Dear Alumni, Faculty and Staff,

I am pleased to announce that we've changed our name from the School of Health and Environment to the College of Health Sciences.

The name "health sciences" better reflects the programs offered on human health within a science context and allows for future expansion.

I'm also very excited to announce that within the College of Health Sciences, the Department of Nursing was elevated in status to the School of Nursing. The School is now located in the new Health & Social Sciences building.

As the role of nurses has expanded, so too has nursing education at UMass Lowell. With more than 600 students, the School of Nursing continues to build upon programs, offering bachelor's, master's, doctorate of nursing and PhD degrees to meet the demanding needs of the health care industry. We're very excited about these changes and our plans for the future. We will be announcing new programs beginning in the fall, so stay tuned.

Best,

Shortie McKinney
Dean of the College of Health Sciences
University of Massachusetts Lowell
New Health and Social Sciences Building Opens

At an April celebration of the opening of the new Health & Social Sciences building, nursing students led tours of the state-of-the-art simulation laboratories, observation rooms, a demonstration hospital wing and true-to-life exam room.

The first new construction on the University's South Campus in more than 30 years is home to three of the University's most popular majors in health and social sciences: criminal justice and criminology, nursing and psychology. Read the full story.

Researchers Test Treadmills at Work

Assoc. Prof. Manuel Cifuentes of the Work Environment Department is testing the use of treadmills and sit-to-stand electric desks with five University employees. The volunteers began integrating movement into their daily work lives in August. Once they adapted to their new workspaces, there was no turning back. Read more.
PT Students Discover the Power of Service Learning

Working on a community project is a requirement in the physical therapy program, but students say it’s also one of the most rewarding experiences of their education. Sarah Coulombe ’13 worked with two other students to help Lowell General Hospital and the Lowell Health Alliance assess the health needs of the community, a requirement of the Affordable Healthcare Act for non-profit hospitals. Read more.

Nurses Gain Edge with R.N. to B.S. Program

Though she’s been a Registered Nurse (R.N.) for 27 years, Kim Pierce was finding it difficult to participate in her hospital improvement initiatives at the unit level. She knew she had the ability. But she also knew that she lacked some of the necessary skills. With a strong desire to apply best patient practices in her job, she enrolled in the University’s R.N. to B.S. degree completion program 18 months ago. She graduated in May armed with the knowledge necessary to best meet the needs of her patients, organization and the future of nursing. Read more.

Rx for Success: Health Care Innovation

The College of Health Sciences and the Manning School of Business are offering a new graduate program -- master of science in innovation and technological entrepreneurship -- aimed at doctors, hospital administrators and other professionals who want to advance their careers. Read the full story.
Massachusetts Reduces Use of Carcinogens

The Toxics Use Reduction Institute recently released a report showing that Massachusetts companies have dramatically reduced use and environmental releases of chemicals known or suspected to cause cancer. Over the last two decades, use of carcinogens by Massachusetts industries reporting to the Toxics Use Reduction Act program declined 32 percent while releases to the environment declined 93 percent, according to the new report. Read the full story.

Engaging Students in Today's Classroom

Faculty in the College of Health Sciences attended a retreat in May about "Engaging Students in Today's Classroom." The program included interactive presentations on innovative teaching methods and overviews of faculty-led research centers.

Javier Horta of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences demonstrated "Flipping and Clicking in the Classroom," (read the story "Faculty Flip Classrooms to Promote Active Learning") Lisa Abdallah of Nursing explained "Using Group Case Analysis and Immediate Feedback Scratch Ticket Testing," and Alease Bruce of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences gave examples of "Enhanced PowerPoints to Engage Students."

Rebecca Foco of Community Health and Sustainability spoke on "Backward Course Design," Michele Fox of Physical Therapy suggested strategies for "Bridging the Generational Gaps," and Valerie King from Nursing and Deirdra Murphy from Physical Therapy shared tips for implementing "Global Health Experiences."

The audience also learned about four research centers located in the College of Health Sciences: the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, the Toxics Use Reduction Institute, and the new Center for Population Health and Health Disparities.

Grants Awarded to Improve Student Learning

Ten faculty in the College of Health Sciences won $1,000 grants in a new College of Health Sciences Teaching and Learning Grant program. The goal is to encourage creativity and innovation in the classroom to improve student learning. The instructors and their projects include:

- Renee Barrile, lecturer, Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences: "Partial Flip of Life Cycle Nutrition"
- Cynthia Ferrara, associate professor, Physical Therapy: "Enhancing Student Learning and Active Engagement in an Undergraduate Research Methods Course"
- Anya Peters, visiting lecturer, and Shellie Simons, associate professor, Nursing:
"Innovative Engagement in a Large Classroom Setting"
- Javier Horta, lecturer, Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences: "Direct Comparison of Learning, DFW Rates, and Retention Among Students in a High-Technology versus a Low-Technology Classroom"
- Valerie King, clinical assistant professor, Nursing: "Implementing Clickers and Flipped Classroom into Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning"
- Heidi Collins Fantasia, assistant professor, Nursing: "Enhancing Engagement and Active Learning in Graduate Nursing Research"
- Ramraj Gautam, lecturer, Nursing: "The Impact of Pre-Class Blackboard Quiz on Student's Reading the Required Textbooks and on Exam Score"
- Rebecca Foco, lecturer, Community Health & Sustainability: "Enhancing Reading Skills for Deeper Learning"
- Mahdi Garelnabi, assistant professor, Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences: "Effectiveness of the Use of WIKI Platform in Learning and Building of Community of Learners"

Alease Bruce of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences developed the grant program and chaired the application review committee. Lisa Abdallah of Nursing and Connie Seymour of Physical Therapy served on the review committee.

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**News Briefs**

**Class of 2013 Notables**
Karalyn Forte of Lowell, clinical laboratory graduate, received the Chancellor's Medal for Academic Achievement.
Gia O'Connor of Dracut, exercise physiology graduate and member of the women's soccer team, received the University Scholar-Athlete Award.

**Retirees**
The following faculty have retired -- Prof. of Work Environment Ken Geiser, Robert Karasek, and Prof. of Nursing Betty Morgan.

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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.

**Consider a Gift to the College of Health Sciences**
Please consider a gift to UMass Lowell. If you would like to support the College of Health Sciences -- formerly 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](http://www.uml.edu/).

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