CPCS’ Clark Taylor Center for Media, Arts and Technology Is Open for Business

By Janna Goldstein

On May 7, surrounded by family and friends, colleagues, students, and alumni, retired College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) professor Clark Taylor was in high spirits. Celebrating the official opening of the Clark Taylor Center for Media, Arts and Technology, he and many guests took part in a dedication held in the Wit’s End Plaza. After the ceremony and reception, guests were invited to watch the ribbon-cutting, tour the facility, and take part in the launch of the new CPCS website.

The center features 26 computers, 13 of which are Dell, 13 of which are iMacs. Everything is brand new, from the printers to the chairs to the carpet. Set up mainly for CPCS students, the center and its media tools are open to all. Funded by founder and CEO of Monster.com Jeff Taylor, at a price of around $200,000, the center is state-of-the-art. Jeff dedicated the center to his father, Clark, who taught at UMass Boston for 29 years.

“We are here to thank the Clark family. You are giving us hope and desires and a chance to create, connect, and to dream,” said Connie Chan, CPCS dean.

Chancellor Gora agreed, telling Taylor, “You will be remembered by every student who uses the center, and that he has kindly made “a legacy for these students and the ones that will follow.” Several of Taylor’s colleagues and friends spoke as well.

Professors Fred Johnson, Ismael Ramirez-Soto, and master of ceremonies Rebee Garofalo shared their excitement about the new center and their fondness of Taylor. Professor Garofalo stated with pride that the new center would serve as a “technological component to the urban mission,” essential not only to CPCS students but to the university as a whole.

When Clark Taylor reached the podium, he appeared grateful, touched, overjoyed, and amused. “It was not my idea to leave it in my name, but I have to admit, it gives me a certain rush.” In his address, his son said, “I watched my parents act out a life of being involved in social justice,” and that now the center and the media would be used “to further social justice and democratic development.” Clark Taylor was accompanied by his wife and two of his three children. All three of his children are University of Massachusetts graduates.

Following the ceremony, the guests were led into the center, where they took a tour and mingled for some time. The Clark Taylor Center for Media, Arts and Technology will clearly be a success and assist current students and those who will come.

Music Professor Reconstructs Beethoven’s Earliest Piano Concerto

By Anne-Marie Kent

The Chamber Orchestra, directed by Professor Jon Ceander Mitchell, professor of music, is immersed in multiple projects on Beethoven, including a recent reconstruction of the composer’s earliest piano concerto.

By Harry Brett

Students and alumni gathered at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Brookline, as the world premiere of Beethoven’s Piano Concerto in E Flat, Op. 61, released by Centaur Records to record this work in February together, said Motley. “If anything, this project has really put a spotlight on the work that’s already been done throughout the institution.”

STARS—Student Affairs Resources for Success—funded a range of projects that included assisting with the Beacon Dash, a five-kilometer road race held on campus recently to raise funds for the UMass Boston Early Learning Center.

Another project that received a grant was the HIV Education project spearheaded by Dawn Marie Heffernan in Health Services. The grant was used to fund an HIV assessment, counseling, risk-reduction, education, and testing campaign.

A mini-grant also supported the Sixth Annual Good Neighbor Day, organized by Jair Vilubi. Haggis and the Office of Service Learning. The fund covered the costs of t-shirts, snacks, and an ice cream social—small rewards for the volunteers who participated in the annual day of service with the campus’s Dorchester neighbors.

Other projects included: Creating Campus Community, students Ashgar Syed and Ann Falico; The Writing Doctor Is In, Professor Ramon Borrego-Mendes; Sociology’s Social Theory Forum, Professor Jorge Capetillo-Ponce and student Anna Martinkiv; Wellness Buddies and Pathways to Wellness, Linda Jorgensen, Health Services; Ambassador Outreach Program, Allyn Pazienza; U-Sail, Chris Sweeney, Marine Operations.

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