Dear Alumni, Faculty and Staff,

This issue of the SHE Newsletter amazed even me. What is especially significant is that most of these activities occurred since the last newsletter, a mere three months ago.

Once you read the enclosed articles, I’m sure you’ll agree with me that our alumni, faculty and students are truly outstanding. The leadership of the faculty regionally, nationally, and internationally is clearly impacting our students as they become "Tomorrow's Leaders for a Healthier World."

When I take a peek at the activities scheduled for the first half of 2013, I can assure you that our winter/spring newsletter will include even more exciting news.

Enjoy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Best,

Shortie McKinney
Dean of the School of Health and Environment
University of Massachusetts Lowell

More ways to keep in touch

Follow the Dean on Twitter
School of Health and Environment
Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences
Nursing

New Building Set to Open in Spring
New Research Lab Equipped to Assess Nutrition, Fitness and Performance
New Lab in Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center Opens
Faculty to Research Safer Substances for Industry
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Nominate Alumni for Award
Stay Connected to UMass Lowell

UMass Lowell Featured in Boston Globe Magazine
New Building Set to Open in Spring

School of Health and Environment Advisory Board members took a private tour of the Health and Social Sciences Building construction site on Oct. 11.

Board members viewed first-floor classrooms and second-floor spaces that will be used as nursing assessment and simulation laboratories. The building will be ready to occupy by March with a grand opening planned in April.

View more photos of the interior of the building.

New Research Lab Equipped to Assess Nutrition, Fitness and Performance

How does job stress or working different shifts affect weight? How does leg flexibility relate to injuries or risk of falling? How does fatigue affect physiological systems?

These are few of the questions that are being investigated in the School of Health and
In the new Molecular Pathology Research Lab located in Pinanski Hall. The 1,385-square-foot lab, available for use by all University faculty, is equipped with high-tech devices that can measure body composition, cardiovascular function, oxygen uptake and fitness levels.

"The purpose of the lab is to assess factors related to human performance including biochemical, fitness, metabolic, nutritional and physical characteristics - all to discover ways to advise individuals and treat or prevent injuries and diseases," says Dean of the School of Health and Environment Shortie McKinney. Read more.

New Lab in Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center Opens

More than 500 UMass Lowell community members, public officials and industry leaders gathered on Oct. 11 to officially open the Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center, an 84,000-square-foot, $80 million research center. Read the article.

One of the labs in the new research building is the Molecular Pathology Research Lab. It will be used to investigate factors associated with increased risk of developing disorders such as obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

"The new space provides us with a unique opportunity to work under clean conditions and perform cellular and molecular procedures related to gene expression and microRNA analysis," says Asst. Prof. Mahdi Garelnabi.

Faculty to Research Safer Substances for Industry

The Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) has awarded four grants to UMass Lowell faculty to conduct research that identifies and tests less hazardous substances used in resins, nail polish, disinfectants and photovoltaics processing. One of the faculty who received the grant is Asst. Prof. Nancy Goodyear of Clinical Laboratories and Nutritional Sciences, left, with student Amritpreet Birdi. She will conduct performance testing of safer disinfection formulations and test meters that detect residual organisms. This work will be done in collaboration with UMass Lowell facilities and the Montachusett Opportunity Council.
"Our faculty are leading the way in development of more environmentally friendly substances that perform as well as, or better, than toxic substances," says Pam Eliason, industry and research program manager. [Read about the four projects.]

**Nursing Celebrates 40th Anniversary**

More than 140 alumni, friends, faculty and staff celebrated the 40th anniversary of nursing on Oct. 4. The event included a dinner and tour of the new Health and Social Sciences Building, where the Department of Nursing will be housed starting in the spring.

Some of the early pioneers of the program attended the event, including former dean of the School of Health and Environment Jan Stecchi and former chair of the Department of Nursing May Futrell.

[Read the rest of the article.]
[View the photo gallery.]

**Celebrating 25 Years of Protecting Workers and the Environment**

Can companies be economically successful and environmentally friendly? In the 1980s, the answer from most companies was 'no.' Federal regulations that set standards for environmental protection weren't enough to reverse decades of uncontrolled pollution that damaged the environment and put workers at risk. The answer? Change the mindset. Don't just control pollution, prevent it.

This was the revolutionary thinking behind the creation of the Department of Work Environment which celebrated its 25-year anniversary with a symposium on Oct. 19. Graduates of the program are trained in designing systems of production that are inherently safe for workers and the environment while supporting a sustainable economy.

[Read the rest of the article.]
[View the photo gallery.]

**Alumni News Briefs**
Mallory Hillard graduated from the community health program in 2011 and secured a job at Massachusetts General Hospital where she worked during her senior internship. Read more.

Kyle Coffey graduated in 2010 with a doctorate in physical therapy, passed the board exam in July and landed a new job in August. This fast track to success - and a career he loves in physical therapy - was his reward for years of hard work. Read more.

Susan Gordon, who was one of five students who received the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in 2012, is the nursing director of the Neuroscience Unit at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston. Read more.

Jessica Alvarez Montano, who graduated in May 2012 with honors from the RN to BS degree program, was asked by the Massachusetts Action Coalition to speak at an event at the State House. Lt. Gov. Timothy Murray announced that Massachusetts was one of nine states to receive a $300,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to support academic progression in nursing. Read more.

PT Students Visit U.S. Rep. Tsongas

When students are knee high in books and exams, legislative issues may not be top of mind. But when physical therapy (PT) students were encouraged by faculty to take a hard look at laws that could affect their careers, they visited U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas to advocate for their profession.

"I was impressed by the patience and thoughtfulness Congresswoman Tsongas showed when answering our questions," says physical therapy student Kristine Little. "I felt like she understood the importance of physical therapists and the role we play in healthcare to keep people healthy." Read more.

Promoting Practice-based Scholarship in Peru
Assoc. Prof. Maria Brunette of Work Environment held a visiting faculty appointment during the 2011-2012 academic year at the Universidad de Lima (University of Lima) College of Engineering in Peru. The Industrial Engineering Department is the largest in the country with approximately 3,500 undergraduate students.

Brunette established a 'practice-based' scholarship at the University of Lima that included research, teaching and collaboration. She led the development of a large survey about the quality of working life of industrial workers in Lima (photo, left). It was designed and completed via a community-based participatory research approach between Universidad de Lima, UMass Lowell and a large manufacturing firm in Lima. She also taught work design and safety engineering and courses to undergraduate engineering students.

While she was in Lima, Provost Ahmed Abdelal signed a collaboration agreement with Universidad de Lima to promote exchange of research and teaching between the universities and to create a summer exchange experience for local and Peruvian students.

Nursing Receives Nearly $1M Grant

The Department of Nursing received a three-year $996,584 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to recruit, retain and graduate nurses who can effectively interact with patients across diverse cultures and ethnic backgrounds.

The project, Bring Diversity and Leadership to Nursing, will raise awareness of nursing as a career through workshops, clubs and demonstrations with elementary, middle and high school students in Lowell and Lawrence. Eligible students enrolled in the nursing program will receive support such as scholarships, stipends, technology equipment, tutoring, mentoring and leadership opportunities - all designed to help them graduate and work in local communities.

Faculty and Staff News Briefs

The Northeast Section of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry has created an annual travel award in Prof. Gene Rogers' name to be given to a young Clinical Laboratory Scientist for travel to the National AACC Meeting. Rogers has served on the organization for many years and has worked to recruit young scientists into the profession. The Eugene J. Rogers Annual Travel Award was given to Yuna Gong (in photo with Gene Rogers), a laboratory scientist at UMass Medical School, UMass Memorial Laboratories.
Prof. Craig Slatin delivered a Labor Day presentation on public health and the environment at a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences conference. He is director of The New England Consortium (TNEC), the region's model Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response worker health and safety training organization.

Asst. Prof. Dhimeter Bello gave the keynote talk "Linking exposures to engineered nanomaterials with human health: From emissions to exposure Biology" at the International Conference on Nanotoxicology in Beijing, China. He was interviewed by a China-based journalist about the topic. Read the resulting article in Nature, Nano-safety studies urged in China.

Prof. Susan Woskie presented preliminary results of a study on brain disorders in the developing world at the 7th International Conference on the Science of Exposure Assessment in Edinburgh, Scotland. The study measures the impact of neonatal pesticide on the neurodevelopment of newborns in Thailand.

Rachel Massey of the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (photo, right) spoke at a press conference at the United Nations headquarters in New York on September 5th for the launch of a report that examined global trends in chemical production, use and disposal. Other press conferences were held in Nairobi, Mexico City, and Geneva. The story appeared in nearly a thousand news outlets, with coverage in English, Spanish, French, Arabic and Chinese. Massey was quoted in many articles including USA Today and the Guardian. Read more about the report and press coverage.

**Student News Briefs**

Student Anoop Pal, middle in photo, won a best poster award at the International Conference on Nanotoxicology in Beijing, China. Asst. Prof. Dhimiter Bello of Work Environment served as his adviser. The research "Generalized, physiologically-relevant dispersion and dosing methods for in-vitro toxicity evaluation of engineered nanomaterials" included co-authors Joel Cohen, Daniel Schmidt, Philip Demokritou and Dhimiter Bello. Pal is a doctoral student in the interdisciplinary Biomedical Engineering and Biotechnology program. Read more about the awards.
For as long as Carly Tiches can remember, she has been fascinated with the physiology of the human body. That's because the junior nursing student was a gymnast for more than 16 years. Her career culminated in 2011 when she won the floor exercise and all-around competitions in the AAU National Championships in Orlando, Fla.

"That was the highlight of my career because I knew that all of my hard work had paid off and the sacrifices I had made for the sport had been worth it," says Tiches.

Since then, Tiches has retired from gymnastics to dedicate her energy to becoming a nurse. But she took with her the lessons she learned as an athlete. Read more.

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**Nominate Alumni for Award**

Do you know alumni who display exceptional leadership and commitment to their profession and community? If so, nominate them today by using this [online form](#).

Each spring, alumni and friends come together to recognize and celebrate six fellow alumni who continue to make UMass Lowell proud of their accomplishments. The 2013 University Alumni Award recipients include one alumnus/alumna from each school or college and a recent alumna/us.

Please take a few moments to learn more about the nomination process and nominate a deserving alumna/alumnus today by [filling out the online nomination form](#) by Dec. 1. All nominations will be reviewed and voted on by a University committee.

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**Stay Connected to UMass Lowell**

Inform us of any changes in your contact information at [www.uml.edu/updateyourinfo](http://www.uml.edu/updateyourinfo) 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.

**Upcoming Alumni Event**

Join us for Alumni Appreciation and Hockey night on Saturday, Dec. 1. [Visit our web site for more information](#).

**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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