

theShuttle

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL

New Flame-Retardant Fabric Being Developed for Army Use

Technology to Minimize Soldier Burn Injuries

U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan face a wide array of threats in the field, including burn injuries. Such injuries are increasing due to urban warfare, and can arise from a multitude of flame hazards, ranging from incidental and accidental burns to thermal injuries generated by artillery blasts and improvised explosive devices.

"The loss of highly trained military personnel in combat from burn injuries can severely impact the success of military operations," says Dr. Ravi Mosurkal, an adjunct faculty at the Center for Advanced Materials and a senior National Research Council fellow at the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center (NSRDEC). "Millions of

dollars are spent each year on burn treatments for military personnel, and these costs continue to rise each year."

According to Mosurkal, current military clothing made from Nomex and Kevlar provides adequate flame protection, but the cost to issue these fabrics to every soldier is prohibitively expensive. Lower-cost solutions include treating cottons and nylons with flame-retardant (FR) coatings, but these treatments add 20 percent in weight and use toxic, halogenated polymers, many of which are being banned worldwide for environmental and human safety reasons. "Melt drip is another undesirable property of synthetic fibers, which can cause additional serious burns," he says.

That's why Mosurkal and his colleagues at the NSRDEC are

developing FR clothing that are both cost effective, environmentally benign and produce minimal melt drips. "We have demonstrated the synthesis, characterization and improved thermal and flame-retardant properties of novel polysiloxane copolymers and nanocomposites, which are expected to have wide use

Continued on Page 2



▲ Lynne Samuelson and Ravi Mosurkal

Online Program Receives National Honor From Sloan Consortium

Graduate Certificate in Autism Called 'Most Outstanding'

The Sloan Consortium, a nonprofit organization that works with education providers to improve the quality, scale and breadth of online programs, recently named UMass Lowell's online graduate Behavioral Intervention in Autism Program as the 2008 winner of the Most Outstanding Online Teaching and Learning Program in the nation.

The University was recognized by the Sloan Consortium (Sloan-C) for creating a "rigorous, high-quality online graduate program that meets the growing need for individuals with expertise in dealing with the challenges of autism." The University is the only winner of the award this year and is one of only a dozen institutions nationwide to be honored at the 14th Sloan-C International Conference on Online Learning this month.

"The online graduate certificate in autism is one of the very few in the country available entirely online for individuals interested in expanding their knowledge of this developmental disorder. With a critical shortage of skilled early intervention specialists in the United States, UMass Lowell's autism program is meeting the increased demand for professionals in this field," says Catherine Kendrick, executive director of Distance Market Development & Corporate Outreach.

"UMass Lowell's innovative program is designed to better prepare professionals and families to respond to challenges presented by the growing population of children with autism and related disorders," says Prof. Richard Siegel, coordinator of the certifi-

Continued on Page 2

Reports Cite Health Risks From Bisphenol A Exposure

Chemical Used in Manufacturing Hard Plastics and Epoxy Resins

Bisphenol A, or BPA, is an organic chemical compound used to synthesize DGEBA, a building block for an epoxy resin commonly used as food and beverage can liners as well as industrial coating, adhesive and primer. BPA is also used to make dental sealants and fillings, and shatter-resistant polycarbonate plastics found in consumer products like water and baby bottles, some tableware and utensils, eyeglass lenses, medical devices, cell phones, sports safety equipment, computers, CDs and DVDs, and automobiles.

Two reports that came out in the U.S. in September have reignited the

debate over the safety of long-term, low-dose exposures of humans to BPA. The National Toxicology Program's Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction (NTP-CERHR) published a report that evaluated potential health threats of BPA, which mimics the hormone estrogen, to human reproduction and development.

"The report concludes that there is some concern for adverse effects on the brain, behavior and prostate gland in fetuses, infants and children at current BPA exposures," says Prof. Susan Woskie of UMass Lowell's Department of Work Environment, one of the expert panelists who prepared the NTP-CERHR paper. "There is minimal concern for effects on the mammary glands and the early onset of puberty for females. There is negligible concern that exposure of pregnant women to BPA would result in birth defects, mortality or decreased

Continued on Page 2

Meehan Discusses State's 9C Budget Cuts

Chancellor Explains How \$4 Million Reduction Will Be Implemented

Chancellor Marty Meehan and senior administrators explained UMass Lowell's strategy for implementing state budget cuts and welcomed questions at an open meeting in Cumnock Hall on Nov. 6. About 500 faculty, staff and students attended, and another 200 watched on-line.

Meehan commended all for making "incredible progress" over the last 15 months, and said the campus needs to continue the

Continued on Page 4

Continued from Page 1

New Flame-Retardant Fabric Being Developed for Army Use

in military and commercial applications," he says. "This technology uses a novel 'green chemistry' approach that involves a highly selective class of enzymes called lipases. It is expected to produce a new class of fire-safe materials that eliminates both the generation of toxic materials upon combustion and the leaching of toxic compounds into the environment."

Civilian applications of these new materials include FR clothing for firefighters, FR upholsteries for household and aviation furnishings, and fireproof circuits in electronics and telecommunications equipment.

"This work was done as collaboration between Profs. Arthur Watterson and Jayant Kumar of the Center for Advanced Materials and Dr. Lynne Samuelson of the

NSRDEC," says Mosurkal. Through an Army Environmental Quality Basic Research Program, he was awarded a three-year, \$390,000 grant to pursue this research at the Natick Soldier center. His successes in this field have recently resulted in the funding by the Army of two new FR research projects, led by Natick Soldier scientists Jason Soares, Wayne Muller and Romy Kirby.

"We hope to continue to advance the development of novel flame-retardant polymers through the expertise of UMass Lowell in materials science and the flame-retardant textile processing and characterization capabilities of the Army Natick Soldier RDEC," says Mosurkal.

—EA

Continued from Page 1

Reports Cite Health Risks From Bisphenol A Exposure

birth weight and growth. There is also negligible concern for reproductive effects in adults, though the level of concern is elevated to minimal for occupational exposures."

Following the NTP-CERHR expert panel report, the American Medical Association (AMA) published in its journal a study by a team of British and American researchers that links urinary concentrations of BPA to medical disorders and laboratory abnormalities in adults. The investigation, which involved a survey of 1,455 American men and women aged 18 through 74 years, concluded that "higher urinary concentrations of BPA were associated with an increased prevalence of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and liver-enzyme abnormalities. These findings add to the evidence suggesting adverse effects of low-dose BPA in animals."

"It's important that studies be conducted to understand the most important sources of human exposure to BPA so that elimination efforts can be targeted at the most important contributors," says Woskie.

The authors of the study in the AMA journal acknowledge that "independent replication and follow-up studies are needed to confirm [their] findings and to provide evidence on whether the associations are causal."

In response, the American Chemistry Council stated that, due to inherent limitations in the study, the findings cannot support a conclusion that BPA causes any disease. "The weight of scientific evidence," it says, "continues to support the conclusion of governments worldwide that bisphenol A is not a significant health concern at the trace levels present in some consumer products."

"BPA is not a monomer or comonomer for the vast majority of plastics," says Prof. Robert Malloy, chair of UMass Lowell's Plastics Engineering Department. According to Malloy, monomers are building blocks for polymers. "All plastics are based on polymers," he says. "Once the monomer reacts to form a polymer, it no longer exists as a monomer but is now chemically locked in as a link in the polymer chain."

Malloy says there are two primary ways that monomers like BPA



▲▲ Susan Woskie



▲▲ Robert Malloy

can show up in a plastic product, either internally or possibly on the surface. "The first way is as 'residual monomer,' " he says. Here the polymerization process was not sufficiently completed so some BPA can remain as a residual ingredient. "Plastics manufacturers, however, use advanced polymerization techniques and quality control to ensure residual monomers are at safe levels," he says. "In addition, most plastics are not very permeable and any residual monomer is not likely to leach out at any significant rate under normal circumstances. That said, residual monomer could be present, but generally at very low concentrations. The questions, of course, are 'How low?' and 'What is a safe level?' I'm not sure anyone knows."

A second way, he says, BPA could show up is if the plastic produced from BPA monomer was somehow "depolymerized." For example, an item made of BPA-based polycarbonate could undergo hydrolysis, a type of depolymerization, when exposed to hot water or steam in the presence of alkaline or other chemicals that might catalyze such a reaction.

"This could be a concern when putting something like a polycarbonate baby bottle in a dishwasher with alkaline detergent," says Malloy. "Baby toys and food-contact items are always a concern when chemicals are involved simply due to the infants' small body masses and their development." He notes that manufacturers such as Nalgene have voluntarily removed polycarbonate products from the marketplace once this issue came to light.

Woskie says that as far as she knows, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has no immediate plans of banning or phasing out BPA in plastics manufacturing.

—EA

Continued from Page 1

Online Program Receives National Honor From Sloan Consortium

cate program, which is offered through the Psychology Department. "The program was developed collaboratively by UMass Lowell, UMass Medical School-Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center and UMass Online. Since it was launched in 2005, enrollment in the program has quadrupled."

The number of children diagnosed with autism is increasing, according to the Autism Society of America and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. One in every 150 American children is diagnosed with autism, and almost one in every 94 boys, according to 2007 data.

Behavior analysis, the focus of the online program, is documented as the most effective approach to improving the lives of people diagnosed with autism, explains Prof. Charlotte Mandell, vice provost for undergraduate education and coordinator of the program's Board-Certified Behavior Analyst track.

"With the reported increases in autism, there is a burgeoning need for skilled practitioners of behavior analysis throughout the nation and, indeed, the world," says Mandell.

"The recognition of this certificate is rewarding to all of

the faculty who have worked so diligently to make sure that working professionals and parents with children who have autism benefit from this much needed program," says Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney. "I am extremely proud of the faculty and staff who worked so collaboratively to build this online certificate as a highly interactive, rich experience for the students who enroll in it."

"From the outset, all the faculty for this program have been carefully selected based on their holding a doctorate in psychology, being certified as behavior analysts and working as practicing professionals or researchers directly involved in patient care," says Prof. Nina Coppens, chair of the Psychology Department.

—CG

New Freshman Seminar Helps College of Management Forge Bond With Students

For freshmen, making the adjustment to college life is more than just remembering your dorm room key, doing your own laundry and finding your math class. Most students have to take on a new level of responsibility, from managing their money and making time to study to choosing a career path.

Helping students tackle these issues is one way to ensure they are successful in the transition and keep them in school, according to Frank Andrews, director of Management Undergraduate Programs.

Andrews spent much of last year developing a new freshman seminar that teaches brand-new College of Management majors everything from important life skills to how to improve their test preparation. The program dovetails with the learning communities launched across the University this fall for all 1,528 new freshmen.

"The freshman seminar is designed to introduce students to the academic and social support services we have at the University," says Andrews, explaining that the class offers information on majors within the College of Management, but it's not an introductory course. "It's more of a university survival course."

Andrews credits College of Management Dean Kathryn Carter and Prof. Stuart Freedman, chair of

the Management Department, for support in the development of the course, to which the Undergraduate Programs and Standards Committee of the college also contributed. Last year, faculty who served on the committee were Thomas Sloan, Jialun Qin, Srikant Vadali, Steven Tello, Steven Freund and Janie Casello-Bouges.

The course is also designed to address freshman retention in the college, which used to drop as much as 30 percent within the first six weeks of the fall semester, says Andrews. So far this year, 95 percent of the 219 freshmen who started off this fall are still enrolled, he says.

Andrews attributes the change to the seminar, which provides early intervention for students struggling to adjust and helps the college forge a bond a year earlier than usual. Previously, new students didn't start coursework in the College of Management until sophomore year.

Deborah Finch, a visiting lecturer in the College of Management, teaches all nine sections of the seminar this semester.

"Teaching this class has been so rewarding! Though I have over 200 students, and only see them once a week, I feel I

am able to help them navigate through their first semester and become successful students," says Finch. "It is interesting to see them transition from being high school students to college students. We really have a terrific freshman class!"

Each section of the freshman seminar, made up of about 25 students each, is block-scheduled for two other courses: pre-calculus and college writing. Through that, the students are sure to get into the right classes their first semester, and they stay together in all three courses. The approach, says Finch, is intended to help increase their sense of being part of a learning community, building a stronger tie to each other and the college.

At recent meetings of the class, Prof. J. Stephen Collins, chair of the Accounting Department, shared information with students about the career potential offered by a degree in accounting, from traditional CPA work to starting their own business to serving as a financial manager for a company or even a sports team.

The feedback so far about the freshman seminar has been so good, Andrews says the college plans to launch a second-semester seminar this spring. That course will delve deeper into management-related topics, including running a simulated business. A similar program for new transfer students is also in the works.



▲ Students in one of nine sections of the College of Management's new freshman seminar listen to a presentation on careers in accounting from Prof. J. Stephen Collins, chair of the Accounting Department. Deborah Finch, right, visiting faculty lecturer, is teaching more than 200 new students everything from how to manage their time better to improved study skills.



▲ Members of the UMass Lowell Air Force ROTC raise a flag flown in Iraq during a ceremony in front of Dugan Hall honoring Massachusetts veterans and the members of the Lowell community who perished in the 9/11 attacks.

Veterans Honored at Flag Raising on South Campus Event Also Calls Attention to Care Package Drive

Lt. Col. James Ogonowski described to a solemn crowd in front of Dugan Hall what Veteran's Day recalls for him. "I think of Arlington National Cemetery," he said, where there are rows of uniform headstones. "All are united by love of their country. All are united in death as they were in life."

Ogonowski joined other area dignitaries Nov. 10 in memorializing Massachusetts military personnel who died in Iraq, and those from the UMass Lowell community, including his brother John, who were lost on September 11.

Chancellor Marty Meehan introduced U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas. "She comes from a military family and serves on the Armed Services Committee," he said. "Niki Tsongas has become a leader in the Congress on what we can do for our veterans when they return here." Tsongas pointed out that the greater Lowell area has many multi-generational

families who have served.

State Sen. Steven Panagiotakos said, "Today we stand in the sunshine together to say thank you for the most wonderful asset we have – freedom. It's yours as long as you are willing and prepared to fight for it."

Lowell Mayor Edward "Bud" Caulfield recognized Student Veteran's Organization (SVO) President Michael Peeples for organizing the day's commemoration. He also thanked all members of the military "who recognize the fact that freedom isn't free."

Those gathered watched the Air Force ROTC Honor Guard raise a U.S. flag that had been flown over Camp Slayer in Iraq. The flag had been returned to campus, thanks to the efforts of UMass Lowell Police Captain John McCune.

UMass Lowell's band, led by Director of University Bands Daniel Lutz and Associate Director Debra-Nicole Huber, offered poignant rendi-

tions of the Star Spangled Banner and Taps and closed with America the Beautiful. Campus Minister and SVO faculty adviser Imogene Stulken offered a prayer and moment of silence. Programs distributed at the event listed Massachusetts soldiers lost during the Iraq war and those from UMass Lowell who died on September 11.

The event also raised awareness of a care package drive for those currently serving overseas. Drop boxes are available at several campus locations. Among the items most needed are written cards and letters, wet wipes, lip balm, books, magazines, CDs and DVDs. For more information, contact michael_peeples@uml.edu or imogene_stulken@uml.edu.

Continued from Page 1

Meehan Discusses State's 9C Budget Cuts

momentum. A strategic planning initiative, "UMass Lowell 2020," is underway, and decisions will be made in implementing the \$4 million in annualized budget cuts necessitated by the state's 9C budget cuts. He said the campus has a right to expect transparency and decisions that are made with integrity and based on merit.

"Across-the-board cuts are a cop out for making strategic decisions," he said. "I feel passionately that we have to provide the highest quality education possible." He also said the campus would need to be entrepreneurial and continue to grow enrollment and revenue. Activities and jobs that support those goals would not face cut-backs, and may even be given additional resources.

He said the senior administration had been working diligently the last two or three weeks, engaging the academic side and engaging the unions. "None of us wants any of these cuts. We're in a position where we have no choice."

He said there would be layoffs, as outlined in previous campus communications. He also said those decisions would be difficult and would be an ongoing process. "We're going to look at a lot of great programs that aren't directly related to our core mission of teaching and research. It's really all about the quality of education for our students."

Joanne Yestramski, vice chancellor for Administration, Finance, Facilities and Technology, outlined four areas where cuts would be made: workforce management, including delaying or not filling vacant positions, a general reorganization of departments that deliver services, and layoffs; outreach and partnerships; IT equipment and furniture savings; and general operating funds, including improvement of energy efficiency and non-strategic delayed spending.

Meehan said one area that would not be cut is campus and lab improvements students were seeking as a result of the recent college fee increases.

Provost Ahmed Abdelal said he has been meeting weekly with the deans. He said input into decisions would include the deans and department chairs, and, in some cases, by engaging a department's faculty. He said areas that would not be cut are those that help ensure student success. "When we are recruiting students, it doesn't



▲▲ Marty Meehan



▲▲ Ahmed Abdelal

make sense to compromise that effort," said Abdelal. He said we also want to increase retention and graduation rates, which help UMass Lowell secure a more advanced position regionally and nationally. "We need to increase our research capability and research funding from all sources—federal, state and corporate."

In service, he said we are engaged in many important activities. "We are asking: 'Is it part of our core mission?' 'Is it something that can be self-supported?' These are difficult decisions; we are not doing anything that is not worthy."

Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney said that a strategic planning process would kick off in January. Committees now being formed will be looking into how the campus can realign and reallocate resources.

Chief Public Affairs Officer Patti McCafferty said campus communication vehicles would be used to inform all about the budget-cutting process on a bi-weekly basis. "We want it to be open, we want it to be inclusive," she said. She encouraged e-mail input addressed to budget@uml.edu. She said a reorganization plan and more specifics about the cuts would be announced on Dec. 1.

—JMCD

TURI Awards \$63,000 in Community Grants

The Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) has awarded \$63,000 in grant funding to eight Massachusetts community organizations. The projects will raise awareness of the hazards of pesticides on lawns, lead use in fishing, toxics in cleaning, home building and renovations, and more.

"The variety of toxics covered under these grants, in addition to the depth of the projects, reflects the commitment I've seen in so many communities across the Commonwealth that are determined to create healthier neighborhoods and environments," says TURI Community Program Manager Joy Onasch. "Leaders like these will make a difference for all of us."

For more information about these projects or the TURI Community Grant Program, visit www.turi.org/community.

TURI awarded grants to the following organizations:

- Brazilian Women's Group, Allston, \$15,000, Natural Cleaning in the Brazilian Community Project.
- Wampanoag Tribe, Martha's Vineyard, \$15,000, Lead-Free Vineyard Fishing Project
- School Disinfection Workgroup, statewide project, \$15,000.
- Viet-AID, Dorchester and Springfield, \$7,000, Healthy Floor Finisher Project.
- Center Pond Weed Project, Becket, \$5,000.
- Townsend Conservation Commission, \$4,000, Organic Lawn Care Project
- Northeast Organic Farmers Association (NOFA), Barre, Scholarships to the NOFA Organic Lawn & Turf Course
- Lowell Green Building Commission, \$1,000, Green Building Outreach Focusing on the Reduction of Toxics Project



▲ Mercedes Gallagher of the Center Pond Weed Project and scuba diver Jo Smith pull invasive weeds from scenic Center Pond in Becket. TURI gave the project a grant to use divers rather than hazardous pesticides for weed control.

The Shuttle is published by the Office of Public Affairs, UMass Lowell, One University Ave., Lowell, MA 01854 Tel. 978-934-3223

Go to www.uml.edu/enews for a more complete overview of all news relating to UMass Lowell and its programs, faculty, students and staff.

Chief Public Affairs Officer: Patricia McCafferty

Publisher: Mary Lou Hubbell

Editor: Jack McDonough

Staff Writers: Edwin Aguirre Renae Lias Claffey

To submit information for possible inclusion in UMass Lowell enews or The Shuttle email us at: enews@uml.edu

Geoffrey Douglas
Sheila Eppolito
Christine Gillette
Morgan Hough
Elizabeth James
Kristen O'Reilly
Sandra Seitz

Interns: Devonne Sutton

The University of Massachusetts Lowell is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action, Title IX, H/V, ADA 1990 Employer.

Grants for Teachers-to-be Offered in Exchange for Service

Up to \$4,000 Available for Education Students Who Agree to Pledge Time

This year, for the first time, UMass Lowell will be a participant in a national program that rewards the teachers of tomorrow for their pledge of service today.

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) grant program, administered through the U.S. Department of Education, awards up to \$4,000 per student per year in tuition-relief to graduate students in education—providing they commit to serving at least four years, following their graduation, teaching a high-need subject area in a low-income school. The program was created through a 2007 act of Congress; the first grants are being awarded this year.

“There is a severe shortage of math and science teachers nationally and regionally, particularly in high-need districts,” says interim Education Dean Anita Greenwood. “The TEACH grants provide math and science graduates with the opportunity to finance a master’s degree and gain a teaching credential

“The TEACH grants provide math and science graduates with the opportunity to finance a master’s degree and gain a teaching credential in order to work in a community where their skills and knowledge will be highly valued.”

—Anita Greenwood

in order to work in a community where their skills and knowledge will be highly valued.”

To be eligible for grants, students must maintain a 3.25 GPA throughout their academic programs, must be enrolled in coursework — or planning to complete coursework — in teaching a high-need subject, and must renew a service pledge each year of their schooling. They must also fulfill citizenship requirements and complete certain eligibility forms.

The grants are not open-ended. In the event a student receives a grant award but then fails to complete his or her service commitment — four years of teaching within eight calendar years of graduation — the full amount received will then be converted to a federal unsubsidized, non-reversible loan which must then be repaid, together with interest, from the date the grant was disbursed.

Some of the high-need subject areas that qualify for TEACH grants are bilingual education, foreign language education, special education, math, reading and science. Other teacher-shortage areas may be identified from time to time. The low-income schools identified in the program are listed in a directory published by the Department of Education. These can be accessed at www.tcli.ed.gov, by clicking on the Search button at that site.

For more information on the TEACH program, contact Christine Robbins at the University’s Financial Aid Office (ext. 4230) or Vera Ossen (ext. 4604) at the Graduate School of Education.



▲ Anita Greenwood

We Want to Know ... How Do You Get Your News?

Bombarded with campus information? Or do you feel like you never know what is going on?

The Office of Public Affairs wants to know how you get your news about the University and if it works for you. Complete a brief online survey at <http://www.uml.edu/survey>

The results of the survey will help Public Affairs better serve the community by providing the type of news people want via the method they prefer.

Students Lead Presidential Election Forum on National Health

Four days before the historic U.S. Presidential election, a class of Community Health students conducted a forum to highlight the presidential candidates’ positions on health issues.

The students represented four national political parties and their candidates for president and vice president—the Democratic Party; Republican Party; Green Party USA; and, the Libertarian Party. Each student team each presented what the candidates said and didn’t say about important health issues including healthcare, public health, environmental health (chemical exposures, global warming, etc.), occupational health, community health, children’s and teen health, and elder health.

Chancellor Meehan welcomed the forum audience and said it was important that students become more politically informed and

active in order to increase their “civic engagement” and ability to help solve the many problems facing our state and country.

Students from the School of Health and Environment and the departments of Political Science, Sociology, History and Psychology nearly filled O’Leary auditorium.

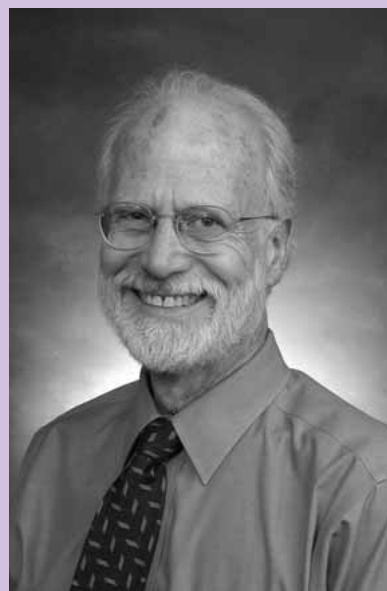
“The students did a great job helping the UMass Lowell community cut through the rhetoric to have a better sense of what each party might accomplish to improve public health in the U.S., if elected,” says Craig Slatin, chair of Community Health and Sustainability in the School of Health and Environment.

The students critiqued the candidates’ proposals and the parties’ healthcare platform statements.

Hoops Fest Draws Hundreds to Costello Gym



◀ Live UML student bands, hoops games for students, raffles, trivia, a contest for the wildest River Hawk outfit, a game between students and coaches, free pizza and popcorn and, shown here, a performance by UML cheerleaders, all contributed to the success of UMass Lowell’s First Annual Hoop Fest held Nov. 5. Get more information and a photo gallery at www.uml.edu/eNews (Students).



Dec. 12 Event Celebrates Wegman, SHE

◀ Five years ago, Dr. David Wegman was instrumental in combining disciplines to form the new School of Health and Environment and became its first dean. An event on Dec. 12 in Alumni Library, 2–4 p.m., will celebrate the school and honor Wegman with the launching of a scholarship fund. The student scholarship will help to prepare professionals with a commitment to an integrated vision of health and environment.

Morse Lecture Features International Peace Activist



▲ International peace negotiator Prof. Padraig O'Malley, left, the John Joseph Moakley Distinguished Professor for Peace and Reconciliation at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies at UMass Boston recently gave the keynote speech at the second F. Bradford Morse Distinguished Lecture. After discussing reconciliation work in Northern Ireland, South Africa and Iraq, O'Malley participated in a panel alongside UMass Lowell Political Science Prof. Ardeth Thawngmung and Prof. David Kalivas of Middlesex Community College's Department of Global Studies and History.

Field Hockey Out, Soccer Still Alive

For the second year in a row, the field hockey team came close to another NCAA Division II national championship, but lost in the finals to Bloomsburg University, 6-2, on Sunday, Nov. 16. The win marked Bloomsburg's third national championship in a row. The River Hawks, who won the national title in 2005 and were making their fourth appearance in the NCAA final in six years, finish the year 20-5.

The men's soccer team, on the other hand, upset No. 1-ranked Southern New Hampshire to advance to the finals of the NCAA Division II East Regional Tournament.

With the victory, the River Hawks (13-3-4) will visit No. 2

Dowling College in Brentwood, N.Y., on Nov. 22, at a time to be determined.



▲ Sophomore Jaime Hadley and junior Ashley Smith work to clear the ball in the NCAA Division II national championship game.

Center Experts Testify Before Cancer Panel

David Kriebel, chair of the Work Environment Department and co-founder of the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, testified at the September meeting of the President's Cancer Panel. Kriebel and Adjunct Prof. Richard Clapp spoke about the state of the evidence on chemicals linked to cancer. The three-person panel reports to the President on the development and execution of the National Cancer Program.

Members of the panel include the chairman, Dr. LaSalle D. Leffall, the Drew Professor of Surgery at Howard University; Margaret Kripke, Ph.D., of the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; and Joe Torre, manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers and prostate

cancer survivor. Lance Armstrong's second three-year term was completed in February 2008.

Molly Jacobs, project manager in the Lowell Center, contributed to preparation of the testimony to ensure that the official report of the Panel to the next President addresses the evidence linking industrial agents with cancer, and the need for more prevention-oriented research, programs and policies.

While the exact number is not known, thousands of cancer deaths in the U.S. every year are estimated to be caused by environmental pollutants and occupational exposures. Low-income workers and communities are disproportionately affected by these exposures (American Cancer Society, Facts and Figures, 2006). A widely quoted Lowell Center report by Jacobs and Clapp, "Environmental and Occupational Causes of Cancer: New Evidence, 2005-2007," identified additional chemicals which are very likely to be carcinogens and yet remain in widespread use.

To read Kriebel's testimony to the President's Cancer Panel, visit the Lowell Center's website at www.sustainableproduction.org.



▲ David Kriebel



University of
Massachusetts
Lowell
Publications Office
University of Massachusetts Lowell
One University Avenue
Lowell, MA 01854

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lowell, MA 01854
PERMIT No. 69