

Outlook

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When Yesterday's Traditions Are Thankfully Past

A chronicle of UMCP's first two African American students



Bill McAllen

Former Congressman Parren Mitchell fought a difficult battle to become the first African American graduate student at the University of Maryland at College Park in 1950.

African American history at the University of Maryland at College Park began quietly. Long before the Black Student Union confronted University President Wilson H. Elkins on the steps of Marie Mount Hall in 1968, four years before *Brown v. Board of Education*, two African Americans successfully sued for admittance to College Park.

In honor of Black History Month, *Outlook* has interviewed the first graduate student and the first undergraduate—pioneers who opened College Park to African Americans.

From the warm living room of his home across from Baltimore's Lafayette

Square, former congressman Parren Mitchell, 71, reminisced about a day—August 15, 1950—that became a turning point in African American history at College Park.

That day, in a two paragraph brief that belied the significance of Mitchell's action, *The Baltimore Sun* reported Mitchell filed a petition in Baltimore City Court to force UMCP to accept him as a graduate student in sociology. Mitchell's attorney, Robert Carter, and counsel from the NAACP, Donald Murray and Thurgood Marshall, were using Mitchell's case to contest Maryland's biracial educational system.

"I was admitted almost immediately,"

Mitchell says. "The university offered to set up a graduate program at Frederick Douglass High School just for me. They also offered to send me to an out-of-state school." Rather than accept qualified African American students to College Park, Maryland's policy had been to pay their tuition to schools elsewhere.

"Strangely enough," Mitchell says, "some black people would get excellent educations that way."

But not Mitchell. Although free tuition would have been a great help to someone earning a probation officer's salary, Mitchell didn't want to leave Baltimore. At 27, he had settled in the city where he grew up with three brothers and three sisters. "My family was not wealthy," Mitchell says. "In fact, at times, we lived in dire economic circumstances."

Though Mitchell's parents never went to college, all except one of his brothers and sisters did and as they graduated they contributed money to their younger siblings' educations. At the time Mitchell applied to UMCP he had a B.A. in sociology from Morgan State University, then an all-black school.

Contending that the University of Maryland had offered Mitchell "off-campus work" as a graduate student in Baltimore, State Attorney General Hall Hammond asked City Court to dismiss Mitchell's case. University officials argued that graduate students in the city were being offered the "same subjects taught by the same professors" from College Park. Thus, Hammond said, Mitchell would be attending an

"equal educational facility."

"They were absolutely unequal," Mitchell says. "In an interesting strategy, the NAACP took to breaking down that pattern of reasoning. First they sued the law school, knowing the university couldn't possibly build a separate law school. Then they moved on to the nursing school and the other professional schools in Baltimore."

In late September 1950, *The Sun* reported that two professors testified that Harry Byrd, president of UMCP, instructed them to create a separate graduate sociology course for Mitchell in the city because "no colored students would be admitted to College Park." Ronald Bramford, acting dean of the graduate school, testified that if

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Hiram Whittle, UMCP's first African American undergraduate, today, and below, in 1952, with housemates from his dormitory.

A Historical Look at the UMCP African American Experience

July 29, 1949—Hiram Whittle, 18, of Baltimore files a suit with the NAACP in Baltimore City Court alleging that, because of his race, officials refused to pass on his undergraduate application to the College of Engineering.

August 15, 1950—Parren Mitchell, 27, of Baltimore files a petition to force the university to accept him as a graduate student in sociology. Three attorneys, including Thurgood Marshall, who was working with the NAACP, ask the court to act on Mitchell's application "without regard to creed or color."

October 1950—Ruling that the University of Maryland was abusing Mitchell's constitutional right to equal opportunity, Baltimore City Court Judge John T. Tucker

directs the university to admit Parren Mitchell to graduate classes at College Park. Mitchell is the first African American to be accepted to College Park.

January 29, 1951—Hiram Whittle, 20, wins his court battle against the state. In a special meeting, the university's Board of Regents vote to accept Whittle—the first African American undergraduate student at College Park.

September 1951—Whittle applies for a dormitory room. State Attorney General Hall Hammond tells university officials: "You must make dormitory space available to Negro students under the same conditions and on the same terms as those accommodations are made available to white students."

1954—Supreme Court decides *Brown v. Board of Education* and the UM Board of Regents vote to accept qualified in-state students to all campuses without regard to race.

1956—The university admits out-of-state African American students.

1967—The Black Student Union is established. The organization helps black students make the transition

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Outlook Readers:

Everyone's a critic. Which is why I expect to hear comments both good and bad about the new *Outlook*.

When the staff of *Outlook* set about redesigning the publication last December, our aim was to bring you not only a better looking (at least to our eyes) newspaper, but also a more informative one. And, in an effort to be more timely, *Outlook* is now published on upgraded newsprint. The look and feel is different, but production time is shortened, our costs are significantly reduced, and we're better able to provide breaking news.

Behind our good looks you'll notice that we're providing more hard news and features about the people and events that make UMCP such an interesting place.

Each issue, we'll report on the latest research, introduce you to some of our unsung heroes, keep you up to date about pertinent administrative news, and provide you with information that helps you get the most of what this campus has to offer.

To bring you this first issue, Kerstin Neteler, our designer, worked and reworked the masthead to create just the right look for the front page. Even the newspaper's typeface was debated.

But working her Macintosh magic, she was able to take editorial ideas and turn them into a reader-friendly layout.

In the midst of our redesign, an assistant editor, Rita Sutter (meet her on page 7), was hired. Her extensive research helped make her article and timeline on UMCP's African American history a comprehensive piece. Donning cumbersome white gloves in the Maryland Room of McKeldin Library, she sifted through stacks of dusty photographs and yellowing newspaper clips from the 1950s—all to get the story right.

Our goal is to be both entertaining and informative—a paper that gives you "news you can use."

Achieving that goal, however, depends on being attuned to our readers. Over the next few months, I'll be talking with many of you to learn what news and information you'd like to see in this publication. I'm also open to suggestions for story ideas from all readers.

If you like what you see, let me know. If you don't, tell me why. This ever-evolving publication is open to change; it's all part of building a better *Outlook*.

—JENNIFER HAWES
EDITOR

Kirwan Back From Asia

President William E. Kirwan returned to College Park last week after a 12-day tour of China, Japan and Taiwan.

Kirwan was invited to China by the Chinese State Education Commission to award an honorary diploma to noted academic and emissary Wan Li, who played a role in opening China to the West during the Nixon administration.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Public Service, given to Li for his groundbreaking work in agricultural resource management, was originally supposed to be presented at UMCP in 1989, but Li was unable to visit the United States at that time. Leonard Raley, assistant vice president for Institutional Advancement, says Kirwan recognized Li in the Great Hall of People, the Chinese equivalent of parliament, and Li, so honored by the occasion, wore the cap and gown home.

Part of the formal and flowery ceremony was nationally televised, Raley says.

Kirwan spent five days in China, strengthening existing relationships with Fudan and Peking Universities, and visiting the Great Wall and the Forbidden City in Beijing.

After leaving China, Kirwan travelled to Tokyo where he met with officials from the National Diet Library, the Japan Foundation, and the Center for Global Partnership to discuss UMCP's stewardship of the Gordan W. Prange Collection and the commitment to making it accessible in Japan. The McKeldin Library houses the collection of censored Japanese documents gathered during allied occupation of that country after World War II.

The Japanese have provided funding to help preserve the collection, and the National Diet Library is participating in a joint effort with UMCP to microfilm

Study Links Optimism to Good Health

Optimists are more likely than others to pay attention to potential health problems. Consequently, they may enjoy better health.

"These findings are surprising," says Lisa G. Aspinwall a University of Maryland at College Park psychology professor who recently announced her conclusions after studying optimism for seven years.

"Both popular belief and psychological theory hold that optimists, because they deny threats, will be less attentive to warnings about their health, and will suffer for it," says Aspinwall. "But I found no evidence that optimism functions like denial."

Webster's dictionary defines an optimist as "someone who anticipates the

best possible outcome." A study by Neil Weinstein of Rutgers University found that 70 percent of the general population believe that they are at lower risk than other people for experiencing negative events. The same percentage was found in the groups who participated in Aspinwall's study.

Aspinwall studied the responses of young adults when asked to read health-related information on six illnesses ranging in severity from a wart to a brain tumor. "If optimists deny threats, they should only want to read non-threatening information," says Aspinwall. Instead, her research found that optimists spent more time reading the severe risk information, and they remembered more of it than did people

End quote

How far has the relationship between the institution and the African-American population at the University of Maryland come, and how can it be improved?



"I think it's come a long way since integration. We've made tremendous strides with graduate rates, especially Ph.D.'s. What we need to work on is creating a climate and a culture that increases awareness of diversity."

—Javaune Adams-Gaston, Director of Athletic Student Services

"I still think the relationship is very poor. It could be improved if the university could make us feel that we are part of the university. I feel that they misuse us. They will find a way to upgrade things for the white employees, but when they get around to us, they say that there's nothing they can do."

—Tony Coleman, Physical Plant



"At one time the University of Maryland was a segregated institution. When I arrived in 1972, we all knew each other by name because we were so small in population. Now, I know only a small cadre of the black population. I don't know more than a third or 50 percent of the black faculty and staff that I see on campus or at functions. One of the great assets of our mock trial team is that we are the most diverse team in the nation. But it would be nice to have a black person in the position of a dean or a vice president."

—Noel Myricks, associate professor of Family Studies and head coach of the Maryland Mock Trial Team

"I've been here for about 21 years. I see they've made some changes, but African-American and classified employees are still struggling. We still have a long way to go. We all should learn more about an individual, learn more about cultural differences. Instead of seeing color, seeing a person as an individual. Diversity year has helped a lot."

—Angela Bass, Administrative Aide, Human Relations Programs



the magazines.

In Taiwan, Kirwan had breakfast with members of the Taiwan Alumni Club. Later, the president discussed the extension program for the University of Maryland in Taiwan.

At a dinner in Taipei, Kirwan congratulated C.S. Shen, another Taiwanese alumnus, on his appointment as President of Tsing Hua University.

President Kirwan also committed to exchange agreements with Tsing Hua University and National Taiwan University, which Raley calls the "Harvard of Taiwan."

—RITA SUTTER

Next Issue: The unsung heroes of Deep Freeze '94. Meet the campus employees who did the tough jobs during the week-long ice storm.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the College Park campus community.

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Letters to the editor, story suggestions, campus information & calendar items are welcome. Please submit all material at least two weeks before the Monday of publication. Send material to Editor, *Outlook*, 2101 Turner Building, through campus mail or to University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. Our telephone number is (301) 405-4629. Electronic mail address is jhawes@umd.edu. Fax number is (301) 314-9344.

Exploring African American Life and Culture

New Course Takes Advantage of D.C.'s Wealth of Archival Materials



Marilyn Pettit, left, and Dean Ann Prentice, of the College of Library and Information Services, believe that African American resources are underutilized.

The way Marilyn Pettit figured it, if she was going to be teaching near Washington, D.C., she might as well make full use of all the area has to offer her classes. Little did she realize that in the months following her initial hiring interview her idea would become reality.

An assistant professor of library and information services who last fall joined the faculty of the university after a stint at New York University, Pettit had remarked to Dean Ann Prentice that she'd "like to teach a course that would take advantage of the richness and wealth of archival material in the city." The papers of Duke Ellington and Mary McLeod Bethune, among others, are housed less than 20 minutes away.

Having long believed that African American resources are "underappreciated and underutilized," Prentice perked up when she heard that, and

just three months later, with the help of a matching grant from the Diversity at UMCP: Moving Toward Community Initiative, she has developed a course called "Sources of Diversity: Materials in Archives and Libraries for the Study of African American Life and Culture." For now, it will be offered only in the summer, beginning this year, though its 499-numbered designation makes it available to both undergraduate and graduate students.

While acknowledging the introductory course is a trial-run, Prentice makes no secret about her ambitions.

For starters, she hopes to see "students from a number of other disciplines take the course." Those interested in sociology, art history, music history and anthropology, Prentice says, would especially benefit from such a course.

She also has broadly conceived it as a kind of recruiting tool. As she sees it, the course could serve as bait in luring "those students who haven't really settled on an area of interest." And, because the course is interdisciplinary, Prentice believes the department may be able to reach out to students who might otherwise never have thought to consider library and information services as a major.

Though she is not limiting herself only to minority students, if the course were to attract them "to doing archival work," she'd be delighted. Prentice has no statistics, but says the percentage of minorities doing archival work in this country is paltry at best. "And even those who are doing it," she says, by way of explaining the appeal of the course, "may not know enough about the resources available, particularly in this part of the country."

Such is the breadth of Prentice's thinking that, six months before any syllabi have been handed out, she's already made plans for the course to be videotaped, in hopes that what Pettit has to offer may reach a wider distribution.

Prentice also is planning to advertise the course nationally—she's targeted various archival journals and even *The Chronicle of Higher Education*—to "attract people from other parts of the country." And if the first summer course is successful, "we'll do other ethnic groups." Already on the board: a course in Hispanic archival material. And maybe even one in Native American archival material.

—TODD KILMAN



**DIVERSITY
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TOWARD
COMMUNITY**

**...the percentage
of minorities doing
archival work in
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at best.**

—Ann Prentice

Turn on, Tune In, and Take a Critical Look at the Boob Tube

While teaching at the University of New Hampshire in the early 1970s, John Splaine also directed its "Upward Bound" program for low income young people.

But as he tried to prepare these students for college, he realized that he was having a problem communicating with them. They had grown up watching television in much the same way that he had grown up reading.

"We were coming from different mediums, so it was like two ships passing in the night," Splaine says.

Since then, Splaine, an associate professor of education policy, planning and administration, has dedicated his research to helping people watch television critically.

"Young people are watching television three to five hours a day and only reading for 20 minutes," Splaine says. "My job is to help teachers understand the effects of TV and teach that to children."

There are generally three things that he wants people to get from his approach: all of television is planned for effect; editing can help achieve whatever the effect is; and because televisions are so small, shows and commercials are manipulated to keep the viewer's attention.

Splaine, who has taught at the university since 1973, has studied camera angles and techniques and found that they can be compared to grammar.

"Anything other than a medium close-up is a distortion," Splaine says. "A zoom magnifies what someone is saying like an exclamation point."

Splaine says that a camera angled up towards someone suggests power and control, while one angled down at a person suggests submission. A camera positioned from the side suggests that the person is not telling the truth, because their eyes are hidden from the viewer.

"Just like you edit in writing, you can also edit visually," Splaine says. "Lots of people think that because it's a picture, it's real. Wrong! It could be real."

Editing can influence the way an audience will receive something, Splaine says. If someone is giving a speech and the screen moves to people in the audience, whether they are booing or cheering will have an effect on how the speech is perceived.

And the images move constantly: every two seconds on MTV, every four seconds on the average drama show, and 20 times in the average 30 second commercial.

"In order to keep us attentive [televi-

sion producers] are very creative," Splaine says. "They know that they have to paint on a small screen."

Television also relies on repetition, Splaine says.

During one basketball game, there were 104 commercials. Thirty-two were for cars and car-related products and 16 were for alcoholic beverages. There was one commercial at half-time that told people not to drink and drive, but the message that got across to the viewer was one of cars and beer side by side, Splaine says.

"I just want people to get off the couch and start thinking for themselves," Splaine says.

Although he finds it hard to weave his research into his teaching curriculum, he does set aside time in his classes to talk about watching TV critically. But Splaine has also found a real world outlet to test his theories.

He made a presentation at a seminar for professors that was held by the C-SPAN cable network in 1987, and that grew into part-time work as a consultant for the public affairs network.

"They wanted their employees to learn about what I was studying," Splaine says. He works with them, helping them ask good, open-ended questions. "C-SPAN attempts to be as objec-



John Splaine

tive as possible," says Splaine, "and my job is to help them meet that goal."

Splaine has authored two books, *Critical Viewing: Stimulant to Critical Thinking*, and *Educating the Consumer of Television: An Interactive Approach*, both directed at junior high and high school students, as well as many articles on the subject.

—STEPHEN SOBEK



No Mommy Me #1, by artist Joyce Scott.

The Works of African-American Sculptors

Beginning Feb. 2 and continuing through April 11 is the Art Gallery's newest exhibition, *Sources: Multicultural Influences on Contemporary African-American Sculptors*. Guest curator Stephanie Pogue, professor and chair, Department of Art, has selected five celebrated artists: Melvin Edwards (New York City); Martha Jackson-Jarvis (Washington, D.C.); John Scott (New Orleans); Joyce Scott (Baltimore); and Denise Ward-Brown (St. Louis), who work from the junctures of many communities and cultures.

The artists' sources include Native American myths, jazz music, western abstraction and South American textiles.

Edwards' assemblages of welded steel twist and project in a demeanor of contained aggression. The artist uses materials such as locks, chain links and railroad spikes to create wall-based sculpture that suggest masks, body parts or devices of torture.

Bits of glass, ceramics, stones and tile cascade and flow over the floor and walls of the Art Gallery in Jackson-Jarvis's exhibit. Amidst the streams of particles stand seven ornately decorated sarcophagi.

John Scott creates abstract structures which allude to traditional African objects such as musical instruments and spears. Some of these architectural configurations are floor-based, others are wall-based and some connect the two surfaces.

Using beads, cloth and leather, Joyce Scott creates small figurative sculptures which act out sometimes startling narratives. Her figures are frequently used to confront stereotypes, especially racial ones, in a manner both humorous and gravely serious.

Ward-Brown uses doors, tables, frames and windows which she assembles into sculptures often suggesting new functions and meaning.

On Thursday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m., there will be a panel discussion with the artists and guest curator entitled "Balance and Identity" in room 2309 of the Art-Sociology Building. The event is free and open to the public.

The Art Gallery is located in the Art-Sociology building. Exhibition hours are Monday-Friday, noon to 4 p.m.; Wednesday evenings until 9 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

Calendar Feb. 7-Feb. 16

Arts

Open Rehearsal: Thu., Feb. 10, Guarneri String Quartet, 7 p.m., Tawes Recital Hall. Call 5-5548 for info.

Concert Society at Maryland Olde Musicke Series: Fri., Feb. 11, Tallis Scholars, 8 p.m., Washington National Cathedral, tickets are \$18-25, (Students \$8). Free pre-concert symposium at 6 p.m. Call 403-4240 for info.*

Creative Dance Lab: Sat., Feb. 12, Creative Dance for 4- to 6-year-olds, 10-10:45 a.m., Studio 36, Dance Building. \$65, checks made payable to UMCP. Call 5-7039.*

Creative Dance Lab: Sat., Feb. 12, Basics in Modern Dance for 7- to 9-year-olds, 10:45 a.m.-12 noon, Studio 36, Dance Building. \$80, checks made payable to UMCP. Call 5-7039 for info.*

Creative Dance Lab: Sat., Feb. 12, Modern Dance/Choreography for 10-to 18-year-olds, 12 noon-1:30 p.m., Studio 36, Dance Building. \$90, Checks made payable to UMCP. Call 5-7039 for info.*

Lectures

Public Affairs Discussion: Mon., Feb. 7, "The Influence of the Media On Public Policy," Jodie Allen, editor of the *Washington Post's* "Outlook" section, 12:15-1:45 p.m., 1412 Van Munching. Call 5-6330 for info.

Horticulture Colloquium: Mon., Feb. 7, "The Maryland Forest Conservation Act," Elmina Hilsenrath, 4 p.m., 0128 Holzapfel. Call 5-4355 for info.

Africa and Africa in the Americas Brown Bag Presentation: Wed., Feb. 9, "Trailing Chester Himes," Norlisha Crawford, 12 noon, Dean's Conference Room, Francis Scott Key. Call 5-2118.

Celebrate Learning (A Series of the Division of Letters and Sciences): Wed., Feb. 9, Sharon Harley, "Locating Self: Historical and Personal Notes on the Study of Women's Work," 7 p.m., 1250 Zoology/Psychology. Opening remarks by Daniel Fallon, reception to follow. Call 4-8418 for info.

Speech Communication Colloquium Series: Fri., Feb. 11, Nancy Struever, Johns Hopkins University, "The Rhetoric of Familiarity," noon, 0104 Skinner. Call 5-6526 for info.

University Honors Program Spring Lecture Series: Fri., Feb. 11, "Gender and Structural Economic Change," Rhonda Williams, Department of Afro-American Studies, 1 p.m., Basement Lounge, Anne Arundel. Call 5-6711 for info.

Horticulture Colloquium: Mon., Feb. 14, "Role of Sorbitol in Apple Fruit Growth and Development," 4 p.m.,

0128 Holzapfel. Call 5-4355 for info.

Lecture: Tue., Feb. 15, "Leadership in the African American Community," Yolanda King, the daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 7 p.m., Hoff Theatre. Sponsored by SEE Productions, the Student Union Program Council and the Committee on Undergraduate Women's Leadership. Tickets are \$3 for students, \$7 for non-students and will be available in both the ticket booth at Stamp Student Union and through Ticketmaster. Call 4-8495 for info.*

Meetings

Women in International Security Conference: Mon., Feb. 7, "Proliferation and International Stability in the 1990s," 1-9 p.m., Washington Hotel. Call 5-7612 for info.

Counseling Center Research and Development Meeting: Wed., Feb. 9, Donald Tuitt, President, Black Student Union, 12 noon-1 p.m., Testing Room, Shoemaker. Call 4-7690 for info.

College Park Senate Meeting: Thu., Feb. 10, 3:30-6:30 p.m., 0200 Skinner. Call 5-5805 for info.

University of Maryland System Board of Regents Meeting: Fri., Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m., Stamp Student Union. Call (301)445-2739 for info.

Counseling Center Research and Development Meeting: Wed., Feb. 16, Verna Wilson, 12 noon-1 p.m., Testing Room, Shoemaker Building. Call 4-7690 for info.

Seminars

Women's Studies Sixth Annual Polyseminar: Tue., Feb. 8, Buchi Emecheta, Nigerian sociologist and renowned novelist, 8 p.m., 2203 Art-Sociology. Call 5-6877 for info.

Molecular and Cell Biology Graduate Program Seminar: Wed., Feb. 9, "The Role of Abl Tyrosine

Kinase in Cell Cycle Regulation," Jean Wang, University of California at San Diego, 12:05 p.m., 1208 Zoology-Psychology. Call 5-6991 for info.

Meteorology Seminar: Thu., Feb. 10, "How Clouds Foil a Run-Away Greenhouse Effect in the Western Tropical Pacific," Albert Arking, 3:30 p.m., 2324 Computer and Space Sciences. Call 5-5392 for info.

Geology Seminar: Fri., Feb. 11, Student Day III, N. Katyl, K. Ratajeski and B. Shane, 11 a.m., 0103 Hornbake. Call 5-4089 for info.

Molecular and Cell Biology Graduate Program Seminar: Wed., Feb. 16, "Growth Factors: Identification and Function in the Uterus and Early Embryo," Louis Guille, University of Florida, 12:05 p.m., 1208 Zoology-Psychology. Call 5-6991 for info.

Special Events

Take Another Look Fair: Wed., Feb. 9, Grand Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. Call 4-7174.

Black History Month Cultural Dinner: Wed., Feb. 9, 5:30-7 p.m., Denton, Ellicott, and South Campus Dining Halls. Call 4-7758 for info.

See and Taste a Culture: Mon., Feb. 7, through Fri., Feb. 11, Parking Garage 2, travelling display on diversity in the workplace. Food sampling Thu., Feb. 10, at noon. Call 5-3214 for info.

Calendar Guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314- or 405- respectively. Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*). For more information, call 405-4628.

Listings highlighted in color have been designated as Diversity Year events by the Diversity Initiative Committee.



England's acclaimed Tallis Scholars will perform a program in honor of the 400th anniversary of the death of Renaissance composer Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina at the Washington National Cathedral on Feb. 11.

Office of Institutional Advancement Increases Its Ranks

Several new—and some familiar—employees recently joined the Office of Institutional Advancement working in the areas of alumni programs, development and public information. On this page, Outlook introduces you to these friendly faces on campus and tells you something about the role they play in helping to advance the institution.

Alumni Programs

Jack Fracasso, the new associate executive director in the Office of Alumni Programs, is not so new to UMCP. Since 1989, he has served as associate director of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. In his new position, Fracasso is responsible for the administrative functions of the alumni office as well as staffing the alumni advocates committee.

Fracasso has extensive experience in communications, strategic planning, management, and public relations. He received his B.A. degree in English from Brown University, his M.A. in communications from the University of California at Davis, and is working on a Ph.D. in policy sciences at the University of Maryland at Baltimore.

Gretchen King, former director of student and special alumni programs, is now the director of alumni clubs. King, who has been with the College Park Alumni Association since 1992, has worked with volunteers both at College Park and at the University of Missouri at St. Louis.

Before coming to Maryland, King was coordinator of constituent relations at the University of Missouri at St. Louis, where she worked with the Parents Council and the African American chapter of that school's alumni association. King received a cum laude B.A. in print journalism from Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., and an M.A. in journalism from Northern Illinois University.

Public Information

Rita Sutter recently joined the staff of Outlook as assistant editor. Sutter is a journalist who spent three years as a stringer with the Philadelphia Inquirer's New Jersey Bureau and two years as a freelance writer in New York City.

Sutter earned her B.A. in journalism from Temple University. In addition to contributing feature articles and profiles, she is responsible for coordinating the news pages of Outlook.

Cassandra Robinson, the new senior media relations specialist in the Office of Public Information, comes to College Park from Virginia State University in Petersburg, Va., where she was director

of university relations. During her five years at VSU, Robinson was responsible for the university's entire public relations program, including media relations, community relations and publications. At UMCP, she coordinates media relations activities for the campus units dealing with aspects of government and politics. She also covers the College of Education, education reform and UMCP institutional issues.

Robinson earned her B.A. in journalism from Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, La. She then completed her M.A. in journalism at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Leslie Copeland, Julie Liffbrig and Lee Poston are the new media relations specialists in the Office of Public Information.

Copeland, former public affairs manager at the American Counseling Association in Alexandria, Va., is

responsible for developing a media relations program that publicizes students' achievements as well as activities and programs which enhance the undergraduate experience at UMCP. She will also coordinate media relations for the psychology department, university libraries, graduate studies and research and the College of Journalism. While at ACA,

she coordinated all public affairs activities, including assessing public and media relations needs, and creating policies, programs, projects and goals.

Copeland received her B.S. degree from Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communication.

Liffbrig joins UMCP after serving as a public information director for the University of North Dakota Alumni Association and the University of North Dakota Foundation in Grand Forks, N.D. She coordinated all internal and external communications and edited the alumni newspaper, annual report and all other printed materials. At UMCP, she coordinates media relations for arts and humanities and performing arts, as well as women's and environmental issues.

Liffbrig earned her cum laude B.A. in journalism from the University of North Dakota.

Poston comes to the University of Maryland from Vanderbilt University Medical Center where he was an information officer. He pitched stories to



James Dunn, Brenda Schuster, Ronald Morse and Stephen McDaniel of the Office of Development.

local and national media, served as a hospital spokesman and edited and designed *VUMC Reporter*, a weekly medical journal. At UMCP, Poston is putting his medical/scientific know-how to work covering engineering, agriculture, life sciences and health and human performance, as well as health care and telecommunications issues.

A graduate of University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Poston earned his B.S. in communications. While at UT, he majored in journalism and concentrated his studies in governmental public relations.

Development

James Dunn has joined the corporate/foundation relations staff, having primary responsibility for enhancing the university's funding from foundations. Dunn received his B.S. in marketing from UMCP ('88) and has worked since graduation at the Kennedy Center. He worked on the center's annual fund campaign and on the writing and editing of development division literature. Dunn is also an accomplished pianist.

Stephen McDaniel was inspired to leave the sunny Virgin Islands to become a senior development officer here, with primary responsibility for the Colleges of Education and Life Sciences. Prior to taking his position at the

University of the Virgin Islands, McDaniel worked for 12 years in development for the United Negro College Fund. He holds a bachelor's degree in African American Studies from the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Ronald Morse has come to College Park as development's director of international programs. Morse earned two degrees from the University of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. in Japanese Studies from Princeton. He worked for the Departments of Defense, State, and Energy from 1974 to 1981, then

established and directed the Asia Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center located in the Smithsonian Institution until 1988. He worked subsequently for the Library of Congress and has his own firm, Annapolis International. He has been a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Posts and Telecommunications Policy of the Japanese Ministry in Tokyo, Visiting Lecturer at the Naval Academy, and an adjunct faculty member at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. Morse will be raising support for international programs, with principal focus on Japan.

Brenda Schuster is the new director of the Colonnade Society, coming to this position from the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College. She was director of annual giving and alumni affairs at Thayer, where she was responsible for increasing annual support and participation and establishing leadership gift clubs. Prior to assuming those duties, Schuster was a development research analyst and an admission counselor for Dartmouth. She holds a B.A. in English from Plymouth State College in New Hampshire. Schuster's principal charge is to help development greatly increase support for the university at the Colonnade level.



Gretchen King and Jack Fracasso of Alumni Programs.



Rita Sutter, Lee Poston, Julie Liffbrig, Leslie Copeland and Cassandra Robinson recently joined the Office of Public Information.

Yesterday's Traditions

continued from page 1

Mitchell had been a white man he would have been assigned as a student at UMCP.

By October 3, Judge John T. Tucker had heard enough. Mitchell remembers Tucker as a "crusty conservative" who he thought would certainly rule against him. But Tucker ordered the university to admit Mitchell to College Park. Because Mitchell would be unable to exchange views with other students and take part in campus activities, Tucker said, he would not be getting an equal education in Baltimore.

Soon afterward, the graduate student realized that his lawsuit was the easiest part of his education at UMCP.

Each day began with a long commute to reach a school where many administrators and students were openly hostile to African Americans.

"I didn't have an automobile," Mitchell says. "I took the bus to College Park and walked up that long, long hill. No one smiled at me. No one talked to me.

"One time, I went to the cafeteria, a big cavernous room, and as I walked past each table, the students got quiet. It was uncomfortable."

Another painful experience Mitchell has not forgotten was when one of his professors used the adjective "niggardly" in a lecture and some of his classmates chuckled.

Mitchell says although most faculty members ignored him, he was befriended by one anthropology professor who invited him for a family dinner.

Mitchell does not harbor wistful, pleasant memories of his time at UMCP. Looking back, he remembers University of Maryland President Harry C. Byrd as a "notorious segregationist" who was "worse than the most rabid segregationist in the deep south."

In 1952, Mitchell graduated with a master's degree in sociology and began teaching introductory sociology courses at Morgan State University. In the 1960s, with the initiation of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War On Poverty Program, Mitchell was appointed director of the Baltimore City Community Action Agency. Mitchell met with people in church basements and meeting halls all over the city to learn how he could help them. "They told me to run for congress. I said no. I had no real interest in political life. I was much more interested in civil rights."

Nonetheless, Mitchell was finally persuaded to run in 1967, six weeks before the election. He lost by a "couple of thousand votes", which convinced his supporters that he could win if they'd had more time to campaign. In 1970, Mitchell ran again and won, serving 16 years in the House of Representatives.

Today Mitchell, who never married, directs the Washington-based Minority Business Enterprise, Legal Defense and Education Fund which he established in 1984. The elder statesman of civil rights works with lawyers, filing suits wherever a "pattern of discrimination against minority businesses can be established."

If Parren Mitchell remembers the reality of desegregating UMCP as a painful battle against official prejudice, Hiram Whittle—the first African American undergraduate—regards his year here much more benignly. In the

snug, book-lined library of his home in the Forest Park section of northwest Baltimore, Whittle, 63, recounted his own story.

Whittle was a 19-year-old student at the segregated Morgan State when the Baltimore office of the NAACP asked him if he'd consider being a test case. Whittle, who wanted to be an electrical engineer, agreed. At that time, he was living in East Baltimore with his six brothers and two sisters. Whittle was the fifth child in a family of strict Jehovah's Witnesses, and the first to go to college.

"The NAACP was filing suits against a number of schools and I was asked to be a part of their program to open up the University of Maryland College of Engineering," Whittle says. "Donald Murray was the lead counsel, but behind him was the whole NAACP staff, including Thurgood Marshall." Also an African American, Donald Murray sued to enter the University of Maryland School of Law in 1934.

On January 31, 1951, before Whittle's case could go to trial, the University of Maryland Board of Regents held a special meeting and, acting on the advice of the State Attorney General, voted to admit Whittle to College Park "immediately."

There was "no other action to take," an unidentified board member said to a *Baltimore Sun* reporter.

In addition, the board announced that the state's biracial education system "must be abandoned unless actual equality is provided in facilities for negroes." Board members also decided African American students should be admitted to UMCP unless taxpayers and lawmakers wanted to slate funds specifically for improvements to segregated schools. Stressing that future policy was for the legislature to decide, the board emphasized its opposition to past "makeshift policies" regarding African American students because "they have neither given Negro students equal facilities nor prevented their entering the university."

The university's objections to the biracial education policies were not humanitarian. Officials were concerned only because none of the state's policies had held up when challenged in court.

In Whittle's suit, the regents felt that there were no legal grounds to deny him entry to the university. So, in February 1951, Whittle transferred from Morgan State, where he'd gone for two and a half years.

"For my first semester, the NAACP arranged for me to live with a lady in Lakeland. It was a small community of colored people who lived right outside of the campus," Whittle says.

Whittle says going to school at UMCP was "no different from going to Morgan State."

"I didn't know the difference," he says. "I was that busy."

"The same college atmosphere that existed at Morgan State existed at the University of Maryland."

Professors treated him the same as any other student, Whittle says, and he doesn't recall encountering the overt prejudice that Mitchell struggled with. "Many of the students were from Baltimore and in those days we really didn't have a racial problem here in the



Marjory Brooks, dean of the College of Home Economics, speaks at a student rally on the steps of Marie Mount Hall in October 1968.

city," he says. "Oh yeah, we had segregation, but among the kids we didn't really have a racial problem."

The following year Whittle applied for a dormitory room and the university, legally bound, honored his application.

Whittle was given his own room in a dormitory originally built to house World War II veterans who were going to school on the GI Bill. Whittle recalls his transition into dorm life as uneventful.

"No problems," he says. "It wasn't anything new to me. Just the general social environment you'd find on any college campus."

"Also, I have pretty much always operated in an interracial environment," Whittle says of his lifelong participation in the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Although his dormitory arrangements were satisfactory, Whittle found the educational requirements of the College of Engineering to be too rigorous. After one year he left College Park and, shortly after, moved to New York City. Since 1963, Whittle has worked for Baltimore City government.

In the past 43 years the university has not succeeded in eradicating the effects of its discriminatory history, but the climate for African Americans has improved markedly. Since the mid-1950s the university has executed a number of programs to help recruit and retain minority students. And a 1992 study by the magazine *Black Issues in Higher Education* ranked UMCP as number one nationally among non-historically black schools in the number of baccalaureate and doctoral degrees awarded to black students.

"It's true that the University of Maryland has made much progress, but that doesn't mean that racism doesn't exist there," Mitchell says. "I think black students must be vigilant against any forms of racism."

—RITA SUTTER

African American Experience

continued from page 1

to college life and succeed in their academic pursuits.

1967—The *Black Explosion* newspaper is published by the Black Student Union.

1971—Nyumburu Cultural Center opens as part of the Intensive Educational Development Program's efforts to support African American students. Director J. Otis Williams says that the center plays a major role in the cultural, social and academic life of College Park students. "We seek to bridge the gap between the diverse groups of students at College Park by focusing on African American culture and history, and by sponsoring academic courses and lectures."

1970—3.4 percent of full time students are African American.

1971—Black Faculty and Staff Association is formed. Today UMCP employs almost 1,000 African Americans as staff and faculty.

1978—The university implements the Benjamin Banneker Scholarship Program. Originally, the program offered two-year scholarships with stipends of \$1,000 per year to all minority students. But the university found that the funding was not significant enough to attract high-achieving African American students to UMCP. In 1988, UMCP increased the value of the scholarship and limited it to African Americans.

Banneker scholarships are merit based and currently provide full financial support for four years of study at UMCP. Overall, the cost of the Banneker Program accounts for approximately one percent of UMCP's total financial aid budget.

1980—7.5 percent of full time students are African American. Headline in the *Ebony Spotlight*, published by the Black Student Union, proclaims "All White School Integrates."

September 1985—Several *Black Explosion* staff members change the name of the historical publication to *Eclipse*. With the cooperation of the Black Student Union, the campus NAACP chapter and the Nyumburu Cultural Center, *Black Explosion* continues to be published through the cultural center.

1990—11.2 percent of full time students are African American.

1993-94—Fifteen percent of the freshman class is African American. Also, African Americans make up 7 percent of College Park's graduate population.

—RITA SUTTER

Take note

Coastal Research Lab Awarded \$720,000 Grant

A \$720,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation will allow a UMCP research team to study coastal erosion through field and laboratory studies.

Five researchers and a host of graduate students from the university's Laboratory for Coastal Research will spend three years performing field investigations of coastal processes and beach erosion from Stuart, Fla., to Nantucket, Mass. The grant also will fund a computer mapping analysis of shoreline changes to assist with predicting erosion trends.

"Over 70 percent of the U.S. beaches are currently eroding, and \$8 billion has been spent on beach nourishment in the last decade," says Stephen Leatherman, director of the laboratory, who will oversee both projects. "With hundreds of 'cities on the beach,' we have literally drawn a trillion dollar line in the sand across which the sea must not pass or enormous damage results."

Leatherman is an internationally known expert on coastal processes. He and his colleagues would like to study the cyclical patterns of coastline change, which he calls "templates of change." Leatherman says that many beaches and inlets go through cycles, during which the beaches may actually increase in size before eroding.

MBA Program is the Tops

The College of Business and Management's MBA program got top marks in the *Princeton Review's 1994 Guide to the Best Business Schools*, ranking among the top ten in several categories.

The Review gives brief descriptions of the top 70 business schools in the country, then ranks the schools according to student surveys conducted last spring. Maryland ranked number one in the categories of helping students develop strong accounting and marketing skills and in having a very effective job placement office. The business school ranked number six in helping students develop strong operations skills. And in the categories of best overall skills and helping students develop strong quantitative skills, Maryland ranked eighth.

Other areas in which the business school hit the top ten were student diversity, quality of library facilities and alumni networking. In addition, Maryland enjoys top ten status in terms of its social life and student camaraderie.

Steinway Makes a Grand Donation to Archives

Several documents and other correspondence involving the late concert pianist Josef Hofmann and the firm of Steinway and Sons will soon be accessible to the public at the International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM) located in the Music Library. The documents were donated to the IPAM by Henry Z. Steinway, a descendant of the famous piano-crafting family.

Hofmann, who died in 1957 and whose papers belong to IPAM, was considered one of the world's greatest pianists during the period between the

two World Wars and rated on a par professionally with the likes of Rachmaninoff and Paderewski. He was a Steinway artist throughout his career. The pianist's correspondence with the Steinways related primarily to business matters, progress reports on his career, reflections on his concert performances and some mechanical inventions for the improvement of the piano that he advanced to the Steinways.

A number of photographs are also part of this collection.

Birnbaum to Help Redefine Higher Education in Japan

Robert Birnbaum, an education professor who studies higher education, has assumed the position of vice president and dean of faculty at Miyazaki International College, a new education venture that may redefine higher education in Japan. The two-year position began in January and the college will open in April 1994.

Located on the Japanese island of Kyushu, Miyazaki International College is a new four-year institution that is a cooperative effort by Japanese and American educators to prepare Japanese students to function as effectively in other cultures as they do in Japan.

"Japan and the United States are both world powers who often find it difficult to understand each other, even as their political, social and economic interests are becoming more interconnected," notes Birnbaum. To improve international understanding, the college will focus on comparative culture, helping students to bridge cultural and national boundaries by offering courses in the social sciences and humanities, supported by English language courses.

Literacy Tutors Post 93 Percent Success Rate

Students at Northwestern High School are passing the Maryland Functional Reading Test and Writing Test in record numbers, thanks to UMCP students who are serving as literacy tutors.

Ninety of the 96 students tutored in preparation for the Reading Test administered in October passed it, according to Linda Conley, Northwestern High School Reading Specialist. Conley, who describes Northwestern as a melting pot that presents a unique literacy challenge, says "The positive influence College Park students have on our students is immeasurable. They made a significant difference in the success of the students."

According to Conley, there are 40 languages spoken at Northwestern. Nineteen of the students tutored were learning English as a second language. All were identified by the English teachers as "students at serious risk."

Some of the College Park tutors also had been at-risk students. Theresa DiPaolo, who initiated the program eight years ago, says, "Students who may have had some problems themselves know what it's like to stumble and can share their experiences."

Ralph Schlenker, Executive Director of ISR, Dies

Ralph Schlenker, Executive Director of the Institute for Systems Research (ISR) in the College of Engineering, died Jan. 24 in Gettysburg, Pa., after a sudden illness.

Inbrief

Lesbian and Gay Luncheon—The Lesbian and Gay Staff and Faculty Association is holding a brown bag lunch on Tues., Feb. 15, from noon to 1:30 p.m., in the Maryland Room. Katie King, from the Women's Studies Program, will discuss a new UMCP course on lesbian and gay issues. The Domestic Partnership Benefits Task Force also will make a report. New members are welcome. To be included on the mailing list, call Lee Badgett at 405-6384 or e-mail her at 359120@umdd.umd.edu.

Rapturous Retirement—Employees enrolled in the TIAA/CREF Retirement Plan who retire after Oct. 1, 1993, with 25 years of creditable service will receive the state health insurance subsidy for their covered dependents. Any questions on this matter should be directed to the benefits office at 405-5654.

Senate Scoop—The College Park Senate calendar for Spring 1994 is as follows: Thursday, Feb. 10; Monday, Mar. 7; Thursday, Mar. 31; Monday, April 18; and Thursday, May 5. All Senate meetings convene at 3:30 p.m. in Room 0200 Skinner Building.

Super Student Employees—The Job Referral Service invites faculty, staff and community employers to nominate student employees who have exemplified initiative, reliability and other fine work qualities. Students who work part-time, full-time or as volunteers are all eligible but must have been employed for at least six months. Each department/organization may nominate more than one student employee. Scholarships ranging from \$650 to \$2,500 will be awarded to the top five finalists. Nomination deadline is Feb. 22. For more information, contact Jacqueline James-Hughes at 314-8324. Forms are available at 0119 Hornbake Bldg., South Wing.

Outstanding Service Awards—The Office of the President requests nominations for the 1994 Outstanding Service to the Schools Award to be given to a select number of university faculty and program staff in recognition of their exemplary service to the schools. The award honors members of the campus community for their work with school-aged students and their teachers in Maryland. Nomination packets may be picked up from deans and director offices. Two letters of endorsement, including one from school system personnel, must be submitted along with the nominee's vita to: Dr. Thomas D. Weible, Acting Director, School/University Cooperative Programs, 3119 Benjamin Building, by March 7 to receive full consideration.

Go International—The deadline for applications to the International Travel Fund is Feb. 15, 1994. Funds, which cover air fare only, are available for UMCP faculty members planning to conduct research abroad. Please note that travel to conferences, conventions or other international meetings will not be supported. To obtain further information or application forms, contact Valerie Williams in the Office of International Affairs, 405-4772.

Deadline for MARC Awards—The Maryland Assessment Resource Center (MARC) is seeking nominations for its annual award bestowed on the higher education institution which has conducted the best assessment project. Each Maryland public institution of higher education may select one project, completed within the past five years, for submission. Included among the judging criteria are extent of faculty involvement, importance of the topic and significance of the activity with respect to the campus mission, evidence of dissemination and cost effectiveness. Materials to be submitted include copies of the original project report, a project summary, a letter of endorsement from the unit head and a letter of endorsement from the Chief Academic Officer, Vice President or President. Submissions are due by Monday, Feb. 21. For more information, call MARC at 405-7871.

Schlenker joined the ISR in Sept. 1989. As executive director, he played a major role in the evolution of the institute's education and industrial collaboration programs. He developed a variety of industrially supported research initiatives and was instrumental in developing outreach programs for high school math and science students and teachers.

He earned his B.S. in civil engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and his M.S. in civil engineering from Purdue University.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the American Heart Association New Jersey Affiliate Memorial Program, 2550 Route 1, North Brunswick, N.J. 08902-4301.

Planning the Future

"Collaborations and Partnerships: The Next Twenty Years" is the theme of the 20th Annual Student Affairs Conference to be held on Friday, Feb. 18, at the Stamp Student Union. Topics

for this year's national conference include future directions for national associations, administrative and leadership issues, gender bias in student communication, and issues related to accommodations for students with disabilities.

Arthur Levine and Lee Knepfelkamp, renowned in the field of higher education, are keynote speakers. Levine is a senior faculty member at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Knepfelkamp, a recipient of the UMCP Distinguished Scholar-Teacher Award, is professor of higher education at Teachers College, Columbia University. She is widely respected for her work in student development theory and for her accomplishments in multicultural education.

In addition to keynote addresses, there will be other prominent speakers and round table discussions. For more information, contact Pat Schaecher at 314-8428.

Simon Says: Stop Brooding

An economics professor tells how to pull yourself out of the blues.

Julian Simon tortured himself into depression and has lived to write a cognitive therapy book about it.

From 1962 until 1975, in a daily ritual of self-excoriation, the economist reviewed his faults and failures and agonized over his perceived worthlessness. "I was a prisoner of my mental habits, as we all are, but I was imprisoned in a particularly painful way," Simon says.

In the introduction to *Good Mood: The New Psychology of Overcoming Depression*, Simon writes that for 13 years he refused to allow himself to do many of life's pleasurable things because he thought he should suffer. And for a long time, Simon says, he felt powerless to understand why.

Initially, he consulted psychiatrists and psychologists, but they were unable to do anything substantive for him. Outside of moments when he was absorbed in work, participating in sports or making love, Simon was overwhelmed by a grim sense of hopelessness and helplessness.

Only once did Simon experience a momentary release from despair.

He and his wife were visiting friends in the country. It was the first time they had been away from home since Simon became depressed six months earlier. They slept out-of-doors and when Simon woke in the morning he heard a bird trill and was overcome by a "radiant, delicious inner peace." After a few hours, though, he was depressed again. But the temporary lightening of his spirit gave Simon hope for redemption.

In the early 1970s, an Orthodox Jewish friend suggested Simon follow a precept of the Sabbath and be deliberately cheerful and happy at least this one day of each week. Simon thought

this was a wonderful philosophy.

Summoning all of his willpower, the professor made a rule that he would not work, or think about work, or let himself be angry with anyone from sunset Friday night until after sundown on Saturday. In this way he was able to sustain a feeling of contentment throughout the Sabbath.

In 1975, Simon cleared a backlog of work from his desk and in a rare unrushed period decided to focus on himself. "I said, 'you ought to think about this seriously. Start first thing in the morning when the mind is fresh and creative.'"

Simon went to the library, brought home a bag of books on depression, and taught himself about cognitive therapy by reading the seminal works of its chief proponents, Aaron Beck and Albert Ellis. "The key element in Beck was that you can change your own head," Simon says. "That's the radical element so different from Freudian psychology which holds that you are a victim of your childhood."

The idea that he could control his feelings was an epiphany for Simon. Equipped with this new knowledge, he cured his depression in a month. "I knew that that was it," he says of the experience. "But I waited a week to tell my wife."

Coming from anyone else this pronouncement might seem incredible, but Simon's life has been full of provocative headlines since then.

In the Dec. 3, 1993, issue of the *Washingtonian*, Simon was described as "an iconoclastic professor of business administration" who "has led the way in arguing that doomsayers frightened by overpopulation and global shortage of

natural resources are dead wrong."

Simon's incendiary economic theories have been written about in the *Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, and the *Washington Post*. *New York Times Magazine* called him the scourge of the environmental movement. The Aug. 18,

1985, issue of *Washington Post Magazine* featured him on the cover, and asked, "What Population Explosion?" Simon accused environmentalists of being prophets of doom. The Population Crisis Committee called his work supply-side demographics.

Inspired by his success with self-therapy, Simon expanded Beck and Ellis's theories. He developed the concept that depression arises from making negative self-comparisons. "It is the combination of this negative self-comparison plus helplessness that is theoretically new," he says.

Simon's book combines past cognitive therapy methods with a detailed examination he calls self-comparisons analysis which "sharpens the concept of negative thinking to a precise formulation of a mood ratio with two parts. The 'numerator' is the situation that person believes to be true. The 'denominator' is the state the person uses as a benchmark. A mood ratio with the numerator being less positive than the denominator, together with a sense of helplessness, causes sadness, loss of self-worth, and eventually depression."

Although Simon's explanation of "self-comparisons analysis" may sound as if he's targeting an audience of depressed social scientists, his logic is simple. "Whenever you think about yourself in a judgmental fashion," he writes, "your thought takes the form of a comparison between the state you think you are in and some other hypothetical 'benchmark' state of affairs."

That benchmark with its "oughts" and "shoulds" is what causes trouble. Simon says harsh self-comparisons combined with a feeling of powerlessness to change is what causes chronic

depression. *Good Mood* comes with an IBM compatible disc to help users analyze their thoughts and help themselves. Psychiatrist Kenneth Mark Colby developed the psychotherapy program for depression based on the theory in Simon's book.

Simon stresses that as much as he strongly believes that people must take responsibility for curing their own depression, he is not anti-drug. "I am not trying to deny their role, or say that all depressed people should handle their depression by talking to others or handling it themselves." What he is saying is that it is "unwarranted" to think that all depression is "biochemically caused."

Simon offers encouragement for those suffering from depression. "Keep in mind that most people's depressions end, and end very quickly," he says. "Remember you are not simply a patient that has to be patient. Many of us can take a huge role in helping ourselves. Take the active mode instead of the passive mode. You are not simply a ball that the world is bouncing."

As for Simon, he's sustained his healthy outlook. "Depression has caused me to accentuate the positive," he says. "I've thrown away a lot of my ties. I'll never wear a dark tie again. And if I had a personalized license plate it would say 'laughs'."

—RITA SUTTER



Julian Simon

Report from the Staff Caucus of the College Park Senate

This is a request to all of our classified co-workers on campus from the members of the Staff Caucus of the College Park Senate. Although we are only a small portion of the senate, we want to effectively represent our hundreds of co-workers at UMCP. This means we need your input in order to advocate for solutions to problems and issues that are important to you. So far, we are aware of three problem areas important to us and our co-workers.

The first problem is the general lack of consideration and respect for the campus staff. The jobs we do keep this institution operating and operating well. However, too many decisions that affect our work lives are made without adequate consideration of the impact these decisions have on staff. Awards and individual recognition are fine, but daily respect and consideration is paramount.

Another problem area is pay. We have been forgotten and ignored too long. The Staff Senators have written President Kirwan seeking his active support for a more fair distribution of the proposed state pay raise. We support all UMCP workers getting the same dollar amount of the raise as opposed to getting the same percentage amount. This distribution is much more equitable for the lower- and mid-level classified pay grades and Series 40 workers.

The third issue we are very concerned about is our health insurance. We cannot tolerate another year like 1993 when our insurance costs rose to criminal levels. On top of this, the open enrollment period was too short and complicated by many staff never receiving the necessary literature to make an informed decision.

Additionally, there are two staff vacancies in the senate. One is in the

category of Service and Maintenance and the other is in the Overtime Exempt Classified category. If you are interested please call your Staff Senator.

Following is a list of Staff Senators

and their phone numbers. It is very important that you contact us to talk about the issues and problems that are important to you.

Martha Best	Behavioral and Social Sciences	X5-3506
Julius Breakiron	Physical Plant	x5-2222
Kenneth Calvert	Police Department	x5-3555
Roberta Coates	Campus Programs	X4-8481
Rebecca Frey	Health and Human Performance	X5-2443
Carleton Jackson	Hornbake Library	X5-9226
Robert Mueck	Police Department	x5-7034
Craig Newman	Grounds Maintenance	x5-7865
Anne Petrone	Architecture	x5-6283
Carol Prier	Engineering	x5-3869
Jack Purves	Summer and Special Programs	x5-6537
Geri Schall	Behavioral and Social Sciences	x5-1697
Kate Scott	Zoology	X5-6893
Tom Smith	Physical Plant	x5-2222
John Van Brunt	Counseling Center	X4-7680
Yvonne Williams	Building Services	x5-7868
Joan Wood	Arts and Humanities	x5-2096.