It's hard to believe that the Fall 2016 semester is over! We hope you'll enjoy this review of some of the great events hosted in our College this semester. Thank you for sharing your stories and for all you do to make the College of Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences such a vibrant and engaging community.

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

Luis, Bridget, Andy, Frank, Robyn, Alice, Karen, Andrew, and Shaima

FALL 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
The College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences kicked off the Fall 2016 semester with a Welcome Party for its incoming 300 undergraduate students on the new South Campus Quad lawn. It was a perfect fall day where students enjoyed being outside while talking to their professors and meeting with the College leadership and new colleagues. Students walked home with their new Class of 2020 t-shirts.
Five students; Adeja Crearer, David Todisco, Tyler Farley, Sarah Chapman and Marcus Peterson interned at the Republican and Democratic nominating conventions, thanks to the College’s partnership with The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. Students got to witness history firsthand, were immersed in national politics, and met with important people from both political parties, plus other students from across the country that are as passionate as they are about politics. More on this story, here.

PEACE & CONFLICT STUDENTS FINISH STRONGLY IN THEIR FIRST MEDIATION TOURNAMENT

Students in the Peace and Conflict Studies program scored big in the recent Northeast Regional Mediation Tournament, going up against teams from top law schools including New York University and the University of California Berkeley. Our teams, competing for the first time, won third and fourth place in the event. More on this story, here.
SPACE IS THE PLACE FOR ART & DESIGN MAJOR

John Cullen is an Art & Design senior student who is interning for NASA at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, working in video production and graphic design for the International Space Station program. Cullen's assignments include working on promotional videos, illustrations and infographics. His work is posted on YouTube, the NASA web site and at the space agency’s events. For Cullen, it's been the experience of a lifetime. More on Cullen's experience, here.

ECONOMICS STUDENTS BRING THEIR A-GAME TO THE FED CHALLENGE

The Boston Federal Reserve Challenge contest puts 20 New England College teams against each other where the "challenge" is for each team to recommend the interest rate policy that the Federal Reserve's open market committee should pursue over the next few economic quarters using all available public information on the world macroeconomic situation and financial market signals. UMass Lowell was the only campus from the University of Massachusetts in the competition. Other contenders included Harvard, Dartmouth, Boston College, Bentley, Tufts and UConn.

The Fed Challenge provided an opportunity for students to apply theories and skills that they
OUTSTANDING LAWYER AWARD AT THE MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

The College's mock trial team competed this fall at the Wildcat Invitational at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. James Christopher, the SGA president and a senior, won the award for outstanding lawyer.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB RETURNS TRIUMPHANT

The International Relations Club participated in the Northeast Regional Model Arab League at Northeastern University. Twenty students participated in the simulation representing Iraq, Kuwait and Libya across the various committees of the Arab League, competing against ten other schools (including Suffolk University, Emmanuel College, Roger Williams University, Clark University, Bard College and the US Military Academy at West Point). Students took home eight awards for individual performance, and the team representing Kuwait was awarded honorable mention as best delegation overall.

NEW VOICES, UNIQUE VISIONS
Kelly Freitas, Emily Pacht, Amanda Murrin and Jillian Byra were selected to showcase their artwork at the New Voices, Unique Visions (NVUV) exhibition. NVUV is a student design competition aimed at showcasing the best student designers from renowned colleges and universities in New England. UMass Lowell had the most entries selected of any college or university in the region. Amanda Murrin had the additional honor of having her work selected for the Best in Category Award. The selected projects were from Professor Regina Milan's Senior Studio class and Design-in-Motion class.

Emerging Scholars

Emerging Scholars from across disciplines presented their research findings for the fall 2016 semester. From analyzing the realities of LGBT asylum to constructing an Eco Sonic Playground at the Lowell High School to addressing diversity and inclusion through photos, Emerging Scholars touched upon interesting and important research topics. Working collaboratively with faculty partners allows some of the brightest and smartest students to gain a unique learning experience unlike any they will receive in a classroom as well as work one-on-one with a faculty mentor.

List of innovative 2016-17 partnerships:

- Adoption and Foster Care: Experiences and Attitudes
  Doreen Arcus, Associate Professor of Psychology
  Maria Borrero, Psychology
Sentiment Analysis, Party Politics, and Presidential Primaries
John Cluverius, Assistant Professor of Political Science
John Nyarko, Political Science and Economics

Through Their Eyes: Understanding the Transition to College
Judith Davidson, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Education
Patrice Faith Olivar, Psychology

The Contradictions of Place: Lowell, Massachusetts as Consumer of Slave-produced Cotton and as a Leading City in the Struggle to End Slavery
Robert Forrant, Professor of History
Emily Yunus, History

The Musical Playground
Elissa Johnson-Green, Assistant Professor of Music
Tyler McMillan, Music Studies

The Realities of LGBT Asylum: From Institutional Approaches to Individual Experiences
Cheryl Llewelyn, Assistant Professor of Sociology
David Rodriguez, Sociology and Psychology

Examining the Nature of Learning Difficulties in Children through Eye-Tracking Technology
Richard Serna, Associate Professor of Psychology
Lauren Keisling, Exercise Physiology (Psychology minor)

Shooting for Inclusion: Photovoice Project
Jana Sladkova, Associate Professor of Psychology
Wael Kamal, Director of Digital Media Program
Pisey Hok, Psychology

How Can Cognitive Psychologists Use Scientific Outreach to Help Teachers and Students?
Yana Weinstein, Assistant Professor of Psychology
Syeda Nizami, English and Psychology

COLLEGE & FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

$3.5 MILLION NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AWARD IS 'MAKING WAVES'

A team of faculty at UMass Lowell
Psychology Professor and CWW
Director Meg Bond won a $3.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation. The grant will fund a major effort by UMass Lowell to remove barriers that women faculty face in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. The new initiative, called "Making WAVES (Women Academics Valued and Engaged in STEM)," is designed to help all higher-education institutions establish an environment that supports women faculty, as well as those from other underrepresented populations, in achieving their highest potential. More on this story, here.

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION $50,000 'NEW CONNECTION' GRANT

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the nation's leading philanthropy on health and health care, has awarded Professor Christopher T. Allen a 12-month grant through the New Connections program. Allen is among a select group of Junior Investigators to receive one of the 12-month grants from New Connections. The grant will allow Allen to examine the relations between sexual assault disclosure, help-seeking behavior, and health outcomes in a sample of Black, women undergraduates attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities. More on this story, here.

A NEGLECTED LIBRARY LEADS TO LOVE IN JOHN KAAG'S AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY: A LOVE STORY

Philosophy Professor John Kaag's recent publication showcases an intellectual history and personal memoir in this wonderful love song to philosophy and its ability to help individuals work through the trials of experience. John Kaag finds answers in a neglected library hidden deep in the New Hampshire woods. "In its celebration of romantic love as the apex of American philosophical commitments, Kaag's book is extremely contemporary. American Philosophy succeeds, not as a textbook or survey, but a spirited lover's quarrel with the individualism and solipsism in our national thought." More on the story of this book, here.

MISTER MAGNIFICENT BLENDS LITERATURE, HISTORY AND ART INTO A MAGICAL MERRIMACK ADVENTURE
Art & Design Professor Ingrid Hess celebrated the release of her new children’s book *Mister Magnificent’s Magical Merrimack Adventure* at a book launch party at the Tsongas Industrial History Center, Boott Cotton Mills Museum. Written for third and fourth graders, the book blends literature, history and art into a story about Lowell’s past and present. Hess collaborated with Lowell National Historical Park and the Tsongas Industrial History Center staff, UMass Lowell faculty and a class of Lowell third-graders to bring this book to life.

THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM & MERRIMACK REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCE DEEPER PARTNERSHIP

Merrimack Repertory Theatre (MRT) and the University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML) announce a long-term partnership that will benefit both the MRT audience and UML students. The partnership, announced in November, will include having Merrimack Repertory Theater staff and artists visit UMass Lowell classes or provide guest lectures. University students will have opportunities to participate in workshops in which the theater’s play writer, director and designer will refine scripts. This year, the two organizations kicked off the partnership with a workshop of the play "Chill" by Brookline native Eleanor Burgess. More on this partnership, here.

CHANCELLOR’S CELEBRATION OF MUSIC

UMass Lowell has a proud history in music performance and education, and the Chancellor's Celebration of Music is showcasing the very best of our students, faculty and community partners in a series of performances throughout the year in collaboration with the College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and the Department of Music. The series kicked off in September with *Sounding Out* to showcase the amazing talents of the
Music Department's Faculty. In November, Reaching Out! paid homage to excellence in music and our community that supports it. Mark your calendars for Powering up! on Feb. 25 and Showing Off! on March 31. More on the Chancellor's Celebration of Music and where to buy tickets, here.

MULTIPLE GRAMMY AWARD WINNER ADAM AYAN ENGAGES WITH OUR STUDENTS

Sound Recording Technology and Grammy Award Winner Adam Ayan '97 returned to campus to share his secrets to success as a mastering engineer. Ayan delivered a perfect mix of sage advice and personal anecdotes to the crowd of 100 students, faculty, and alumni who came to hear him. Days later, Ayan received his 5th Latin Grammy award—this time for Record of the Year "La Bicicleta" with Shakira and Carlos Vives. More on Ayan's visit to UMass Lowell, here.

EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF THE 2016 ELECTIONS

The 2016 presidential election has challenged pollsters, political scientists, the two main political parties—and most of all, voters. Different departments and programs throughout the College tried to help students understand and analyze this challenging elections season:

- The Center of Public Opinion (has been vocal in national and international media outlets; check out story here) hosted polling experts Marjorie Connelly, former director of polling research at The New York Times and a senior fellow at The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, and political scientist Jeffrey Berry, professor of political science at Tufts University, who spoke about the
challenges of the 2016 presidential election. Details of this talk, here.
- The Center of Public Opinion conducted various polls throughout the election season. Key findings can be accessed here and here.
- Departments and many other programs throughout the College organized various debates and election nights viewing sessions and analyzed results with students in faculty moderated panels.
- Last but not least, MSNBC’s Steve Kornacki came back to UMass Lowell to walk the audience through his election night and proceeded to analyze his thoughts on the elections’ results. More on Steve Kornacki’s visit, here.

SARIT YISHAI-LEVI DISCUSSES MEDIA AND POLITICS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Israeli journalist and author of best selling novel Beauty Queen of Jerusalem, Sarit Yishai-Levi visited UMass Lowell and discussed Media and Politics in the Middle East in a panel discussion sponsored by the Working Group for Middle Eastern Peoples, Cultures and Politics. More on this visit, here.

ART HISTORY AT THE ADDISON GALLERY OF AMERICAN ART

The Art History Program at UMass Lowell is growing and focusing on area partnerships that allow students to access resources in our culturally-rich region. Professor Kirsten Swenson’s American Art course met every other week at the Addison Gallery of American Art, on the campus of Philips Academy in Andover. The Addison has one of the world’s premiere collections of American art. Students studied masters including Winslow Homer and Ansel Adams firsthand, with lectures and discussions with the museum’s curators in the galleries.
The College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences hosted Monika Izabela Kostrzewa; fashion designer, graphic artist, and university lecturer at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. The visit was part of the international collaboration and exchange agreement between UMass Lowell and the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. During her visit, Kostrzewa showcased her art work and fashion design in an exhibit hosted at the Dean’s Office of the College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. The artist visited with students and presented her artwork to various Lowell Community Partners. More on the artist, [here](#).

**GRANTS RECEIVED BY OUR FACULTY THIS YEAR**

Christopher Allen, "Examining Sexual Assault Disclosure, Help-Seeking, and Health at Historically Black Colleges and Universities", Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Sue Kim, "Southeast Asian American Memories", Lowell Cultural Council

Melissa Morabito, "Boston Police/BEST Collaborative Response Expansion to Serve Persons with Mental Illness", Boston Police Department/U.S. Department of Justice

April Pattavina, "Responding to Sexual Assault on Campus: A National Assessment and Systematic Classification of the Scope and Challenges for Investigation and Adjudication", Wellesley College/U.S. Department of Justice

Robin Toof, "Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Research Partner", City of Springfield/U.S. Department of Justice

Robin Toof, "Cancer Disparities Project Evaluation", Greater Lowell Health Alliance

Robin Toof and Wilson Palacios, "Smart Policing Initiative", Lowell Police Department/U.S. Department of Justice

Robin Toof and Wilson Palacios, "Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program", Lowell Police Department/U.S. Department of Justice

David Turcotte, "Assessing the Sustainability of Home Based Health and Environmental Interventions for Children and Older Adults with Asthma", U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Yana Weinstein, "Promoting Evidence-Based Learning Strategies Through Visuals", Association for Psychological Science

Yana Weinstein, "Teaching the Science of Learning", The IDEA Center

STAY CONNECTED: