From the Dean

Dear Alumni, Friends and Colleagues,

We are happy to introduce you to 13 new faculty members who started this semester. See their photos and bios below. I’m delighted to welcome each one who brings real-world experiences and exceptional teaching experience to our students.

As our college continues to attract students looking for a high-value education in health sciences, we need more talented faculty members to join our team. Please see the job listings below for details and required qualifications. We encourage applications from qualified candidates. Share with any colleagues who might be interested.

I was thrilled to welcome Maura Walsh to campus in September. An alum of the health care administration program and former leader of a 15-hospital health care system in Texas, she shared her experience managing a command center during and after Hurricane Ike with more than 50 people, including UML’s own emergency response team.

At the time of Hurricane Ike, she was division president of Hospital Corporation of America’s (HCA) Gulf Coast Division, with 15 hospital CEOs reporting to her. As Rich Lemoine, UML’s executive director of environmental and emergency management, says, “She is the real-deal emergency manager who skillfully guided her team and their hospital facilities, employees and patients to safety.” Read the article.

When alumni share their expertise with our faculty, staff and students, great things happen.

Upcoming Events

Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences Alumni and Friends Ice Hockey Night
Friday, Dec. 8
6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. game
UMass Lowell River Hawks vs. Boston University
Learn more and register.

On the Road: Colorado
Nov. 30 and Dec. 2
Learn more and register.

On the Road: Philadelphia
Sat., Dec. 9
Learn more and register.

UMass System Game and BBQ: Patriots vs. Dolphins
Monday, Dec. 11
6 p.m. BBQ and 8:35 p.m. game
Hard Rock Stadium, Miami, Fla.
Learn more and register.

Holiday Pops
Sunday, Dec. 17
1 p.m. reception and 2:30 p.m. show
Learn more and register.

UMass Lowell provides a life-changing education for all students. Annual giving from generous donors is imperative to ensuring students receive a transformative...
We all benefit by learning something new. I encourage you to get involved with your alma mater, whether it be attending a talk, giving a presentation or joining us at any of our events, including our college's hockey game night on Friday, Dec. 8. Come join the fun.

All my best,

Shortie McKinney
Dean of the Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences
University of Massachusetts Lowell

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**Alum Shares Experiences on Front Lines of Disaster Response**

Maura Walsh’s talk on campus about preparing for natural disasters was scheduled long before anyone heard of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma or Maria, but her timing couldn’t have been better. “We wanted to give our students a behind-the-scenes look at how public health crises such as hurricanes could affect their role in health care,” says Dean Shortie McKinney of the Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences. “Maura’s words of advice couldn’t have been more timely as Texas, Florida, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico suffer the aftermaths of an active and devastating hurricane season.” [Read more.](#)

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**Faculty Teaching Methods Raise the Grade**

Studying anatomy and physiology is not for the faint of heart. Muscles, bones, nerves, cells, organs – and how these are all connected – are difficult concepts to master and retain. One way to learn the material is through memorization. But Michelle Hunt has other ideas. “When students memorize for a test, they quickly forget the information,” says Hunt, who teaches human anatomy and physiology in the Department of Biomedical and Nutritional Sciences. “Once our students become nurses, physical therapists, dietitians or exercise physiologists, they will need to understand and remember these concepts to treat their patients.” [Read more.](#)
UML Nursing Wins New Era Award

As a partner in the Northeast Region VA Nursing Alliance (NERVANA), UMass Lowell nursing was one of six programs that won the 2017 inaugural New Era in Academic Nursing Award. NERVANA is a partnership between the VA Boston and Bedford Health Care Systems and six schools of nursing in Massachusetts.

Interim Dean of the Solomont School of Nursing Karen Devereaux Melillo, left, accepted the award at the Academic Nursing Leadership Conference in October. The award recognizes the American Association of Colleges and Nursing (AACN) member institutions that have successfully implemented recommended strategies from the report Advancing Healthcare Transformation: A New Era for Academic Nursing.

The Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences is Hiring

As the Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences continues to attract top-notch students to our programs, we have openings for the positions below. For each position, link to the job description and apply online. Please share these openings with your colleagues:

- Donna Manning Endowed Faculty Chair for Nursing
- Chair for the Department of Biomedical and Nutritional Sciences
- Assistant/Associate/Full Professor for Applied Genomics and Hematologic Disease
- Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Immunology/Microbial Systems
- Associate/Full Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences/Pharmacokinetics/Drug Delivery
- Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Physical Therapy
- Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Public Health

Meet the College's New Faculty

Solomont School of Nursing

Assistant Professor Seung Eun (S.E.) Lee’s research interests include nursing administration, work environment, patient safety, quality of care and safety culture. Using multilevel conceptual model and analysis, her recent research focuses on the influence of individual nurse and hospital characteristics and their interactions on patient safety and quality of care in acute care hospitals. Lee’s overall research goal is to contribute new knowledge for improving patient safety and quality of care. Prior to joining UMass Lowell, she was a Ph.D. candidate in nursing at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She holds a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea, and master’s degree in nursing from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.
Susan Parker, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) coordinator and lecturer, has strengths in transitional care, palliative care and gerontological nursing. Within these practice areas, she is active in the translation of evidence-based knowledge into practice. Parker's DNP project investigated the satisfaction that patients and family members reported with the care received during palliative care consult visits provided by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). Currently, her practice involves working with a team of APRNs, social workers and pharmacists to provide state-of-the-art transitional care to high-risk patients during their first 30 days post-acute care discharge.

Assistant Professor Hannah Fraley is passionate about social inclusion, health equity and health access. Her research program centers on the pervasive problem of child sex trafficking among U.S. school-aged youth. She is conducting research with school nurses in Massachusetts and nationally to understand what school nurses know about child sex trafficking and how they view their role in prevention. She is also studying school teachers and guidance counselors to understand their perspectives about child sex trafficking, their role in prevention and their perceptions about the school nursing role.

Jessica Teates, Nursing Lab and Simulation Specialist, has clinical experience in pediatrics, solid organ transplantation and nursing leadership. She is passionate about helping nursing students connect didactic and clinical education, simulation in education and the clinical setting, quality improvement and addressing health disparities. She received her B.S. and M.S. from Rivier University in Nashua, N.H., and is currently in her last year of the DNP program at the University of New Hampshire. Her DNP project is aimed at addressing disparities in the screening for autism in toddlers.

Jeanne Katz, Nursing Lab and Simulation Specialist, has clinical experience in intensive care nursing and clinical nurse education for newly licensed nurses. She obtained a Diploma in Nursing from New England Baptist Hospital School of Nursing 1990, a B.S. in nursing from Curry College 2012 and an M.S. in nursing adult Health Nurse Educator track in 2016. She is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. in Nursing program at UMass Lowell. She is past president of the Sigma Theta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing. Her concentration of study in the Ph.D. program will relate to transitions in care. She is passionate about sharing her clinical expertise with nursing students and emphasizing the important role that quality, access and evidence-based practice have in the clinical setting.
Biomedical and Nutritional Sciences Department

**Professor Shannon Kelleher** conducts research to understand how diet, genetics and environmental factors affect mammary gland function during lactation, breast milk composition and infant development. Her interdisciplinary research program is focused on understanding the role and molecular regulation of zinc transport as a driver of secretory epithelial cell biology. Her research uses molecular, biochemical and imaging techniques in cultured cell and transgenic mouse models to explore the interaction between diet, genetics and environmental factors on zinc biology and cellular function. She received a B.S. in biology and chemistry from the University of San Diego and a Ph.D. in nutritional biochemistry and cell biology from the University of California Davis.

**Brent Shell, Lecturer**, teaches anatomy and physiology lecture and lab. Prior to joining UMass Lowell, he was an instructor for the Joint Admission Medical Program, teaching premedical undergraduates about cardiopulmonary physiology at the University of North Texas Health Science Center. His graduate research was on the neurophysiology behind autonomic control of blood pressure. His work focused on discovering the neural mechanisms that underlie hypertension from chronic intermittent hypoxia, a model for sleep apnea. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of North Texas in 2009 and earned a Ph.D. in biomedical sciences from the University of North Texas Health Science Center in 2016.

**Karen Hammerstone, Visiting Instructor**, teaches anatomy and physiology at UMass Lowell. Prior to teaching, she worked for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals as a protein chemist in product development. Her research focused on purification of novel proteins as potential drug therapeutics. She received a patent for the purification process of one protein, recombinant Bone Morphogenetic Protein 2. She received a B.S. degree in biology from Cornell University and an M.A. degree in biology from Harvard University. Her master's degree thesis focused on protein refolding.

**Diane Nocco, Visiting Instructor**, is a graduate of the Clinical Laboratory Sciences program at UMass Lowell. Since 2010, she has been a laboratory instructor within the department, teaching fundamental experimental chemistry techniques that have applications in both the clinical world and biomedical research. She has a strong passion for hands-on experimental work, especially the type of laboratory techniques with clinical applications, as well as for teaching undergraduate students, which is the driving force behind her pursuit of a career in undergraduate laboratory education. She is creative in helping her students assimilate what they will need to succeed as students and ultimately as professionals in their careers.
Kellee Cardaleen, Visiting Instructor, is an ASCP Registered Medical Technologist with experience in many areas of the clinical laboratory. She has been teaching physiological chemistry laboratory at UMass Lowell for 10 years. She recently taught a general chemistry lecture and laboratory course at Middlesex Community College. She has also been an instructor of clinical chemistry and immunohematology in the Medical Laboratory Technician program at Middlesex Community College. She has worked at Lahey Clinic, Instrumentation Laboratories, Lowell General Hospital and Mayo Medical Laboratory. She earned a B.S. in clinical lab sciences from UMass Lowell in 1990.

Public Health Department

Casey León, Clinical Instructor, has dedicated her career in public health to working with vulnerable populations. Prior to joining UMass Lowell, she was the director of research at the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program. In this role, she managed research, program evaluation and quality improvement projects for the largest homeless health care center in the country. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in biological sciences and Spanish from Wellesley College and a Master’s degree in Public Health with a dual concentration in epidemiology and global health from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. She is a returned Peace Corps volunteer.

Amy Smalarz, Lecturer teaches health policy, health care systems and leadership in health care. Prior to joining UMass Lowell, she led her health care consulting company, Strategic Market Insight, taught as adjunct faculty at Simmons College and Regis College and was adjunct faculty for the Manning School of Business, teaching organizational behavior. Her work has focused on health care services research, specifically the impact of organizational culture and structure on the delivery of health care in multiple settings. Currently, she is working to advance research on the opioid epidemic and its impact on public health. She received a Bachelor of Science in biology and sociology from Brandeis University in 1998, a Master's in health care administration from Simmons College in 2002 and earned a Ph.D. in social policy as a Fellow in the Academy of Healthcare Research and Quality from Brandeis University.

Sandra Guy-VanAmburgh, Visiting Lecturer and Graduate Coordinator of the Health Informatics & Management brings 26 years of industry experience, working most recently as the enterprise director of HIM, Medical Coding and CDI for the Elliot Health System in Manchester, NH. She has been teaching allied health and health information technology for six years, acting as the HIT Program Coordinator at Manchester Community College and Health Information Services Department Chair at Northern Essex Community College. She has also taught as adjunct faculty for Laboure College in Milton, Mass., Southern New Hampshire University and North Shore Community College. She earned a Master’s degree in Public Administration with a health care specialty from the Keller School of Management.