I am delighted to be writing this newsletter for the first time as Dean of the Graduate School of Education. As you may know, I have served in this position in an interim capacity for five years, but in April 2012, after a national search, I was appointed as the permanent dean. I am honored to assume the role. UMass Lowell has been my home since the 1980s. I began as a graduate student, having come from England for a 9 month stay in the USA. I had every intention of returning to my teaching position in the UK, but the rest, as they say, is history. After my appointment as a faculty member in 1992 I knew that UMass Lowell was where I wanted to continue my career. I shall always be grateful to Dean Virgina Biggy who talked me into taking a Teaching Assistantship position and to Vice Provost Donald Pierson who let me loose to deliver science education to many teachers in the local schools. I look forward to many years ahead working with wonderful faculty, staff and students.

I thank you all for your support.
Because of the growth in student numbers at UMass Lowell, this year saw two commencement ceremonies. Undergraduate students were awarded their degrees in the morning, while graduate students joined the afternoon celebrations. Jessica Huizenga, who received her doctoral degree from the Graduate School of Education, was chosen to give the graduate student address. She spoke of the opportunities her UMass Lowell degree had afforded her and the support she received from the faculty who guided her through her two graduate degrees. Jessica was also the recipient of the Graduate School of Education’s Outstanding Education Research Award.

At this year’s commencement, thirteen doctoral degrees were awarded.

Theodore Carey, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Stacy Szczesiul); Deborah Finch, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Judith Davidson); Elise Frangos, Language Arts and Literacy (Chair: Dr. Jay Simmons); Lisa Golobski Twomey, Language Arts and Literacy (Chair: Dr. Elizabeth Bifuh-Ambe); Stacy Grillo, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Jill Lohmeier); Leslie Bolinger Horton, Mathematics and Science Education (Chair: Dr. Regina Panasuk); Richard Howarth, Mathematics and Science Education (Chair: Dr. David Lustick); Jessica Huizenga, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Stacy Szczesiul); Mary McCarthy, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Judith Davidson); Deborah McMakin, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Michaela Colombo); Kathleen Ryan, Language Arts and Literacy (Chair: Dr. Lorraine Dagostino); Andrea Somoza-Norton, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. James Carifio); Marguerite Weidknecht, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. James Nehring).

As well as the doctoral degrees, seventeen Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degrees and 122 Master’s degrees were awarded. The Coburn Awards for outstanding qualities of teaching effectiveness went to Sarah Treacy (right) Elementary Education and Kathryn Myer (left) Secondary Education.
GSE Faculty News

PETALLs GRANT
Congratulations go to Associate Professor Michaela Colombo and her co-PIs Elizabeth Bifuh-Ambe and Judith Boccia, on being awarded over $1.6 million from the US Department of Education to Prepare Excellent Teachers of All (English) Language Learners (PETALLs). The project is a collaboration with the Lawrence Public Schools and has components for para-professional training, as well as inservice professional development and preservice teacher education.

CREATIVE ECONOMY GRANT
David Lustick and Jill Lohmeier received funding from the UMass President’s office to extend understanding of climate change through their Cool Science project. Cool Science invites students of all ages to create and submit a visual work of art about climate change. The best 6 entries will be placed throughout Lowell’s mass transit system in 2013 and be seen by thousands of people every day!

UMASS LOWELL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS
Public service awards are given to faculty who identify projects which have the potential to make an impact regionally as well as lead to other sources of funding. Two education faculty have recently received these awards. Associate Professor James Nehring received an award for his work, “Redefining Performance, Disseminating Principles and Practices for 21st Century Learning.” Assistant Professor Phitsamay Uy also received a public service award for “Evaluating and Disseminating “PETALLs” a University – K-12 School District Professional Model.”

UTEACH UMASS LOWELL
After the GSE received $1.6 million to replicate the UTeach program at UMass Lowell, I am delighted to report that 54 STEM majors have enrolled in the first course, Inquiry Approaches to Teaching, this fall. The UTeach program is housed in Pasteur 106. Go to www.uml.edu/uteach for more information.

New Appointments

JOHN BROWN
Dr. John Brown joined the faculty in September 2012 as a Lecturer in English Education. John received his Ed.D. from UMass Lowell and brings a wealth of teaching experience to our faculty.

IRENE MARTIN
Irene Martin joined the UTeach program as a master teacher. Her career began as an engineer, but for the last 11 years she has been a high school math teacher.
20th Anniversary Quilt Exchange/Exhibit
Written by Jolie Tulley, UMass Lowell undergraduate student, English Department

The Tsongas Industrial History Center exchanged quilts with the New England Quilt Museum at the UMass Lowell Bellegarde Boathouse on Monday, June 4th, in honor of their 20th and 25th anniversaries, respectively, commemorating their shared history and community involvement. This collaborative quilting project began under the direction of TIHC museum teacher Florence Baturin, who worked in partnership with Rhonda Galpern, Program Outreach Manager of the New England Quilt Museum. For the quilt the TIHC contributed, Baturin stitched together 25 squares of Boott Cotton Mills fabric and staff members designed numbers for the quilt and signed the back. The Museum presented the TIHC with a quilt that was assembled by both NEQM and TIHC staff and that incorporated fabric handwoven by campers from the TIHC’s summer program and cloth donated by the Boott Cotton Mills.

The exchange took place during “A Celebration of Partnership – An Evening by the River with the Tsongas Industrial History Center,” the final event of a series of anniversary events hosted by the TIHC since October. Speakers included TIHC Director Sheila Kirschbaum, UMass Lowell Chancellor Marty Meehan, U.S. Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, Lowell National Historical Park Assistant Superintendent Peter Aucella, Mayor Patrick Murphy, and State Senator Eileen Donoghue. About 120 people attended, including community leaders, city officials, UMass faculty and staff, and TIHC staff.