African-American scholar: Black History Month's Bryant Forum

A Harvard University professor recognized widely as the most notable scholar of African-American studies in America speaks at Bryant on February 27.

Henry Louis Gates Jr., who was recruited by Harvard to rebuild its African-American studies program, will speak in Janikies Auditorium at 4 p.m. at a Bryant Forum presentation in Black History Month. Title of his address: "Remembering James Baldwin."

Gates, 40, who also directs Harvard’s W.E.B. DuBois Institute, was described in a 1991 Boston Globe Magazine story as one of "academe’s hottest and most controversial properties." The story went on to say:

"Gates—Skip to his family and friends—writes theoretical tomes for scholars and pop-culture essays for The New York Times. He edits anthologies, writes forewords, gets black plays produced on Broadway. He jets around the country, lecturing on African-American literature, on multiculturalism, on black identity. He jousts with educational conservatives such as William Bennett and Allan Bloom. When 2 Live Crew, the black rap group, needed an expert witness to help them beat an obscenity charge in Florida last year, they called Gates."

Gates has taught also at Duke University, Cornell University, and Yale University, where he earned a BA in history in 1973. His MA and PhD degrees in English language and literature were earned at Clare College, The University of Cambridge, England.

A prolific and controversial writer, Gates has won a variety of prizes and awards, including the American Book Award in 1989 for "The Signifying Monkey," a critical work about African-American oral tradition. He also has edited a host of black literary works and has been awarded five honorary degrees.

Gates also received in 1981 a five-year MacArthur Foundation "genius grant."

Traditional African drumming, dance jolt Janikies

Bryant’s celebration of Black History Month continued last week with a performance of traditional West African drumming and dance and Afro-Caribbean "funk" music by "MIKATA," an eight-piece ensemble. Other Black History Month events still to come: a February 27 address by African-American scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. (see separate story); Extravaganza Night (variety show, two professional bands, lip-sync contest, poetry readings, dance, modeling) on February 29.
English professor teaching in Spain

Bryant professor Joe Urso is teaching in Spain this semester as a Fulbright scholar. An associate professor of English, Urso is teaching American literature and culture at the Universities of Oviedo and Leon. He is the second Bryant professor to receive a Fulbright since 1989.

Urso’s lecturership coincides with the 200th anniversary of Columbus’ trip to the new world and the holding of the summer Olympics in Barcelona.

"There is a great amount of interest in Americans and American society and culture in Spain right now," Urso said before leaving. In addition to teaching, he will lecture at several other universities in Spain.


Urso holds PhD and MA degrees in American civilization from Brown University, a master's degree in American studies from Wesleyan University, and a BA in political science from Haverford College. He came to Bryant from Vanderbilt University, where he had a fellowship in American studies and taught English.

Second art exhibition ends

The second art exhibit in the president’s office ended recently when adjunct professor Thomas Russell (l) presented one of his paintings to President Trueheart as a gift to the College. Twelve paintings from Russell’s Antinomia Series were on display in the president’s office since November.

TEP scholars selected

Bryant has selected three new Tuition Exchange Program (TEP) scholarship recipients:
- Carol Graves, daughter of William Graves;
- Julie Anne Robinson, daughter of Harry Robinson;
- Jeffrey Medeiros, son of Carol Peluso.

The recipients were selected randomly by executive vice president Walle Roettger from a pool of 11 applicants.

TEP determines the number of two-year scholarships each year. Currently, 300 colleges and universities from 43 states and the District of Columbia participate.

For more information on the program, contact Carla Gardner, TEP coordinator, at ext. 6013.

Dressing down yields canned goods aplenty

Sorting and packing canned goods for the "Because He Lives Ministries" are members of the secretarial/clerical council: (1-r) Claire Senecal, Elaine Goodwin, Debbie Jolin and Pat Doyle. The food was donated on another "Dress Down Day" in January. Instead of the usual $2 contribution, employees donated three cans of food for the Woonsocket soup kitchen.
Energy management saves Bryant $$

President Trueheart accepts a check for $104,000 from Robert McCabe, president of Narragansett Electric, for a computerized energy management system on campus. Bill Gilmore, Bryant's energy coordinator, looks on.

Employees earn extra days off

One-third of Bryant's clerical and secretarial employees will be enjoying two extra days off this year for using three or fewer sick days last year. The 42 staff members have earned the extra personal days because of their attendance records, said Jan Lewis, human resources director. A similar trial program is being instituted for public safety employees this year.

The employees and their departments:
- Helen Senecal, Karen Misiaszek, Donna Klepadlo, and Marilyn Ishewood, OIR;
- Helen Ammerman and Paulette Allaire, Grad School;
- Elaine DiCandio and Linda Martin, athletics;
- Rose Marie Droste and MaryAnn Tooher, physical plant;
- Holly Hogarth, Helen Matteo, and Pat Sinman, library;
- Debbie Jolin and Marilyn Seragiglia, human resources;
- Donna Lamiande, Naureen McDermott, and Barbara Smyth, admissions;
- Sue Minot and Claire Platts, bursar;
- Conny Sawyer, Dotty Scott, Jane St. Onge, Barbara Tavares, and Lorraine Cournoyer, faculty coordinators;
- Gil Peterson and Eileen McAuliffe, support services;
- Linda Asselin, CMD;
- Irene Bedard, health services;
- Sheryl Cania, residence life;
- Donna Cournoyer, financial aid;
- Evelyn Dergon, post office;
- Ellie Jacquard, student affairs;
- Lorraine Lallier, switchboard;
- Tammy Leso, internship office;
- Charlotte Moskalenko, information technology;
- Janet Proulx, public information;
- Claire Senecal, Lubov Titzman, and Anita Coyne, registrar;
- Joanne Socci, sponsored research.

Research seminar series to begin

Bryant's new "Research Seminar Series" begins next week (Feb. 25) with a presentation by history professor and author Judy Barrett Litoff. She will speak in Room 2B of the Bryant Center.

The series will continue each Tuesday at 12:15 p.m. (3:15 p.m. every fourth Tuesday) with a different faculty or staff member presenting and discussing his or her current research effort. The late-afternoon session every fourth Tuesday is to accommodate those who cannot attend the lunch-hour presentations.

Refreshments and snacks will be served. Feel free to bring a bag lunch. Each seminar is designed to better acquaint the College with research being undertaken on campus.

A memo to be circulated will announce each weekly session and provide a brief abstract on the presentation. A look ahead: political science professor Glen Camp speaks at the March 3 session (3:15 p.m.); management professor Subhashish Samaddar speaks at the March 10 session (12:15 p.m.).

{QUICKLY}

...Professor Chantee Lewis addressed the Bristol Community College faculty on "Internationalizing the Curriculum." Also, Lewis has co-authored an article for the Rhode Island Bar Journal with attorneys Thomas Kelly and Turner Scott. Its title: "Problems in Apportionment of Military Pension in State Divorce Actions"...

...A paper by professor Larry Lowe, "Impact of the Three Crises on Vacation Destination Selection," has been accepted for presentation at and publication in the proceedings of the Society of Travel and Tourism Annual Conference. Also accepted for presentation at and publication in the proceedings is another paper, "Marketing Research Practices of Northeast Newspapers," by Lowe and former professor George de'Tanowsky...

...Professor Eugene Amello addressed the Society of Governmental Accountants and Auditors on "Gift, Trust, Estate Taxes and Succession Planning"...

..."Improving Personal and Professional Productivity: Strategies for a Richer Life" was the topic of an address given by professor Burt Flischnam at the Yankee Dental Congress last month...

...Professor Jim Maradan's paper, "Teaching Desktop Publishing at a Business College: Lessons/Adequate From One Experience," has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Business and Technical Communication...

...Assistant career services director Barbara Gregory addressed the Junior League of Rhode Island. Her topic: "Marketing Your Volunteer Experience"...

...Professor Wally Wood was one of 10 computer ethics experts interviewed for an article, "Ethics: Easier Said Than Done," in a recent issue of Ethics magazine...

...Professor Subhashish Samaddar presented two papers at the 1991 National Conference of Decision Sciences Institute in Florida. His topics: "An Intelligent Systems Architecture: OR/MS and Expert Systems in Tandem" and "Flexible Loading and Operations of MRP Based Production Systems: A Simulation Experiment"...

...Adjunct professor Jack Keigwin is serving as a state judge in Rhode Island for The Blue Chip Enterprise Initiative. The program is a national networking and information-sharing effort to help America's small businesses compete more effectively and recognize their accomplishments through The Blue Chip Enterprise Award...
By the way...
by Gloria Yahn

- Congratulations to Lauren, daughter of Joyce Jenks of the development office, on her recent induction into Phi Beta Kappa at Wheaton College. Lauren will graduate this May.

- A warm welcome back to Mary Alice Conlon of the development office. On leave after the birth of her son, Mary Alice returned to work last Monday.

- Joan Dominici, the College’s secretary, tells me her son, Christopher, will marry Christine Lapierre on March 7. After the wedding, the newlyweds will make their home in Virginia Beach, where Christopher has accepted a position at TV Channel 3 as creative director. Good luck and congratulations to the Dominici.

- Gall Valentine of the business affairs office returned to work today after a two-week vacation in Hawaii with her husband, Bill, a former Bryant purchasing director. It seems Bill won air fare in a recent drawing. A nice way to break up the winter, Valentines!

- January 4 was the wedding day of Saeed Roohani of the accounting department. His bride is S. Diane Bridges, whom he married at the United Presbyterian Church in Sandvisters, MS. A reception followed at the church. Congratulations to them!

- Doug Fitzgerald of the accounting department tells me his son, Scott, a senior at Lincoln-Sudbury High School, won the starring role in his high school's play. Scott played Paroles in Shakespeare's "All's Well That Ends Well."

- OOPS! In the last issue of Bryant's Business, the locations of two faculty suite coordinators were incorrectly identified. Loraine Cournoyer is located in suite E and Dotty Scott is in suite B. My apologies for any confusion!