**Shock, Sorrow, Anger, Loss: A University Suffers, Then Copes**

The UMass Lowell community was rocked on several fronts by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington. From the loss of alumni and faculty family to the calling-up of reservists, from the counseling of students to the scheduling of blood drives and seminars on terrorism, there seems scarcely a corner of University life this catastrophe has not touched.

Three alumni lost their lives. Most publicized was the death of the captain and pilot of American Airlines Flight 11, the first to crash into the World Trade Center. John Ogonowski, 52, a long-time resident of Dracut—where he employed Cambodian immigrants to help work his 150-acre farm—was a 1972 graduate of the Lowell Technological Institute with a degree in nuclear engineering. His September 17 funeral drew more than 2,500 mourners to Dracut’s 600-seat St. Francis Church. In addition to his wife, Peggy, he is survived by three teenage daughters.

Another of the deceased, Patrick Quigley, 40, of Wellesley, is the son-in-law of UMass Lowell Mathematical Sciences Prof. (and former Lowell City Councilor) Brendan Fleming. Quigley, a passenger on American Flight 11, was a partner at PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Boston, though he was known to help out from time to time on the gas pumps at his father’s Texaco station in Lowell. He is survived by his wife, Alison.

Another of the deceased, Robert Hayes, 37, of Amesbury, a passenger on United Airlines Flight 175, which also crashed into the World Trade Center, was a 1995 graduate of UMass Lowell with a degree in accounting. He was manager of Global Risk Management Solutions at PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Boston, though he was known to help out from time to time on the gas pumps at his father’s Texaco station in Lowell. He is survived by his wife, Peggy, and their two children, Robby, four, and Ryan, six months.

Robert Hayes, 37, of Amesbury, a passenger on American Flight 11, was a 1986 graduate of the University of Lowell with a degree in industrial technology. Since 1987, he had worked at Nestal Machinery Inc. in Devens, where he was a manager in the sales and market development division. An avid surfer and boater, he is survived by his wife, Deborah, and their two children, Robby, four, and Ryan, six months.

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**Avaya Donates Patents on Plastics Manufacturing Process Worth About $23 Million**

Patents covering a unique method of bonding plastic components, originally developed for manufacturing telephone handsets, have been donated by Avaya Inc. to UMass Lowell’s Institute for Plastics Innovation (IPI).

The patented technology, developed in the early 1990s for high-speed bonding of thermoplastic parts, has been used to assemble millions of telephone sets and is valued at approximately $23 million.

The University plans to license the patented technology to others for use in a wide range of commercial applications.

The University and Avaya commemorated the donation in a ceremony on Sept. 26, attended by

![UMass Lowell’s Chancellor William T. Hogan, left, and Louis Petrovic, right, director, External Fundraising, Technology Transfer & Partnering, welcome executives from Avaya, Inc., at a ceremony marking the gift of intellectual property valued at nearly $23 million. The Avaya visitors are, from left, Mun Yuen Leong, vice president and chief technology officer; Eugene Pukhov, vice president, Intellectual Property, Patent and Licensing Management; Dennis Melton, director, Patent and Licensing Management; and Jaime Arnett, one of original inventors of the patented process.](image)

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**Advancement Reports Private Gifts Top $40 Million in FY’01**

Wrapping up another stellar year of fundraising, Executive Director of University Advancement Donald Rizzo announced that the University received $40,134,327 in private gifts in fiscal year 2001, an amount that nearly doubles the previous year’s total of $22.6 million. Private gifts include donations of cash, grants, and equipment.

“It’s heartening to see this growth in support for the excellent programs we offer here at UMass Lowell. The gifts are coming from alumni, industry, foundations, and sources across the region,” said Rizzo. “Last year we had more than 8,600 total donors, up from 7,200 the previous year. And the alumni donors this year grew to more than 7,400 from 6,060 the year before. We’re pleased to see the efforts yielding success.”

The alumni donors represent a participation rate of 16.4 percent from the total alumni base. To give a sense of the growth in this category, consider that the alumni participation in 1996 was 9.5 percent. According to Rizzo, public institutions on average draw about 18 percent participation from alumni, which is only slightly better than the latest UMass Lowell figure.

Among Advancement highlights from last year were the $28 million gift of software and equipment from Cadence; the addition of $1.5 million to the UMass Lowell Endowment; the initiation of Reunion Class giving, which yielded $65,000 for an Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund; and an 11.4 percent increase in the annual Phonathon pledges, which grew from $476,000 in FY’00 to $531,000 in FY’01.

Continued on Page 3
TelTech Donates Equipment Formerly Used in Campus Operation

The University has received a donation of more than 100 office cubicles, computers and other items in connection with the closing of a call center in the Wannalancit Mills building. The equipment and furnishings have been integrated into a number of campus units, “saving these groups budget money for other expenses,” according to Lou Petrovic, director of External Funding, Technology Transfer and Partnering.

The inventory was donated by TelTech, a firm that operates call centers for companies worldwide. The Wannalancit center had been run for two and a half years by Boston Communications Group Inc. (BCGI) for two and a half years by Boston Communications Group Inc. (BCGI) before its acquisition by TelTech last November. The campus operation moved in June to larger quarters. BCGI had employed about 175 UMass Lowell students, training them in customer service, problem solving, interpersonal and communication skills. The students worked 16 to 20 hours a week during the school year and had the option of working full time during the summer.

Kerouac Photos Show at Whistler through Oct. 20

The Whistler House Museum of Art is showing an exhibit of photographs of and relating to Beat writer Jack Kerouac throughout Saturday, Oct. 20. The photos are from the collection of Lowell’s John Sampas. Admission to the museum, located at 243 Worthen St. in Lowell, is $4 for adults, $3 for seniors, and $2 for students; members are admitted free.

The exhibit, which opened Sept. 22, is sponsored in part by the Lowell Celebrates Kerouac Committee.

Celebrating Literature that Celebrates Diversity

Kenneth Lynamski, special assistant to the provost, and Lan Pho, director of the Center for Diversity and Pluralism, welcome guests to this year’s “Diversity Literature Display” Sept. 18-20. The Center displayed the more than 200 publications that promote diversity and cultural understanding it has acquired for campus library collections since 1993.

UML Faculty, Staff, Find Music Again in Campus Choral Union

Before the music, there are backrubs. After that, stretching. All this to get the members of this all-inclusive chorus loosened up after a day of work, and before they break into song. Prof. Christopher McGahan’s choral union, while made up largely of UML students, is open to anybody who wants to sing. And there are a few among the faculty and staff who choose to finish off their Mondays with an oratorio in Durgin Hall.

“I figure most of these people have had a rough day, like we all have by that hour,” says McGahan, explaining the backrub warm-up routine. “And this also helps to break down some barriers.”

The group of about 60 practices every Monday for two hours, leading up to the big night: their performance of Handel’s “Messiah” on December 8.

It’s a chance for some musicians, who lay down their instruments after high school or college, to get back into it. “I used to sing and play piano,” says Cynthia Santos, who works with students accounts and scholarships in the Accounts Receivable department. “But it’s been a long time since I’ve read music, so I was a little bit hesitant.”

After one rehearsal, though, Santos was hooked. “I just loved it,” she says.

The same was true with Laura Punnett, a professor in Work Environment. She used to play piano and violin and sing, but “all of my music fell by the wayside when I started to get busy.”

“I’d been missing it increasingly.”

Punnett read about the choral union in an e-mail sent last February, and promptly signed up.

Santos and Punnett are joined by Kay Doyle, professor of Health and Clinical Sciences, as well as members of the community not otherwise associated with UMass Lowell.

Although she’d done her share of performing in high school, Punnett found she was “surprisingly nervous” on the night of her first performance. Ultimately, both she and Santos are thrilled to have music back in their lives. “I’d forgotten the thrill of seeing it all come together and hearing the final project,” Punnett says.

For Santos, who came to the rehearsal just to test the waters, the choice was clear: “I’m definitely going to stick with it,” she says.

“Now I just have to decide whether I’m an alto or a soprano.”

New Institute Employs the Community as Its Laboratory

One of the goals of Lowell’s recent era of transformation has been to turn the city into a laboratory. This laboratory would be a place where scholars and citizens could examine the issues that face cities in general and formulate new approaches to deal with them. This fall, a curriculum was introduced at UMass campuses in Lowell and Westborough that will do just that—the Community Preservation Institute.

The Institute is a collaborative effort between the University of Massachusetts and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). Its goal is to tap the best resources in education, government, and citizen groups to assist citizens in learning about and applying community preservation principles in their communities.

The Institute, which kicked off in the first week of October, is an eight-course evening program designed to be informative and practical. Classes focus on issues such as water management, land preservation, transportation, redevelopment of old structures and preserving cultural traditions. It is offered at the UMass Center for Professional Education in Westborough and at the Center for Family, Work and Community in Lowell.

For information, contact Cheryl West at the CFWE, ext. 4683.
Advancement Reports Private Gifts Top $40 Million in FY’01

In the area of scholarships, P. M. Raj ’86 established the Fund for Excellence for computer science graduate students with a $100,000 gift, and the Engineering Education Foundation of Cambridge donated $140,000 in assets to UMass Lowell for scholarships in electrical engineering/ work environment programs.

Fifteen new endowed scholarship programs were established, including the Eagle Scholarship for Women, created by Frances A. Eagle ’90, ’01, a plastics engineering graduate who is executive director of the Merrimack Valley Manufacturing Partnership.

A Memorial Research Fund in the name of the late Dr. Sukan K. Tripathy was established, beginning with an endowment of $321,000. The fund will support ongoing research in nanotechnology.

In addition to cultivating more support and raising “friends” our Alumni Relations program organized activities such as regional alumni events in the Merrimack Valley, the Boston Luncheon Speakers Series, hockey game night get-togethers, Fall Festival Weekend, and alumni gatherings in cooperation with our faculty at national conferences of music educators, plastics engineers, and radiological health sciences to name a few. The Alumni Office also established an ON-LINE community for our alumni to continue to be connected to the campus community and fellow alumni.

Redesigned Art Department Supports University’s Mission

The fact that a record number of more than 40 Art Department students were awarded degrees at the June commencement this year reflects the tremendous growth that the department has experienced since the mid-1990s.

Over the last half dozen years, the department has redesigned its curriculum, earned a renewal of its accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and, this year, added two new faculty members.

“One of our interests in redesigning the curriculum,” says department Chair Jim Coates, “was to move toward the 21st century and focus more clearly on the mission of the University. I think we have succeeded in doing that.”

The accreditation process, Coates says, was a comprehensive one in which “every aspect of the program was put under a microscope.”

As part of the redesign initiative, the department strengthened its graphic design area by adding Asst. Prof. Karen Roehr. Among other things, Roehr has organized a small number of students into a group that calls itself “Mandatory Designs.” They will gain hands-on experience by doing in-house design work for faculty, departments and non-profits.

Roehr, who operates her own design business, has taught at the Massachusetts College of Art.

The other new faculty member is Assoc. Prof. Jehanne-Marie Gavarini who comes to Lowell from Lafayette College.

“Her primary work is with installation art,” Coates explains. “She is our foundations coordinator, developing continuity in the sequence of classes taken by freshmen.”

The dramatic growth of the department is evident when comparing today’s enrollment of some 250 students with that of the early 1990s when the number was only about half that total. While incoming freshmen and transfer students then totaled only about 30, the figure today is triple that amount.

Coates says that about three-quarters of the department’s students today are studying design—graphics, Web design and interactive media. He sees this as an indication of the department’s commitment to the University mission of supporting economic development.

Looking down the road, he says a long-range goal could be the creation of a master of fine arts program.

Avaya Donates Patents on Plastics Manufacturing Process Worth About $23 Million

Chancellor William T. Hogan and Mun Yuen Leong, vice president and chief technology officer of Avaya.

“The connection between innovation and the academic world is important to us, so this gift means a lot,” said Chancellor Hogan in his welcoming remarks. “In an area without natural resources, we have to be innovative. To do it alone is not enough. Your gift is important to our roots, important to our region, and we thank you.”

“Avaya is a communications company and we do research to make communications better,” said Mun Yuen Leong. “The patented high-speed bonding of thermoplastic parts is a highly effective, cost-saving technology that eliminates the need for screws, glue and other fastening methods. We believe this gift will promote this technology and bring it out into commercial application.”

Plastics engineering Prof. Stephen McCarthy, director of the IPI, demonstrated the thermoplastic welding process.

“The beauty of the patent Jaime Arnett, one of the inventors of the process and present at the ceremony, invented is its simplicity,” said McCarthy. “The pin is oversized for the boss you’re fitting it into. By forcing the parts together at high speed and pressure, the outer layer of plastic melts and forms a tight bond—without glue, no screws or snaps. We think the method can be applied with many substrates and in a variety of manufacturing processes.”

Dennis Melton, director of Patent and Licensing Management at Avaya, said that in deciding where to place the patent the company “asked everyone—customers, researchers, professional organizations, our suppliers—and it quickly became apparent that UMass Lowell was the best in plastics engineering.”

Many Benefits Accrue to Youngster Membership

Faculty and staff members are encouraged to enroll their 5 to 12-year-old youngsters in the UMass Lowell Athletic Department’s Youngster Kids Club.

The $20 membership entitles each child to a hat, t-shirt, quarterly newsletter, and a 10 percent discount on all UMass Lowell Athletics summer camps, as well as free admission to basketball, football and hockey games on a space-available basis when accompanied by a paying adult. A $45 membership includes all of the above plus a season ticket to hockey games with a parent or guardian’s season ticket. More details are available at the goriverhawk.com/youngstars Web site.
Ceremony Honors Those Who Helped Remake the Cushing Field Complex

"T"his complex will allow all our female student athletes to achieve the excellence instilled by Lester Cushing," said junior Jill Croft, a two-time Cushing award winner in track and field. At a recent ceremony rededicating the Cushing Field Complex behind Costello Gym, female student-athletes past and present joined Lester Cushing’s grandson, Lester Yettion, legislators, city officials, and UMass officials to kick off a year-long celebration of women’s sports on campus.

Croft and others expressed their gratitude to those who made most of the $2.9 million dollar fields project possible—the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees and the Lowell area legislative delegation.

Chancellor William T. Hogan thanked them and Rep. Colleen Garry, BS in biology ’85, who was unable to attend the ceremony, for playing a key role in securing the funds. Sen. Steven C. Panagiotakos talked about the importance of improving the grounds at UMass Lowell, not just for the students and student-athletes, but for the neighbors living nearby. He and Lowell Mayor Eileen Donoghue stressed the importance of the partnership between the University and the city, "allowing us to make the UMass Lowell to be a first-class University because we want Lowell to be a first-class city," said Panagiotakos.

Representative Thomas Golden, BSBA ‘94 and current MBA student, said that the Lowell-area State House delegation worked hard to get the Title IX project underway and working on upgrading the Bellegarde Boathouse to help keep the women’s crew team in action.

Lester Yettion, with great-grandchild of Lester Cushing in his arms, received a replica of the plaque commemorating the complex in honor of his grandfather, from Athletic Director Dana Skinner. By all accounts, Lester Cushing was an inspirational professor who put the Lowell campus on a path toward a strong varsity athletic program.

UMass Trustee Peter Levenburg, left, helped initiate a bill to fund Title IX improvements to women’s athletic fields at the UMass campuses. He joins Chancellor William T. Hogan at a recent re-dedication of the Cushing Athletic Fields Complex.

Student Athletes Raise More Than $5K for September 11th Fund

In conjunction with the Cushing Field rededication, UMass Lowell student athletes took to the streets, the stadium and even the ice cream stand to raise money for the September 11th fund, which was established in the wake of the terrorist attacks. With four athletic contests scheduled that day, it became a great opportunity to raise some money.

The women’s basketball team secured the stands at half time of each of the day’s events, collecting money from the many spectators who attended the field hockey, men’s and women’s soccer and football games. Admission to the football game was waived in lieu of donations to the fund. The softball team spent the day operating the concession stand and seeking contributions to the fund.

While all of this was going on at the Cushing Complex, the men’s and women’s track teams hit the University Avenue/Riverside Street intersection to collect money from cars stopped at the traffic lights. Even Rowdy the Riverhawk joined in the action to collect. Down the road at the Heritage Farm Ice Cream stand, the men’s and women’s crew teams set up shop with a car wash. The baseball team scoured the stands at half time of each of the day’s events, collecting money from the many spectators who attended the field hockey, men’s and women’s soccer and football games. Admission to the football game was waived in lieu of donations to the fund. The softball team spent the day operating the concession stand and seeking contributions to the fund.

Community Discussion Series Lays the Issues on the Table

Most of us are so busy with our daily grinds that there’s too little time to reflect on the important issues facing our community like homelessness, aging, racism and new technologies. Each presents unique challenges and engenders strong feelings, yet, when can we come together to formulate appropriate courses of action?

The Graduate Program in Community and Social Psychology is providing such a forum by hosting a community discussion series on six Thursdays beginning on Oct. 11. The series will use a discussion format that promotes audience response to a specific issue facing the city of Lowell.

This will not be a series of lectures, but conversations among faculty, students, staff and community members. Each presenter will make a statement on a topic that will serve as a basis for discussion.

“We want to mix it up with people in the community,” says Prof. Bill Berkowitz of Psychology. Berkowitz hopes the gatherings will “generate solutions that could actually be adapted and used in practice.” Sessions will be held each Thursday from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. in Coburn Hall, Room 205, on the University’s South Campus.

The schedule is as follows:

• October 11, “Forming and Maintaining Collaborations of Community Organizations,” led by Ken Powers, executive director, Lowell House
• October 11, “Reducing Racism in Our Community,” led by Fran Gilmour, director, Lowell Alliance
• October 25, “Developing and Preserving Affordable Housing in Greater Lowell,” led by Jim Canavan, executive director, Community Teamwork
• November 1, “Where Can I Live When I Grow Old?: Elder Homelessness and Housing Needs,” led by Judie Post, director, Area Agency on Aging, Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley
• November 8, “Bridging the Digital Divide in Lowell,” led by Felicia Sullivan, director, Lowell Community Technology Consortium, Lowell Telecommunications Corporation
• November 15, “Mising and Runaway Youth,” led by Robin Smith, juvenile crime analyst, Lowell Police Department

If you plan to attend, an RSVP would be appreciated. For more information, contact Prof. Berkowitz, ext. 3655, or Bill_Berkowitz@uml.edu.
Robots don’t remove the survivors from wreckage, but transmit information to the outside to let rescuers know exactly where to concentrate their search efforts. Until now, Yanco herself has been conducting research into robotic wheelchair, a subject on which she wrote her doctoral thesis at MIT.

“What I’m looking to do with my search and rescue research has to do with issues of adjustable autonomy,” she explains. “Rather than have a robot that someone has to control constantly, we’d have one that is able to take on more responsibility for itself. For one thing, controlling a robot constantly is exhausting. Then, too, if the robots had more autonomy, maybe one controller could operate five of them at once and find survivors more quickly.”

“The research problem,” Yanco concludes, “is how do you share control between people and robots? How do you have a robot that can decide when it needs more help? How can you do this without having to program in every eventuality?”

— JMcD
Senior Executive Forum Opens with Laska Speech

The 2001-2002 Senior Executive Forum, a series sponsored by the College of Management and the Francis College of Engineering, opened with a presentation and discussion led by Ehud D. Laska. Mr. Laska, an engineering alumnus of UMass Lowell, is a founding partner of Interbank Capital Group, LLC. He specializes in building up companies through industry consolidation and acquisitions and has served on the board of directors of a number of private and public companies. He holds an MS in engineering from Brown University and an MBA from Stanford University.

Laska spoke on the subject of management by constraints, contrasting this approach with the more common management by objectives. Solving a financial problem, he said, is very similar to the engineering process. One is trying to fit a solution that will function within the constraints that are operating.

A real-life example was drawn from the banking crisis of the late 1980s—the bank owned a high proportion of problem loans in a period of economic downturn and sliding stock prices. The solution, separating the bad assets from the good assets, then recapitalizing the clean bank, involved creating two banks—one “good” and the other “bad,” or a bank of liquidation.

The Senior Executive Forum is a series of six discussions that further the understanding of management and engineering issues. The guest speakers are senior corporate executives who share insights from their professional experiences.

International Summit Explores Roles of Science and Precaution in Solving Environmental Problems

“Science is critical to solving our most important environmental problems,” says Joel Tickner, project manager with the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production. “We need more rigorous science. But science can only go so far, and we need strong democratic processes to choose the best alternatives.”

The role of science in decision-making was the focus of an International Summit on Science and the Precautionary Principle, held in September at the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production. The Summit brought together some 90 leading researchers from 17 countries and diverse backgrounds. They discussed how environmental science and policy have worked against preventative decision-making and explored ways that science could be conducted to support more anticipatory, precautionary decisions in the face of uncertain and complex environmental and public health risks.

The Summit was built on more than two years of discussions undertaken by the Lowell Center, with the Massachusetts Clean Water Fund and the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition. Together they formed the Alliance for a Healthy Tomorrow and have published articles in environmental and health journals, including “Environmental Health Perspectives” and the “American Journal of Public Health.”

As part of the Summit, the Lowell Center hosted an evening public forum at Lowell High School on “Science and the Intersection of Policy, Culture, and Precaution.” State Sen. Pamela Resor of Acton welcomed the panel of speakers. These included Vandana Shiva, well-known advocate of the right of developing countries to a healthy environment; David Gee, who is a member of the European Environmental Agency; and Elizabeth Guillette, pioneering researcher on the effects of pesticide exposure on children in Mexico.

Over the two days of discussions, the participants in the summit concurred on supporting a statement on science and the precautionary principle, now being drafted. They also encouraged the Lowell Center to organize similar international meetings in other regions of the world.

Feedback Sought Regarding O’Leary-Lydon Library Merger Study

The University has asked the director of libraries to conduct a feasibility study regarding the centralization of facilities by closing the Lydon Library on the North Campus and merging its resources and staff into the O’Leary Library on the South Campus.

A steering committee, comprised of librarians and library staff, has been formed to gather information from faculty, staff and students regarding the proposed merger. This effort includes surveys and focus group meetings.

Surveys, which have been mailed to faculty and staff, should be completed and sent to Marion Muskiewicz at Lydon Library. The surveys also are available online at http://www.uml.edu/library/survey/lydonhtml and http://www.uml.edu/library/survey/oleary.html.

Faculty/staff focus group meetings will be held Monday, Oct. 22, Friday, Nov. 9, and Thursday, Nov. 15, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge. Those planning to attend should RSVP to Muskiewicz at ext. 2209. Meeting dates at O’Leary Library will be announced later.

Lunch will be served at the meetings.

Princeton Properties Broadens Internship Program

When the president of the Lowell-based Princeton Properties, Terence Flahive, agreed to bring on two interns from the College of Management last fall, he saw it as part of the company’s duty to be good citizens. What resulted was a very pleasant surprise.

“Easily, these two students are just outstanding people,” says Flahive. “They’re wonderful to have around.”

The students in question, Michael Kerver, ’02, and Lisa Bettencourt, ’02, have spent the year working in Princeton’s MIS and Operations offices respectively. In exchange, they received a competitive hourly rate and a $1,000 tuition scholarship per semester from the company which, combined, virtually paid their tuition for that time.

Kerver, an Industrial Management major, has been assisting in the corporate office with the property management application Princeton uses to monitor its 5,000 units in 27 communities. While Flahive would love to keep him on as an employee, Michael has expressed an interest in flying jets after he graduates.

Bettencourt, who is concentrating in accounting, has been heavily involved in the leasing and administrative functions at Princeton Park, a complex on Princeton Blvd. in Lowell. She’s had the opportunity to work with the interior design team, helping with decisions on everything from floor plans to color schemes.

Dean Kathy Verreault says that Princeton has been so happy with the students’ work, it is expanding the internship program from two to five slots for the fall. Verreault feels strongly that the arrangement is a win/win situation for Princeton and the College.

“We help the company—they help the students,” says Verreault. Flahive would love to see some of the interns come to work for Princeton after graduation.

“If these two students are any indication,” he says, “that would be great.”
Home Field Advantage: New Turf the Envy of the League

Time was, you sent a bunch of hulking young men out onto the gridiron for a game of football and the sod would be flying everywhere. They’d kick up clods of turf with their sharp-toothed shoes, dig divots with their falling knees, and rise from the tackle with a tuft of grass tacked on their facemasks.

In many stadiums these days, football is a much tidier affair. Instead of grass and dirt, there’s a big grass-colored rug that shows off the logos nicely—a synthetic carpet known as Astroturf.

Planning out the new field hockey and football field in the Cushier Athletic Complex, athletic director Dana Skinner thought Astroturf might be his only option—until he passed over a small story in a magazine about the new surface at the University of Nebraska, something called FieldTurf. Skinner ultimately went for it, and the decision has proved a good one.

“Everybody just raves about it,” he says, “including our opponents.”

FieldTurf is a layer of synthetic fiber lain over a bed of sand, rubber and soil. The surface doesn’t leave the nasty rugburns that Astroturf does, Skinner says, and it’s enough like real grass to fool the players themselves: when Skinner contacted the University of Nebraska about FieldTurf, he was told that several of the Division I footballers there had come in to thank the facilities manager—for laying down real grass.

“It was way beyond their expectations,” Skinner said.

Because FieldTurf, a relatively young company based in Canada, was looking for a showcase in New England, Skinner got a good deal on the surface, he says. With the money left over, he was able to pay for concession stands in the stadium, as well as additional bleachers.

The field hockey and football teams have each played several games on the new field, and early reviews have been good, Skinner says.

And the FieldTurf has an unexpected fan in equipment manager Brendan Keegan, who handles the uniforms and pads for the River Hawks: “He doesn’t have to clean up all that dirt anymore,” Skinner says.
GEAR UP Reaches Out

Now in its third year, the University’s Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a five-year project intended to prepare and expose youth to the college experience. It is made possible by $4.7 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Education.

GEAR UP now serves approximately 1,400 middle school students at five Lowell schools: Bartlett, Butler, Robinson, Rogers and Sullivan. The University is working in partnership with the Lowell Public Schools and Middlesex Community College in providing numerous programs to these students.

GEAR UP’s mentoring program, for example, brings together university alumni, faculty and other concerned adults with at-risk youth. The purpose is to encourage young- sters and their parents to begin thinking about the importance of continuing their education.

GEAR UP also became a partner with Big Brother/ Big Sister of Greater Lowell (BB/BS) this fall when they initiated their own mentoring program in conjunction with local banks. “The banks are helping to give direction. They’re explaining the work of work,” says George Bowa, GEAR UP project manager, who works out of the Center for Family Work and Community (CFWC).

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Conference Explores the Impact of Women Immigrants on America

The Tsongas Industrial History Center will host the 14th Annual Lowell Conference on Women’s History at the Boott Cotton Mills in downtown Lowell on Wednesday, Nov. 7. Workshops and presentations will address the overall theme of “Coming to America: Immigration and Industrialization.”

For many immigrants, moving to America not only meant adjusting to a new homeland, but shifting from rural to city life. What effects did the new culture and social dynamics have on immigrant women in particular? How have immigrant women shaped their communities and workplaces from the Industrial Revolution to today? What was the effect of their work on their family and culture? These are some of the questions to be explored.

This conference is being co-sponsored by the Center, UMass Lowell, Lowell National Park, Massachusetts Department of Education and the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities. For registration information, call (978) 970-5080 or visit the Web site at http://www.uml.edu/tsongas.

CSCE to Present at International Sloan Conference

Emerging Standards of Excellence in Asynchronous Learning Networks is the theme for this fall’s “Sloan-C International Conference on Online Learning.” Dean Jacqueline Moloney, Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education (CSCE); Catherine Kendrick, director of Corporate and Distance Market Development; Steven Tello, associate director of Distance Learning; and Carolyn Siccama, Distance Learning faculty coordinator, will present “It Takes a Village to Move a Course Online.” CSCE’s presentation will stress the importance of creating a team environment and support system to launch online courses—techniques emphasized in the Division’s new Online Teaching Institute.

The International conference attracts hundreds of college-level faculty and administrators, designers, and technology and media professionals to over one hundred sessions, exhibits, workshops and other events. CSCE’s CyberEd program remains the largest asynchronous learning provider in New England.

Seminar Looks at Growth and Prosperity in the Merrimack Valley

Robert Halpin, left, president of the Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council, chats with Prof. Michael Best prior to the first seminar of the fall hosted by the Regional Economic and Social Development Department (RESD) and the Center for Industrial Competiveness (CIC). Halpin spoke about issues of “Sustainable Growth and Prosperity in the Merrimack Valley.”

In the following weeks, RESD Prof. William Lazonick discussed the stock market and innovative capabilities in the “new economy,” Prof. Best, of RESD and the College of Management, explored the implications of technology management and regional growth for education policy. The RESD/CIC Seminar Series occurs in Seminar Room 500M on the 6th floor of the O’Leary Library at noon on Mondays, except for Columbus Day when it moves to Wednesday, Oct. 10. A buffet lunch is available.

For information, call Prof. Bill Mass, ext 4249.

Presenting at the “Sloan-C International Conference on Online Learning” are, back row from left, Jacqueline Moloney, dean of the Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education; Steven Tello, associate director of Distance Learning; front row, Catherine Kendrick, director of Corporate and Distance Market Development; and Carolyn Siccama, Distance Learning faculty coordinator. The four will discuss the importance of creating a team environment and support system to launch online courses.
New Department Chairs Announced; Two Posts Pending

Three new department chairs have been announced by their respective deans following elections within their departments. There remains the potential for two more new postings—in the Chemistry and Math departments of the College of Arts and Sciences—awaiting the outcome of October elections.

In Electrical Engineering, Prof. Zhidad Salemeh takes over for former chair Michael Fiddy. Prof. Salemeh promises to pursue a doubling of enrolment and funded research, as well as an increase in student retention, all within the next three years.

In Political Science, Prof. Nick Minton has assumed the chairmanship from acting chair Hai Pho. Prof. Minton points to the recent attacks on a America as a reminder of the significance of political science to the younger generations: “With its focus both on domestic and foreign systems, policies and issues, political science is needed perhaps now more than ever to understand and address the needs of our region, of our nation, and of the larger world community.”

In Accounting, Prof. Steve Collins takes over from former chair Charles Feeney-pledging to “maintain or increase the number of [accounting] majors, and to encourage faculty to explore additional opportunities for publications and professional presentations.”

Compendium of Bio-Related Research Published

In June, the University system published the “UMass Biotechnology, Bioengineering, and Biomedical Application Research Compendium.” Intended to promote collaborations within and outside the system, the compendium was funded by a grant from the President’s Office. This is the first such compilation of research to be published by the system.

The publication was compiled and prepared by Dr. Jerome Hojnacki, dean of the Graduate School; Dr. Kay Doyle, professor in the Health and Clinical Lab Sciences; James Magarian, director of off-campus programs for the Graduate School; and UMass Lowell graduate students Akraphol Akeniptisari, Kapil Jain, and Joey Strichai Ruipattanapong.

The publication documents the research of 234 faculty members across the system, identifying their work by up to five key words, 10 key methodologies, and a brief description. Nearly 800 research areas and 700 methodologies are indexed. The publication also includes a PowerPoint presentation that can be used in presentations regarding research capabilities.

“The idea is to educate all of us about who’s doing what,” said Doyle. “Faculty may find colleagues with whom they can share facilities or submit joint proposals. We also want to signal to companies that UMass is a great resource for experts in these areas.”

The compendium has been distributed to participating faculty and 1,000 biomedical device, pharmaceutical, and biotech companies in Massachusetts. It is available in print form, as a CD-Rom in which researchers’ names are linked to email, and on the web at www.edu/grad/comp/bioeng.
Physics Awards Banquet Features Mazur

Prof. Eric Mazur of Harvard University was the featured speaker at the annual Physics awards banquet, held at the end of the spring semester. An internationally recognized scientist and teacher, Mazur leads a vigorous research program in optical physics. He has made important contributions to spectroscopy, light scattering, and studies of events in solids that occur on the femtosecond time scale. He spoke on the subject of “Stopping Time.”

Prof. William Goodhue, Physics Department, spoke about “A Career in Physics from the Perspective of an Alumnus.” Three students were inducted into Sigma Pi Sigma, the National Physics Honor Society. Vinod Menon was recognized as the outstanding Physics major, Stephen Emelett was recognized as the outstanding Physics graduate student and Sang-Yeob Lee as the outstanding Radiological Sciences graduate student. Stephen Emelett was given the Patrick F. Dugan Award to the outstanding physics teaching assistant. A number of undergraduate scholarships and awards were presented.

American Chemical Society Symposium Remembers Tripathy

At the American Chemical Society (ACS) National Meeting in Chicago in August, a symposium was held in memory of the late Sukant Tripathy. The symposium, “Macromolecular Assemblies for Optical and Electronic Applications,” was co-sponsored by the Divisions of Polymer Chemistry and Polymeric Materials-Science and Engineering.

The symposium was co-organized by Profs. Daniel J. Sandman, UMass Lowell; Michael Rubner, MIT; Anthony Giusseppi-Elie, Gary Wnek, and Kenneth Wynne, all of Virginia Commonwealth University; and Dr. J. Paul Armstead, Office of Naval Research. The two ACS divisions, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the Office of Naval Research, the Petroleum Research Fund (of ACS), Motorola Clinical Micro-Sensors, and ARTech Scientific, Inc. provided support for the symposium.

The symposium comprised four different sessions—nonlinear optical properties, conducting polymer processes in conjugated polymers, and macromolecular assemblies—topics chosen because they reflected Tripathy’s diverse research interests. Thirty-three papers were presented in the program with participants from around the world. Two recipients of honorary doctorates from UMass Lowell were among the invited speakers: Alan J. Heeger, University of California, Santa Barbara, and 2000 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry; and Anthony F. Garito, University of Pennsylvania.

UMass Lowell was well represented in the symposium. Sandman and Professor Emeritus Arthur Watterson served as session chairmen. Invited presentations were made by Profs. Alexandre Blumstein, emeritus, with Dr. Dong Wook Kim; Jayant Kumar, director of the Center for Advanced Materials; Anastasios Angelopoulos; and James E. Whitten; and Dr. Ashok Cholli, director of the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Lab.

Two recent UMass Lowell PhD recipients, Dong-Chan Lee and Ramaswamy Nagarajan, made oral presentations of their research. New UMass Lowell faculty member Long Y. Chiang presented research carried out at the National Taiwan University. Tripathy was also listed as co-author of six additional presentations made in polymer poster sessions by UMass Lowell graduate students and research associates.

According to Sandman, “The sessions were well attended and Sukant would have enjoyed the high level of the presentations. The speakers also shared personal remembrances. It is apparent that he is missed not only in Lowell, but also by scientific friends and colleagues around the world.”

For Fellow Patients, Levine Brings the Healing Power of Memoir

Mark Levine teaches healing by example. Since a few months after he was diagnosed with cancer in 1999, Levine has been writing accounts of sickness, treatment, and the life surrounding it, and sending them to friends and family. It’s easier than giving individual updates to all the people who care about him, says Levine, director of Community Service at UMass Lowell.

“I realized that was just going to be too much for me.”

But the recipients of Levine’s newsletter are not the only ones learning from his experience. This summer, Levine began the first guided autobiography course for people with cancer at Saint’s Memorial Medical Center. His eight students—seven women and one man, between 50 and 85 years old—write one chapter of their own story every two weeks, then meet in the hospital’s cancer center to read the stories aloud and discuss them.

Because everyone in the room has the cancer in common, Levine hopes the students will be able to surrender the anxiety that normally comes with writing one’s own story, and with reading it aloud.

“They were really shy at first,” says Maggie Martin, director of the Cancer Center at Saint’s Memorial, “but they’ve become very confident with themselves and their stories.”

Martin tracked down Levine this spring, in search of an innovative way of helping her patients to confront their disease and incorporate it into their lives. With his experience as a teacher (Levine teaches a sociology course at UML) and a patient, “he was the perfect person,” she says.

Levine assigns writing on a different theme each week, none of them directly related to the cancer. Among the themes are “Your major life work, or career”; “your loves and hates”; or “The role of music, art or literature in your life.” In his syllabus for the course, below the list of themes, Levine has written: “These themes have probably interacted one way or another with your cancer, so you should plan to reflect that interaction in your piece.”

By giving a portrait of themselves that doesn’t begin with the illness, Levine hopes his students will find ways to better understand what matters to them, and how to pursue or preserve those values while dealing with cancer.

“They usually weave the cancer in somehow,” he says. “But it’s how they focus their stories that gives them their uniqueness.”
The American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) has named UMass Lowell Coach Jim Stone as the ABCA/Diamond Sports Company NCAA Division II Northeast Region Coach of the Year.

Stone will be honored in Orlando, Fla., in January at the association’s annual conference and Hall of Fame/Coach of the Year banquet. Diamond Sports sponsors the award.

Stone, who has coached Lowell baseball for 34 years, led the River Hawks to the Division II World Series in Alabama this season for the first time ever. Along the way, the team won its 700th game under Stone’s tutelage and won the Northeast 10 Conference title.

Prof. Kenneth Levasseur of the Mathematical Sciences Department has been invited to serve on the editorial panel for the monograph “Teaching Mathematics Through Problem Solving: It’s About Learning Mathematics.”

The work is being published by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics to promote a wider practice of problem solving in K-12 classrooms nationwide. Levasseur is on the editorial board for the grade 6-12 volume and will write one chapter in the publication.

Susan Reece, Carole Pearce and Karen Melillo of the Nursing Department and Mary Beaudy of the Faculty Teaching Center published “The Faculty Portfolio: Documenting the Scholarship of Teaching” in the July/August issue of the “Journal of Professional Nursing.”

The article deals with the use of teaching portfolios to display, communicate and document the scholarship of teaching.

Asst. Prof. Patrick Scollin of the Department of Health and Clinical Science and Mary Carol Rossignol, formerly assistant professor in the Department of Nursing and now assistant professor at Seton Hall University, published an article on “Piloting A Study of Computerized Practice Tests” in the September/October issue of “Computers in Nursing.”

The article describes a small study of students in a pathophysiology course who used computerized practice tests to prepare for the course exams, and compares their grades on the exams with those of students who did not participate in the practice testing.

“Blue Diode Lasers: New Opportunities in Chemical Education,” an article written by Asst. Prof. James Whitten of the Center for Advanced Materials, was published in the August issue of “Journal of Chemical Education.” Experiments described in the article have been incorporated into the University’s physical chemistry teaching labs.

Also published in that same issue was an article co-authored by Whitten and titled “Using a Diode Laser for Laser-Induced Fluorescence.”

Prof. Susan Woskie of Work Environment has been asked to serve as a member of an expert panel at the Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction.

The Center was established by the National Toxicology Program and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Its primary goal is to provide scientific evaluations of human and experimental evidence for adverse effects on reproduction caused by agents to which humans may be exposed.

The Heart Association has named Prof. Robert Nicolosi of Health and Clinical Sciences as the winner of its Dedication to the Heart Award. He and another award recipient were recognized by the organization’s nominating committee “for the work they do to make this world a better place.”

The work is being published by Prentice Hall and titled “Problem Solving: It’s About Learning Mathematics.”

Karen Melillo
UMass Lowell Coach
Assistant professor at Seton Hall University
Professor of Nursing
Former Oklahoma congressman Mickey Edwards, right, now John Quincy Adams Lecturer in Legislative Politics at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, met with 40 students and faculty members, including Assoc. Prof. Avalon Minton, on Sept. 29. Edwards discussed relations between Congress and the President in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. Edwards urged that Congress should move carefully in taking action that may restrict civil liberties as the leadership in Washington responds to the threat of terrorism. “This is a unique challenge for our intelligence agencies,” he said. Edwards served in Congress for 16 years and chaired the House Republican Policy Committee. He spoke on campus as a guest of the Political Science Department and Political Science Club. The talk was made possible by a grant from the UMass Lowell Bookstore Advisory Committee.
Wednesday, Oct. 10
Lecture, “Boston Metropolitan Region: Does Smart Growth Exist,” by David Soule, executive director, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, noon, O’Leary 500M.

Women’s Tennis, vs. Stonehill, Costello Gym. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Art Gallery Reception, “Pages: An Emotional Journey,” handmade paper and mixed-media by UMass Lowell alumna Laura Mayotte, 2 to 4 p.m.; gallery talk at 3 p.m.; Dugan Gallery, Dugan Hall, Broadway Street, Lowell. Gallery hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Exhibit continues through Oct. 31.

Thursday, Oct. 11
Community Discussion Series, “Forming and Maintaining Coalitions of Community Organizations,” led by Ken Powers, executive director of Lowell House, 7:15 to 8:30 p.m., Coburn Hall, Room 205, South Campus. For information, call Dr. Bill Berkowitz (978) 934-3655.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 12-14
Fall Festival, weekend of reunions, homecoming and family day. For complete schedule, check out www.uml.edu/alumni or call (978) 934-3140.

Friday, Oct. 12
Hockey, vs. Niagara, 7 p.m., Tsongas Arena. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Sunday, Oct. 14
Open House, Tsongas Arena, Lowell, 9 a.m., Tsongas Arena. For information, call (978) 934-3931.

Men’s Soccer, vs. Stonehill, 1 p.m., Soccer Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Monday, Oct. 15

Tuesday, Oct. 16
Field Hockey, vs. Franklin Pierce, 7 p.m., Cushing Field Complex. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Wednesday, Oct. 17
Physics Colloquium, “Pauli Exchange in Quantum Mechanics,” by Prof. Beth Ruska, 4 p.m., Olney 428.

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.

Men’s Soccer, vs. Southern Connecticut, 7 p.m., Soccer Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Thursday, Oct. 18
Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, “How the Body Works,” grades 5-8, 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall. For more information, call (978) 934-4452.

Community Discussion Series, “Reducing Racism in Our Community,” led by Fran Gilmore, director of the Lowell Alliance, 7:15 to 8:30 p.m., Coburn Hall, Room 205.

Friday, Oct. 19
Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, “The Magic of Science,” grades 2-4, 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall. For more information, call (978) 934-4452.

Saturday, Oct. 20
Hockey, vs. UConn, 2 p.m., Tsongas Arena. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Field Hockey, vs. Lock Haven, 1 p.m., Cushing Field Complex. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Volleyball, vs. St. Michael’s, noon, Costello Gym. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Women’s Tennis, vs. American International, noon, Costello Gym. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Monday, Oct. 22
Lecture, “Local Sustainabilities: Just Sustainabilities,” by Prof. Julian Agyeman, Tufts University, noon, 0’Leary 500M.

Tuesday, Oct. 23
Dinner Conversation, “Campus Diversity Today: What Research Reveals About Its Impact on Learning,” by Debra Humphreys, vice president for communications and public affairs of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., Alumni Hall. For more information, call (978) 934-4342.

Wednesday, Oct. 24
Physics Colloquium, “External Inflation,” by Prof. Alexander Vilenkin, Tufts University, 4 p.m., Olney 428, North Campus.

Thursday, Oct. 25
Community Discussion Series, “Developing and Preserving Affordable Housing in Greater Lowell,” led by Jim Canavan, executive director of Community Teamwork, 7:15 to 8:30 p.m., Coburn Hall, Room 205, South Campus. For information, call Dr. Bill Berkowitz (978) 934-3655.

Friday, Oct. 26
Hockey, vs. Providence, 7 p.m., Tsongas Arena. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Volleyball, vs. Pace, 7 p.m., Costello Gym. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Saturday, Oct. 27
Men’s Soccer, vs. Notre Dame College, 4 p.m., Soccer Field. For information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Wednesday, Oct. 29
Lecture, “Beyond the Bottom Line: the Search for Dignity at Work,” by Prof. Paul Rayman, noon, 0’Leary 500M.

Tuesday, Oct. 30
Performance, STARTS Educational Field Trip Series, “Island of the Blue Dolphins,” grades 5-8, 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Durgin Hall. For more information, call (978) 934-4452.

Wednesday, Oct. 31
Physics Colloquium, “Weather Report from an Extrasolar Planet,” by Prof. Dimitar Sasselov, Harvard University, 4 p.m., Olney 428, North Campus.

Thursday, Nov. 1
Working Conference, Fifth Annual Working Conference on Sustainable Development addressing the role of diversity and culture in sustainable development, 3 to 8 p.m., Alumni Hall. For information, call (978) 934-4342.

Did you know...
that the oldest building on campus is the Allen House? It is located on South Campus and was built around 1854 as one of Lowell’s earliest Italianate-style houses.

For Extra Credit...
For whom is the house named?

The building was purchased in 1890 by Charles Allen, who represented Lowell in Congress and served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy under President McKinley. He was the first civilian governor of Puerto Rico.