UML Software Is First to Be Commercialized by UMass System

True, Bill Gates is probably not quaking in his boots. Major software companies are not revamping their marketing plans to respond. But, a milestone has been reached.

EMS Webware™ is the first software developed primarily for on-campus use that will be sold on the open market by the University of Massachusetts Lowell’s Intellectual Property office is managing the process. The software program was developed by Richard Lemoine, Director of Environment Health and Safety at UMass Lowell, and former IT graduate student Mikunj Joshi.

Environmental Management Systems (EMS) was introduced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promote environmental stewardship at colleges, universities and other public agencies. The standards are modelled on the international ISO 14001 requirements that large corporations use.

The EPA has recognized UMass Lowell as one of the first universities to use EMS successfully and uses the UML system as a model in encouraging others. Now that EMS Webware™ is available for

Plastics Faculty Generates $100,000 Scholarship Fund

Twelve members of the plastics engineering faculty have created a $100,000 scholarship fund by pooling their resources and leveraging a state program that encourages gifts to the endowment.

The faculty members, and John Davis of the UML Advancement Office, each pledged $5,000 over five years for the fund. The state Public Higher Education Endowment Incentive Program (PHEEP) will match 50 percent of that $65,000 total, bringing the fund close to $100,000.

“Our endowment is one of the keys to our future. We hope this gesture will let our alumni and friends know that we as faculty are committed to giving as well,” said Prof. Robert Malloy, chair of the Plastics Engineering Department.

Prof. Stephen Driscoll suggested the creation of the Plastics Engineering Faculty Endowed Scholarship Fund at a faculty meeting in December.

Walking With the Blind to Prepare for Assistive Technology Project

Wearing blindfolds, they played “beep” baseball, checkers and other games. They walked across open spaces and down stairs. They “watched” television. And they learned plenty.

More than 50 high school students and teachers from near and far braved a snowy Saturday in January to participate in the project kick-off meeting for UMass Lowell’s Assistive Technology Design Fair 2005. Lowell-based M/A-COM, a division of Tyco Electronics, is the lead sponsor.

Prof. Driscoll, left, suggested pooling faculty gifts to qualify for a state matching grant. Twelve plastics engineering professors and John Davis, right, of the UML Advancement Office contributed to the $100,000 scholarship fund.

The first-place winner will receive $15,000 in cash plus a one-year membership in the UML Commercial Venture Development incubator, valued at $20,000. Two second-place winners will receive $5,000 each, and two third place winners will receive $2,500 each.

Other sponsors include the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, Cummings Properties, the Massachusetts High Technology Council and Constellation Energy.

Start-up companies need management guidance and other resources as well as cash,” says Paul Wormser, entrepreneur-in-residence at UMass Lowell’s Commercial Venture Development incubator.

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10 First Grad of Marine Sciences Wins Degree at UML
UML and Analog Devices Hold Real-Time DSP Contest

College student teams from across North America have the opportunity to design and produce a specialized microprocessor device using high-performance hardware and software provided by Analog Devices, Inc. (ADI).

UMass Lowell is holding the first UML-ADI Regional Contest on real-time digital signal-processing (DSP) design. The registration deadline is Feb. 28 for the contest, to be held April 2.

The contest problem is to design and produce an assistive device that can be used in a wide variety of listening situations to help reduce the adverse effects of background noise and the distance between the speaker and listener.

The first 15 teams registered (before the Feb. 28 deadline) will receive an Analog Devices ADSP-21161 SHARC(r) Processor and development tools package, a value of more than $10,000, to use in implementing the design. SHARC Processors are included in consumer electronics products made by Bose, Denon and others, and in high-end audio products and automobiles.

“The contest is a wonderful opportunity for advanced undergraduate and graduate students to apply science to a real-life problem,” says Dr. Mufeed Mahmoud, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering and contest chair. “Instead of the typical validation exercise, this contest problem enables students to bring mathematical equations to life. With DSP, you can implement any design application in a real device.”

Team designs will be judged on their hardware/software efficiency in terms of speed and code density. The top three designs will be awarded $750, $500 and $250. The contest on Saturday, April 2, will be held in the Real-Time DSP and Medical Imaging Lab. Teams will be lodged for two nights at a local hotel, compliments of the Francis College of Engineering at UML.

Information and registration are online at www.uml.edu/realtim DSPcontest.

Center Recycles Those Old Cartridges

Last year, more than 300 million computer printer cartridges were thrown away. If you may soon be wondering what to do with that old cartridge, here’s an opportunity to both help the environment and help the Center for Women and Work raise funds.

The CW2W is participating in a program developed by the Funding Factory, an on-line educational fundraising Web site. By sending old cartridges from printers, fax machines or desktop copiers, the Center can earn points that can be exchanged for supplies or cash. Send your discards to CW2W in Coburn, room B11. For information, call Jamie Weller at ext. 4380.

Poetry Conference Comes to Campus

The University will host the 2005 New England Poetry Conference on April 6-7. The conference will feature readings and panel discussions on the impact and role of poetry on war, race and business.

The conference will be presented by UMass Lowell’s new Jack and Stella Kerouac Center for American Studies and the English Department. For information, contact: Prof. Hilary Holladay, director of the Kerouac Center at Hilary_Holladay@uml.edu.

GSE Collaboration Will Present at Research Conference

Asst. Prof. Laura O’Dwyer, in collaboration with Dean Donald Pier son, Asst. Prof. Judith Boccia and Asst. Prof. John Hodgman, all of the GSE, has had papers accepted for presentation at the annual conference of the New England Educational Research Organization (NEERO) to be held in March. The papers, under the theme “Building and Sustaining a Multi-Constituent Collaboration,” examine university, industry and community partnerships.

Women’s Week Turns 10

Lowell Women’s Week’s 2005 activities will take place throughout the city from March 5 to 12. In its tenth year, Women’s Week will celebrate the theme “Hats off to a decade of promoting women’s safety, prosperity, and spirit.”

Numerous University departments, centers and organizations are co-sponsoring events throughout the week. For more information, call Prof. Anne Mulvey at ext. 3965 or visit www.lowellwomen sweek.org.

Forum Focuses on Getting Even

The Seventh Annual Forum — “Gathering at the Well” — on Thursday, April 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. will feature former Lt. Gov. Evelyn Murphy as guest speaker. Murphy, co-author of Getting Even: Why Women Don’t Get Paid Like Men and What To Do So We Will, will discuss her research on the gender wage gap.

To register, visit the Center for Women and Work’s Web site at www.uml.edu/centers/women-work, or call ext. 4380.

String Project Strikes Right Chord with Conference

The UML String Project has been invited to perform at this year’s Massachusetts Music Educators Association Conference on March 17. The association’s president, Helene Tassone, who heard them play in Boston last fall, extended the invitation.

Under the direction of Music Prof. Kay Robbins and Master Teacher Susan Turiotte-Gavriel, the String Project, which is made up of more than 100 Lowell school children, will be making its first All-State appearance.

Everything You Need to Know About Nanomanufacturing

Park Lecture and Reception on March 31

Nanomanufacturing research has been generating quite the buzz on the UML campus. A special Parker Lecture will be held on Thursday, March 31, to answer the question, “What’s the big deal about something very, very small?”

Mechanical Engineering Prof. Julie Chen, and Plastics Engineering Assoc. Prof.s. Joey Mead and Carol Barry will present information about current and potential research and business opportunities. They will also demystify the various projects—the state-supported Center of Excellence, the National Science Foundation science and engineering center, the collaborations with other universities.

Chemistry Prof. Emeritus Arthur Watterson will moderate the discussion and describe other nanotechnology research on campus.

At a recent workshop, Chen, Mead and Barry emphasized that the new facilities being developed are University-wide and that researchers can use the infrastructure to leverage their own grant proposals. Multidisciplinary research can extend to many areas, including the economics and environmental impact of nanomanufacturing, the ethical issues of a new technology and education at all levels.

The lecture will be held in O’Leary 222, UML South, at 7 p.m.

A supper reception for UML faculty and staff will begin in the lobby at 5:30 p.m.

Assoc. Prof. Joey Mead, Prof. Julie Chen and Assoc. Prof. Carol Barry, researchers in nanomanufacturing, will present the Parker Lecture on March 31.
Lowell Cultural Partners Awarded $75,000 Grant For Film Project

Beginning this May with a Cinco de Mayo theme, downtown Lowell will host a monthly, world culture film series highlighting the city’s vibrant social mosaic. A team of 26 community partners, led by the Cultural Organization of Lowell (COOL) and including UMass Lowell as a major sponsor, received a $75,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) for “Destination World: Lowell’s Global Film Venture.” The multi-media world-culture expo series will occur on the first Thursday of each month in downtown Lowell. Featured countries will include Mexico, Greece, Italy, Cameroon, Portugal, Canada/Quebec, India, England, Poland, Brazil, Ireland and Cambodia. In addition to COOL and UML, the major partners are the City of Lowell and Greater Merrimack Valley Convention and Visitor Bureau.

At a news conference at the Whistler House Museum of Art on Feb. 3, MCC Executive Director Mary Kelly announced that Lowell’s proposal was ranked number one among the 22 communities statewide that will share $1 million in funds from the John and Abigail Adams Cultural Economic Development Program. Lowell’s grant also was the largest individual grant awarded this year. In addition to Lowell, the Adams Program for Cultural Economic Development funded projects in Boston, Worcester, New Bedford, Gloucester, Pittsfield, and other cities and towns seeking to enhance economic growth strategies by employing arts and culture.

“It is due to your tremendous commitment to the cultural and economic vitality of our community that our proposal was viewed so strongly,” said Stephanie Jones McCarthy, executive director of COOL. “I am eager to get Destination World underway, and could not ask for a stronger group of community partners. I also want to thank City Manager John Cox, Mayor Armand Mercier, Senator Panagiotakis, and Representatives Thomas Golden, Kevin Murphy, and David Nangle for their support of this important funding program.”

“The University is especially pleased by the news about this grant because we have been working closely with COOL to find ways to enhance the link between the campus and downtown,” said Paul Marion, director of community relations. “In planning meetings this past year, students, faculty, and staff mentioned film and the city’s cultural diversity as strong interests. We tried to bring these together in a fresh way with this new project.”

Westford Youngsters Put Smoking and Drinking on Cutting Room Floor

With the help of UMass Lowell seniors, Westford fourth- and fifth-graders have produced a public service announcement (PSA) that leaves smoking and drinking on the cutting room floor, as it were. The PSA targets peer pressure to smoke or drink, offering situations that reinforce decision-making and refusal skills. The project was funded with a portion of a $10,000 Massachusetts Department of Public Health grant. The PSA began airing on Westford’s local cable channel in December and will be viewed by all fifth graders in Westford.

Jerry Sancinito and Amy Quach — both seniors in the community health education program — worked for seven weeks with participants in a Roudenbush Center after-school program to produce the PSA. “We wanted to help them prepare and have a deeper understanding,” said Quach of the project, in an interview with the Westford Eagle. Quach pointed out that while the youngsters had a basic sense that smoking was “bad” for them, they “didn’t really know what was in cigarettes or what they can really do to you.”

The project was supervised by Asst. Prof. Nicole Champagne of the Department of Community Health and Sustainability. It was part of the students’ service learning requirement. A champion of service learning, Champagne helped her students chalk up more than 750 hours of service last academic year.

“It’s an opportunity for faculty to link their teaching with research and service,” she says. “For me, it’s a way that I converge those three areas of responsibility.”

The Community Health Education program partnered with 17 different organizations last year, ranging from Girls, Inc. in Lowell to Phillips Andover Academy.

Demonstration School Gives Aid to Tsunami Victims

You know every person can make a difference.” That remark from first grader Turner Netherton led to the start of a fundraiser at the Demonstration School to aid victims of the tsunami that struck the coastal region of Sri Lanka earlier this year.

The coin drive, “Spare Change for Tsunami Relief,” gave students, teachers, families, staff and friends of the school an opportunity to donate money to relief organizations that are helping the Sri Lankan people gain access to food, water and shelter.

“The school, with only 102 students, gave far above and beyond what one expects from a week-long coin drive,” says Diana Archibald, who is not only an assistant professor of English, but Turner’s proud mother as well.

In fact, the school collected a total of $622.41, which they donated to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, a non-sectarian humanitarian relief agency that will send the money overseas to organizations working in the areas devastated by the tsunami. Not only can the money be used to clothe and feed the victims, but it can also be used to repair fishing boats and enable fishermen to resume their trade.

“With the school’s strong ties to Southeast Asia, it seems fitting that the Demonstration School families showed such compassion and generosity in this crisis,” says Archibald.

Doctoral student in math and science education Padmi “Champika” Senvivante, a resident of Sri Lanka, spoke at the school’s assembly held to announce the donation total. She explained that the school’s donation will make a big difference in her homeland.

“One penny is worth about ten rupees in Sri Lanka,” she told them. “That can buy a meal.”

Continued from Page 1

MIT, UML Team Up for Clean Energy Business Plan Competition

“We are excited to offer to the winner a one-year membership that includes office space and mentorship by energy experts and experienced entrepreneurs. We hope that this contribution will help turn the winning presentation into a profitable, successful business.”

Wormser was the keynote speaker at the competition kickoff event: a coaching session on presentation skills on Feb. 15. Prior to joining UML’s Commercial Venture Development incubator, his entrepreneurial positions included president and co-founder of Konarka Technologies, Inc.; director of technology for Solar Design Associates, a nationally recognized architecture and engineering company; president and CEO of Advanced Energy Systems; and vice president of RWE Schott Solar. Wormser began his professional career with the solar energy subsidiaries of Exxon and Mobil.
UML Crowd Cheers
River Hawks Past UNH

Engineering Dean John Ting was among those attending UML Night at the Arena on Jan. 28. The crowd, the sixth largest University showing at the venue, watched the River Hawks hockey team down the UNH Wildcats 7-0.

Audrey Veiga of the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor, flanked by her mother, Rudy Moynihan, and husband, John, joined several hundred UML employees and alumni at UMass Lowell Night at the Arena.

Alumni Mike Moran ’76, Sara Picciotto ’81 and their families enjoyed the annual alumni night as the River Hawks posted a tremendous win over Hockey East rival UNH.

Before he developed EMS Webware™, a product being marketed by UMass System

UML Software Is First to Be Commercialized by UMass System

purchase, and is supported by Administrative Computing, the UML-developed program could meet the needs of colleges and universities across the country.

Susu Wong, CVIP licensing associate and chief “marketer” of the software, says their business projections are conservative at about $750,000 over five years, and the market potential is much greater.

“EMS Webware™ has many features consolidated onto a Web platform,” says Wong. “It’s really well integrated and functions better than competitors’ software. EMS is just the first version of the platform. Any documentation-control environment, such as lawyers’ offices (or our office) would benefit from this software.”

Wong plans to sell direct to end-users, with a standard licensing agreement; through value-added retailers, such as EMS training providers; and direct to agencies and universities, using sales representatives.

Lemoine agrees about the product’s flexibility.

“It can generalize to document control in any kind of business, agency or municipality,” he says. “You create a document or template within seconds, save it, revise it several times. That document is always there and shows all the revisions, who made them, and when. It also accepts any kind of document.

“The important elements are that it’s flexible and easy to use. This product gives you the opportunity to develop, manage, audit and control documents from a single station, on an intranet or the Web.”

Beta testers included the city of Lowell, University of Rhode Island, University of Buffalo—SUNY, Westfield State and the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI). Lemoine credits many across the University with help in development: the Web Office, Administrative Computing, the Chancellor, CVIP and TURI.

Just as with faculty-developed intellectual property, the University will benefit and the co-inventors will share in any monetary returns. Income is distributed to the Chancellor, inventors, the inventors’ departments and the CVIP.

“It’s been very fulfilling to work on this,” says Lemoine, who has been a safety specialist at the University for 20 years, after early days as a custodian. Lemoine is now a member of the EPA national steering committee for EMS development and implementation. He has made numerous presentations to the EPA, the Department of Environmental Protection and other organizations.

NYSP Named One of the Best Programs in the Country

The UMass Lowell National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) recently was named a Silvio O. Conte award winner, making it one of the top 10 out of 203 offered nationwide. This is the second time in five years Lowell’s program has taken top honors.

Athletic Director Dana Skinner credits the work of the staff for ensuring the program’s success.

“The primary staff of NYSP has been in place for the 13 years the program has been in operation,” says Skinner. “Lowell resident Ed Scollan, who teaches at Westford Academy, has been a driving force.”

The program offers sports and academic enrichment to 300 to 400 at-risk Lowell youth every summer for five weeks.

This past year, one of the Lowell program’s participants, 15-year-old Thao Chau, received one of 12 merit awards for the 2004 National T-Shirt Design Contest. Thao’s design, which will be featured in the 2005 NYSP calendar, was selected as a merit winner from more than 150 entries.

Facilitator Joins the Team of Partnerships for College Success

UMass Lowell and Lowell High School have a five-year grant from the Nellie Mae Education Foundation’s Partnerships for College Success program. The partners will collaborate to improve college preparation at the high school level and student retention in college. Sandhya Balasubramanian, above, is the newly appointed partnership facilitator. She is a recent MBA graduate from UMass College of Management—an extra advantage in understanding the support system, she thinks. Before coming to UMass Lowell, Balasubramanian was a professor in a progressive women’s college in India.
Two to Go for IT

ISIS ‘Go-Live’ Getting Close

I nformation Technology goes live with its new ISIS application on March 7. In an effort to stay technologically current and administratively efficient, the Lowell, Dartmouth and Boston UMass Campuses are rolling out the Inter-campus Student Information System (ISIS) software. Dubbed Project ISIS, the three campus technology collaborative will provide a more efficient experience for staff, faculty and students as they will be able to have self-service access to academic records and other enrollment services via the web.

“We’re quite excited about the positive upgrades this new system is going to bring to UML,” says Ed Roberts, Information Technology Training and Communications Lead. “Students will be able to add and drop courses, check their schedules, pay bills, and even accept financial aid awards. Faculty will be able to enter grades as well as view their roster and schedule.”

Training has begun in preparation for the new application with approximately 200 non-faculty users attending instructor-led training sessions between now and March. “Pilots received training in early January, and Amad Tayebi.

“Having our faculty invest in the department, and our students, clearly shows their commitment to providing the affordable, high quality education for which UMass Lowell is known,” says John Ting, dean of the College of Engineering.

This gift is one of several significant donations made by alumni, faculty and friends over the past year that has exploded the Plastics Engineering Department’s endowment from $375,000 in early 2004 to $1.6 million and counting. The endowment push began with the start of the 50th anniversary year of the department in July 2004, and will continue through the anniversary celebration this coming May. The Plastics Engineering Department is the first academic department to exceed $1 million in its endowment.

Malloy credits the UML Development Office for this dramatic increase in funding. “The Plastics Engineering Department has worked very closely with the UML Development Office over the past few years on equipment and laboratory renovation projects. Now that this work is nearly complete, we have begun to focus our attention on scholarship funding,” he says.

Continued from Page 1

Plastics Faculty Generate $100,000 Scholarship Fund

state endowment incentive program to increase the value of their dollars. Under PHEEIP, the state will match gifts of $50,000 or more, paid over five years, to new endowment funds, or $10,000 to an existing fund. UML is eligible for at least $1.35 million of $9 million in matching funds approved by the state.

“Plastics engineering alumni have been extremely generous over the years. They, along with corporations, have funded nine separate laboratory renovation projects in the past. The faculty looked at this as a way they could show appreciation for all that alumni have given, and also to invest in the future of their department,” says Davis.

Malloy adds, “We are in contact with students every day, and know how much they appreciate the scholarship support they receive. We want to let our alumni and friends know their gifts are going to a very good cause.” Thirty Plastics Engineering students received scholarship support last year.

In addition to Davis, Malloy and Driscoll, the participating faculty members include: Carol Barry, Aldo Crugnola, Steve Grossman, Francis Lai, Steve McCarthy, Joey Mead, Steve Orono, Nick Schott, Ross Stacer and Amad Tayebi.

Continued from Page 1

Walking with the Blind to Prepare for Assistive Technology Project

technology used to help blind and low vision clients. They led the students through exercises to give them some perspective on living with visual disability.

Don Rhine, math and engineering teacher at Tyngsboro High School, provided an overview of the engineering design process, from finding and defining a problem to the specifics of budgeting and ordering materials. Rhine’s student teams have an excellent track record of creating usable prototypes for real clients. Prime hopes to enlist M/A-COM engineers to participate in the engineering design review meetings that he conducts with each team.

▲ A Tyngsboro High school team in 2004 adopted a video controller for a little boy with cerebral palsy, who has limited hand movement. Now he can play video games with his friends.

▲ High school students try out technology for the blind at the kickoff workshop of Assistive Technology Design Fair 2005. Student teams will design their own devices to assist disabled clients in their communities.

Community Board Members Recognized at Reception

Prof. Linda Silka, special assistant to the provost for community outreach and partnerships, center, greeted Henri Marchand and Sylvia Contover at the first annual year-end luncheon of the Community-University Advisory Board in Cumnock Hall. Provost John Wooding welcomed Henri Marchand, longtime UML library staff member, and Victoria Fahberg of One Lowell.

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The shuttle
Project: February 16, 2005

Work Study Program
Community Development
University Partnerships

Moss, Philip
$90,000
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Community Development
Work Study Program

Nicolosi, Robert
$17,872
UMass Medical School
Lawrence Latino Diabetes Prevention Project

Nicolosi, Robert
$33,430
JJ Pharma
Dose Response Study of Cholesterol-lowering Properties of a Statin Analog

O'Connell, Peter
$49,000
U.S. Department of the Interior
Technical Assistance for Educational; Planning and Programming for NER Parks

O'Connell, Peter
$21,750
U.S. Department of the Interior
Northeast Center for Education Services
On-line National Park Service Education Course

Paikowsky, Samuel
$12,500
Massachusetts Technology Collaborative
Review and Selection of Seed Awards

Pho, Lan
$50,000
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Student Internships

Pho, Lan
$48,800
$28,800
Bristol Meyers Squibb
Pilot Internship for Minority Students with Dupont Pharmaceuticals

Pierson, Donald
$28,961
Massachusetts Board of Higher Education
Northeast STEM Network

Prasad, Kanti
$15,000
Analog Devices, Inc.
Microelectronics Center

Prasad, Kanti
$60,000
Skyworks Solutions, Inc.
Investigations of Bulk Acoustic Wave Filter Using Innovative Modeling and Reliability Analysis

Punnett, Laura
$10,000
World Health Organization
Analysis of World Health Survey 2002

Quinn, Margaret
$2,028,079
National Institutes of Health
Sharps Injuries and Blood Exposure in Home Health Care

Reinisch, Bodo
$148,000
NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center Award
Enhancing Automated Analysis of Space Plasma Wave Data with Intelligent Systems Techniques

Reinisch, Bodo
$50,000
Codem Systems, Inc.
Ionospheric Tili and Raytracing Software

Reinisch, Bodo
$330,800
$7,140
Codem Systems, Inc.
Digisonde Portable Sounder

Reinisch, Bodo
$5,999
Observatorio De Fisica
Cosmica Del Ebro-CSIC
Dual Transmit Antenna Baluns

Reinisch, Bodo
$43,730
Instituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia
DPS-4 Upgrade

Reinisch, Bodo
$1,322,976
NASA Peer Review Services
Planetary Advanced Radio Sounder

Richardson, Charles
$19,391
United Steelworkers of America
Evaluating Union Membership

Silka, Linda
$75,000
Family Service, Inc.
Mujeres Nen Accion Evaluation

Silka, Linda
$20,000
Syracuse University Award
Short Courses for Research Ethics in Environmental Health

Siqueira, Carlos
$62,234
AFSCME Training and Education Institute
Worker Health and Safety Training Cooperative Agreement

Sundberg, Glenn
$20,273
Advanced Thermal Technology, LLC
Development of Manufacturing Process for High Thermal Conductivity Carbon Skelatal Structures for Use in Metal and Metal Matrix Composites

Wang, Jie
$150,000
National Science Foundation Award
Collaborative Research: Studies on Average Complexity

Warner, John
$36,414
Pfizer Global Research and Development
Pfizer Cambridge

Warner, John
$75,693
UMass Boston
Green Chemistry—Pfizer Groton
Richardson Brings Iraq Vet to Speak Out on Campus

Originally I thought we were going to help the Iraqi people,” says National Guard Sgt. Kelly Dougherty, an Iraq War veteran who took the stage on South campus to speak out about U.S. involvement in the war. “All I saw us doing was causing more destruction.” Publicized as an opportunity to “hear the truth about the war,” the talk, organized by Charles Richardson, director of the labor extension program, drew a standing room only crowd of both supporters and opponents of the war on Iraq.

Dougherty spoke about her experiences and encounters with the Iraqi people and also about some lesser known internal struggles among the troops stationed overseas? including a rape crisis targeting female officers, major cuts in combat pay for active duty soldiers and the mental and physical illnesses and injuries affecting the veterans once they return home from the front lines.

Richardson, who has a son on active reserve in the Marines, is also co-founder of the organization Military Families Speak Out (MFSO). He answered questions and comments from an audience that was eager to find out what they could do about the war.

“You can call your congressman and get the state legislature to do something about it,” he says. “A vote against the war is not a vote against the troops.”

The debate among audience members continued from both sides concerning the end of U.S. occupation in Iraq and pulling the troops out of harm’s way. Though no side was attempting to seek a victory, Richardson and Dougherty managed to convey just how much devastation the war has caused, even to citizens of the U.S.

With speaking engagements scheduled throughout the state, Dougherty is telling her story to anyone who will listen, hoping that more people will take a stand and learn what she says “the war is really all about.”

As for Richardson, his organization continues to grow. Starting with only two families, MFSO now has more than 2,000 that have joined forces to stop the war and bring their loved ones home.

Mondano Rewards Entrepreneurship

Ralph Mondano, left, executive in residence in the College of Engineering, presented the first Ralph Mondano Award for Entrepreneurial Design to Nick Landry of Westford. Landry is a sophomore in Prof. Robert Parkin’s course in Mechanical Design. Landry’s project was judged the best among 60 entries at designing a simple product with commercial potential. The device Landry designed would protect a vehicle and its occupants if the flywheel disintegrated at high engine speeds.

Obituaries

Mark D. Levine

Longtime director of Community Service and Sociology Department faculty member Mark D. Levine, 69, passed away in Cambridge on January 27 after an extended illness. Colleagues, students and friends at UML and in Greater Lowell admired the good spirit and strength he displayed during a five-year battle with lymphoma.

Dr. Levine, who lived in Cambridge, is remembered for founding the UML Learning in Retirement Association (LIRA) and directing a VISTA program on campus. In recent years, he was active in bringing music to cancer patients. An amateur cellist, in the past year he arranged performances at Lowell General Hospital and Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, where he received treatments. His doctoral thesis was on music therapy and its healing elements.

Contributions in his name are being accepted by the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, attn.: Hematology-Oncology Bone Marrow Transplant Program, 330 Brookline Ave., Boston, MA 02115.

Note Worthy

Rooney-Varga Wins Regional Sigma Xi Young Investigator Award


As well, O’Dwyer received world wide press coverage as lead author in a study titled “Examining the Relationship Between Home and School Computer Use and Students’ English/Language Arts Test Scores” published in the Journal of Technology, Learning and Assessment.

Prof. David Martins of the Department of Music will conduct the Rhode Island Philharmonic Youth Wind Ensemble at New York City’s Carnegie Hall in May. The ensemble, which is in its third year, was established by Martins.

In July, Martins will be one of two conductors with the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Wind Ensemble. In addition, he will again direct Wind Activities for the Young Artist Orchestra at Tanglewood during the remainder of the summer.

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Dr. Mark D. Levine
A Late-Night Fire, a Colleague’s Loss and the UMass Community Responds

W

We’re really, really fortunate. And we know it.”

Jim Moll, the Aramark employee who was burned out of his condo unit the night of Jan. 20, by a fire that took everything he owned, is lucky, he says, not only to be alive—but to have the friends and colleagues he has.

The fire, which began at 4:30 a.m. in his landlord’s adjacent unit on Mount Washington Street and displaced a total of 15 people, including a two-year-old child, tripped a fire alarm that woke the residents; no one in the building was injured. But for Moll and the three roommates with whom he shared the unit, everything they weren’t wearing was lost.

“It took everything. Clothes, furniture, possessions. Even my wallet, which had the [Aramark] phone number, so I couldn’t call work and tell them what had happened, that I wouldn’t be coming in.” So instead he came in himself, in his bedroom slippers and the clothes he had grabbed when he left.

And that was the beginning of the story’s sequel—which is by far the most mundane of matters. Moll arranged to open a bank account for donations.

“Here was this guy in his bedroom slippers, who’d lost everything he had in the world,” Coffey says. “I just wanted something to be done.”

For the next week, courtesy of the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and Community Teamwork Inc., Jim Moll spent his nights in a Best Western. Meanwhile, the donations just kept coming.

One woman bought new pajamas for the baby who’d been displaced (the child of Jim’s roommates), while another cafeteria customer donated the paint for his new place. Aramark loaned a truck for carting things and a room for storing them. A member of the faculty (“Just one of my customers,” says Jim; “I think his name is Doug”) rented a U-Haul van and trucked over a roomful of furniture. And all the while, the money trickled in to the bank account Patricia Coffey had set up. The fuel bill was paid, lost clothes were replaced, groceries were bought and eaten.

“It’s been just unbelievable,” says Jim, who’s worked for Aramark a little longer than a year, and has now settled into a new home. “Friends, co-workers, customers, even strangers—the kindness of people, it’s really been something to see.”

University, Dugan Galleries Greet Spring With Full Slate of Exhibits

B

eginning with two exhibits already underway, there will be a full schedule of talent at both UMass Lowell art galleries this spring.

At the University Gallery, an exhibit that began in late January and will run through Feb. 23, Mixed Media Installation, by Meagan Steen, will showcase this artist’s delicate, almost ethereal handmade-paper artwork, which, through its reliance on repetition of form to reinforce each shape’s power, both reveals and obscures the frailty of nature.

On March 2, an exhibit of black-and-white photography by Ahmedul Cohen, One Cycle of My Journey, will debut at the University Gallery. Both visually and emotionally mysterious, these photographs, through their use of both light and narrative elements, reveal the secret corners of personal identity and of place. This exhibit will continue through April 6.

And beginning April 13, also at the University Gallery, a sculpture exhibit by Eugenie Lewalski Berg, The Cubic Series, will feature an exploration of the most mundane of materials—concrete, mixed media, found architectural elements—to unearth the beauty hidden beneath. The Cubic Series runs through May 13.

Meanwhile at the Art Department’s Dugan Gallery, the spring schedule of three events began February 2 with a paper-making and book arts exhibit featuring student projects using a variety of techniques with handmade paper. That exhibit will continue through March 2.

Then, from March 9 through April 6, Spirit Level II, a photographic collection featuring work from the international Spirit Level photography workshop, will showcase the efforts of students from the U.S., Finland and Switzerland, who take part in an intensive workshop under the direction of renowned photographer and UMass Lowell art Prof. Arno Minkkinen.

Finally, at the BIG Show from April 13 to May 11, the 15th annual juried exhibit of student artwork will feature a broad range of media—painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, printmaking and graphic design—created by students in the UMass Lowell BFA program under the direction of the Art Department faculty.

The University Gallery, open Wednesday through Friday noon to 3 p.m., Saturday 1 to 4 p.m. and by appointment, is at 883 Broadway Street.

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Anita J. Chieh, coordinator of undergraduate programs in the College of Management, from staff assistant.

Annette S. Johnson, buyer/property administrator in the Comptroller’s Office, from buyer/property administrator in Research Administration.

Norma Levasseur, administrative assistant in the Comptroller’s Office, from accounting clerk in Purchasing.

Janice Skrynes, payroll specialist in the Office of Student Affairs, from staff assistant in the Dean of Students Office.

Appointments

Bobby K. Antony, postdoctoral research associate in the Research Administration.

Sandhya Balasubramanian, partnership facilitator/program manager in the Research Administration.

Oneida D. Blagg, director of affirmative action compliance and equal opportunity in the Office of Affirmative Action.

Gary J. Ferreira, maintainer in Residence Life.

Peter J. Kenney, maintainer in Facilities.

Shawn MacEachern, laboratory technician in submillimeter-wave technology in the Research Administration.

John E. Penny, office assistant/computer technician in the Center for Family, Work and Community.

Debra Thiboutot, grant and contract manager in Administration and Finance.

A. Michael Warhurst, staff assistant/project manager, chemicals science and policy project in the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production.

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GSE’s Laura O’Dwyer Makes News Across the Globe

**GSE Asst. Prof. Laura O’Dwyer has garnered international media attention for her recent study, “Examining the Relationship Between Home and School Computer Use and Students’ English/Language Arts Test Scores.” The study, published in the **Journal of Technology, Learning and Assessment** was picked up by news agencies around the world, including Fox and NBC. Conducted in collaboration with researchers from Boston College, the study demonstrated that regular use of computers can have an effect on student performance on standardized tests.**

“Very often people think of technology use as simply playing games or downloading music,” says O’Dwyer, the study’s lead author. “This study shows that targeted types of technology use have the potential to improve student outcomes in language and arts education.”

Analyzing test performance and computer uses of 946 fourth grade students from 55 classrooms in nine Massachusetts school districts, the study found that the more regularly students use computers to write papers for school, the better they performed on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment Systems (MCAS) English/Language Arts exam. This positive effect occurred despite the fact that students were not allowed to use computers for the test.

Conversely, the study found that students’ recreational use of computers to play games, explore the Internet for fun, or chat with friends at home had a negative effect on students’ MCAS reading scores. Similarly, students’ use of computers to create PowerPoint presentations was also negatively associated with MCAS writing scores. The authors speculate that this may be because such activities decrease the amount of time spent reading and writing.

“Examining the effect of computer use on student learning, it is important to consider how well a specific use is aligned with the measure of learning,” says O’Dwyer. “While this study found that use of computers to create presentations was negatively associated with writing scores, it does not mean that students should not be creating presentations with computers. Creating presentations may be a positive learning experience, but such effects are not captured by a test like MCAS that measures reading and writing skills.”

The study, the first to use advanced statistical techniques to look at the relationship between nuanced measures of technology use and students’ standardized test scores, found that students’ use of computers throughout the writing process was statistically significant related to students’ MCAS writing scores. Using computers simply to type in final drafts of essays was not related to increased test performance. These findings are consistent with past research and the study demonstrates the importance of allowing students to use computers to produce rough drafts, edit their papers and to produce final drafts.

At a time when schools are under increased pressure to raise test scores, yet are also facing budget shortfalls, this study provides evidence that investments in computers can have positive consequences for student achievement. Also, the results of the analyses suggest that teachers and students must be thoughtful about how computers are used and what types of learning they expect to impact.

“I do think that much more research needs to be conducted in this area before we fully understand how technology can be effectively integrated into teaching and learning,” says O’Dwyer. “Right now, tests like MCAS are unlikely to be sensitive to the types of improved learning that occur with effective technology use.”

The importance of the findings has been evidenced by the media storm the study has caused. NBC and Fox affiliates across the Unites States along with scores of other media sources reported on the study. And it has drawn international attention, as well, with press coverage in other countries including India, Canada, Italy and Germany.

“I was very pleased to see that the publication got such wide distribution among news sources,” says O’Dwyer. “Schools and districts have cooperated closely to make this first intercampus graduate program both effective and seamless for students—a significant accomplishment. Yuko and Christine, through the use of distance learning, were able to study with the very best professors in their field, regardless of their campus affiliation. Marine sciences are particularly important to the Massachusetts economy and we are pleased to be contributing to this innovative and exciting program.”

The IGS was established just over two years ago as a systemwide school, making available to students the marine science expertise and resources of all the UMass campuses. Today, four campuses have a total of 23 IGS students, each pursuing marine research with a professor on a “home campus,” and accessing marine sciences courses on the other campuses via distance-learning technology.

Hasegawa’s research was a study of associations between marine bacteria and the microorganisms that cause the harmful blooms known as “red tide.” Her work, said her advisor, Asst. Prof. Juliette Rooney-Varga of the Biological Sciences Department.

Yuko Hasegawa of UMass Lowell is part of a very small, yet distinguished, graduating class. She is one of the first two students to complete bachelor’s and graduate degrees in marine science courses on the other campuses via distance-learning technology.

“Marcie Williams brings to this position a high regard for scholarship, an instinct for collaboration and innovation and an abiding concern for students,” Wilson said in making the appointment. “I am very pleased to have a scholar and administrator of [her] stature joining the president’s office.”

Williams will assume her new duties on a full-time basis in July.

**Former Amherst Administrator Named to UMass Vice President’s Post**

In her new post, Williams will serve as the chief academic, student and international relations officer for the five-campus, 88,000-student UMass system.

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**First Grad of Marine Sciences Wins Degree at UML**

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Wednesday, March 9
Forum, “Women and Work on the Information Technology Frontier,” come hear what researchers have found about employment security, gender differences, work experiences and the many challenges of women working in the information age, 2 to 3:30 p.m., McGauvran 410. For more information, visit www.lowellwomensweek.org.

Exhibit Reception, “Spirit Level III International Photography Workshop,” students from the U.S., Finland and Switzerland participate in a photography workshop, curated by Prof. Amo Minkkinen, exhibit runs through April 6, 2 to 4 p.m., Dungan Gallery. For more information, call (978) 934-5491.

Open Meeting Hours, meet with Chancellor William T. Hogan, staff: 2 - 3 p.m., students: 3 - 4 p.m., faculty: 4 - 5 p.m., Trustees Room, Cumnock Hall. For information, call the Chancellor’s Office (978) 934-2201.

Physics Colloquium, “The Physics of Gene Regulation,” by Prof. Jane Kondez, Brandeis University, 4 p.m., Oney 218. For more information, contact Albert_Altman@uml.edu

Thursday, March 10
Forum, “Hats off to a Decade of Promoting Women’s Safety, Prosperity and Spirit,” Lowell Women’s Week campus and community organizers will share stories about how they got involved, why they stayed and what the week means to them 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. O’Leary 222. For more information, visit www.lowellwomensweek.org.

Friday, March 11
Panel & Discussion, “Partner Violence against South Asian Women in the United States,” reps from Friendship for South Asian Women and the many challenges of women working in the country amid domestic violence, noon to 2 p.m., O’Leary 222. For more information, visit www.lowellwomensweek.org.

Saturday, March 19
Lecture, Parker Lecture Series, “Birds of Prey,” Tom Ricardi discusses the bald eagle, barn owl, red-tailed hawk and falcons, 2 p.m., Pollard Memorial Library. For more information, call Paul Marion (978) 934-3107.

Sunday, March 20
Travelogue, Parker Lecture Series, “Mary Margaret O’Connell: Lowell Mill Girl,” by Sharon Kennedy, a historical re-enactment of the daily life of a mill girl working in Lowell in 1847 and the Irish in the “Acre,” 2 p.m., Lowell National Park Visitor Center. For more information, call Paul Marion (978) 934-3107

Monday, March 21
Spring Break Ends, Classes resume. Competition, first round of competition for “Igning Massachusetts” Clean Energy Future: $30K Business Presentation Competition for Clean Energy Technologies,” registration deadline is March 1, MIT. For more information or to enter, check out www.mittforum.cambridge.org/ Energy/Sig/IgniteCleanEnergy.html.

Wednesday, March 23
Physics Colloquium, “Global Competitiveness of Polymerists—Today and Tomorrow,” by John Quinn, president, Excel Polymers Corporation, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Ball 214. For more information, call Plastics Engineering (978) 934-3420.

Wednesday, March 30
Physics Colloquium, “The Origin of Mass and the Feeceliness of Gravity,” by Prof. Frank Wilczek, MIT, 4 p.m., Oney 218. For more information, contact Albert_Altman@uml.edu.

Thursday, March 31

Friday, April 1
Lecture, “Last Lecture” Series, Tony Szczesniak (English) answers the question, “If this were the last lecture you were to give, what would you say?” 12:30 to 1:45 p.m., Fox MPR. To reserve a seat for lunch, contact Imogene Stulken at (978) 934-5014 or Imogene_Stulken@uml.edu.

Saturday, April 2
Contest, student teams compete by inventing assistive listening devices, using high-performance hardware and software, held in the UML Real-Time DSP and Medical Imaging Lab. For more information, go to www.uml.edu/real-timeDScontest.

Sunday, April 3
Lecture, Parker Lecture Series, “The Everglades,” nature photographer John J. Green will treat viewers to images of wading birds, alligators and flora of the Everglades, 2 p.m., Lowell National Park Visitor Center. For more information, call Paul Marion (978) 934-3107.

Performance, Discovery Series, “Twice as Many Friends! El Doble De Amigos,” by Sol y Canto, featuring lively Latin American music, 2 and 4 p.m., great for all ages, tickets $10, group discounts available, Durgin Concert Hall. For more information or tickets, call the UML Center for the Arts (978) 934-4444.

Wednesday, April 13
Open Meeting Hours, meet with Chancellor William T. Hogan, staff: 2 - 3 p.m., students: 3 - 4 p.m., faculty: 4 - 5 p.m., Trustees Room, Cumnock Hall. For information, call the Chancellor’s Office (978) 934-2201.

Wednesday, April 20
Exhibit Reception, “The Cubic Series,” sculpture by Eugenie Lewalski Berg, artist talk at 3 p.m., exhibit runs through May 13, 3 to 5 p.m., O’Leary 222. For more information, call (978) 934-3491.

Tuesday, April 26
Lecture, “Last Lecture” Series, Nicole Champagne (Health & Environment) responds to the question, “If this were the last lecture you were to give, what would you say?” 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., McGauvran 410. To reserve a seat for lunch, contact Imogene Stulken at (978) 934-5014 or Imogene_Stulken@uml.edu.

Wednesday, April 27
Exhibit Reception, “The Big Show,” 15th annual juried exhibit of student artwork, awards presentation at 3 p.m., exhibit runs through May 11, 2 to 4 p.m., Dungan Gallery. For more information, call (978) 934-3491.

Sunday, May 1
Performance, Discovery Series, “Circo Comedia,” a fast-paced, entertaining adventure presented by Smythe & Saucier, great for all ages, tickets $10, group discounts available, 2 p.m., Durgin Concert Hall. For more information or tickets, call the UML Center for the Arts (978) 934-4444.

Saturday, May 7
Weekend Snapshots, Each on-campus session gives potential undergraduate students an overview of the University and campus life, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For additional information and to register, visit www.uml.edu/admissions/weekendsnapshots.

Saturday, May 14
Exhibit Reception, Spring BFA Exhibit, exhibit runs through May 22, 2 to 5 p.m., EVOS Arts Institute, 98 Middle St., Lowell. For more information, call (978) 934-3491.

Saturday, Jun. 11
Weekend Snapshots, Each on-campus session gives potential undergraduate students an overview of the University and campus life, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For additional information and to register, visit www.uml.edu/admissions/weekendsnapshots.

Saturday, Aug. 6
Weekend Snapshots, Each on-campus session gives potential undergraduate students an overview of the University and campus life, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For additional information and to register, visit www.uml.edu/admissions/weekendsnapshots.
Wednesday, Feb. 16
Physics Colloquium, “Fish- ing in the Dark: Searching for Extremely Faint Objects in the Outer Solar System,” by Prof. Charles Alcock, Harvard Smithsonian, 4 p.m., Olney 218. For more information, contact Albert_Altman@uml.edu.

Seminar, Plastics Engineering Series, “The Challenges Associated with Designing Environmentally Friendly Plastic Products,” by Eric Hudson, president/CEO, ReCycline Corporation, Waltham, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Ball 214. For more information, call Plastics Engineering (978) 934-3420.

Women’s Basketball, vs. Bentley College, 5:30 p.m., Costello Gym. For more information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Men’s Basketball, vs. Bentley College, 7:30 p.m., Costello Gym. For more information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Friday, Feb. 18
Discussion, “Sex and Rela- tionships,” speaker Dawn Breeden discusses issues of sex and relationships, 1 to 3 p.m., O’Leary 222. For more information, contact Brenda_Evans@uml.edu.

Saturday, Feb. 19

Hockey, vs. Boston College, 7 p.m., Tsongas Arena. For more information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Monday, Feb. 21
Presidents Day, University closed. Women’s Basketball, vs. Franklin Pierce College, 5:30 p.m., Costello Gym. For more information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Tuesday, Feb. 22
Seminar, “Green Chemistry for the Biotech and High-Tech Industries: What’s it All About?” by Prof. John Warner, Green Chemistry, UML, will discuss the theory and business benefits of green chemistry specific to the biotechnology and high technology industries, 5 to 7 p.m., Alumni Lounge. To register, contact Brenda_Evans@uml.edu, (978) 934-3247 or Robin_Gavin@uml.edu.

Talk, “Contemporary Issues: Hip-Hop Culture,” by Emmett G. Price III, Ph.D., 7 to 9 p.m., Fox Hall MPR. For more information, contact Brenda_Evans@uml.edu.

Wednesday, Feb. 23
Physics Colloquium, “Nanoscale Morphology Control Using Ion Beams,” by Prof. Michael Aizen, Harvard University, 4 p.m., Olney 218. For more information, contact Albert_Altman@uml.edu.

Thursday, Feb. 24
Dinner, “Black History Festive Dinner,” celebration with food and live music, 4:30 to 7 p.m., Fox Hall. For more information, contact Brenda_Evans@uml.edu.

Friday, Feb. 25
Flag Party, “Raise It Up,” cost: $3 for ASAO members, $5 with flag, $7 without flag, ladles free before 10:30 p.m., featuring DJ Jack Da Rippa, prizes will be given for best flag outfits, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Cumnock Hall. For more information, contact Brenda_Evans@uml.edu.

Saturday, March 5
Weekend Snapshots, on-campus concerts give potential undergraduate students an overview of the University and campus life, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For additional information and to register, visit www.uml.edu/admissions/weekendsnapshots.

Hockey, vs. Providence College, 7 p.m., Tsongas Arena. For more information, call (978) 934-HAWK.

Sunday, March 6
Performance, Discovery Series, “Frog and His Friends,” life-size puppetry/musical by Theatre Terra/Terra/Netherlands, 2 and 4 p.m., best for ages 4-9, tickets $10, group discounts available, Durgin Concert Hall. For more information or tickets, call the UML Center for the Arts (978) 934-4444.

Monday, March 7
Art Project, “The Public Art Project Comes to Campus,” participants are invited to stop by and use the art materials to design and illustrate the many hats they wear, the many roles they play, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Southwick Commuter Lounge. For more information, visit http://www.lowellwomensweek.org/.

Tuesday, March 8
Discussion, “Going to High School and College in Lowell: What’s It Like for Local Students?” Women from UMass Lowell who went to high school in Lowell share stories about going to college near home, 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., O’Leary 222. For more information, visit www.lowellwomensweek.org/.

Talk, “Get Your Nails Done and Other Tips for Female Authors,” author and Boston Herald lifestyle columnist Beth Tellott offers a humorous look at the ups and downs of making it as a woman writer, 4 p.m., O’Leary 222. For more information, visit www.lowellwomensweek.org/.

Seminar, “Bioinformatics from a Computer Scientist’s Viewpoint” Dr. Georges Grinstein, Computer Science Department, UML, 7 p.m., Olsen 503. For more information, contact (978) 934-3241 or Brenda_Evans@uml.edu.

Wednesday, March 9
Art Project, “The Public Art Project Comes to Campus,” participants are encouraged to stop by and use the art materials provided to illustrate the many hats they wear, the many roles they play, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., McGauvran 410, 2nd floor. For more information, visit www.lowellwomensweek.org/.

Deadline for the Next Issue of the Shuttle Is Feb. 25