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The current home of the Graduate School of Education
FROM DEAN ANITA GREENWOOD

What an incredibly busy year we have had at the Graduate School of Education. In September, three faculty joined our ranks: Associate Professor Xiaoxia Newton whose area of specialization is Program Evaluation and Data Analysis, and Clinical Assistant Professors Sumudu Lewis and Eliza Bobek, who are science educators and work primarily in the UTeach program. All three are already making great contributions to the college and student success. This coming year, we will welcome two more colleagues: Professor A.J. Angulo who will lead our Higher Education programs, and Assistant Professor John McKenna, whose area of expertise is Special Education.

While the GSE is still the smallest of the six UMass Lowell colleges, we are growing and gaining recognition for the work of the faculty, the quality of our programs, and the success of our students. You will read about these achievements in this newsletter, but I was particularly pleased when our online degree programs were ranked 9th in the country by US News and World Report and ValueColleges.com ranked UML #14 as their “best value online graduate education programs of 2016”. We started to offer some of our degrees online in 2003 and now at least two thirds of our students take online courses to complete all or some of their masters, education specialist, and doctoral degrees.

Finally, I was personally delighted this year to co-chair “UMass Lowell’s First Women’s Leadership Conference” with my colleague Lauren Turner (Assoc. Vice Chancellor - HR/EOO). With Chancellor Moloney beginning her second year as the university’s first woman leader, we are all committed to ensuring that women across our region have opportunities to reach their potential.

I hope you enjoy reading about the GSE and please come and visit campus or attend our SYMPOSIUM – “Why Education Schools Matter” on October 6th. We would love to welcome you.

Anita Greenwood

Dean Greenwood with colleagues at UMass Lowell’s First Women’s Leadership Conference in June 2016, held at the Inn and Conference Center. [L-R: Robin Toof, Anita Greenwood, Jill Lohmeier, Julie Nash, Lauren Turner]
TEACHER PREPARATION, DEGREES AND LICENSES

M.Ed. Elementary Education
Undergraduate UTeach Program – Math, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Technology/Engineering

We are very proud of our teacher preparation programs and the wonderful partnerships we have with local school districts. Our partner districts – Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Lowell, Methuen, Greater Lowell Regional Technical High School - help us to ensure that our teachers are really prepared for meeting the needs of all students. Many of the courses are heavily field based or even completely taught in a school so that our students have the opportunity to practice their teaching skills straight away and reflect on their strengths and areas for improvement. Classroom management is always an area that concerns student teachers, and so this year we signed onto an immersive training system developed by Mursion Inc. In the photograph above, you see one of our student teachers teaching a lesson to 5 avatars (on the screen) who interact with her in ways that are typical of middle school children. Our students have the opportunity to practice how they will respond to children’s behavior while being watched by their peers. When the session is over they debrief together and discuss what other actions might have been taken. This virtual reality system is truly a benefit to novice teachers, it provides them with a realistic experience and practice so they are "classroom ready."

UTeach, our undergraduate teacher preparation program, is now in its fourth year. We were delighted this year to welcome Massachusetts Secretary of Education Jim Peyser, and Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney, to the UTeach lab to meet some of our students and to learn about this innovative program, and hear the enthusiasm of these STEM majors for teaching.
The Graduate School of Education has offered the Ed.D. degree since 1985, with the first being awarded in 1987. About three years ago, the faculty made the decision to gain authority to offer the Ph.D. in Education. After a rigorous process of development, the degree was approved and this fall we welcomed 26 students distributed among the three options: Leadership in Education, Research and Evaluation, and Literacy Studies. The Ph.D. is an on-campus program, specifically designed for those students who wish to focus on research and move toward careers in research centers, higher education, policy focused government agencies, lobbying groups etc.

As the new Ph.D. began, the faculty decided to phase out the Ed.D. in Language Arts and Literacy and the Ed.D. in Mathematics and Science Education, while restructuring the Ed.D. in Leadership in Education, and including an option within this for STEM education. The new Ed.D. uses a cohort model with admission each summer. The program provides online coursework and a summer on-campus residency.

Twenty-three new Ed.D. students are enrolled in the first cohort and attended the summer residency in July 2016. The residency not only builds collegiality, but most importantly begins the process of thinking about the research interests of “Practitioner Scholars.” Two quotes from our first cohort provide a flavor of the new program.

"The instruction, feedback and collaboration with faculty and cohort members has helped me open my eyes to new methods, ideas and viewpoints in education." (Ryan Place, SPED Team Chair, Barnstable, MA)

"The flexibility and practical understanding of the professors and general design of the program has made me excited about being a part of this cohort." (Matt Stahl, Principal, Lowell, MA)
Selected Presentations - International, National and Regional Conferences

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF TEACHER EDUCATION
- John Brown, Danielle Ricci and Nick Massaro: “Fieldtrip as field experience: Preparing candidates to plan, supervise and embed a trip to Boston’s MFA into the curriculum.”
- Michaela Colombo and Patricia Fontaine: "Preparing Teachers of English Learners: Service Learning, Critical Reflection, and Narrative"
- James Nehring, John Brown, Judith Davidson, and Danielle Ricci: “Building teacher effectiveness through the use of teacher personal narrative.”

ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
- Jill Lohmeier, David Lustick, Robert Chen, R. Wilson and D. Rabkin: "Get your heads out of the sand: Using humor to engage the public about climate change.”

AMERICAN EVALUATION ASSOCIATION
- Jill Lohmeier: “Evaluating the use of out-of-home media for informal science education.”

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
- MinJeong Kim and S. Pak: “Small stories research in service learning contexts: Disrupting narratives of homelessness in teacher education.”
- Sheila Kirschbaum: "Making Museums an Integral Part of Formal Teaching and Learning.”

AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION
- David Lustick: “ScienceToGo.org: Using “Ozzie the Ostrich” to build local partnerships around climate change learning.”

CONGRESS OF QUALITATIVE INQUIRY
- Judith Davidson: “Methodological quandaries for qualitative researchers using digital tools.”

EASTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
- Best Professional Paper
  - Kathleen Ryan and Lorraine Dagostino: “Infusing the teaching of fiction with Louise Rosenblatt’s theory of aesthetic reading.”

NEW ENGLAND RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
- James Carifio and Ted Carey: Is minimum grading wise educational policy?

PAN-AFRICAN LITERACY FOR ALL CONFERENCE
- Elizabeth Bifuh-Ambe: “The role of professional development in improving teachers’ sense of self efficacy as writers and writing teachers.”

TEACHERS OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

UTEACH
- Sumudu Lewis: “Building communities of students and mentor teachers: demands of recruitment and retention.”
Funding for Research and/or Community Outreach

Eliza Bobek (second from left) Phitsamay Uy (second from left)
Both shown with Carol McDonough (MSP President), Chancellor Moloney, and UMass President Emeritus Jack Wilson, at the lunch at which Challenge Grants were awarded.

Chancellor Moloney established the “2020 Challenge Grants” which awarded $1,000 to faculty for projects to advance the goals outlined in the UMass Lowell 2020 Strategic Plan. Two of the GSE faculty received a grant:

- **Eliza Bobek**, to create a makerspace at the Bartlett Community Partnership School in Lowell that will give students in kindergarten through grade 8 an innovative new setting in which to learn about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) with the help of UMass Lowell students.
- **Phitsamay Uy**, to produce a video in Khmer (with the assistance of a Graduate Student) to help parents who are not proficient in English better understand American schools.

**Xiaoxia Newton** was funded by the Lowell Public Schools to conduct program evaluation work for the Lowell High School Career Academy.

**Jill Lohmeier** was funded by the Lowell Public Schools to evaluate the program “Planning for healthy futures: A feasibility study for health, wellness and substance prevention.”

**Michelle Scribner-MacLean** received funding from the Transformational Education Committee to pilot work which will enable preservice teachers and instructors to annotate videos of teaching experiences.

**MinJeong Kim, Phitsamay Uy, and Alyssa McCabe (Psychology)**, received a UMass system Creative Economy grant to turn narratives of Southeast Asian families into children’s multicultural literature.

**Awards and Recognitions**

Many congratulations to **Associate Professor David Lustick** who received the New England Environmental Association Educator of the Year Award and special recognition from the Green School Alliance as a National Leader in Environmental Education.

Thank you to **Clinical Associate Professor Michelle Scribner-MacLean** who oversaw our first Learning Living Community – iTEACH. The LLCs received a UML Pillars of Excellence Award.
UMass Lowell Degrees Turn Teachers into Leaders

Jessica Huizenga was once a homeless teenager. “I was lost but someone believed in me,” she says. “I found my calling in education. I am passionate about helping all students realize their full potential. If I can do it, they can too.” The teacher-turned-administrator is leading the turnaround at Southbridge Public Schools, which are under state receivership. She’s diving in to get the district back on track, using the skills she learned in the UMass Lowell Graduate School of Education. She earned her doctorate in leadership in schooling and her master’s in educational administration. The programs prepared her, she says, for the challenges she faced as principal and superintendent and now as the appointed receiver of the Southbridge public schools. “Some kids are dealing with poverty, disabilities, language barriers and more,” says Huizenga. “The critical thinking skills I learned at UMass Lowell have helped me lead schools and establish educational programs that support each and every student’s continuous development.”

Advanced degree programs in education give teachers and school district leaders insight into how to apply new research and techniques to help students — and schools — succeed. “Teaching has become more complex,” says Dean Anita Greenwood of UMass Lowell’s Graduate School of Education. “[Just think of all the added challenges with English learners and increased pressure on STEM education — just for starters. At UMass Lowell, our faculty members use their research findings on those topics and others to give administrators and teachers the skills they need to improve student outcomes.”

Teaching the Teacher
Andy Pearson caught the teaching bug as an intern at Lowell National Historical Park while studying history as an undergraduate at UMass Lowell. “I didn’t like history in high school because it was pretty boring,” says Pearson. “Once I took a college history course that engaged me, I realized two things: I loved history and I wanted to become a teacher.” He became a substitute teacher and enrolled in the UMass Lowell master’s program in secondary education. Pearson says the techniques that faculty used in the classroom are a model that he hopes to apply in his own classrooms. “One faculty member had our class review a box of items such as newspaper clips and photos and we became detectives, uncovering someone’s history,” says Pearson. “As it turns out, it was the professor’s father’s items from World War II.”

Lessons for the Real World
Matthew Olson earned a doctorate in leadership in schooling at UMass Lowell to position himself for a future leadership role at Middlesex Community College. What he didn’t anticipate, however, was how much his coursework would inform his current work overseeing the college’s instructional technology and online education options. “Throughout the UMass Lowell Ed.D. program, I was able to apply the course content to my real work challenges, which made my learning stronger,” says Olson, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at Middlesex. One highlight was the qualitative research classes, which brought a new perspective on using data to drive decision making. “Assessment is a big part of my job now, not just to improve our programs, but also to demonstrate how well our students are achieving our institutional outcomes,” he says. “This is particularly important given the rising cost of higher education. We need to demonstrate what our graduates know and can do as a result of their time with us. Knowing how to collect, analyze and interpret student work has given me a real advantage leading the assessment efforts in my academic division.”
The GSE has a long history of partnering with the Bartlett Community Partnership School. Indeed, the Bartlett School has been the practicum site for student teachers from the early days of teacher preparation in Lowell. Today, we teach our courses in the school, our students practice their developing skills in a variety of classrooms, they tutor students struggling with their math, and this year, 5 students completed a residency program to gain their special education licenses. The partnership was recognized at a service learning breakfast at UMass Lowell. Clinical Associate Professor Patricia Fontaine oversees the partnership work.

Project Lead’s School Leadership Institute is a collaboration between school districts in the Greater Merrimack Valley and the UML Graduate School of Education led by Associate Professor Stacy Szczesiul. For the past two years, the collaboration has included Lowell, Billerica, and Methuen Public Schools; next year the Institute expands to include the Woburn Public Schools. Designed to build principal leadership capacity within school districts, participants in the School Leadership Institute experience highly-relevant/context-specific professional development through collegial, community of practice support. Each year, the Institute focuses on developing skills related to a critical aspect of school leadership. The 2015-16 Institute promoted the intra and interpersonal skills needed to effectively negotiate the social side of schooling—a skill we believe is fundamentally important to school leadership.
PETALLS - Preparing Excellent Teachers for All Language Learners – continued its work in the Lawrence Public Schools throughout the year under the direction of Associate Professor Michaela Colombo. The US DOE funded project also held two very successful events. In October, the PETALLS conference “Practices that Improve the Education of English Learners” was held at UML’s University Crossing. Over 130 attendees heard keynote speakers, Dr. Susan O’Hara and Dr. Bob Pritchard, speak about lessons learned from professional development work focused on engaging ELs. The second event was the screening of the documentary: “I Learn America” which followed 5 immigrant high schoolers over a year at International High School in NY. The screening was followed the next day by a workshop attended by UML students and teachers from Lawrence Public Schools.

COOL SCIENCE

“COOL SCIENCE” is the brainchild of Associate Professor David Lustick, who together with his UML colleague Associate Professor Jill Lohmeier and UMB colleague Professor Bob Chen, decided that art was the medium through which children might learn about Climate Change. This year, over 600 children in grades 1-12, submitted their art work. At a celebration at UMass Lowell, Chancellor Moloney (left in the photograph above) spoke to parents and the children about the importance of climate change awareness and the impact of their art. The entries were judged by university faculty and students based on visual impact and scientific accuracy. The winning entries were displayed on the outside and inside of buses of the Lowell Regional Transit Authority who sponsor the event. Other sponsors are United Parcel Service and ATA Outdoor Advertising. Shanna Thompson (GSE alumna) serves as project manager.
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ONLINE STUDENTS

Congratulations to all of the graduates of our online masters and education specialist degrees. We are very proud of their achievements. They have received their advanced degree from some of the best online programs in the country.

- 41 students graduated from the Curriculum and Instruction degree
- 22 students graduated from the Education Administration degree
- 24 students graduated from the Reading and Language

DIFFERENCE MAKERS

We were delighted that five of our alumni were able to participate as judges in UML’s Difference Makers competition. “The Difference Maker program sponsors specific programs and activities that support students in solving big problems through innovative and entrepreneurial action.” (website). These alumni are difference makers in their own right. Lisa Dana (Superintendent Danvers PS), John McDonough (Superintendent Reading PS), Ed Roberts (Dean of STEM, Haverhill PS) and Charles Gobron (Superintendent – retired – Southborough PS) and Joan Marchessault (Strategic Leadership Consultant) (not in the photograph). Also in the photograph are Dean Greenwood, Dr. Brown and Chancellor Moloney – all three are GSE alumni.

PATRICK KAPLO

Patrick graduated from our M.Ed. with a license to teach high school physics. He has given back in so many ways to our current students, participating in methods courses and inviting teacher candidates into his classroom. Patrick is a phenomenal teacher and has been recognized with the 2015 NH Presidential Award for math and science; a Milken Educator Award; and a Fulbright Scholarship. This year, the GSE honored his achievements with a University Alumni Award.

MICHELLE RYAN

Michelle graduated from the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction and later went on to teach at Randolph High School. Michelle was awarded with a Milken Educator Award this year. You can read about Michelle at http://www.milkeneducatorawards.org/educators/view/michelle-ryan
TV SHOWS AND MUSIC VIDEOS INSPIRE KIDS

Math with Matthew show

The "Math with Matthew" program, created by GSE alumnus Matthew Beyranevand, ignites excitement in kids about learning math.

By Karen Angelo

From TV shows to music videos, the "Math with Matthew" program is changing the way kids learn. The brainchild of Graduate School of Education alumnus Matthew Beyranevand, the innovative teaching program infuses popular culture into math instruction to reach the minds of today's students. As the K-12 Mathematics and Science coordinator for the Chelmsford Public Schools, Beyranevand produces and hosts a public access television show and creates music videos with the students to communicate math concepts. “I decided to be a teacher in college when I became a teaching assistant,” says Beyranevand. “The excitement and energy of helping students understand had me hooked.”

“Math with Matthew” started four years ago with one-off math and science related music videos with other teachers and students. “I started to see how bringing new ways to communicate with students into my teaching methods could combine to do great things,” he says. Beyranevand recently completed a 16-month pilot project for a “Bill Nye the Science Guy” style show that explains the Pythagorean theorem. “Math with Matthew: The Pythagorean Project” has aired in more than 30 Massachusetts communities and has won several awards. The math music videos recently captured the attention of WBZ Channel 4 news. He also produces and hosts “Science with Matthew” spotlighting the science and innovation fairs in Chelmsford, as well as “Eye on PARCC” which familiarizes the educational community with the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), a system of standardized assessments. Beyranevand has used music videos to include the arts into learning. “I felt that taking the STEM acronym and adding an A for the arts to make STEAM just made sense,” said Beyranevand, “I wanted to create engaging media that helps kids enjoy mathematics.”

His work with students and viewers doesn’t end with his television and video programs. His website, www.mathwithmatthew.com, was first launched to host his many music videos, and has developed into a multimedia resource that features articles, a math blog and podcast. It has become a useful resource for math teachers to learn unique and fun methods to help increase their students' interest in mathematics.

Having earned his master’s in 2003 and doctorate in 2010 from the Graduate School of Education (GSE), Beyranevand gained the skills he needed to conduct mathematics education research. Matthew's master's and doctoral work at the GSE showed his ability to apply theory and research to the world of practice and to do so creatively,” said Dean of the Graduate School of Education Anita Greenwood. “His enthusiasm for making mathematics accessible and exciting for students is beyond compare.” In addition to articles from his dissertation on investigating multiple representations of mathematical concepts, he has had articles published on the impact of popular culture on mathematics instruction. My time at UMass Lowell was nothing short of excellent,” he says. “The master's program in education helped make me into a strong teacher and the doctoral program helped prepared me to take on a greater leadership role in math and science. Prof. Regina Panasuk, my mentor and dissertation chair, was instrumental in my professional development and growth.”
Congratulations to our new teachers – M.Ed. and UTeach

**Elementary Education**
Lauren Clooney  
Kerry Charbonneau  
Samantha Daehling  
Rebecca Flynn  
Katherine Osgood  
Krista St. Louis  
Jamie Wood – Coburn Award Recipient

**History**
Edward Appleton  
William Donlon  
Taelour Murphy  
Andrew Pearson – Coburn Award Recipient  
James Warren

**Science**
Adam Boisvert  
Megan Lulsdorf  
David Stacy  
Julie Boudries  
Kayla Pelland  
Sean Fidler  
Alison Sardonini

**English**
Kathleen Brazil  
Kaylen Harris  
Kayleagh Morrisey  
Christine Silvar  
Brian Wong  
Hanna Dupre  
Chelsea Graham  
Nicolas Massaro  
Jaclyn Mullavey  
Diane Velez  
Colleen Morrill  
Cheyenne Silva

**Mathematics**
Betty Makovoz  
Erin Greathead  
Zachary Watson  
Michael Paglieroni

**UTEACH**
David Entwistle  
Adam Pandolph
Congratulations to this year’s Ed.D. recipients and to Rob Michaud for the Outstanding Dissertation Award.

Robert Michaud, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Michaela Colombo)
Charles Addae, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. James Nehring)
Caitlin Colombo Cummings, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Jill Lohmeier)
Deirdre W. Donovan, Math and Science Education (Chair: Dr. Regina Panasuk)
Gregory G. Fitzsimons, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. James Nehring)
Becky Anne Groothuis, Language Arts and Literacy (Chair: Dr. Jay Simmons)
Shanley Heller, Math and Science Education (Chair: Dr. Regina Panasuk)
Jean-Marie C. Kahn, Leadership in Schooling (Dr. James Nehring)
Julie B. Kelley, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Phitsamay Uy)
Steven C. Meyer, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Stacy Szczesiul)
Elizabeth A. Often, Math and Science Education (Chair: Dr. Regina Panasuk)
Shanna Rose Thompson, Leadership in Schooling (Chair: Dr. Stacy Szczesiul)
Edward P. Tonelli Jr., Math and Science Education (Chair: Dr. Regina Panasuk)
Monica M. Maldari, Math and Science Education (Chair: Dr. Michelle Scribner-MacLean)

Graduate Student Awards

Outstanding Doctoral Student  Jennifer Bauer (here with Dean Greenwood)
Coburn Award for Excellence in Teaching-Elementary  Jamie Wood, M.Ed.
Coburn Award for Excellence in Teaching-Secondary  Andrew Pearson, M.Ed.
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<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<td>College of Education Alumni Centennial Scholarship</td>
<td>Danielle Ricci</td>
<td>Ph.D. Leadership in Education</td>
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<td>Margaret Holland Barrett ’58 Scholarship</td>
<td>Daniel Varley-Barrett</td>
<td>Curriculum and Instruction: Initial Certification</td>
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<td>Jane ’69 and Charles Gourtis Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>Bradley Marshall</td>
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<td>Fadia Chahine</td>
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<td>Kevin Tan</td>
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<td>E. Dewey and Rose A. Dyer Scholarship</td>
<td>Amy Whitney-Perry</td>
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<td>Shannon Dufresne</td>
<td>M.Ed. Education Administration</td>
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<td>Caitlin Kane</td>
<td>M.Ed. Education Administration</td>
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<td>Vito and Vasiliki (Ziogas) Selvaggio Scholarship</td>
<td>Elizabeth Leone</td>
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<td>Dr. Constance Lanseigne-Case Scholarship</td>
<td>Emily Thompson</td>
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<td>Eleanor Priestly ’40 Memorial Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Pierson Family Endowment Fund</td>
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<td>Derek Ciccone</td>
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<td>Douglas and Mary Sullivan Scholarship</td>
<td>Margaret Ferrick</td>
<td>Ed.D. Leadership in Schooling</td>
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<td>Murphy-Roberts-Murphy Scholarship</td>
<td>Emily Sullivan</td>
<td>Curriculum and Instruction: Initial Certification</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph J. and M. Jean Donnelly Education Scholarship</td>
<td>Matthew D’Angelo</td>
<td>Undergraduate UTeach Minor</td>
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<td>Bradley Marshall</td>
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<td>George Tsapatsaris Scholarship</td>
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<td>Undergraduate UTeach Minor</td>
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Thank you to Alumni & Friends who have provided scholarships.
The faculty and students of the Graduate School of Education appreciate your participation at events and support through your donations. Your generosity makes it possible to provide scholarships and stipends for our students. Alumni giving participation rates are a key factor in how U.S. News & World Report ranks colleges and universities—help us to continue to soar in the rankings while increasing the value of your degree.

Please visit http://www.alumni.uml.edu/ to see how you might become involved and/or make a gift.

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