College Park Experiment Heads for the Stars, page 2
Football as a Metaphor for America, page 3
Maryland's Economic Impact, page 8

Outlook

The University of Maryland at College Park Faculty and Staff Weekly Newspaper • Volume 8 Number 17 • February 21, 1994

Grand Designs for Maryland's Performing Arts Center

California Architectural Firm Wins Out Over Four Others to Create New $80 Million Facility

Following an intense judging in a worldwide design competition, the architectural firm of Moore Ruble Yudell has been chosen to design the university's $80 million performing arts center

Using words like "grand" and "inspired," architect Buzz Yudell, the principal designer, speaks of the 295,000 square foot performing arts center in philosophical, even poetic, terms.

A university is very much an "academic village," says the internationally known architect, "a very sacred place" where young people come together with faculty and others in the community to exchange ideas and to learn. In designing the Maryland Center for the Performing Arts, "we were trying to give form to that process."

A panel of seven distinguished architects, and university and state representatives, listened to detailed presentations on Feb. 10. They chose Moore Ruble Yudell, based in Santa Monica, Calif., because its approach and philosophy most appropriately responded to the university's and community's needs. Gov. Schaefer announced the winner in a press conference Feb. 11.

Moore Ruble Yudell emerged as the victor out of about 200 firms that submitted letters of interest in the international design competition last year, the highest number of respondents for any state project in the last decade.

Forty firms made initial proposals, which were then narrowed down to the best five, which included Antoine Predock, Barton Myers Associates, Cesar Pelli with RTKL and Pei Cobb Freed.

"The worldwide design competition has produced results that will give the state a firm with national and international stature," says Schaefer. "It will add prominence to what is already one of the nation's great state universities, and will bring a new vigor to the cultural life of the state."

The winning design includes performance halls, classrooms, offices, rehearsal areas, a library, an amphitheater and a restaurant. It will house the Departments of Music, Theater and Dance. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 1996 and be completed by 1999.

The third-largest facility at College Park (behind McKeldin Library and the Chemistry Building), the new center will contain twice as much space as the Tawes Fine Arts Building. The center replaces Tawes, which will be renovated for other educational uses, and will allow the university to demolish the World War II vintage "temporary" buildings which presently house the Department of Dance.

"The jury had the difficult job of ranking five refreshingly varied design approaches to the Maryland Center for Performing Arts," says President William E. Kirwan. "The university owes them a debt of gratitude for giving us an outstanding top ranked firm whose concept for the facility assures its status as a landmark building for the state and the campus."

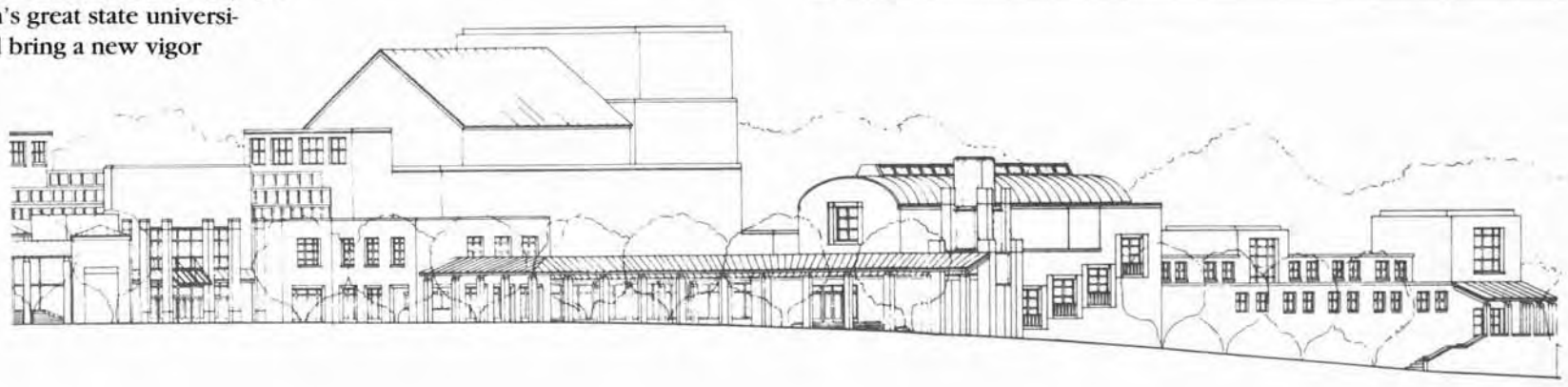
The richness of the plan comes from trying to celebrate the "duality of performance and study," says Yudell. The design is an interaction of public and academic areas that combine to give a strong sense of identity and purpose to the building, which will be located on the west side of campus. But it also makes a strong connection to the rest of campus.

Moore Ruble Yudell's projects include Tegal Harbour, a housing, recreational and cultural center in Berlin; a new four-building science complex for the University of Oregon; and the $73 million California Center for the Arts in Escondido. The firm also designed the San Antonio Art Institute; the UCLA Law School Library addition; and the Nishiokamoto housing project in Kobe, Japan.

The Baltimore firm of Ayers Saint Gross is the associate architect for Moore Ruble Yudell. Over the last eight years, Ayers Saint Gross has been honored with 38 design awards, 18 of which were for publicly funded institutional buildings with fixed programs and budgets. The firm's projects include the $48 million Health Sciences Facility now under construction at UMAB; the Maryland State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Baltimore; and the University of Baltimore's Merrick School of Business.

—MICHAEL KOSTER

Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefer and President Kirwan study the architectural renderings (part of which are shown at the bottom of this page) that depict the university's $80 million performing arts center, to be built by 1999. The model, below, shows the planned facility which will be located on the west side of campus.



Space Shuttle Takes Off With University of Maryland Payload

The second flight of the Space Shuttle in 1994, designated STS-62, will blast off on Mar. 3, 1994, carrying a $22 million experiment conceived by Robert Gammon, a professor at the university's Institute of Physical Science and Technology. The experiment, named Zeno in honor of the ancient Greek philosopher, is a critical fluid light scattering experiment, which will study the behavior of the element xenon near its liquid-vapor critical point. The critical point of a fluid is a unique condition of temperature and density where the fluid first begins to have both liquid and vapor phases.

Because the experiment will take place in space, free from the gravity of Earth, the Zeno instrument will be able to measure the properties of xenon a hundred times closer to the critical temperature than is possible on Earth. Critical point phenomena are difficult to study on Earth because fluids become very compressible as they approach the critical point. As gravity forces the fluid to condense to liquid densities, it literally collapses under its own weight. In the micro-gravity environment provided by the shuttle, however, the fluid will remain stable in this unique and delicate state.

Scientists hope that understanding the physics near the critical point will help provide insight into a variety of physics problems in both solids and liquids. Materials at the critical point exhibit behavior that does not occur under any other circumstances. Many different materials share the properties exhibited at the critical point. Other physical changes, such as magnetization transitions and the onset of superconductivity, obey similar physical laws.

"In this experiment we will measure how big and how slow the spontaneous density patterns become in a fluid near its critical point, the point where the fluid can first break up into liquid and vapor parts," says Gammon. "These measurements will test our understanding of critical systems much closer to the critical point than we have ever gone before with no limitations due to gravity."

The experiment uses a small sample of ultra-pure xenon, preloaded to its critical density, housed inside a high-precision thermostat. The thermostat will control the temperature of the sample to within a millionth of a degree. The Zeno instrument uses an extremely low-powered laser to study the properties of the xenon as it approaches the critical point. Near the critical point, the normally clear gas will take on a milky iridescence due to fluctuations in the density of the fluid. When laser light is passed through the sample at temperatures successively closer to the critical temperature, the light is scattered by the density fluctuations. Detectors measure these fluctuations, and scientists will use the data gathered to determine how large the areas are and how long they exist relative to the temperature changes near the critical point.

"We will be advancing fundamental knowledge on two related frontier subjects: the behavior of highly compressible fluids (1 billion times more compressible than water) and the infinities in critical point properties closer than ever before to a critical point," Gammon points out. "There is a universality principle which allows us to relate what we learn on a fluid critical point to the many other critical systems such as superconductors, magnetics, ferroelectrics, liquid crystals, and superfluid helium."

Zeno was funded by the NASA Microgravity Division, through the Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. The university was awarded the prime contract for the experiment and subcontracted with Ball Corporation in Boulder, Co. for the hardware design and integration. The instrument successfully integrates components from around the world to achieve unprecedented technical performance. State-of-the-art electronics were procured in Germany, Israel, Sweden, and England among others. Major pieces designed and built at the university include a high-pressure sample cell, a high precision thermostat and the flight software.

Zeno is one of four experiments that make up the Second U.S. Microgravity Payload (USMP-2), one of the two primary payloads for this mission.

End**quote**

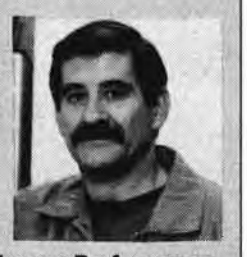
In what ways has this winter's weather affected your work schedule and your health?

"I have certainly enjoyed being able to be home and be a homemaker. The weather hasn't affected my health. I enjoy the change of seasons."

—Margaret Davila, clerk in the office of scheduled maintenance, Physical Plant

"Luckily I'm not teaching this semester so I am not backed up on a syllabus. But I work full time for National History Day and I have piles and piles of things on my desk that should have been taken care of weeks ago. My health's been fine. The extra time off has forced me to use the Nordic Track in my basement."

—Cathy Gorn, adjunct assistant professor of history



"Health-wise it hasn't bothered me. As far as my work schedule, the weather prolongs what's coming up. We do a lot of laundry for the Gymkana Troupe that might affect the shows and performances they give. We do all the heavy loads on days we would normally be doing other things. We try to beat Mother Nature."

—Donald Moore, storekeeper, College of Health and Human Performance.

"The extreme weather has been a mixed blessing. At first I was grateful for the extra time to do all of the the things I had failed to do over the vacation. Once I had prepared for the new semester, however, it was difficult to do anything but wait for it to begin. Several weeks on, the semester has not quite found its regular rhythm: syllabi and student attendance continue to contract and expand with new waves of ice. While Mother Nature has been cruel to us, she has helped my teaching in one unexpected way, by pointing to one of our many continuities with the Renaissance culture which I teach. We may no longer view storms as did Shakespeare and his contemporaries as signs of political or economic upheaval, or believe (with Calvin) that 'ice, thunder, hail and whatsoever is extraordinary in the world, are the fruits of sin.' But we continue to be subject to forces which are beyond our power to control, and sometimes even to predict."

—William Sherman, assistant professor of English

"The weather's made life more stressful because we're working so hard to catch up. Health-wise it has made me crazy. I have a touch of cabin fever."

—Anne Turkos, associate curator, University Archives, McKeldin Library

Next Issue: Crime on campus. How safe is the University of Maryland?

Grant of $500,000 Will Help Scientists See Their Data

The university has been awarded a $500,000 W. M. Keck Foundation Grant to support research into chaos theory by James Yorke, director of the Institute for Physical Science and Technology (the College Park mathematician who coined the term "chaos" in 1975 to describe the important new science that deals with unpredictability), Celso Grebogi and Edward Ott, professors in the Lab for Plasma Research, and other leading chaos researchers. The grant will be used to expand the scope of the university's advanced visualization laboratory, with the creation of a new W. M. Keck Foundation Visualization Facility, through the purchase a state-of-the-art IBM POWER Visualization Computer System.

The IBM system uses supercomputer power to interpret complicated numerical data by revealing these data as color images on the computer screen, giving scientists a new dimension in understanding their data. Charles Goodrich, associate resident scientist in the Department of Astronomy, will direct the laboratory.

Being able to visualize data is important because scientists, engineers, and designers can be handicapped by the very magnitude of the data their research can produce. Line after line of numbers or calculations may fail to give the researchers the big picture or obscure the ultimate meaning of the numbers. But the IBM system permits a new way of looking at data by transforming huge amounts of information into pictures, permitting scientists to see what their data actually looks like. Because of its ability to visually manipulate vast amounts of data, the IBM system is also being used in Hollywood to produce special effects, such as those used in the recent movie "Cliffhanger."

Because of its power, the IBM computer system is particularly useful for modeling very complex data, such as those associated with weather prediction or the ozone hole over South Pole. On a less global scale, the visualization system can also help model complex motions of simpler systems, such as the chaotic wobbling of a space satellite antenna. This is important because if such relatively simple systems fail in space, the results can be catastrophic.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK

Outlook

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

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Metaphors Provide Cultural Understanding for World Travelers

As hundreds of athletes join together harmoniously in Lillehammer, Norway, to celebrate the pageantry and competition of the Olympics, business men and women across the world struggle to understand cultures other than their own.

Citing some startling research that indicates that more than 50 percent of American managers sent abroad fail at their assignments, business professor Martin Gannon offers a radically new way for travelers to understand easily and quickly the cultural mindset of a nation and its people.

Gannon uses metaphors. For instance, the Italians have their opera, the French their wine, the Spanish their bullfight, and the Americans their football. In all, Gannon identifies 17 cultural metaphors in his new book *Understanding Global Cultures: Metaphorical Journeys Through 17 Countries.*

"In essence, the metaphorical method involves identifying some phenomenon or activity of a nation's culture that all or most of its members consider to be very important and with which they identify closely," explains Gannon, adding that the metaphorical method allows classic problem stereotyping to be avoided or minimized.

The characteristics of the metaphor become the basis for describing and understanding the essential features of the society, including its values, attitudes and behaviors.

"These metaphors are meant to be a map or beacon that help the foreigner understand quickly that which a society's members consider very important," says Gannon, who notes that many visitors to foreign countries can become overwhelmed by all of the new stimuli and experience culture shock, which can lead to feelings of depression, lack of self-worth and avoidance of contact.

Gannon's metaphorical method may best be illustrated by his description of America and its inhabitants through football. When asked what football says about Americans Gannon replies (that) "we are constantly moving at high speed, we're aggressive, we value specialization, and we are competitive." He adds that visitors here would be wise to note that although football is a team sport, the individual player is glorified and celebrated.

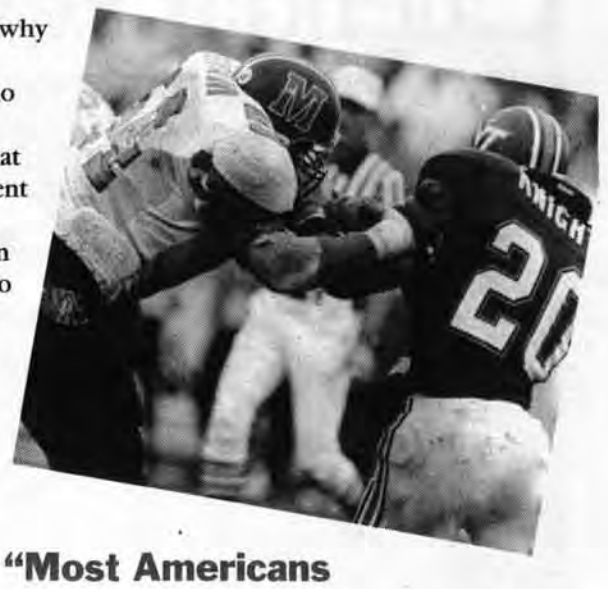
"Most Americans have a hard time thinking of a metaphor for the United States. We worked on the U.S. for a long time and couldn't come up with anything but sports.

"There are societies that take a softer view of human nature. Sweden and Norway pursue individualism through self-development, and by communing with nature," Gannon says, emphasizing the effeminate side of their personalities.

Americans tend to be masculine and also individualistic, he says, but instead of being self-reflective, 75 percent of Americans are extroverted. "That's why football is appropriate."

An Egyptian doctoral student who loved the Washington Redskins thought of the football metaphor that Gannon used in his book. The student could not get Redskins' tickets because they were sold out, Gannon says, so he found a job selling potato chips and soft drinks at the games. The metaphor developed for Norway is a hiking trip through which can be described Norwegians' emphasis on freedom, their harmonious relationship with nature, and their close social relationships.

The 17 countries and metaphors that comprise Gannon's book include: Thailand and the rubber band; Great Britain and the traditional brick house; Italy and the opera; Germany and the symphony; France and wine; Sweden and the stuga (a summer cabin); Russia and the ballet; Belgium and lace; Spain and the bullfight; Ireland and conversations; Turkey and coffeehouses; Israel and the Kibbutzim and Moshavim; Nigeria and the marketplace; Japan and the garden; India and the Dance of Shiva; China and the family altar; and America and football.



"Most Americans have a hard time thinking of a metaphor for the United States. We worked on the U.S. for a long time and couldn't come up with anything but sports."

—Martin Gannon

Astronomers Find Fast-Moving Stellar Ashes Near Dying Star

University of Maryland astronomers J. Patrick Harrington and Kazimierz Borkowski recently announced that they have found high-velocity stellar material ejected by a dying star. The two astronomers made the announcement, along with Zlatan Tsvetanov of the Johns Hopkins University, and Robin Clegg of the Royal Greenwich Observatory in Cambridge, England, during the American Astronomical Society meeting in January.

The ejected stellar material was produced by nuclear burning deep within the star. The matter left the star with initially low velocities, leaving behind an exposed stellar core. A stellar "wind" blowing from this core has accelerated this matter to velocities approaching 250 miles per second, and formed the comet-like tails seen in this object.

Many stars and galaxies are known to have winds. Since these winds must encounter slow-moving gas, the processes seen by the team astronomers must occur very frequently. According to Borkowski, the results are important because this is the first time where observers can actually see what happens during this process.

The fast-moving material was found in the planetary nebula Abell 78, which is located about 4,000 light-years away in the direction of the constellation Cygnus. Planetary nebulae are fairly common objects which are formed near the end of the life of an ordinary star, when its outer layers are lost to form a slowly expanding cloud.

In the case of Abell 78, images of the central region obtained with the Faint Object Camera of the Hubble Space Telescope show tails stretching away from the star. These tails, up to a trillion miles in length, are seen to originate in knots of nebular gas a few tens of billions of miles in diameter, several times larger than the solar system. Since it is known that a fast wind is now blowing from the star, it was suspected that this wind produced the tails as it rushed past the dusty knots.

Using the Goddard High Resolution Spectrograph aboard the Hubble Space Telescope, the astronomers measured the speed of gas near the star. They found material moving at a series of increasing velocities up to 250 miles per second, among the highest velocities yet found for nebular gas in such objects. According to Harrington, "What we see here is the effect of the fast wind from the dying star on the nebular gas. This wind is sweeping the material back to form the tails, and our observations show just how the gas is accelerated to higher and higher velocities as it is carried along."

The ejected matter contains large amounts of carbon, both as gas and as sooty dust. The carbon gas which lies along our line of sight readily absorbs ultraviolet light from the star. Since the wavelength of the absorption indicates the velocity of the gas, the Hubble Space Telescope (which can observe ultraviolet light blocked by the earth's atmosphere) was able to map the quantity of gas traveling at various speeds. The observations show large amounts of gas at four distinct speeds —25, 95, and 130 miles per second —which may correspond to several tails which lie along the line of sight to the star. There are also smaller amounts of gas traveling at speeds up to 250 miles per second.

College Park Chosen as Resource Institution on Curricular Diversity

The University of Maryland has been selected by the Association of American Colleges (AAC) as one of 20 colleges and universities in the country to serve as a resource institution on curricular diversity. President William E. Kirwan, Bonnie Thornton Dill, professor of women's studies, and Deborah Rosenfelt, professor of women's studies and curriculum transformation project director, participated in the first national working conference to implement the AAC initiative called "American Commitments" in September.

The AAC has received funding from the Ford Foundation for the multi-year initiative, which will examine the complex relations between diversity and democracy, difference and community in the institutional culture, leadership and curriculum at college campuses throughout the country. The university will be paired with two planning institutions: Pace University (New York) and Bowie State College (Maryland) who will benefit from this campus's experience, especially in curricular transformation. The two schools were chosen, says Rosenfelt, "based on their design feasibility and mesh with what UMCP is planning to do." The selection of Bowie State College, she says, is intended to further education exchanges between the two campuses.

More than 500 colleges and universities applied for the project and only 60 were selected. The resource institutions will work with their planning institutions for a two-year period.

Rosenfelt, author of the successful proposal, will serve as one of the campus's designated consultants on curricular change, as will Linda Williams, associate professor of government and politics, and a participant in the 1993 Curriculum Transformation Project's summer faculty development institute, "Thinking about Women, Gender and Race." Dill is serving on a national panel that coordinates the project's intersecting components and will produce a series of papers on the issues of democracy and diversity in the university community.

According to Rosenfelt, the campus's sponsorship during the past five years of the Curriculum Transformation Project was crucial to its selection as a resource institution. "We really have developed a great deal of knowledge about the processes and problems of curricular change in the direction of greater inclusiveness," says Rosenfelt, "and we're looking forward to working on these issues with teams from the planning institutions."

Calendar **Feb. 21-Mar. 2**

Simon Shaheen, above, and Ali Jihad Racy, below, perform music of the Middle East as part of the Concert Society at Maryland WorldSong Series, at 8 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 26 at the University of Maryland University College Auditorium. Call 403-4240 for more information.

Arts

Art Exhibit: "Sources: Multicultural Influences on Contemporary African American Sculptors," through Apr. 11, The Art Gallery, Art/Sociology. Call 5-2763 for info.

Concert: Tue., Feb. 22, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, John Wakenfield, conductor, 8 p.m., Stamp Student Union Grand Ballroom. Call 5-5548 for info.

Black Alumni Association Performance/Book Signing: Wed., Feb. 23, a performance ensemble by "The Spoken Word" and a tribute to Darrell Stover, 7-9 p.m., Nyumburu Cultural Center. Call 4-7758 for info.

University Theatre: *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living In Paris*, Thu., Feb. 24, through Sat., Feb. 26 and Thu., Mar. 3, through Sat., Mar. 5, 8 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 27, 2 p.m., Tawes Theatre, $12, students and seniors $9. Call 5-2201 for info. Listening system available.*

Informal Showing: Fri., Feb. 25, Dance Department, 5 p.m., Dorothy Madden Theater, Dance Building. Call 5-3180 for info.

Concert Society at Maryland Chamber Music Series: Fri., Feb. 25, Cleveland Quartet, 8 p.m., UMUC Auditorium, $18, students $8. Call 403-4240 for info.*

Concert Society at Maryland WorldSong Series: Sat., Feb. 26, "Music of the Middle East," Simon Shaheen and Ali Jihad Racy, 8 p.m., UMUC Auditorium, $16, students $8. Call 403-4240 for info.*

Artist Scholarship Benefit Series: Tue., Mar. 1, "The Pleasures of Music," W. Hudson, conductor; L. Mabbs, soprano; J. Multer, violin; 7:30 p.m., Kennedy Center, $15, students $9. Call 202-467-4600 for info.*

Lectures

Horticulture Colloquium Series: Mon., Feb. 21, "Characterization of a Photoperiod Mutant in 'Arabidopsis Thaliana,'" V.S. Seetha, 4 p.m., 0128 Holzapfel. Call 5-4355 for info.

Entomology Colloquium: Mon., Feb. 21, "Can We Use Semiochemicals to Manage Beneficials?" Jeffrey Aldrich, Insect Chemical Ecology Lab, 4 p.m., 0200 Symons. Call 5-3911 for info.

Department of Spanish and Portuguese Lecture Series: Mon., Feb. 21, "Towards a New Critical History," Patricia Seed, Rice University, 5 p.m., St. Mary's. Call 5-6441 for info.

Zoology Lecture: Tue., Feb. 22, "The Biology of Monogamy," Sue Carter, noon, 1280 Zoology/Psychology. Call 5-6887 for info.

Distinguished Lecturer Series: Wed., Feb. 23, "Can Clinton Transform the System?," James MacGregor Burns, 3:30 p.m., 2203 Art/Sociology. A wine and cheese reception will follow the lecture. Call 5-1482 for info.

Planning for the Urban Community Brownbag Lecture Series: Thu., Feb. 24, "Planning, Violence, and Neighborhood Recovery: The Detroit Experience," Robin Boyle, Wayne State University, noon-1:15 p.m., 1179 Lefrak. Call 5-6798 for info.

History Department Lecture: Thu., Feb. 24, "Contesting the New South: The Politics and Culture of Wage Household Labor in Atlanta, 1860-1920," Tera Hunter, University of North Carolina, 2 p.m., 2203 Art-Sociology. Call 5-4265 for info.

East Asian Studies/CIDCM/Public Affairs Lecture: Thu., Feb. 24, "The U.S. Policy Towards Korea," Young Kim, 3:30 p.m., St.Mary's Multi-Purpose Room. Reception following lecture. Call 4-7703 for info.

African American Lecture Series: Thu., Feb. 24, "Private Lives/Public Voices: Positioning the African American Woman's Voice Within American Literary and Cultural Traditions," Carla Peterson, 4:15 p.m., Bonnie Johns Educational Center, Landover, MD. Call 5-6834 for info.

Speech Communication Colloquium: Fri., Feb. 25, "Uncertainty Reduction Theory and the Ethnography of Speaking: Contrasting Approaches," Daena Goldsmith, University of Illinois, noon, 0104 Skinner. Call 5-6526 for info.

Horticulture Colloquium Series: Mon., Feb. 28, "Wood Landscape Plant Germplasm Repository," Edward Garvey, USDA-ARS, 4 p.m., 0128 Holzapfel. Call 5-4355 for info.

Zoology Lecture: Tue., Mar. 1, "Life History Variation in 'Frasera Speciosa,'" David Inouye, noon, 1280 Zoology/Psychology. Call 5-6887 for info.

Theatre Lecture: Wed., Mar. 2, Sounding the Humanities, a discussion of *Jacques Brel*, noon-12:50 p.m., 1102 Key. Call 5-2201 for info.

President's Commission on Women's Affairs Lecture: Wed., Mar. 2, "Mirrors, Self, and Others: Representation of Asian-American Women in the Media," Elaine H. Kim, University of California at Berkeley, 7 p.m., 2203 Art-Sociology. Call 5-9355 for info.

Meetings

President's Commission on Women's Affairs Meeting: Mon., Feb. 28, noon-2 p.m., Maryland Room, Marie Mount. Call 5-5806 for info.

Miscellaneous

Diversity Film Series: Through Sat., Feb. 26, "Toni Morrison," every hour on the hour. Morrison reads from her two novels, *Beloved* and *Jazz*, and discusses her views of the contributions made to American literature by the experiences of African Americans. Nonprint Media, 4th floor, Hornbake. Call 5-9236 for info.

Campus Guest Services Conference and Meeting Services Showcase: Tue., Feb. 22, university departments and local businesses featured, 2-5 p.m., Colony Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. Call 4-7884 for info.

University Health Center Minority Health Fair: Wed., Feb. 23, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Tortuga Room, Stamp Student Union. Call 4-8128 for info.

Diversity Film Series: Sun., Feb. 27, through Sat., Mar. 5, "All of Our Lives," every hour on the hour. Examines the plight of aging women, many of whom must face their later years stranded without a pension and financially insecure. Nonprint Media, 4th floor, Hornbake. Call 5-9236 for info.

President's Commission on Women's Affairs 20th Anniversary Party: Tue., Mar. 1, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Colony Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. Call 5-2312 for info.

President's Commission on Women's Affairs Luncheon: Wed., Mar. 2, "Acquaintance Rape and Alcohol," Committee on Undergraduate Women's Leadership, noon, Stamp Student Union. Call 4-8505 for info.

Seminars

Space Science Seminar: Mon., Feb. 21, "Characteristics of Small-Scale Plasma Density Irregularities in the Ionospheric Cusp," Kile Baker, Johns Hopkins University, 4:30 p.m., 1113 Computer/Space Science. Call 5-6232 for info.

Women's Studies Program Sixth Annual Polyseminar Series: Tue., Feb. 22, "Why isn't Post-Cold War Post-Patriarchy?" Cynthia Enloe, Clark University, 8 p.m., 2203 Art-Sociology. Call 5-6877 for info.

Molecular and Cell Biology Graduate Program Seminar: Wed., Feb. 23, "Structure/Function Studies of Interferon Tau Evidence for Multiple Active Sites," Carol Pontzer, 12:05 p.m., 1208 Zoology/Psychology. Call 5-6991 for info.

Department of Agricultural Engineering Graduate Seminar: Wed., Feb. 23, "Citizen Involvement in Chesapeake Bay Issues: Problems and Successes," Frances Flanigan, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Inc., 4 p.m., 0422 Animal Science. Call 5-1198 for info.

Meteorology Seminar: Thu., Feb. 24, "Weather Forecasts for Mars," Hannu Savijarvi, UCAR Visiting Scientist, 3:30 p.m., 2324 Computer and Space Sciences. Call 5-5392 for info.

ENRE 607 Reliability Seminar: Thu., Feb. 24, "Survey of Optical Methods in Nondestructive Evaluation," James Wagner, Johns Hopkins University, 5:15-6:15 p.m., 1111 Instructional Television Facility. Call 5-

Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Coming to Tawes Theatre

University Theatre presents "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris," a musical revue based on Brel's music, lyrics and commentary. Performances are in Tawes Theatre Feb. 24-26 and Mar. 3-5 at 8 p.m., with a special performance on Mar. 1 at 9:45 a.m.

Jacques Brel gained popularity in France in the late 1950s and his work was introduced to America in the 1960s. "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris" received a critically acclaimed run off-Broadway during the late sixties and early seventies.

"The piece calls to mind the spirit of revolution, unrest and challenge that became a hallmark of the folk musician poets of the 1960s," says director Jim Petosa. "By applying some Brechtian techniques to this production, we are seeking to pull it out of its specific period in order to discover its resonance throughout the century." Petosa is the producing artistic director of Olney Theatre, artistic director of the National Players and also frequently directs for University Theatre.

The production features set design by James Kronzer, costume design by Debbie Serbousek, lighting design by Dan Wagner, music direction by Debra Wicks LaPuma and technical direction by David Kriebs. Maggi Tocci is dramaturge.

Before the Mar. 3 performance, the audience is invited to "Meet the Artists," a presentation by the director and designers who created this production. The discussion is free and begins at 7 p.m. in Tawes Experimental Theatre. No tickets are necessary, and seating is available on a first come, first served basis.

Audio description is available Feb. 27, sign interpretation is available Mar. 5, and an infrared listening system is available at all performances. Tawes Theatre is accessible to people with physical disabilities.

Tickets are $12 standard admission, and $9 for students and senior citizens. Special group discount rates are also available. For reservations or additional information, call the University Theatre Box Office at 405-2201 (voice and TTY) weekdays from 11 a.m .to 4 p.m.

On Friday, Feb. 25, at 8 p.m., the Cleveland Quartet performs at the University of Maryland University College Auditorium as part of the Concert Society at Maryland Chamber Music Series.

3887 for info.

Institute for Advanced Computer Studies Seminar: Fri., Feb. 25, "High Performance Computing," Shang-Hua Teng, 11 a.m., 2120 A.V. Williams. Call 5-6722 for info.

Geology Seminar: Fri., Feb. 25, "Basaltic Injections Into Floored Silicic Magma Chambers," Bob Wiebe, Franklin and Marshall, 11 a.m., 0103 Hornbake. Call 5-4089 for info.

Mental Health Service Lunch 'N Learn Seminar: Fri., Feb. 25, "Breaking the Cycle of Victimization," Elizabeth Blocker Ebaugh, 1-2 p.m., 3100 E University Health Center. Call 4-8106 for info.

Space Science Seminar: Mon., Feb. 28, "Monte Carlo Simulations of Particle Acceleration at Oblique Shocks," Matthew Baring, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, 4:30 p.m., 1113 Computer and Space Sciences. Call 5-6232 for info.

Molecular and Cell Biology Graduate Program Seminar: Wed., Mar. 2, "Accumulation and Disposal of Normal and Misfolded Seed Proteins," Eliot Herman, Plant Molecular Biology Lab, USDA-ARS, 12:05 p.m., 1208 Zoology/Psychology. Call 5-6991 for info.

Sports

Women's Basketball: Wed., Feb. 23, vs. Virginia, "Fill Cole Field House," 7:30 p.m., Cole Field House, students free, faculty/staff half-price. Call 4-7070 for info.*

Women's Basketball: Sat., Feb. 26, vs. Wake Forest, 7:30 p.m., Cole Field House. Call 4-7070 for info.

Women's Basketball: Tue., Mar. 1, vs. Clemson, 7:30 p.m., Cole Field House. Call 4-7070 for info.

Baseball: Tue., Mar. 1, vs. George Mason, 2:30 p.m., Shipley Field. Call 4-7122 for info.

Men's Basketball: Wed., Mar. 2, vs. Duke, 8 p.m., Cole Field House. Call 4-7070 for info.

Baseball: Wed., Mar. 2, vs. George Washington, 2:30 pm, Shipley Field. Call 4-7122 for info.

Workshops

Career Center Workshop/Book Signing: Tue., Feb. 22, Minority Women's Issues, Leslie C. Shields, author of *Work, Sister, Work*, 3:30-5 p.m., 3123 Nyumburu Cultural Center. Call 4-7241 for info.

Peer Computer Training: Tue., Feb. 22, "Networked Resources, Part 2," 6-9 p.m., 4352 Computer and Space Sciences, $5. Call 5-2945 for info.*

Peer Computer Training: Wed., Feb. 23, "MacWrite," 6-9 p.m., 3332 Computer and Space Sciences, $5. Call 5-2945 for info.*

Peer Computer Training: Thu., Feb. 24, "Quattro Pro," 6-9 p.m., 3330 Computer and Space Sciences, $5. Call 5-2945 for info.*

Peer Computer Training: Sun., Feb. 27, "Introduction to Windows," 1-4 p.m., 3330 Computer and Space Sciences, $5. Call 5-2945 for info.*

Peer Computer Training: Tue., Mar. 1, "Kermit/Modem Workshop," 6-9 p.m., 3332 Computer and Space Sciences, Call 5-2945 for info.*

Peer Computer Training: Wed., Mar. 2, "Introduction to WordPerfect Windows," 6-9 p.m, 3330 Computer and Space Sciences, $5. Call 5-2945 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.

Democracy in Mexico

The debate over reforming democracy in Mexico comes to the University of Maryland Feb. 23 with a symposium featuring leaders of that nation's growing grassroots political movement and representatives of the Mexican government. Sponsored by Maryland's School of Public Affairs, the free symposium is scheduled for 4:30-6 p.m. in Room 1206 of Van Munching Hall.

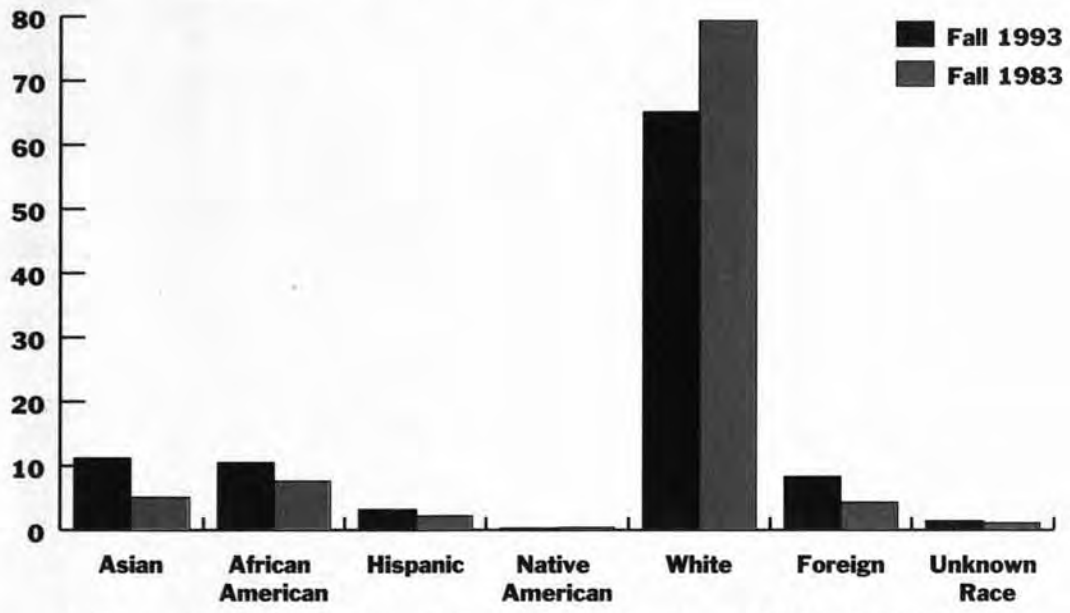
David Crocker, a visiting researcher in the school's Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy and coordinator of this event, notes that in the wake of NAFTA and the uprising of Zapatista rebels, Americans have been alerted to the need to understand what's going on in Mexico as the U.S. struggles to develop a responsible policy toward the region. This symposium provides a forum for those aligned on both sides of the issues to present and defend their positions.

The panel includes Sergio Aguayo, president of the Mexican Academy of Human Rights and a newspaper columnist with *La Jornada*; Mariclaire Acosta, founder and president of the National Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights; Carlos Heredia, an economist and editor of the weekly newspaper *La Otra Cara de Mexico*; and Claudia Luengas, an attorney specializing in constitutional law and human rights violations.

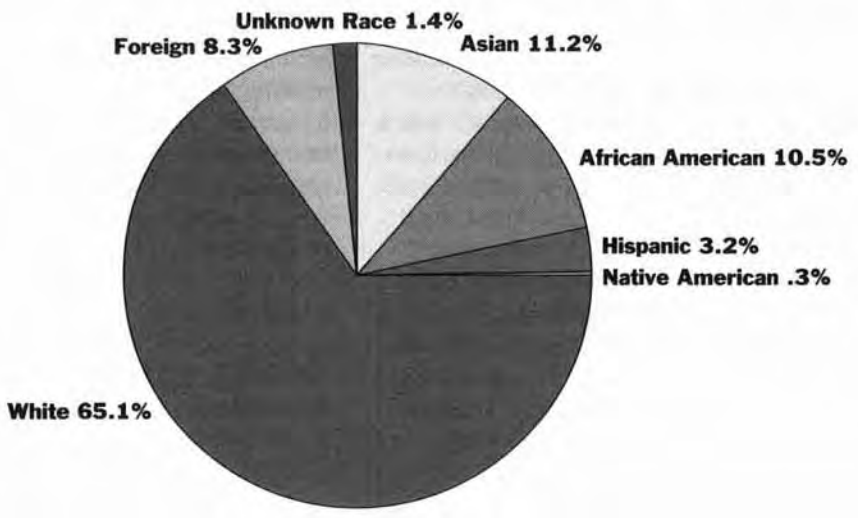
These human rights activists work closely with the Mexican Convergence for Democracy, an association of 137 non-government organizations that is trying to mobilize the people to vote and to fight against corruption in the electoral process.

For more information call David Crocker at 405-4763.

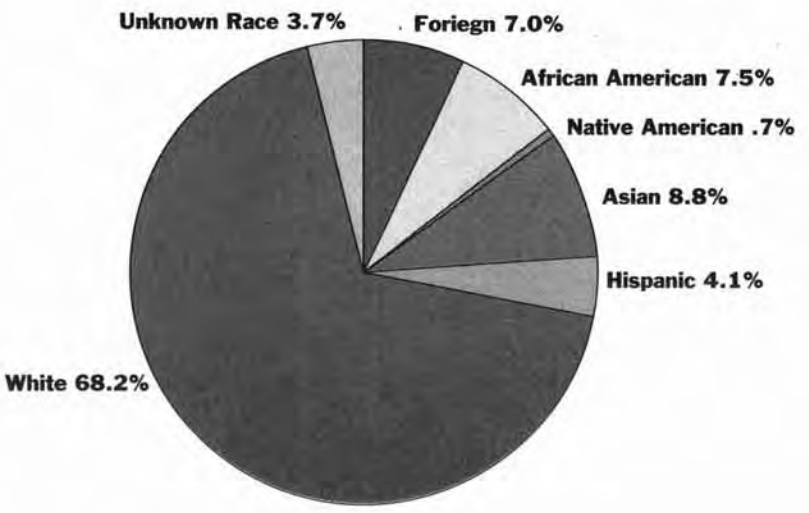
Charting a Course for Change: Diversity at the University of Maryland



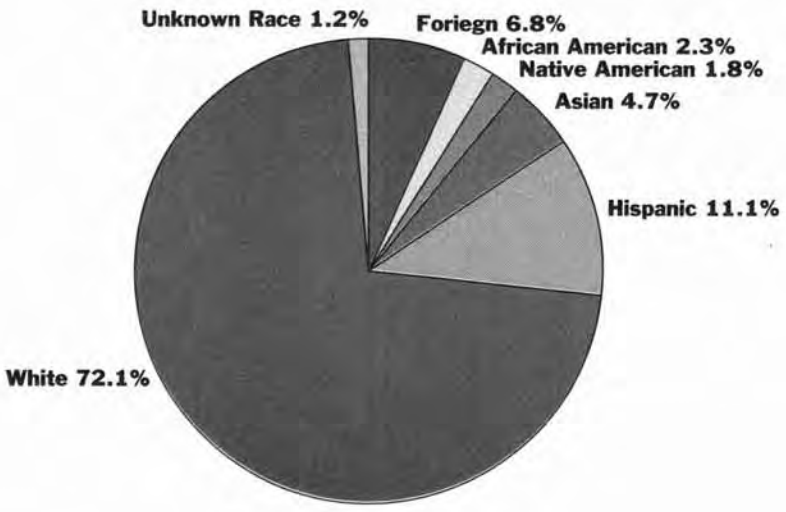
A Percentage Comparison of Enrollment Trends at UMCP 1983-1993



University of Maryland at College Park



University of Michigan Ann Arbor Campus (Aspirational Peer)



University of Arizona (Comparable Peer)

DIVERSITY AT·UMCP
MOVING TOWARD COMMUNITY

Each week in this space, some aspect of diversity is highlighted—a pet project by a faculty member, a new course being developed by a department, a compelling upcoming lecture. These columns are like snapshots. Taken as a whole, they are an attempt to give a broader, more detailed picture of diversity on our rapidly changing campus.

This week, *Outlook* tries to answer the most basic questions: Exactly how diverse are we? And how diverse have we become?

This information—for that matter, all statistical information about the campus—comes from the Office of Institutional Studies.

Dan Thomas, assistant director of Institutional Studies, says that the office handles some 100 requests each month, from offices both on and off campus, for statistical information about the university. On demographic data alone, there are four staffers who work full time.

What these trend-watchers are finding, Thomas says, is a steadily growing diversification of the student body. As the chart above shows, the Asian and African American student populations have grown significantly over the past 10 years.

Perhaps most notable, white student enrollment has dropped from 80 percent in 1983 to 65 percent today; a clear indication of the university's shift toward a more diverse student body.

The Office of Institutional Studies keeps current on various data at the university's peer institutions, both comparable and aspirational. While reflecting a diverse student mix, overall, our comparable and aspirational peers, such as Arizona State University, and University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, respectively, still have larger white student populations in proportion to their minority populations.

This data, depicted in the pie charts, was taken from 1993 statistics obtained from each of the peer schools.

The accompanying charts are intended merely to provide a graphic illustration of where we are in terms of numbers. And as the charts indicate, the University of Maryland at College Park has made impressive gains in achieving a truly diverse community.

—TODD KLIMAN

SAD News About the Winter Blues

Lack of sunlight may be causing your melancholy mood

When winter comes, with its snow, ice and grey weather, many people find themselves slowing down and becoming depressed.

Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD, affects about six percent of our population during the winter months, and as much as 50 percent suffer from some sort of decline in mood or performance.

Symptoms of SAD include sleep disruption, lethargy, low self-esteem, appetite change and a disinterest in things that used to be interesting. In severe cases, there are even thoughts of suicide.

"The antidotes are sunlight, or anything that mimics it, combined with morning exercise," says Glenn Schiraldi, an instructor of health education. "Anything that increases light, like opening windows in the house, will help. Just bear in mind that artificial light is usually not intense enough to lift a mood."

Schiraldi says that 10,000 lux lamps (lux are units of brightness) effectively mimic sunlight and are available from certain specialty companies, but they retail for about $400.

"The theory is that the light stimulates the part of the brain that controls many of the processes that are associated with depression," Schiraldi says.

Anyone who feels that they may be suffering from SAD should seek medical attention if it doesn't go away after a two-week period. But don't jump to conclusions if you're a little under the weather.

"When people say, 'I don't function as well during the winter,' they're not necessarily clinically depressed," Schiraldi says.

But his best advice is, "if you can do it, a trip south for a few days wouldn't hurt."

—STEPHEN SOBEK

Takenote

IBM Theater Takes Students Into the Future

The classroom of the future is on our campus today, and on Feb. 10, approximately 30 people gathered in Van Munching Hall's IBM teaching theater for a demonstration. Reporters from the Associated Press, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, the *Washington Business Journal* and other area publications joined university faculty and students to experience first-hand the transformation of teaching and learning processes that occurs when teachers and students use networked computer work stations and other interactive technology to exchange, reciprocate and collaborate in the classroom.

Joining the group via the classroom's new video teleconferencing capability was Jerry Czarnecki, IBM's vice president for human resources and corporate re-engineering. The electronic classroom was constructed as part of an IBM total quality management project. Czarnecki, speaking from the company's headquarters in New York, noted that College Park was "accelerating the pace of change" underway in universities across the country as they prepare their students for the world of business.

Business professor Maryam Alavi, who helped design the classroom and some of the software used in it, noted the goals of the classroom are to delight its customers, facilitate learning, elicit student learning needs and priorities and to promote teamwork and collaboration among the students. Judging from the comments of students present at the demonstration and from the anonymous feedback given to Alavi during her classes, these goals are being met.

Program Brings Software to Disadvantaged Schools

Thanks to the Office of Technology Liaison (OTL), students at financially under-equipped Maryland schools will use computer software in the classroom to access critical environmental data, observe simulations of the evolution of life and view simulated astronomical occurrences.

The program, known as University Software for Education (USE), uses the educational-based software developed at the university to benefit financially under-equipped Maryland public schools. The program is funded through outside sponsorship for the software and textual materials, as well as for the computers required to run the software.

Through sponsorship of the program, industry has the opportunity to work with the university to better the K-12 educational system within the state, says Kristin Gray, OTL's manager of external relations. Industry benefits from a better trained workforce, while the university benefits from better qualified students.

Among the software offerings are Astro Labs, which simulates actual astronomical observations and analyses; Bioquest, a CD-ROM library addressing issues in biology such as evolution, genetics, molecular biology, physiology and ecology; and Joint Education Initiative, which allows teachers and students to access environmental information on such critical issues as coastal flooding, changing ozone levels and earthquake analysis.

With the financial backing of the Abell Foundation, a Baltimore philanthropic organization, USE began in two Baltimore City schools this fall.

The Office of Technology Liaison was established in 1986 to handle the technology transfer needs of the university, which include identifying, protecting, marketing and licensing technologies developed at the university.

Ambulance 129 Begins Serving College Park

The average response time of ambulances to the College Park area has been cut in half by the addition of an ambulance to the College Park Volunteer Fire Department's fleet of service vehicles.

Previously, ambulance service was provided by the Hyattsville, Riverdale and Branchville fire departments, with a fire engine from College Park answering critical calls and providing emergency services until those ambulances arrived.

On average, 50 calls a month on campus, and another 60 in the College Park area are answered by the ambulances outside of town. For two years, the department has been working on getting a basic life support ambulance in service.

Made possible by the Prince George's County Fire Department, the new service will operate 24-hours-a-day.

The department also will be moving to a new station on university property at Route 1 and Lakeland Road in May.

The Catholic School Advantage

Students enrolled in Catholic high schools are more likely to graduate and go on to college than students in public schools, a new study by two University of Maryland economists reveals.

Public school students were more than five times as likely to drop out of high school than Catholic school students and were half as likely to enter college as their Catholic school counterparts. Significantly, the results appear not to be influenced by student ability, socio-economic status or religious affiliation, or by selective admittance. In fact, the positive effect of Catholic schools on "at-risk" students, such as those whose parents had dropped out of high school, was even greater.

"To date, the decade-long debate over the relative effectiveness of public and Catholic schools has been waged over standardized test scores," says Bill Evans, who co-authored the study with fellow university economist Robert Schwab. "But while there is little evidence that raising test scores has important economic consequences, the economic consequences of obtaining more education are well known."

Evans says that young adults without high school diplomas tend to earn lower wages and experience less growth in their wages than do those with high school diplomas. They also are more likely to be unemployed.

Evans and Schwab found that for the typical student, attending a Catholic high school raises the probability of finishing high school and entering a four-year college by 12 percentage points. The probability was even greater for others.

"Catholic high schools are particularly effective at keeping 'at-risk' students in school and getting them into college," says Evans. He found that for students coming from a family with an income of less than $7,000, attending a Catholic high school raises the probability of finishing high school 20 percentage points. For students whose parents were high school dropouts, attending a Catholic high school raises the probability of entering a four-year college 20 percentage points.

The study was based on data drawn from *High School and Beyond*, a national, ongoing Department of Education survey of more than 1,100 secondary schools. Evans' and Schwab's sample included 13,294 students.

Eastern Europeans Import Revolutionary Education

More than 30 representatives from 15 Eastern European countries observed activities in the Center for Young Children on Feb. 9. The Soros Project, a vanguard of international educational efforts, was funded to establish programs modeled after Head Start.

The Eastern Europeans will spend six weeks in the United States observing exemplary early childhood programs and learning about preschool education in the United States. Working with a group of U.S. early childhood experts, the representatives will have an opportunity to shape a revolutionary approach to preschool education in their own countries. In return, the U.S. experts will learn a great deal about Eastern Europe's customs, early childhood programs and children.

Inbrief

Free Posters—Colorful Diversity Year posters, a visual symbol of the university's commitment to campus diversity are available free from the Office of Human Relations at 1107 Hornbake Library.

Red Cross Needs Blood—The winter faculty and staff blood drive will be held on Wednesday, Mar. 2 in the Prince George's Room of the Stamp Student Union. Volunteers from the Red Cross will be stationed there from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. A goal of 60 units of blood has been established for the College Park campus community. Giving blood is especially important this year because the nation's blood supply is at an all-time low. The Red Cross needs to collect 1,500 units of blood daily to meet patient needs in the Chesapeake and Potomac blood region. To make an appointment to donate blood, call the American Red Cross at (301) 559-1359.

Equity Conference Coming up—The Equity Council will sponsor the Sixth Annual Equity Conference. The conference will be held in the Stamp Student Union from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will include a luncheon. "Gender and Ethnicity at Universities" is this year's theme. Keynote speakers will be Elaine Kim, professor of Asian Studies at UC-Berkeley, and Bette McLeod, consultant with the Mid-Atlantic Equity Center at American University. All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend. Registration fee is $15. For additional information contact Ray Gillian, assistant to the president and conference chair, at 405-5795. Registration deadline is Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Child care representatives from more than 15 Eastern European countries recently visited the university's Center for Young Children. The 30 visitors are spending six weeks in the United States observing exemplary early childhood programs.

History Editors Awarded the Lincoln Prize

Free at Last: A Documentary History of Slavery, Freedom and the Civil War has been selected as the winner of the 1994 Lincoln Prize at Gettysburg College. The book is a collection of letters, reports and depositions from the National Archives examining the issues of slavery and emancipation from the viewpoint of African Americans who lived during the Civil War.

Ira Berlin, professor of history and acting dean for Undergraduate Studies; Steven Miller, a research associate in the history department; and Leslie Rowland, director of the Freedmen and Southern Society Project and a professor of history, edited the book which was honored at Feb. 17 ceremonies at the Pierpont Morgan Library and the New York Public Library.

The Lincoln Prize, the premier award for excellence in Civil War studies, has been given annually since 1991 by Gettysburg College. The editors of the book received $40,000 and a bronze bust of Lincoln.

RUDOLPH A. PYATT JR.

Using the University of Maryland As an Economic Springboard

Well, it's about time someone recognized just how valuable the University of Maryland at College Park is to the state and local economies. Maryland's flagship campus is a major asset whose contribution to the economy is yet to be fully appreciated.

Now, perhaps for the first time, someone has taken a close look at this huge resource and its impact on the economy. The Montgomery-Prince George's Counties CEO Roundtable, to its credit, has put together an impressive impact statement, confirming the university's role as a powerful engine of economic growth.

The CEO Roundtable, a coalition of business leaders from companies with significant investment in Prince George's and Montgomery counties, calculated in a recently published report that the university generates $1.7 billion in Maryland's economy, close to 2 percent of the state's gross domestic product.

The report is in keeping with the roundtable's attempts to encourage economic development in the suburban area of the Washington region. The organization is supported in those efforts by the Montgomery County and Prince George's County chambers of commerce, the Suburban Maryland-Montgomery County Technology Council and the Greater Washington Board of Trade.

Measured against the state legislature's contribution to the university's budget of $217 million in 1993, the College Park campus is returning the state's investment eightfold, according to Clifford M. Kendall, chairman of the CEO Roundtable and chairman of Computer Data Systems Inc.

Kendall makes the point—one that's often lost on those who think of Maryland only as a leading education and research institution—that the university's impact on the economy can't be measured totally in salaries and spending for goods and services.

Certainly spending by Maryland, its student body of more than 35,000, the faculty and visitors to the campus constitute a major contribution to the region's economy as well as the state's. Moreover, the university contributes to the economy in other tangible ways to business growth, economic development and technology advancement in the state, Kendall notes in the roundtable's report, "Partners in Maryland's Growth."

The university actually has the potential and the resources to have an even greater impact on the region's economy. That's not taken from a Maryland marketing brochure. It's a statement of fact. The university is one of the more underutilized and underappreciated assets in suburban Maryland—indeed in all of metropolitan Washington.

Kendall, in a statement accompanying the roundtable's report, asserted that the university's "high standards for academic achievement and its outstanding facilities draw nationwide research that has a profound annual economic impact on our region as a whole."

There probably never will be another Silicon Valley, spirited attempts by wannabe regions notwithstanding. Maryland can be the catalyst, nonetheless, for the development and growth of a new wave of high-technology firms in this area, in much the same way that Stanford University gave birth to the phenomenon we know as Silicon Valley.

As the CEO Roundtable points out in its report, Maryland ranks among the nation's top 10 public universities in physical, engineering and computer sciences.

High-tech resources at College Park, the roundtable advises, were key to a decision by the Census Bureau to locate its planned supercomputer center near Bowie.

The Institute for Defense Analysis cited the same reasons a few years ago when it announced plans to build a supercomputing research center at the Maryland Science and Technology Center near Bowie.

Ditto, the American Center for Physics, which cited the university's strength in physical sciences, when the professional organization chose College Park as home for its new headquarters.

Sure enough, College Park has unique facilities, research centers and institutes that attract new research projects and funding as well as provide expanded knowledge in business, science and technology, the CEO Roundtable points out.

Those facilities include the Glenn L. Martin wind tunnel—said to be the most advanced aerodynamic testing facility of its kind on any university campus—and the neutral buoyancy facility, which simulates weightlessness for space research. It too is the only facility of its kind on a university campus.

Other specialized facilities include a computer vision laboratory, a superconductivity research center, an engineering research center and the Institute for Systems Research.

There also is the Michael D. Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship, which was established at Maryland's College of Business and Management in 1988, to facilitate and encourage entrepreneurship and the growth of new enterprises in the mid-Atlantic region.

Maryland's Technology Advancement Program (TAP), a highly acclaimed business incubator project, and the Maryland Industrial Partnership (MIPS) are just two examples of university-run programs that are designed to assist and form partnerships with businesses, enabling them to become more productive and competitive.

Still, Maryland is not being used as effectively as it could be by business and public officials in the region, particularly in Prince George's County, which is home to the university's sprawling campus.

This center of research and learning in science, technology, engineering, and business and management can be the catalyst for major breakthroughs in economic development.

It can be the springboard for the development of a new industrial or technology business center. Certainly there must a role for the university to play in helping some high-technology companies in the area convert systems and products to commercial use as the defense budget continues to shrink.

Dennis Murphy, president of the Prince George's County Economic Development Corp., agrees that the university can play a bigger role in expanding the county's economy.

"The potential [for contributing more to the economy] exists," Murphy said. "The university is certainly important from an economic development standpoint. We've seen a number of companies launched as a result of the incubator on campus.

"We're working on how we can work more collaboratively with the university," Murphy continued. "We disseminate information to businesses we deal with [but] we have to create a broader awareness [of the university]. That ought to be a fundamental part of our marketing effort. I say it absolutely will be done."

That's Step 1. Step 2 should be a meeting of university and local officials to talk about a more formalized approach to developing a strategy in which the university would become the focus of a new thrust in business formation and economic development. ■

The Washington Post/February 7, 1994

College of Engineering Plans All-Out Assault on Maryland Schools

Commonly heard questions in many high school algebra classrooms these days are "Why am I taking this?" or "What good will this do me in the 'real world?'"

The answer to these and many other questions could come from dozens of University of Maryland engineering alumni, students, faculty and staff who will fan out across Maryland and into the District of Columbia next week in a blitz of 100 elementary, middle and high schools.

Designed to encourage students to enter the engineering field, the outreach program is part of the College of Engineering's Centennial Celebration, which is taking place during the 1993-94 school year. Organizers hope students will realize that the math and science they are learning today can be used to solve real problems in the future, such as how to make energy from the sun, how to keep our water clean and how to move us efficiently from city to city.

The presentations will be tailored to the grade level of the audience and will include video and interactive presentations, hands-on demonstrations, discussion and question-and-answer time. The hands-on demonstrations will use everyday objects such as salt, pepper, spoons and wool to demonstrate principles such as static electricity.

LaWanda Saddler-Assem, who is spearheading the program and is assistant director of the Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering, said the outcome of the experiments is simply to make the students think. "We want them to demonstrate critical thinking and ask 'Why does this happen?'," she says.

A major goal of the presentations is to help students understand how engineers affect their everyday lives, from the foods they eat to the toys they play with to the cars they drive. During the presentations, they will be encouraged to think about items as mundane as silverware and as exciting as spacecraft, and remember that they were all designed by engineers.

Engineers build bridges, design cars and explore the ocean, says George Dieter Jr., dean of the College of Engineering. They make flight possible, feed the world and develop products from detergent to makeup. In many instances, engineers even cross over into law and medicine, he added.

"We are doing this because we want to plant seeds in young minds to help them better understand what engineers do in society and to let them know how this highly technical society that they live in came about," Dieter says. "They don't really get much of that in school right now."

University Police Say Buckle Up and Use a Child Safety Seat

The university police department, in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Transportation, is proud to announce their participation in the Maryland Chief's Challenge for occupant protection/child safety seat use; the program began Feb. 1 and continues through Mar. 31, 1994. This is the first year that the university police will participate in this program designed to increase awareness of and compliance with Maryland's occupant protection/child safety seat laws. Some of the planned activities include:

- Conducting a child safety seat clinic for the community;
- Conducting a child safety seat check-point enforcement site;
- Conducting an occupant protection safety fair and workshop in the Stamp Student Union;
- Distributing a wide variety of information designed to educate the community about occupant protection/child safety seat use and laws;
- Installing "Buckle Up" reminder signs in various parking lots and other high traffic locations on campus;
- Recognizing citizens involved in motor vehicle accidents whose lives have been saved or injuries reduced because they were wearing their safety belts correctly;
- Working with the staff, parents and children of the university's Center for Young Children to raise their awareness and increase compliance with Maryland's child safety seat laws; and
- Actively enforcing Maryland's occupant protection/child safety seat laws.

The university police strongly encourage their community members to comply with all laws related to occupant protection/child safety seat laws. Individuals or groups that would like to sponsor a presentation on occupant protection/child safety seat use and laws, or would like to learn more about this program, should contact Lt. Jay Gruber at 405-7045.