This is a special edition newsletter to celebrate some of the great accomplishments of SPRING 2016. Thank you for sharing your stories and for making this semester a memorable one for all of us in the FAHSS community.

From everyone at the Dean's Office, we hope you enjoy your summer.

Luis, Julie, Andy, Frank, Robyn, Alice, Karen, Andrew and Shaima
STUDENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Transforming South Campus into an Art Museum

Art & Design Department students have public artworks installed throughout the campus for much of the month of April. The projects integrate ideas that concern them as artists and designers with the history and/or current use of the site they chose. The content ranges from political and humanitarian issues such as homelessness, climate change, gender equality, and the current presidential race to aesthetic investigations of light and time.

Student Research Symposium
Forty of the College's students presented their Research/Community Engagement work at the 19th Annual Student Research & Community Engagement Symposium. A complete list of all student presenters and their topics can be found, here.

Special congratulations to the four students that received awards for their posters:
- Celin Carlo-Gonzalez (History)
- Kyleigh Clark (Criminology & Justice Studies)
- Kelsey Gilbert (Psychology)
- Nicholas Imperillo (Criminology & Justice Studies)

Winners of Fan Favorite award:
- Rachelle-Marie Mannarino, Kathryn Fanale, Broghan Gilligan, Makra Long, Synthia Ekeh, and Sonia Cruz-Rivera.
In early May, students in the Honors history seminar on urban renewal taught by Prof. Robert Forrant will present their work at "Reclaiming Urban Renewal," a research symposium at the Lawrence History Center, alongside historians, urban planners, and faculty and graduate students in urban planning from MIT and UMass Amherst. The students' research will contribute in a practical way to public dialogue about urban renewal. More on this story, [here](#).

**Students and Alumni Combine Talents in Concert**

In its final performance of the season, the UMass Lowell String Ensemble joined forces with Art and Design majors to present a concert for the campus and community. The event premiered the original work, "Serenade for Bass-Baritone, Horn and Strings," which was composed by Derek Weagle and featured vocalist Allyn McCourt, who both graduated with music degrees from
UMass Lowell in 2015. The piece included a French horn solo by John-Morgan Bush, executive director of the String Project, for whom Weagle wrote the composition in appreciation of his mentorship. Artwork by design students was projected onto the walls of the concert hall during the event.

IRC/Model UN at ScotMUN

The UMass Lowell International Relations Club attended ScotMUN, the Scottish National Model United Nations Conference last March. Members of the IRC convened with nearly 500 students from across the UK, Ireland, Belgium and as far away as Israel and Indonesia at the historic University of Edinburgh campus. Students debated several contemporary and pressing international issues across the various committees of the United Nations, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, as well as several specialized agencies including the International Monetary Fund, the African Union and Council of the European Union.

The UML IRC once again distinguished itself among the diverse international competition. Four UML students were singled out with Honorable Mentions for their debate performance. Kyle Stuart, Kyrielle Ross Alejandro Lopez and Ruben Brenner. In addition, three students were awarded outstanding delegate awards. Nairoby Gabriel was named an outstanding delegate in the International Monetary Fund, Francis Skinner for the Economic and Social Council and Jon Ross earned his third career outstanding delegate award on the prestigious Security Council.

Art & Design Students Capture the City's Industrial Heritage in a Mural

Art & Design students Carlos Pujols, Josh Rondeau and Courtney Lemay designed and painted a mural as part of a recent renovation of Drum Hill Ford in Lowell. More about this partnership story here.
This spring, students from six sections of the English Department's College Writing II have completed a series of face-to-face and online activities working in collaborative groups with Juniors and Seniors from Lowell High School to think about the realities of applying to and enrolling in college. To celebrate this effort, Lowell High School students paid a visit to UMass Lowell to hear presentations by the College Writing II students and view their posters.
Art & Design Students on the Marquee

The largest LED video display in New England - seen by more than 100,000 people each day - features digital designs by Art & Design students as part of this year's Art on the Marquee project. Seven out of the 10 works by college students selected for the exhibit are Art and Design majors including the above design by artist Elena Giurleo. Their work will be shown on a rotating basis on the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center's 80-foot-tall outdoor marquee through June 1. Full list of all designs participating in this project can be found here.

UML Mock Trial Team Finishes in Top Half at Opening-Round Championship Series at Delaware.

The UMass Lowell Mock Trial team had a successful run in its first trip to the American Mock Trial Association Opening-Round Championship series, held on March 19 and 20 at Widener University Delaware Law School in Wilmington, Delaware. Competing against the top schools from the Northeast, Lowell finished 10th in a field of 24 teams. Lowell’s overall record of 3 wins, 4 losses and one tie, was only bested by teams from Columbia
University, Harvard University, Brown University, Fordham University and Boston University. UMass Lowell Junior Criminal Justice major Thomas Wood received an award for Outstanding Witness in the competition.

Service Learning with the Boys and Girls Club of Lowell

ARTS-4200 Web Design III offered a supportive learning environment for students interested in advanced web design and gave them an opportunity to work with a community partner. This semester the class partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Lowell. In the beginning of the semester students designed websites and built them using standards-based practices while leveraging industry standard front-end frameworks. Towards the end of the semester, students worked in teams to redesign Lowell's Boys & Girls Club website (Pictured above). The winning team (consisting of Melanie DesRoches, Cynthia Hoac, and Tianwei Du) was chosen by a panel of faculty, staff, and the club's Director of Development Angel Brunelle. For more information about this class, contact Assistant Professor Misha Rabinovich.

COLLEGE/FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Joel Plante Nabs First Grammy for Work with Pink Floyd
On Feb. 15 in Los Angeles, Plante accepted a Grammy Award for Best Surround Sound Album for his work on the 5.1 Surround Sound mix of Floyd front man Roger Waters’ 1992 album, "Amused to Death." More on this story, [here](#).

**River Talks 2016**

Over forty faculty members presented their research in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences to colleagues as part of the College’s RiverTalks research exchange event. A complete list of participants and their research presentations in this [document](#).

**Whitten-Woodring Finds Free Media Can Amplify Political Divisions**

U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky's Visit

The English Department hosted former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky. Pinsky visited Professor Maggie Dietz's class, and performed a reading during a free event that was open to the UMass Lowell community and public.
US Ambassador to Portugal Visit

US Ambassador to Portugal, Robert Sherman, visited UMass Lowell and talked to students about diplomacy and Portuguese-US relations. Before his talk, the Ambassador met with students of the International Relations Club which was very timely before the students’ trip to Scotland for their participation in Model United Nations. More on this story [here](#).

Grants Awarded in Spring 2016

Congratulations to all FAHSS faculty for winning the following grants:

Professor Richard Siegel Endows Scholarships to Give Back

Richard Siegel, chair of the Department of Psychology, recently endowed a fund that will provide support for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing faculty-supervised research. More on this story, here.

Asian American Cultures Festival Productions Sweeps Awards Two Years in a Row
The Center for Asian American Studies at the University of Massachusetts Lowell partnered with Flying Orb Productions, Angkor Dance Troupe, UMass Lowell Music Department, the UMass Lowell Digital Media Program and the Lowell Cultural Council to present the Asian American Cultures Festival. The 2015 and 2016 programs brought the Cambodian traditions of live music together with dance performances, incorporated film, and the expressive stories took center stage at the multi-media programs of "Kingdom of Kambuja" and "Memory Box."

In 2015, The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) awarded the Asian American Cultures Festival: "The Kingdom of Kambuja" a Gold Star Award for excellence in community arts and culture. This year's production "Memory Box," won the Excellence Award for Cultural Heritage from the Lowell Heritage Partnership & Lowell National Historical Park. Congratulations!
For the second time in his career, Assoc. Prof. Stephen Mishol has been honored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) through an Artist Fellowship that recognizes exceptional work by Massachusetts artists. More on this story, [here](#).

The University of Massachusetts Lowell has received a $50,000 grant from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon to help develop the university’s Portuguese Studies Collection. The Gulbenkian grant will allow the University to build our on-site holdings to a depth and breadth appropriate for our academic programs. The grant is an expression of confidence on the part of a major Portuguese institution in the commitment UMass Lowell has made to Portuguese Studies over the past couple of years and in the long-term. The grant will provide help to the College’s Saab-Pedroso Center for Portuguese Culture and Research to undertake many of its planned initiatives. More on this story, [here](#).