From the Dean

Dear Alumni, Friends and Colleagues,

I'm delighted to announce the launch of our new College of Health Sciences website. You'll notice vibrant photos and improvements in navigation. The new design is intended to make it easier for people to view information on any device. As you browse, take a look at our new videos about faculty research, nursing simulation and clinical lab science students.

I hope you can join me at an exclusive reception before the UMass Lowell vs. Northeastern University hockey game on Friday, Feb. 5. The date coincides with National Wear Red Day, an initiative of the American Heart Association to raise awareness in the fight against the number one killer of women – heart disease. Enjoy refreshments and cash bar in the Talon Club before catching the game in a special reserved section for Health Sciences alumni and friends. See more details and register now.

Best,

Shortie McKinney
Dean of the College of Health Sciences
University of Massachusetts Lowell

Upcoming Events

Friday, Feb. 5 -- UMass Lowell Hockey vs. Northeastern University
and the College of Health Sciences Pre-Game Reception
6 p.m., Pre-Game Reception, Talon Club, Tsongas Center
7 p.m., Game, Tsongas Center

Register Now

Your annual contribution is more than a gift -- it's an investment in current UMass Lowell students and all the great work they will accomplish now and in the future. www.uml.edu/givenow
New Website Launched

We're excited to transition to the university's new responsive design that allows readers to view content more easily on any device. If you're viewing the website on a small device, or if you have the browser on your desktop magnified, and don't see the navigation on your left, click on the three lines in the upper-right hand corner to view the navigation. Check out our new website.

Researchers Use Smartphones to Improve TB Diagnosis

Assoc. Prof. Maria Julia Brunette of Work Environment is collaborating with computer science Assoc. Prof. Benyuan Liu and Asst. Prof. Yu Cao to develop a mobile device-based, computer-aided system for TB screening. The project, which is being funded by a four-year, $1.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation through the interagency program Smart and Connected Health, aims to design a solution based on novel image processing, machine learning and mobile-computing techniques. Read more.
$2M Grant Trains Public Health Graduate Students

When Erica Lancaster was an undergraduate public health student, she worked two part-time jobs to stay afloat. Now as a graduate student in the Master of Public Health (MPH) epidemiology program, she gets to concentrate on her schoolwork, thanks to a federal grant awarded to the university from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The $2 million, five-year grant continues a 25-year tradition at UMass Lowell, supporting graduate students in their public health and occupational health and safety studies. Read more.

Nursing Academic Excellence

Shalin Liu, major donor for the Shalin Liu Nursing Academic Excellence Scholarship and Shalin Liu Internship, was honored at the luncheon in Allen House. From left to right, College of Health Sciences Dean Shortie McKinney, School of Nursing Interim Dean Karen Devereaux Melillo, nursing students Erica Elia, Tanyaradzwa ‘Tanya’ Vazhure, Maggie Scacca and Kelsey Barrett, Asst. Prof. Yuan Zhang, Prof. Lisa Abdallah.
Health Students Collaborate to Improve Care

Sophomore nursing student Brandon Moore listened carefully as a seven-month pregnant patient described numbness and pain in her arm. Working side-by-side with physical therapy students, Moore realized the power of collaboration in health care. “Two heads are better than one — that was demonstrated during this activity. I learned that if people from many health fields work together, we can come to a diagnosis faster, which is very helpful in patient care and recovery. I think the PT students held the missing puzzle pieces in my own diagnoses, and vice versa. It’s all a matter of perspective,” says Moore. Read more.

Researchers Receive $3M Grant to Improve Health of Farmers

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded UMass Lowell and Mahidol University in Thailand a $3 million grant to conduct research that aims to improve agricultural health in Southeast Asia. The five-year grant is one of seven awarded by NIH to establish Global Environmental and Occupational Health Hubs (GEOHealth Hubs), regional research and training centers in low to middle income countries. “We’re excited about the opportunity to increase research capacity with our Thai colleagues to help improve the health of farmers in Thailand and around the globe,” says Prof. Susan Woskie of the Department of Work Environment in the Division of Public Health. Read more.