

# ORSP Newsletter



OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

JUNE 2009

## Research and information mining from the Internet

When mining information from any source, be it a purchased data set on an Internet-based source, UMass Boston requires all investigators affiliated with the university to comply with the terms of use for that source.

In the cases of Facebook and MySpace, both sites explicitly state that their sites are not intended for research but for social networking only. Therefore, the UMass Boston Institutional Review Board (IRB) will not approve any study wishing to mine these sites without an independent statement from the site sent directly to the

IRB authorizing such data mining prior to the study's review. Individual site users can extend their personal rights to a researcher through a signed consent. Such a consent must be obtained apart from the site's consent.

Investigators requesting to advertise on Facebook or

MySpace may use the pay functions of any site as stipulated in the site's rules (i.e., flyer function in Facebook and the advertise feature in MySpace). The study may also be posted on their own personal site (for a study which is not based on the site in use).

Recruiting participants by messaging members of these sites is not covered under the terms of use and is therefore not permitted.

Please direct questions and/or requests for additional information to the UMass Boston research compliance manager, Deborah Elek, at 617.287.5478 or [deborah.elek@umb.edu](mailto:deborah.elek@umb.edu).

## Institutional and individual conflicts of interest

Conflicts of interest can occur at both an institutional and individual level.

Institutional conflicts of interest represent an area of growing concern for universities, federal regulators, and the public at large. Although federal agencies only recently have turned their attention to this area, professional societies such as the Association of American Universities and the Association of American Medical Colleges are encouraging universities to disclose and manage conflicts of their institution and its top decision-makers.



Increasingly institutions around the country are recognizing the need to have written policies that govern research in which the university would benefit financially from a successful outcome. The purpose of such policy is to mitigate institutional conflicts and to avoid the creation of other personal conflicts with regard to the University's equity holding.

An individual conflict of interest occurs when an employee is involved in a particular matter as part of his/her official duties with an outside organization with which he/she also has a financial interest, or one which is imputed to him/her, i.e., the employee's 1) spouse, 2) minor children, 3) general partner, 4) an organization in which the employee serves as officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee, or 5) a person or organization with which the employee is negotiating for prospective or has an arrangement for prospective employment. Conflicts can be real or perceived.

A real conflict exists when an employee participates personally and substantially in particular matters that have a direct and predictable effect on a financial interest of the employee, or one of the others listed above. In this case, participation in the official matter is in violation of statute 18 U.S.C. 208. If the [UMass Conflicts Committee](http://www.umb.edu/research/policies/documents/ConfInterUMAB.pdf) (see [www.umb.edu/research/policies/documents/ConfInterUMAB.pdf](http://www.umb.edu/research/policies/documents/ConfInterUMAB.pdf)) determines that the financial interest is not "so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services that the University may expect" from the employee, a waiver granting permission to participate in the official matter may be given. (continued on page 3)

## Congratulations to the recipients of the 2009 internal grants

Richard Antonak, vice provost for research, is pleased to announce to the university community the recipients of the 2009 internal grants.

*The **Joseph P. Healey Grant** supports research and scholarly activities that enhance the quality of the academic and intellectual life at UMass Boston. The 2009 recipients are:*

David Areford (Art), “Embracing Vision: The Maulbronn Altarpiece and Late Medieval Piety”

Solange Brault (Biology), “Spati-temporal patterns in resource availability and the right whale abundance to Cape Cod Bay, 2009”

Alan Christian (Biology), “The Impacts of predation on freshwater mussel: prey species and size selection and predator identification”

Abbey Eisenhower (Psychology), “The Adaption to School for Low-Income and Latino Immigrant Children: Predicting School Connectedness and Children’s Behavioral Adjustment in Kindergarten”

Allen Gontz (Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences), “Past Drainages of the Neponset River and Dorchester Bay, Boston Harbor, Massachusetts”

Robyn Hannigan (Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences), “Metals in Medicine - the fate of in vivo Platinum-based compounds in human cancer patients”

Linda Huang (Biology), “Using functional genomics to define the genetic network in which the Sps1 kinase acts to control cellular architecture in *S. cerevisiae*”

Michael Johnson (Public Policy and Public Affairs), “Decision Modeling for Foreclosed Housing Acquisition in a Large Urban Area”

Shi Ling (Nursing), “Associations of Dietary and Lifestyle Factors with Cardiometabolic Diseases”

Heather MacIndoe (Public Policy and Public Affairs), “Funding the Social Safety Net: Learning Lessons for the Challenging Economic Times”

Marc Pomplun (Public Policy and Public Affairs), “A Gaze-Controlled Interface to Virtual Reality Application for Motor- and Speech-Impaired Users”

Stephen Silliman (Anthropology), “Remembrance, Residence and Survivance: Archaeologies of the Eastern Pequot Reservation, Southeastern Connecticut”

Katalin Szelenyi (Leadership in Education), “Doctoral Education in the Sciences at a Doctoral/Research University: An Exploratory Study of Doctoral Student Socialization among Women and Men”

Christian Weller (Public Policy and Public Affairs), “Going to the Casino or Sticking it Under the Mattress: Wealth Building in a Volatile World”

Wei Zhang (Chemistry), “Development of Green Techniques for Medicinal Chemistry Applications”

*The **Public Service Grant** supports projects that enhance the university’s public service mission, making the specialized knowledge and expertise of its faculty and professional staff available to government, business, civic groups, schools, and the community at large. The 2009 recipients are:*

Donna Haig Friedman (Social Policy), “A “Moving” Exhibit for Social Change”

Frank Herron (Media and Society), “New England Ethnic Newswire Awards for 2009”

Helenmary Hotz (Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences), “GPS and GIS to Develop a Geographic Education Model for Alternative High Schools”

Shauna Lo (Asian American Studies), “A Public Service Project to Document, Assess, and Improve Post-Adoption Services, Program, and Resources for Massachusetts Asian Adoptees”

*The **Proposal Development Grant** supports individual faculty and professional staff members or a team of faculty and professional staff members who will engage in the development of a competitive proposal for submission to an external funding agency to support a research, training, or service project. The 2009 recipients are:*

Wei Ding (Computer Science), “Toward Discriminating Pattern Discovery on Modeling Ecology of Crime”

Stephen Mrozowski (Anthropology), “Preservation at Early Colonial Sugar Plantations in Barbados”

Eileen Stuart-Shor (Nursing), “Gender and race differences in stroke systems prevalence, appraisal and treatment”

Maximiliane Szinovacz (Gerontology), “Negotiating parent-care arrangements among adult children”

## Recently published books and articles

In recognition of the research and scholarship produced by our faculty, the ORSP is pleased to introduce this new section on recently published books and articles, whether or not these fine accomplishments were completely, partially, or not all supported by sponsored funds.

**Jean Rhodes** (Psychology Department) has published [Becoming Manny](#).

**Ed Tronick** (Psychology Department) has published [Regolazione Emotiva, Raffaello Cortina Editore](#).

**Lisa Cosgrove** (Department of Counseling and School Psychology) has published "Developing Unbiased Diagnostic and Treatment Guidelines in Psychiatry," in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

**Randy Albelda** (Economics Department and Center for Social Policy) has co-authored the report, "Poverty in the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community." She presented the findings at a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill in Washington DC, hosted by the LBG Equity Congressional Caucus.

**Randy Albelda** (Economics Department and Center for Social Policy) has published "Up With Women in the Downturn," in [Ms. Magazine](#). This was also the topic of a talk she gave at the Women, Action, and Media conference held at MIT.

**Susan Zup** (Psychology Department) has published [Sex, Hormones and Neurons](#).

**Lucia Silva-Gao** (Department of Accounting & Finance) with Bala Iyer (from Babson College) have published "Value Creation Using Alliances within the Software Industry," in the journal [Electronic Commerce Research and Applications](#).

**Wei Zhang** (Chemistry Department) has published two review articles in [Molecular Diversity](#): "Fluorous Lewis acids and phase transfer catalysts," coauthored with Prof. Chun Cai from Nanjing University of Science and Technology; and "Manganese (III)-promoted reactions for formation of carbon-heteroatom bonds," coauthored with Prof. Jian-Ping Zou from Suzhou University.

## Some recent new sponsored awards

**John Saltmarsh** (New England Resource Center for Higher Education, Graduate College of Education) has been awarded a \$128,000 public service grant by the Corporation for National and Community Service, via Tufts University, for his project "Boston Area Social Network."

**Catherine Graham** (Institute for Learning and Teaching, Graduate College of Education) has been awarded a \$26,000 instruction and training grant by the Boston Public Schools in support of Project ALERTA, an academic enrichment program that strengthens and supports the education of motivated and talented 3rd - 6th grade Latino students and English Language Learners in Boston Public Schools.

**Jean Rhodes** (Department of Psychology, College of Liberal Arts) has been awarded a \$66,000 grant by the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation for her project "Promoting Relationships in School-based Mentoring Programs."

## Conflicts of interest...continued from page 1

An appearance of a conflict exists when an employee is involved in a particular matter involving specific outside parties (including individual, corporate entities, etc) and the circumstances are such that a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question the employee's impartiality in the matter. Such circumstances include the involvement of a relative, spousal employer, or former employer in the matter. In this case, the UMass Conflicts Committee could determine that it is in the best interests of the University for that employee to be involved in that particular matter, despite the appearance of a conflict, and authorize the employee to participate.

Employees who have financial interests (outside employment, stocks and other financial holdings) of their own, or financial interests of anyone listed in the first paragraph above which are imputed to them, must disclose any conflict and work with the UMass Conflicts Committee to obtain a waiver or authorization, or be disqualified from participating in particular matters concerning the outside entity.

Federal regulations require that the University of Massachusetts Boston implement policies and procedures to identify, manage, reduce or eliminate conflicts of interest (see UMass Policy on Conflicts of Interest Relating to Intellectual Property and Commercial Ventures at [www.umb.edu/research/policies/documents/ConfInterUMAB.pdf](http://www.umb.edu/research/policies/documents/ConfInterUMAB.pdf)).

As more and more relationships between the University and industry are created, the greater the potential for a real or perceived conflicts of interest to exist. Hence, as part of the federal mandate, employees have the responsibility to disclose any real or potential conflicts of interest by completing the UMass Boston Conflict Disclosure Form at [www.umb.edu/research/orsp/documents/coiform\\_000.doc](http://www.umb.edu/research/orsp/documents/coiform_000.doc). Completed forms are to be submitted to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs located in the Quinn Administration Building.



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Do you have items you would like to submit for possible inclusion in a future newsletter? Please contact Jim Mortenson at [james.mortenson@umb.edu](mailto:james.mortenson@umb.edu).

