



City of Cambridge

19.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 11, 1995

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
 COUNCILLOR BORN
 COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
 COUNCILLOR MYERS
 MAYOR REEVES
 VICE MAYOR RUSSELL
 COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
 COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: **Gerald R. Gill**, long-time distinguished Tufts Professor of History and a Cambridge resident, has been named **1995 Massachusetts Professor of the year** by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; and

WHEREAS: Professor Gill has taught for sixteen years at Tufts University, where his students consistently select him as "best professor"; and

WHEREAS: Professor Gill's published works include Meanness Mania: The Changed Mood, and the upcoming Dissent, Discontent and Disinterest: Afro-American Opposition to the United States Wars of the Twentieth Century; and

WHEREAS: Professor Gill's other honors and academic involvements include the Lillian and Joseph Liebner Award for distinguished teaching and advising in 1993, his role as educational advisor to Blackside Productions for the award-winning services "Eyes on the Prize", and academic advisor to the film production company for "America's War on Poverty" and "The Great Depression"; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its heartiest congratulations to **Professor Gerald R. Gill** on the occasion of his selection as 1995 Massachusetts Professor of the Year; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Professor Gill.

In City Council December 11, 1995

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
 City Clerk

C. Duekay

Whereas: Gerald R. Gill, longtime distinguished Tufts Professor of History and Cambridge resident, ~~was~~ ^{has} been named 1995 ~~Cambridge~~ ^{Massachusetts} Professor of the Year ~~ed~~ by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; and

Whereas: Professor Gill is consistently selected as "best professor" by his students; and

Whereas: Professor Gill has taught, ^{for sixteen years} at Tufts University, where ~~has~~ his students consistently select him as "best professor;" and

Whereas: Professor Gill's published works include Meanness Mania: The Charged Mood, and the upcoming Dissent, Discontent and Disinterest: Afro-American Opposition to the United States Wars of the Twentieth Century; and

Whereas: Professor Gill's other ~~academic~~ honors and academic involvements include the Lillian and Joseph Lieberman Award for distinguished teaching and advising in 1993, ~~and~~ his role as educational advisor to Blackside Productions.

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TUFTS DAILY

Thursday, October 19, 1995

Vol. XXXI Number 29

Professor Gerald Gill honored as Mass. Professor of the Year

by GAYLE BERKOWITZ
Daily Editorial Board

A longtime distinguished Tufts Professor of History Gerald R. Gill is held in high regard in wider academic circles as well. This week, Gill was named 1995 Massachusetts Professor of the Year.

Gill was one of 546 entries from 401 institutions to be considered by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, a policy center based in New Jersey that sponsors the US Professors of the Year program. The foundation is devoted to strengthening America's schools and colleges.

Students have been influenced by Gill for years, consistently bestowing upon him the honor of "best professor." He attributes his teaching success to his heavy reliance on course evaluations to learn the aspects of his classes that are well-received or could be improved.

"I pay close attention to the nature of comments and questions that students ask in class. I take all students seriously," Gill said. He added that in addition to learning the names of all of his students, he tries to establish a rapport with them outside of the classroom. All of these efforts, he believes, lead to more effective teaching.

The importance Gill places on interaction with students is reflected in the personal statement that he submitted to the Carnegie Foundation.

"My students hopefully learn how to weigh and analyze historical evidence or to assess the context in which historical materials

are written. I, too, learn from their questions and queries," Gill wrote. "In several instances, students have asked questions or made comments that have influenced research projects or caused me to be more inclusive in terms of what I teach."

Gill, who has been with Tufts University for 16 years, has come to consider American history more than just a story of one culture, but of myriad cultures, races, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic levels, sometimes working together and sometimes clashing.

"American history is often presented as a success story, which it is in many respects," Gill said. "But how do you tell a more inclusive story -- one that presents the systemic discrimination that many groups have faced?"

Gill has become committed to presenting the experiences of segments of societies who have been

by and large neglected in many general history texts. While he devotes an entire course to African-American history, for example, he also incorporates aspects of the black experience into

his American history courses.

"You can't study African-American history removed from the totality of American history. African-Americans have been affected by positive and negatives in American history. I try to relate African-American history to African and to European history, as well as to American history," Gill said.

Currently Gill is researching the history of the civil rights movement in Boston, specifically housing and employment discrimination, political mobilization, and biracial coalitions.

His published works include *Meanness Mania: The Changed Mood* in 1979, and the upcoming *Dissent, Discontent and Disinterest: Afro-American Opposition to the United States Wars of the Twentieth Century*.

Gill's other honors and academic involvements are numerous. In 1993 he was the recipient of the Lillian and Joseph Leibner Award for distinguished teaching and advising from Tufts' College of Arts and Sciences. He served as an educational adviser to Boston-based Blackside Productions for the award-winning series "Eyes on the Prize," and was an academic adviser to the film production company for "America's War on Poverty" and "The Great Depression."



Daily file photo

Gerald Gill

Carnegie Foundation honors professors



GLOBE PHOTO / MARK MORELLI

Gerald Gill

Tufts' Gerald Gill

American history may be a success story in many respects, says Gerald Gill, associate professor of history at Tufts University, but he says he wants to tell "a more inclusive story, one that presents the historic and systemic discrimination that many groups have faced."

This month, Gill, 46, was named Massachusetts Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. He was chosen from among 546 professors representing 401 institutions.

Gill, who worked for the Institute for the Study of Educational Policy while he was a student at Howard University in Washington, believes a college professor can influence history as well as write about it.

"I would like to see historians more actively involved in public policy concerns," he says. Gill has been a volunteer teacher at Jobs for Youth, an alternative high school in Boston and was an adviser on the award-winning television series "Eyes on the Prize."

His latest book, "Dissent, Discon-

tent and Disinterest: Afro-American Opposition to the United States Wars of the Twentieth Century," is to be published by the University of North Carolina Press.

Williams' Mark Taylor

WILLIAMSTOWN - Williams College professor Mark C. Taylor who combines a concentration in religion with an enthusiasm for cyberspace, has been named national teacher of the year for liberal arts colleges by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Taylor, a professor of the humanities, believes the greatest educational changes to be made by electronic technology will be in the humanities and soft social sciences.

"It's absolutely critical for students in a place like Williams to learn to think and write in these media," he says. "Images and representations transform the way we read and write."

Taylor was one of four teachers selected from 550 faculty members nationwide.

- LINDA BURCHARD



GLOBE PHOTO / A. BLAKE GARDNER

Mark C. Taylor

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1995

ly],” said Bernstein. “It’s good to see different segments of the community come together and not working at cross-purposes.”

In addition to the players and coaches of the football, field hockey, soccer, volleyball and cross country teams, featured performances will include the Tufts cheerleaders, Essence and The Beelzebubs.

The event will be emceed by Bobby Nero. According to pep rally organizers, a limited number of t-shirts, pom-poms and megaphones will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. There will also be lyric sheets to “Tuftonia’s Day” available for students who want to learn Tufts’ fight song.

The emphasis of the pep rally will be to get as many students out to the games on Saturday as possible. According to Trample Zone member Jonathan Callard, there have been misconceptions as to who is actually a member of the Trample Zone.

“The Trample Zone is made up of everybody who goes to games. It’s not a select group,” said Callard. “It’s whoever cheers for the teams.”

The sentiment is shared by fellow Trample Zoner Ken Archer.

“The Trample Zone is made up of 4,500 members,” said Archer. “It’s not a complicated thing: you can’t legislate school spirit and you can’t allocate it. Nothing takes the place of going out to the games.”

Please See RALLY Page 6



File Photo

In order to combat constant deficit troubles, Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine has had to take an entrepreneurial approach to raise money while still maintaining its position as one of the country’s best vet schools. See story, page 3.

Gill Takes Teaching Beyond the Classroom Massachusetts Teacher of the Year ‘Puts Heart and Soul Into His Work’

by MARNI GOLDSTEIN
Observer Editorial Board

Gerald R. Gill, associate professor of history, was publicly acknowledged by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching when he was granted the Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Award this month. By receiving state-wide recognition, Gill only multiplied the distinguishing acclaim he already possesses both on the Hill and in his field.

The administration at Tufts nominated Gill for the award. After a thorough process which involved recommendations and personal statements, Gill’s portfolio was met with intensive competition on all levels.

Gill, however, did not fall short to the challenge. He was selected from a pool of over 500 nominees representing over 400 institutions ranging from two-year colleges to major research universities.

Gill cites his early influences as part of his inspiration to become the teacher, as well as the person, who he is today. He fondly remembers “growing up in New Rochelle, N.Y., and having excellent public school teachers throughout.”

Gill also specifically notes two teachers from his youth who had overwhelming influences on shaping his personality and career: Carrean Williams, Gill’s first grade teacher, and Anne Schwerner, one of Gill’s early biology teachers.

Williams “was a family friend and took special interest in me, as she did with all of her students, from the beginning and throughout my career.”

Schwerner, the mother of Mickey Schwerner, a well-known civil rights activist who was killed in Mississippi in 1964, “had an interest in me as a student. She wanted us all to do the best we could.” Gill recounted that after he received a grade of 100 percent on the first biology exam and a grade of 80 percent on the second, “she called my parents to tell them I had slipped because my average was now a 90. She was just that type of person and she was a powerful influence on me as a person.”

Please see GILL Page 3



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Born, Galluccio, Myers, Reeves
Consent Order #19 ~~Boonley~~, Sullivan

Councillor Duehay, re: Heartiest congratulations to Professor Gerald R. Gill on the occasion of his selection as 1995 Massachusetts Professor of the Year.

Russell + Triantafyllou
P-970

In City Council December 11, 1995

Order Adopted