Dear Alumni, Friends and Colleagues,

Many changes are taking place on campus, from new programs and facilities, to renovations inside and out. When you visit south campus, you will be amazed to see a new line of sight from the old Coburn building to the gazebo through to O'Leary Learning Commons.

The South Campus Dining Hall was removed and an accessible entrance was added to Weed Hall, leaving space for a new patio for students to enjoy. View photos on our Facebook page. We encourage you to visit your alma mater, see the transformations and attend one of many events on campus.

The university has kicked off the fundraising and engagement campaign Our Legacy, Our Place. Learn more in the article below and please consider giving to support student scholarships, faculty research and more.

Enjoy the summer.

Best,

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

Upcoming Events

BBQ and Lowell Spinners Baseball
Tuesday, July 12
4 to 6:30 p.m. BBQ
7 p.m. Game
Meet Coach Norm Bazin and your '16 and '17 River Hawks Ice Hockey team at a special BBQ before we root for the Lowell Spinners. Learn more and register.

Save the Dates:

Nursing Ph.D. 20th Anniversary Celebration
Sat., Oct. 15, 6 p.m.

River Hawk Homecoming
Oct. 21 and 22
UMass Lowell's biggest, bluest celebration of the year with entertainment, family fun, reunions and opportunities to reunite with friends and classmates.

Your annual contribution is more than a gift -- it's an investment in current UMass Lowell students and all the great work they will accomplish now and in the future. www.uml.edu/givenow
Nursing Students Experience Health-care Delivery in China

Eight nursing students and two faculty members recently returned from an 18-day trip to China, part of the Global Health Experience course. Organized by Asst. Prof. of Nursing Yuan Zhang, who is from China, the cross-cultural exchange experience was hosted by Shandong University. Clinical Asst. Prof. Valerie King, Zhang and the students attended nursing courses, visited hospitals and community health centers and learned about traditional Chinese medicine and culture. The group also explored the country's history, geography, tradition, people and spirituality.

Students wrote about their experiences on the Global Health Experience blog.

See more photos on Facebook.

Helping Hand Makes the Biggest Difference

Two exercise physiology students were part of a team of students that won the campuswide DifferenceMaker award and a $6,000 purse at the fourth annual DifferenceMaker Idea Challenge for creating low-cost, 3D-printed prosthetic hands for children. The event, hosted by the university’s Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship at University Crossing, featured teams of finalists, narrowed down from more than two dozen entrants. Read more.

In photo, Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney tries on the prosthetic hand; left, exercise physiology major Allison Dunbar and right, exercise physiology alumna Katherine Bilodeau ’16.
Turning Students into Public Health Professionals

Public health students educated students across campus about global health issues such as obesity, maternal health and nutrition. The Global Public Health course project taught public health students how to creatively share information so students will better understand world health issues. “The creation of the campaigns helped turn our students into committed public health professionals,” says Assoc. Prof. Maju Brunette of Public Health, who taught the course. “They researched the topic areas, created the materials and educated their fellow students, all of which truly engaged them in a professional public health role.” [Read more.]

Young People with Disabilities Master Bike Riding

Exercise Physiology senior Hailey Tompkins ran alongside 9-year-old Declan Wilkins of Lowell, giving him tips as he cautiously pedaled his bicycle. “My rider was extremely timid, but by the end of the week he was able to go bursts of time where he was riding his bike without any help,” says Tompkins, one of 52 exercise physiology students who recently volunteered to teach children, teens and young adults with disabilities how to ride a bike. Run by the non-profit organization iCan Shine, the one-week bike camp is the service-learning component of the advanced study course taught by Exercise Physiology Asst. Prof. Yi-Ning Wu. [Read more.]

Students Present Research at Conference

Three public health students -- shown left to right, Samantha Couture ’16, Alicia McCarthy and Hayley Byra-- received scholarships from the Society for Hazard Communication to conduct research and present it at the society’s annual conference. Couture says: "It was the first major conference that I have ever been a part of so it was thrilling for me. There were toxicologists and industrial hygienists from major companies as well as several countries. It was an amazing experience and I am very grateful that I was able to have that kind of opportunity."
UMass Lowell Hits the Road to Celebrate 'Our Legacy, Our Place'

Our Legacy, Our Place: The Campaign for UMass Lowell is going places, with a series of regional celebrations scheduled for this summer and fall. The $125 million campaign, which had its public launch in April and continues until 2020, has already raised more than $84 million for student scholarships, faculty research, campus improvements and our Division I athletics program. Read more. Give now.

Mark Cocozza ’71 (right) and his wife, Susan ’69 (second from right) joined Chancellor Jacquie Moloney ’75, ’92 and her husband, Ed, at the June 16 UMass Lowell celebration at the UMass Club in Boston.

Jacqueline Dowling Retires, Raises Funds for BDN

Alumni, faculty, staff and students gathered to honor Nursing Prof. Jacqueline Dowling as she retired after 20 years at the university. One of her many accomplishments was to promote diversity in nursing. The retirement ceremony raised funds for the School of Nursing’s Bring Diversity to Nursing Endowment Fund that she had established. The fund provides resources to educationally and economically disadvantaged students in nursing. If you would like to donate to the fund, visit the Support UMass Lowell website.

Prof. Jacqueline Dowling, right, with Interim Dean of the School of Nursing Karen Devereaux-Melillo
BDN Spotlight: Erneston Maurissaint

Even though Erneston Maurissaint ’16 passed the state’s nursing board exam on his first try, his road to success was not an easy one. Diagnosed in elementary school with a learning disability, he struggled throughout middle and high school, feeling ashamed that he wasn’t smart enough to gain an education. However, his dream of becoming a nurse never wavered after witnessing the compassionate care his mother received as she suffered from kidney disease when he was 10 years old. With support from UMass Lowell’s Bring Diversity to Nursing (BDN) program – an initiative that provides scholarships, stipends, technology, equipment, tutoring and mentoring to diverse students – Maurissaint realized his dream. Read more.

Faculty Lead Conferences on Campus

Assoc. Prof. Mahdi Garelnabi of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences chaired the organizing committee for the first annual Northeast American Association for Clinical Chemistry conference. The day-and-a-half program featured scientific talks about biomarkers of rare diseases, next-generation sequencing in clinical diagnostics and molecular diagnostic testing for infectious diseases.

From left, Assoc. Prof. Mahdi Garelnabi of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences received a certificate of appreciation from Asst. Prof. Joel Lefferts of Pathology at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center for three years of leadership to the Northeast American Association for Clinical Chemistry.

Prof. Craig Slatin of Public Health and director of the The New England Consortium lead the special forum "Eye of the Storm: Preparing Vulnerable Workers for Safe Storm Clean-Up." Presented in partnership with the Civil Service Employees Association of New York, the forum brought together first responders, emergency planners, relief workers and volunteers with worker centers serving day laborers. The goal was to protect workers and strengthen emergency and disaster response capability in New England and New York. This work is part of a grant from the National Institutes of Health.