Dear Alumni, Faculty and Staff,

The wait is almost over. In barely over a month, on April 18, the new Health and Social Sciences Building will open. I hope to see you at the grand opening. Come help us celebrate and tour the new facility. We welcome you to campus to witness the growth of the University and to see the new home of our Nursing programs. It's an exciting time for students, staff, faculty and alums. See the following article for event details.

We continue to offer internships, service learning opportunities and international opportunities for our students. Be sure to check out the article on the nursing students' trip to Chile and the link to their interesting blog. We are also increasing our undergraduate research opportunities, so if you have ideas, please contact me.

Be sure to view the NBC News video in the article below that includes an interview with researcher Dick Clapp about male breast cancer.

One of our longtime leaders Prof. Ken Geiser of Work Environment is retiring. We are celebrating on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27. View more details under "News Briefs" below.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best,

Shortie McKinney
Dean of the School of Health and Environment
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Grand Opening of the Health and Social Sciences Building on April 18

You're invited to the grand opening of the new $40 million, 69,000-square-foot Health and Social Sciences Building on April 18 at 11:30 a.m. The new South Campus building will be home to three of the University's most popular majors in health and social sciences -- Criminal Justice and Criminology, Nursing and Psychology.

Come tour the new building with state-of-the-art facilities, a demonstration hospital wing, and meeting spaces for team projects and community engagement.

11:30 a.m., Remarks and ribbon-cutting with Chancellor Marty Meehan and other UMass, industry and government officials

12:30 p.m., Light lunch and tours

Where: On the grounds of the Health and Social Sciences Building, South Campus, Corner of Broadway St. and Wilder St.

RSVP by Monday, April 8, by contacting Lisa Gagnon, 978-934-2237.

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NBC News "Rock Center" Features SHE Expert

University researcher and cancer epidemiologist Richard Clapp appeared on NBC News "Rock Center with Brian Williams" program on Feb. 22 in an interview with the network's Chief Medical Editor Dr. Nancy Snyderman.

Clapp addressed high rates of male breast cancer at the U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C.

"My interview was part of a longer segment about male breast cancer," says Clapp, who has often been called upon by the media, including "60 Minutes," to discuss links between toxics and cancer. "I hope that viewers will learn about this rare type of cancer and also get a better understanding of its potential environmental causes." Read more. View the segment on male breast cancer.

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New Club President Leads Activities from Lowell to Washington
Students involved in the Community Health Education Club are carving out real-world learning opportunities for themselves as they educate community members, bring speakers to campus and participate in an advocacy summit in Washington, D.C.

Last fall, community health student Melissa Franklin, right, became president of the Community Health Education Club to get more involved in the community. "I am passionate about health," says Franklin, a certified nursing assistant, who transferred to UMass Lowell from Middlesex Community College in the fall of 2012. Read more about the club.

Read more about Melissa Franklin.

SHE Alumni: Meet Your Ambassadors

Exercise Physiology student Kylie Quinn and Community Health student Tamara Vincent were recently selected as SHE Student Alumni Ambassadors.

They will represent SHE at events and foster relationships with alumni, faculty, staff and other students. The Student Alumni Ambassador program was created by the office of Alumni Relations to provide a liaison with past, present and future members of the University. Find out more.

Paving the Way for Young Clinical Scientists

A leading clinical chemistry organization has created an annual award in Prof. Eugene Rogers' name to be given to a young clinical laboratory scientist. It gives aspiring scientists an opportunity to compete in a poster presentation and win a monetary travel award to present research findings at the National American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) meeting.

"Gene Rogers is a respected and an outstanding mentor to UMass students," said Mark Kellogg, associate director of clinical chemistry at Boston Children's Hospital and assistant professor of pathology at Harvard Medical School. "At events, I see Gene quietly nudging students to speak up and mingle with the professionals in attendance, and he brings up topics that allow the students to lead a conversation. While I sometimes do not recall the main speaker at these annual events, I always recall the students and their stories." Read more.

Obesity Study Uncovers Risks for Low-Wage Workers
A new study flips on its head how we look at obesity health risks: rather than focusing on sedentary lifestyles, the study looks at low-wage workers toiling in heavy labor and how their work conditions contribute to weight gain and obesity.

University of Massachusetts Lowell researchers, in partnership with Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH), and the Boston Workers Alliance, released findings from the study, "Obesity/Overweight and the Role of Working Conditions," at a forum of obesity program specialists in November 2012. Read more.

Chilean Healthcare, Up Close and Personal

While students can learn in the classroom about the importance of "culturally competent care," nothing beats seeing firsthand how another country's traditions and beliefs affect the delivery of care.

Asst. Prof. of Nursing Valerie King led a group of seven nursing students in the new Global Health Experience course to Chile during winter break to experience healthcare delivery in a different culture. The students documented their daily observations and experiences in a blog.

"Seeing Chilean culture and healthcare will help me in my future nursing career," says senior nursing student Sara Pietila. "Now, every time I hear the words 'culturally competent nursing,' I understand how language, beliefs and values affect care." Read more.

View the photo gallery.

Alumni News Briefs

Nursing alum Bruce Arakelian ’82 will be honored at the University Alumni Awards ceremony on Thursday, April 18, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. He is a senior certified registered nurse anesthetist with Carolinas Healthcare System, the nation's second largest healthcare system. In 2008, he created the Bruce Z. Arakelian Endowment Fund, providing scholarship support for students pursuing a degree in Nursing. All are welcome to attend the event that's on the same day as the grand opening of the Health and Social Sciences Building.
Work Environment alum **Beth Rosenberg '95** was recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate as a member of the Chemical Safety Board. She joins alum **Mark Griffon** who is also a member of the board. **Emeritus Prof. Rafael Moure-Eraso** of Work Environment has held the top post as CSB Chairman since 2010.

**Wendy Sanchez '11** wanted to be a doctor ever since she was a child. But when she received the Tsongas Scholarship to UMass Lowell as a high school senior, she decided to pursue nursing instead. The high achiever who turned hardship into success has no regrets. Read more about this inspiring young alum.

**Jessica Saad '11** landed a job shortly after graduation as a health educator at the Maxwell & Eleanor Blum Patient and Family Learning Center at Massachusetts General Hospital. While in school, she gained real-world experience at Girls Incorporated of Greater Lowell and Winchester Hospital's Community Health Institute. Read more about Jessica's drive to help others improve health.

### News Briefs

**Events**

**Friday, March 22** -- Come watch the fun as the Physical Therapy and Exercise Physiology Clubs play wheelchair basketball against the New England Blazers on Friday, March 22, 6 to 9 p.m. at the UMass Lowell Campus Recreation Center. The New England Blazers is a non-profit organization that helps disabled people participate in basketball tournaments across the East Coast. There is a $2 admission charge. Contact **Kristine Little** for more information.

**Retirement Celebration for Prof. Ken Geiser on two dates:**

**Friday, April 26, 5:30 p.m.** -- Reception and dinner in Cumnock Hall, UMass Lowell

**Saturday, April 27, 7 p.m.** -- Party and dancing at City Year, Boston

We will honor Ken and, in his name, establish the Ken Geiser Endowed Fund for Global Sustainability. A portion of your ticket purchase is tax-deductible and will support the endowment. Please consider making an additional gift to help us reach our $25,000 goal. For more information, contact **Lisa Gagnon**, 978-934-2237.

**New Club**

Faculty in the Physical Therapy (PT) department, along with several third-year PT students, have developed the Rehabilitation 2 Performance Club. It is open to all in the rehabilitation and performance community who desire to learn and network. This will be a great opportunity for clinicians, students and faculty to learn from each other. If you are interested in attending meetings, contact **Ramon Antoun**.

**Staff and Faculty News**
Professor Emeritus Kay Doyle has been appointed to the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Taskforce for the Medical Laboratory Professionals Workforce. This group has been charged with examining current national, regional and state workforce data on all non-physician medical laboratory professions, identify factors that affect the workforce and make recommendations for initiatives to ensure a stable, adequate, national workforce for the future.

Assoc. Prof. Joel Tickner and Joy Onasch of the Toxics Use Reduction Institute both contributed to an European Enivironment Agency report "2013 late lessons from early warnings: science precaution, innovation." [Summary and full report.]

JoAnn Moriarty-Baron was recently appointment to a task force to establish Clinical Practice Guidelines for Persons Living with Vestibular Hypofunction -- a condition in which a person experiences dizziness or disorientation caused by problems involving the inner ear. The goal is for the guidelines to be accepted by the Department of Health and Human Services National Guidelines Clearinghouse. JoAnn, who is certified in vestibular rehabilitation, will be doing critical appraisals of the literature and will be working with others in the American Physical Therapy Association Vestibular Special Interest Group.

Rachel Massey, policy analyst at Toxics Use Reduction Institute, is a primary author of all the sections on global chemical use and related diseases in the United Nations Environment Programme's "UNEP Yearbook Emerging Issues in our Global Environment 2013." The Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Act is cited in the report as a model program to encourage companies to switch to less toxic chemicals and adopt green chemistry methods. [Read more in the report about toxiics and health.]

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**Stay Connected to UMass Lowell**
Inform us of any changes in your contact information at [www.uml.edu/updatesyourinfo](http://www.uml.edu/updatesyourinfo) to keep up-to-date on the latest news, events, discounts and benefits for alumni. Also let us know about your latest accomplishments using the class notes section on the form.

**Consider a Gift to the School of Health and Environment**
Please consider a gift to UMass Lowell. If you would like to support the School of Health and Environment or other key areas such as student scholarships, athletics, or unrestricted funds, you can do so by filling out this easy [online form.]

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