

# Outlook

The University of Maryland at College Park Faculty and Staff Weekly Newspaper • Volume 9 Number 5 • September 26, 1994

## Maryland and MPT Link Up for Joint Media Venture



Norm Silverstein

An uncommon union has taken place pairing Maryland Public Television (MPT) with the University of Maryland. The partnership will enable the two Maryland institutions to share educational, technological and television resources for the benefit of the state's citizens.

Called the Joint Media Project, the new venture helps both institutions take leadership roles in providing educational content for the information superhighway. The project also is designed to help increase the use of the university's Flagship Cable channels and to enhance educational outreach and multimedia applications in connection with MPT productions.

MPT is the fourth largest producer for public television in the United States. With the right partners and support, MPT can provide innovation and leadership to the public broadcasting

system, demonstrating how public television has an important place on the information superhighway.

The Joint Media Project is the catalyst for this effort. The project is dedicated to developing program ideas and new business ventures that further the missions of both institutions.

Directing the joint project is Norm Silverstein, who has served in various management positions with MPT for eight years. Most recently, he was senior vice president of administration and support at MPT.

MPT was interested in integrating CD-ROMs into its programs and the university wanted to enhance its Flagship Channel capabilities, says Silverstein. "I realized that both sides would benefit if a partnership were formed."

Silverstein considers it a natural pairing. "Both are state institutions, both

are mission compatible and both serve a similar audience," he says. Linking the resources of the university and the capabilities of MPT, says Silverstein, makes for "a good marriage."

The partnership means using new technology to advance education. For example, MPT will benefit from the access to Internet accounts, says Silverstein. The university, in turn, may

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## Teamwork Leads to Revamped Financing Process

*The following is one in a series of articles that will appear in Outlook throughout the year highlighting Continuous Quality Improvement in action at the University of Maryland.*

Used to be that one of the most frustrating aspects of a student's college experience was the process of applying for and obtaining financial aid. But that was before the Continuous Quality Improvement Student Financing Team set about righting what was wrong with that process.

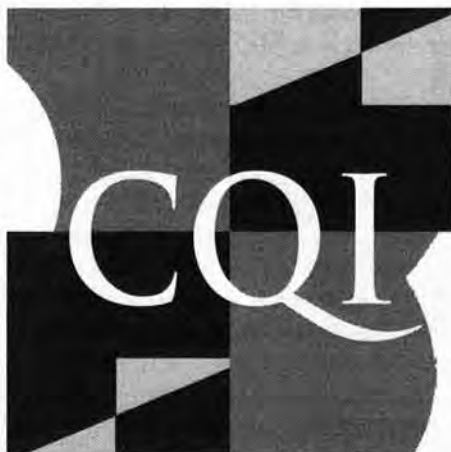
Now the ritual that often consisted of long lines and much confusion has been simplified and is proving to be a more positive experience for students.

Formed in early January, the team included Lynn Van Wagenen, bursar and assistant comptroller, who was team leader; Ross Charkatz, vice president of the Student Government Association; James Christensen, associate director for admissions; Jan Davidson, assistant to the director of Resident Life; Theresa DiPaolo, director of student affairs, College of Arts and Humanities; Bill Leith, director, Student Financial Aid; James Newton, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs; and Monika Springer Schnell, graduate assistant.

The CQI team chose the busiest walk-in week of the spring semester (late January) to survey students about the financing and payment processes as they stood in line to settle their account

balances. "We asked them about the process," says Van Wagenen, "to determine the 'pain points' they had gone through."

More than 300 students responded. On the plus side, most students cited a friendly, polite and helpful staff; the convenience of obtaining account bal-



ances and check information by telephone; and the simplification of forms.

Students indicating negative aspects of the process cited too few staff available to answer questions; waiting in long lines; receiving money after the semester begins, making book purchases and keeping up with the start of the semester difficult academically; and the fact that students could not settle their accounts on a Saturday.

According to Van Wagenen, the results clearly indicated a need for more personalized service and education in the financing processes. "We were sur-

prised to discover that, from the students' perspective, process technology is not as critical as hands-on customer services," she says. The concept of "one-stop shopping" is a priority, she says, "but students do not want to sacrifice personal contact with staff whenever they experience problems."

Using the information from the survey, the team focused on those aspects the group wanted to improve or enhance in the process, says Van Wagenen.

To insure the team was on the right track with its assessments, two focus groups of students were formed. One group consisted of students who wouldn't normally go through the financial process—"those who haven't had to walk through the mud," says Van Wagenen. The second group consisted of students who'd had problems with the system.

"Both groups," she says, "overwhelmingly asked for outreach." One student commented that he was impressed the team cared enough to ask for the students' input.

As a result of the survey and focus group sessions, the continuous improvement team developed five short-term action items as follows:

1. Use the WAM labs to give students access to their individual student account records and check the bulletin board function for payment and financial aid deadline information. The WAM

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### Just Dial 911

The University of Maryland Police Department is now managing a 911 Emergency Center System (ECS) for the university community. UMCP is the first non-county jurisdiction in Maryland to be assigned responsibility for administering a 911 ECS.

The new system, facilitated by the department of communication services, enables individuals dialing 911 to be connected directly to one of the university emergency telephone lines. These lines are recorded on audio tapes and are staffed by police communication operators 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Any 911 calls originating from pay phones and telephones on campus not on the 314 or 405 exchanges will continue to be connected with the Prince George's County 911 system. Individuals who are not within the UM Emergency Center System (UMECS) but who want to reach the University Police will be required to dial 405-3333.

The new UMECS has the following capabilities:

Caller identification for both on- and off-campus telephone numbers; Foreign language interpreting (140+ languages);

TTY/TDD capabilities on 911 for deaf individuals; and

Backup telecommunication and power capabilities.

According to Stephen Kowa, assistant to the chief of University Police, the new system aids in standardizing the number that students, faculty, staff and visitors must use to secure emergency services. Kowa says the University Police department hopes the new system will assist community members in obtaining services in a more expeditious manner.



## End quote

What first comes to mind when you think about working at the University of Maryland?



"Ice cream. The University of Maryland has some of the best ice cream in the Washington, D.C. area."

—Mark Varner, associate professor, department of animal sciences

"Alice Through the Looking Glass. Everything gets turned around. What is rational in the world is not rational here. I've been here 27 years and when I first came it was a self-denigrating place without much self esteem. We were in the shadow of [University President] Curly Byrd. Now, most people probably don't know who he is. Now, we have self esteem, but I just think the faculty gets turned around. It's a curious place."

—Winthrop Wright, professor, history department



"There's just a large diversity of people, especially students. There are a lot of people from other states and other countries. When I'm working, I meet people from all over. I'm Chinese and I've met people from China. It's really interesting."

—Philip Tou, undercover police officer, University Police

"How poorly suited the classrooms are for instruction. Some lecture halls in Tydings, where I teach, for example, students can see their friends walking by and have conversations, because the windows are right by the porch. It's pretty hard to keep people's attention. The rooms look in worse shape than any third world country I've been in—and I've been in quite a few. Since we're trying to move to smaller classes, to show students we care about them as individuals, we have to communicate that with the physical facilities."

—Charles Butterworth, professor, department of government and politics



## Survey Says...

### Sociology Research Center Solicits the Statistics

Were you surprised about the Washington, D.C., mayoral primary, in which former D.C. mayor Marion Barry beat out City Councilman John Ray and demolished incumbent mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly?

The university's Survey Research Center wasn't.

The center, located in the basement of the Art-Sociology building, conducted a June survey of 808 District voters for *The Washington Post* and its results showed that Barry was leading in mid-June with a 38 percent margin.

Run by the department of sociology, the center specializes in national and local telephone and mail surveys for government, academic, business and non-profit organizations.

According to senior project manager Timothy Triplett, *The Washington Post* selection of the center wasn't an accident.

"I think the reason the *Post* actually decided to go with the university for one of their studies is because they're concerned that people may not be as open or as honest reporting their information to *The Washington Post*, as to the University of Maryland," Triplett says. "They figure that a university is going to be independent and uphold certain standards."

In addition to conducting the surveys, the center helps its clients in the questionnaire drafting process by using a "test sample" of the population, to see if the survey will work, Triplett says.

The federal government is also a major user of the center's services. Agencies that have used the center include: the National Center for Health Statistics, the Environmental Protection Agency, the State Department, the Census Bureau and the Department of Agriculture.

The state of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia are clients as well.

The area where the surveys are conducted is more than just a room full of interviewers and telephones. Each interviewer is aided by Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing with the Computer-Assisted Survey Execution System. This consists of a computer monitor next to each phone which tells the interviewer what question to ask.

"All the data is automatically stored into the computer, so that we can get instantaneous results on any study. We can see what's going on or correct anything right away," says Triplett.

A staple of the center is the Maryland Poll, held in the spring and fall of each year for the past decade. This is a statewide general population phone survey in which clients are able to purchase questions at a per item cost.

"The Maryland Poll gives the opportunity to someone who can't afford or doesn't have the ability to hire a [survey group] for themselves," Triplett says.

The poll can be used to collect data on a wide range of behavioral, attitudinal and background variables. The survey is used in formal hypothesis testing, or even as a way to develop pre-test research designs.

—CHAD CAPELLMAN

## Knight Foundation Gift of \$1.5 Million Establishes Journalism Chair at Maryland

The College of Journalism has received a gift of \$1.5 million from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation of Miami to establish an endowed Knight Chair in Journalism.

The university's appointment to the chair will be a full-time senior faculty position held by a distinguished professional journalist, beginning fall semester 1995. Maryland was chosen for the Knight Chair in Journalism from 35 journalism schools and colleges that submitted proposals.

"Journalism's historic role as a guardian of democracy cannot survive without reporters and editors who can inform and energize citizens about their civic life," says Del Brinkman, journalism program officer of the Knight Foundation. "The University of Maryland's College of Journalism has developed the faculty, programming and curriculum necessary to produce top-notch public affairs journalists. The Knight Chair in Journalism recognizes this outstanding institution, its solid journalism values and its high-caliber graduates."

The Knight Chair in Journalism at Maryland is the seventh in a series of endowed chairs awarded to outstanding journalism schools by the Knight Foundation since 1990. The \$1.5 million gift to Maryland is the first at that level for a Knight Chair, \$500,000 more than each of the previous six awards of \$1 million. No other chair at the university has been endowed at a higher level. The \$1.5 million Knight award equals gifts that established the A. James Clark

and Martin Marietta chairs at Maryland's College of Engineering, and provides the College of Journalism with the first chair in its 47-year history.

"This chair will be a capstone to our Public Affairs Reporting Program, which is attracting exceptionally able students," says Reese Cleghorn, dean of the journalism college. "Through the Knight Chair, and our Capital News Service bureaus in Annapolis and Washington, we will try to creatively make a difference in the public's understanding of its public business."

The Knight chairholder will teach courses in public affairs reporting, conduct weekly seminars for those enrolled in the college's Capital News Service (CNS) program and advise graduate students on independent journalism study projects. CNS, with daily and weekly newspaper clients throughout the Maryland-D.C. region, provides undergraduate and graduate students with first-hand public affairs reporting experience. The bureaus in Annapolis and Washington generate more than 600 stories annually, with a publication rate that exceeds 90 percent.

"CNS is not a student internship or paid reporting position," says Cleghorn. "It's real-life training under seasoned members of our faculty who are former newspaper editors. It prepares our students for the kind of highly skilled public affairs journalism that will be increasingly important as newspapers try to reconnect readers with their communities."

The Knight Chair in Journalism was

created to endow permanent positions at top journalism schools to emphasize teaching, to build on the strengths of an existing journalism program and to reflect a vision that looks to the 21st century.

Past recipients of a Knight Chair in Journalism are the University of Texas at Austin, Michigan State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University, Florida A&M University and the University of Kansas. Established in 1950, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation made grants of more than \$32 million in 1993 in journalism, education and the field of arts and culture. The foundation, with assets of approximately \$800 million, also supports organizations in communities where the Knight brothers were involved in newspaper publishing, but is wholly separate and independent of those newspapers and their parent company (Knight-Ridder, Inc.)

The Knight Chair in Journalism is the second major commitment that Knight Foundation has made to the College of Journalism. In 1988, the foundation established the Knight Center for Specialized Journalism within the college, and has supported it with continuing grants totalling \$2.8 million. Nearly 700 mid-career journalists have come to the College Park campus for intense training programs of about a week's length to improve their professional skills in reporting on complex fields such as science, medicine, finance and technology.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK

## Outlook

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

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## Agriculture Dean Thomas Fretz Touches Ground at College Park

As the new dean of the College of Agriculture, Thomas Fretz observes, "One of the interesting questions that's always proposed in this kind of situation is: What's the new dean's agenda?"

But Fretz wants to turn that question around to: "What do you want the new dean's agenda to be?"

He sees his role as drawing the itinerary out of the faculty and agencies the college serves. "Then, put forth and lead that agenda, which, he says "comes from well-thought-out counsel and input from the faculty and leadership around the state."

Coming to Maryland is like "coming home" to Fretz, who walked the campus 30 years ago, earning his bachelor's degree from UMCP's agriculture school in 1964.

"I feel like a freshman again," he says, smiling. He chuckles about being shown around and is full of empathy for newcomers.

But Fretz is no stranger to the field of agriculture or the university setting. He was associate dean and director of the Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station at Iowa State University, and the interim director of international development for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech. He held posts at the University of Georgia, the Ohio State University and Kansas State University.

Fretz earned a master's degree in horticulture and a Ph.D. in plant science from the University of Delaware.

He considers his interest in horticulture long-standing. "I've had an interest in our natural environment, the landscape, all of the issues related to the production of those crops which we use for both aesthetic purposes and to add value to our environment."

Fretz says his first priority at Maryland is the unification of the College of Agriculture's organizational structure since the experiment station and cooperative extension divisions have returned to the school.

He explains that in a traditional college of agriculture, there are three divisions: instruction, research and cooperative extension. "Research serves the state's needs and the broader global

**"I'm really looking forward to the challenge, looking forward to meeting all the people around the state. This is not a short-term endeavor. The agricultural community in the state, the faculty and staff in the college, extend all the way from the westernmost regions of Garrett County to the lower Eastern Shore."**

—Thomas Fretz



needs related to sustainability of natural resources, agriculture and life sciences."

According to Fretz, the educational aspect has two components. One is the campus outreach via cooperative extension teachers: "The whole state is their classroom." Then there are those faculty who serve the student population.

"Our college has these three very distinct missions in addition to having a global and international outlook on issues. So, there's really a fourth mission which crosses all three of these missions."

Fretz will spend much of his first year listening to the various clients of the college—including faculty, students, even the entire state.

Regarding the college's work with the environment, Fretz points out that the college has played a pivotal role in cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay.

Other issues of concern to the college include: adding further value to food processing and processing of agricultural raw products for industrial uses, food safety, wildlife, pollution and issues related to families and youth in rural communities.

"This college has an opportunity—a mission—of serving the entire state," says Fretz, who believes that as a land grant institution, the college has an obligation to respond to the needs of the citizens. He advocates a partnership of cooperation with individuals, com-

munities and various state agencies.

"I hope to somehow create a seamless environment—a seamless entry into the College of Agriculture and the many services we provide to the citizens of this state," Fretz adds.

He commends the people who make up the College of Agriculture: "The faculty and staff are really the greatest asset in this college and are highly valued." He hopes to provide professional development opportunities and encourage continued growth.

"The college is very committed to excellence," he continues. "We need to begin looking forward, to strive for a balance between the short-term needs and a longer-term vision."

He says there are pockets and centers of excellence that must be nurtured, such as the college's role in contributing to a broader understanding of the state's renewable natural resources and the college's international dimension of sharing technology with other cultures around the world.

"We need to talk more about our accountability, the things this college has done which have been economically important for the state of Maryland. The College of Agriculture and the whole university can be an economic engine which helps to drive the state's economy." Fretz notes that agriculture is a \$1.5 billion business in the state.

"We have an obligation to think

about our students - to guarantee that we are producing a well-educated, well-rounded, balanced student who has an understanding of world cultures and diversity. We need to produce students who are problem solving and articulate; students who are employable; who have multiple offers when they leave this institution; who are committed to lifelong learning."

Fretz is glad to be here. "I'm really looking forward to the challenge, looking forward to meeting all the people around the state. This is not a short-term endeavor. The agricultural community in the state, the faculty and staff in the college, extend all the way from the westernmost regions of Garrett County to the lower Eastern Shore." He would like to maintain an open-door policy and listen to their needs and concerns.

Advancing fundraising is another challenge for Fretz, who has noticed "a tremendous opportunity to increase the endowment and gifts to the college. It's just untapped."

Fretz envisions himself as spokesperson and promoter, fostering a sense of pride in the College of Agriculture. "We must talk about its excellence, we must tell everyone how good this college really is. There's an opportunity for this college to be one of the best."

—JANET CHISMAR

## Time capsules

### Creepy Crawling Creatures

A man could go "buggy" in a place like this. But for Willis Johnson, state entomologist and professor of entomology at the university (1897-1901), it was all in a day's work.

In this photo, taken in 1899, Willis examines bug specimens seated amidst an assortment of butterflies and winged insects painstakingly collected, preserved, identified and stored in entomologically-correct boxes.

Home to Willis and his fellow entomologists, at the time, was Morrill Hall (also known as Science Hall), which was built in 1898.

\*This photo is from the holdings of the University Archives. For more information about the archival collection of photographs, please call 405-9058 or come to the Maryland Room at McKeldin Library.





# Calendar Sept. 26–Oct. 5

## Arts

**Monday Night Music Series:** Mon., Sep. 26, University of Maryland Jazz Ensemble Open Rehearsal, Chris Vadala, conductor, 7:15 p.m., Memorial Chapel. 4-9866.

**Writers Here and Now Reading:** Wed., Sep. 28, Francine Prose, 7:30 p.m., University Book Center, Stamp Student Union. 5-3820.

**University Theatre National Players:** Thu., Sep. 29, through Sat., Oct. 1, 8 p.m., and Sun., Oct. 2, 2 p.m., "The Tempest," by William Shakespeare, Tawes Theatre, \$10, \$7 students and seniors, \$5 student and senior groups. Sign interpretation on Sat., Oct. 1 - early reservations requested. Audio description available for Sun., Oct. 2 - reserve no later than 4 p.m. on Mon., Sep. 26. 5-2201.\*

**Artist Scholarship Benefit Series:** Fri., Sep. 30, "An Evening of Music for Two Pianos," Anne Koscielnny and Thomas Schumacher, 8 p.m., Ulrich (formerly Tawes) Recital Hall, Tawes Fine Arts Building, \$16, \$12 seniors, \$10 students. Free pre-concert lecture at 7 p.m., in 2154 Tawes. 5-1150.\*

**San Juan Islands Chamber Music Festival:** Sat., Oct. 1, "Metropolis III," David Sanford, 8 p.m., UMUC Center of Adult Education, \$19, \$17.10 UMCP faculty/staff/alumni, \$16.50 seniors, \$9 students. Free pre-concert discussion at 6:30 p.m. 403-4240.\*

## Lectures

**Maryland Symposium Series:** Nature of Changes in Psychological Systems: Mon., Sep. 26, "Methods of Studying Change Events in Psychotherapy," Leslie Greenberg, 4 p.m., Rossborough Inn. Reception will follow lecture. 5-5862.

**Physics Colloquium:** Tue., Sep. 27, "Hunting Down the Top Quark," Andrew Baden, 4 p.m., 1410 Physics. 5-4804.

**Current Issues in Planning Fall Brownbag Lecture Series:** Wed., Sep. 28, "Computer Applications in Planning," Alex Chen, noon-1:15 p.m., 1179 Lefrak. 5-6798.

**Art History and Archaeology Department Lecture:** Wed., Sep. 28, "Vasari's Technique of Ekphrasis," Giovanna Pirini, University of Rome II, 3-4 p.m., 2309 Art/Sociology. Tea follows lecture. 5-1480.

**Astronomy Colloquium:** Wed., Sep. 28, "Multi-Phase Gas in QSO Absorption Systems," Michael Shull, JILA/CASA, 4 p.m., 0254 Computer and Space Sciences. 5-1531.

**Computer Symposium:** Thu., Sep. 29, The 30th Anniversary of The Computer Vision Laboratory, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., UMUC Center of Adult Education. 5-1516.

**Center on Population, Gender and Social Inequality Lecture:** Thu., Sep. 29, "Reflections on Cairo: The International Conference on Population and Development," Faith Mitchell, noon-1 p.m., 2115 Art/Sociology. 5-6403.

**Physics Colloquium:** Tue., Oct. 4, "Can You Hear the Shape of a Drum?" Scott Wolpert, department of mathematics, 4 p.m., 1410 Physics. 5-4804.

**Astronomy Colloquium:** Wed., Oct. 5, "SL9 - Jupiter Encounter," Michael A'Hearn, 4 p.m., 1113 Computer and Space Sciences. Lectures are preceded by coffee in room 0254. 5-1531.



A touring ensemble of artists from the San Juan Islands Chamber Music Festival perform on Saturday, Oct. 1.

## Miscellaneous

**National Archives Film Series - "A Year on Film: 1944":** Wed., Sep. 28, "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," a World War II action film that reenacts the Doolittle bombing raids on Tokyo starring Spencer Tracy and Van Johnson, 7 p.m., College Park National Archives Auditorium, 8601 Adelphi Road. (202) 501-5000.

**International Affairs Banquet:** Thu., Sep. 29, Associate Provosts and Deans, President Kirwan, and Provost Daniel Fallon, 6 p.m., Founder's Room, UMUC Center of Adult Education, \$30. Reservations must be made. Checks payable to University of Maryland should be sent to the Office of International Affairs, Univ. of MD, College Park, MD, 20742. 5-4772.\*

**National Archives Film Series - "A Year on Film: 1944":** Thu., Sep. 29, "Newsreel Theater: 1944," episodes from United News and Paramount News which reported the major events of 1944 such as D-Day, MacArthur's triumphant return to the Philippines, and the liberation of Paris, noon, College Park National Archives Auditorium, 8601 Adelphi Road. (202) 501-5000.

**Career Center Career Week 1994** Highlights for Mon., Oct. 3:  
"Resumaniac," walk-in clinic. Have your resume or SF 171 form evaluated, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 3121 Hornbake.  
"Travel the Information Highway: Search for Jobs via the Internet," workshop, noon-1:30 p.m. 0119 Hornbake.  
"Kinesiology Career Information Fair," 2-4 p.m., Health and Human Performance Building.  
"Careers in Sports," a panel discussion, 4-5:30 p.m., 1302 Health and Human Performance.  
"What Can You Do With An English Major?," panel discussion, 3:30-5 p.m., 1120 South Campus Surge.  
"What Can You Do With A BS Degree in Math and Physics?," panel discussion, 4-5:30 p.m., 3336 A.V. Williams. 4-7243.

**Career Center Career Week 1994** Highlights for Tue., Oct. 4:  
"Gaining Experience through Co-op and Internships," workshop, 11 a.m.-noon, 0119 Hornbake.  
"Career and Job Fair Success Tactics," workshop, 12:15-1:45 p.m., 2205 LeFrak.  
"Interviewing Techniques," workshop, 3-4:30

p.m., 0119 Hornbake.  
"Engineers: What Do They Do?," alumni panel discussion, 3:30-5 p.m., 1202 Engineering.  
"What Can You Do With A Degree in Life Sciences?," panel discussion, 3:30-5 p.m., 2242 H.J. Patterson.  
"Career Opportunities with the Changing Federal Government," presentation, 3:30-5 p.m., 3215 Art/Sociology.  
"Careers in Associations: The Largest Employer of Liberal Arts Graduates," panel discussion, 4-5:30 p.m., 0102 Francis Scott Key.

**Career Center Career Week 1994** Highlights for Wed., Oct. 5:  
"Careers in Human Services," panel discussion, 1-2:30 p.m., 1304 Marie Mount.  
"Environmental Careers," panel discussion, 3:30-5 p.m., 0200 Symons.  
"Investigative Careers," panel discussion, 3:30-5 p.m., 0102 Tydings.  
"Jobs in Media and Communications," panel discussion, 4-5:30 p.m., 0102 Francis Scott Key.  
"Career Options in Marketing and Promotion," panel discussion, 5-6:30 p.m., 1303 Van Munching.

**National Archives Film Series - "A Year on Film: 1944":** Wed., Oct. 5, "Going My Way," the Oscar-winning film starring Bing Crosby, Barry Fitzgerald, and Frank McHugh about an unconventional priest who uses his musical ability and charm to save a troubled parish, noon, College Park National Archives Auditorium, 8601 Adelphi Road. (202) 501-5000.

## Seminars

**Space Science Seminar:** Mon., Sep. 26, "Study of Cosmic Ray H and He Isotopes," E.S. Seo, 4:30 p.m., 1113 Computer and Space Sciences. 5-4855.

**Zoology Seminar:** Tue., Sep. 27, "Cooperation, Relatedness, and the Demography of Sexual Selection in a Lek-mating Bird," David McDonald, University of Florida, noon, 1208 Zoology/Psychology. 5-6887.

**Mathematics Seminar:** Tue., Sep. 27, "Understanding Mathematics," William P. Thurston, Berkeley and John Conway, Princeton, 7:30-9 p.m., Physics Lecture Hall. 5-2316.

**Seminar in Materials, Reliability, and Radiation Effects:** Thu., Sep. 29, "Radiation Sciences in DOD," David Nagel, National Research Laboratory, 4 p.m., 2110 Chemical and Nuclear Engineering. 5-5208.

**Mental Health Service Lunch 'N Learn Seminar:** Fri., Sep. 30, "Hypnosis: Repressed Memory and False Memory," Akira Otani, 1-2 p.m., 3100 E University Health Center. 4-8106.

## Sports

**Men's and Women's Cross Country:** Sat., Oct. 1, Maryland Open, Golf Course on Rt. 193. 4-7457.

**Women's Soccer:** Wed., Oct. 5, v. George Mason University, 4 p.m., Denton field. 4-4161.

## Workshops

**Peer Computer Training:** Mon., Sep. 26, "Information Resources," 6-9 p.m., 3332 Computer and Space Sciences, \$5. 5-2941.\*

**Peer Computer Training:** Tue., Sep. 27, "Kermit and Modems," 6-9 p.m., 3330 Computer and Space Sciences, \$5. 5-2941.\*

**Peer Computer Training:** Thu., Sep. 29, "Introduction to WordPerfect Windows," 6-9 p.m., 3330 Computer and Space Sciences, \$5. 5-2941.\*

**Peer Computer Training:** Mon., Oct. 3, "Introduction to Pagemaker," 6-9 p.m., 3332 Computer and Space Sciences, \$5. 5-2941.\*

**Peer Computer Training:** Tue., Oct. 4, "Introduction to Windows," 6-9 p.m., 3330 Computer and Space Sciences, \$5. 5-2941.\*

**Peer Computer Training:** Wed., Oct. 5, "Introduction to NeXT," 6-9 p.m., 4352 Computer and Space Sciences, \$5. 5-2941.\*

### 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.



## A Blend of Bernstein, Wonder and Grunge-Band

Award-winning African American composer David Sanford blends influences as disparate as Leonard Bernstein, Stevie Wonder, Igor Stravinsky, William Billings and the Seattle grunge-rock band, Nirvana, in his new work, "Metropolis III," to premiere, by the San Juan Islands Chamber Music Festival, on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 8 p.m., at the UM Center of Adult Education.

A Guggenheim Fellowship winner, Sanford is composer-in-residence with the Concert Artists Guild and will be on hand to talk about his music during a free pre-concert discussion at 6:30 p.m. Later this season, Sanford's "Sanctus" will premiere on the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Music of our Time series. Last season, his Trio was premiered by the Bachmann-Klibonoff-Fridman Trio in a live broadcast on WQXR-FM Listening Room program in

New York.

Sanford's eclectic new work is part of an unusual program for clarinet, guitar, piano and strings that includes Vivaldi's Guitar Concerto, Milhaud's Suite, Faure's Piano Quartet No. 1 and Astor Piazzolla's "Night Club 1960" from "L'Histoire du Tango." The performers are all winners of the Concert Artists Guild International Competition and were selected to participate in the Guild's Chamber Music Festival held throughout the Puget Sound area of the Pacific Northwest. The artists include William Kanengiser, guitar; Michael Rusinek, clarinet; Mia Chung, piano; Maria Bachmann, violin; Amadi Hummings, viola; and Semyon Fridman, cello.

Sanford's "Metropolis III" is the latest in a series of works he says are "inspired by mental states of being around large crowds of people." He

compares these works to collages and multi-media pieces from the visual arts world. His second work in the series, "Metropolis II," made use of Stevie Wonder's "Living for the City," as well as the 18th-century American hymn, "When Jesus Wept," by Billings. "Metropolis III" supplements this musical melting pot with themes from Bernstein's score for "On the Waterfront," Stravinsky's Symphony in Three Movements, and Nirvana's "Polly" and "Negative Creep."

Sanford is also now completing a Ph.D. dissertation at Princeton on the late works of jazz artists Miles Davis, Stan Kenton and Mingus.

Tickets to the San Juan Islands Chamber Music Festival are priced at \$19, \$16.50 for seniors and members of the UMCP Alumni Association, and \$9 for full-time students with ID.



David Sanford

### Black History and Culture on Film

The Committee on Africa and Africa in the Americas is sponsoring a year-long film series titled "Undoing Hollywood: Black History and Culture in Independent Films." The free film series is held on Thursdays, at 7:30 p.m., in room 2205 of LeFrak Hall and is open to the public.

The series kicked off on Sept. 22 with "El Otro Francisco," a 1976 Cuban film based on the first anti-slavery novel in Latin America, and continues through April 1995.

In addition, the film series is designed to enhance the reading lists of these undergraduate courses: AASP 100, AASP 310, AASP 312 and ENGL 234. For more information, call 405-7856.

#### Fall Semester

**"Murder in Harlem"** (USA, 1935)  
Oct. 20

Oscar Micheaux, Director  
Directed by the father of independent black film, "Murder in Harlem" is in the tradition of the film noir, portraying a successful black lawyer who agrees to defend the brother of an attractive female client against a murder charge.

**"Nothin' But a Man"** (USA, 1963)  
Dec. 1

Michael Roemer  
Featuring the leading black actors of the period, the film describes the life of a black railroad worker in the South whose refusal to be treated as an inferior causes him frustration and anxiety.

#### Spring Semester

(Dates to be announced)

**"The Killing Floor"** (USA, 1985)  
February

Bill Duke, Director

**"A Different Image"** (USA, 1981)  
March

Alile Sharon Larkin, Director

**"Passing Through"** (USA, 1977)  
April

Larry Clark, Director

## China Regional Seminar Focuses on Women in Contemporary Chinese Society

A special two-day symposium on "Women's Issues in Contemporary Chinese Society" will be held on Monday, Oct. 3 and Tuesday, Oct. 4, as part of the Office of International Affairs' China Regional Seminar series.

Co-sponsored by Peking University and the Academia Sinica and Chinese Culture University in Taipei, the symposium features one of Taiwan's finest scholars, Peng Hsiao-yen, and the noted novelist Li Ang (author of *The Butcher's Wife*).

In a panel discussion of Women in Chinese Literature in Taiwan, on Oct. 3, Peng Hsiao-yen will examine "Sex as Politics: Contemporary Women Writers from Taiwan," and Li Ang will address

"Sex and Sensuality."

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, Xie Zhihong, resident scholar with the Women's Studies Program, will discuss "Violence Against Women in China."

"We are also fortunate to have visiting us for the symposium the distinguished novelist Yu Li-hua and two of the most outstanding scholars of Chinese literature at American universities," says Marcus Franda, professor and director of international affairs, "Kang-i Sun Chang, professor and chair of East Asian languages at Yale, and David Wang, associate professor of Chinese literature at Columbia."

Franda calls the symposium "a rare opportunity to engage in significant dis-

cussion on a topic of considerable importance to the Sinic world."

On Oct. 3, activities take place in the Fire-Fighter's Room, Inn & Conference Center, University College. On Oct. 4, UMBC plays host to the symposium at the University Center Ballroom.

The symposium is being co-sponsored on the American side by the China Committee and Women's Studies Program at UMCP, the history department at UMBC and the East Asian Legal Studies Program at the UM School of Law in Baltimore.

There is no charge to attend the symposium panels and luncheon, but advance registration is requested. For more information, please call 405-4312.

## Lander Medlin Leaves Physical Plant for Association Post

E. Lander Medlin, assistant director for administration in Physical Plant, originally hails from Tennessee, but she is quicker to call Maryland home. Her family moved to the Free State when Medlin was only 12 years old and she "grew up" both in the state and at the university.

Now, after more than 18 years of employment with UMCP, Medlin has accepted a position as associate vice president with the Association of Higher Education Facility Officers in Alexandria, Va.

Like many who move on from College Park, Medlin leaves the campus with mixed emotions. "This is a wonderful place. It's been my home for all these years," she says, "but sometimes you have to kick yourself out of the nest."

When Medlin's family first moved to Maryland, her father worked for the Bureau of Mines, which, at the time, leased a building here on campus, now familiar to most as the Microbiology Building. As a teen, Medlin says she spent many days wandering the campus, stopping by to visit her father. Just as she was ready to begin her college education, her father decided to move the family back to Tennessee. But Medlin knew her roots were in

Maryland and she chose to stay and attend the university.

In 1971, she entered UMCP as a student in the College of Education and graduated in 1975 with a bachelor's degree. One year later, she landed a job in the physics and astronomy department as a research coordinator. And in 1980, Medlin became assistant to the provost in the division of mathematical and physical sciences and engineering.

Medlin joined the newly-formed School of Public Affairs in 1982, but, soon after, was offered an opportunity to open a public affairs office for the American Physics Society in Washington, D.C. "Someone with whom I had worked in the physics department offered me the chance," says Medlin. "It was pretty exciting work lobbying on Capitol Hill."

Then she returned to the University of Maryland in 1983 to work for Physical Plant. During her time as assistant director, Medlin says her job has evolved and she has taken on new responsibilities. Included under her direction are fleet management, pest control, parking garage maintenance, special events and swimming pools and fountains maintenance, to name a few.

"This campus has given me incredi-



Lander Medlin

ble opportunities for growth and development," says Medlin.

Medlin, who also earned her master's degree in educational policy, planning and administration from the College of Education, is currently in the college's doctoral program with a focus on higher education. Since 1987, she has served as executive director for the Governor's Science Advisory Council.

On Thursday, Sept. 29, Physical Plant hosts a farewell reception for Medlin, from 2 to 5 p.m., in the Art/Sociology Atrium. For more details about the reception, please call Marla Bonner at 405-3216.



## Here's to:

**Roger Davidson**, a government and politics professor, who was part of a three-person delegation of parliamentary experts who traveled to New Delhi this summer to launch an exchange program between the U.S. Congress and the Indian Parliament.



James Hanson

**Bruce Gardner**, professor of agricultural and resource economics, who received the Distinguished Policy Contribution Award from the American Agricultural Economics Association in recognition of the most significant impact on understanding and implementation of policy.



Richard Just

**Madhur Gautam**, who received honorable mention for the Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation Award of the American Agricultural Economics Association for his dissertation "Sequential Decision Making under Temporal Risk by Households in Dryland Agriculture" supervised by Richard Just.



Darrell Hueth

**James Hanson**, a specialist in the department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, for receiving the Distinguished Extension Program Award given by the American Agricultural Economics Association for the most outstanding individual extension program in the country.



Stephen I. Marcus

**Richard Just and Darrell Hueth**, who received the Publication of Enduring Quality Award given by the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA). Hueth is professor of agricultural and resource economics

and Just is the department chair. Their book, *Applied Welfare Economics and Public Policy*, was named the publication with the most significant lasting impact. In addition, the two professors received honorable mention (second place) for the Outstanding Journal Article award of the AAEA for their publication "Multimarket Exploration: The Case of Biotechnology and Chemicals" in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

**Stephen I. Marcus**, and the Institute for Systems Research (of which Marcus is the director), for being renewed as an engineering research center by the National Science Foundation. The center will continue its cross-disciplinary work on the design of the control of complex engineering systems.

**Lucy McFadden**, visiting associate astronomy professor, for being invited to be the 1995 Sverdrup Visiting Scientist at Augsburg College in Minneapolis. The program was established in 1990 by Johan Sverdrup of St. Louis, in memory of his father, an Augsburg graduate.

**Robert L. Perry**, instructor for the English department's professional writing program, for publishing the second edition of his critically praised book, *The 50-Best Low-Investment, High Profit Franchises*. He also recently gave the keynote address on "Literacy in the Workplace" for the Anne Arundel County Literacy Council's World Literacy Day celebration.

## Teamwork

*continued from page 1*

labs are already in use and Van Wagenen says the bulletin board function should be up and running by Oct. 1.

2. Expand current orientation programs aimed at providing parents and students education financing options and planning and design outreach workshop training sessions on educational financing options and financial aid application to be coordinated by the resident/dining halls or other interested campus groups.

3. Improve communication of bill payment/financial aid information, deadlines and options. Van Wagenen says that such information appeared in *The Diamondback* and in an ad that was placed in the yellow pages of the schedule of classes.

4. Satellite site locations for bill payment/financial aid information and applications. During peak business periods, use resident life and dining halls as collection points for payments and to distribute financial aid applications.

5. Revise check disbursement and appointment process for FY 1995.

Some long term recommendations include expanding the resident life and dining hall workshop programs to provide students with employment opportunities that would directly pay a portion or all of their tuition charges; creating a consolidated student financial service center; and developing a student planner, a financial eligibility/cancellation policy and a centralized withdrawal policy.

One well-received change in this semester's financing process was not initiated by the continuous improvement team. The weekend of Sept. 3 and 4, both the financial aid and bursar's offices were open for student finance processing. "That went over very well," says Van Wagenen. "Parents could come and ask questions."

The team-developed changes to the student financing process have also been very successful, says Van Wagenen. "We were able to revise systems so that students weren't waiting in line. The students seem to be happier."

—JENNIFER HAWES

## Fulbright Scholar in Africa

Carmen Coustaut, assistant professor of theatre, has received a Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research in West Africa for a dramatic screenplay she is writing. The theme of the movie concerns the legacy Africa has for African Americans—differences in cultures as well as similarities.

Coustaut will spend half the year in Mali and the other six months in Senegal. She initially began her Africa research for the screenplay in 1993, when she traveled to Senegal and Mali for the summer.



Carmen Coustaut

Coustaut has already written, produced and directed two award-winning films—"Extra Change," a 28-minute dramatic film depicting the consequences of peer pressure and low self-esteem on a 12-year-old girl, and "Justifiable Homicide," a five-minute dramatic film depicting police brutality in the black community. She has also written the screenplay for "Harmonica Man," a work in progress that seeks to represent a black woman's endeavors in her romantic relationship with a blues musician and in her struggles for professional advancement. This screenplay was accepted as part of the Squaw Valley Screenwriters Workshops in the Summer of 1992.

A member of the university faculty since 1989, Coustaut was previously on the faculty at Howard University (1983-89). She was Visiting Minority Artist in Residence at the University of Vermont in the spring of 1992, and Rockefeller Scholar in Residence at Brown University (1987-88). Her master's degree in fine arts, cinema production is from the University of Southern California and her B.A. is from UCLA. She also has a master's degree in education from Harvard.

## Joint Media Venture

*continued from page 1*

benefit from getting new programs on its Flagship Cable channels and educational outreach activities that use and showcase university resources.

Soon, an advisory board will be appointed with members from both the university and MPT.

Collaborative efforts between public broadcasters and universities have been demonstrated time and again, says Silverstein. In Washington, D.C., the new WETA broadcast facility will be located on the campus of George Washington University. "WETA and GWU are community-based private institutions," says Silverstein. "So, it makes sense that there should be a liaison between our two state institutions."

Silverstein says UMCP and MPT could provide content for the proposed Horizons Cable Channel ("a cultural C-Span"). The Corporation for Public Broadcasting has provided funding for a Horizons pilot to be aired on public television in 1995.

The institutions would work together, for example, to provide content, including training on how to use new technology, for the information highways being constructed in Maryland and across the nation. Also, in the future, a new series may be launched, or a package of special programs produced, featuring events to be staged at the new performing arts center.

While MPT and the university could collaborate on funding, says Silverstein, most of the funding for the programs will be dependent upon grants received. He will be coordinating the fund raising, working to identify government grant and other funding opportunities to ensure future support of the project.

Silverstein emphasizes that major television production takes a long time. "I hope to have an impact within the first six months to a year. It's not realistic to expect funding before 18 months," he says.

Silverstein, who came on board Aug. 15, has given himself 60 days to develop a list of goals for the new program. He has been busy meeting with campus departments to learn more about the university's resources. "I'm seeing a lot of opportunities," he says. "I'm amazed at all that's here."

News of the joint project is spreading and already the Austin, Texas public television station has called expressing interest in setting up a similar project with Texas A&M. "There's no reason this campus can't serve as a model," says Silverstein.

Serving the public, using television in a way that informs and enlightens, is at the heart of the joint project. "The university is doing all sorts of things that it would be a shame not to promote," he says. He calls the project a prime example of "two organizations doing more with less."

Silverstein's background includes more than 20 years of experience in public and commercial broadcasting management and government service. He has worked as a radio reporter providing political coverage on Capitol Hill. From there, he was recruited by then-Maryland Gov. Harry Hughes' press office to work for Hughes. He then went to work for MPT.

In 1993, Silverstein received the 21st Century Award from the Association of America's Public Television Stations for his contributions to public broadcasting. He is a member of a national planning group which advises public television how to best position itself for the future. He also serves on committees of the Maryland Information Technology Board and an ad-hoc coalition working to preserve educational access to the national information superhighway.

Silverstein can be reached at 405-0175, or by e-mail at: normsilv@umd5-umd.edu.

—JENNIFER HAWES



# Take note

## Computer Vision Laboratory Celebrates 30 Years

Computers that "read" your face and tell you what emotion you are experiencing; software that enables cars or trucks to safely drive and steer without a human driver; and sophisticated programs that make sense out of images viewed from miles away. These are just some of the major advances in computer vision pioneered by the university's Computer Vision Laboratory during the past 30 years.

On Sept. 29, the Computer Vision Laboratory—the oldest and one of the largest research facilities of its kind—will be honored for these and other achievements on the occasion of the laboratory's 30-year anniversary. The celebration will take place during a day-long meeting at the Center for Adult Education. Leading scientists in the field of computer vision and robotics will present their perspectives on this dynamic and rapidly evolving field—and the role played by the lab in the advancement of the field.

The celebration begins at 9 a.m. A highlight of the celebration will be a 4 p.m. talk by Oscar Firschein, of the Pentagon's Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA), on the future of computer vision.

Azriel Rosenfeld, director of the university's Center for Automation Research and founder of the Computer Vision Laboratory, will present a historical perspective of the laboratory. "The goal of computer vision is to enable computers to see and understand the world around them," says Rosenfeld. "Every year, as computers become more powerful, we are coming closer and closer to that goal."

President William E. Kirwan will deliver a brief talk during lunch.

The Computer Visualization Laboratory was established in 1964 and is part of the Center for Automation Research. The Laboratory has a staff of more than 80 and conducts research on time-varying image analysis, three-dimensional scene analysis, purposive vision systems, architectures for vision, document image understanding, geometrical data structures for vision and graphics, and learning processes.

## High School is About Facts, College is About Ideas

"SQ3R" is not a robot in a new science fiction movie, but a method of study relied on by John Van Brunt, director of the Learning Assistance Service. Van Brunt, who teaches study skills to students who have been academically dismissed, says that a large percentage of them failed because they were not told the truth about learning while in high school.

"High school students are rewarded for memorizing and regurgitating facts, but that's not learning and that's not enough for college," says Van Brunt, who, despite excelling during high school, was academically dismissed from college two times before earning a Ph.D.

"While high school is about facts, college is about ideas," he says. "College students are required to think about the information they are receiving, integrate it into information they already have, and apply it in problem-

solving situations."

Van Brunt helps his students to understand learning and achieve success through SQ3R (Survey, Question, Read, Recite and Review), a study method developed in the 1940s by Ohio State University psychologist Frank Robinson.

Students are advised to begin by surveying the reading material to grasp the main ideas and major points so they are aware of what they are expected to know. Then, while reading, students are encouraged to form questions from each heading and subheading, thereby focusing their attention on the most important idea of the section. Next, they need to recite the important ideas of the material they have just read, and, finally, Van Brunt tells them to review all they have just read, making sure they can summarize the main points. "What they have just read needs to become a part of them," he says.

Using the study skills embodied in SQ3R will help a student to achieve real learning, but Van Brunt cautions against learning for the wrong reasons, such as good grades. In his book, *You Can Master the Maze of College*, Van Brunt presents information that stresses the importance of knowing how to learn. He explains that in the 1950s, human knowledge was predicted to double every 20 years. In the 1980s, human knowledge was predicted to double in 10 years. Today, that number is even less. "You'll need to read and study a lot of different subjects to stay current in the job market," he warns.

## Additional Agnew Papers Available

A second segment of the papers of Vice President Spiro Agnew, housed in the archives and manuscripts department and accessed in the Maryland Room of McKeldin Library, will be available to the academic research community on Monday, Oct. 3, at 10 p.m.

The initial portion of the papers, composed of approximately 150,000 documents, was opened to the public on March 8, 1993. The second segment contains some 70 boxes of materials Agnew served as vice president of the United States from 1969 until his resignation in 1973.

The newly accessible material includes correspondence while Agnew was governor of Maryland, and various items related to his vice presidency such as chronological files, correspondence, expressions of support, campaign materials, calendars and schedules, news summaries and publications by or about him. Agnew donated his papers to the university in 1974.

## Survival of U.S. Coastal Marshes Looks Grim

Marshes along much of the U.S. coast are in danger of disappearing or degrading irreparably, says Michael Kearney, a geography professor who has been studying the marshes for 12 years.

"Marshes can disappear amazingly quickly," says Kearney, noting that almost half of the coastal marshes that existed in the U.S. in 1900 are now gone. He attributes this, in large part, to the rise in sea level that began in the middle of the last century. "The acceleration in this global sea-level trend has outstripped the ability of most coastal marshes to grow upwards," explains Kearney. Contributing to the problem

# In brief

**Study Abroad Scholarships**—The Study Abroad Office, in conjunction with the Office of Financial Aid, is offering scholarships for UMCP in-state or minority students to attend University of Maryland Study Abroad Programs for Summer and Fall 1995 and Spring 1996. These scholarships of up to \$2,000 will be awarded based on academic achievement and financial need. Applicants with a minimum GPA of 3.0 will be given preference. Deadline is March 15, 1995. For further information, call 314-7746.

**Maryland Charity Campaign**—This effort among state employees to raise funds for a variety of health, human service, environmental, cultural and educational charitable programs begins its tenth year of operation. Gov. William Donald Schaefer and Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Secretary Nelson J. Sabatini have set a fund-raising goal of \$2 million. The campaign begins Oct. 3 and ends Nov. 30. For more information, contact Muriel A. Gates at (410) 547-8000, ext. 322.

**Another Opening, Another Show**—Subscriptions for the 1994-95 theatre season are now available. The season features five subscription productions in Tawes Theatre and two non-subscription productions at Pugliese Theatre. The season opens with "Equus," the premiere production of the 46th annual tour of National Players, the university's resident classical touring company. Production dates are Sept. 29-Oct. 2. For more information, call the Theatre Box Office at 405-2201, weekdays, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**General Research Board (GRB) Awards**—The GRB invites applications by full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty members with the rank of assistant professor or above, for financial support of their research activities for Summer and Fall 1995, and Spring 1996. Applications for all awards are available in the office of the department chairs. Semester applications must be received by noon, Mon., Oct. 3. The summer research applications must be received by noon, Fri., Oct. 14. Further information may be obtained by calling 405-4192.

**From Rome with Rhetoric**—Giovanna Perini, associate professor of the history of art criticism at the University of Rome II, delivers a lecture titled "Vasari's Technique of Ekphrasis" on Sept. 28. The lecture involves an insightful semiotic reading of Vasari's *Lives*. She will place emphasis upon rhetorical technique of description and the role of description as a form of interpretation. The topic should be of interest not only to art historians, but also to literary scholars, particularly those in Italian and English Literature. For more information, call 405-6830.

**Race, Gender and Identity**—The College of Behavioral and Social Sciences is calling for proposals for its diversity forum, "Race, Gender and Identity," which is also being sponsored by the Diversity Initiative Committee. The deadline for proposals is Friday, Sept. 30, and the forum takes place on Thursday, Oct. 27, at 3 p.m., in the Maryland Room of Marie Mount Hall. For more information, call 405-1679.

**Creative and Performing Arts Board Awards**—The board invites applications by full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty members with the rank of assistant professor or above, for financial support of their creative and performing arts activities during the summer of 1995. Applications are invited from faculty members working in the fields of art, architecture, creative writing (poetry, prose and translations), all aspects of the theatre, television, radio, dance, music, films, photography and similar fields. Applications must be submitted to Rm. 2133D, Lee Building, by noon, Mon., Oct. 10, 1994. For more information, call 405-4192.

is a naturally-occurring change in sediment patterns that is causing the sediment to be exported away from the coast rather than imported.

"Given this convergence of historical trends in sea-level rise and marsh sedimentary processes, the prognosis for marsh survival along much of the U.S. coast is grim," says Kearney.

On Maryland's Eastern Shore, half of the 13,000-acre Blackwater Wildlife Refuge marsh system was destroyed and the other half became less ecologically functional in fewer than 50 years. Coastal marshes nourish finfish and shellfish, add key nutrients to the water and filter pollutants. Louisiana's shrimp industry has suffered greatly from the loss of that state's marshes.

Last year, Kearney received a grant from NASA's Regional Applications Center Program to use satellite data to develop methods through which marsh stability and loss rates can be ascertained. This was completed in the Chesapeake Bay, and resulted in the discovery of a marsh loss "hot spot" on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The use of satellite data to identify

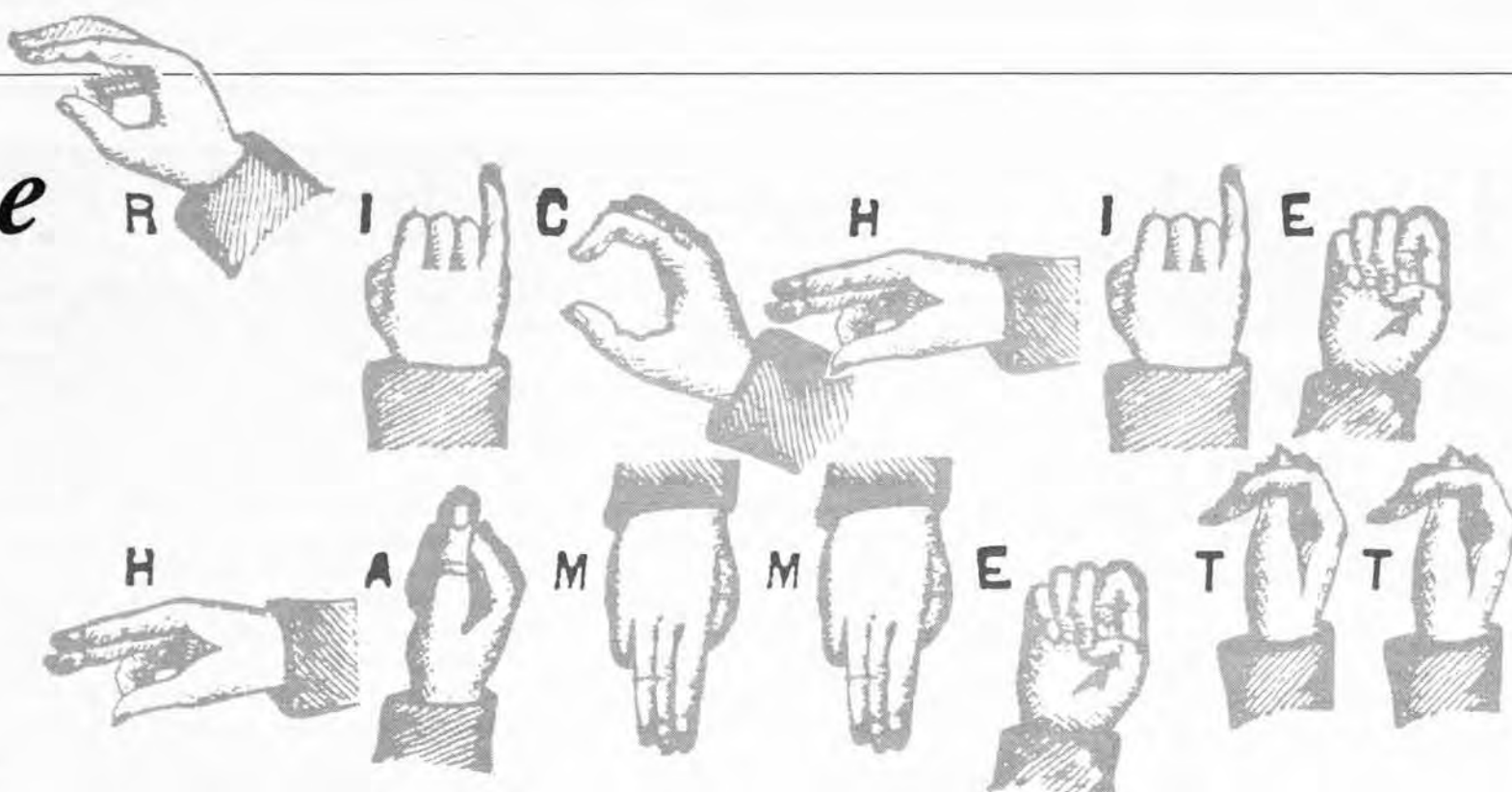
marshes at risk for future losses and to detect rates of change is unique.

"Previous methods for mapping coastal marsh loss involved site-specific investigations and air photo analyses, and offered none of the factors that we consider essential to a large-scale, uniform response," says Kearney. These factors include continuous updating of information, information for an area as comprehensive as the entire coast, and the ability to input the information into digital data bases for broad, collaborative investigations.

Kearney recently received a second year's funding to record marsh stability and loss rates for the rest of the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The result will be a baseline delineation of marshlands areas, calculation of 20 years' change and an assessment of models of marsh loss. Comprehensive information on the location and causes of coastal wetlands loss also will result—information that Kearney notes is important for policy makers and environmental managers considering the economic use of tidal wetlands and their neighboring waters.



# A Voice in the Still of the Quiet



With eyes that dance, a spirited face and demonstrative hands, Richelle Hammett could easily grace the stage. It is not surprising that her past reveals a theatrical influence. Raised by a father who worked in speech and drama, Hammett says, "My father was the theater director for my life." She even tried her own hand at acting for a time.

But now her gift of expression is not shared with the world of theater - it is bestowed to the deaf and disabled on Maryland's campus. Hammett serves as the coordinator of UMCP's Disability Support Service (DSS), a place where she uses her natural animation everyday.

Better known as Richie, Hammett says, "With signing, I think I'm more aware of being visual. I forget about it until somebody says, 'Do you always use your hands?'"

Her vitality and enthusiasm exude as she speaks—an energy she draws on to juggle the spheres of her life. In addition to her work at DSS, Hammett is a freelance interpreter and a graduate student at UMCP.

She is one of the editors for the national newsletter "Deaf-Blind Perspectives" and has coordinated interpreting and support services for the first National Conference on Deaf-Blindness and the National Symposium on Children and Youth with Deaf-Blindness.

When she isn't busy honing her skills at advanced interpreting workshops, Hammett interprets at monthly meetings of the Metro-Washington Association of the Deaf-Blind.

She also serves as the interpreting coordinator for Expanding Horizons—an outdoor adventure program for women which incorporates rock climbing, caving, kayaking, canoeing, orienteering and camping.

Hammett says, "My main interest and background is working with the deaf community and the interpreting communities and that's my strength."

She began signing in the '80s. "I have a lot of friends in the deaf community. They were the ones who really encouraged me to pursue interpreting as a profession. I didn't realize there was such a big need for interpreters. That kind of helped spur me on."

Hammett's own family experience is another motivating factor. Different individuals in her family, including a brother, have disabilities. "So, I definitely have an interest in seeing people get quality services," she says.

She was introduced to interpreting when she took a class with a deaf instructor who also became her friend.



"Being very involved with the deaf community is really where I learned the actual language itself," Hammett says. ASL (American Sign Language) is a different language than English with a different structure, she adds.

Hammett compares it to someone trying to learn English: "We've grown up with it. But for a foreign-language learner, just the intricacies and intonation of English are difficult."

According to Hammett, some people are more adept at learning ASL. She says it depends on how much you use it. "It's like going to French for an hour a week. How much of that are you really going to retain versus if you have somebody that you can talk with?"

She lived with a deaf person for several years, but that was after she had become nationally certified and was an interpreter.

During that time, she learned the cultural differences between the deaf and hearing communities. Eye contact and communication are vital elements in the deaf culture. "Say you and I are talking, we're sitting here looking at each other. And it would not be necessarily rude if I broke away and I kept talking and reading [this] to you. You still hear me so that's not rude."

However, Hammett continues, in the deaf community "that is not considered a polite thing to do because you have to have the eye contact in order to listen, to pay attention to the other person."



If someone needed to walk between two people who were standing and talking, the third person would need to wait for eye contact from the other two, who would gesture, "Go ahead, walk on through." And the third person would say "Excuse me."

But that's just the opposite in the deaf culture, Hammett says. "If we are both signing, then that's the most obtrusive thing, because now we have to break our conversation. If two deaf people are signing and this hearing person is standing there, they are not aware that the most polite thing is to walk through without saying anything."

This is Hammett's fourth year at the university. She has been the full-time coordinator at DSS for three years, starting out as an interpreter. She is close to finishing work on her master's degree in human resource management and hopes to graduate next May.

Never one to waste time, Hammett completed her bachelor's degree at



UMass Boston in three years while working full time for the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

She is happy to be at Maryland. "I really enjoy being at a university—the access to the libraries. I'd like to be involved with some research. The university is a good setting to be in."

She adds, "I really like the focus that the university has taken—I think this fits in with me personally—the whole idea of continuing education, continuous improvement. I just think that's so vital to life."

Hammett's workday begins at 7 a.m. Part of her job requires fielding questions from other universities because Maryland's DSS has a national reputation.

She works with her staff to resolve problems and conflicts, and spends a great deal of time on the phone.

"I don't have a typical day. And from week to week it varies. One day I may spend nine hours on the phone while another week I may go three days in a

row without being here in the office because I'm out interpreting."

Last year, DSS served 128 deaf students and visitors. During midterms and finals, the focus of Hammett's work shifts away from interpreting toward providing testing accommodations for students. Before a semester begins, she is more involved in lining up interpreters.

According to Hammett, 95 percent of the deaf students on campus do not read lips. She says in a classroom setting it's impossible. People ask questions and professors turn their heads to answer and write on the board.

DSS not only serves students, but also provides interpreting for 12 deaf staff members on campus. DSS also assists the blind, learning-disabled and physically-disabled campus populations.

Sometimes people think she can do it all: "We had a student whose father had died and they were failing their classes and basically had lost their hearing. They couldn't sign, couldn't read lips, all these very complicated issues. So, they came to me, but I'm not a professional counselor."

Instead, Hammett may walk the person upstairs to the counseling center and help them organize a plan.

Especially for students with learning disabilities, Hammett says, it's critical to make it clear in writing what to do.

"We help them to become independent, as opposed to doing it all for them or holding that student's hand," she adds.

Hammett says she often works 50 or 60 hours a week without blinking an eye. And because she's working full time and going to school, she now limits her freelance interpreting jobs.

The D.C. area has a high demand for freelance interpreters. Gallaudet [the national university for the deaf] can get up to 100 requests for interpreters in one day, Hammett says.

She usually gets calls for freelance work because of her specialty in the deaf/blind field—with tactile deaf/blind or close-vision deaf/blind. She used to do a lot of court interpreting before the field became highly specialized.

Medical emergencies can often lead to a call for an interpreter: "If a deaf person was brought into the hospital, you would need an interpreter. Actually, any life situation you can imagine—buying a house, opening bank accounts, investing money, purchasing a car, negotiating staff meetings—the list goes on."

—JANET CHISMAR