled by an expert guide and WFCR music director John Montanari, participants will visit Berlin’s great concert halls, and the city’s famed museums that house early music instruments.

Highlights of the trip will include guided bus and walking tours of Berlin, including an afternoon on Museum Island, with its famous Pergamon Museum, a day in Potsdam with a guided tour of Sans Souci Palace, the historic old palace of Frederick the Great, and the Reichstag Palace, site of the 1945 Potsdam Conference, internationally renowned, exciting contemporary architecture such as Frank Gehry’s DG Bank Building, British architect Sir Norman Foster’s glass dome of the Reichstag. Daniel Liebeskind’s Jewish Museum and Reitzo Piana’s work in the Sony Center.

Participants will also enjoy three concerts in Berlin’s finest concert halls, including the organ “Elektra,” by Richard Strauss, in the ballet “Eurydice” with music by Ludwig Minkus, both at the Berlin Staatsoper unter den Linden, and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra under Andris Previn, performing at the Philharmonic in a program that includes the Beethoven Violin Concerto with Anne-Sophie Mutter and Strauss’s “Symphony Domestica.”

Information is available online (www.wfcr.org) or by calling Katie Wright at 5-4213.

**Summer tour schedule**

Campus tours leave from the Robsham Visitor Center at 11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Information sessions also are being held weekdays at 12:30 p.m. during June, July and August. The sessions are usually held in the Lincoln Campus Center, but guests should call the Visitors Center (5-1036) for the daily room location. The Visitors Center is open weekdays from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Camus mail use policy**

Campus mail service is provided to students, faculty and staff of the Five College community for correspondence and University business.

Outside groups, businesses, charities and other unrelated agencies may not use the campus mail system.

Contract vendors may be granted certain mailing privileges if proper approval is acquired from the Procurement office. Chain letters of any kind are expressly prohibited.

**Parking Services**

Parking Services is open to Monday through Friday. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. through Aug. 29.

**Doctoral exams**

Graduate faculty are invited to attend the oral examination for the doctoral candidates scheduled as follows.


Francisco Lopez-Dekker, Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering. Friday, July 9, 10 a.m., 220 West Street. Dissertation: “Effect of Compressible Fluids on Polymer Chain and Small Molecule Diffusion Polymers.” James J. Watkins, chm.

Arthur Kinney, chm.

Anna Intzum, Ed.D., Education. Wednesday, July 2, 10 a.m., 204 Furlong. Dissertation: “Multiple Measures of Scientific Thinking: Do Multiple Forms of Assessment Exhibit Similar Evidence of Student Understanding on Complex Scientific Reasoning Problems?” John Clement, chm.


Thang Thi Le, Ph.D., English. Wednesday, July 9, 10 a.m., 316 Bartlett. Dissertation: “Gone With the Wind and Its Vietnamese Women Readers.” Randal Knoper, chm.


Francisco Lopez-Dekker, Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering. Friday, July 9, 10 a.m., 220 West Street. Dissertation: “Effect of Compressible Fluids on Polymer Chain and Small Molecule Diffusion Polymers.” James J. Watkins, chm.
Frimpong-Boateng named Academic All-American

Senior and sprinter Kwesi Frimpong-Boateng was named to the 2002-03 Verizon Academic All-America University Division men’s cross country and track team on June 17.

He earned second team honors, and in the process, became the fourth UMass student-athlete to earn Academic All-America honors in 2002-03, and the 23rd in school history.

One of the University’s top sprinters ever, Frimpong-Boateng was the 2003 Atlantic 10 Outdoor Men’s Track and Field Student-Athlete of the Year and Massachusetts’ Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the spring sports season.

The 3.55 student in Microbiology received his degree on May 25, and was named to the academic All-Conference honor squads during his career in addition to being tabbed as the 2002 A-10 Indoor Men’s Track and Field Student-Athlete of the Year.

Frimpong-Boateng was also a two-time member of the A-10 Commissioner’s Honor Roll and was named to the Athletic Director’s Honor Roll every semester during his standout career.

The Most Outstanding Track Performer at the 2003 A-10 Championships, Frimpong-Boateng won eight consecutive 100-meter races from April 4 until that streak ended in the prelims of the 2003 NCAA Eastern Regional. Included in that streak were gold medal efforts in the 100m at the 2001 A-10 Indoor and ICAAC meets.

At the 2003 A-10 Outdoor Championships last month in Richmond, Va., Frimpong-Boateng won both the 100- and 200-meter dashes in UMass and school record times of 10.30 and 20.90, respectively. He is a five-time Atlantic 10 gold medalist and holds three school records.

Morgan named to all-Northeast team

Senior designated hitter Chris Morgan was named last week to the American Baseball Coaches Association/ Rawlings All-Northeast Region team.

Morgan was the lone Minutemen selected to the squad, which was voted on by the head coaches from all the schools in the region.

Morgan, who was previously named second team All-New England, batted .336 this season with seven home runs and 32 runs batted in. He led the team in homers, runs batted in, doubles (14) and slugging percentage (.579).

Over the course of his four-year career, Morgan posted a .317 batting average, while totaling 23 home runs, 35 doubles and 115 runs batted in. He ranks seventh all-time at the University in career home runs, while standing 10th in both runs batted in and doubles.

The team concluded the 2003 season with an overall record of 26-19, and won the Atlantic 10 East Division title with a 14-7 mark in conference games.

The Minutemen finished as the runner-up to Richmond in the 2003 Atlantic 10 Tournament, posting a 2-2 mark in post-season action.

Sophomore Stephen Werner was selected in the third round (83rd overall) by the Washington Capitals in the National Hockey League’s Entry Draft held last Saturday in Nashville and incoming freshman Kevin Jarman was selected with the second pick of the day in Sunday’s second day of action. He was taken by the Columbus Blue Jackets in the fourth round with the 10/13rd overall pick.

Werner, who was just named to the United States Junior Evaluation Camp earlier in the week, led Hockey East freshmen and was sixth nationally with 38 points (16 goals, 22 assists) on the season. He was selected as a unanimous All-Hockey East Rookie Team selection and was the only freshman to be named to the Hockey East All-Tournament team.

Werner is a Mass. first-ever U.S. National Team Development Program player, as he played with the U.S. Junior National Team last year. He is believed to be the highest draft pick in UMass’ history. He was drafted by his hometown team, the Washington Capitals, after acquiring the pick through a trade with the Chicago Blackhawks.

Stephen Werner: ‘A dream come true.’

Blackhawks.

Werner hoped to be drafted by the Capitals all along. He has skated with the team’s top prospects at a rookie camp each of the last three summers, played for the Little Capitals youth team for two years and is a lifelong Washington fan.

“When I heard my name called, I couldn’t believe it,” Werner said. “I grew up playing for the Little Caps, idolizing the Capitals players. It is a dream come true.”

Atlantic 10 commissioner Linda Bruno announced June 16 that softball seniors Brandi Cross and Kaila Holtz are two of the league’s four annual recipients of postgraduate scholarships.

The Atlantic 10 annually awards four postgraduate scholarships to student-athletes who express an interest in continuing their education. This is the seventh season that a total of four recipients have been selected.

“The Atlantic 10 is proud to be able to provide opportunities for its student-athletes to continue their education,” said Bruno. “These young women and men are perfect examples of what college athletics is all about — attaining excellence academically and athletically. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors.”

Cross and Holtz win A-10 postgraduate scholarships

Atlantic 10 commissioner Linda Bruno announced June 16 that softball seniors Brandi Cross and Kaila Holtz are two of the league’s four annual recipients of postgraduate scholarships.

In addition, she garnered a spot on the Atlantic 10 All-Championship team for helping lead the Minutewomen to their ninth straight Atlantic 10 title. Off the field, the Atlantic 10 Softball Student-Athlete of the Year had a 3.92 grade point average as a Psychology major.

Cross is a 2003 first-team Academic All-America and a three-time Verizon Academic All-District first-team selection. She is a three-time Atlantic 10 Academic All-Conference team member and has been a member of the Atlantic 10 Commissioner’s and Athletic Director honor roll each semester. She will enroll at Boston College to pursue a master’s in education this fall.

Her teammate Holtz earned first-team Academic All-America honors after being named the Atlantic 10 Pitcher of the Year for the second season in a row. She kept a 3.82 GPA as an Exercise Science major.

In 2003, Holtz was 23-9 with a conference-low 1.09 ERA. She recorded 27 complete games, 10 solo shutouts, two combined shutouts, and two no-hitters that included a perfect game. Holtz allowed 134 hits and walked just 33 while fanning 200 batters in 205.2 innings. She yielded 32 earned runs and held opponents to a mere 1.80 batting average. At the plate, Holtz hit .284. She collected 40 hits, including eight doubles.

2 Minutemen in Cape League

Senior shortstop Mike Athas and junior outfielder Jason Twomley are spending the summer playing in the Cape Cod Baseball League.

The premier amateur baseball league in the nation since 1885, the Cape League features top college players from around the country.

The season began June 13 and Twomley has been on fire for the Brewster Whitecaps. As of Tuesday, he was second in the league in batting average (.368) and home runs (2) and third in runs batted in (5). Twomley is playing both center field and left field.

Athas, who is playing shortstop for the Orleans Cardinals, has gone 5-for-25 (.200) through the season’s first eight games, with a double, a run batted in, a stolen base, two walks and two runs scored.

For more statistics, visit the league website (www.capewdbaseball.org).