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## Sailing to Freedom

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World Class.  
Within Reach.



### Faculty

The workshop will bring together nationally known scholars of the Underground Railroad, the antebellum Abolition Movement and African-Americans in the maritime trades. "Sailing to Freedom" workshop leaders will include:

Dr. Norman Barber, assistant professor of African and African American Studies, University of Rhode Island

Over the past 30 years, Dr. Norman L. Barber has assumed various leadership positions, in the areas of student affairs research and enrollment management, at both private and public institutions of higher education. In February 2002, Barber earned a doctoral degree in Education, from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, concentrating in educational policy, research, and administration. His dissertation, which was a qualitative research study, carefully examined the perceptions and experiences of African American community college transfer students at a predominantly white university in the Northeast. Currently, Director of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Barber is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the African & African American Studies program at the University of Rhode Island (URI). At the undergraduate level, Barber has offered courses on the Civil Rights Movement, African & African American Studies, African & African American History, Black Identity and the Social World, Urban Problems, Urban Education and the African American experience, and African & African American culture. On several occasions, Barber has also taught a graduate course on educational research and technology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. His research interests are in African American social history, racial ideologies and black identity development, and the experiences of African American students at predominantly white colleges and universities.

Lee Blake, Program Administrator/Presenter

Lee Blake is Director of the Campus Compact at the Center for University and School Partnerships at UMass Dartmouth, a school, university, and business partnership working to support K-12 public education in SouthCoast Massachusetts. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Sociology with a minor in African American and Women's Studies from the University of Massachusetts and a Master's Degree in Urban Policy from Queens College. Lee has been an education administrator and teacher for 35 years and has taught at the high school and university level. Additionally, she is president of the New Bedford Historical Society, a founding member of the MA Underground Railroad network, and a consultant on local history.

Dr. Jeffrey Bolster, author of *Black Jacks: African American Seamen in the Age of Sail* (Harvard U. Press, 1997)

A member of the UNH History faculty since 1991, W. Jeffrey Bolster is best known as the prize-winning author of *Black Jacks: African American Seamen in the Age of Sail*, published by Harvard University Press in 1997. *Black Jacks* was listed by the New York Times Book Review as a "notable non-fiction book of the year" in 1997, when it also was co-winner of the American Historical Association's Wesley-Logan Prize for the best book in African American history. *Black Jacks* won several other awards. Bolster was educated at Trinity College (BA), Brown University (MA), and Johns Hopkins University (PhD). Awarded a Fulbright Distinguished Chair in 2002-2003, he taught American Studies at the University of Southern Denmark. Bolster's work has addressed race and labor in the maritime sphere, the business of shipping, and – most recently – the environmental history of marine ecosystems. For the last ten years he has been part of an international project called HMAP (the History of Marine Animal Populations), and co-director, with Andy Rosenberg, of the UNH Cod Project. That group published several pioneering articles, including "The History of Ocean Resources: Modeling Cod Biomass Using Historical Records" in *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* (2005). Bolster has published articles in the *Journal of American History*, *William and Mary Quarterly*, *Environmental History*, and the *American Historical Review*, among others. Editor of *Cross-Grained and Wily Waters: A Guide to the Piscataqua Maritime Region* (2002) and co-author (with Alex Roland and Alexander Keyssar) of *The Way of the Ship: America's Maritime History Reenvisioned, 1600-2000* (2007), he is currently under contract with Harvard University Press for *Changes in the Sea in the Age of Sail*, an environmental history of the marine ecosystem between Cape Cod and Newfoundland prior to industrialized fishing. Bolster was a commercial mariner for ten years, and was licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard as Master of Steam, Sail, and Motor Ships, 200 tons, All Oceans. In his free time he continues to mess about in boats.

David Cecelski, author of *The Watermen's Song: Slavery and Freedom in Maritime North Carolina* (Univ. of N.C. Press, 2001)

Raised on the North Carolina coast, historian and writer David Cecelski is the author of several award-winning books and nearly two



hundred articles about his native land's history and culture. His most recent books are *The Waterman's Song: Slavery and Freedom in Maritime North Carolina* and a collection of environmental history essays titled *A Historian's Coast*. He was also the editor, with Timothy B. Tyson, of *Democracy Betrayed: The Wilmington Race Riot of 1898 and Its Legacy*, which won an Outstanding Book Award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights. His popular oral history series, "Listening to History," recently ended a ten-year run in the *Raleigh News & Observer*. Dr. Cecelski has held several distinguished visiting professorships, including the Lehman Brady joint chair in Documentary and American Studies at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the Whichard Distinguished Chair in the Humanities at East Carolina University. He is currently completing his new book, *The Fire of Freedom: Abraham Galloway's Civil War*.

Kathryn Grover, author of *The Fugitive's Gibraltar: Escaping Slaves and Abolitionism in New Bedford, Massachusetts* (UMass Press, 2001)

Kathryn Grover is an independent scholar, writer and editor whose books include *Make a Way Somehow: African-American Life in a Northern Community* and *The Fugitive's Gibraltar: Escaping Slaves and Abolitionism in New Bedford, Massachusetts*. She has done extensive work on the Underground Railroad for the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the National Park Service's Underground Railroad to Freedom, the Boston African American National Historic Site and the New Bedford Whaling National Historic Park. She teaches teacher content institutes and has worked with area teachers to develop curriculum materials on the Underground Railroad.

Everett Hoagland, UMass Dartmouth English professor emeritus, poet laureate

Hoagland graduated from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and from Brown University's graduate creative writing program. He was the first Poet Laureate of New Bedford, Massachusetts from 1994 to 1998, an educator for 40 years, and is Professor Emeritus, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. He has had poetry readings all over the United States, in Ghana, Cuba, and China, and he continues to make public presentations across the country and around the world. Hoagland's poetry has regularly appeared in publications with national/international distribution since the 1960's. His most recent books are: *This City and Other Poems* (Spinner Publications 1997/1998), *...HERE...New and Selected Poems* (Leapfrog Press 2002), *Just Words?* (2007/2008). His poetry has appeared in periodicals as diverse as: American Poetry Review, Black Renaissance Noir, Callaloo, The Crisis, Cross Cultural Poetics, Drum Voices, Essence, Massachusetts Review, The People's Weekly World, The Progressive, Political Affairs. Hoagland has won the Gwendolyn Brooks Award and two Massachusetts Artist Foundation Fellowships.

Dr. Laurie Robertson-Lorant, professor of English at Bridgewater State University

Dr. Laurie Robertson-Lorant was Project Director/Resident Scholar for the 2001 NEH Summer Institute on "Melville and Multiculturalism" and Grant Writer/Lead Scholar for "Visions of Slavery and Freedom in the Writing of Douglass, Melville, Child and Jacobs." She has taught English to grades 9-12 and more recently has taught English, Education and Sustainability courses to undergraduates and graduate students at UMass Dartmouth, undergraduates at MIT and Bridgewater State College and teachers seeking PDPs.

Dr. Len Travers, Chair of the UMass Dartmouth History Department

Dr. Len Travers is an Assistant Professor of History at his *alma mater*, the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, having earned his Master's and Ph. D. at Boston University. He is the author of *Celebrating the Fourth: Independence Day and the Rites of Nationalism in the Early Republic* and a Co-Editor of the correspondence of the Rev. John Cotton, Jr. and Assistant Director of the Center for the Study of New England History, Massachusetts Historical Society. His CD-Rom *Inhabitants and Estates of the Town of Boston, 1630-1800* is a co-publication of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society and the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Dr. Timothy Walker, Associate Professor of History at UMass Dartmouth

Dr. Timothy Walker (B.A., Hiram College, 1986; M.A., Ph.D., Boston University, 2001) is an Assistant Professor of History, a member of the graduate faculty in Portuguese at UMass Dartmouth, and a visiting professor at the Universidade Aberta in Lisbon, Portugal. He has received several fellowships, including a Fulbright dissertation fellowship to Portugal, a doctoral research fellowship from the Portuguese Camões Institute, and an NEH-funded American Institute for Indian Studies Professional Development Grant for post-doctoral work in India. In 2003-2004, he taught for the University of Pittsburgh Semester at Sea program. Dr. Walker is an internationally recognized scholar of maritime history and the trans-Atlantic slave trade. Many of his published articles and chapters examine issues of slavery and maritime history in the Atlantic world. For the past three years, he has been coordinating and teaching New Bedford-based Masters-level courses specifically about regional maritime history for public school educators in Massachusetts.

(Note: some substitutions may be necessary.)



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