From Bedford to Broadway

“If There’s Something You Really Want, You’ll Find a Way to Make it Happen”

— Bonnie Comley
Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends:

It has never been more clear that the University of Massachusetts Lowell and the entire University of Massachusetts system have an enormously important role to play in helping to strengthen the economy and social vitality of the state.  Our immediate region, the Merrimack Valley, suffered some of the worse job losses in the nation during the recent economic downturn. Particularly hard hit were high-technology businesses. Through this difficult period, the Lowell campus has pressed ahead with innovative research and assistance for new business ventures, all in service of our mission to support sustainable regional development. Related to this charge, we have organized a new regional development office to further focus our efforts and to broaden and deepen our impact.

Drs. Edward March and Selma Botman, both of whom have extensive experience in the practice and study of regional development, are leading a faculty task force whose objective is to work with the industries now driving or poised to drive the regional and state economy, matching UMass Lowell’s resources with their needs. This is an integrated approach, with our staff and faculty linking with state economic development agencies, the City of Lowell planning department, and legislative leaders.

As we redouble our efforts on campus and beyond, your support is vital. We are most grateful for the generosity shown by our graduates, friends, and supporters in the private and public sectors. Our objective is to foster a stable, high quality of life for this generation and future generations in the Commonwealth. Again, thank you for your continued support. Your gifts and volunteer efforts help assure that our excellent programs are accessible to all and that we can contribute to Massachusetts at the highest level.

Sincerely,

William T. Hogan
Chancellor
**FEBRUARY 2004**

**February 2-10**
Alumni Campus Abroad Cultural Season
Orvieto, Italy

**Wednesday, February 4**
Women's Basketball vs. Bentley College
Costello Gym 5:30p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Bentley College
Costello Gym 7:30 p.m.
UML North

Tuesday Harney
"Selections" paintings and works on paper
Dagan Gallery
UML South
Exhibit Reception 2.4 p.m.

**Saturday, February 7**
Women's Basketball vs. Merrimack College
Costello Gym 2 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Merrimack College
Costello Gym 4 p.m.
UML North

**Sunday, February 8**
Hockey vs. Providence
Tsongas Arena 2 p.m.

**Tuesday, February 10**
STARTS Program
"First in Flight: Wright Brothers"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**February 11- March 18**
Alumni Holidays Escape Program
London, England

**February 4 - February 25**
"Art & Copy"
Dagan Gallery
UML South
Curated by Prof. Karen Roehr and
Amo Minkinnen
Reception: Feb. 11, 2-4 p.m.

**Friday, February 13**
Hockey vs. UNH
Tsongas Arena 7 p.m.

**Saturday, February 14**
Women's Basketball vs. Assumption
Costello Gym 2 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Assumption
Costello Gym 4 p.m.
UML North

**Wednesday, February 18**
Women's Basketball vs. AIC
Costello Gym 5:30 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. AIC
Costello Gym 7:30 p.m.
UML North

**Saturday, February 21**
Hockey vs. Boston College
Tsongas Arena 7 p.m.

**Tuesday, February 24**
STARTS Program
"Amelia Bedelia 4 Mayor"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**Wednesday, February 24**
Women's Basketball vs. SNH
Costello Gym 5:30 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. SNH
Costello Gym 7:30 p.m.
UML North

**Friday, February 27**
Hockey vs. Maine
Tsongas Arena 7 p.m.

**Saturday, February 28**
All Alumni Hockey Night
UML vs. Maine
Tsongas Arena 7 p.m.

**MARCH 2004**

**March 3 – A April 7**
Doug Bosch
Installation
University Gallery
UML South
Reception: March 3, 2-4 p.m.

**Thursday, March 4**
Hockey vs. Merrimack College
Tsongas Arena 7 p.m.

**Friday, March 5**
Alumni Golf Tournament and Luncheon
Naples, Florida

**Sunday, March 7**
Tomas Kubinek: Certified Lunatic & Master of the Impossible
Family Discovery Series
Dagan Hall
UML South

**March 10 – April 7**
3D Sculpture, Paper, Ceramics
Curated by Jim Coates
Dagan Gallery
UML South
Reception: March 10, 2-4 p.m.

**Friday, March 12**
STARTS Program
"Jim West's Dinosaurs"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**Wednesday, March 17**
STARTS Program
"Very Eric Carle"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**Friday, March 19**
STARTS Program
"Remembering the World of Anne Frank"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**APRIL 2004**

**Thursday, April 1**
STARTS Program
"New Kid"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**Sunday, April 4**
SCRAP Arts Music
Family Discovery Series
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**Monday, April 5**
STARTS Program
"SCRAP Arts Music"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**April 14 – May 12**
Rob Millard
Interactive Sculpture
University Gallery
UML South
Reception: April 21, 2-4 p.m.

**A PRIL 15-16**
STARTS Program
"Charlotte’s Web"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**April 21 – May 12**
BIG student show
Dungan Gallery
UML South
Reception & Awards: April 28, 2-4 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 21**
Rob Millard
"Getting Shot Out of the Cannon"
University Gallery
UML South
Exhibit Reception 2-4 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 27**
STARTS Program
"Romeo and Juliet"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**May 15 – June 12**
BFA Candidates Spring 2004
University Gallery
UML South
Reception: May 15, 2-5 p.m.
University and Durgin galleries

**JUNE 2004**

**Sunday, May 2**
"Charlotte's Web"
Family Discover Series
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**Friday, May 7**
STARTS Program
"Tom Chapin and Friends: This Pretty Planet"
Durgin Concert Hall
UML South

**May 15 – June 12**
BFA Candidates Spring 2004
University Gallery
UML South
Reception: May 15, 2-5 p.m.
University and Durgin galleries

For more information on alumni activities, please check our Alumni Web site
calendar:www.uml.edu/Alumni or call the Office of Alumni Relations, toll free
(877) UML-ALUM or (978) 934-3140.

For more information on Athletics, go to
www.GORIVERHAWKS.com or call (978) 934-2310.

For more information on reservations on the Family Discovery Series, please call the Center for the Arts at (978) 934-4444. For more information and reservations on the SMARTS Program, (978) 934-4452.

Interested in subscribing to The Connector, UML’s student newspaper? Please call (978) 934-5009 or e-mail your request to
connector@uml.edu
Alumni who contribute to the University’s annual Lowell Fund provide much needed financial support for academic programs. Lowell fund gifts enable the University to meet current priorities by bridging the gap between tuition revenues and the cost of providing a high quality education.

The University depends on your help to maintain its level of excellence.

Your Lowell Fund gift provides the following:
- increased student scholarships,
- research opportunities for both graduates and undergraduates
- Support for talented faculty, and
- Improved technology on campus.

To put your gift to work today...

Mail your gift in the envelope attached to this magazine to:
Office of University Advancement,
600 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA 01854.

Charge your gift by calling Kathrine Hastings, director of The Lowell Fund, at (978) 934-4808 or e-mail your questions or comments to: kathrine_hastings@uml.edu

The Lowell Fund...
It’s your philanthropy at work.
Write to us using this form with news about your family, career, or hobbies. If you send us a photo we will gladly include it and return it to you after it appears. This form may also be used for updating a new business or home address or phone number. Be sure to give us your e-mail address so you can receive our e-newsletter.

Please send to:
UMass Lowell
Office of Alumni Relations
Wannamaker Mills Complex
600 Suffolk St.
Lowell, MA 01854-3629
Fax: (978) 934-3111
E-mail: Alumni_Office@uml.edu

What topics would you enjoy reading more about — Alumni, Students, Faculty, Campus?

News about you:

Please check the activities with which you would like to help:

- Alumni Relations Council
- College/Departmental Activities
- Young Alumni Council
- Regional Chapters
- Career Services (LCA)
- Class Reunions
- Fall Festival Committee

Please send me a copy of the latest Lowell Alumni Handbook, which includes information on all alumni benefits, services and activities.

Thank you!
Girls Get WISE About Career Choices

Walking through Olney Hall, the classrooms and laboratories were full of middle-school girls folding paper to create satellites, practicing intubations and CPR on a dummy, and measuring and weighing compounds to make pharmaceuticals.

Four hundred middle-school girls descended on campus for the eighth annual Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) day, sponsored by Philips Medical Systems, Genzyme and Lowell Sun Charities. With more than two dozen workshops to choose from, including What Does the Army Eat?, girls were exposed to a wide variety of engineering (WISE) day, sponsored by Philips Medical Systems, Genzyme and Lowell Sun Charities. With more than two dozen workshops to choose from, including What Does the Army Eat?, girls were exposed to a wide variety of engineering disciplines.

To continue to encourage the girls’ interest in science, engineering and technology, WISE awards 25 scholarships for summer science and engineering camps.

In the Land of Bobble, Kerouac Is King

When it comes to unforgettable gimmicks, the University’s Kerouac bobblehead doll would go to the first 1,000 fans through the gate. A moment later, the doll’s oversized, wobbling head was gracing the pages of The Boston Globe, the New York Times, then Sports Illustrated. Soon, television personalities from CNN to ESPN were blurting about the Beat era chotchkie.

Kerouac was renowned for his trademark “spontaneous prose.” But he’d never seen anything this spontaneous.

“We were getting letters and calls from everywhere, people begging to get a doll, pleading their case,” says Holladay. “The Spinners’ office put up a world map where they’d stick a tack every time they got a call.”

Holladay and the Spinners were stunned. They ordered 250 more dolls and decided to sell them on the Spinners’ Web site for $20 each, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the University’s Kerouac scholarship program.

The dolls went on sale on a Friday afternoon. By Saturday morning, they had 750 orders.

Through it all, Holladay has been asked time and again if the Beat icon would approve of his likeness cast in bobble.

“Kerouac had a great sense of humor. And like most writers, he wanted acclaim,” she says. “I think he would’ve gotten a real kick out of it.”

Home Movies Hold Reel History

There aren’t too many of us who would accept a neighbor’s invitation to come over for an evening of watching old home movies. The phrases “Here’s Wendell’s first steps” or “Let’s put in Kimmy’s first day of school” don’t necessarily stir viewing excitement in anyone beyond the immediate family.

Yet, these “personal documents” can offer a wealth of information for anyone interested in understanding various aspects of twentieth-century life. In order to preserve this potential data, Prof. Chad M. Ontrie, history, is collecting home movies and videos to create an archive for researchers interested in interpreting that past.

Montrie came up with the idea while watching his family’s own home movies, thinking about how amazing it was to see aspects of the history.

“It occurred to me that these sources were fairly numerous and there was no good explanation for why twentieth-century historians haven’t been using them,” Montrie says. “Ideally, I will begin teaching a course on U.S. social history with home movies starting in the fall of 2004.”

The University’s Media Services agreed to store donated videocassettes.

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There are many subjects and themes that home movies allow historians to explore. Montrie says, from holiday rituals to social activism to recreational events. These mini-documentaries may provide insight into how a Merican life is shaped by class, race, ethnicity, gender and modernity in general.

A nyone interested in contributing old home movies, or who would like more information about the project, may contact Montrie at Chad_M_ontrie@uml.edu or by phoning (978) 934-4275.

SRT Has New Recording/Learning Studio

Sound Recording Technology (SRT) has a new classroom — a Critical Listening and Recording Studio that Prof. William Moylan says is “perfect in its accuracy.”

Moylan, chair of the Music Department, says the new studio in Durgin Hall is being used for recording and critical listening. In addition to supporting undergraduate projects, Moylan says, the facility will be an asset to graduate students in the proposed SRT master’s program he hopes to launch in the fall.

Bill Carman, associate director of sound recording technology facilities, says, “This room isn't just providing cutting edge technology, it's defining what cutting edge is.”

Prof. William Moylan, left, chair of music and sound recording coordinator; and Bill Carman, associate director of sound recording technology facilities, try out the new Critical Listening and Recording Studio in Durgin Hall.
**Roehr Has Designs on the Repertory Theatre**

UMass Lowell Art Prof. Karen Roehr is playing a major role in every production of Lowell M erimack Repertory Theatre’s 25th season, yet she never takes the stage.

Roehr was brought on board to serve as MRT’s Art Director/Designer, designing every promotional piece for all the 2003-04 shows, from playbills to brochures to posters. She even suggested and created a bookmark highlighting the season’s seven plays to appeal to avid readers who may be less familiar with the organization, Roehr will encourage them to look to UMass Lowell for student interns.

**Robots That Have Been to War Visit Campus**

A robot that worked well in the lab might not work at all at the World Trade Center’s Ground Zero, where features were covered by masses of loose paper and camouflaging dust.

A robot that works in the lab won’t work in Afghanistan unless it can be carried up a mountain on a soldier’s back.

A robot that works in the lab, but requires a small truckload of guidance and control equipment, will not be useful in Iraq.

Faculty and students in computer science learned a lot more about the practical, real-world functioning of robots from recent guest speakers at events organized by A sz, Prof. Hol lYanco for undergraduate and graduate students in computer science.

Mark M icire, president and CEO of American Standard Robotics, was a graduate student at the University of South Florida when he participated in robot-assisted search and rescue at the World Trade Center following the terrorist attack.

Robots have proved useful in search and rescue situations, as they can venture into spaces too small or dangerous for people or dogs. But Micire said the conditions at the Trade Center were much more challenging than any previously encountered.

“PackBot”—a tough, portable robot that has been deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq—came to campus and was demonstrated by Army Col. Bruce Jette.

Jette directs the Rapid Equipping Force, what he calls “geeks at war,” a group that evaluates operational problems in the field and solves them.

The PackBot, made by IRobot in Burlington, uses up to 12 cameras to provide visual information to troops and can operate in rough areas such as Afghanistan, where “the terrain has two features: horizontal and vertical.” It also can trip mines and trip-wires.

**Stents are small wire-mesh cylinders; they are threaded through blocked arteries in angioplasty procedures and the wire mesh locks open to prop open the arteries. Athough bare metal stents were a significant advance over bypass surgery, nearly a third of patients experi ence a restenosis, or narrowing, of the artery within some weeks of surgery.**

“Coating the stent with an anti-proliferative drug helps prevent the restenosis of the artery,” explains Faust. (Boston Scientific uses the drug paclitaxel and in the clinical trial only 7.9 percent of patients showed signs of significantly narrowed arteries after the implant, compared with 26.6 percent in the control group.) “But the drug must have a polymer carrier for retention of the drug on the stent.”

Faust has worked with Boston Scientific for three years, perfecting and developing production techniques for the polymer—specifically, a copolymer, produced by the living cationic polymerization process that Faust helped to pioneer.

Boston Scientific teamed up with Faust because he is recognized as one of the foremost experts in this technology.

Faust and his research group, in collaboration with polymer scientists at Boston Scientific, were responsible for scaling up the polymer carrier, from the few grams that can be processed in a test tube to the commercial scale production that Boston Scientific would need for a product launch into worldwide markets.

**Robots for the Future**

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A co-ed study of nearly 12,000 teens and young adults demonstrates that the employment experiences of 1988 were different from what was expected.

The study team, led by Prof. Monica Galizzi, has won a “Research Scientist Development Award” worth nearly $250,000 from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

The study, which is part of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79), will study workplace injuries and their impact on workers’ lives.

Business History Conference Brings 300 to Lowell

Following the success of the first Business History Conference last year, the conference is now moving to Lowell.

The conference, which will be held in June, will feature sessions on the history of business and industry in the region.

Colleges - Education

Graduate Education Receives NCATE Accreditation

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) has accredited the Graduate School of Education through 2007 for initial teacher preparation and advanced preparation levels.

Grad School of Ed Moves to South — Next Stop, Lawrence Mills

Four pairs of scissors snipped the red, white and blue ribbon that spanned the entrance to the fifth floor of O’Leary Library, the new home of the Graduate School of Education.

State Education Spending, Following Cuts, Drops below Level of Prison Allocations

Following deep cuts in state spending for higher education, the most recent of which saw the budget allocation of the UMass system slashed 20 percent, the state’s education appropriation stood at $816 million—$14 million less than the amount being spent for prisons and jails.

The new budget figures, from a report by the Massachusetts Taxpayers’ Association, set off a furor from legislators and consumer groups. “It says something very striking about the way that priorities have crept up on us,” said Cameron Huff of the Taxpayers Foundation. “You don’t see the same cuts in corrections because there’s nobody to shift the costs onto. In higher education, it’s been the students and parents who have borne the brunt of the cuts.”

Jack Wilson, UMass interim president, restated the University’s case for taxpayer involvement. “A investment in the University of Massachusetts truly represents an investment in the Commonwealth’s future,” he said.

Galizzi Receives Grant to Study Worker Injuries

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Ting Assumes the Reins

By Jon Wagener

W hen Prof. John Ting was asked, during an interview for the engineering dean’s job, what his primary goal would be for the college, his response was modest: “Survival.”

“Survival is good in this climate. If you come out in a few years time with your programs intact, with the quality you’re hoping for, that’s a pretty good goal all by itself,” said Ting, who was promoted last spring from chairman of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department to engineering dean. He replaced Krishna Vedula, who stepped down after eight years to become a program director for the National Science Foundation.

However, by all accounts, Ting is just the person to make sure the college thrives, as well as survives. Even though engineering, and the university as a whole, is grappling with budget cuts, faculty retirements and hiring freezes, Ting believes the current climate offers vast opportunities as well.

“I feel that we are faced with some incredible challenges — mainly fiscal ones brought on by the state budget crisis — as well as issues in ensuring a supply of well-trained, socially responsible engineers to meet the needs and demands of the regional and global economy,” he says.

“But now there is a tremendous opportunity to shape what’s happening. You have to think carefully about what is really important and how to achieve your goals the right way,” he adds.

A acknowledging that Vedula leaves “incredibly big shoes to fill,” Ting said he was looking forward to building upon established programs, with a continued focus on K-12 outreach, research and improvement of the freshman experience. He said he also hoped to spearhead some new initiatives, such as a civil engineering proposal to work with developing countries to help them create a sustainable infrastructure.

Ting received a bachelor’s degree from McGill University, a master’s from the California Institute of Technology and a doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology — all in civil engineering. Prior to joining the UMass Lowell faculty in 1990, he was a post-doctoral research fellow and lecturer at Cal Tech and a professor at the University of Toronto.

Vedula Leaves for Post at National Science Foundation

Krishna Vedula, who had served as UMass Lowell’s dean of engineering since 1995, has resigned that post to become a program director at the National Science Foundation.

He accepted the offer of a joint appointment between the Directorate of Education and Directorate of Engineering at NSF, and continues to hold a faculty position at U Mass Lowell.

John Ting, who has served as chair of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, is the new dean.

Vedula, well known in the business and technology communities for his commitment to education, will work on undergraduate education in math, science and engineering. He will also oversee existing programs, such as the Laboratory Improvements program, and aims to develop new programs as appropriate.

Vedula’s tenure with the College of Engineering included many innovations, such as the Engineering in Mass Collaborative, the summer Design Camp, after-school Design Lab, and the Introduction to Engineering course for school teachers.

Peru Project Celebrates 50

UMass Lowell’s Peru Project passed a milestone of sorts in 2003, having installed 50 renewable energy systems in 16 remote villages in the high Andes mountains.

Using solar or water power to generate electricity in places barely accessible by truck or mule, teams of students and faculty have installed emergency radios and vaccine refrigerators in clinics; placed laptop computers in schools and light fixtures in churches, town halls and village squares; and set up pumps for water distribution systems.

Project areas have expanded, with solar water heating, aquaculture projects and a sand filtration system for water purification.

July 2003 marked the thirteenth time that UMass Lowell teams have traveled to Peru on an international service project, and, in the process, have developed their own professional and personal skills. Besides the technologically skilled participants, nursing students have also joined the teams.

Mechanical engineering Prof. John Duffy, coordinator of the graduate program in energy engineering, leads two trips each year. He is struck by the impact that students bring to the task of helping others.

“It’s impressive to see that the students can make such a difference,” he says, “but this is only possible with the support of the local community.”

From left, UMass Lowell students Lara Thompson, who designed the sand filtration and water distribution system, and Stacy Biebitis, who oversaw the project.

A recent graduate in mechanical engineering, worked on. For her capstone project, Biebitis, along with partners Lara Thompson and Matt Johnson, designed a solar water pump and distribution system for the village and a sand filtration system to purify the water.

For his senior capstone project, Shawn Price developed an electronic device that has helped this youngster overcome a walking disorder. Sensors on the boy’s feet trigger warning sounds that help reinforce training received in physical therapy.

Krishna Vedula, left, who stepped down as dean of engineering, is presented with a UMass Lowell “chair from the chairs” by Alfred Donatelli, chair of chemical and nuclear engineering, and John Ting, chair of civil and environmental engineering. Ting was appointed the new dean of engineering.

A local youngster tries the water with UMass Lowell student Lara Thompson, who designed the sand filtration and water distribution system with Stacy Biebitis.

This was the second trip on which Duffy included nursing students on the team — Renee Michaud and Colleen Sousa. They completed nutrition and health surveys in hospitals in the larger towns and clinics in remote villages.

“The Rotary Club of Chelmsford and Rotary International gave us $27,000 for the summer trip,” Duffy says, “but that was very significant support.”

Duffy included this on the team, which had a problem walking.

Instead of striding normally, with the heel of each foot landing first, he walked on the balls of his feet.

The boy’s physical therapist, Lillian Beaudoin, felt that what he needed was some type of feedback device that would train him to break this walking habit.

A luck would have it, her husband worked at Elliot H. Capen in mechanical engineering. She had received a reputation for being a very resourceful person and her husband advised her to contact him.

“I called Shawn to see if he could help me with my project,” Beaudoin says, “and he said he was a perfect person and I needed his skills.”

W hat Price designed for this assistive technology capstone project was a simple, feedback device that the boy wore on a belt. The device received input from pressure-sensitive sensors on the boy’s feet that triggered warning sounds that helped reinforce training received in physical therapy.

University of Massachusetts Lowell
Legislature Backs Toxics Reduction Institute

It was a drama worthy of J.K. Rowling, but the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) had no magic wand to save the day—just cold, hard facts showing that Massachusetts is a cleaner state because of the Institute’s years of effort.

So when the Institute’s budget was vetoed in June, 30, those facts were shared with area legislators who, in turn, convinced their colleagues to save it.

With the start of the fiscal year on July 1, the Institute’s budget was reduced. Institute Director Ken Giese and a few other staffers kept vigil on Beacon Hill as the House spent a full week on votes overriding the governor’s vetoed items. The TURI item came up—and passed overwhelmingly—as the second week of voting began.

Giese said, “It is a vote of confidence in the 12 years of work with the businesses and citizens of Massachusetts to create a safer and cleaner environment.”

Rep. Thomas Golden of Lowell, who spearheaded the override effort in the House, said, “The Institute gives people throughout the Commonwealth the basic, fundamental opportunity to breathe clean air and drink clean water. The people at the Institute do wonderful work. They help businesses help themselves.”

His colleagues on both sides of the partisan divide agreed, with a vote of 129 to 18, to reinstate funds for TURI.

TURI Senate majority leader voted to restore funding, with Sens. Steven C. Panagiotakos of Lowell and Pamela Resor of Acton leading the effort in that branch.

UMass Lowell Joins Internet Research Network

The UMass system has joined 200 leading research universities, the federal government and industry on the powerful Internet2 network that enables researchers to share massive amounts of data with their peers around the world.

Using this network, scientists at UMass Lowell are collaborating with colleagues at Northeastern University and the University of New Hampshire on a $13 million National Science Foundation grant proposal to create a N anoscience Science and Engineering Center. The grant will advance research in nanotechnology manufacturing and attract nanotechnology firms to the region.

The five campuses of the UMass system are connected to the global network through the UMass-managed Massachusetts Information Turnpike Initiative, a high-speed network that links public higher education institutions, libraries and other public agencies to the Internet.

WJUL Gets A New Voice, A New Show and A New Name

For 20 years, on the UMass Lowell radio station, he had been the voice of the River Hawk hockey. For the past six years, you have heard him on WCCM and WLLH doing play-by-play for the Lowell Spinners. He has been a sports anchor, a news anchor, a debate moderator, and a regular on-air interview host.

His name is Bob Ellis. A nd what his name is familiar or not, if you’ve lived for any time at all in the Greater Lowell region, you’ve almost certainly heard his voice.

And now he is the voice of a new morning show on UMass Lowell’s student radio station.

Called “Lowell Sunrise” — the show is a roughly equal mix of local news, sports, traffic, weather and features. And, for the first time since the station’s inception more than 30 years ago, a major block of time — 25 hours a week — will be the province of a local news organization, Lowell Community Broadcasting.

But that’s not the only change.

While still at 91.5 on the FM dial, the station has changed its call letters from WJUL to WJUML to better reflect its status as a part of the UMass system. Other campuses in the system include WUMB at UMass Boston and WUMA at UMass Amherst.

The new program, produced by the Lowell Sun and Lowell Community Broadcasting in partnership with the University, airs from 5 to 10 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Chancellor William T. Hogan calls it “an opportunity to serve the region in a new way.”

For Ellis, his move to the University staff seems a natural step. “I’ve been around the area a long time,” he says. “And it’s not like I haven’t been involved with the station — I’ve been doing sports on JUL for over 20 years. Its just that I’ve now been offered a chance to take a slightly new direction — to help develop public radio within the greater Lowell community, to be a valuable resource for the region. And maybe, in the process, to create the potential for the station to have a wider reach.”

Ellis has made a career of reporting on the news and sports of small-town America. It began 28 years ago at a small station in a little town called Sayre, Penn. — his first job after graduating from Emerson in Boston in 1975— where he worked for less than a year. A fter that it was WEMJ in Laconia, N.H. — then WSNJ in Peterborough, then seven years at WBKB in Keene. At some point in the early ’80s, he was approached by a college in Minnesota to do a one-shot assignment: the play-by-play of a hockey game against the University of Lowell.

The call from U Lowell wasn’t long in coming — and before long Bob Ellis was the voice of the River Hawks.

And then of the Spinners.

“ And now this,” he says. “Another opportunity. A chance to build on what I know. A nd maybe, if they’ll let me, a chance to share with the students. To make a better station for everyone involved.”

Tsongas Event Center Kicks Off $1 Million DOE Grant

Lowell Superiorintendent of Schools Karla Brooks Baehr, a former history teacher, had enthusiastic and encouraging words for the nearly 60 teachers in attendance at the kick-off event for a federally funded Bringing History to Life grant.

“If we cannot make history come alive in Lowell, no one can do it. Lowell has all the ingredients to make history come alive for our kids,” she said, citing exceptional teachers and library media specialists as a history of extraordinary partnership with UMass Lowell; the National Park; a facility like the Tsongas Center; and “awesome” history in Lowell.

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the $1 million grant to the Lowell Public Schools, which will partner with the Tsongas Industrial History Center in the UMass Lowell Graduate School of Education, Center for Field Services and Studies and History Department, and the Lowell National Historic Park for a professional development program for Lowell’s fifth- and eighth-grade history teachers. This is the first part of a six-pronged approach to improve history education in the city.

Baehr encouraged the teachers to use the grant to improve ideas already being implemented in the classroom and to use this program as an opportunity to explore new ideas that need resources. The grant is looking beyond textbooks to other resources that will give a richer and fuller picture of the past.

Campus Outlook

Acton leading the effort in that branch.

The Senate similarly voted to restore funding, with Sens. Steven C. Panagiotakos of Lowell and Pamela Resor of Acton leading the effort in that branch.

Holding gears representing each Bringing History to Life grant partner, the topic of the project, are Prof. Karen Cosse-Bell, History; Interim Dean Charles Carroll, Division of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; James Corless, chief of interpretation and education, Lowell National Historical Park; Lowell Superintendent Karla Brooks Baehr; Prof. Judith Boccia, Center for Field Services and Studies; Prof. Patricia Fontaine, Graduate School of Education; and Dr. Peter O’Connell, Tsongas Industrial History Center.

Bob Ellis
Backpacks Become Welcome Gifts for Children Entering Foster Care

For children entering foster care, the transition can be swift and dramatic. Often they move into the system so quickly that they don’t have the opportunity to bring with them daily necessities others take for granted. Helping make this transition easier has been the motivation behind the Psychology Club’s Welcome Pack drive held over the past two years.

In its first year, the “Welcome Pack” drive collected more than 50 backpacks filled with personal items to be presented to children entering foster care. Last year, organizers presented more than 100 backpacks, containing items ranging from underwear and socks to age-appropriate toys and books, to representatives from the Department of Social Services.

Psychology major Maria Shay, right, presents backpacks being donated to the Department of Social Services. Shay and other members of the Psychology Club collected the Welcome Packs to benefit children entering foster care.

Chomsky Speaks to Overflow Crowd

Noam Chomsky, second from left, appeared on campus in the fall to discuss “Democracy and the Politics of War.” One sponsor of his talk was the Peace and Conflict Studies Institute, whose members include, from left, Prof. John MacDougall, Protestant Minister Imogene Stuiken, Prof. Robert Gamauche, and Asst. Prof. Daniel Egan.

Brooks Automation Selects Lowell for Switch to C++

Brooks Automation, Inc., is one step closer to switching to C++ programming after 15 employees graduated from its customized C++ training program. The company uses C++ programming to develop their embedded software for semiconductor, precision electronics, and other industries awarded the Massachusetts State Senate’s Tsongas Center Awarded $99,590 for River Education

The Center for Family, Work and Community (CFWC), along with dozens of project supporters, celebrated the grand opening of the “Wormcycler” greenhouse in October. The greenhouse is a major addition to the University’s Compost Education and Demonstration Site.

The 17-by-44-foot greenhouse will house the now-famous Red Wiggler worms — the core of CFWC’s vermicomposting project, which is recycling university food and yard waste into rich, usable compost.
Postdoctoral Fellow Scales

Kate Vorotnikova and her friends intended to go directly to the West Rib and climb that route to the top of 20,320-foot Mt. McKinley.

But the ranger advised against it because the weather was bad. So they made an ascent to the top along the much more difficult West Rib. This route is known as a “technical” climb because it involves very steep ascents over rock, ice and snow, and requires the use of ice screws, pitons, rope and other specialized equipment.

Vorotnikova and her friends made it to the top in six days, two of which she says were sunny and warm. On the final leg, it took them 14 hours to reach the summit and return to their camp.

“We were very tired. The snow was deep and it was a very tough climb,” she says.

Mountaineering obviously runs in the Vorotnikova family. The Vorotnikovas’ 16-year-old son and 13-year-old daughter each have won national climbing events in youth competition.

Creating Sunshine Through Technology

Tracey Ruth, right, a Lowell High School intensive special ed teacher, shares a smile with Calvin Atwood, second from right, a student in the class, at the recent a need sensory stimulation—visual, aural, tactile—to seriously impaired students. The prototype, adapted from a Danish model, provides much-needed sensory stimulation—visual, aural, tactile—to seriously impaired students at the school. The UML students, Brian Pelletier, left, and Paula Sachette, center, developed their projects under the direction of Walt McGuire, an adjunct professor of electrical engineering at UMass Lowell.

Kate Vorotnikova, a postdoctoral fellow in the University’s Biological Sciences Department, climbed Mt. McKinley last summer over the difficult West Rib route.

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Kate Vorotnikova, a postdoctoral fellow in the University’s Biological Sciences Department, climbed Mt. McKinley last summer over the difficult West Rib route.
Doug Prime, Prime Mover in K-12 Engineering Education

A part of Doug Prime’s genius as a teacher is that he’s never completely left fourth grade behind. That’s when Mr. Watson, elementary science for fifteen years (and now junior high), was teaching the wonders of homemade tin cans telegraphs and pickle jars light bulbs.

Of course, Doug Prime, a UMass Lowell 1988 mechanical engineering alumnus who also holds an M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction, can say things like, “I must learning at the secondary level is abstract and book driven; it’s decontextualized.”

It is also the principal investigator of a National Science Foundation A-SCEND (After School Centers for Exploration and Discovery) grant of $325,000.

“Who’s calling?” Tyngsboro High School student Mark Douglas, flanked by teammates Kristen Lemaire and Matt McOsker, demonstrates an easy-to-use telephone holder attached to a wheelchair. The student designed the adaptation for a client who had recently suffered a stroke and was wheelchair bound. The students designed the adaptation for a client who had recently suffered a stroke and was wheelchair bound.

The centerpiece of Prime’s vision is Design Camp, an assortment of workshops in science and engineering, offered as day camp during four weeks in July. He started the camp at UMass Lowell in the summer of 2000.

Using the experiences he had developed as a middle school science and technology teacher, he initiated an Electrical and Mechanical Gimus workshop and led all three sessions by himself. Fifty-five students participated that first year. A bout 370 attended Design Camp 2003, and nearly half were returnees from the previous summer.

Prime is particularly pleased that girls now make up nearly a third of all campers. They no longer teach himself, he does lead a couple of sessions of the same workshop. A dozen more science and technology teachers have created their own workshop offerings, ranging from Shipwreck Electronics (You’re on a desert island—could you use only your left hand?)

W hile he no longer teaches himself, he does lead a couple of sessions of the same workshop. A dozen more science and technology teachers have created their own workshop offerings, ranging from Shipwreck Electronics (You’re on a desert island—could you use only your left hand?) to Electrical and Mechanical Gizmos workshop and led all three sessions by himself.

Labs and classrooms are filled with kids—soldering, building, drilling, drawing, testing and talking. Observers are struck by how very engaged the youngsters are in what they are learning and doing.

Prime emphasizes that, although the program is a success, he does not want it to be an isolated accomplishment, and won’t be satisfied until it ripples out, and ripples out again, reaching into every classroom in the state.

Summer Design Camps have been established at both Boston University and UMass Dartmouth, with Prime serving as cheerleader and coach.

As corporate engineers, says Waterman, “We’ve recognized that if students reach college level and if they have the sort of experience that Design Camp provides, they don’t choose technology and engineering careers and this is a deterrent to our economy.”

What’s next for Doug Prime?

Doug Prime, left, of K-12 educational outreach for the college, presents Vedula with his own secret candy safe, sealed with an electromagnetic lock. The candy safe is a hallmark project for students in Design Camp, developed and directed by Prime.

Doug Prime, left, of K-12 educational outreach for the college, presents Vedula with his own secret candy safe, sealed with an electromagnetic lock. The candy safe is a hallmark project for students in Design Camp, developed and directed by Prime.

Corey Warren, also from the Wang School, uses a drill press to advance his project in DesignLab, which is funded by the National Science Foundation to encourage student interest in science and engineering.

“A good day would be more than a school—it would be a center of learning to hang all of our activities on. It would be a professional development center for teachers, a place they could spend an in-service year and see best practices in action.”
It was June 1981, midway through the first year of a three-year recession — the worst in two decades — when Bonnie Comley, who had majored in business while supporting herself as a lifeguard at the Woburn Y, got her Bachelor’s degree from U Lowell.

“There were no jobs,” she remembers today. “None, zero. All my friends who had majored in the sciences — plastics engineering, chemical engineering — they were being grabbed up right and left. But for a business major? In 1981? It was a tough, tough time to be looking for a job.”

She had grown up in Bedford, the second of four children of an elevator mechanic and his wife, the first in her family to finish college — which she managed only by dividing her off-time between the lifeguard job in Woburn and a job teaching swimming at a club in Tewksbury. Her choice of U Lowell had been an easy one: “It was my best chance for an education, it was where I could afford.” Her parents, she says, “were of that generation who believed that with a college degree you can write your own ticket in life. They had trouble understanding why I was having such a tough time landing a job.”

“I didn’t know what else to do. I was living at home, I’d had two jobs I’d hated, I wasn’t making any money, and my parents were asking me everyday — ‘So what are you going to do? And I thought about it. And what I figured out was, I’d always been attracted to show business — to movies, to T.V. So why not learn something about it? Why not give that a try?”

She landed one finally, as a bank teller (she can’t recall for what bank). That lasted six months (“It was so awful I wanted to jump out the window”), and was followed by a second job, this one with an investment company, making cold calls trying to sell mutual funds — in the dead of a recession, in the days before some people knew what a mutual fund was.

“Nobody was buying. Nobody. Some days I’d be almost in tears. Here I was, the first in my family ever to go to college, and what was I doing? Working as a bank teller? Making cold calls to strangers trying to sell mutual funds when nobody has any money to spend? I started asking myself: ‘Is this what I earned a degree for? Is this what I worked four years to do?’”

She decided it wasn’t. She decided to go back to school.

“If There’s Something You Really Want, You’ll Find a Way to Make it Happen”

“It was my best chance for an education, it was where I could afford.”

— Bonnie Comley

Bonnie, center, on a trip to Washington, D.C. during the winter of her senior year at U Lowell. With her are fellow classmates and student-council members Georgina Betses, left, and Lynne Travers.
In the fall of 1982, she enrolled in a Master’s program at Emerson College in Boston, where she learned the basics of broadcast journalism and got some hands-on experience with the production end of TV. There was a lot of it she didn’t care for (“I knew I didn’t want to direct or edit, and I wasn’t sure that writing was going to be my thing”), but the process in general was exciting, and the on-camera end of things was appealing from the start.

Then, in the summer of 1983, a year after her UMass Lowell graduation and midway through her two-year Emerson stint, the real world came knocking on her door.

“I got offered a job, with this little cable station in New Jersey. It wasn’t ideal. The first few months, they mostly just wanted me to do the Vanna White thing. You know, stand around in front of the camera and look pretty. But then things got better — it wasn’t long before they had me interviewing celebrities and theatre people, doing some pretty active stuff. I enjoyed that part a lot.”

But it didn’t last. A round the end of her second year, the producer sold the show to another network, which promptly cancelled it. A nd she was out of a job — it wouldn’t be the last time. “In this business,” says Bonnie, “every five minutes you’re looking for a job.”

A nd when you’re not looking, she says, you’re doing what you have to do to pay the rent: “No one can be Meryl Streep. But you scramble, you put in the hours, and, most of the time at least, you’re going to get where you want to go...”

A nd scramble she did. On ly this time there were no drudge jobs, no making change behind tellers’ windows or cold-calling annoyed homeowners who were trying to feed supper to their kids. A nd as hard as it was to hold a job behind the camera, she had learned at least that, one way or another, the camera would be her milieu.

“What did I do? Oh lord, what didn’t I do? I made some commercials, I did some modeling. I acted in an improv group. I was basically always hustling. But it was all performance stuff.”

Her next gig was a big step up: her own show on a cable channel, her first job as segment producer and host. It was called Nightlife TV, and it was on the Travel Channel — a roving host and reporter, highlighting the hotspots of New York. “We did a lot of restaurants, comedy clubs, that sort of thing. I had a lot of fun, met a lot of people. It was something different every night. For me at the time, it was pretty much a dream job.”

It lasted five years, ‘til 1990. Then the Travel Channel changed format, the Nightlife show got dumped, and Bonnie was back on the street. There was the usual spate of commercials and modeling, some voicemails, and — in the middle of it all — a stint at Queens College, where she produced a children’s video to complete her master’s degree. A nd all the while, as she remembers it: “I was having lunches with people and sending out demo tapes, trying to line up the next job. I was a little selective, I guess, but not very. You can’t afford to be selective, not if the rent’s going to get paid. You just adopt the attitude, ‘Okay, so that one’s over — so it’s on to the next thing.”

The “next thing,” as it turned out, would be the last. Or at least the last of its kind. In ’93 or ’94, she took a job reading scripts for a New York producer. A year or so later, through one of those scripts, she met another producer: a two-time Tony-winner (La Cage A ux Folles, Th e W ill Rogers Follies) by the name of Stewart Lane. A nd from then on, to hear her tell it, life pretty much took care of itself.

“It was just one of those things that happen. He had a script that needed reading; I read it, we got to talking... He was trying to make a career change at the time—he’d been a producer for years, he wanted to branch out more, to do more writing and directing. So we got talking about that, about how he could manage it, about some projects he had in mind. A nd things just went from there.”

They were married in ’97. A year later their daughter, Leah, was born. A nd since then, the landmarks and achievements—acting and producing, writing and directing, individually and together, Broadway, off-Broadway and summer stock—have been unfolding in a blur.

She earned her first producing credit—for JF: the Musical, in Dublin—as assistant to the producer (her husband), the year before they married. T hen came Wait U ntil D ark at New York’s Brooks Atkinson T heatre, M inelli on Minelli (another Tony winner for Stewart Lane) and Lobby H ero a solo Bonnie Comley production, in London last year. Most recently it’s been Ragtime—also solo, also in London—and a revival of Gypsy, both in 2003.

Bonnie and her mother, Virginia Comley, right, on opening night of last year’s revival of “Gypsy.” Lead actress Bernadette Peters is at left.
Alums’ Business Venture Grew Out of Connector Experience

When their advertising firm was in its infancy, Brad Duquette ’00 and Chris Lefebvre ’99 were afraid that Sally and Furby might cause them problems. It could be embarrassing, for example, if Sally, a combination black Lab/collie, or Furby the cat started woofing or meowing while one of the partners was on the phone with a client. They had no choice in the matter, however, because they launched their business venture in the basement of Chris’s mother-in-law’s home in Methuen – and Sally and Furby came with the territory.

But their company, Vaward Advertising, has since grown and moved to pleasant — and animal-free — Bedford, her days as a UMass Lowell undergraduate, and those endless afternoons in the pool at the Woburn Y. A nd while she concedes she “could never have imagined in my wildest dreams” it all turning out as she’s not all that surprised:

“I knew I loved show business. I knew I wanted to be a part of it, and that I was willing to work to see it through. A nd most of the time, I think, if there’s something you really want and you’re willing to sacrifice, you’ll find a way to make it happen...”

“I couldn’t help but believe that. It’s been the story of my life.”

They went into the business full-time in March of 2002. The break-through came in November of that year when the Commercial Venture Development arm of the Research Foundation invested in Vaward and gave them working space in Wannalancit.

“That investment helped us out tremendously,” says LeFebvre, “and we moved into this facility, which is great. We’ve advice from professionals and access to resources like phones, copiers and a receptionist.”

As part of the arrangement, Vaward hires UMass Lowell students.

Since moving to the new quarters, Vaward has expanded its student newspaper clients from about 80 in the region to around 1,000 throughout the country. And the list of companies that buy the advertising includes names such as Macy’s, Office Max and Planned Parenthood.

Duquette and LeFebvre said they expected that their billing for 2003 would be somewhere near half a million dollars.

“Experience

That investment helped us out tremendously.”

— Chris LeFebvre

Brad Duquette, left, and Chris Lefebvre used their experience as Connector staffers to launch their own business, Vaward Advertising.
Hoff Scholarship award winners are eligible to receive their awards, equivalent to the cost of a full year’s tuition (excluding fees), beginning with the first semester of their sophomore year. To qualify, they must have been enrolled at UMass for at least two semesters, during which time they must have maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Assuming they maintain this 3.0 GPA, their awards are renewable for up to six semesters.

To date, the Hoff Scholarship Program, in place since 1991, has generated funds to more than 800 students at all five UMass campuses, totaling more than $1.6 million. Of this amount, the large majority—more than $700,000—has been awarded to students at UMass Lowell.

The Hoff Foundation, the financial source of these funds, is headed by Chairman Charlie Hoff. Other officers and directors of the Foundation include Hoff’s wife, Josephine; their two daughters, Denise Hoff Diorio and Deborah Hoff Casey; their sons-in-law, Jonathan Diorio and Thomas Casey; and Charlie Hoff’s brother, David.

It all began, as such things often do, with a problem that needed solving. In the mid-’80s, as a senior vice president at Bausch & Lomb, Hoff was put in charge of Aplied Research Laboratories (ARL), a company division that was hemorrhaging money—$12 million in losses on $100 million in sales. A year later, under his direction, the division showed a profit. A year after that, he bought it—with a partner, in a $32 million leveraged buyout—and two years later sold it, for more than twice what he’d paid. With it the profits, he founded another company—Universal Nvision, in N orth A tlanta—which, five years later, was, with $20 million in annual sales, the largest manufacturer of design eyewear in the United States.

It was at that point that the giving began in earnest. Athough he has served as a UMass trustee for 10 years, and was a major donor well before that, he set up the family-run Hoff Foundation as early as 1986 as a source for scholarships—six years ago Charlie Hoff made a $1 million pledge to the University. Since then, what has become known as the Hoff Scholars Program has awarded scholarship funds totaling more than $1.6 million to students at all five campuses. (Northeastern University, at which he earned a master’s in engineering management, has likewise been a recipient of his generosity. Three years ago, he made a $1 million pledge there as well.)

Right from the start, the giving has been a family affair. Every year, as nearly as he can guess, somewhere around 350 students apply for Hoff Scholarships. Of these, roughly 225 will be interviewed—if not by Charlie Hoff himself, then by his brother, his mother, one of two daughters, and sometimes other family members as well. The University, will then make the final decisions. In a typical year, says Hoff, roughly 40 percent of the original 350 will be approved for scholarships by the University.

“There are all kinds of folks we’re helping who, for one reason or another, just aren’t able to do this for themselves. My family and I—we’ve been able to make a difference in a lot of lives. “It’s a great feeling to know that. Sometimes I think I get more out of all this than some of the students do.”

Making a Gift to UMass Lowell

When you give to the University of Massachusetts Lowell, you help us in many ways. Whether your support is for current operations, or designated for a particular program or scholarship, your gift helps the University fulfill its reason to provide a high-quality education at an affordable price.

You Can Make a Gift Today!

Mail: Enclose your gift in the envelope attached to this magazine and mail to UMass Lowell, Office of Advancement, 600 Sufolk Street, Lowell MA 01854.

Phone: Call (978)-934-2223 (the University Advancement office) and give by phone, or speak with a gift officer about establishing a fund or scholarship.

E-mail: To contact a gift officer, send a message to University Advancement at: Give_to_Lowell@uml.edu
From the Killing Fields to the Classroom: A Remarkable Odyssey.

She was only 3 years old when the horror began. For the next five years she lived through the madness of the Killing Fields, the genocidal massacre inflicted on the Cambodian people by Pol Pot and his infamous Khmer Rouge regime.

When finally it was over and her family found its way to freedom in America, the fourth-grade classmate in her new school made fun of her because she looked different and didn’t speak English.

“I didn’t understand my peers or the teacher,” she says. “I just watched and listened.”

Today, Phala Chea is coordinator of the Parent Information Center in the Lowell Public School system. In June of 2003, she became the first Cambodian immigrant — and, at 31, probably the youngest person — to receive a doctorate in education from UMass Lowell.

While working toward that degree, she taught English in Lowell schools.

Phala was born in Phnom Penh in 1972. Her father, Tem, was a schoolteacher, and her mother, Eng Men, had her own retail business. Phala had one older sister, Ratha.

In 1975, Pol Pot overthrew the government of Norodom Sihanouk and carried out his plan to turn Cambodia into a Utopian agrarian society. The Khmer Rouge evacuated cities, forced the inhabitants into farming cooperatives in the countryside and, in the process, caused the deaths of an estimated 1.7 million people through torture, overwork, starvation and execution.

Phala refers to that era as “the war.”

Sitting in her sunlit office on Kirk Street near Lowell High School, she says, “I remember the war. I lived through it. We were forced to go into the countryside and leave everything behind.

“We had to work manually and we couldn’t use technology. Schools were banned. Medicine. Entertainment. Currency. Everything was banned.

“I remember all these things. I remember staying home and not having to work because I was young, but my parents had to go to work.

“During that time, people who were educated or worked for the government or were wealthy were executed. But they let my father survive because he was able to contribute to the village by cooking and farming.

“We all had to wear black, dress the same and have the same haircut. If you didn’t work you weren’t fed. If you worked, you were given a small portion of food daily. Anything more, you had to steal or do whatever you had to do to keep yourself alive.

“My sister, who was 7 or so, had to work collecting fertilizer but she also had to take care of me at home because the rest of the family was working.”

The sister, Ratha, died of starvation by the time she was 11.

When, in 1979, the Vietnamese invaded Cambodia and overthrew Pol Pot’s regime, Phala and her parents were able to return to Phnom Penh.

“We looked for our relatives to see who survived and who didn’t,” she says. They found her mother’s family, but learned that one brother, Phala’s uncle, had been worked to death in a prison camp.

Fearing that the Khmer Rouge would return, the family moved through the committee, her ‘appropriateness’ became obvious to everyone.

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Fearing that the Khmer Rouge would return, the family...
left Phnom Penh and walked for a month through jungles to a refugee camp in Thailand.

“It was a long walk and we had to be very careful of mines along the way. We also were afraid because the Khmer Rouge had hidden themselves in the mountains and jungles.”

After 18 months in the camp, a cousin in the United States sponsored the family and they traveled to Portland, Oregon. By this time, Phala had a younger sister, born in Phnom Penh, and a brother, born in Thailand.

Phala was enrolled in the fourth grade in the Richmond Elementary School.

“There was no way for us to go back, so we had to adapt quickly to survive,” Phala says. “I was tutored one hour a day in an ESL class, learning basic words like ‘book’ and ‘pencil.’ But I was afraid to speak because I thought others would make fun of me because I wouldn’t be able to pronounce the words correctly.

“During the summer, I watched other children playing and speaking and I tried out my English with them.”

— Phala Chea

Phala graduated from Greater Lowell Technical High School in 1990 and enrolled at ULowell where she studied biology because her parents wanted her to become a doctor.

“I did it for a year and a half but I couldn’t handle math and science, and I didn’t like it,” she remembers, “so she switched to political science and sociology, and graduated in 1994.

At that point, she was uncertain of a career path (“I thought about law but didn’t think I’d be a good lawyer”), so her father suggested she talk with Lowell School Superintendent George Tsapatsaris, whom he had known through his own job as parent liaison at the Parent Information Center. Tsapatsaris suggested to Phala that she try education, and he put her in touch with Asst. Prof. Margaret McDevitt at the then College of Education.

With McDevitt’s encouragement, Phala enrolled in the master’s program, received her M. Ed. degree in 1995, and began her teaching career.

She taught English, ESL and other subjects to second graders at the Cardinal O’Connell School, and applied for admission to the University’s doctoral program in education. She was not accepted.

“They suggested that I gain more work experience and try again,” she says.

She then taught a year of seventh grade English at the Daley School, during which she applied for the doctoral program once again, and once again was told she lacked experience. Nevertheless, she was allowed to take two courses “to prove myself.” She supplied the proof — earning A’s in both courses — and, with support from Prof. Juan Rodriguez, was accepted into the program.

Meanwhile, her teaching career took her to a four-year assignment at the Bartlett School (more seventh grade English) and then an appointment as a facilitator for Chapter 636, a federal program to ensure equity in education among seven Lowell elementary and middle schools.

“I loved teaching. I loved the children. But I left it because I wanted to get into administration. My doctorate is in leadership in schooling,” she explains.

The move to the Parent Information Center came in March of 2002.

Phala gives a lot of credit for her success to Dean Donald Pierson who “was there for any issues or concerns,” and to her dissertation committee — Profs. Rodriguez, John Catallozzi and Rosemary LeBlanc — who “motivated and pushed me and advised and guided me in completing the writing stage of my work.”

Phala did her dissertation on the acculturation process of Cambodian students, a study she hoped would contribute something to society.

“I know that living in this society is very difficult, coming from the horror that we experienced,” she says. “I know what living here in a new environment will do to us. I wanted to study the problems that occur in the lives of young Cambodians in America and the way in which that affects their academic performance and their social life.

“I know what it’s like to live here and not know a word of English, to have to live in a foreign society. The children need family support and must learn new skills and a new way of life.

“They want to be Americans but their families want them to embrace the old culture. These are two totally different things and it’s hard to do. It causes pressure and tension for adolescents and affects learning.”

She knows these problems first-hand.

“Other students here and in Oregon made fun of me because of the way I looked and acted. I was made fun of all the time.”

Part of the solution to these acculturation problems, she says, is understanding.

“Educators must understand Cambodian students. Schools need to learn their background and accept their culture.”

As for her own future, she’s not certain.

“*I’m not sure what I want to do now. I’m very young in my field and I’d like to expand my experience.”

As for the past, she says, “*The tragedies and the nightmare, you don’t forget.”

— Phala Chea
“Ladder” has long been a common term in the business world. Employees have sought to “move up the ladder.” They got a foot on the first “rung.” Sometimes it was a “tough climb.”

American businesses traditionally have had strong job ladders — or Internal Labor Markets (ILM) as they are known in social science circles. These ladders have been the means by which someone was hired by a company at entry level, got on-the-job training, perhaps took some business courses, and over a number of years moved up into better positions.

But there has been a lot of discussion about how the job ladder was disappearing over the past two decades because companies were finding ways to break up the process. Two of the principal ways they were doing this were by outsourcing — having operations once done within a company being done by some other company; and by the creation of remote call centers — like the ones you call to buy a shirt or a frying pan.

In 1999, three UMass Lowell researchers received a $300,000 grant from the Rockefeller and Russell Sage foundations to look into the job ladder situation in a number of industries.

The three were Profs. Phil Moss and Chris Tilly of the Regional Economic and Social Development Department (RESD) and Hal Salzman, a senior research scientist in the Center for Industrial Competitiveness.

They chose to study four industries: financial services (banks, insurance companies, etc.), food services (restaurants and cafeterias), electronics manufacturers and retail businesses.

Over time, they discovered some surprising things. One was that the ladders weren’t disappearing altogether but they were moving. A n other was that when you order the prime ribs and the peach melba in your local restaurant, the food probably isn’t actually cooked there.

The three have produced a number of reports on job ladders, and Chris Tilly, sitting in his fifth floor office in the O’Leary Library building one recent morning, explained what he, Moss and Salzman had discovered.

The interesting thing they found, he says, is that the job ladder phenomenon is, in some ways, as strong as it ever was. To illustrate this, he points to their research into electronics.

“We talked to a large electronics manufacturer and found that they did a massive amount of outsourcing. (They call this company Monarch. They don’t use actual names in the reports.) Initially, they outsourced each part separately but then they realized that it was worse trying to manage the purchase of 1,000 parts than it was to make the parts themselves.

“So they started telling suppliers to give them components already assembled. Instead of buying 1,000 parts, Monarch ended up buying about six components that they would assemble, test and send out.

“What’s interesting is that in that process they started going to larger and larger suppliers to the point where some of their suppliers were even larger than them. So there are the job ladders again — only they’re not in Monarch anymore. They’re in this other company,” says Tilly.

“That’s not to say the jobs are just as good — Monarch tends to be unionized and the supplier tends not to be unionized. There are other differences, too. A lso, it’s harder on the workforce because when you move to a new company you may lose some of the privileges and advantages you have built up over the years.

“But in terms of job ladders, they’ve popped up again.”

Then the discussion turned to the food industry.

“A restaurant is, by definition, a small company,” Tilly says. “Only so many people can work in a restaurant. But they’re sourcing from food distributors that are huge. And these distributors are, in turn, sourcing from manufacturers:

The Job Ladder: It Still Exists But It May Not Be in the Same Place.

By Jack McDonough
― Chris Tilly

A cook in one upscale restaurant said that all meat comes into the restaurant precut, and salad greens are pre-packaged. The pastry chef said technological improvements such as flash freezing, automated cake design and faster transportation had increased the purchasing of cakes and pastry by all but some of the high-end restaurants.

Restaurants also report an interesting side benefit to using prepared foods: worker compensation costs are lower because fewer workers are wielding large knives.

The food industry, Tilly says, “is another case of where the outsourcing process is shifting things to bigger companies — in fact, national companies — where employees can move up. In restaurants, there is only so far that you can move up. But if you’re in the world of food distribution or manufacturing, you can move up to be a regional or national manager — levels you could never attain in a restaurant.”

A similar story unfolded with call centers.

In a retail department store, employees are selling directly to the customer and there is a division of labor. But as stores began moving to catalog call centers, job opportunities increasingly moved to those remote centers.

At first, the hierarchy in the centers was very flat. There were lots of customer service representatives but not many supervisors. Not much chance for advancement.

“But,” says Tilly, “we saw in the 1980s and 1990s, they were adding more layers of supervision. There were two reasons for this. First, the companies realized all customers were waiting on the line. And to answer the service reps’ questions while customers were waiting on the line.

“So, again, this became a situation where the job ladder was squeezed down but grew back up,” he says.

The research also looked at the work life and family life implications of the job ladder situation.

“We found some interesting things,” Tilly says. “At the risk of oversimplifying, banking and retail have become much more woman and family friendly industries. The cases we’ve looked at provide much more flexible career paths.”

“When you go to a restaurant and get pasta or a cut of meat, you tend to think it’s prepared in that restaurant. But, more and more that food is actually coming through a distributor from a manufacturer who’s preparing those dishes up to the final point, and the restaurant is doing only the last minute preparation.

“One manager told us, ‘There’s more and more food being done by the manufacturer than there is on-site. The reason is quality. There are things that you could buy that it would make no sense whatsoever for you to make. There are even some desserts out there that the finest pastry chefs in the city couldn’t make as good. You can pretty much buy it out there that the finest pastry chefs in the city ever for you to make. There are even some desserts you could buy that it would make no sense whatever.”

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“I think we can conclude that there really are good reasons that job ladders have been a pretty persistent phenomenon.”
River Hawk Pitching Staff Soars to New Heights

By Chris O'Donnell

It was scary enough for opposing players to bat against 6-foot-10, 235-pound Steve Palazzolo, but come spring they will face another towering righthander, 6-foot-10, 230-pound Aaron Easton, the latest addition to the River Hawk pitching staff.

The two are the tallest pitching duo in Division II – and likely the entire country – and help form a potentially awesome UMass Lowell staff.

“Taller is definitely an advantage when a pitcher is that tall,” says first-year Head Coach Ken Connerty. “That kind of size is intimidating to a batter. It enables a pitcher to release the ball a little closer to the plate. When you’re that tall, you’re throwing downhill.

“I think aaron can hit 88 to 90 miles per hour, and Steve is the same way.”

UMass Lowell is coming off another splendid season in which it finished 32-12 and won the Northeast-10 Conference regular season and tournament championships. The River Hawks also earned their seventh straight and 14th overall trip to the NCAA Tournament.

The UML staff is already well-versed in the game. Dowling, 2-0, in Oakdale, N.Y., in the national final four at Cushing Field a year ago. UMass Lowell hosted the national semi-final. UMass Lowell hosted the Northeast-10 tournament.

Bryant to win the Northeast-10 tournament. Depite trailing by 2-0, 10:18 into the game. The come-from-behind win put the River Hawks in the NCAA tournament. Scaling, in the process, made first time visits to the NCAA tournament.

Three — men’s soccer, women’s cross-country and field hockey — made first time visits to the NCAA tournament, scaling, in the process, heights unimaginable just a couple of years ago.

Women’s Field Hockey

The River Hawks field hockey team shocked the Northeast-10 conference, rocked the field hockey establishment, and nearly won a national championship. It was the team’s first ever visit to the NCAA Division II tournament.

The team earned its way into the NCAA tournament by defeating long-time field hockey powers Bentley and Bryant to win the Northeast-10 tournament.

Before losing the national championship game to Bloomburg University 4-1. The River Hawks then defeated Bryant College in the national semifinal. UMass Lowell hosted the national final four at Cushing Field a testament to how far the program and facilities have come in recent years.

Second year Head Coach Shannon Heibichuk says she urges her team only “to love this game.” She believes that love breeds success. “I have 20 kids who love this game. Regardless of the outcome, at the end of the day, we love this game.”

A though they were underdogs all season long; they finished with a record of 15-7.

Men’s Soccer

Men’s soccer rewrote its record book and altered the balance of power in Division II in New England. They did it in dramatic fashion.

UMass Lowell won the Northeast-10 tournament championship with a 3-2 victory over perennial power Southern Connecticut State University. Despite trailing by 2-0, 10:18 into the game. The come-from-behind win put the River Hawks in the NCAA tournament.

They went on to win the New England Regional with victories over Franklin Pierce College, 3-0, and Southern Connecticut, 1-0.

The season ended with a loss to Dowling, 2-0, in Oakdale, N.Y., in the National Quarterfinals. “They looked this challenge dead in the eye and gave it their best effort,” said Head Coach Ted Priestly. He was talking about the final game; he might as well have been talking about the season.

The team finished 15-5-2 and set records for goals, points, shutouts and wins. Jason Paige won the NIW-10 Scoring title; Jonathan Curran was named the conference’s top defensive player; and Christian Figueroa was named the top freshman.

Women’s Soccer

The women’s soccer team was the one program that struggled during the autumn of 2003. Finishing with a 4-10-1 record.

But, the River Hawks wrapped up the year with a 2-0 victory over A merican International College.

The shutout was a team record 5th shutout of the season long; they finished with a record of 15-7.

Fall Sports – A Review

For colleges and universities, the fall sports schedule comes to an end in late October/early November. The goal is to extend the season, push it until there are few other schools still competing. At UMass Lowell, autumn sports in 2003 were extended far beyond the scheduled close.

For many teams, a visit to the NCAA tournament is a dream, often an impossible dream, but at UMass Lowell it has become almost commonplace. This year, five of the University’s six fall teams reached the NCAA promised land. One even hosted the NCAA Division II National Championship game.

Three — men’s soccer, women’s cross-country and field hockey — made first time visits to the NCAA tournament, scaling, in the process, heights unimaginable just a couple of years ago.

Men’s Volleyball

Trips to the NCAA Division II tournament are not a shock to the UMass Lowell volleyball team. They made their fourth visit in the last six years.

Women’s Volleyball

Women’s Volleyball

The women’s volleyball team was the one program that struggled during the autumn of 2003. Finishing with a 4-10-1 record.

But, the River Hawks wrapped up the year with a 2-0 victory over A merican International College.

The shutout was a team record 5th shutout of the season long; they finished with a record of 15-7.
It was unfortunately, a short trip.

The team had finished the regular season with a 20-8 record, but made an early exit from the Northeast-10 tournament, losing to Merrimack College, 3-2.

They lost to Bryant College, 3-0, in the opening round.

Cross Country

The U Mass Lowell men’s cross-country team has long been a dominant force in New England running. That did not change in the fall of 2003. The women’s team joined the men in earning “powerhouse” status.

The women finished 2nd in the Northeast-10 conference championships and in the NCAA Division II New England Regional championships. The performance earned the team its first ever invitation to the NCAA Division II National Meet. They finished 22nd in the country.

Nicole Plante was honored as the Northeast-10 conference Freshman of the Year.

The men’s team won its second straight Northeast-10 Championship, the third in four years. They won their fourth straight NCAA Division II Regional Championship. And finished 10th in the nation at the national meet.

A long way there were individual honors. Head Coach Gary Gardner was named the NEC A A Regional and the NE-10 Coach of the Year. Patrick Morasse was named the NEC A A Regional and the NE-10 Coach of the Year.

A 1960 graduate of Springfield College where he captained the baseball team his senior year, Stone coached at Tilton-Northfield High School and Mascoma Regional in New Hampshire before coming to Lowell.

Hlebichuk scored 33 goals and had a record 29 assists during her undergradu- ate career and was instrumental in helping the field hockey team to its best-ever record of 15-4 in 1997.

A two-year captain, she was twice named to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division II All-America team and was named the 1997-98 NCAA Woman of the Year for the state of Massachusetts.

Before being named coach of the River Hawk field hockey squad, she earned a master’s degree in higher education at Arizona State University.

Stone and Hlebichuk Named to Athletic Hall of Fame

Jim Stone, head coach of the baseball team for 37 years, and Shannon (LeBlanc) Hlebichuk, coach of the field hockey team for which she once starred, have been inducted into the UMass Lowell Athletic Hall of Fame.

Stone, whose reign lasted from 1966 until May of 2003, posted a career record of 801-393-7 (.667). During that time, he was named New England Division II coach of the Year nine times and Northeast Region Coach of the Year five times.

His 2001 and 2002 teams advanced to the Division II College World Series. A 1960 graduate of Springfield College where he captained the baseball team his senior year, Stone coached at Tilton-Northfield High School and Mascoma Regional in New Hampshire before coming to Lowell.

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A two-year captain, she was twice named to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division II All-America team and was named the 1997-98 NCAA Woman of the Year for the state of Massachusetts.

Members of the women’s basketball team went on a whale watch out of Gloucester recently but the sighting that thrilled them the most occurred after their boat had returned to land.

Joan Lehoullier, senior associate athletic director, says that when the team disembarked, the person working in the ticket booth pointed to a woman sitting on a nearby bench and said she was “someone famous.”

The team discovered that the famous person was actress Whoopi Goldberg, who was in town to visit a friend who owns a restaurant there. Goldberg readily agreed when the players asked if they could have their picture taken with her.

“She was very nice and very friendly,” says Lehoullier.

After the photo was taken, one of the players presented Goldberg with a UMass Lowell t-shirt, and the actress said she would try to wear it some time on her new television show.

As for the whales, Lehoullier says they finally did see some after spending a long time searching through the morning fog.

“But I think a lot of the players were more excited about seeing Whoopi than they were about seeing whales,” she says.
Classmates from the State Teachers College Class of 1938 returning to campus for their 65th reunion included Carolyn Allen Fowler, left, and Helen Knight.

Members of the State Teachers College Class of 1943 celebrated 60 years at the Golden Alumni Luncheon. Seated, from left, are Ann McEnaney, Marie Pouliot Dumont, Catherine Hill Goldwin and Marjorie Waring Langdon. Standing, from left, are Gertrude Belanger, Muriel Lander, Louise Cavalier Gori, Ruth Richie Kirby, Natalie Johnson Gudridge and Lucille Chamon.

The Lowell Textile Institute Class of 1943 returned to campus for its 60th reunion at the Golden Alumni Luncheon. The luncheon was the kickoff to reunion weekend. Seated, from left, are Herbert Goldberg, Tom Gillick and William Haggerty. Standing, from left, are Richard Petersen, Ralph Bullock and John Colburn.

Textile graduates from the Class of 1948, and spouses, returned to Lowell for their 60th college reunion.

The State Teachers College Class of 1953 together again at the Golden Alumni Luncheon.

Members of the Lowell Textile Class of 1953 gather at the Whistler House art gallery reception and exhibit of Ed Adler’s work. From left, are Len Grubman, James Velantzas and Adler.

Reunion committee members and volunteers presented the University with a check for $165,567 raised by all the reunion classes to benefit the alumni scholarship fund.

Reunion alumni who returned to campus for Homecoming visited the new campus recreation center. After lunch, they had an opportunity to tour the facility and flex their muscles.

Seen at the Homecoming luncheon on Saturday of Reunion Weekend are these members of the Class of 1953. Seated, from left, are Electra Kominis Parigian, Arpy Kludjian and Connie Panagiotopoulos Muldrow. And, standing from left, Rita Zoukee Melkos, Rosemary O’Connor Hoyt and Elsa Martinson Roy and spouse Bob Roy.

Lowell Textile reunion alumni gathered at the American Textile History Museum to celebrate with the Class of 1953, the last graduating class of Lowell Textile. They are, from left, Tom Gillick ’43, Reva and Morton Schlesinger ’43 and John Roughan ’48.
The Massachusetts State College at Lowell Class of 1963 celebrated its 40th reunion at a dinner at the Radisson Hotel and Suites in Chelmsford.

The Lowell Technological Institute Class of 1963 gathered for its 40th reunion dinner on Saturday evening of Reunion Weekend.

The University of Lowell Class of 1978 convenes for its 25th reunion dinner at the Doubletree Hotel in Lowell.

Celebrating their 50th reunion, members of the Lowell Textile Class of 1953 enjoy dinner with their professor, John Goodwin ’39,’52, center; first row.

Classmates and guests gathered to celebrate the 50th Lowell Textile reunion, are, from left, Margaret and Joe Flannery ’53, Robert Adell ’53, Stanley Berger ’53, Harvey Fishman ’53, and James Velantzas ’53.

Members and guests of the State Teachers Class of 1953 had a grand time reminiscing at their reunion dinner. From left, standing, are Jean Curtis MacCannell ’53, Pauline Desrochers Durant ’53, Anne Deuell ’53 and Margaret Connors Russell ’53. Seated, from left, are Bill MacCannell, Ellen Finnegan Lighthart ’53, Scott Lighthart and Earl Russell.
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ClassNotes

1954
Paul began the program in the 1960s. He still works part time as a police officer in Hamp- ton, N.H., and recently became an adjunct professor of criminal justice at New Hampshire Technical Insti- tute. He lives in Hampton with his wife, Dotty. He still travels, skis and boats at their second home in Maine.

1967
Donna L. Nielson writes from Switzerland that her novel Chicks In Love has gone into a second printing. Her publisher has offered her both a paperback and large-print contract.

1969
David B. Tuttle has been named vice president for FA A Programs for BA E Systems, a major defense and government contractor.

1973
In April 2001, Richard S. Goldman founded Goldman Consulting Associates, which advises businesses to develop and implement strategies for profitable growth. His organization offers a broad range of services nationwide in business planning, government business development, operations management and organizational development.

1974
Vincent F. Bonapoli was admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar in June 2002. He retired in June 2003 from a career with the Social Securi- ty Administration and has now formed the Bonapoli Law Firm, P.C. in Front Royal, Va., where he con- centrates in the areas of Social Security disability planning and administration, and bankruptcies.

1978
Frank Cavalier joined Woodard & Curran, an envi- ronmental consulting firm, as vice president in the Opera- tions and Management group. Frank has more than 25 years of experience in the contract opera- tions business, including management, operations and maintenance of municipal wastewater and groundwater remediation pro- jects throughout the N orth east. He will oversee several contract operations projects in southern New England.

1990
Sarah E. Hopkins decided to pursue a career in occupation- al therapy after Proposition 2. She moved to Richmond, Va., and completed a master’s degree. She works in a “wonder- ful private nursing home,” and is happily married, with two children and grandchildren.

1994
Robert E. Bacherle retired as associate superintendent of Melrose public schools in 1988. He is currently a part-time professor at Salem State College and leads Bob Bacherle’s Teton Pole Orchestra, which plays at college events, public concerts and dances.

1957
Ennie Gliantz ’58, left, his wife, Judy, and Howard Zins ’57 met for dinner at the Eiffel Tower restaurant in Paris Hotel during the c1930 Show in Las Vegas. Ennie is with Radiic fabrics USA and Howard is a consultant to the institutional textile field.

1955
Paul T. Sullivan has retired as director of Safe & Drug Free Program after several years with the Lowell school system.

1956
Gil V. Di Lorenzo had a book published under his pen name, Gil Loring. In 2002, the book, Second Fiddle, is available through a major publisher.

1958
Anita K. Anderson ’58, a professor at Howard University, is celebrating her 25th year of administrative service to the university’s prestigious Build- ing Science Program. The program has been nationally recognized as one of the leading architectural and construction management majors in the country.

1962
Mary Ellen Rowe has been named an in- expedition coordinator at Earthwatch, where they recruit volunteers to partici- pate in one-to-three-weeks research and conservation projects all over the world.

1966
Dr. Kathleen (McGuire) Kaplan, a professor at Howard University, recently published a new book in her series, Fer- tile – God’s Way, 0 Overcoming Infertility with Respect to the B Ible, which is available from most on-line bookstores. Dr. Kaplan’s Web site is www.howard- u.org – kaplan and she would like to hear from old friends.

1969
John Spade has been appointed director of Global Environmental, and Health & Safety at Sercologials Corpora- tion in A tanta. Sercologials is a global provider of biologi- cal products and enhancing technologies, essential for the research, development and manufacturing of biologically based life science products.

1971
A nita M oeller, executive director of A c Family Day Care in Lowell, has been named the 2003 M asachusetts Home-Based Busi- ness A dvocate of the S aml Small Business Administration. The SBA’s Home-Based A dministration A wards is given annually to an individual who has experienced the rewards and difficulties of running a home-based business and has worked to improve the climate for these businesses. A nita founded A c Family Day Care in 1987 in response to research show- ing two related community needs: child care jobs and educational services. A c Family Day Care trains women to run family child care businesses in their own homes, and provides ongoing administrative support, con- tinuing small business and child development education, and child welfare services.

1985
Tom Dorey is celebrating 10 years with Lockheed M artin, where he leads a high Power Lab as a nuclear physicist leading a development team. His wife Karen (LeBlanc) Dorey is a registered nurse for the Shenecady (N.Y.) Commu- nity Hospice. They live in Shenecady with their 2-year-old daughter, Haley.

1988
Eric W. A. Bequetot, director of Oak Ridge Institute for Sci- ence and Education’s Radio- logical Safety, Assessment, and Training Program, is the 2003 recipient of the E lisa E. A nderson A ward from the Health Physics Society for his knowledge and devotion to health physics. The award is presented each year to an outstanding and young member of the Society for excellence in research or development, dis- covery, invention, or other significant contributions to the profession of health physics. Eric and his wife, Sandy, live in Oak Ridge with their children Alyssa, Elizag- eth and Gunnar.

1991

1992
Steve Damon, an active author and clinician in the field of music education, has been included in M arcus’ Who’s Who in America 2003.

1994
Robert a (Grimes) Beulah man, married in 1998, has three children, ages 7, 5, and 2, and one on the way. Roberta is a school nurse at her children’s elementary school in New Ipswich, N.H.

1995
Dr. Love P. May is a full- time English professor at North Shore Community College in Lynn. From 1991 to 1994 she was an English instructor at Roxbury Commu- nity College. She pub- lished her first book, Of the...
Village Mat, in 1999 and is now working on two books of short stories.

2002

Tomas M. Sullivan joined the newly established intellectual property law firm Lowrie Lands & A. Natales, LLP as a partner. Tom joins LL&A from Mintz Levin Cohn Ginsburg & Popeo P.C., where he was a member (partner) and one of the founders of its Intellectual Property Section. Prior to entering the field of law, Tom had a successful 10-year career as a senior electrical design engineer at Raytheon Corporation.

Daniel J. McGlone was mobilized with the U.S. Naval Reserve in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Daniel is a third-year student at Roger Williams University. R. Papitto School of Law at Hofstra University.

2003

Danielle Sandra Carey is a graduate student at Rivier College working on an M.Ed. Danielle is an on-call substitute teacher at a science research interviewer and is currently living in Dracut. She would like to thank all of her professors in the Criminal Justice Department who made a “difference in my life.”

Rob Velella and Richard Wyman were engaged on June 28 at the Brewery during the U.M. orientation leader’s banquet.

Faculty

A. Don. Professor Martin Moser of the A. Don. Law School in May. He joined LL&A Lando & Anastasi, LLP as a partner. Tom joins LL&A from Mintz Levin Cohn Ginsburg & Popeo P.C., where he was a member (partner) and one of the founders of its Intellectual Property Section. Prior to entering the field of law, Tom had a successful 10-year career as a senior electrical design engineer at Raytheon Corporation.

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In Memoriam

2004

Asian Persuasion: Liou Helps ‘Terminator’ Capture Governorship

Seán Liou and Arnold Schwarzenegger are a lot alike. Sure, one is a brawny, Hollywood mega-star, while the other is a humble, computer software whiz. But appearances aside, these two have much in common.

To start with, both are paradigms of immigrant success. Almost everyone knows the Schwarzenegger story: Austrian bodybuilder becomes America’s most popular celebrity. But Liou’s tale is equally remarkable. Taiwanese student scraps together money to study math and computers at UMass Lowell; launches two high-tech firms in Silicon Valley; earns nomination to President Bush’s Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (has even listened at the White House half a dozen times); and when the tech bubble bursts, reinvents himself as a travel magnate, starting Always Best Tours and Travel.

And there are even more parallels. Both are West Coast Republicans, both were key figures in the recent California recall vote and both are beloved by the Asian American community.

That’s right, Asians love Arnold.

And much of that adoration can be credited to Seán Liou. Liou was the state chairman of “Aians for Arnold,” a grassroots campaign he launched to rally support for the “Terminator” turned “Governator.”

“It wasn’t hard getting the Asian community to back Arnold. His vision matches our ideals,” explains Liou. “We identify with him, having traveled the same hard road to become U.S. citizens.”

With Liou’s help, Schwarzenegger captured 47 percent of the Asian vote.

When Gov.-elect Schwarzenegger was preparing to take office, he appointed Liou to his transition team.

“Arnold chose me because I’m a successful Asian-American business, who will recruit other talented Asian-Americans,” Liou says.

And there’s one final tie that binds these two, a Commonly Liou calls the most poignant.

“Arnold and I share something very special,” says Liou. “We’re living the American dream.”
UMass Lowell Alumni Gift Items

Cut along dotted line and return to above address.

For additional merchandise, visit us online at http://um Lowell.bkstore.com

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<td>River Hawk replica hockey jersey.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>UMass Tech</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Champion 50/50 Sweatshirt</td>
<td>Available in grey only. S-XL Item #3 $44.98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>UMass Tech</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>University Chairs</td>
<td>Armchair. Black with cherry arms and back lasered seal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>UMass Tech</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Rocker</td>
<td>Black with cherry arms and back lasered seal Item #13 $339.98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For UPS shipping to your residence, please add $25. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. Available with University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell Textile Institute, University of Lowell, Lowell State College, and Lowell Technological Institute seals.