

Urban College Connections



Urban College of Boston: A Two-Year College
 178 Tremont Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02111
 (617) 292-GRAD (4723)
<http://www.urbancollege.edu>

**April/
 May
 2003**

A Message from the President



The Mission of Urban College of Boston begins with the following statement:

The Urban College of Boston was established to provide post-secondary educational and professional mobility to members of the urban community who have traditionally been under-served by higher education.

---Adopted December 12, 1994, Urban College Board of Trustees

As we celebrate our 10th year, UCB serves more than 700 students each semester through associate degree programs, certificate programs and a variety of continuing education courses. We are more committed than ever to providing you with a supportive environment to achieve your educational and career goals.

Our Commencement Exercises for 2003 will be our largest graduating class ever, with 48 Associate Degree and 39 CDA Certificate candidates! If you are expecting to graduate this May, please keep in touch. I really enjoy hearing of your successes after you leave UCB.

This year we are beginning to develop a database of our UCB alumni, starting an Alumni Club and creating a UCB Alumni Newsletter within the UCB webpage. We need success stories and profile information from you. We also need volunteers for these proposed initiatives. Please leave your contact information with Olivia Dybing, Assistant Director of the Learning Resource Center (email: dybing@urbancollege.edu). Additional information on the progress of these alumni activities will be made available on the www.urbancollege.edu website.

Congratulations to the Class of 2003!

Linda Edmonds Turner,

P.S. Don't forget there are special \$5.00 coupons for parking in the indoor Millennium Place Garage 3:00 pm to midnight. Call Sabrina Maddrey at 617-292-4723, Ext 6359 for details.

Inside this issue:

Urban College Students	2
Important Deadline	2
Urban College Faculty	3
Alumni News	3
College Fair	4
College Fair Photos	5
LRC News...	6
In Remembrance	7
Dates to Remember	8
Financial Aid Information	8
Resources on the Internet	8
Criteria for Scholarships & Grants	9

10th UCB Commencement to Take Place on May 30th

Dr. Linda E. Turner, President of Urban College of Boston, has announced that Commencement this year will take place on Friday, May 30th, at 6:00 pm at the Swissotel Boston, One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston. Ceremonies will begin **promptly** at 6:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom, located on the 4th floor. Marian Wright Edelman, Founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund, will serve as Commencement speaker.

Students are requested to arrive no later than 5:00 pm. A reception will follow the graduation ceremonies. Please Note: Due to the large number of graduates this year, students are requested to limit their invited guests to **NO MORE THAN FIVE**.

A pre-commencement celebration for all graduates will be held on Friday, May 23rd from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Melnea Cass Room, 3rd Floor, 178 Tremont Street, Boston.

Urban College Students

Meet Antoine Dallemand



Antoine Dallemand is in his second year of studies at Urban College of Boston. A native of Port au Prince, Haiti, he has been in the United States for two years and plans to get his degree in General Studies. Antoine has a very busy schedule because he works full time in the Operating Room at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton, and carries a full load of four courses each semester at UCB. He intends to move on to UMass Boston and work toward a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science when he graduates from UCB in 2004.

He has family living in both Haiti and France, and he visits his sister in Alsace every year. In what spare time he has, Antoine enjoys movies, visiting friends and going to clubs.

Antoine recently told **Connections** that he has "felt very comfortable at Urban College because the teachers have been really helpful. Urban College has been a great place to study, especially for someone from another country who speaks a foreign language, because everyone I have dealt with has been very patient. Urban College was recommended to me by UCB students Tanya and Fritzi Hall, and it has worked out well for me."

Meet Edna Mijangos



Edna Mijangos expects to receive her Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education on May 30th and her husband and four children will be there to cheer her on.

Working full time, raising a family and going to school, all at the same time, is a challenge for anybody, but over a period of seven years, carefully pacing herself by

taking no more than one or two courses each semester, Edna had managed to earn her CDA (1999) and now looks forward to her degree. She is proud of her accomplishments, particularly in achieving goals she set for herself.

Her first goal was to relocate to the United States. Along with that, she knew she had to learn English. Although she found it difficult at times, she accomplished that goal, too. Edna came from what she describes as "the most beautiful area of Guatemala, Copan, in Alta Verapaz." The lifestyle was very different there, and she had to adjust to having less time here to spend with family. Edna told **Connections** that she credits East Boston Head Start for supporting her with her educational goals, and Urban College courses and faculty with helping her to become the professional childcare provider she always wanted to be

When time allows, Edna helps her husband at his restaurant, *El Refugio* in Lynn, sometimes making a dish very popular in Guatemala called Cack-ik, a spicy chicken and red pepper soup.

(Continued on Page 6)

Important Deadline...

Malkin Scholarship Deadline is May 12, 2003

Applications for the Moses and Hannah Malkin Scholarships are currently being accepted. To be considered for The Malkin Scholarship Awards, students must be enrolled in a degree program, have completed 33 credits by January, 2003, have a 3.2 Grade Point Average, be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or otherwise eligible, have a high school diploma or GED certificate, have no BA or other college degree, and must complete an FAFSA verification form. Awards range from \$300 to \$1,800. To apply, see Dr. Grace Caines or Nancy Daniel by May 12, 2003.

Meet Urban College Faculty

Meet Anthony Sammarco: Keeping Boston's History Alive



Anthony Sammarco, instructor in history at UCB, lives and breathes the history of Boston and he has written forty books to prove it! He is the Chief Financial Officer of Bonney's Express, Inc. of Boston, an international importing transportation company and an instructor teaching courses on *Boston Neighborhoods*, *Studies in American History, 1630-1865* and *Boston Immigrants* here at Urban College, which he has done for the last four years.

Nancy Daniel, Division Chair of the General Studies Department, first introduced Anthony to UCB and he was "intrigued" by the mission of the college. His first course on the history of neighborhoods in Boston had a full roster of students, and it's been that way ever since.

Anthony told **Connections** that "one of the most impressive things about the students here is the level of enthusiasm they show at the end of a work day, especially for a course that's not their major. UCB students are ripe to learn. If you look at a course like *Boston Neighborhoods*, the neighborhoods themselves are very reflec-

tive of the demographics of Urban College. Many live in these neighborhoods and as they learn about local history, they also learn how they are adding to that history."

The proud owner of Dexter, an "ancient alley cat", Anthony also likes to garden, collect antiques and travel, especially to England and Italy. He serves as Treasurer of the Bay State Historical League, the Victorian Society of America and the Milton Historical Society, a Corporator of New England Baptist Hospital and a board member of a number of organizations, including the Forbes House Museum in Milton. A frequent lecturer on Boston history, he is developing a coloring book that tells Dorchester history in four languages and recently published books on *Images of America: Boston's Fenway and Jamaica Plain, Then and Now*. His *History of Milton* will soon be on its way to his publisher and he is also at work on books on *Boston's Chinatown* and *Growing Up in the North End*.

The Boston Globe describes Anthony Sammarco as "a scholar motivated by a love of neighborhood." He has been awarded the National Freedoms Foundation *George Washington Honor Medal* because of his dedication to the teaching of American history.

(Continued on Page 4)

Alumni News and Notes

Hat's Off to...

- Maureen Largy, '02, who has been nominated to the Board of The Boston Association for the Education of Young Children;
- Noreen King, '01 and Mary Dunphy, '01 who will be graduating with BA degrees from Cambridge College in June;
- Thony King, '02, and Cheryl Fleming, both currently enrolled at Cambridge College;
- Gaelle Millien, '02 who is working as a Lead Teacher in Quincy and expecting her first baby! Congratulations to Gaelle and Pierre!
- Linda Nelson, '02 who in addition to operating her own childcare, also supervises a USDA Nutrition Program.

Send in YOUR news! New job? Studying for a degree? Graduated? Promotion? Family news? Share your good news. Drop a note to Olivia Dybing, Connections Newsletter, Urban College of Boston, 178 Tremont St., 7th fl. Boston, MA 02111 or email dybing@urbancollege.edu Watch for announcements about upcoming alumni networking events.

Do you have a story to contribute? Email it to dybing@urbancollege.edu

Meet Urban College Faculty (Continued from Page 3)

Meet Agnes Lugira:

Early Childhood Development

Agnes Lugira has been an instructor in the Early Childhood Education Program at Urban College for the past four years. She recognizes that students enrolled here are, in her words, “ready to learn. The student body is diverse. UCB gives many the opportunities to make up what they have missed and to take their experience, often as mothers and teachers, and apply it to help create a paper trail to better employment. Many of my students work in childcare and I believe that these childcare teachers teach the same as university instructors, *but at a different level*. I want my students to realize and understand that they should be proud of themselves and what they do. Daycare is not baby sitting. It is basic teaching.”

Agnes was born and raised in Uganda, East Africa. She received both her bachelors and masters degrees from the National Institute of Education at Makerere University in Kampala. She came to the States in

1977 with her husband, Dean of both the Department of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Theology at a Ugandan university when he was invited to be a visiting professor at Harvard University.

During that time, Uganda experienced significant political upheaval, and the Lugiras were unable to go home. Since Agnes had no work visa, she could not get a job, so she became involved in the cooperative daycare her two young children were attending. Eventually her status was straightened out. Her experience there contributed to her keen awareness of issues that confront childcare providers.

Moving to Winchester, she encountered a racial incident that prompted her, in her words, “to become a community activist and respond in a positive way, by making lemonade out of lemons.” In 1993, she became the driving force behind what has become Winchester’s ‘Black History Month Celebration’, an event now widely supported by the residents of the town. In addition to her commu-



nity involvement, Agnes is also a member of the Peace and Justice Committee of her church, a Eucharistic minister, a member of her Parish Pastoral Council and she also serves in the Archdiocese Ethnic Apostolate, Commission of African Pastoral. She maintains connections to the Ugandan community here in Boston, helping people to learn about and adjust to new cultural values and history, as they become independent members of a new community.

Three of her children have graduated from college and one is currently attending Boston College. Agnes is the proud grandmother “of two beautiful grandchildren!”

College Fair at Urban College of Boston

Urban College of Boston hosted its largest College Fair in March for students and alumni interested in continuing on to a four-year degree. It was an excellent opportunity for students to meet with admissions counselors and learn what individual schools have to offer and to get questions

answered about transfer procedures, admissions, college costs, financial aid, what credits they accept and discuss transportation availability.

The following colleges participated:

- Lesley University
- Endicott College

- Wheelock College
- Regis College
- Laboure College of Nursing
- Springfield University
- Suffolk University
- University of Phoenix
- UMass School of Nursing
- Framingham state College

College Fair, 2003



...Meet Urban College Students (cont. from Page 2.)

Meet Elizabeth Rosa



Elizabeth Rosa is a Student Support Staff Behavior Aide in the Malden Public Schools, a position she has had for the past three years. She came to Urban College through the recommendation of a former UCB student who was also her “mother-in-law-to-be, Luisa Negron” and expects to graduate with a degree in Early Childhood Education in 2004. She plans to continue on for her bachelor’s degree and become a Spanish language teacher.

Elizabeth shared with **Connections** that her parents worked hard, each doing two and three jobs at a time, to enable the family to live here after moving here from San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic. Her hope is to make them proud of her and show them that their efforts are appreciated. Education is very important in her family. By studying hard and attaining her objectives, Elizabeth hopes to move on professionally and set an example for others.

She is president of the youth program at her church and volunteers her help to a community youth singing group that performs at lo-

cal fairs. Elizabeth also volunteers as a home behavior trainer aide, translating for clients. She likes reading in her free time, especially biographies and her special treat is travel. Current favorite spot? “Punta Cana, with its beautiful white sand beaches and its nice people!”

Meet Lesly Ovilma



Lesly Ovilma began taking courses at Urban College during the summer of 2000. He and his wife, Florence, arrived here from Haiti in 1997, and moved to Mattapan. He was working as a pizza maker when a friend told him about UCB. Lesly began here by taking only computer courses, and by the time he completed them, he decided it was time to enroll and work toward a degree. “UCB is the best place I’ve ever been! In Haiti, you do everything on your own or as a team. Here, you are responsible for yourself, but people are willing to help you. People have the patience to talk to you and spend time with you when you ask for help.” Lesly has been helping people himself, as he is just completing an Internship at Mattapan Family Service Cen-

ter, teaching the elderly how to use computers.

Weekends find him involved in his church in Mattapan, where he is a member of the Social Action Committee and Event Coordinator of the Usher Ministry. He can also be heard singing in the Men’s Group. Music is a true interest and he likes to listen to gospel music for relaxation. He enjoys spending time with friends, and with his four-year-old niece, Ashley.

A General Studies degree is the next step, and he hopes to complete his studies and graduate in 2004. His future plans after that include a degree in Computer Science and owning his own business.

LRC News

Learning Resource Center Reminder:

The LRC is open Monday – Thursday, 4:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. with staff available to help you.

Don’t forget you can also use the LRC for internet research or typing papers during the day.

Stop by the LRC on the 7th floor or email Olivia Dybing in the L R C a t d y - bing@urbancollege.edu if you have any questions.

In Remembrance

Cornelia A. Kane, Long Time Friend and Trustee of Urban College Dies After Lengthy Illness

Dr. Linda Edmonds Turner, President of Urban College of Boston, had the sad task of announcing the death of longtime friend, supporter and member of the Urban College Board of Trustees, Cornelia A. Kane, Vice President of Head Start and Children's Services at Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD). She died March 2nd after a lengthy illness.

Born and raised in Dorchester, she attended Boston State College and earned her Masters degree from Columbia University in New York.

A spokesperson for ABCD noted, "Cornelia Kane's life was marked by courage, compassion and outstanding commitment to our nation's most vulnerable children and families. Throughout her lifetime, she held leadership positions in community action and child care organizations at the national, state and local levels. Her work and life are an inspiration to us all."

"In her position as a vice president at Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), the major Boston-area antipoverty agency, Connie provided leadership to more than 600 Head Start and child care staff members. The ABCD Head Start program offers comprehensive educational, nutritional, health, social and parent involvement services to 2,600 pre-

school children, including 200 infants and toddlers in Early Head Start, in 23 neighborhood-based programs in all of Boston's neighborhoods. Head Start is the nation's much-applauded early childhood education program developed in the 1960s by Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson with the mission of enabling children from low-income families to enter grade school on an equal footing with their more affluent peers."

On February 28th the conference room at the new ABCD Parker Hill/Fenway Head Start Center in Mission Hill was dedicated to Connie Kane during a celebration of the opening of this new site at the renovated former Gloucester Memorial Church on Parker Street. She was unable to attend the ceremony.

Connie initiated many valuable collaborations for ABCD Head Start, including Community Partnerships for Children and the 0-8 Coalition. She was instrumental in fostering links between ABCD and the child care community through program development and pilot projects such as Head Start Good Guys, which encourages greater male involvement in children's daily lives. On the national level, Connie has worked to facilitate close links between community action programs and Head Start.

ABCD President/CEO Robert Coard said: "Connie was a national leader for children's programs and



initiatives that assist low-income families. She brought outstanding leadership and unwavering commitment to ABCD's mission of combating poverty and giving poor children and families opportunities for upward mobility. Connie believed in the value of education at every stage of a person's life. She demonstrated that commitment in program development for Head Start families as well as by developing career and educational advancement opportunities for all of her staff members."

Prior to becoming Vice President, ABCD Head Start and Children's Services, Connie served as ABCD Head Start Deputy Director as well as Director of ABCD's Child Care Choices of Boston, a large state-funded ABCD child-care program that provides day care voucher management, information referral and other services for low-income working families in need of child care.

(Continued on Page 8)

...In Remembrance **Resources on the Internet**

Cornelia A. Kane, Long Time Friend and Trustee of Urban College Dies After Lengthy Illness

(Continued from Page 7)

Connie's previous leadership positions included serving as Director, Children's Services, Community Renewal Team of Hartford, Inc.; Executive Director of the Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee, Inc.; and Director of Children's Services for the Cambridge-Somerville Economic Opportunity Committee.

She was, as Dr. Turner pointed out, a committed Trustee of the Urban College from its inception, working tirelessly on behalf of both its students and its programs. She was a member of the National Head Start Association, NAEYC, National Black Child Institute, and the Massachusetts Office of Child Care Services Advisory Board.

Shortly after her death, a letter arrived for Connie informing her that of the thousands of Head Start Directors in the United States, she had been chosen "Administrator of the Year." One of her children will accept the award on her behalf at the NHSA National Meeting in New York on May 29th.

The outstanding work she did throughout her career, benefiting so many children, families, teachers, UCB students, faculty and fellow Trustees, is truly a shining example of how "one person can make a difference."

Financial Aid Information:

Need help? Sign up for an appointment to see a financial aid counselor Monday – Thursday between 4:30 and 6:15 P.M. Appointments available now. Sign-up sheet posted outside the Financial Aid Office, 7th Fl., 178 Tremont Street.

Check out the Criteria for Scholarships on Page 9.

Dates to Remember...

- ⇒ 4/21 Patriot's Day (No Classes)
- ⇒ 4/21 Spring Break (No Classes)
- ⇒ 4/28 Classes Resume
- ⇒ 5/13-5/19 Final Exams, 15 Wk. Courses
- ⇒ 5/19 Last Day of Classes, 15 Wk. Courses
- ⇒ 5/20-5/21 Final Exams, Term II, 8 week courses
- ⇒ 5/21 Last Day of Classes, Term II, 8 week courses
- ⇒ 5/23 Faculty Grades Due
- ⇒ 5/30 Commencement Ceremony

Summer Term Reminder:

- ⇒ 6/2-6/3 Advisement/Placement/Registration
- ⇒ 6/4 Late Registration
- ⇒ 6/9 First Day of Classes
- ⇒ 6/17 Bunker Hill Day (No Classes)
- ⇒ 7/4 Independence Day (No Classes)

Urban College Connections

is published bi-monthly
by Urban College of Boston
Office of Student Services

(617) 292-4723

Olivia Dybing
dybing@urbancollege.edu

Financial Aid/Scholarships:

- www.fastweb.com
- www.wiredscholar.com
- www.collegeboard.com
(under "Paying for College" section)
- www.fastweb.com
- www.ed.info.org
- www.collegenet.com/mach25
- www.schlarships.com
- www.fin.aid.org/otheraid/majors.phtml
(scholarships based on specific areas of study)
- www.srnexpress.com
- www.wiredscholar.com
- www.studentaffairs.com/web/financ.html
- www.sdfoundation.org/scholarship/websites
- www.grants-scholarship.com

Human services:

- www.bostonabcd.org
- www.bostonresourcenet.org
- www.cityofboston.com

Job Sources:

- www.jobfind.com
(Boston Herald)
- www.bostonworks.com
(Boston Globe)
- www.monster.com
- www.bostonabcd.org/jobs/index.htm
- <http://www.bostonjobs.com>
- www.employmentguide.com
- www.job-search-engine.com

Early Childhood Educators:

- <http://earlychildhood.about.com/education/earlychildhood/mbody.htm> (Daycare/Preschool)
- www.urbancollege.edu
- www.bostonabcd.org

