Lawrence Partnership
Overview

Compiled by:

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Massachusetts Campus Compact AmeriCorps*VISTA,
UML Center for Family, Work and Community
with technical assistance from

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Program Manager, Center for Family, Work and Community.
**PURPOSES**: The University of Massachusetts at Lowell compiled this document to share information about the UML-Lawrence partnerships that currently exist and to encourage additional collaboration and dialogue. This is a working document and changes, additions or deletions are gladly accepted.

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Department of Criminal Justice  
Chair: Professor Eve Buzawa

**Partnership:** The goal of the Integrated Family Information System (IFIS) project in Lawrence, Massachusetts is to provide the police and probation departments immediate access to information concerning domestic violence cases with the goal of supporting enforcement practices that serve to 1) protect victims and 2) monitor offenders involved in domestic violence that are residing in the community. The project involves the creation of an automated information sharing system that will allow communication among police, probation and courts regarding those involved in domestic violence incidents. The intent of the system is to facilitate coordinated enforcement efforts between police and probation regarding those involved in domestic violence. Training provided for the entire City of Lawrence Police Department from the YWCA of Greater Lawrence on the law enforcement response to domestic violence with a focus on female victims.

**Partner:** City of Lawrence Police Department.

**Contact:** Associate Professor April Pattavina.

**Support:** National Institute of Justice: Office of Violence against Women.

Department of Regional Economic and Social Development (RESD)  
Chair: Professor Philip Moss

**Partnership:** Working with Lawrence CommunityWorks (LCW) in a campaign to reform the Lawrence City Budget, including: moderating a forum with the Mayor and City Councilors; helping to create the People’s Guide to the City Budget; designed and conducted the first ever City of Lawrence Resident Satisfaction Survey; and providing planning and strategic help to the campaign.

**Partner:** Lawrence CommunityWorks.

**Contact:** Professor Philip Moss; RESD Graduate Student Researcher Heather Derby.

**Support:** External Grant.
Department of Regional Economic and Social Development (RESD)
Chair: Professor Philip Moss

Partnership: An on-going effort with the Workforce Development Board that uses State and Federal money for programs.

Partner: Lawrence CommunityWorks.

Contact: Professor Robert Forrant.

Support: Workforce Development Board administered funds.

Department of Regional Economic and Social Development (RESD)
Chair: Professor Philip Moss

Partnership: For the last five years, RESD and the Center for Family, Work and Community (CFWC) have directed the HUD funded Community Development Work Study Program (CDWSP). With funding from HUD and a match from the university RESD students are paid for two years to do community development work in the community (students also receive fee and tuition waivers and support for travel and educational supplies). Each student works in three placements over a two year period. During the academic year students work 15 hours weekly at their placement sites, while during the summer they work 20 hours weekly. There are three placement sites in Lawrence: The City of Lawrence's Community Development Department; Lawrence CommunityWorks; and Merrimack Valley Project. Unfortunately, HUD has ended funding for this program nationwide, and RESD is now seeking other funding sources for the program.

Partners: City of Lawrence Community Development Department; Merrimack Valley Project; Lawrence CommunityWorks.

Contact: Professor Chris Tilly; Program Manager David Turcotte (CFWC).


Center for Family, Work and Community	Director: Professor Linda Silka

Partnership: Family Service, Inc. has contracted with the UML’s Center for Family, Work and Community (CFWC) to develop and implement evaluation components of two different federally-funded programs. Through the community-based “MAPA” program (“Mujeres en Acción Protegiéndose Ahora” translation: Women in Action Protecting Themselves Now) FSI aims to decrease the number of adult Latina women in Lawrence infected with HIV as a result of substance use and/or unprotected sex. The second program, Strengthening Couples, seeks to
increase the number of low-income couples in the greater Lawrence community who are able to sustain a healthy marriage.

**Partner:** Family Service, Inc.

**Contact:** Community Organizer, Program Evaluator and Assistant Director of the CFWC Robin Toof; Program Evaluator Melissa Wall; Director of the CFWC, Professor Linda Silka.

**Support:** MAPA is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

Strengthening Couples is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families and the Office of Family Assistance.

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**Center for Family, Work and Community** Director: Professor Linda Silka

**Partnership:** A Civic Index project is underway with the goal to document whether the mass media in Lawrence do an adequate job addressing issues of broad civic concern. Collaboration began with LCW this summer to create a data base. Current initiatives include: the establishment of a low-power radio station with the LCW teen program Movement City; and the Not-so-ordinary Heroes Listening Project. Lawrence CommunityWorks has identified key LCW participants to be interviewed by students from the Sociology Department's new Learning from the Field course. Oral histories will document how community activism has changed LCW members' lives and changed the community.

**Partner:** Lawrence CommunityWorks; Movement City.

**Contact:** Assistant Professor Charlotte Ryan; Program Manager Dan Toomery (CFWC); Program Coordinator Felicia Sullivan (Office of Broadcast and Student Media); WUML General Manager Nate Osit.

**Support:** Healey Public Service grant; UML faculty development seed funding.

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**Center for Family, Work and Community** Director: Professor Linda Silka

**Partnership:** The Center for Family, Work and Community is facilitating a partnership between the UML College of Arts and Sciences and the Lawrence High School for Humanities and Leadership Development as part of the small school transformation process led by the Center for Field Services and Studies in the Graduate School of Education.

**Partner:** Lawrence High School.
Contact: MACC AmeriCorps*VISTA Craig Thomas.

Support: Institutional Support.

**Department of Sociology**
Chair: Associate Professor Daniel Egan

**Partnership:** A Civic Index project is underway with the goal to document whether the mass media in Lawrence do an adequate job addressing issues of broad civic concern. Collaboration began with LCW this summer to create a data base. Current initiatives include: the establishment of a low-power radio station with the LCW teen program Movement City; and the Not-so-ordinary Heroes Listening Project. Lawrence CommunityWorks has identified key LCW participants to be interviewed by students from the Sociology Department's new Learning from the Field course. Oral histories will document how community activism has changed LCW members' lives and changed the community.

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**Contact:** Assistant Professor Charlotte Ryan; Program Manager Dan Toomery (CFWC); Program Coordinator Felicia Sullivan (Office of Broadcast and Student Media); WUML General Manager Nate Osit.

**Support:** Healey Public Service grant; UML faculty development seed funding.
**Department of Computer Science**  
Chair: Professor Thomas Costello

**Partnership:** iCODE: Building an Internet Community of Design Engineers.  
There will be after-school engineering clubs for middle school students based in the public schools and community centers. In conjunction with program partner Machine Science, Inc. (a Cambridge, MA-based non-profit), iCODE will support programs in Lowell, Lawrence, Boston, and Cambridge. Lawrence program begins January 2007.

**Partners:** Boys and Girls Club of Lowell; Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence; Girls Inc. of Lowell; Lowell Public Schools; Lawrence Public Schools.

**Contact:** Assistant Professor Fred Martin; Visiting Assistant Professor Michelle Scribner-MacLean (Grad School of Ed); Director of K-12 Engineering Outreach Douglas Prime (Engineering).

**Support:** An award from the National Science Foundation supports this project.

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**Department of Mathematical Sciences**  
Chair: Professor James Graham-Eagle

**Partnership:** Since 2003, faculty in the UML Department of Mathematical Sciences has participated in *Focus on Mathematics*, an NSF Math and Science Partnership. Professors Alan Doerr, James Graham-Eagle, Kenneth Levasseur and Marvin Stick have been active in this program, which has offered professional development services to all middle and high school mathematics teachers in Lawrence, Arlington, Chelsea, Waltham and Watertown. In the Lawrence schools, UML faculty have run study groups, designed online courses, and participated in seminars and summer institutes. Another facet of the project has been a series of math fairs in the school districts of the partnership, including Lawrence. UML students have been hired to help mentor students on their projects, served as judges at the math fairs, and have participated in meetings with the teachers and mathematicians on the partnership. Two of the students helped coauthored an MCAS Instructor's Resource in geometry with Prof. Stick. For more information on Focus on Math, visit www.focusonmath.org.

**Partner:** Lawrence Public Schools.

**Contact:** Professor Kenneth Levasseur.

**Support:** *Focus on Mathematics* is funded by a National Science Foundation grant through June 2008.
Partnership: iCODE: Building an Internet Community of Design Engineers. There will be after-school engineering clubs for middle school students based in the public schools and community centers. In conjunction with program partner Machine Science, Inc. (a Cambridge, MA-based non-profit), iCODE will support programs in Lowell, Lawrence, Boston, and Cambridge. Lawrence program begins January 2007.

Partners: Boys and Girls Club of Lowell; Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence; Girls Inc. of Lowell; Lowell Public Schools; Lawrence Public Schools.

Contact: Assistant Professor Fred Martin (Computer Science); Visiting Assistant Professor Michelle Scribner-MacLean (Grad School of Ed); Director of K-12 Engineering Outreach Douglas Prime.

Support: An award from the National Science Foundation supports this project.

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Chair: Professor Nathan Gartner

Partnership: In the fall 2006 Engineering Materials course students used their coursework knowledge to investigate maintenance issues associated with the original, dirt alleyways in Lawrence. A Soil Mechanics class may continue this work in the future.

Partners: Groundwork Lawrence; Lawrence CommunityWorks.

Contact: Service-Learning Integrated throughout a College of Engineering (SLICE) Program Coordinator Linda Barrington; Chemical Engineering Professor Krishna Vedula; Civil Engineering Professor Pradeep Kurup; MACC AmeriCorps*VISTA Craig Thomas (Center for Family, Work and Community).

Support: UML College of Engineering NSF SLICE grant funds: small faculty stipends, materials budget available for each professor and coordinator’s compensation.
Partnership: The College of Management is partnering with the Lawrence High School for Business Management and Finance as part of the small school transformation process led by the Center for Field Services and Studies in the Graduate School of Education.

Partner: Lawrence High School.

Contact: Dean Kathryn Carter

Support: Institutional Support.
Partnership: A group of researchers from the UMass Lowell Graduate School of Education has undertaken a research study of the transformation of the Lawrence High School from a large comprehensive high school of approximately 3000 students into six small thematic schools in a new purposefully built space. The group will follow the transformation process over the next three years with the full support of the administration of the Lawrence Public Schools. The study will serve both to inform the ongoing work in Lawrence and the larger work nationally on the conversion of high schools into small schools focused on improved student achievement.

Partner: Lawrence Public Schools.

Contact: Assistant Professor James Nehring; Assistant Professor Michaela Wyman-Colombo; Director of the Center for Field Services and Studies Judith Boccia; Dean of the Graduate School of Education Donald Pierson; Lawrence School District Liaison Hector Torres.

Support: UML Seed funding grant; University Council on Diversity and Pluralism grant; Lawrence funding through $110 million dollar high school transformation process.

Partnership: The M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction - Science Education Online was developed with NSF funding by UMass Lowell and UMass Amherst. The program offers science content and science education courses to elementary and middle school teachers who are teaching science with limited background knowledge of the field. Lawrence teachers formed part of a cohort of 15 teachers who participated in this fully online program. The program is now offered to the public through Continuing and Corporate Education at both campuses. Professional teacher licensure is available for eligible candidates.

Partner: Lawrence Public Schools.

Contact: Professor Anita Greenwood.

Support: Was NSF funded --- now students pay the cost of online courses at each campus.

Partnership: iCODE: Building an Internet Community of Design Engineers. There will be after-school engineering clubs for middle school students based in the public schools and community centers. In conjunction with program partner Machine Science, Inc. (a Cambridge, MA-based non-profit), iCODE will support programs in Lowell, Lawrence, Boston, and Cambridge. Lawrence program begins January 2007.
**Partners:** Boys and Girls Club of Lowell; Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence; Girls Inc. of Lowell; Lowell Public Schools; Lawrence Public Schools.

**Contact:** Assistant Professor Fred Martin (Computer Science); Visiting Assistant Professor Michelle Scribner-MacLean; Director of K-12 Engineering Outreach Douglas Prime (Engineering).

**Support:** An award from the National Science Foundation supports this project.

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**Center for Field Services and Studies** Director: Judith Boccia

**Partnership:** UMass Lowell-Lawrence High School Partnership. Lawrence High School is in the process of transforming its aging comprehensive high school of 3000 students into six thematic small schools of 500 students each. These new high schools will share a campus and be housed in state of the art buildings in Lawrence. UMass Lowell deans and faculty have responded to an invitation from Lawrence School Superintendent to participate in curriculum design teams for each of the six small schools. Over 40 UML faculty and staff are now working with principals, assistant principals and teachers of the six schools to share university resources and expertise relevant to the specific focus of each school. The small schools, which closely mirror the focus of colleges and departments at the university, include Math, Science and Technology, Business and Management, Performing Arts, Humanities and Leadership, Health and Human Services and the International School. The design teams have been meeting throughout the past year and will continue to do so when the new buildings open in Fall 2007. The project is coordinated by the Center for Field Services and Studies.

**Partner:** Lawrence High School.

**Contact:** Director of the Center for Field Services and Studies Judith Boccia; Lawrence School District Liaison Hector N. Torres.

**Support:** Institutional Support.

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**Center for Field Services and Studies** Director: Judith Boccia

**Partnership:** The College Prep Program is a partnership between the University of Massachusetts Lowell and the Lawrence Public Schools providing an academic instruction and enrichment program for over 20 years. The seven week on campus program enrolls approximately 150 students from grades 7-12 and includes high achievers, at-risk youth, native English speakers and English language learners. The majority of students come from economically disadvantaged families and have not thought seriously about the possibility of continuing on to higher education. The College Prep Program concentrates on developing participants’ academic confidence and competence so that post-secondary school admission is a reality for Lawrence High school students.
**Partner:** Lawrence Public Schools.

**Contact:** Lawrence School District Liaison and College Prep Program Director Hector N. Torres; Assistant Program Director Cynthia Bent.

**Support:** Office of the Provost, Council for Diversity and Pluralism and Center for Field Services and Studies (UML Operating Funds), Lawrence Public Schools (Chapter 70 State Funds).

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**Center for Field Services and Studies** Director: Judith Boccia

**Partnership:** A customized leadership preparation and administrator licensure experience collaboratively developed and offered by the UML Graduate School of Education and the Lawrence Public Schools. Center for Field Services and Studies staff facilitate program operation. The goal for Lawrence is to “grow” a cadre of its own school leaders and supervisors to meet future leadership needs in the district. Two cohort groups, totaling 39 Lawrence Public Schools educators, have participated to date. Currently, over half the LinEAP participants have been promoted to leadership roles in the school district.

**Partner:** Lawrence Public Schools.

**Contact:** Director of the Center for Field Services and Studies Judith Boccia; Lawrence School District Liaison Hector N. Torres.

**Support:** UML Scholarships and Lawrence Public Schools Professional Development funds.

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**Tsongas Industrial History Center** Interim Co-Directors: Sheila Kirschbaum, Leslie Obleschuk and Beverly Perna.

**Partnership:** Grade three visits from some Lawrence Elementary Schools for hands-on activities and tours of the Tsongas Industrial History Center. Discussion have begun with several of the new Lawrence High Schools through the Center for Field Services and Studies partnership.

**Partner:** Lawrence Public Schools.

**Contact:** Interim Co-Director Sheila Kirschbaum.

**Support:** Essex National Heritage Commission.
School of Health and Environment
Dean: Professor David Wegman

**Partnership:** Participation with an innovative task force that brings together health care institutions, providers and end users both for- and non-profit in the City of Lawrence. Specific initiatives include a Teen Programming Summit and a citywide Research Initiative.

**Partner:** City of Lawrence Mayor’s Health Task Force.

**Contact:** Assistant Professor Lisa Abdallah (Nursing); MACC AmeriCorps*VISTA Craig Thomas (Center for Family, Work and Community).

**Support:** UML School of Health and Environment; Massachusetts Campus Compact cost-sharing grant.

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**Department of Community Health and Sustainability**
Chair: Professor Beverly Volicer

**Partnership:** Student internship and service-learning placements. Recently, the department’s program in Community Health Education has begun to partner extensively with Lawrence organizations to support student’s Service Learning experiences as well as 10 credit internships. Fall 2006 accomplishments in Service Learning include a 12 week worksite wellness program at Northern Essex Community College and a 7 week healthy eating program designed for clients at CLASS, Inc. New internship placements for the spring of 2007 promise to further the relationships recently forged with community health organizations within the Greater Lawrence area. In addition, program faculty are working collaboratively with Lawrence High School’s new Health and Human Services Program to establish strong connections to undergraduate programs at UML and careers in the diverse field of community health education.

**Partners:** Health Quarters; Elder Services; YWCA of Greater Lawrence; CLASS Inc.; Northern Essex Community College.

**Contact:** Associate Professor Nicole Champagne; Dean David Wegman.

**Support:** Curricular.

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**Department of Nursing**
Chair: Professor Karen Melillo

**Partnership:** Faculty member was the past Chair of the Board and is a current member of the Board of Directors for the YMCA of the Merrimack Valley, Lawrence Branch.
Partner: The YMCA of the Merrimack Valley.

Contact: Assistant Professor Lisa Abdallah.

Support: Volunteer.

Department of Nursing
Chair: Professor Karen Melillo

Partnership: The Nursing Program is working collaboratively with Lawrence High School’s new Health and Human Services Program to establish strong connections to undergraduate programs at UML and careers in nursing. This is part of the small school transformation process led by the Center for Field Services and Studies in the Graduate School of Education.

Partner: Lawrence High School.

Contact: Assistant Professor Lisa Abdallah.

Support: Institutional Support.

Department of Physical Therapy
Chair: Professor Susan O’Sullivan

Partnership: Student practica placements.

Partners: Family Service, Inc.; CLASS Inc.; Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence; the City of Lawrence Council on Aging (through the Lawrence Senior Center); The YWCA of Greater Lawrence.

Contact: Assistant Professor Deirdra Murphy.

Support: Curricular.

Department of Work Environment
Chair: Professor Rafael Moure-Eraso

Partnership: Proposed Hispanic construction worker education project.

Partners: City of Lawrence Mayor’s Health Task Force; Construction Workers Local 175.

Contact: Assistant Professor Maria Brunette; Research Professor Cora Roelofs; Research Professor Lenore Azaroff; Project Associate Susan Shepherd.

Support: Pending.
Partnership: UMass Lowell has been a critical partner in the success of Lawrence CommunityWorks revitalization efforts over the past seven years. UML’s partnership takes many different forms: Executive Director Frederick Sperounis serves on the capital campaign committee to create a new $5 million community center, called Our House for Design and Technology that will offer educational services to over 500 low and moderate income families in Lawrence. UML and state Senator Steven Panagiotakos were key partners in obtaining a $1 million grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to create this new center. In summer 2006, UML partnered with LCW to submit an application for a federal Youth Empowerment Project grant. If received, LCW will be working with many departments at UML to deter Lawrence Public School youth from crime and risky behaviors by providing them with academic, cultural, and civic support and helping them prepare for college.

Partner: Lawrence CommunityWorks.

Contact: Executive Director Frederick Sperounis.

Support: Institutional support and technical assistance.
Partnership: For the past two years UMass Lowell has been a major sponsor of the Bread & Roses Festival in Lawrence, an annual Labor Day celebration of the city’s labor history and ethnic roots. The multicultural festival on the city common includes numerous community groups with exhibits, information booths, craft displays, and foodways demonstrations, along with notable regional, national, and international performers. Support for the Festival flows from UML’s commitment to support social and cultural vitality in the area, an essential component for sustainable regional development.

Partner: The Bread and Roses Heritage Committee; Lawrence Heritage State Park.

Contact: Executive Director of Outreach Paul Marion.

Support: Institutional Funding.

Partnership: *The Bridge Review: Merrimack Valley Culture* is an on-line journal about the culture of the Greater Merrimack Valley of Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. Founded in 1997, the journal explores the interwoven concepts of place, nature, culture, and society. Based at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, the journal includes writing, visual art, music, video clips, and other creative and scholarly works relevant to our bio-region. The Bridge Review has featured writers from the Lawrence area including Latino poets Tertúlia Pedro Mir.

Partner: Tertúlia Pedro Mir; Robert Frost Foundation.

Contact: Executive Director of Outreach Paul Marion.

Support: Institutional support.
Partnership: Relationship building with alternative schools for youth programming in Lawrence that includes safe Halloween activities.

Partners: Notre Dame High School; Lawrence Family Development Charter School.

Contact: Interim Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Services Joyce Gibson.

Support: Institutional support and funding.
Partnership: The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers has been quite active recently. New high school chapters of SHPE Jr. were started at Lawrence High School. A small group of students at Middlesex Community College forms part of the University chapter.

Partners: Middlesex Community College; Lawrence High School.

Contact: Project Manager for Campus Development Hector Valdes.

Support: Institutional support and technical assistance.
Appendix I: Current Lawrence Partners

Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence
136 Water Street
Lawrence, MA 01841
(978) 683-2747
(978) 689-0608
(978) 725-5989 Fax

City of Lawrence
City Council
200 Common St
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 794-5810

Community Development Department
147 Haverhill Street
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 794-5891

Mayor’s Health Task Force
145 - 147 Haverhill St.
Lawrence, MA 01841
(978) 794-5891
(978) 683-4894 fax

Planning Department
147 Haverhill Street
Lawrence, MA 01841
978-794-5892
978-683-4894

Police Department
90 Lowell St
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 794-5900

Public Schools
School System
255 Essex St
Lawrence, MA 01841
(978) 975-5905

Senior Center
155 Haverhill St
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 794-5886

CLASS Inc.
One Parker Street
Lawrence, MA 01843
(978) 975-8587
(978) 975-0498 Fax

Construction Workers Local 175
(978) 934-3248
(978) 452-5711 Fax
worksafe@hispanicworksafe.org

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley
360 Merrimack St., Bld.5
Lawrence, MA 01843
1-800-892-0890
rdistefano@esmv.org

Family Service, Inc.
430 North Canal Street
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 683-9505
978-683-1026 Fax

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center
Lawrence, MA

Groundwork Lawrence
60 Island Street
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 974-0770

Health Quarters
101 Amesbury Street Suite 202
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 681-5258
978-681-5387 Fax

Lawrence CommunityWorks
60 Island Street, 3rd floor
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 685-3115
(978) 683-3946 Fax
Movement City
(978) 683-9393

Lawrence Family Development Charter School
34 West St.
Lawrence, MA 01841
(978) 689-9863
(978) 689-8133

Lawrence Heritage State Park
One Jackson Street
Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 794-1655

Merrimack Valley Project
1045 Essex Street
Lawrence, Massachusetts 01841
Northern Essex Community College  
45 Franklin Street  
Lawrence, MA 01841  
(978) 738-7000

Notre Dame High School  
207 Hampshire St  
Lawrence, MA 01840  
(978) 689-8222  
(978) 689-8278  
www.ndhslaw.org

Robert Frost Foundation  
Lawrence Library  
51 Lawrence St. 3rd Floor  
Lawrence, Massachusetts 01841  
(978) 725-8828  
frostfoundation@comcast.net

Tertulia Pedro Mir  
225 Essex St.  
Lawrence, MA 01840

The Bread and Roses Heritage Committee  
P.O. Box 1137  
Lawrence, MA 01842-1137  
(978) 794-1655  
breadandroses99@hotmail.com

The YMCA of the Merrimack Valley  
40 Lawrence St  
Lawrence, MA 01840  
(978) 686-6191

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence  
38 Lawrence Street  
Lawrence, MA 01840  
(978) 687-0331  
(978) 689-4080 Fax
## Appendix II: UML Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:Lisa_Abdallah@uml.edu">Lisa_Abdallah@uml.edu</a></td>
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