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Mayor Rita Mercier Says the People of Lowell Account for the City's Success

Lowell's new mayor, Rita M. Mercier, cannot say enough good things about the people of Lowell. "Lowell's success as a city has everything to do with the people who live and work here. Time and again, the people have been there when they were needed. They give over and over, whether through organizations or neighborhood groups or in the form of the many public-private partnerships we have in the community. They go above and beyond what is expected on behalf of their neighbors and fellow citizens."

Since taking office in January, Mercier has worked nonstop to let people across the city know that she and everyone on the City team are ready to respond to their needs and work with them to make Lowell a better place. The four-term city councilor (Lowell's nine city councilors elect one of their own to be mayor) is only the third woman to serve as mayor since 1826. She follows City Councilor Eileen Donoghue, who served two terms as mayor.

As the 31st mayor, Mercier chairs both the City Council and the Lowell School Committee. The popular councilor has topped the ticket in the past three city elections. She entered the local political scene as a neighborhood activist in the early 1970s, but put off running for office while she was raising four children with her husband, Ralph. Her political experience includes work as an organizer in the 1976 presidential primary campaign of the late Sen. Henry "Scoop" Jackson and re-election campaigns for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

The Lowell native grew up in what was then the city's Little Canada neighborhood, close to the site of today's Fox Hall. "I was the only Polish girl in a French district who was going to St. Patrick's elementary school," she remembers. Her father, Leo Rospond, had emigrated from Poland when he was 7 years old. Her mother, also Rita, was Irish-American. The Mayor prides herself in staying in touch with her roots. Recently, she returned to her alma mater, Notre



▲ Lowell Mayor Rita M. Mercier

Dame Academy in Tyngsboro, to take part in a reading program. "I love to go in to the schools to read to the students and talk to them, whether it's in the city's public schools or private schools."

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Robots Kicked "Bot" in Team Tournament Hosted at UMass Lowell

UMass Lowell's Costello Gym was the scene of a high-tech, high-energy competition on a recent Saturday, as 11 high school and middle school teams from Massachusetts and Rhode Island competed in the regional level of the national Botball program.

"Students designed, built and programmed their robots to operate completely autonomously," said computer science Asst. Prof. Holly Yanco, the competition coordinator. Yanco, who joined the UMass Lowell faculty in the fall, coordinated this event last year at MIT.

The event was free and open to the public, and many parents and children attended, both from inside and outside the University community.

The day began with seeding rounds, at which each team demonstrated what its robot or robots could accomplish. Teams are also judged on the Web sites they've created and a robotics research project they completed.

The double elimination tournament is played on a 4 foot by 8 foot board. Two teams face off in an attempt to collect black or white balls into their own end zones. Extra points are gained by tipping over tubes of balls, placing balls in special side target areas or into a tube, basketball style. Capturing the larger Nerf ball also gains many points.

Student teams have about six weeks to create their robots, using kits from the Keep It Simple, Stupid (KISS) Institute for Practical Robotics. Each kit, worth \$1,500, contains a treasure trove of Lego parts, two processing

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Department of Energy Funds Innovative Research in Control of Greenhouse Gases

The Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded a grant of \$206,290 to UMass Lowell scientists, led by principal investigators Anastasios Angelopoulos of the Chemistry Department and Dan Golomb of the Environmental, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, for their innovative research on capturing and storing CO₂, using a process known as carbon sequestration.

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the principal greenhouse gas, trapping the heat of the earth and leading to the atmospheric warming that so concerns scientists and policymakers. And while periods of unusually warm weather may fall within normal variability, a steady rise of

atmospheric temperature can have far-reaching consequences: warmer seasons, coastal inundations because of a rise in sea level, warmer sea temperature resulting in more frequent hurricanes, and melting glaciers that lead to perturbed ocean salinity.

Angelopoulos and Golomb have demonstrated that CO₂ can be dispersed in water with limestone particles under pressure, forming a stable emulsion that can be sequestered in the deep ocean. Their technique overcomes difficult technical challenges, making the CO₂ emulsion safer for ocean sequestration than releasing CO₂ alone.

"There were two main problems," explained Angelopoulos. "To prevent

the CO₂ from simply bubbling up to the surface, the emulsion had to be pumped to a depth greater than 1,000 meters. Also, dissolved CO₂ is very acidic and would be harmful to sea life in the vicinity."

The new research overcomes both difficulties. Using highly dispersed limestone particles, the researchers were able to form stable emulsions of CO₂ in water, with a greatly increased density so the substance can be stored at shallower ocean depths. This increases safety and reduces cost.

Also, the limestone increases the pH of the emulsion, reducing the problem of localized acidity.

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Take Note

It's Time to Gather at the Well

The Fourth Annual "Gathering at the Well" Forum, April 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Alumni Hall, will look at how women are changing the world, from here to Afghanistan. The forum is presented by the Center for Women and Work.

The program, "How are Women Changing the World?: Activists Bridging Differences," will feature a special presentation about the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan by Anne Brodsky and Alicia Lucksted. The two will also appear a second time at 3:30 p.m. in McGauvran Hall, Room 410, courtesy of the Center for Diversity and Pluralism.

Keynote speakers, Dorothy Burlage, Ph.D. and Sue Thrasher, Ph.D. will speak about their experiences in community organizing during the Civil Rights Movement. Maria Cunha, Nancy Moore Diaz and Bory Kem will speak about their community efforts in the Lowell area.

Register online at www.uml.edu/centers/women-work or contact the Center at (978) 934-4380.

City Library to Close During Move Back to Its Renovated Building

City Manager John F. Cox and the Board of Library Trustees have announced that the renovation of Lowell's historic library is nearly complete, and that the library will be moving back to its 401 Merrimack Street building this spring.

To facilitate the move, the public library will be closed until the tentative re-opening date of Saturday, May 4. Books due to the library before the end of March can be returned to the book drop at 33 Middle Street, the library's temporary location during the renovation, or returned to any neighboring public library in the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium. Lowell's Bookmobile will be scheduled for additional days while the library is closed for moving.

For more information, call the library at (978) 970-4120.

Oral History Conference Gets the Boott

The New England Association for Oral History will hold its annual conference, "Oral History at Work: Preserving Stories of Labor and Community," at the Boott Mills Museum in Lowell on Saturday, April 27th. The conference is being cosponsored by the UMass Lowell and Lowell National Historical Park through the Mogan Cultural Center initiative.

For information, call Park Ranger Mehmed Ali, (978) 970-5046.

Eighth Annual "Girls to College Day"

Tuesday, April 9 will be the University's eighth annual Girls to College Day, designed to help young women gain the knowledge and experience necessary to set and pursue educational goals for themselves. Approximately 120 eighth grade girls, the majority of whom would be the first family member to go to college, will attend a variety of workshops and listen to panelists address issues of importance to young women. Girls to College Day is coordinated by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions with the support of the Council on Diversity and Pluralism and the Council on Teaching, Learning and Research as Scholarship.

High School Scholars On Campus in June

The High School Scholars program, designed to give high-achieving high school students a chance to live on campus and take a one-week course that focuses in depth on one topic, will take place from June 23 through June 27. Faculty participants this year, and their courses, are Assoc. Prof. Marvin Stick, "The Power of Mathematics;" Prof. Arnold O'Brien, "Environmental Science;" Dean Krishna Vedula, "Engineering Sampler;" Prof. James Coates, "Graphic Design;" Prof. Alease Bruce, "Health;" and Asst. Prof. Holly Yanco, "Robotics." Each course involves the participation of multiple faculty members. This is the fourth time the University has run the High School Scholars Program, which is coordinated by O'Brien with the support of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. A full description of the program, application procedures and cost is available at www.uml.edu/admissions/hsscholars.

Diversity and Pluralism Dinner April 8th

The Council on Diversity and Pluralism will hold a dinner conversation on Monday, April 8 from 4 to 7 p.m. in Alumni Hall. Anne Mulvey, acting director of the Council, will facilitate a discussion on "Diversity & Learning: Enlarging the Conversation." Panelists will include Profs. Todd Avery of English, Khanh Dinh, psychology, Carol McDonough, economics, and Lee Vorderer, psychology. For reservations, call ext. 4342, no later than April 1.

Research Dinner to Highlight Rewards and Challenges of Collaborative Research

Working across disciplines in research has great challenges, beginning with understanding arcane terminology and building a common lexicon. Such collaborations also offer great rewards, bringing fresh perspective to familiar concepts and prompting leaps of imagination.

On April 16, two research teams will present their experiences and lead the discussion of collaborative research at the second annual Research Dinner, sponsored by the Committee of Federated Centers and Institutes (CFCI).

Cheryl West, community consultant for the Center for Family, Work and Community, and Prof. John Duffy, mechanical engineering, will discuss their collaboration on Project SPLASH, an innovative program of urban aquaculture and science education funded by the National Science Foundation.

Profs. Kenneth Marx, chemistry, and Susan Brauhn, biological sciences, will discuss their creation of a unique biosensor device with applications in drug discovery and cancer treatment research.

CFCI Co-director Kenneth Geiser says that exploring opportunities for research collaboration fits the Committee's mission.

"Centers and institutes themselves are designed to be interdisciplinary," he says. "The dinner is our opportunity to encourage faculty, who may be new to the University or unfamiliar with some of the research activities, to think creatively about research collaborations."

CFCI Co-director Judith Boccia points out that the research dinner is planned to promote discussion.

"Our research presenters will speak before dinner, allowing ample time for questions," she says. "We expect that table conversations will continue to be lively. The Lowell campus is a wonderful place to foster cross-disciplinary collaborations."

The research dinner will be held in Alumni Hall, beginning at 3:15 p.m. with appetizers and a social hour. The moderated presentations will be from 3:45 to 5 p.m., with discussion and dinner to follow at 5:30 p.m.

For reservations, please contact Charles Pace at ext. 3199, or charles_pace@uml.edu, by April 5.



Computer Science Department Hosts Empirix Visit

▲ More than 40 computer science and electrical and computer engineering students participated in a Q&A session with representatives from Empirix, a company that provides integrated test and monitoring solutions for Web, voice and network applications with locations in Waltham and Wilmington. Steve Knowlton, technical support manager, back row third from left, and Kimberly McKeen of College Relations, front row center, gather with several computer science students before the discussion. The Department of Computer Science Systems Lab hosted the Empirix visit.

Alzheimer's Research Center Accepted into CFCI

The Alzheimer's research that has been taking place on campus for nearly a decade now has an official home—the Center for Cellular Neurobiology and Neurodegeneration Research directed by Prof. Thomas Shea of Biological Sciences. Shea established the center at McLean Hospital in the late 1980s and relocated to UMass Lowell in 1994. The Center was accepted into the Committee on Federated Centers and Institutes at the end of 2001.

Shea was prompted to seek formal recognition for the Center after last year's UMass System Neuroscience Symposium at which UMass Lowell's research was prominent. He believes the Center will increase the opportunities for inter- and intra-campus collaboration.

The Center is led by Shea and four assistant directors, Prof. Garth Hall and Asst. Prof. James Lyons-Weiler, Biological Sciences; and Profs. Robert Nicolosi and Eugene Rogers, Health and Clinical Sciences.

While their Alzheimer's research is most visible, Shea and his colleagues are also investigating motor neuron disease or Lou Gehrig's Disease. The research looks at individual cells in mice, lampreys or the Petri dish to see how neurons develop and die and what helps neurons survive, specifically vitamins and antioxidants.

Hall recently received a \$1 million grant from the National Institute on Aging for his work with sea lampreys. Lyons-Weiler researches how genetic factors increase risk for oxidative stress aspects. Nicolosi and Rogers have been studying antioxidants, such as folate and vitamin E, and the relationship of oxidative stress to Alzheimer's Disease. Shea investigates the maintenance and degeneration of neurons.

Shea firmly believes that there is no cure for Alzheimer's and research should focus on treatment and prevention. The latest models show that Alzheimer's Disease doubles for every decade lived past age 65, causing researchers to believe that Alzheimer's is the brain's natural degeneration.

"We might all have Alzheimer's if we lived long enough," said Shea. "Every dollar put into research now, will save hundreds in treatment later" since it is costly to care for Alzheimer's patients.

The Center has received \$3.7 million in grant funding from the National Institute on Aging, the Alzheimer's Association and the National Science Foundation since 1994. The Center also has professional associations with the University of Pittsburgh, the National Institutes of Health, and the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom. Additionally, several patents have been secured, with others in process.



▲ Prof. Thomas Shea is director of the Center for Cellular Neurobiology and Neurodegeneration Research, which studies the development of Alzheimer's and motor neuron disease and potential treatments.

Lowell Women's Week 2002 Puts on Quite a Show

This year's Lowell Women's Week celebration proved to be the largest observance yet in Lowell, with hundreds of attendees attracted to the more than three-dozen scheduled exhibits and activities.

According to Prof. Anne Mulvey, psychology, the goal of the event is to bring greater visibility of women's lives on a range of topics and issues. It has also generated a "vibrant informal network which is active year-round" for the two-dozen members who sit on the planning committee.

The week began with a production of Eve Ensler's Obie award-winning play, "The Vagina Monologues" which is drawn from hundreds of interviews with a diverse selection of women. The cast of 27 was dominated by UMass Lowell students, alumni and faculty. A portion of the proceeds benefited the Alternative House and other organizations working to prevent violence against women. Mulvey, who produced the play on campus with Prof. Charlotte Mandell and Jennie Lightfoot, says that total proceeds exceeded \$8,000 for the three performances.



▲ Profs. Charlotte Mandell, left, and Anne Mulvey, psychology, perform in the V-Day Project, a presentation of Eve Ensler's play, "The Vagina Monologues." The play was presented in conjunction with Lowell Women's Week celebrations.

The "Because of Her Awards" were also presented at the breakfast, given to women from Greater Lowell who make a difference in and improve people's lives. This year's recipients were Soady Ouch of the Lowell Alliance, Capt. Susan Siopes of the Lowell Police Dept. and Barbara Palermo, Back Central neighborhood activist.

The awards were dedicated to the late Mary Bacigalupo of the UMass Lowell Center for Field Studies who was active on the Women's Week planning committee and on many Lowell causes. Numerous speakers paid tribute to her life and work, and recalled special memories of her.

"A lot of people told their 'Mary' stories," says Mulvey.

Other University-sponsored events included the showing of two films: "Five Girls," sponsored by the Center for Women and Work (CWW),

and "Beneath the Veil," sponsored by the Center for Diversity and Pluralism (CDP) and the Psychology Department.

In addition to the 20 other community organizations involved in planning the week, UMass Lowell was represented by Campus Ministries, the CDP, CWW, the Community Psychology Department and the University Gallery.



▲ Profs. Anne Mulvey and Khanh Dinh, psychology, and Sophy Suon, Lowell Small Business Assistance Center, attend the panel discussion "Lowell Women's Week: Making Room at the Table" held at the Smith Baker Center in downtown Lowell.

The Women's Week Breakfast has become the de facto kick off of the week. Nearly 250 people packed the American Textile History Museum to hear the keynote address by Bory Kem, editor of Cambodian Women News and CWLP-TV, the Cambodian Women Learning Program Television.



Health Professions Students Celebrate Healthy Choices

▲ Prof. Alease Bruce, health and clinical sciences, left, visits the Health Education Club booth at this year's College of Health Professions Health Fair, "Celebrate Healthy Choices." Club members Laura Byron, Kristen Jagodynky, Serena Laft and Danielle Queenan were on hand to run the booth.

Shoes Take On New Meaning at Women's Week Public Art Exhibit

For most, shoes are just something to put on your feet, a way to get from place to place. For those who created the more than 500 shoes for the Lowell Women's Week public art show, "Stepping Into an Uncertain World," many of the shoes symbolize hope, freedom and independence. From sneakers to boots to pumps, decorated shoes of all types are on display at the Boott Cotton Mill Museum Gallery through April. While most of the artists are from the Merrimack Valley, shoes arrived from as far away as Florida.

The University community contributed by creating shoes, donating shoes and materials to artists, and running workshops to create shoes at local organizations such as the House of Hope and Girls, Inc. The Council on Diversity and Pluralism, Campus Ministries, the Center for Women and Work, and the Psychology Department participated in the planning and organizing of the event, as well as in decorating shoes.

"The point of the public art part of Women's Week is to pull in groups who might not otherwise be part of Women's Week and have their stories and experiences heard," said Prof. Anne Mulvey, interim director for the Council on Diversity and Pluralism and member of the Women's Week planning committee.

Mulvey has two pieces on exhibit, one a gold metallic pump on which she wrote: "Women's Shoes: A Prison We Choose. Women's Shoes: Common Bondage" and the other, a tribute to her 87-year-old mother composed of "fancy" shoes dating back to the 1940s.

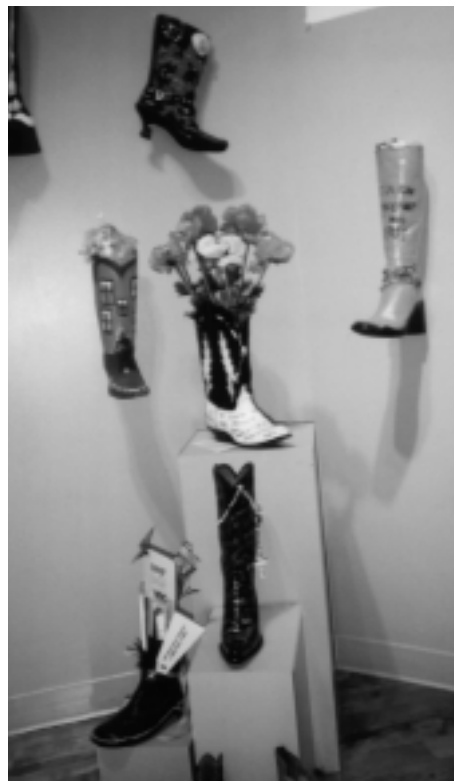
A denim baby shoe decorated with red, white and blue, a straw basket and a peace button was designed by a student who is the mother of a three-year-old. Since babies in her native Thailand don't

have shoes, the shoe represents opportunities in America. The basket represents her native culture and the pin symbolizes a peaceful society.

The shoe created by the Work-Life Integration Group—affiliated with the Center for Women and Work—is a large sneaker with a chunky heel attached to represent the work/life connection.

The shoes are mainly grouped by type and some have accompanying stories.

The Boott Cotton Mill Museum Gallery is open during museum hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The exhibit is free and will likely be extended through April.



▲ Types of shoes are displayed together, such as the boots shown here, at the Lowell Women's Week public art exhibit, "Stepping into an Uncertain World." The University community contributed many of the more than 500 shoes on exhibit.

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Mayor Rita Mercier Says the People of Lowell Account for the City's Success

Speaking about the University, Mercier says, "UMass Lowell is one of the city's jewels. It's wonderful to see what is happening on campus. Not only are the professors opening up people's minds to the great wonders of the world through education, but the University is making physical improvements like the beautification of the grounds along University Avenue, the athletic fields near the river, and the Campus Center that is under construction. And don't forget the arena and ballpark built in partnership with the city.

"I want to extend an open invitation to the University community and to let them know that the Mayor's Office is open to helping them in any way that we can."

Regarding priorities in the next two years, Mercier is especially interested in keeping the construction of the

city's new senior citizens' center on track. "We expect to complete the project in March 2003, and that opening day will be one of the best days of my life." She is optimistic that the city will be able to work with the state government to develop a new Judicial Center downtown, across from Lowell Memorial Auditorium. The complex would include courtrooms, offices, and a parking garage. Planners also see the possibility of the project triggering construction of a performing arts center associated with Middlesex Community College.

Speaking of her role as mayor, Mercier says, "I'm an ambassador for the city. I love this city. I want to let the public know about all the good things going on in Lowell and the good work being done by City employees."

—PM

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Department of Energy Funds Innovative Research in Control of Greenhouse Gases

With the support of the DOE grant, the UMass Lowell researchers will be able to optimize the parameters for creating the CO₂ emulsion, adding equipment and supporting graduate students.

U.S. Representative Marty Meehan announced the grant, saying "UMass Lowell continues its strong tradition of pursuing new scientific solutions to some of our world's most serious environmental problems."

"Of course, one remedy is not a panacea," observes Golomb. "CO₂ must first be removed from smokestacks (UMass Lowell holds a patent on one technique) and this is expensive and challenging. The great volume of CO₂ comes from the burning of fossil fuels and of this, one

third is used to produce electricity (which could be recovered), one third is in transportation and one third is in commercial and residential use."

Nevertheless, capturing the gas and sequestering it in the deep ocean would retard the anticipated peak in greenhouse gas emissions.

And in the future?

"Over time, the CO₂ might very slowly re-emerge into the atmosphere, at a point beyond the anticipated peak, thus retarding its effect," says Angelopoulos. "Or we may be able to permanently sequester it in the sands of the deep ocean—another project we are interested in investigating."

—SS

Lipchitz Lectures on Irish 'Saints and Sinners'



◀ Prof. Joseph Lipchitz of the History Department, left, and David McKean, chair of St. Patrick Parish's 19th Annual Irish Cultural Week in Lowell, compared notes in O'Leary Library before Lipchitz's lecture on March 12 about several key figures in Irish history. The University co-sponsored the event as part of the week-long celebration of the city's Irish and Irish-American heritage.



Watts Lays Down the Principles of Liberation Psychology

◀ Dr. Rodney Watts discusses his work on manhood development and its intersection with the principles of Liberation Psychology. Watts' appearance at UMass Lowell was sponsored by the graduate program in Community Social Psychology.

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Robots Kicked "Bot" in Team Tournament Hosted at UMass Lowell

boards, motors, and lots of sensors: light sensors, a light probe, a sonar sensor and bump sensors.

"The students have great choices of design parts," says Yanco. "They have to look at the task, develop their strategy, then decide how to deploy the parts and design their robot or robots to implement that strategy."

Rather than building a robot first and then programming it, Yanco says, "The students should be building and programming at the same time. They're really learning much about engineering, but with the Lego kit they don't need to be in a machine shop."

Yanco sees a value in the project of bringing science and math into middle school and high school classrooms, and giving kids something very concrete to work on. The kits stay in schools and can continue to be used in physics classes.

All participants in regional events are invited to participate in the national conference, held this year in Oklahoma at the end of June. An associated event, the Botfest, also took place in Costello. Botfest is an open-ended robotics exhibition for robot enthusiasts, from novices to experts, and included demonstrations by UMass Lowell and Wellesley College students, MITRE Corporation and various high school and middle school groups.

"Botfest encourages even more creativity," says Yanco. "A group from the Boys and Girls Club in South Boston brought a robotic cuckoo clock and a robot dispensing gumballs. The Wellesley college teams come from a robotics art studio that two professors run during intersession: they displayed a coffee troll, that brings you coffee with sugar and cream, and a robot

that would read a person's sign language hand motions and provide a printout."

Yanco's own student teams are working on firefighting robots for an upcoming competition.

—SS



▲ Teams could practice on a duplicate game board. For the 90 seconds that the light bulb was lit, the robots (calibrated with light sensors) had to run their programs to collect the correct color balls from plastic nests, knock over ball-containing tubes, foil the competing robot, capture the Nerf ball, and try to place a ball in the high target.



▲ Computer science Prof. Thomas Costello, department chair, and Asst. Prof. Holly Yanco, spent a day with robotics enthusiasts and student competitors at the regional tournament of Botball, a national program to encourage robotics.



▲ Middlesex School in Concord took top honors in the competition, as well as a judges' top choice award for inventiveness and intention for the robot that used a scissors lift and drop gate to place a ball in the high target.



▲ A Wellesley High School team placed second with this array of robots, each designed to perform a specialized task.



▲ A freshman team from South Kingston, RI, came close to aching the competition with a robot that scooped up all the nests like a snowplow and backed into the end zone with them. The team placed third when their robot failed to back up and turn off.



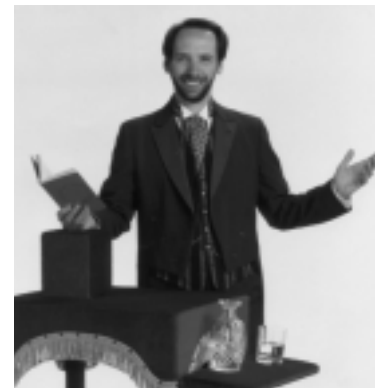
"Dancing in the Flames" at the Center for the Arts

▲ The Acadian rhythms of Grand Dérangement will take over the Center of the Arts this April, as the Nova Scotia-based music troupe stages two performances of "Dancing in the Flames" at UMass Lowell. The players will dance and sing to the fiddle, piano, guitar and drum beats of their native culture, in Acadie in St. Mary's Bay, Nova Scotia. Grand Dérangement infuses this native sound with elements of rock, Celtic and Irish music. The performances are sponsored by Enterprise Bank and Trust Company. Performances are scheduled for April 7 at 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in Durgin Hall. To reserve tickets, call the Center for the Arts box office Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., at (978) 934-4444.

Off-Broadway Players Unlock the Mystery of Drood

U Mass Lowell's Off-Broadway Players, will perform "Drood," a Rupert Holmes-musical based on Charles Dickens' last work, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood." Performances will be April 5 and 6 at 8 p.m.; April 7 at 2 p.m.; April 11 through 13 at 8 p.m. and April 14 at 2 p.m. in Mahoney Auditorium.

The mystery novel was left unfinished due to Dickens' untimely death, presenting a challenge to Holmes in creating a script. Holmes uses this to his advantage by crafting a whodunit that asks the



▲ Gerald Charles Dickens, great-grandson of Charles Dickens.

audience to vote on the solution, guaranteeing a surprise ending with every performance.

For tickets, call (978) 934-5024, or purchase them at the door. Anyone interested in other events related to the life and work of Charles Dick-

ens may wish to attend the "Dickens and America Conference and Festival" scheduled for April 4 through 6. For information, log on to www.uml.edu/Dickens.

Lawrence Teachers to Earn Principalship Certification Online in Innovative Program Developed by Graduate School of Ed

Lawrence Teachers to Earn Principalship Certification Online in Innovative Program Developed by Graduate School of Ed

Lawrence Superintendent Wilfredo T. Laboy came to the Graduate School of Education with a typical problem—a shortage in qualified principal and assistant principal candidates. Laboy had already decided he wanted to develop internal candidates, but the solution developed with Dean Donald Pierson and Hector Torres, UMass Lowell liaison with the Lawrence Public Schools, may now serve as a model for other districts.

For the next two years, including the summer months, the 26 fellows in the Lawrence Leadership Program will be taking online courses and completing the principalship certification requirements with a practicum. By combining online courses with monthly on-site workshops, teachers can further their education with the convenience of taking classes from home while still receiving the benefits of a classroom experience. Since there is high turnover in the Lawrence Public Schools and often a sense of isolation, it was important to Laboy that the teachers work together.

Torres suggested the idea of face-to-face meetings, which are a continuation of the online chats, to help the fellows put theory into practice.

“We’ll get a group at the end of two years that knows each other, that have become critical friends, that support each other, and that knows how to solve problems within the district,” said Torres, who is leading the workshops.

The first course is underway, “Principles of Supervision” with Prof. Emeritus Robert Gower. Courses taken for the Leadership Program can be directly applied to the master’s in Educational Administration and can be earned with an additional three courses.

“The program encourages leadership and provides stability in an environment with frequent turnover,” said Dean Donald Pierson, Graduate School of Education.

Nearly 40 Lawrence teachers applied for the program and 26 were selected as fellows. Teachers with more than two years experience were encouraged to apply. The fellows range in experience—two years to 20 years—and specialty—mathematics to special education. The Lawrence Public Schools is paying the tuition and fees for all fellows. Teachers must agree to stay in Lawrence schools for three years after completing the program.

Council Celebrates Ten Years of Success

On March 12, faculty and staff gathered in Alumni Hall to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Council on Teaching, Learning, and Research as Scholarship.

In his welcoming remarks, Chancellor William T. Hogan set the tone for the evening as he noted that his expectations for the Council had been high and “I have not been disappointed.” He congratulated Council members on their accomplishments and wished them well on another decade of success.

The Council’s mission is to enhance student learning by taking creative actions that promote excellence in teaching. Several of the evening’s speakers noted that the Council had succeeded by providing a forum for faculty discussion on issues surrounding teaching and learning.

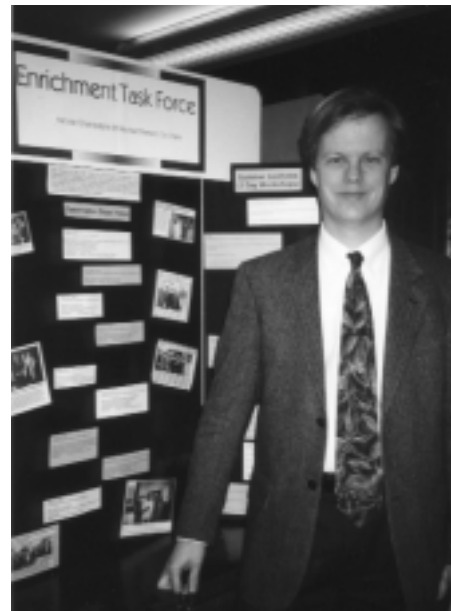
Over the last decade, some of the accomplishments of the Council and its task forces include the following developments: an orientation program for new faculty, awards programs recognizing outstanding faculty and advisors, a peer tutoring program, a drop in advising center, an annual Meet Your Advisor week, and a seed grant program to support faculty student collaborative research. The Council has instituted Conversation Dinners and Faculty Institutes that address wide-ranging topics including course redesign for general education outcomes and teaching-at-a-distance with television. One task force surveyed the faculty to identify technology needs and then purchased key equipment and made it available through the Media Centers.

Current activities also include a pilot program to develop mid-semester information gathering with the purpose of alerting students in academic trouble, and production of a monograph documenting teaching and learning strategies at UMass Lowell, which will distribute it to 190 Carnegie campuses.

Current Council Co-chairs are Sheila Riley-Callahan, executive director of Academic Services, and Prof. Robert Gamache, environmental, earth, and atmospheric sciences, who made his remarks to the gathering via videotape from Paris, where he is currently on sabbatical. Physical therapy Prof. Susan O’Sullivan, a former chair, is acting co-chair in Gamache’s place.

Other former Council chairs include Jacqueline Moloney, dean, Continuing Studies and Corporate Education; Arthur Watterson, professor emeritus, chemistry; and Prof. Dean Bergeron and Dept. Chair John Wooding, both of the Department of Regional Economic and Social Development.

Members of the seven current task forces prepared tabletop displays highlighting accomplishments of the past decade. Task force chairs are Prof. Melissa Pennell, English, and Susan Lemire of the Centers for Learning, Advising Task Force; Physics Prof. Aram Karakashian and Mike Lucas, Center for Field Services and Studies, Task Force on Faculty Development/Teaching with Technology; Doreen Arcus, assoc. prof. of psychology, and Physics Prof. Arthur Mittler, Task Force on Faculty-Student Collaborative Research; Engineering Technology Prof. Robert Tuholski and Marvin Stick, assoc. prof. in mathematics, Task Force on Seed Grants; Mary Beaudry, director of the Faculty Teaching Center, and Health Sciences Prof. Alease Bruce, Carnegie Task Force; James Lyons-Weiler, asst. prof. in biological sciences and Elizabeth Donaghey, director of Disability Services, Task Force on Retention Issues; and Nicole Champagne, asst. prof., health and clinical sciences, and Michael Pierson, asst. prof. of history, Task Force on Enrichment.



▲ Asst. prof. of history Michael Pierson stands next to the panel displaying the accomplishments of the Task Force on Enrichment, of which he is co-chair.



▲ As director of the Faculty Teaching Center, Mary Beaudry has helped institute Council programs such as Conversation Dinners and Faculty Institutes.



▲ Michael Lucas, of the Center for Field Services and Studies, is a co-chair of the Task Force on Faculty Development/Teaching with Technology, which has contributed, over the last decade, numerous pieces of technical equipment available for use in the classroom.



▲ Presenters at the tenth anniversary celebration of the Council on Teaching, Learning, and Research as Scholarship were former and current Council co-chairs, including, from the left, John Wooding, chair, Department of Regional Economic and Social Development; Jacqueline Moloney, dean, Continuing Studies and Corporate Education; Sheila Riley-Callahan, executive director of Academic Services; Arthur Watterson, emeritus prof. of chemistry; Prof. Susan O’Sullivan, physical therapy; and Mary Beaudry, director of the Faculty Teaching Center.

High School Teams Take the Engineering Challenge at UMass Lowell

Design disc brakes for a new sports car. Investigate a recycling process to reduce landfill volume. Design a life-support system for a planned lunar station.

On March 7, 24 teams of high school students, representing 11 school districts, wrapped their brains around interesting and challenging problems such as these at the 23rd annual TEAMS competition, hosted by UMass Lowell's Francis College of Engineering.

Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics, and Science (TEAMS) is an annual exam that encourages high school students to work cooperatively and think critically. The questions are rigorous and represent college freshman-level engineering courses. TEAMS is sponsored by the Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS) a non-profit educational organization that works to promote interest in math, science, and engineering among high school students.

The event is a one-day, two-part academic competition with awards and recognition possible at the local, state and national levels. Teams consist of four to eight students in grades 9 through 12. Varsity teams are open to any grade

level, while junior varsity teams are limited to grades 9 through 11. There are different divisions based on school enrollment size. Student teams work in an open-book, open-note, open-discussion format. The exam is given in two parts. Part I consists of a series of objective multiple-choice questions related to various engineering situations. Part II requires students to describe and defend their solutions to open-ended, subjective questions related to problems from Part I.

Part I answers are scored on the competition day and are used to determine local standings. Part II responses are scored at JETS for national ranking.

"The questions show students how engineering touches every part of our lives," says Krishna Vedula, dean of engineering. "Everything, if you look around, needs technology. Engineering is a social profession that improves our quality of life."

The participating high school teams were from Reading Memorial, Newton North, the Winsor School in Boston, Salem, Lowell, Chelmsford, Dracut, Austin Preparatory in Reading, Massabesic Regional in Waterboro, ME, Littleton and Westford.

Conference Tackles Prejudice and Racism in Times of Crisis

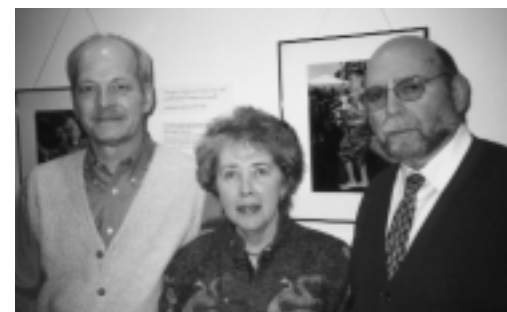


▲ UMass Lowell Bookstore Manager Mike Ford, center, congratulates Lowell High School students Sopheavy Seng, second from right, and Anh Tran, third from left, for their work in the Youth Conference 2002 essay contest. Seng was one of five contest winners, receiving a \$100 gift certificate from Barnes and Noble. Tran received an honorable mention. The students are flanked by their teachers, Robin Hall and Dzung Nguyen, left, and Miriam Morgestern, right. The conference theme was "Prejudice and Racism in Times of National and International Crisis." The event, which was attended by over 50 students, was funded by a UMass Lowell Council for Diversity and Pluralism Public Service Grant and Barnes and Noble.



▲ Janice Fitzgibbons, center, attends the University's Youth Conference 2002 with two of her students from Andover High School, Lindsey Saunders, left, and Jamie Singlais, right. Singlais was one of five winners or the conference essay contest. Saunders received honorable mention. Eleven students won trophies and the five winners also received \$100 gift certificates from Barnes and Noble, which helped sponsor the event.

'Cotton Dust Papers' Authors Launch Book at Mogan Cultural Center



◀ "The Cotton Dust Papers" examines the interplay of science, politics, and power in the "discovery" of byssinosis in the United States. Sometimes called "brown lung disease," byssinosis is a debilitating lung disease afflicting cotton textile workers. The book's authors, from left, Gregory F. DeLaurier, Mary Lee Dunn, and Prof. Charles Levenstein, all of the Work Environment Department, spoke about the book on March 11 at the Mogan Cultural Center of Lowell National

Historical Park. Faculty members William Mass of Regional Economic and Social Development and Susan Woskie of Work Environment also contributed chapters to the book. The Work Environment Department and Mogan Cultural Center Community Committee co-sponsored the event.

Chancellor Hogan Assures Faculty and Staff About Budget

Speaking to more than 400 members of the faculty and staff on North and South campuses on Tuesday, March 5, Chancellor William T. Hogan said, "We are prepared for the budget challenges ahead. There will be no layoffs, and we will get through this period. There is a tight squeeze right now, but the campus is in good shape."

Chancellor Hogan opened the session saying that he thought it would be helpful to get everyone together to discuss what is happening regarding the budget on campus and in the state. This current budget, after reductions from the state and the impact of inflation on non-personnel costs, represents a \$5.3 million loss in purchasing power when compared to last year's budget. However, due to careful planning during the seven-year period of realignment and reallocation, which ended in July 2000, the campus is well positioned to stay on course with its mission.

While there is no plan for layoffs, the campus will see staff reductions next year resulting from faculty and

non-faculty opting for early retirement. Under the state system, explained the Chancellor, 80 percent of the salary funding attached to the retiree's position will be retained by the state. Thus, the campus expects to be able to fill two positions for every 10 vacancies created by early retirement.

The upshot, according to the Chancellor, is that in July 2002 the campus will be at staffing levels that had been projected for July 2004 - 378 faculty and 400 non-faculty. "It's a significant reduction, but we will deal with it," he said. Chancellor Hogan said the campus would reset faculty levels in the colleges and reset staff levels, alerting staff members that reassignments will be necessary.

"We need to think ahead, and we have to be careful about repositioning UMass Lowell. Our priorities are to preserve the quality of academic programs, which we will do, and to protect our investment in the physical plant, which we will do to the best of our ability."

Speakers Examine the Lives of Afghan Women

The campus community is invited to a special multi-media presentation by Drs. Anne Brodsky and Alicia Lucksted entitled, "RAWA: Afghan Women, Oppression and Resistance" on April 11 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the McGauvran 410.

RAWA, the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan, runs schools, orphanages and work projects for Afghan refugees. Brodsky and Lucksted will share photos and stories about the organization's work in Pakistan.

Brodsky has toured numerous sites and spoken with hundreds of refugees. She recently returned from Pakistan where she stayed and visited in Afghan camps and urban centers. Lucksted is one of the founders and coordinators of the U.S. Supporters Network, a national grassroots network that assists RAWA's efforts. Both are faculty members at the University of Maryland.

Prior to the talk, a ceremony will be held awarding funds raised by the recent V-Day project at UMass Lowell to both RAWA and Lowell's Alternative House. The event is being sponsored by the Center for Diversity and Pluralism.

Project TechForce Getting IT Done

Information Technology (IT), the defining industry of a new generation of technology professionals, has exploded over the past decade. A recent report from RESD indicates that, as of 1998, there were more than 110,000 IT workers in the Commonwealth. Yet, the relative scarcity of women and minorities in the field has some people wondering why.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is funding a UMass Lowell study, "Project TechForce: Women and Men in Information Technology Workplaces" to examine the IT work force in Massachusetts, paying specific attention to the issues and barriers that face women.

The Center for Industrial Competitiveness and the Center for Women and Work are co-sponsoring the \$625,000 study. The research team will be partnering with the Massachusetts Software and Internet Council (MSIC) which is making available its entire membership list of more than 3,500 firms statewide, 800 of which will be selected for the Internet-based survey. This will be followed by detailed interviews with 200 IT professionals. The exploratory project will establish the nation's first systematic research and database concerning women and men software workers in IT.

Principal Investigator Paula Rayman, who recently joined the Regional Economic and Social Development Department (RESD), says the first stage will investigate the factors affecting the attraction, retention, and promotion of all IT professionals to see if gender differences exist.

According to Research Director Joyce Davis, they will also look at so-called "pipeline" issues such as whether young women are encouraged to enter the field, what they perceive as their career paths, and how they network.

Rayman, who holds a doctorate in sociology, was the Linda S. Wilson Director of Public Policy at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University until this fall. She came to UMass Lowell because she was attracted to the inter-disciplinary focus of RESD, and she found Lowell to be a perfect setting for the TechForce project.

"The whole history: the mills, the start of the industrial revolution. It all happened here. This was a great coming together for me," she says.

For information on the project, contact Joyce Davis, (978) 934-2727 or log on to www.uml.edu/techforce.

Recycling Center, in Partnership with UMass Lowell, Continues Grants to Communities, Nonprofits

For the fourth consecutive year, the Chelsea Center for Recycling and Economic Development (CCFRED)—which operates under the umbrella of the UMass Lowell Center for Sustainable Production—is offering grants of up to \$25,000 to cities, towns and nonprofit groups that are pursuing recycling initiatives.

"Recycling-based community economic development," according to a recent statement from the CCFRED, "calls for communities and local businesses to find opportunities to recover discarded materials and products from the local waste system for reuse as feedstock in other local enterprises." The benefits from this, the statement continues, include reduced trash generation and disposal costs, a lower reliance on virgin raw materials, and a lessened demand for trash disposal facilities throughout the state of Massachusetts.

"Finding local uses and markets for recovered materials can provide tremendous economic benefits for a community," says Jennifer Capuano, manager of the grant program for CCFRED. "We're very excited to offer these grants, which support model programs that boost economies, and at the same time reduce the Commonwealth's demand for landfills and other disposal facilities."

There are currently 1,400 businesses in Massachusetts connected in some way to the recycling industry, either through the processing of recycled materials, or the manufacturing of products made from them.

Funding for the Chelsea Center comes from the University of Massachusetts and the Clean Environment Fund. For more information phone Amy Perlmutter at 617-887-2300 or refer to the Center's Web site: www.chelseacenter.org

Tsongas Center Teacher Promotes Peace Corps to Lowell High Sophomores



◀ Tsongas Industrial History Center Museum teacher Ann Carpenter is carrying on the tradition of the Center's namesake, the late Sen. Paul Tsongas, by promoting volunteering for the Peace Corps. She recently spoke to Lowell High School sophomores about her own Peace Corps experience in Mali. Carpenter is pictured here with Lowell National Historical Park Ranger Rick Smith. Tsongas served in the Peace Corps in the West Indies and Ethiopia in the 1960s



Health Professions Students Get Recruited

▲ The Office of Career Services recently held its first health professions job fair in the lobby of Weed Hall. Nearly 200 students talked to 30 employers representing health care institutions and companies across the region. Among those organizing the fair were, from left, Kristen Rhyner, assoc. director of Career Services; Suketu Shah, Career Services student assistant; Martina Witts '83, career counselor; Dr. Janice M. Stecchi, dean of the College of Health Professions; Patricia Yates, director of Career Services; and Laurie MacMunn, Career Services student assistant.

Domhoff Critiques American Left



◀ Prof. G. William Domhoff, center, author of four of the top 50 best-selling sociology books for the second half of the 20th century, recently spoke on the "Three Big Failures of the American Left: Third Parties, Dislike of Markets and Violence," in O'Leary 222. Domhoff was introduced by his former student and UMass Lowell researcher Hal Salzman, left. They are joined by Frederick P. Sperounis, vice chancellor for University Relations and Development, whose field is sociology. The talk was sponsored by the Department of Regional Economic and Social Development.

E-Week Swings From Dance Steps to Hockey Pucks

"Engineers are fun people," says engineering Dean Krishna Vedula. "E-Week is an opportunity to remind ourselves and others what interesting work we do and how much we enjoy it."

E-Week 2002 took some unusual twists, including a Latino dance night, open ice skating at the Tsongas Arena, a talent show, and Jeopardy played by professors. The week ended with a most satisfying win by the Riverhawks men's hockey team,

featuring two engineering student athletes who are Olympians.

E-Week also features competitions and awards. The graduate students honored for their research in the poster competition are Jamila Shawon, chemical and nuclear engineering; Ceretha Fernandes and Chenju Liang, civil and environmental engineering; Yohannes Iyassa and Hark-sang Kim, electrical and computer engineering; Samuel Chow and Darin Lussier, mechanical engi-

neering; Nantiya Viriyabanthorn, plastics engineering; and Dianne Cazeca, SangWoo Tak, and Lu Yuan, work environment.

Paper airplane flight was the challenge for the freshman design competition. Winners in the time aloft category were Victor Rodriguez, first, and Greg Lamson, second; in the distance category, Greg Lamson, first, and Sean Cecere, second.

Each year the student E-Council polls students and honors outstand-

ing teachers of undergraduates. The awardees were Prof. John Walkinshaw, chemical and nuclear engineering; Prof. Don Leitch, civil and environmental engineering; Assoc. Prof. John Leonard and Prof. Ahn Tran, electrical and computer engineering; Asst. Prof. Peter Avitabile, mechanical engineering; and Prof. Steve Grossman, plastics engineering.



▲ At the graduate student research posters event, Hironichi Tsuji, left, student in mechanical engineering, explains his research to nuclear engineering Prof. John White.



▲ Dean Krishna Vedula, left, and Asst. Prof. Pradeep Kurup of Civil and Environmental Engineering, listen to civil engineering student Ceretha Fernandes.



▲ Trying for that perfect, high launch angle, one of the competitors in the Freshman Design Competition lets fly. The winning flight was more than 74 feet and the best time aloft was eight seconds.



▲ Mechanical engineering Prof. John Duffy considers his moves in dancing under the limbo rope at the E-Week Latino Dance Night.



▲ Prof. John Ting, chair of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, takes a break from the ice skating party at the Tsongas Arena with Mildred Maffeo, coordinator of the Scholar Intern Program in the Dean's Office.



▲ The Senior Executive Forum that fell during E-Week featured Joseph Gandolfo, second from left, speaking about his career as the president of worldwide manufacturing for Mattel Corporation, makers of the Barbie doll. The series is co-sponsored by Engineering and the College of Management. With Gandolfo are Dean Krishna Vedula, left, Ralph Mondano, executive in residence, and marketing Prof. Braxton Hinchey.



▲ Engineers' Talent Night gets off to a great start with freshmen Matt Withrow on guitar and Ryan McNair on vocals.



▲ Electrical engineering student Gargi Vaidya, right, brought friends from the College of Arts and Sciences for extra sparkle in their dance performance at the Engineering Talent Night. With Gargi were, from left, Ramya Kumar and Payal Mistry.

Diversity Directory Needs Input

The Center for Diversity and Pluralism would like to remind the University community that they are now compiling the "Directory of Diversity Initiatives, Volume 8." A form was sent out to collect information for the next volume. If you received a form, please return it to the Center as soon as possible. For information, call ext. 4335.



▲ Joe Gandolfo, right, met with engineering students who hold Gandolfo Family Scholarships. With Dean Vedula, left, are freshman Christopher Graham, sophomore John Garvin, and freshman Nicholas Mosher.



▼ Nuclear engineering Prof. Gilbert Brown sits in the seat of honor as winner of the Engineering Professors' Jeopardy match, organized by the student E-Council. Also on the firing line were, from left, Prof. Venkatarama Krishnan, electrical and computer engineering; Prof. John Ting, civil and environmental engineering; Assoc. Prof. David Kazmer, plastics engineering; and Prof. James Sherwood, mechanical engineering.

Note Worthy

Dean Donald Pierson of the Graduate School of Education has been elected president of the Massachusetts Association for Colleges of Teacher Education (MACTE) for 2002-2003.



▲ Dean Donald Pierson

MACTE represents 54 private and public colleges in Massachusetts that prepare professional educators and is the primary advocate for high quality teacher preparation in the Commonwealth.

Dean Pierson also served as association president in 1998-1999.

Profs. Meg Bond, Khanh Dinh and **Anne Mulvey**, all of psychology, presented together at the Eastern Psychological Association in March. Their presentation focused on university outreach in a multicultural community. As a result of their talk, they have created a list of community collaborations in which UMass Lowell participates.

Assist. Prof. Patrick Scollin, health and clinical science, has published an article titled "A Study of Factors Related to the Use of Online Resources by Nurse Educators" in the November/December issue of "Computers in Nursing." The article describes the findings of online utilization by 489 nurse educators in the six New England states and presents recommendations to help foster and support online use by the group.

Prof. P. Christopher Smith of the Philosophy Department is the invited commentator for two papers to be presented next month at the 2002 meeting of the Ancient Philosophy Society at the University of Colorado.

In December, Smith presented a paper, "Peithô and Poetry, Mimêsis and Homiletics," at a meeting of the Academy of Homiletics at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis.

Earlier, he presented his paper, "Phronêsis, the Individual and the Community; Heidegger and Gadamer on Ethical Discernment," at a meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy at Gaucher College in Baltimore. That

paper has been accepted for inclusion in the book "Gadamer verstehen/Understanding Gadamer," to be published next year by the Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft of Darmstadt, Germany.

Smith's paper, "Is Plato a Metaphysical Thinker; Rereading the 'Sophist' after the Middle Heidegger," has been accepted for inclusion in the book, "Plato's Forms, Varieties of Interpretations," to be published next year by Lexington Books.

In addition, Smith was appointed a reader for a Ph.D. dissertation in philosophy by Lisa Wilkenson, a graduate student at the University of South Florida in Tampa. In January, he was invited to Tampa to serve as an outside questioner at Dr. Wilkenson's successful dissertation defense.

The spring catalog of publisher Jossey-Bass features the book, "The Wounded Leader: How Real Leadership Emerges in Times of Crisis," co-authored by **Assoc. Prof. Richard Ackerman** of the Graduate School of Education.

Through compelling stories that illustrate many of the common dilemmas faced by school leaders, the

authors highlight the many paths to healing and show how even the most painful experience can be an opportunity for growth.

Profs. Gil Brown of Nuclear Engineering and **John Ting** of Civil & Environmental Engineering, and **Assoc. Profs. Jim Canning** of Computer Science and **Regina Panasuk** of the Graduate School of Education served as either judges or mentors, or both, at Westford Academy's Calculus Fair recently. Ting also coached the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Mathcounts team this year.

Throughout the month of February, a group of junior nursing students demonstrated proper hand-washing techniques to children enrolled in Tewksbury's after-school programs.

In collaboration with the Merrimack Valley Task Force on Nursing and under the direction of **Asst. Prof. Patricia Ottani**, some 200 children were taught proper hygiene principles. The youngsters viewed a video, practiced proper hand washing under the guidance of the nursing students, and participated in several other activities.

Twomey's Study of Temporary Workers Prompts Permanent Change

When Regional Economic and Social Development (RESD) graduate Brian Twomey began working on his thesis project on temporary workers in the Merrimack Valley, he probably didn't realize that his work would wind up influencing the policy of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. But, in fact, his research became a significant factor in the success of the "Fair Transportation Practices Bill," passed by the legislature and signed into law by the acting governor this February.

Twomey became interested in the situation faced by temporary workers when he volunteered at Lowell's House of Hope. "I had heard some of the horror stories," he says.

He hoped his graduate work could have a positive impact on these workers' lives, but Prof. Chris Tilly, RESD, who worked with him on his thesis, advised him that compelling anecdotes would not be enough to effect meaningful change.

So, Twomey embarked on a multi-pronged study of the lives of the Merrimack Valley's temporary work force. He interviewed several workers, surveyed 25 temporary agencies, and even took a temp position working as a day laborer.

What he found was that some agencies engaged in shady practices with their employees, such as charging large fees for van rides to work or for check-cashing. One 39-year-old Cambodian woman reported that she was charged \$8 for a ride despite finding no work one day. Workers like her tend to pay the fee, Twomey says, because they fear they won't be called for future jobs, or, for some here illegally, that they'll be turned in to U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

"It seems like the people who can least afford to pay these fees are the ones whom the agencies are charging," says Twomey.

Working closely with the Merrimack Valley Project (MVP), a labor

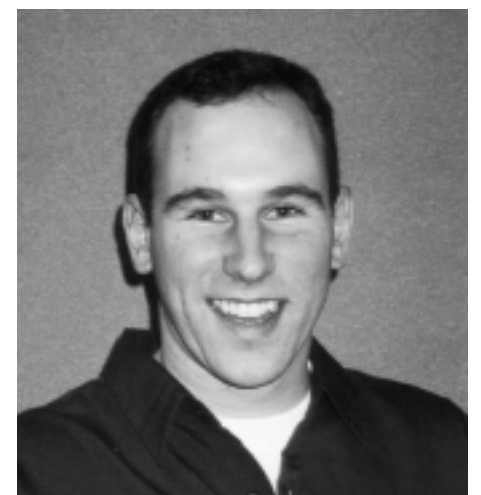
and community organizing project, Twomey wrote "Temporary Work in the Merrimack Valley: An In-Depth Look." The report garnered a lot of media attention from Lowell to Boston.

In April of 2001, he was invited to testify at the State House in support of a law that would limit agency transportation fees. It took several months, but the law was enacted this year.

Gary Nilsson, vice president of MVP, says, "this is the first significant measure regulating abuses in the temp industry to pass the state legislature in years."

"Brian deserves a lot of the credit for helping it pass," says Tilly.

Twomey, who completed his master's degree in the summer of 2001, was a recipient of the Solomont Scholarship. He's now working as a research associate on projects related to temporary staffing issues at the Radcliffe Public Policy Center at Harvard University. He's also work-



▲ RESD graduate Brian Twomey played a key role in the passage of the "Fair Transportation Practices Bill" which will allow greater regulation of the temporary employment services industry in Massachusetts.

ing at the Center for Family, Work and Community on its survey of housing in the Merrimack Valley, and as project director for the Lowell Heritage Partnership.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 13

Baseball, vs. Merrimack College, 1 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Sunday, April 14

Men's Tennis, vs. Southern New Hampshire, 1 p.m., Cushing Field Complex. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Softball, vs. Southern Connecticut, 1 p.m., Riverview Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Monday, April 15

Training, 40-hour hazardous waste site worker training, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wannalancit Mill. Continues through April 19, sponsored by the New England Consortium. For more information or to register, call ext. 3257.

Tuesday, April 16

Baseball, vs. Southern New Hampshire, 4 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK. **Softball**, vs. New Haven, 3:30 p.m., Riverview Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Dinner, and discussion of collaborative research across disciplines, appetizers and social hour at 3:15 p.m., presentations from 3:45 to 5 p.m. and dinner at 5:30 p.m., Alumni Hall. To make reservations, call Charles Pace at ext. 3199, or e-mail charles_pace@uml.edu"

Wednesday, April 17

Baseball, vs. Bentley College, 6 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Thursday, April 18

Softball, vs. Stonehill College, 3:30 p.m., Riverview Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Friday, April 19

Baseball, vs. Stonehill College, 3:30 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Sunday, April 21

Baseball, vs. Stonehill College, 1 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Monday, April 22

Lecture, "Last Lecture" by Claire Chamberlain, professor of physical therapy, noon to 1 p.m., McGauvran 410. For information, call the Campus Ministry, ext. 4013.

Tuesday, April 23

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "Time After Time," grades 4-6, 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus.

Baseball, vs. Bentley College, 6 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK. **Softball**, vs. Franklin Pierce, 3:30 p.m., Riverview Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Training, 24-emergency responder, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wannalancit Mill. Continues through April 25. For more information or to register, call ext. 3257. Sponsored by the New England Consortium.

Wednesday, April 24

Technology Fair, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Cumnock Auditorium. Sponsored by Teaching with Technology Task Force of the Centers for Learning. For information, call ext. 2936.

Thursday, April 25

Softball, vs. Merrimack, 3:30 p.m., Riverview Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Symposium, Third Annual Excellence in Research Day, with student research symposium and special events for faculty, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Alumni Hall.

Saturday, April 27

Baseball, vs. St. Anselm's, 1 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Tuesday, April 30

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "Charlotte's Web," grades K-3, 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call the Center for the Arts, ext. 4452.

Softball, vs. St. Anselm, 3:30 p.m., Riverview Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Cressey Offers International Perspective



◀ Roger Cressey, '87 B.A. Political Science, describes the challenges and opportunities of U.S. foreign policy recently to the "Introduction to International Relations" class. As the Chief of Staff of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Board, Cressey oversees coordination and implementation of U.S. counter-terrorism policy. He also has worked for the Department of Defense. His appearance was sponsored by the Political Science Department.

University Scientists Winning Patent Race

Alright everyone, please put down your beakers. We have a winner. The patent for "Method and Crosslinkable Polymers for Forming Crosslinked Second Order Nonlinear Optical Polymers" goes to UMass Lowell's Jayant Kumar. The rest of you, back to the lab.

Kumar's patent, for a new method of transferring data by optical computing, is one of six recently awarded to UMass Lowell scientists. Patent awards are up at UMass Lowell, says Louis Petrovic, director of External Funding, Technology Transfer and Partnering, largely because of the increased intensity in the intellectual property market. Applying for a patent also means publicly declaring the status of your research, so there's a fair amount of strategy involved in the decision. "We've been actively promoting invention disclosures," Petrovic says, "if it leads to licenses" from interested companies.

The other patents in this latest round: Profs. Robert Nicolosi, Health and Clinical Sciences, Carl Lawton, Chemistry, and Stephen McCarthy, Plastics Engineering, received a patent for "Refined Vegetable Oils and Extracts Thereof." These three have found a way to lock in certain nutrients normally expunged from certain cooking oils during processing. The nutrients, in rice bran oil and corn fiber oil, among others, are high in antioxidants and can lower cholesterol substantially, Nicolosi said.

In short, this process "cleans up the oil, and leaves the good stuff behind," he said.

Profs. Savvas Hadjikyriacou and Rudolf Faust, Chemistry, have received four different patents for inventions involving cationic polymers, each with a name as long as your arm.

Petrovic described the inventions as "starter chemicals," fundamental to many operations in chemistry. He recognized that the discoveries were valuable both in the field of chemistry and in the marketplace, but he declined to translate the inventions any further into layman's terms.

"There's no easy way to say it," he said.

Promotions & Appointments

Promotions

Richard Harvey, academic resources and business manager in University libraries, from audio visual technician

Sally Healey, staff assistant I, from secretary in Physical Therapy.

Jeanne Manousos, staff assistant I, from secretary in Nursing.

Appointments

Maureen S. Councilman, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from Epoxy Technology.

Cindy L. Cox, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from Cashin Corp.

Donald R. Guerin, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from Precise Industries.

Mary Laferriere, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from City of Lowell food services.

Linda McHale, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from B.B. Rubber.

Linda E. Risley, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from Augusta Subs.

John V. Sequeira, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from Naripath, Inc.

Annette R. Coupal, maintainer I in Physical Plant, from Bucknell & Fuller.

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

Calendar of Events

Monday, March 25

Softball, vs. Dowling College, 2 p.m., Riverview Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Tuesday, March 26

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "Romeo and Juliet," grades 7-10, 9:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call the Center for the Arts at (978) 934-4452.

Seminar, "Religion and American Politics," Dr. Alan Wolfe, political science professor at Boston College, 5:30 p.m., 222 O'Leary Library, South Campus.

Wednesday, March 27

Open House, Graduate School Open House, special information session on the bachelor's-master's graduate program, 2 to 4 p.m., Coburn Hall 205. For information, e-mail graduate_school@uml.edu, or call ext. 2381.

Thursday, March 28

Men's Tennis, vs. St. Anselm's 3:30 p.m., Cushing Field Complex. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Friday, March 29

Walk for Hunger, Greater Lowell Good Friday Walk for Hunger, time and place to be announced. For information, call Dr. David Eberiel at ext. 2866.

Saturday, March 30

Baseball, vs. St. Rose, 1 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Monday, April 1

Lecture, "The International Association of Machinists, Pratt & Whitney, and the Struggle for a Blue-Collar Future in Connecticut," by Prof. Robert Farrant, noon, Conference Room M, RESD, O'Leary Library, 5th Floor. For information, contact Prof. John Wooding at ext. 4028.

Conference, "Days Without Violence" conference, featuring a panel discussion on "Globalization, War on Terrorism and U.S. Economy," 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and the "E.J. Springer Show," an interactive performance, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.. Both events in Lydon Library on North Campus. For information, call Prof. John MacDougall at ext. 4303, or e-mail John_Macdougall@uml.edu.

Tuesday, April 2

Conference, "Days Without Violence," featuring a panel discussion on "U.S. Policy and the War on Terrorism," 12:30 to 1:45 p.m., and a participatory discussion entitled "Exploring Roots of Violence, Discovering Seeds of Peace," 2 to 4:30 p.m. Coburn Hall 205. For information, call Prof. John MacDougall at ext. 4303, or e-mail John_Macdougall@uml.edu.

Wednesday, April 3

Lecture, "Massachusetts Health Care: Looming Crises and Opportunity," 3 to 4:30 p.m., Coburn Hall 205. Sponsored by the PHASE Project.

Baseball, vs. Bryant, 3:30 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Men's Tennis, vs. Assumption, 3:30 p.m., Cushing Field Complex. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Thursday, April 4

Performance, "The Republic of My Imagination," by Gerald Dickens, great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, 7:30 p.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call Rick Sherburne, 3232, or go to www.uml.edu/dickens.

Baseball, vs. Dowling College, 4 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Friday, April 5

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "Laura Ingalls Wilder: Growing Up on the Prairie," grades 3-5, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., Center for the Arts, South Campus. For information, call the Center for the Arts, (978) 934-4452.

Performance, The Off-Broadway Players, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," 8 p.m., Mahoney Auditorium. Tickets: \$6 for general admission, \$5 for students. Also showing April 5-6 and April 11-14, at 8 p.m., and April 7 at 2 p.m. For April 11 performance only, student tickets are \$1. For information, go to www.uml.edu/student-groups/offbroadway.

Workshop, Improve your interviewing skills, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m., Southwick 200. Sponsored by Raytheon, Sprint PCS and UMass Lowell Career Services. To sign up, call ext. 2355.

Saturday, April 6

Performance, "Mr. Dickens is Coming!" by Gerald Dickens, great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, 7:30 p.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call Rick Sherburne at 3232, or go to www.uml.edu/dickens.

Baseball, vs. Assumption College, noon, LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Sunday, April 7

Performance, Discovery Series, Grand Derangement: "Dancing in the Flames," music/dance show with Acadian/rock/Celtic/Irish flavors, 2 and 4:30 p.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus. For information, call the Center for the Arts, (978) 934-4452.

Tuesday, April 9

Baseball, vs. Bryant, 3:30 p.m., LeLacheur Park. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Training, 8-hour hazardous waste site worker training, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wannalancit Mill, sponsored by the New England Consortium. For more information or to register, call ext. 3257.

Wednesday, April 10

Chancellor's Open Hours, staff, 2 to 3 p.m.; students, 3 to 4 p.m.; faculty, 4 to 5 p.m.; Trustees' Room, Cumnock Hall, North Campus.

Thursday, April 11

Discussion, "How Are Women Changing the World?: Activists Bridging Differences," part of the "Gathering at the Well" forum, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Alumni Hall. To register, or for more information, call the Center for Women and Work, (978) 934-4380.

Lectures, "RAWA: Afghan Women, Oppression and Resistance," a lecture, photo exhibit and discussion about the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan. Keynote speeches by Alicia Luckstead and Anne Brodsky, professors at the University of Maryland, 3 to 5:30 p.m. McGauvran 410, South Campus.

Training, 8-hour incident management course, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wannalancit Mill, sponsored by the New England Consortium. For more information or to register, call ext. 3257.

Friday, April 12

Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, "The Tremendous Journey," grades 3-5, 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall, South Campus.

Did you know...

That the mobilized escort program gave a total of 13,400 rides during the fall semester?

For Extra Credit...

How many rides have been given so far this semester?

The mobilized escort program has provided over 5000 rides.



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