From the Dean

Dear Alumni, Friends and Colleagues,

It's a very exciting time in the life of the campus and for our college. We are excited to welcome Jacqueline Moloney to her new role as our new chancellor. She is already making positive contributions for our university. We hope that you will join us to celebrate this important milestone by joining us at Chancellor Moloney's inauguration on Thursday, Oct. 22. Everyone is invited to the ceremony and we would love to see you.

I am especially pleased to introduce you to the College of Health Sciences 16 new faculty members. This is the largest incoming group of faculty in the history of the college. I'm thrilled with the caliber of their expertise in research areas such as anti-microbial drug resistance (Lu), yoga to improve health outcomes (Thind), immunological factors in arthritis (Lubchenko) and mobility in post-stroke patients (Kao). We have also recruited outstanding educators and clinicians who will be contributing to new strategies to increase student success in the classroom, lab and clinical practice.

We are embarking on innovative opportunities for our students. See the stories below about

Upcoming Events

Oct. 22: Chancellor Moloney’s Inauguration
10 a.m. Ceremony, 11:30 a.m. Luncheon at the Tsongas Center, Lowell.
5:30 p.m. Inaugural Gala, Inn and Conference Center, Lowell.
Read more. Register Now.

Oct. 23 to 24: Homecoming
Join us for River Hawk Homecoming.
View the schedule of events.

Save the Date -- 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
More details will become available at www.uml.edu/alumni or contact Alumni_Office@uml.edu, 978-934-3140.

River Hawk Talk: Virtual Networking Hour

By participating in our online networking hours, you'll build meaningful connections with fellow River Hawks from various industries. Every seven minutes, you will be
student internships and our partnership with the College of Engineering and the DifferenceMaker program.

We invite you to share your good news with us. We always like to hear about your successes.

Enjoy the Fall Season.

Best,

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

Welcome to New Faculty

Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences

Lecturer Suzie Byun teaches Physiological Chemistry Lecture and Lab and Organic Chemistry Lab. She holds a M. A. in Chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Emory University, Atlanta. She has worked as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Wesleyan University in the area of molecular dynamics simulations of DNA, and then as a Postdoctoral Faculty Fellow at Boston University where she taught freshman General Chemistry. Read more.

Lecturer Lynn DiBenedetto spent a year at the University of London, Royal Holloway College studying physiology and immunology while an undergraduate in biological sciences at Mount Holyoke College. As a master’s candidate in science education, she developed a handbook of biological and physical science experiments for secondary teachers to be used at the beginning of classes to stimulate student interest and initiate student inquiry. She presented a paper detailing the path of the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve in humans as it related to incidences of nerve entrapment during hernia repair at the Mayo Clinic. Since graduate school, she has taught at several institutions and been a visiting lecturer at the University of California, Riverside. Read more.
Lecturer Michelle Hunt teaches anatomy and physiology courses. Her teaching experience has been with foundational courses in a variety of health sciences programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Her graduate degrees and clinical background are in physical therapy. Michelle is involved with education and advocacy for suicide prevention and is on the National Public Policy Council for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Read more.

Prof. Chung-Dar Lu's research focuses on systems microbiology, functional genomics, antibiotic resistance and exploration of metabolic pathways. His interdisciplinary research projects, in collaboration with colleagues in Chemistry and Computer Science, have been funded by the National Science Foundation. Before joining UMass Lowell, he served as director of the Ph.D. doctoral program in Molecular Genetics and Biochemistry, associate director of the Molecular Basis of Diseases Program, and a member of the Center for Diagnostics and Therapeutics at Georgia State University (GSU). Read more.

Assoc. Prof. Taras Lyubchenko’s scientific interests are in areas of immunology, autoimmunity, cell biology and signal transduction. His research programs have been focused on T and B lymphocyte activation and antigen receptor signal transduction mechanisms, complement-mediated B cell activation in inflammatory autoimmune diseases (rheumatoid arthritis, lupus), bioinformatics and computational approaches to the modeling of signal transduction processes, development of signaling-based biomarkers for autoreactive lymphocytes and identification of signal transduction targets for pharmacological interference to prevent autoimmune activation. He leads NIH-funded immunological clinical and translational studies in human subjects and animal models that utilize cutting edge cell signaling research methods. Read more.
Asst. Prof. Kelsey M. Mangano's research interests include exploring the relation between nutritional factors and musculoskeletal health among aging adults. Current projects include protein intake patterns and how they are differentially associated with bone and muscle health, and polyunsaturated fatty acids and their association with muscle mass, strength and function. She holds an adjunct faculty appointment at the Institute for Aging Research, Hebrew SeniorLife, Harvard Medical School affiliate. Read more.

Lecturer Suzanne Moore is a graduate of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine and is currently licensed to practice medicine in both Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, The Humane Society of the United States and the New Hampshire Veterinary Medical Association. She is currently on the board of the Canobie Lake Protection Association and is a wildlife volunteer for the New Hampshire Fish and Game. Her areas of interest are human and veterinary pathophysiology, anatomy and physiology, veterinary forensics and zoonotic diseases. Read more.

Nursing

Visiting Faculty Member Marni Kellogg is a Certified Pediatric Nurse and Ph.D. candidate at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. She began her nursing career as a pediatric nurse at Shriners Hospital for Children in Boston and has worked as a staff nurse at Shriners Hospital for Children in Houston. She has taught pediatric nursing since 2008. She co-authored a publication, "The Lived Experience of Pediatric Burn Nurses Following Patient Death," for which she was presented Pediatric Nursing’s 2014 Donna Wong Literary Award. Read more.
Clinical Asst. Prof. Patricia MacCulloch teaches Advanced Practice Nursing graduate level courses and an undergraduate geriatric health promotion course. She is also involved with coordinating practicum learning and internship opportunities for undergraduate gerontological nursing students throughout the greater Lowell area. Her present experience includes actively practicing as an Adult Nurse Practitioner at UMass Memorial Healthcare in Worcester and Senior Healthcare Associates of Newton. She is a consultant for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) as an older adult fall prevention content expert, collaborating with DPH through the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund program. Read more.

Asst. Prof. Mazen El Ghaziri's interest includes workplace violence, focused on the organization of work and the work environment. Throughout his postdoctoral experience, he has been able to augment his interests in workplace violence, work organization and the work environment with a bio-behavioral approach to preventive interventions. His interests in correctional officers’ health and wellness, the nursing workforce and the aging workforce have all meshed with the cross-disciplinary approaches. Mazen’s career highlights include being the Magnet Coordinator for the 1st Magnet designated facility in the Middle East (Lebanon) and as cabinet member of the Order of Nurses in Lebanon. Read more.

Asst. Prof. Brenna Quinn began coursework for her Ph.D. at the University of Massachusetts Boston in September of 2011, immediately after finishing the nursing program at UMass Lowell. Encouraging nurses to partake in the seamless model of nursing education is a professional issue that is not only important to Brenna, but vital to the sustainability of the nursing discipline. She has published on the topic in the American Journal of Nursing and presented evidence in support of the seamless model along with her experiences as a seamless learner to the Royal College of Nursing, the United Kingdom’s nursing union. Her clinical research area involves the health of schoolchildren with special needs. Read more.
Assoc. Prof. Deborah D’Avolio's background is in gerontological research, with specific training and expertise in key research and practice areas. She completed a two-year, competitive John A. Hartford Foundation postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania, Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence. She has held various academic appointments, including a Nurse Scientist appointment at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) where she mentored several MGH Munn Nursing Research Center Grant Awards. She has served as PI, co-PI and consultant on several studies that have examined issues related to aging. Read more.

Public Health

Lecturer Robert Holmes spent the last decade managing a program for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that provides an integrated package of health and social services to the frail elderly. He was responsible for writing and interpreting state and federal regulations and policies for the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Prior to this, he spent over two decades in health care serving in management and clinical roles in both the hospital and community setting. Read more.

Visiting Professor Steven Coughlin has a broad background in epidemiology, cancer prevention and control, veterans health, women’s health and health disparities. As a faculty member at Georgetown University School of Medicine and acting director of the Lombardi Cancer Research Center Biostatistics Unit, he participated in the planning and conduct of community-based research residents of the District of Columbia and oncology clinical and preventive trials. Community studies were planned in collaboration with several health institutions and organizations in the District. While a faculty member at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, he planned and conducted community-based research on the early detection of breast and cervical cancer in diverse communities in southern Louisiana. Read more.
Asst. Prof. Herpreet Thind has degrees in clinical medicine and public health. Her research interests include health behavior change interventions for obesity and chronic diseases including diabetes. She has been involved in various funded research projects and currently serves as a Co-Investigator on a NIH/NCCIH-funded project to examine the feasibility of yoga for adults with type 2 diabetes. She has received several awards and scholarships including the Graduate School Fellowship, Isaac Capilouto Scholarship, and the Student Assembly Scholarship from the American Public Health Association. She is an inducted member of the Delta Omega National Public Health Honor Society. Read more.

**Physical Therapy**

Asst. Prof. Pei-Chun Kao's research interests include understanding walking instability in individuals after neurological injuries and identifying general principles of neuromuscular retraining in pathologic gaits, with the goal of developing effective and affordable rehabilitation interventions and alternatives. The areas she is specifically interested in are falls prevention, community-based exercise intervention, and wearable devices for biofeedback and assistance. She is a member of the American Society of Biomechanics and the Gait & Clinical Movement Analysis Society. Read more.

**Students Take Charge in Summer Internships**

Health Sciences students challenged themselves this summer by working in laboratories, nursing homes and exercise facilities locally and across the country -- all to help them gain experience and make an impact. While most Health Sciences students gain work experience as a requirement of their majors, summer internships give them an added boost, helping them try different roles related to their field and stand out once they graduate. “This internship experience has increased my critical thinking and troubleshooting skills thanks to some of the challenges we have faced working with the instruments,” says Kassie Pavlakos. Read more.
Student Alumni Ambassadors Represent the College of Health Sciences

Student Alumni Ambassadors from the College of Health Sciences are pictured with Dean Shortie McKinney during the 4th Annual Student Alumni Ambassador Pinning Ceremony. From left, Charlene Clerveau ’17, Dean Shortie McKinney, Connor Miller ’17, Ashley Cochran ’16, Jonathan Knittel ’18 and Catherine York ’18.

Twenty-eight students were inducted at the 4th Annual Student Alumni Ambassador Pinning Ceremony by faculty, staff and families. Of these, five were College of Health Sciences students. The Student Alumni Ambassadors are a select group of students who serve as liaisons within the alumni community, which builds relationships among students and alumni and fosters UMass Lowell pride. They benefit from extensive training in networking and leadership.
Health and Engineering Mix It Up

Students demonstrated the power of ingenuity when people think beyond their disciplines. To motivate first-year students to solve problems in teams, the College of Health Sciences and the College of Engineering held a mixer event for health and engineering students that got them thinking about projects for the DifferenceMaker competition.