Want to know the latest from U M L? Ask a student.

When you receive a call from the Lowell Fund, there is a hard working student on the other end of the line.

So go ahead and ask for news of your favorite professor, if parking on campus is still a headache, or how the season is looking for your favorite RiverHawk team. They’ll be sure to give you the scoop and to thank you for making your gift to U M ass Lowell.

Your Lowell Fund gift allows the University to:

- Increase student scholarships,
- Create research opportunities for both undergraduates and graduates,
- Support our talented faculty, and
- Improve technology on campus.

For more information, please contact: Katherine Hastings, director of the Lowell Fund, at (978) 934-4808, e-mail: katherine_hastings@uml.edu or visit us at www.uml.edu/alumni.
Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends:

In Massachusetts, we have learned that economic strength and social vitality flow from innovation. Ours is a knowledge-based economy. At UMass Lowell, we seek to create more opportunities for people in our region and state, while focusing on understanding how a particular region can renew itself — how it can flourish and re-flourish.

We believe that nanotechnology represents the best opportunity to develop and sustain a robust segment of the area’s economy. Using materials as tiny as one-billionth of a meter in size, this technology is expected to generate two million jobs worldwide and $1 trillion in economic impact by 2015. More than 8,000 nanotechnology patents were awarded last year, three times the number in 1996. Real-world applications range from medical devices to renewable energy technologies. To that end, this past spring we announced that UMass Lowell would build a nanomanufacturing research center at the Lawrence Mills site along the Merrimack River. This enabling technology, which cuts across product sectors, offers us a chance to establish a competitive niche that capitalizes on the special strengths of the Lowell campus.

We are gratified by the widespread support for our nanomanufacturing initiative to date. Gov. Mitt Romney has proposed $19.5 million for the research center in Lowell, while the John Adams Innovation Trust, associated with the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, has committed $5 million toward our nanomanufacturing endeavor. State and federal leaders are directing substantial amounts of research funding toward nanotechnology to keep our scientists and engineers on the leading edge. Several of the nation’s top researchers in the field are on the UMass Lowell faculty. We are hopeful about the prospect of National Science Foundation funding to support research on plastics enabling technology, which cuts across product sectors, offers us a chance to establish a competitive niche that capitalizes on the special strengths of the Lowell campus.

As always, we will need help from our alumni, friends and supporters in this ambitious effort to make UMass Lowell one of the world’s best-known addresses for nanomanufacturing research. In doing so, we can improve the economy of Massachussets, from the Merrimack Valley to the Berkshires.

Sincerely,

William T. Hogan
Chancellor

For more information on alumni activities, please check our Alumni Website Calendar: www.uml.edu/Alumni or call the Office of Alumni Relations toll free (877) UML-A LUM or 978-934-3140.

Calendar of Events

For more information on Athletics, go to wwwGORIVERHAWKS.com or call 978-934-2310.

For more information and reservations on the SMARTS Program, please call 978-934-4452.

Interested in subscribing to The Connector, UML’s student newspaper? Please call (978) 934-5009 or e-mail your request to connector@uml.edu
Write to us using this form with news about your family, career or hobbies. If you send us a photo we will gladly include it and return it to you after it appears. This form may also be used for updating a new business or home address or phone number. Be sure to give us your e-mail address so you can receive our e-newsletter.

What topics would you enjoy reading more about — Alumni, Students, Faculty, Campus?

Please send to:
UMass Lowell
Office of Alumni Relations
Wannalancit Mills Complex
600 Suffolk St.
Lowell, MA 01854-3629
Fax: (978) 934-3111
E-mail: Alumni_Office@uml.edu

What topics would you enjoy reading more about — Alumni, Students, Faculty, Campus?

Please check the activities with which you would like to help:
☐ Alumni Relations Council  ☐ College/Departmental Activities
☐ Regional Events  ☐ Regional Chapters
☐ Career Services  ☐ Class Reunions
☐ Community Service

☐ Please send me a copy of the latest Lowell Alumni Handbook, which includes information on all alumni benefits, services and activities.

Thank you!
Botball, Botfest Fill Rec to create robots

A botball program, school teams from Massachusetts and was the scene of a high-tech, high-
ness Training Program

KISS (tute for Practical Robotics

with no remote control. 

competed completely on their own,
puter science.

Holly Yanco, assistant professor of com-

plaints and tried to place a ball in a corner “basket.”

opponent territory, or dropping a ball
re-set the game board for a seeding round. High
High School tied with Wellesley High
ament play combined with Web docu-

descriptions by college 

Brunette Develops Safety Training Program for Hispanic Workers

In the construction industry, educa-

Hispanic construction workers are

Scoring depended on collecting 

yellow cups, pushing blue cups onto

partner at risk for injury and death
due to language barriers and lack of job experience.

To address this need for greater safety.

A st. Prof. M aria Brunette of the

Department of Work Environment has been awarded a $105,626 grant from the O ccupational 
Safety and Health A dministration (OSHA ) to develop a Construction Outreach Program for

Hispanic workers.

“Hispanics have higher fatal occupa-
tional injuries than any other ethnic group in the country in the construction

trade,” explains Brunette.

“One of the main reasons for this trend is most (OSHA) programs are written and delivered in English. This creates an obvious problem for workers who read or speak little English. Brunette’s program, which begins this fall, will be delivered entirely in Spanish.

“The program is a concentrated 10-hour session, which will train His-
picans in the base skills and knowledge needed to be valuable, safe and produc-
tive in the construction trades,” says Brunette. It will feature practical materials and curricula written in collo-
quial Spanish, such as training manuals, visual aids, health and safety alert cards and a Spanish construction dictionary.”

The need for actual field workers and program evaluators prompted Brunette to partner with the Laborers Interna-
tional Union of North America (LIUNA) and its local 175 in Boston.

Local 175 Business Manager Michael Gagliardi, right, who Ass’ Prof. Brunette says has been instrumental in developing the Construction Outreach Program for Hispanic workers, oversees construction on Boston’s Big Dig with a laborer.
Students Learn the 'Write' Stuff About Sustainability

What is sustainability? A new how are faculty and staff at the UMass Lowell involved? Students in Adjunct Prof. Bridget Driscoll's News Writing class found out this spring.

The course was restructured to include a service-learning component around the theme of sustainability. Driscoll collaborated with Jack Luskin of the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) and M Itch Shulman of Media Services to integrate the new topic and new digital editing equipment into the course. By the end of the semester, students completed three projects—a news article, a one-minute radio piece and a short video documentary.

“The project appealed to me because it would provide the students with a unique learning experience beyond the walls of the classroom and into the community at large,” says Driscoll. The changes have created a more positive response than anyone expected—from the students, the interview participants and others on campus.

Prof. Sammy Shina, mechanical engineer, says the article that student Christie Hodge wrote about Shina’s research with lead-free electronics has finally given him a way to explain his work in a way people can understand.

“The work Bridget is doing is exactly the kind of outreach that we hope will continue to grow at the University,” says Linda Silka, special assistant to the chancellor for community and economic development. Luskin and Anne Berlin Blackman, members of the Coalition for a Better Acre and the Massachusetts Bioprocess Development Center, Biotech Growth.

The biotechnology industry has been through some major changes since its inception.

"We are like a roller-coaster," says Carl Lawton, director of the Massachusetts Bioprocess Development Center, helps biotech companies prepare critically needed test materials, return with the decoding of the human genome and the ability to test substances, in rapid-fire, to discover potential pharmaceuticals.

Lawton has seen those changes first-hand, as the Center successfully helped many companies scale up and develop their production processes.

"Engineers understand the difficulties of working in larger volume and taking a biopharmaceutical from a beaker-full to a multi-liter vat process," says Lawton. "We can help design from the beginning or improve the fermentation process of a well-established product. In one case, we were able to quadruple a company's production of the vaccine against feline leukemia."

Lawton is now leading a statewide consortium to develop the Massachusetts Bio-Peptide Chemical Center (MBPC) that would help to produce high-quality clinical material for small biotech companies.

HUD Grant Connects Students with Community

Five graduate students in the Regional Economic and Social Development Department (RESD) have completed fellowships supported by a two-year, $90,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The grant, which was matched by the University, required students to work 15 hours a week as community development fellows for organizations such as the Coalition for a Better Acre and the Merrimack Valley Project.

Prof. Chris Tilly, one of those overseeing the students, says the University is seeking to continue funding in the next cycle.

"The competition is tough," says Tilly. "But, so far, the students have gotten a lot out of it. It's been quite valuable.

Dave Turcotte, program manager with the Center for Family, Work and Community and adjunct faculty in RESD, says, "The program fits well with the UML mission because we've got students working in the community doing community development work. It benefits the organizations because it gives them resources and staffing, allowing them to do things they might not be able to do otherwise."

In exchange for their efforts, students receive tuition remission and a small stipend, in addition to the opportunity to gain real-world experience in a professional organization.

Campus News

Campus News

Physics 'Interactive' Gives New Look to Large Lectures

Physics Prof. Aram Karakashian faces a class of 100 or more freshmen physics students and asks a question. Karakashian is not naive. He doesn’t expect any student to raise a hand and say an answer.

"They don’t want to look foolish in front of their peers," he says.

But within moments, every student has chosen one of five possible answers to the question, every student’s response is logged into the grade book and a distribution of responses appears on a large screen at the front of the lecture hall.

Welcome to the new world of interactive science teaching. How does Karakashian rate the new system?

"Last semester was the first time I used it and the class average seemed higher," he says. "But I’m a scientist and I need to confirm the result by replication. I have class averages and other data going back 12 to 15 years."

There are challenges. The transponders and online textbook are an additional cost to students and an additional frustration occurs when servers go down or registrations don’t register.

Even setting up for the lecture takes longer. But Karakashian is highly motivated.

"I want to see the kids get into it and succeed," he says. "Not just physics majors — all the people who will use physics in their work and in their lives."

Bioprocess Center Changes in Step with Biotech Growth

The biotechnology industry has been through some major changes since its inception.

"We are like a roller-coaster," says Carl Lawton, associate professor of chemical and nuclear engineering and director of the Massachusetts Bioprocess Development Center. Biotech went from the early excitement of being able to make known proteins, such as insulin and interferon, through a disappointing period of trying to make brand-new discoveries, many of which failed.

A more cautious optimism has returned with the decoding of the human genome and the ability to test substances, in rapid-fire, to discover potential pharmaceuticals.

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"Engineers understand the difficulties of working in larger volume and taking a biopharmaceutical from a beaker-full to a multi-liter vat process," says Lawton. "We can help design from the beginning or improve the fermentation process of a well-established product. In one case, we were able to quadruple a company's production of the vaccine against feline leukemia."

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“The work Bridget is doing is exactly the kind of outreach that we hope will continue to grow at the University,” says Linda Silka, special assistant to the provost for community partnerships and director of the Center for Family, Work and Community.

Luskin and Anne Berlin Blackman, also of TURI, served as resources around the topic of sustainability. Students interviewed campus or community members about their work, from Julie Villareal’s vermiculture project to Shina’s lead-free electronics research.
Funded in part by the Provost’s office, students are learning to piece together video documentaries on the latest digital editing equipment in Media Services.

Quilters, Girl Scouts Help Children Entering Foster Care

The Psychology Club has concluded its third annual Welcome Pack Drive, presenting more than 100 children’s backpacks to the Massachusetts Department of Social Services (DSS).

The packs contain age-appropriate items such as underwear, toiletries and other essentials needed by children entering foster care. Many children enter and move within the system so quickly that they have little time to collect what belongings they have. The packs help ensure the basics are provided for.

Jessica Molignano, center, and her Cadet Girl Scout troop raised $500 to support the Psychology Club and Department’s Welcome Back Drive, benefiting children entering foster care. Molignano and her alumna mother Dottie ‘80, left, delivered nearly two dozen back packs and other items to Prof. Charlotte Mandell of psychology.

GSE Grant Targets Science Education

The 2003 MCAS science test results indicated a serious deficiency in science content and skills among Massachusetts students. With statewide failure rates in fifth and eighth grades at 14 and 30 percent, respectively, the need for improved teaching in science is clear. The Lawrence and Lynn school districts have partnered with the Center for Field Services and Studies (CFSS) and Salem State College to tackle the problem of developing science instruction in their schools.

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The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education awarded an Improving Teacher Quality State Grant to CFSS, Salem State and the two partner schools to develop and deliver science institutes to K-12 teachers during the summer and fall of 2004. Nearly $200,000, plus an additional $60,000 in matching funds from the partner institutions, are funding the one-year program, Project SPIRE (Science Partnership Institutes Renewing Education).

“We are excited to provide a forum for K-12 educators to come together with scientists, science educators and engineers to design a seamless curriculum that best meets the needs of their particular district,” says Michelle Scribner-MacLean, principal investigator and full-time lecturer in the Graduate School of Education.

Demo School Accredited By NAECY

The Demonstration School, a partnership between the Graduate School of Education and the Lowell Public Schools, has earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAECY) – the nation’s leading organization of early childhood professionals.

“We’re thrilled to be accredited by NAECY, and recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards,” says Dr. A rn Benjamin, director of the Demonstration School. “NAECY’s accreditation lets families in our community know that children in our program are getting the best care and early learning experiences.”

The preschool-to-fourth-grade school was founded to provide exemplary early childhood instruction to children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Online M.Ed. Grads Hail from California to Brazil

Having graduated students from New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Indiana, California and Brazil is not unusual. But what if they have never stepped on campus, met one another or their professors? In June, 10 Graduate School of Education students were the first to have earned their master’s degree entirely online at U Mass Lowell.

“Having cross-continental and international students, in addition to regional students, speaks to the quality of the program provided by our faculty,” says Dean Donald Pliens of the Graduate School of Education (GSE). “Students want convenient access to strong degree programs and being able to convert an existing program online is one way to do that.”

The Master of Education in Educational Administration program is a collaboration of GSE and the Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education (CSCE) to prepare teachers using a mix of online courses and field experience to advance their careers to director, principal, and superintendent roles.

The location of the students is only half the story. The enrollments for the master’s program have skyrocketed since it was introduced online in the Fall of 2003. For a program that was enrolling less than a dozen students annually, the numbers have continued to grow over the last two years to 75 matriculated students this past semester.

“Those online students in educational administration, similar to our other online graduate programs, continue to attract students from diverse locations. We hope to significantly expand these numbers in the future,” says Catherine Kendrick, director of Corporate and Distance M arketing Development for CSCE.

Two students in the online educational administration master’s program — Jessica Aron, right, of Plymouth, Mass., and Linda Szyndra, left, of Egg Harbor Township, N.J. — met face-to-face during graduation ceremonies. They also met Asst. Prof. Judith Davidsson, second from left, and Media Services Director Mitchell Shuldman. In June, 10 students were the first to have earned their master’s degrees entirely online.

New School of Health and Environment Celebrated

The university community, colleagues and friends gathered early this spring to celebrate the new School of Health and Environment, which includes the departments of Health and Clinical Sciences, Nursing, Physical Therapy and Work Environment.

Chancellor W illiam T. Hogan spoke of the creation of this School, which became official in January, as a significant step in the campus’ long-term efforts to demonstrate the ways a public campus can help a region sustain its quality of life.

Discussing the event in a separate interview, Prof. David H. Wegman, dean of the School, said, “The new School is guided by a vision of human health that links individual well-being to healthy communities and environments. We are planning innovative ways to combine outstanding teaching, the University’s commitment to community service and our proven success in interdisciplinary problem-solving.”

At the celebration, former Dean of the College of Health Professions Janice M. Stecchi was honored as the first recipient of the Provost’s Award for Lifetime Achievement.

U.S. Rep. Martin T. Meehan applauded the campus for its “continuing leadership role in the region, focusing its research and teaching on the complex interactions that make success sustainable.”

State Sen. Steven C. Panagiotakos said, “The creation of this new school at U Mass Lowell is a great example of why we need to support public higher education in Massachusetts.”

Campus News

Campus News
Kerouac’s Scroll Is On the Road to Lowell

Lowell has been selected to host an exhibit of Jack Kerouac’s legendary On the Road scroll as part of a national tour of the extraordinary literary artifact. U.S. Rep. Marty Meehan made the announcement on what would have been Kerouac’s 82nd birthday, in the presence of the numerous agencies involved in bringing the scroll to the city, including the Lowell National Historical Park, the University and the Cultural Organization of Lowell (COOL).

“It’s only natural that a national tour of his prized work would be coming to this city,” says Meehan, who was integral in ensuring that Lowell was on the tour schedule. In Kerouac’s hometown, the scroll will be shown at the Boott Cotton Mills Museum of the National Park Service, from June 1 through Aug. 15, 2007.

The yellowed manuscript of Kerouac’s beat generation novel, which the author typed on a 120-foot paper scroll in a 21-day marathon in 1951 and was published six years later, is on a 13-stop national tour of museums and libraries. The tour to the city will conclude with an exhibition at the New York Public Library in the fall of 2007, the year marking the 50th anniversary of the publication of Kerouac’s classic novel.

Computer Science Transforms Community Outreach

The University’s Community Software Lab has created a database system for the United Teen Equality Center (U TEC), whose community outreach workers do gang intervention, leadership training and local organizing.

Gregg Croteau, executive director of U TEC, says, “All our forms and reports are online, which frees up time for direct service to clients. It’s revolutionary in the field of youth development. This would have been impossible to do on our own.”

The Lab serves the Lowell Telecommunications Corporation (LTC), which is assisted by the University’s Computer Science Department. LTC serves nonprofit organizations, such as U TEC.

Staffed by student volunteers, the Lab offers free services such as e-mail, software and database development.

U.S. Rep. Marty Meehan, right, joins J ohn Sampas, the literary representative of the Jack Kerouac Literary Estate, at the announcement that Kerouac’s On the Road scroll will come to Lowell. Sampas announced a $12,500 matching donation to help defray the cost of bringing the project.

The Healthy Homes project, a two-year collaboration of the Center for Family, Work and Community and the Lowell Health Department, includes training seminars for representatives of community organizations. Participants pictured are, from left, Pean Chhuon, Cross-Cultural Family Daycare; Jane Ginsburg, Lower Highlands Neighborhood Group; Jennifer Pires, Elaine Melanson and Jennifer Taylor, all of Community Teamwork Inc.; and Home Derners, City of Lowell Fire Department.

CFWC Project Targets Dangers in the Home

In the year 2000, nearly 20,000 children were exposed to or poisoned by household chlorine bleach in the United States. Problems such as this one are being addressed by U M ash Lowell’s Center for Family, Work and Community (CFWC) and the City of Lowell’s Health Department in a two-year project called Healthy Homes.

The goal of the project is to increase the understanding of unhealthy home issues within the diverse communities of Lowell.

In the first of a series of training seminars held recently for representatives of community organizations and participating University students, A spec. Prof. Stephani e Culwick of nursing stressed the importance of cultural responsibility.

“We think of home as a safe haven,” said the director of baccalau reate nursing and creator of the project training manual, Cross-Cultural Approach to Healthy Homes: Healthy Solutions for Healthy Families.

In reality, though, she said the home may be littered with hazards such as lead, carbon monoxide and carpet cleaners, which could endanger children.
CSCE Provides On-Site Professional Courses for Corporate Employees

Employees at Analog Devices in Wilmington and BAE Systems Information and Electronics Warfare Systems (I & EWS) in Nashua, N.H., recently completed professional courses conducted on-site by the University’s Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education (CSCE).

Instead, Analog workers completed a customized certificate program in engineering skills, the second such group at that company to complete the program. Many of the graduates are continuing their education through on-site associate’s degrees in engineering technology offered by CSCE.

At BAE Systems, 14 employees received certificates in information technology with a focus on software release engineering, and eight others participated in the two-year program. As a result, 19 employees have been reclassified into new job titles.

CSCE Dean Jacqueline Moloney says, “We’re celebrating a new way of building corporate partnerships.”

Day of Dedication Honors Major Gifts to Engineering

Three major gifts to departments in the Francis College of Engineering gave occasion for celebration at the spring meeting of college and departmental industrial advisory boards.

Mark A. Saab, president of Advanced Polymers, Inc., in Salem, N.H., and a 1981 UMass Lowell graduate in plastics engineering, donated more than $120,000 toward the renovation of a laboratory.

The new A. Saab Advanced Polymers Physical and Rheological Properties Testing Laboratory is a teaching and research facility dedicated to polymer property evaluation.

A Advanced Polymers produces innovative products, including ultra-thin tubing, catheters and angioplasty balloons.

Stuart Kapp, sales manager of Leistritz Corporation, was recognized for the donation of a new extrusion machine worth $180,000.

The machine replaces one the Plastics Engineering Department had purchased 20 years ago. The company has placed 27 such machines in North American universities. U Mass Lowell’s is the only gift.

Leistritz, an international equipment manufacturer, produces high-end extrusion processing equipment. The company hires many U Mass Lowell graduates.

Rick Pierro, a 1983 M. S. graduate in chemical engineering, is president and co-founder of Superior Controls, Inc. The company funded a new computer laboratory in the Chemical and Nuclear Engineering Department that serves undergraduate and graduate students.

The gift is unusual in also providing an annual donation for student support and continual lab upgrades.

Superior Controls designs custom automated control and information systems for the chemical engineering industry.

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Retired Professor Publishes First Novel

 Linda Kdzier, a professor emerita who retired in 2000 from the College of Management, has published her first novel, a book that she began in 1988 and worked on for parts of 13 years. Cause for Concern, based on childhood memories of toxic waste dumped in an eastern Pennsylvania university town, was rejected by scores of agents before Kdzier decided to publish it herself. It’s available on-line through Amazon and other outlets.

Their Responsibility Is the ‘Care and Feeding’ of the Laboratories

It’s a rare issue of the U Mass Lowell Magazine that doesn’t include one or more stories about the University’s laboratories. But, what of the care and feeding of these labs? Who stocks them and maintains them and keeps them going?

The answer is that this work is done by a number of hard-working employees who usually, but not necessarily, go by the title “professional technician.”

Three examples of these workers are, in alphabetical order, Glen Bouquet, Jim Hall and Gary Howe. They serve different departments but all have many things in common: they all have advanced degrees, all supply and maintain the laboratories, all support students and faculty alike, and all have work schedules that vary from day to day depending on what’s needed.

Bouquet, director of the labs in the Mechanical Engineering Department, earned both his mechanical engineering degrees (B.S. ‘90, M.S. ’95) at Lowell and has worked for the University for 14 years. Bouquet is responsible for more than a dozen graduate and undergraduate labs, for which he orders, maintains and repairs equipment. In addition, he also designs

University Plays Prominent Role in FIRST Event

Mechanical Engineering Prof. Sammy Shina tries out a Segway at the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) regional competition in M. Amherst, N.H. Shina and A. at, Prof. Rob Yanco of computer science were judges at the event, and the Submillimeter-Wave Technology Lab sponsored a high school team. The regional competition, one of more than 30, pair high school teams with engineers to develop and build a robot in six weeks. FIRST is directed by Dean Kamen, creator of the Segway.

Nineteen employees from Analog Devices graduated this year from a customized certificate program provided by the Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education (CSCE). Celebrating their achievements at a graduation luncheon were, from left, Mark Norton, vice president of Human Resources, Analog; Dean Jacqueline Moloney, CSCE; Virginia Hehn, director of Human Resources, Analog; Catherine Kendrick, director of Corporate and Distance Marketing Development, CSCE; and Joanne Talty, on-site project manager, CSCE.

Cell phones have replaced the electronic field trip of 14 million students in 47 states. Sammy Shina tries out a Segway at the event, and the Submillimeter-Wave Technology Lab sponsored a high school team. The regional competition, one of more than 30, pair high school teams with engineers to develop and build a robot in six weeks. FIRST is directed by Dean Kamen, creator of the Segway.

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It’s a rare issue of the U Mass Lowell Magazine that doesn’t include one or more stories about the University’s laboratories. But, what of the care and feeding of these labs? Who stocks them and maintains them and keeps them going?

The answer is that this work is done by a number of hard-working employees who usually, but not necessarily, go by the title “professional technician.”

Three examples of these workers are, in alphabetical order, Glen Bouquet, Jim Hall and Gary Howe. They serve different departments but all have many things in common: they all have advanced degrees, all supply and maintain the laboratories, all support students and faculty alike, and all have work schedules that vary from day to day depending on what’s needed.

Bouquet, director of the labs in the Mechanical Engineering Department, earned both his mechanical engineering degrees (B.S. ’90, M.S. ’95) at Lowell and has worked for the University for 14 years. Bouquet is responsible for more than a dozen graduate and undergraduate labs, for which he orders, maintains and repairs equipment. In addition, he also designs

Continuing Studies and Corporate Education

CSCE Provides On-Site Professional Courses for Corporate Employees

Employees at Analog Devices in Wilmington and BAE Systems Information and Electronics Warfare Systems (I & EWS) in Nashua, N.H., recently completed professional courses conducted on-site by the University’s Division of Continuing Studies and Corporate Education (CSCE).

Instead, Analog workers completed a customized certificate program in engineering skills, the second such group at that company to complete the program. Many of the graduates are continuing their education through an on-site associate’s degree in engineering technology offered by CSCE.

At BAE Systems, 14 employees received certificates in information technology with a focus on software release engineering, and eight others participated in the two-year program. As a result, 19 employees have been reclassified into new job titles.

CSCE Dean Jacqueline Moloney says, “We’re celebrating a new way of building corporate partnerships.”

Day of Dedication Honors Major Gifts to Engineering

Three major gifts to departments in the Francis College of Engineering gave occasion for celebration at the spring meeting of college and departmental industrial advisory boards.

Mark A. Saab, president of Advanced Polymers, Inc., in Salem, N.H., and a 1981 UMass Lowell graduate in plastics engineering, donated more than $120,000 toward the renovation of a laboratory.

The new A. Saab Advanced Polymers Physical and Rheological Properties Testing Laboratory is a teaching and research facility dedicated to polymer property evaluation.

A Advanced Polymers produces innovative products, including ultra-thin tubing, catheters and angioplasty balloons.

Stuart Kapp, sales manager of Leistritz Corporation, was recognized for the donation of a new extrusion machine worth $180,000. The machine replaces one the Plastics Engineering Department had purchased 20 years ago. The company has placed 27 such machines in North American universities. U Mass Lowell’s is the only gift.

Leistritz, an international equipment manufacturer, produces high-end extrusion processing equipment. The company hires many U Mass Lowell graduates.

Rick Pierro, a 1983 M. S. graduate in chemical engineering, is president and co-founder of Superior Controls, Inc. The company funded a new computer laboratory in the Chemical and Nuclear Engineering Department that serves undergraduate and graduate students.

The gift is unusual in also providing an annual donation for student support and continual lab upgrades.

Superior Controls designs custom automated control and information systems for the chemical engineering industry.
Glen Bouquet

Gary Howe

Dr. Jack M. Wilson

Panagiotakos

Gary Howe says his responsibilities in Civil and Environmental Engineering are "very broad." He orders lab equipment, handles all procurement for the department, does lab design, controls reader-card access to all doors, maintains five labs, and assists with research.

"I work with a lot of graduate students, but not one-on-one. I don't want to hold their hands," he says. "I just steer them in the right direction."

Howe earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at U Mass Lowell in 1992 and his master's four years later. Before joining the U niversity in 1995, he had held a co-op job with NYNEX in M archester, N H., and worked for an electronics equipment company in Burlington.

The toughest part of the job, he says, is "trying to keep things clean, operational and put away. I try to ensure that everyone works together and that everyone is happy."

Campus Outlook

New Diversity Group Is More Inclusive Than Its Predecessor

The needs of the U Mass Lowell ethnic community, for the second time in a year, are being re-addressed to broaden scope and improve.

A LA NA, the campus group devoted to the needs of ethnic students, has been broadened and renamed — it is now the Office of M ulti-cultural A ffairs (OMA) — while the Center for Diversity and Pluralism, a student-faculty group devoted to diversity, has been effectively phased out.

The Center's policy committee, the Council on Diversity and Pluralism, remains active, under the directorship of Psychology Prof. A nne M ulvey and Dean of Student Life L arry S iegel, and will continue to oversee the interests of diversity on campus.

"Our group is basically A L A N A , with a new name and a more inclusive mission," says Brenda Evans, formerly associate director of Student A ctivities, who is serving as the new director of the OMA. "The focus of A L A N A was limited to the needs of ethnic students, while the new Office will address a broad range of ethnic, cultural and sexual needs and preferences."

New Plans and Initiatives

Create Promising Prospects for UMass Lowell

With the launching this spring of an ambitious strategic planning process, the progress being made in nanotechnology initiatives, and other encouraging developments, Chancellor William T. Hogan sees a moment with great potential for U Mass Lowell.

The 10-year strategic plan, or Transformation Strategy, will guide the transformation of the campus into an institution focused even more sharply on its integrated mission of providing affordable, high quality instruction and assisting in sustainable regional development. The plan is being shaped in the context of realistic expectations for future state support and with keen awareness of the speed at which technology is changing both teaching and learning.

Coinciding with these activities on campus, the Massachusetts Senate has established a new task force charged with developing a comprehensive 10-year strategy to reform public higher education in the Commonwealth. Senate President R obert E. T ravaglini appointed Sens. Steven C. Panagiotakos of Lowell and Stanley C. Rosenberg of A mherst to chair the task force.

"A college degree and the skills to acquire it are needed now more than ever to meet the demands of a new and changing economy," says Sen. Panagiotakos. "We need a realistic, well thought out 10-year plan with the same commitment that was made for K-12 education over a decade ago."

Concerning nanotechnology, U Mass Lowell is a finalist in a quest for funds from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a nanomanufacturing center, in partnership with Northeastern University and the University of N ew H amshire.

In its strategic planning, U Mass Lowell will explore approaches to education that incorporate the latest technology and reflect the way people now organize their lives. Lowell will look to fully integrate "day," "evening," and "summer" school, as well as online instruction.

The use of mixed classroom-based and electronically delivered instruction will be expanded. Closely related courses will be combined and offered in streamlined, interdisciplinary, and resource-saving sets. More courses will be provided to and received from other U Mass campuses whenever cost-effective agreements can be made. Such changes will require significant negotiations with the faculty and, in the case of the new structure for course offerings, require legislation on retention of tuition.

As expressed by the Chancellor, U Mass Lowell's ambition is to be recognized within higher education as a model that demonstrates how a public university providing high quality, affordable programs and operating in the respected tradition of land-grant institutions can assist sustainable regional development in a global economy. The practical results of this effort, as Chancellor Hogan has stated, are "more and better jobs, healthier people, and a higher quality environment."

Board of Trustees Names Jack Wilson as President

Dr. Jack M. Wilson, a nationally recognized innovator in higher education and former chief executive officer of U M asst. online, has been named president of the 60,000-student, five-campu...
Campus News

initiatives that will impact sustainable development. In partnership with Dr. Wilson, we will forge ahead with innovative efforts that will yield economic and social benefits for the region and entire state."

A well-known entrepreneur and distance educator, Wilson was a co-founder, president, and chairman of Learning Corp. (now eLearning), a supplier of software systems for corporate training to Fortune 1000 firms.

Wilson formerly was the J. Erik Jonhson Distinguished Professor of Physics, Engineering Science, Informa-
tion Technology, and Management at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), where he also had served as a dean and interim provost.

UMass Lowell Reaccredited and Placed in Highest Review Category

UMass Lowell has been reaccredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEA SC) and placed on a 10-year review cycle — the longest review period awarded — following the NEA SC Commission on Institutions of Higher Education’s rigorous evaluation of the campus.

The commission’s evaluation report notes that among the campus’s “outstanding assets are a clearly defined mission...a dedicated and talented faculty; an ambitious and loyal student body; and an experienced, committed administrative leadership team.”

The commission also noted that “academic programs are of good quality, and programs targeted for support and expansion (e.g., plastics) are doing very well indeed, and positioned for national prominence.”

Chancellor William T. Hogan said he was pleased with the outcome of the review and thanked the faculty and staff for their dedication and efforts in making UMass Lowell a first-class university.

The campus will receive an interim review at the five-year point in the 10-year cycle, due in the fall of 2008.

LEARN: Keeping Students Successful and Involved

It was a simple enough idea: bring the classes and faculty to the doorstep of the students, and chances are good that they will come. It had grown out of an exchange between two UMass Lowell leaders — Fine Arts Dean Nan-
cy Kleniewski and Larry Siegel, then director of campus life — three years ago this spring, then taken form offi
cially four months after that.

Today, after the close of its third full year of implementation, the fruits of this idea are both stunning and pretty much inarguable: vastly improved grade-point averages, a rise in earned credits by students, a jump in retention rates.

Siegel, who has shepherded the program through each of its several phases, is unappraising in his praise. It is, he says, “probably the most exciting project I’ve been involved with in my 18 years at UMass Lowell.”

Its acronym is LEARN (for Living Education and Resource Networking); it began, with 60 freshman students and four faculty members, in a renova-
ted space on the sixth floor of Fox Hall in the fall of 2001. Its goals, in its first phase, were basic: to increase fac-
culty-student interaction outside the classroom, bring academics into the residence halls and improve attend-
ance at early-morning freshman classes by making them more accessible.

In pursuit of these aims, four courses were offered — two in English and philosophy — in a renovated Fox Hall classroom space, only steps from

the students’ bedrooms, before most students had to leave their dorms for the day.

Phase two, which went into motion a year later in the fall of 2002, widened the pool of students to 84 — of all of them, as undecided liberal arts majors, considered to be at high risk of drop-
ping out — expanded the course offerings, added a number of workshops and other support services and saw the beginnings of a mentoring program.

The results were almost immediate. Of the 84 at-risk freshmen, 79 were back the following fall.

Phase three began last September. It has seen the renovation of Bourgeois Hall — bathrooms, lounges, all stu-
dent bedrooms refurbished — to accommodate 300 high-risk freshmen.

Phase three also included a partnership with the UMass’s orientation program, and with the Centers for Learning, whose personnel oversee all tutoring and support services.

It’s hard to argue with the results. Ninety-five percent of the Phase-three LEARN freshmen — an unprecedent-
ed number — returned to UMass Lowell for the spring ’04 semester.

The average GPA of those in the program was close to 10 percent higher than the campus-wide freshman grade; and the number of credits earned per LEARN student was more than 20 percent greater than for the freshman class as a whole.

Phase four, set to kick off this fall, will enhance the mentoring program still further, bring student staff into Bourgeois Hall to lead academic support initiatives, and sponsor motivational workshops by deans, department chairs, and even the University provost.

Campus News

Teaching Goes Totally Wired

Gerard Dybel, associate professor of physical therapy, has always preferred including multiple media in his lectures.

“I have students with different learning styles, who benefit from information presented in different ways,” says Dybel, who teaches courses in physical therapy procedures and business management skills to students in the clinical doctorate program.

A few years ago, he had to load a cart with all the equip-
ment he needed and allow extra time for set-up before and after classes. Not any more.

Extensive upgrades of three lecture halls in Weir Hall show the shape of things to come across campus. New equipment in each hall includes a computer, flat-screen monitor, LCD projector, digital document camera, VCR and DVD.

A few more upgrades are completed (planned for Coburn, Ball and O’Leary), Lucas hopes to use the new configuration as a model, so there is a consistent look and “feel” to the rooms and the technology.

State Makes Commitment to Nanomanufacturing Center

Massachusetts Gov. M. J. Romney has proposed $19.5 million in grant matching funds to the new Center in hopes of capturing a major share of the expected $1 trillion in economic activity and two million new jobs worldwide generated by the new technology.

"It’s the technology that is going to create jobs,” says Sen. Stephen C. Panagiotakos of Lowell, who has been spearheading the effort to see nanomanufac-
turing established on the former Lawrence Mills site, a 13-acre parcel opposite the new Leach Park.

Panagiotakos stresses that manufacturing research is necessary to commercialize the science of the nanoscale, and that U Mass Lowell’s expertise is second to none.

"U Mass Lowell’s researchers have the business connections and manufacturing science that will help change the way people work and live in the not-too-
distant future,” he said.

Plans for a new building at the corner of Aiken and Perkins streets replaces a plan to build the research center inside a former mill building on the property.

“Because the center requires cutting-edge laborato-
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ries, a new building would be more suitable. It’s more
An Apple (Juice) a Day Keeps the Oxidant Away, Says Prof. Shea

Tom Shea, professor of biological sciences, Prof. Gene Rogers of Health and Clinical Sciences and others at the University have been conducting research for several years regarding the ways in which nutritional deficiencies place individuals at risk for age-related decline in brain function — specifically in learning and memory — and actually may lead to the loss of brain cells.

“We have demonstrated that the presence of a gene linked to Alzheimer’s disease, coupled with nutritional deficiencies is a dangerous combination,” Shea says.

His most recent research project, he says, shows that apple juice can prevent the loss in memory that accompanies both genetic and nutritional deficiencies.

To explain the findings, Shea says that human cells — such as those in the brain — seek to be balanced, meaning that they have an equal number of positive and negative charges. But, even in the course of normal metabolism, they can become unbalanced and, therefore, suffer “oxidative damage” unless antioxidants are present.

A apple juice, like many other fruits and vegetables, contains antioxidants. To determine the degree of effectiveness of apple juice, Shea and his assistants used mice, some normal and others genetically engineered to be at-risk for age-related neurodegeneration.

There were three parts to the test. Some mice in each of the two groups were fed a complete diet; some got one lacking vitamins; and others were given one that lacked vitamins but was supplemented with apple juice. When introduced into a maze experiment, which requires memory, the normal mice did fine on the complete diet and the one lacking vitamins, and even better when their diet lacked vitamins but included apple juice.

The at-risk mice performed as well as normal mice when fed a complete diet, and when their diet lacked vitamins but included apple juice. When given only the diet lacking vitamins, they did very poorly.

It was clear, then, that the mice performed better in these memory tests when their diet included apple juice.

For humans to enjoy the same benefits, Shea says, they would need to drink two to three eight-ounce servings of juice a day. The antioxidants in the apple product are what make it effective, he says.

“But natural factors are important,” he says. “If you try to take pills alone as a supplement, you’re missing something. Likewise, if you take twice as much apple juice but reduce your overall dietary intake, you lose the beneficial effect.”

“The magic is in the combination. A balanced diet is most important,” he says.

Promising New Technology Fights Breast Cancer

Triton Biosystems in Chelmsford and U Mass Lowell Prof. Susan Braunhut of biological sciences have developed a new cancer-fighting nanotechnology that evolved from U.S. Army Research Lab work aimed at facilitating battlefield repairs of military armor.

When Triton Systems CEO Ross Haight saw the potential for using the technology to attack cancer tumors, he turned to Dr. Samuel Straface, CEO of spin-off life sciences company Triton Biosystems.

Straface contacted Braunhut, who has been researching breast cancer treatments for 15 years — much of it sponsored by the Army.

The new treatment works by attaching magnetic bioparticles to specific antibodies. The antibodies seek out and attach to the target tumor. When the doctor activates a magnetic field, the bioparticle heats up and kills cancer cells, but not any of the surrounding healthy cells.

“It gives us laser-like precision and, so far, has shown no side-effects,” says Braunhut. “The nanoparticle is benign until activated.”

The treatment is also unique in allowing doctors to control precisely the length of treatment.

“The pace at which we’ve advanced this technology is only made possible through partnership with a private company, which is consistent with our (U niversity) mission,” says Braunhut. “Our goal is to treat breast cancer. We are confronting a disease, metastasized breast cancer, that doesn’t have a cure.”

U.S. Rep. Marty Meehan helped obtain further funding for the project, specifically a grant to convert defense-related technology to life sciences applications.

Retired UMass Lowell Laborer Sweeps up $294 Million

Geraldine “Gerry” Williams spent 15 years sweeping floors, dusting desks and emptying trash barrels in the classrooms and offices of UMass Lowell South. But, the retired skilled laborer cleaned up in a big way recently when she won the 11-state $294 Million Mega Millions jackpot — the third-highest single-ticket lottery prize in North America.

Williams, 67, who opted to take her winnings in a lump-sum $177.6 million payout after taxes, is the mother of three and grandmother of eight. Her odds of winning were one in 135 million.

“I said, ‘Oh God, Oh God, let it be,’” Williams told reporters of her stunned reaction after watching the winning numbers being drawn on television.

Williams, who retired from the University in 2002, was remembered by co-workers as someone who not only has worked hard her entire life, but also has a reputation for selflessness and generosity.

“She is a great person,” said Dennis Bourque, retired working foreman who worked Williams’ boss for 15 years. “I just want her to have some quality time for herself now that she can do what she really wants.”

Speculation about Williams’ identity circulated throughout the region when it was announced that the winner purchased the ticket at a Lowell store. But she did not come forward to claim the prize for seven days.

Williams, who supplemented her pension by cleaning houses, met with lawyers and financial advisors prior to collecting her earnings.

The massive windfall thrust the unassuming Williams into the limelight, as she ducked pleas from news organizations from throughout the world requesting interviews, and calls and letters from strangers seeking financial assistance. Although she told reporters at the lottery press conference that she has no plans to modify her lifestyle, the fledgling multi-millionaire acknowledged that she will likely retire her mop and do some traveling.

“I don’t know what it is to have money. I don’t know what I’ll change, but I hope I stay the same,” she said.
ROBOTS — and the Minds That Move Them

The scenarios are almost limitless. A bedridden invalid suddenly able to fetch her own food and medicines; a wheelchair-bound quadriplegic crossing the street without help; a trapped, unconscious fire victim located remotely in a smoke-blackened high-rise; a cave-hidden terrorist found without risk to human life.

And the more mundane applications. The no-hands vacuum cleaner. The alarm-bell reminder. The round-the-clock, unpaid errand-boy. The animated toy that can almost double as a friend.

They are, of course, robots. Computer-programmed robots that “see” and “hear,” and walk and (sometimes) talk, and can sense without touching and “know” without being told. They are getting “smarter,” more plentiful and ever more versatile — and among their biggest strongholds is the campus of UMass Lowell.

“The progress with robots has been pretty unbelievable,” says Asst. Prof. Holly Yanco, one of two faculty members who teach a two-semester course on robotics. “You take a basic task like picking up a piece of trash. Ten years ago, that would have been a major entry in a [robotics] competition — now you can teach a student how to do that in a week.”

And in two weeks, with a full class of students, you can manage tasks that go well beyond trash. That’s how long it took 10 students in the Robotics I class taught by Asst. Prof. Fred Martin — who teaches the first half of the two-semester course — to design and assemble a series of robots that could compete head-to-head in an egg hunt, with the eggs color-coded and assigned point-values by color. The idea of the contest, won by senior computer science major Michael Bohan, was, says Martin, for the students “to demonstrate their range of knowledge of how robots work by designing them to perform a specific task.”

Martin’s half of the year-long UMass Lowell course deals largely, he says, with the “fundamentals” of robotics: sensors, gear trains, and the control panels by which the robots are made to perform tasks. Students, by the end of that first semester, are expected to be capable of designing their own, still relatively primitive, robots (as they did in the case of the egg-hunt), which,
Fred Martin puts it another way: "Robotics is a way to widen your sense of the computer's role — there's a lot more going on than just what's there on your desktop."

Martin's career since graduate school has been devoted to what he terms "educational robotics" — the use of robots to "widen our sense of what's possible in the world." A senior graduate student at MIT, his master's project was the development of a "programmable brick" the size of a deck of cards through which children, by plugging in sensors, could create mobile robots to perform simple tasks.

A doctoral project was a more powerful version of the same brick, this time for use by adults.

"It's gone on, says Martin, "there are going to be more and more ways in which robots affect our daily lives. A trendy way to go is Brookstone, and for $200, buy a robot that will vacuum your living-room floor. And that's only the beginning — as computers become more sophisticated, and robots can be programmed to have an even greater sense of the world, there's almost no limit to what could be done."

Martin says robots are "educational robotics" — a control program and some way of communicating. Martin says, has been in the military, where robots have been used notably in Afghanistan — to locate fugitive terrorists without exposing live soldiers to risk. There are other such uses, says Martin, the military applications are "now only beginning to be fully realized."

The final area, and perhaps the one with the broadest influence on daily life, says Yanco, is in the home. Especially with the elderly.

"The population is aging. More and more, people are wanting to stay at home rather than be confined to nursing homes — not to mention the expense. Now (with robots), they can have what they need fetched for them, they can have their houses cleaned, their meals prepared; it's even possible for others to monitor them from a distance, to make sure they've eaten breakfast or taken their meds. The possibilities are pretty incredible."

But in the end, as with so much else in life — the more so where technology is involved — the future will belong to the next generation. At the University's Campus Recreation Center on a Saturday last spring, teams of middle- and high-, and elementary-school students from Rhode Island and Massachusetts, some as young as eight, gathered to showcase the range of achievements they had programmed their robots to perform — from dropping colored balls into baskets to sorting recyclables, to negotiating a miniaturized Australian landscape.

"It was the kids who first took on computers," says Yanco. "They grew up with them, they adopted them as their own. And they did the same with robotics. In the end, for all we do at this level, the real progress is going to come from the kids."
There were a lot of “great teachers” in the department, says David Shulman, but the one he remembers in particular is the late Charlie Steele.

It was 1981 when, as Shulman recalls, “the Computer Science Department was fresh and new,” and Steele was his advisor and professor in a number of courses.

Exhibiting the temerity characteristic of youth, Shulman told Steele that he was doing well in his studies and thought perhaps it might be a good idea to take on another course as an added challenge.

Shulman says Steele seized on this suggestion as an opportunity to change his entire schedule, make him “one of the first guinea pigs” in an honors program and enroll him in a graduate level combinatorics math class that he, himself, taught one night a week for three hours.

“Charlie would spend the three hours writing on the blackboard, his pants covered in chalk.

“But he insisted that it was ‘good for me,’ sort of like taking bad-tasting medicine. It would make me ‘stronger’ some day. Well, he was right.”

In 1981, the department was, indeed, “fresh and new” as Shulman says, having been formed two years earlier with a handful of faculty drawn from other departments, and a modest inventory of equipment.

Now, after years of moving, changing and expanding, Computer Science is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Prof. Tom Costello, who heads the department today, says that around mid-1970s the Mathematics Department had begun offering computer courses other than languages and syntax.

“Electrical Engineering had been offering language and syntax courses for a while, too, and student interest was growing. At that point, I suggested that the school should think seriously about forming a computer science department.”

A committee — chaired by Provost Leon Beghian and made up of representatives of business and industry — was formed to recommend a starting curriculum. Steele was the first full-time faculty member appointed. He was joined by Costello, Bill Moloney and Shimshon Berkovitz, all of mathematics. Dave Korff of physics; Win Fuller of management; and Stu Smith of music.

Berkovitz was the first department head. He was followed in that post by Costello, Moloney, Giampiero Pecelli and Jim Canning.

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“Think it’s fair to say that, as with anything that’s new and growing, there were some bumps in the road,” Costello says, “but those bumps were ironed out over time.”

One of those early “bumps” in Pecelli’s estimation, was that first curriculum, which, he says, “was to be charitable, inappropriate for a C S department. In any event, that was one of the first problems to be solved. By early 1983, we had changed the curriculum to lay the foundation, with some necessary evolution since then, for the core that is now in place.”

Equipment at the outset included punched cards, paper printout DECwriter terminals connected to Control Data Cyber computers and, a little later, DEC Vax with video display terminals.

The department’s first offices and classrooms were in “modest” spaces on the second and third floors of Olsen Hall. In the fall of 1982, the department moved to Pinanski where it remained until 1985 when the University leased space in the Wannalancit Mills building.

“It was great space,” says Costello. “We went from 8,000-square feet in Pinanski to 37,000 in Wannalancit.”

A nd they needed the room. By 1986 there were 800 computer science majors — 600 undergraduates and 200 graduate students (by then the department also had added a doctoral program) — and the faculty had nearly tripled, to about 18.

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doing our job right, we’d need another major upgrade in 18 months. He looked aghast.

“I was wrong by six months. Within a year, our needs—and, fortunately, our resources—had outstripped anything available at that moment.”

Work with rudimentary robots—basic Heathkit models—also began in the early ‘80s.

“Our students traveled all over the country and discovered they could compete with students from premier schools and with people in industry.” — Prof. Tom Costello

It came at a time when industry needed to develop more cooperation among work groups in design and manufacturing processes.

“O ur students traveled all over the country and discovered they could compete with students from premier schools and with people in industry,” Costello says.

Bill M'oloney, who, in 1986, succeeded Costello as department head, had joined the M Mathematics Department in 1970. He taught computer-related courses and was particularly interested in developing computer courses for business majors.

“In the ‘70s it became clear that computers would become big in academia. A number of us were interested in them and thought that creating a separate computer department made sense. Math was the biggest department in those days and we thought it would be awkward to create a computer science program within math.”

So it was that computer science became a separate department within the College of Arts and Sciences.

“Shim Berkovitz, the first department head, left in 1982 and Tom (Costello) succeeded him. Tom was energetic and had some good ideas.”

A primary goal at that time was to acquire some good equipment.

“We wanted to get a general purpose computer system,” says M’oloney.

“Digital made a lot of equipment available to us. They either sold it to us at a discount or just gave it to us.”

“Ed DeCastro (EE ‘60) was CEO of Data General then and he was very supportive, too, in providing us with equipment.”

“A nd Data General was very helpful. We did some diagnostic software work for them and they, in turn, allowed their employees to teach and help us to use their equipment.”

“O ver the years, Data General has taken many of our students as interns and most of them ended up working there full-time.”

The department received accreditation in 1989. That was the good news.

The bad news was that the economy had outstripped any thing available at that moment.

“About 2,000, —

But the down times finally ended.

In 1991, the leadership mantle was passed to Jim Canning and, fortunately for him, the economy began to recover.

“They all generally appreciate one another and work cooperatively. That’s what has made this place pretty nice over the years. I wouldn’t trade it for anything.” — Bill M’oloney

Canning, a graduate of Virginia Tech, had been recruited by Tom Costello and he joined the faculty in 1985 — his “first and only job,” he says.

He taught undergraduate computer architecture and graduate software engineering.

“The early days were exciting, certainly for me as a young faculty member. In those days, just prior to the University to work. It was like going to camp. There was lots of action.

“Labs and classes were full and many times we stayed up all night working on projects.”

“The department was growing and a lot of internal policy was being made. We were making decisions from moment to moment.”

“The excitement today seems quite similar. We have all these new energized faculty people on board and the department is quite healthy emotionally. We’re well positioned to help the region because there are so many high-tech companies in the area.”

“But a big difference now is that we have CS alumni — about 2,000, mostly in the region. We didn’t have those in the ‘80s. I can’t go to a company now without bumping into an alum.”

Canning says that, as department head, he did “a little outreach” with alumni and they started writing “warm notes” back to the school, some with checks enclosed.

“I believe the alumni have a fondness for the department,” he says.

Bill M’oloney’s feelings about the department may explain this attachment on the part of its graduates.

“You probably won’t find a more cohesive group of people,” M’oloney says. “They all generally appreciate one another and work cooperative-ly. That’s what has made this place pretty nice over the years. I wouldn’t trade it for anything.”

Steele Was Right. The Hard Work Paid Off.

Charlie Steele was right.

When he bombarded undergraduate David Shulman with a graduate course in math and pled on other class work, he told the young student that it would be good for him.

And look at the result.

After graduating with a 3.96 GPA in Computer Science and Mathematics, Shulman became director of software development at North East Research Associates in Woburn before going on to Microsoft Corporation where he held a number of key management positions over a 13-year period. In 2002, he founded and now serves as president of Sargon Technology, Inc., a technical consulting service in Bellevue, Wash.

In 1999, he created the David E. Shulman Fund for Excellence in Computer Science, which supports a scholarship program and lecture series at UMass Lowell. He also created the Computer Science Association of Computing Machinery Student Chapter Fund.

Shulman was presented with the Francis Cabot Lowell Arts and Sciences Alumni Award in 1999.
Picture a warehouse, a huge warehouse, larger than any warehouse you've ever worked in or walked through. Now picture a truck delivering a load: the arrival at the loading bay, the unloading, the gloved men piloting crates onto pallets, the forklift driver bearing the pallets to this or that row or section, stacking them — six, eight or ten feet high — then returning for another load, thirty or forty or fifty times a day.

That was the old way. Now picture the new one. The truck arrives; men on lift trucks unload it, placing the pallets on an automated “induction spur,” from which they pass to an enormous robotic crane, 11 stories tall, which transports them to storage positions up to 100 feet high, then logs them by contents, source and date. The process is repeated — by many such cranes, coming and going, from 2,000 trucks a week. Between delivery shipments, as pallets are shipped out or stored away, they are constantly reshuffled, then re-logged, for maximum efficiency. And again, no men, no forklifts — only 15 11-story, robotic cranes on rails, pre-programmed to load, unload, shuffle and sort. Cranes with brains, you could say.

This is the way of things at the ES3 warehouse in Erie, Pennsylvania. With 450,000 square feet of floor-space housing the inventories of 20-odd U.S. food manufacturers in storage shelves as high as 110 feet above the floor, it is the largest food distribution center in the world. It is also, says the man in charge of it, a model for the 21st century.

“This is an automated facility on an unprecedented scale,” says Ron Wright (BS, Lowell Tech, ’72), president of ES3 and of its sister company, C&S Wholesale Grocers. “It is a storage and retrieval system that not only stores and delivers, but can track its inventory. It allows efficiencies of time and scale that were only dreamed of before.”

The ES3 warehouse, says Wright, features fully-integrated lift trucks, computers and scanners controlled by wireless technology. The cranes themselves move at 600 feet per minute and are guided by laser technology: “They have algorithms designed into their systems, so they can actually ‘know’ where stuff is.”

They “know,” for instance, the difference between the slow- and fast-movers (tabasco sauce, say, versus tomatoes or paper towels) and are “smart” enough to store the towels nearer the front. And during the down-time between truck deliveries, they are programmed to “shuffle” inventories for optimum efficiency.

Between the size of the ES3 warehouse and the efficiencies made possible by the cranes, it becomes possible, says Wright, for ES3’s customers — Heinz, Campbell’s, ConAgra, DelMonte and 20 or so other U.S. food manufacturers — to both reduce their inventories significantly and, at the same time, drastically lower the lag-time (or “lead-time”) between order and delivery.

The company refers to this as the RBCW (Really Big Consolidation Warehouse) concept. The RBCW — as described in ES3’s online description — “is 20 to 30 times the size of the traditional distribution center,” enabling multiple manufacturers to

“The ES3 plant, with a floor area of 450,000 square feet and a vertical storage height of more than 100 feet, is the largest food distribution center in the world.
store their inventories there. With the costs of storage being shared among tenants, the costs of receiving and bookkeeping defrayed by the “intelligence” of the cranes, and ES3 truckers under contract to deliver to customers within 24 hours after the order is received, the advantages of the RBCW seem just about impossible to dispute.

A list of which explains why the company, only three years down the road from its inception, is about to add a second warehouse, with another 300,000 square feet of space, and 10 more robotic cranes to go with the 15 it has now.

“The robot-cranes that enable all this are guided by lasers and driven by computers.” — Ron Wright

“We’ve got 2,000 trucks coming in and out every week,” says Ron Wright. “And we’re full, we’re at capacity. With the new space we’re getting, it’ll be up to 3,000 a week. There’s no saying where we go from there. But this is definitely the way of the future.”

It’s a future he seems to have been born for. Since he was a teenager, the food business is the only vocation he has known.

As a major in business administration at Lowell Tech in the early seventies, he worked part-time for Star Markets — a warehouse worker, then cashier — to help meet tuition costs. It was there, in his junior year at the Watertown Star Market, that he met another student, a part-time meat-wrapper named Ellen. The two were married a year later; they have a son and two daughters, and have been together 32 years.

He stayed with Star Markets 10 more years, rising into and through the middle-management ranks, before leaving in 1983 to join C&S as a buyer. Twelve years after that, in 1995, he was named executive vice president and chief operating officer; he was made president in 1998.

It was a big job — and remains so. C&S’s Wholesale Grocers is the second-largest food wholesaler in the U.S., serving as a source for 4,000 independent, supermarket chains, mass-marketers and wholesale clubs from Maine to the west coast and Hawaii. Based in Brattleboro, Vt., it is the eighth-largest grocer in the country at $110-million warehouse in Pennsylvania and corporate offices in Kenee, N.H., less than 30 minutes from those of C&S. It was designed to serve all classes of trade, wholesale and retail as well as drug clubs and mass merchants — by “facilitating the collaboration of manufacturers and retailers” and “synchronizing supply and demand.”

If its growth is any indication, it has succeeded in both these goals. A nd it has done so with Ron Wright, its president since day one — it was Wright who recruited most of its 45 managers, who in turn hired the roughly 150 others it now employs — in charge every step of the way.

How he has managed this, in tandem with his duties as head man at C&S.

Best-selling author Barbara Ehrenreich encouraged U Mass Lowell graduates to “use the power that diploma opens up to you” by working to make higher education a right for all.

“You are at this moment walking through a door that was closed to many of your parents and almost certainly closed to your grandparents,” she said. “You can walk on through and let that door slam shut behind you. Or you can resolve to tear that door off its hinges and open the way to all who come behind you.”

With sales approaching the one-million-mark, Ehrenreich’s last book, Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America, has appeared on The New York Times best-seller list for more than a year. She is the author of numerous critically lauded books and her articles regularly appear in publications such as Harper’s, The Atlantic Monthly and The New York Times Magazine.

Chancellor William T. Hogan and President Jack M. Wilson conferred 1,800 degrees on graduation day, more than twice the number of degrees conferred at the university’s last commencement at the Tsongas Arena in downtown Lowell.

For the first time in university history, there were two valedictorians — both of whom had a perfect 4.0 GPA — Megan Williams and Nihal Patel. There also was the largest number of undergraduates who took their courses on-line — 30 — since the internet program began through Continuing Studies and Corporate Education in 1996. Middlesex County Sheriff Jim DiPapa called the commencement to order and State Rep. Colleen Garry offered greetings on behalf of the Legislature.

In addition to delivering the commencement speech, Ehrenreich received an honorary degree, along with Charles H. Hoff, a venture capitalist and chairman of the Hoff Foundation; and Victor W. Sidel, former president of the American Public Health Association and founder of Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Dr. Susan Pasquale, chair of the Alumni Relations Council, presented the Distinguished Alumni Award to Frank M. Spinola ’66, chemical engineering, former president and CEO of INDSPEC Chemical Corp.

The university also recognized individual graduates for academic excellence and service, including Chancellor’s Medalists for Distinguished Academic Achievement (students with the highest GPA in each college): Nihal Patel, College of Arts and Sciences, Division of Science and Mathematics; Megan Williams, College of A and S; Sciences, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences; Tracy VanZant, College of Engineering; Tracey Hinson, School of Health and Environment; and Amina Larina, College of Management. Patel and Williams also received Trustees Keys for attaining 4.0 averages — an award that has been granted only 11 times previously.
The Honorable James DiPaola, sheriff of Middlesex County, called the ceremonies to order.

The National Anthem was sung by Jaclyn Soep, who graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor of music degree in music studies.

State Rep. Colleen Garry ’83 delivered congratulations and greetings on behalf of the Legislature.

For the first time in University history, there were two valedictorians, Megan Williams and Nihal Patel, both of whom had perfect 4.0 GPAs.

Celebrating at the pre-commencement breakfast were, from left, Provost John Wooding, President Jack M. Wilson, Jane Levy, Chancellor William T. Hogan and Executive Vice Chancellor Fred Sperounis.

Honorary degree recipients, from left, Victor W. Sidel, Barbara Ehrenreich and Charles H. Hoff.

Chancellor William T. Hogan, left, and Provost John Wooding, right, congratulate Distinguished Alumnus Frank Spinola, 66, and his wife, Mary, a ’66.

Several graduates used their mortarboards to express their feelings to the thousands of well-wishers gathered in the Tsongas Arena.

Graduates were exuberant as they prepared to receive their diplomas after years of hard work and studies.

Best-selling Author Barbara Ehrenreich encourages graduates to help make higher education accessible for all, in a stirring commencement address.

Several graduates used their mortarboards to express their feelings to the thousands of well-wishers gathered in the Tsongas Arena.

Chancellor William T. Hogan, left, and Athletic Director Dana Skinner, right, present Uri Grunwald, a business administration management information systems major and a River Hawks basketball player, with the University Athletic Scholarship Award for attaining the highest GPA among varsity athletes.

Chancellor William T. Hogan, left, congratulates Class President Robert Blatt, who delivered his final speech to his classmates.
The Face of Philanthropy

‘Just a Couple of Kids From Massachusetts’—Carving Two Lives, and a Fortune, Out of $938 and the Kitchen Sink

By Geoffrey Douglas

They met on a bus, from the Lowell campus to Worcester, in the spring of 1941. Both were on their way home for the weekend — she from Lowell State Teachers’ College, he from Lowell Textile. On their first date, a week later, he proposed walking to the movies to save on bus fare. “I knew right then,” she remembers, “that this was a boy without an extra nickel to his name.”

They were married three years later, sixty years ago this summer. Since then, in addition to their other endeavors, they have endowed five UMass Lowell scholarships, given thousands more for needed projects, and — most recently — pledged half a million dollars to be used by the Chancellor for campus priorities.

It all began, says Charlie Puliafico, with a little company he called Webster Chemical, run out of the back room of his mother-in-law’s old variety store — “with a baby and a couple rooms of furniture” — and bills over $20 million a year. “Out of $938 and the Kitchen Sink,” he said at the time. “It was 1947. It is first product was a floor cleaner; his lab was the kitchen of their home.

He sold his stake in Webster Chemical nine years later, for $32,000. With that he launched a second company, Webco, a manufacturer of specialty chemicals, in Dudley, Mass. — run now by his family, and bills over $20 million a year.

He had earned his BA in textile chemistry from Lowell Textile in 1944, an education he says today was “the foundation of my success.” His wife, Jackie, who majored in music education, had earned her bachelor’s two years before that — in large part due to an act of kindness by her teachers.

“My father died in Aug ust, just before my senior year was to start. I was going to transfer to Worcester State, to be nearer to Webster” — her hometown, both then and today — “because I couldn’t afford [the boarding costs] at Lowell."

My teachers, to keep me in school, got together and paid for my music texts, which were a big expense at the time.” She stayed at Lowell State as a result, and graduated the following June. “And I’ve never forgotten,” says Jackie Puliafico. “I said to Charlie at the time, ‘If we’re ever able financially, we’ve got to see what we can do for Lowell.’”

It’s a promise they’ve made good on many times over, though their generosity hasn’t been limited to UMass Lowell. In addition to the scholarship aid they’ve provided — to benefit student-athletes, as well as students of nursing, music, chemistry and chemical engineering — the Puliaficos have given their time to almost too many causes to name. Charlie, for his part, was president of the Webster-Dudley Chamber of Commerce and of the board of directors at Hubbard Regional Hospital in Webster.

“I said to Charlie at the time, ‘If we’re ever able financially, we’ve got to see what we can do for Lowell.’” — Jackie Puliafico

As for Jackie, although she retired officially years ago, it’s been hard for those who know her to see much difference. A far more than 20 years directing the music programs in Webster’s schools, as well as the local high school choir, she has led a retirement that has included endless field trips, music classes, musical productions and fund raisers of every sort. Not long ago, through ad sales and concert tickets, she raised $40,000 to renovate the Webster auditorium — fresh-painted walls, new window dressings, velvet drapes — which hadn’t had an upgrade, she says, “since sometime in the 1920s.” Not long ago, she was named as chairman of the M. Massachusetts Small Business Advisory Council and a member of the Board of Overseers at Old Sturbridge Village, a nonprofit that provides educational opportunities for kids.

“A for Jackie, although she retired officially years ago, it’s been hard for those who know her to see much difference.”

The Puliaficos, with Chancellor William T. Hogan, at the 2002 Commencement ceremony at which they were honored.

Two years ago, at the UMass Lowell 2002 Commencement, they were presented jointly with the University’s Distinguished Alumnus Award.

“We’re just a couple of kids from Massachusetts who met on a bus,” Charlie says with a chuckle. “Our first date was a movie — and I could barely pay for that. But life since then has been very, very good.”
NHL Eyes UMass Lowell Star

Ben Walter is allowed to dream. The Boston Bruins called the UMass Lowell junior hockey center's name during the 5th round of the National Hockey League's draft of amateur players.

It was not the first time he'd thought about the prospects. It is something that had been tumbling around in the young man's mind probably from the time he first faced up a pair of ice skates. "I think you always dream and hope, but you try not to think about it," said Walter in a radio interview during his outstanding sophomore season at the university.

A nd on a hot summer Sunday afternoon his name had been called. "I had talked to Boston and had a good interview with them. When they called my name it was a tremendous kid, works really hard, is very respectful, has a high level of integrity and a tremendous passion for the game," said McDonald. "He loves his teammates, he goes about his business in a very professional manner for a young man."

The River Hawk hockey team was an integral part of the growth in the University's hockey program during the 2003-04 season. Walter tied for the team lead in goals with 18, game-winning goals with 3, and was tied for second with 34 points. He was among the nation's top scorers when his team was on the power play.

But McDonald points out that Walter cannot be summarized by a list of numbers or accomplishments. "It's the mental side, the ability to think the game, to see the ice, to have awareness, that's hard to teach, if it can be taught at all. You must have good instincts to play the game and that's his strongest suit as a player."

Walter has "good blood lines." His father, Ryan Walter, was a first round pick and played in the National Hockey League, with three teams, for 15 seasons, sharing a Stanley Cup as a member of the games' tabled Montreal Canadiens in 1986. "Nothing has been easy for him," his father told espn.com. "He's had to work his cracks off every day."

The younger Walter remembers watching his father play and practice with the Canadiens, remembers the atmosphere in the team's locker room and remembers taking shots on Montreal goaltender Patrick Roy before a game. And Walter says it was there in that locker room that he realized his passion for the game.

"A lot of coaching, Walter has no plans to sign a professional contract just yet. He plans to return to UMass Lowell for his junior year. His goals are simple and include another dream — to win a (college) national championship."
Tom Clarke: Balls and Strikes from a Different Angle

Tom Clarke used to stand atop the pitcher’s mound and stare in at home plate. He probably did not have much sympathy for the umpire; now the roles are reversed.

The UMass Lowell alum is still pursuing a baseball career, but the tools and the job have changed.

He has little sympathy for pitchers pursuing a baseball career, but the roles are reversed.

At 27 years old, Clarke is a first year umpire in the Class A New York-Penn League, a short season, entry-level league. The league’s teams are part of “organized” baseball. The rosters are stocked with players whose rights are owned by major league teams; one step on a long road to major league baseball.

For Clarke it has already been a long road. He finished his River Hawk playing career in the spring of 1999. A 6-foot-7, 227 pound Clarke went 8-0 with a 2.27 earned run average, good numbers at any level.

His team won 37 games, and participated in the NCAA Tournament.

But his baseball playing career was over. “At the end of that season I had nothing left in my shoulders,” says Clarke, “so there was no chance of playing (anymore).”

So, he fell back on what had been his side job through college. “I ran into a couple of professional umpires who worked one of these games, (NYP), so I picked their brains all night long and it peaked my interest.”

He’d begun umpiring little league games at age 13. “It was something to do. They paid us a couple of bucks. For a 13 year old kid, ten bucks is a lot of money. It kept me in the game.”

The umpiring career still had to wait until Clarke graduated. He had enough credits to graduate, just not in the right places. It took another two and a half years before he was done.

He graduated from UMass Lowell in December 2001 and entered umpiring school a month later. Clarke went to the Jim Evans School for Umpires in Florida, twice. The first time he injured his knee and missed three weeks of the five-week season. The second time, he didn’t miss a day.

The Evans School taught Clarke the rules and the mechanics, and during the final two weeks focused on “situation management.”

That, Clarke confesses, is the toughest part: “They throw everything in the world at you and see how you react.” Instructors charge out onto the field and argue calls. Some students handle it well, some don’t. “They will clamp up, get nervous, or fall over,” says Clarke. “That’s how they weed ‘em out.”

Clarke was one who did handle it well. “I’m not used to it, but I’m prepared for it,” he says. The key may be an individual’s personality. Clarke’s has been described as bubbling: “I’m a people person; I like to talk; I like being out there. I think I’ve got a good personality for it. If you don’t have the personality for it you can’t work out there. You’ve got to adjust and think on your feet.”

“[They] don’t want robots; they don’t want cookie cutter people; you have to develop style. That’s authority. You can’t teach it.”

— Tom Clarke

It was in school that Clarke began to develop a style. Rules and positioning are important but style brings with it authority. “They don’t want robots; they don’t want cookie cutter people; you have to develop style. That’s authority. You can’t teach it.”

Clarke spent one year umpiring in the Northeast League, an independent league with no connection to his ultimate goal, Major League Baseball. Now in the New York-Penn League he has a step closer.

Life in the minor leagues takes some adjustment. A minor league umpire had best learn to live on the road. “You don’t do this if you don’t love it. Our lifestyle... we don’t have home games,” says Clarke.

In the New York-Penn League a season consists of 76 games in 79 days in cities and towns that seldom are marked in bold on road maps. For every Brooklyn and Staten Island there is a Batavia and Oneonta. “We’re driving from here to Brooklyn at 4 a.m.,” Clarke says on a visit to LeLacheur Park in Lowell.

The stop in Lowell was as close to home as the Andover resident gets. “Could you tell I was from around here? I got booed out of the stadium. Five thousand people booing. There are no home games. If you don’t love it there is no point being here.”

Clarke has one friend; his partner. In Clarke’s case it’s Vic Carapazza. They live together in a series of far-less-than-four-star hotels during the three-month long season.

They use Carapazza’s car and share the driving. “Games take care of themselves,” says Clarke. “You travel is the toughest part.”

Killing time in a hotel room in some forgotten stop on the road to the major leagues is not that difficult. “We have to take care of each other. We talk about games; we talk about umpiring. We have situational manuals we go through. ‘We’re trying to make each other better.’”

— BE

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1.) The annual RAD Sciences alumni gathering was held on May 11 on campus. Scholarship awards were presented to two master’s degree candidates during the ceremony. Proudly displaying the UMass Lowell banner are, from left, Prof. Clayton French, Asst. Prof. Mark Tries, Department Chair J. Em Gage, scholarship recipients Diane Quintero and Julie Gostic, and Mike Ryan ’74, ’76.

2.) The 2004 Distinguished Biology Alumni Award was presented to Tom O’Connor ’77, ’80 during the annual department awards ceremony and alumni reception. Pictured from left, Retiring Chair Prof. Robert Lynch, Tom O’Connor, Dean of Sciences Robert Tamarin and retiring Prof. Dave Eberiel.

3.) This alumni foursome and perennial players in the UML annual golf tournament are, from left: Richard Cacciapouli ’63, ’78, John DiStefano ’71, ’77, Mike Ossing ’81, and Bob White ’70, ’73.

4.) Participants in this year’s UML golf tournament at Sky Meadow Country Club included, from left, the foursome of Fran Day, Diana Day, Larry Day and Joe Day. ’66. It was an all-Day event.

5.) Members of the 1988 Basketball championship team reunited for a round of golf during this year’s UML tourney. From left are, John Paganetti ’84, Captain Leo Parent ’88, Gavin Cummings ’88 and Bobby Licare ’88.

6.) On the eve of the 2004 commencement ceremonies, a dinner was held at Vesper Country Club for Honorary Degree recipient Charlie Hoff, ’66 and Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Frank Spinola ’66 and their families. Pictured from left, Provost John Wooding, Charlie Hoff ’66, Frank Spinola ’66 and Executive Vice Chancellor Fred Sperounis.

7.) UMass Night at the Pops was held on the evening of June 23 at Symphony Hall in Boston. The concert was conducted by Marvin Hamlisch with a little help from UMass President Jack Wilson and Board of Trustees chairperson Grace Fey. From left are, Dave McInerney ’76, Vice Chancellor Administration and Finance for UMass Lowell Louise Griffin ’78, Steve Gendron ’83 and Kathy Gendron ’85.

8.) Those enjoying the Pops performance for UMass Night on June 23 included, from left, Debbie Penney, Bill Penney ’75, Herbert Goldberg ’43, Barbara Goldberg and UML Director of Development Mike Mackell.
1964
David H.olley started Healy & Associates, Inc., a manufac-
turers’ representatives to the paper, plastic and coat-
ings industry with specialty chemical additives.

1970
Kathleen (Pigeon) Clark Beckert, widowed in 2000, recently married Dietmar Beckert and the couple hon-
yeymooned in Dietmar’s native Germany. Kathleen is in her 24th year as a chiropractor and Dietmar operates a sawmill. They mountain climb and garden together. Kathleen recently welcomed a newly graduated chiropractor to her office in Hartland, Maine, which will help to ease her work load.

James F. Kelley, Jr. spent 10 years in the banking industry after college and then 17 years managing one of the largest liquor stores in the state. In 1995 he became the parking operations manager for the city of Quincy and in 2003 moved to the date lottery security department. James has been married for 31 years, has three children and lives in Quincy, where he grew up.

1974
Louise M. Hart has written a book entitled Rosie’s Rule, which can be ordered through publibamerica.com. It is a book about a “war” that school children declare on schoolyard violence and is a “testament to the resiliency, creativity, self-determination and the power of the individu-
al to make a difference.”

Juan S. Linares retired from the Venezuela oil industry after working for 28 years in information technology. He attended a culinary academy in Caracas and is now an executive chef at a Swiss restaurant in the mountains of Caracas. He is planning to open his own restaurant in the Caribbean in the future.

1976
Brett B. Blaisdell was awarded a Design News Engineering Achievement Award for Global Innovation. Photographic film and the additives used in engineering plastics don’t always mix, making it tough to develop materials for single-use cameras. Blaisdell led a team of Kodak engineers that developed a new kind of color camera that can sport different looks in different parts of the world.

Jim Fraser has been appoint-
ed by BAE Systems as director of business management for the Information and Electronic Warfare Systems (IEWS) unit headquartered in Nashua, N.H. Fraser and his wife, Donna, live in Chelmsford. Their son Jim is a senior at UMass Amherst.

1980
Suzanne A. Page is assistant to the managing director/manager of board administration at the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Suzanne writes that she “graduated in 1980 with a Bachelor of Music degree and studied with Enricu A Iberts, who is still teaching voice at the Depart-
ment of Music.”

1983
Kim (Savage) Bass owns and operates Bass Enterprises, which produces state shows and operates Bass Enterprises, which produces state shows for NBC television including M is for New York USA, Teen USA Pagants and M is New

1985
Bradley M. Mingels has been named marketing manager for Venture Tape Corporation, a worldwide manufacturer of specialty tapes and foils. He has also been an adjunct professor in the College of Engineering. Bradley is a co-founder and coach of “Nautical M Is:” a track and field program for South Shore youth in grades 2-8. He also coaches in the Scituate youth sports program.

Paul Bertrand and his wife, Wendy, welcomed their second daughter, Amanda, in December 2003. Dad assisted with the birth, and managed not to faint. They moved to Lunenburg in 2002, where the family also included two yellow Labs. Paul is looking forward to both girls obtaining collegiate golf scholarships.

1986
Demetrios Venetis writes that he is “ecstatic, thrilled and overwhelmed” to announce the birth of his first child, Sophia Irini Venetis. She was born on April 22. Both mom and baby are doing great, and dad is on an emotional high.

1987
Wayne G. Fisher was licensed by the Board of Pub-
ic Accountancy as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in January. He is a technical spec-
ialist with the Department of Defense and lives in Billerica.

1989
Michael D. Coffey married Rebecca (Lanier) Coffey on July 26, 2003. Michael is a senior meteorologist for Meteorlogix, LLC in Woburn. Rebecca is an operational forecaster for WSI Corpora-
tion in Andover, and they live in Dracut.
1990
Tara Donno Guschow was promoted to senior criminal investigative analyst at the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority in Massachusetts. She received a Professional Service Award from the International Association of Law Enforcement Analysts for outstanding contributions as an intelligence analyst to the achievement of law enforcement objectives. Recently she was awarded lifetime certification by the Society of Certified Crime Analysts.

1992
Peter S. Halman and his wife, Cindy, moved to 2002 in Geneva, Ill., where Peter is controller for Prairie Business Credit, Inc.

James E. McLaugh recently joined LLC as a vice president and counsel overseeing legislative and regulatory activity in New England and the world's largest financial institution. He was previously employed as a state and federal government affairs director for NSTAR Electric & Gas. James lives in Westham with his wife, Katherine, and two sons, Quinlan and Aidan.

Bethany (Patruhin) Tsoiris shielded her husband and sons 39 years ago, but passing through a cancer implant. Decibels hearing loss and is doing well with the assistance of a cochlear implant. Decibels recently held its annual golf well tournament at the Wednesday Country Club in Stow, where Julia lives. A person interested in participating, sponsoring or donating can do so at decibels@york.com.

Captain Jason Mackay relinquished command of the 95th Maintenance Command (TM McLaugh in 2005, and he has ever had. In an AutoCAD 2D is comprehensive, basic CAD textbook that teaches the use of AutoCAD software using short, interesting projects that will capture and hold student attention. The chapters are ordered logically for AutoCAD, and his chapter order is designed to allow students to pursue chapter topics in a second real-world scenario. He was an AutoCAD 2D is designed from the ground up to meet national standards. The text can be used in his classes at UML.

Alexander 0. Was promoted during the second quarter of 2012. His promotion was the result of a one-year judicial clerkship in October 2003 through the A Commissioner General’s Honor Program at the Executive Office for Immigration Review in New York City. She now practices immigration law in a firm in Lynn.

1998
Jonathan A. Adams is a physical therapist at Rikers Island Correctional Facility in New York City. In 2001 he was designated the athletic trainer/physical therapist for the MTA sandwich wining U.S. Men’s Basketball Team in the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

1999
Katherine M. Haddad was promoted to senior criminal analyst at the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority in Massachusetts. She received a Professional Service Award from the International Association of Law Enforcement Analysts for outstanding contributions as an intelligence analyst to the achievement of law enforcement objectives. Recently she was awarded lifetime certification by the Society of Certified Crime Analysts.

2001
Anna Shuman Oliver is the community resource coordinator at Cedar Crest in Pompton Plains, N.J. She received her master’s degree in social work from Syracuse University with a concentration in community organizing, policy, planning and administration. She is experienced in the non-profit, health care and volunteer management. A 3rd Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal with 1st OLC, Korean Defense Service Medal, and the former Jennifer Lynn Carey of Hesperia, Calif., and is doing remarkably well on a few songs she wrote and arranged. It was recorded and produced by Terry Skotz, 1994 SRT. Carrie’s husband, Bruce Marshall, recently released his first solo CD. (See 1995, recently released her first solo CD. (See 1995, next column.)

1995
Carrie Moore Marshall has released her first solo CD, all songs she wrote and arranged. It was recorded and produced by Terry Skotz, 1994 SRT. Carrie’s husband, Bruce Marshall, recently released his first solo CD. (See 1995, recently released her first solo CD. (See 1995, next column.)

1994
Timothy Looney recently authored an Auto C D textbook published through McGraw Hill, Inc. He said, “It provides an overview of how food affects our immune system across the United States.”

1999
Heather L. Mello-Dean has graduated with a J.D. from New England School of Law in Boston.

1999
Katherine L. Karst of Hesperia, Calif., and is doing remarkably well.
Migrant Engineer Finds Home at UML

UML engineering graduate and entrepreneur Bill Morrison is finding a home for his nascent company, Sky Meadows Solutions, LLC, in the new business incubator at the university’s Office of Research Administration.

“I went through what it has to offer and it seems like a really good fit,” said Morrison, who plans to be in the new offices by the end of the year. “It’s hard working out of your home. I feel much more energized when I can work alongside other entrepreneurs, even those in other fields, where we can discuss experiences and ideas to generate creativity. This should be a great jump start for my company.”

Morrison started his engineering consulting venture when, after five years as program manager of development at GN Netcom in Nashua, he was laid off in the wake of tech industry downsizing that saw many others lose jobs as well. However, unlike many others, Morrison knew those halcyon days would not return.

“Companies that laid off their engineering departments won’t be hiring back even 80 percent of those employees, but there will be a demand for production services, but there will be a demand for production services, but there will be a demand for production services,” Morrison said. “Instead of trying to fight them, I’m joining them.”

He founded Sky Meadows Solutions as a program management development company allowing his clients to employ his services at any point in the design and production process, paying for what they need as they need it.

A outsourcing becomes the rule rather than the exception, Morrison feels his well-rounded experiences in both the engineering and operations ends of telecommunications, medical technologies, electronics and semiconductors make him an attractive alternative to the high overhead of a full time, permanent staff.

The new business incubator is operated under the guidance of Louis Petrowske, Director of External Funding, Technology Transfer & Partnering at UML.

On Mother’s Day, a Gift of Elegance and Hope

For a domestic-abuse victim, a family holiday can be a time of loneliness and bitter reminders. But for at least 10 such women this Mother’s Day, thanks to a few local businesses and a U Mass Lowell alumna whose specialty is enhancing the lives and looks of others, it was anything but that.

On the day after Mother’s Day, May 10, in an event choreographed by the Alumni Relations Council, the 10 woman, all residents of Lowell’s A Lternative House, arrived at Wannalancit Mills for a day of coiffed hair, make-up and pampered egos.

The plan had begun hatching late last year, when the Council, in search of a gesture of community outreach, contacted Alzheimer’s House, a shelter for women and children victimized by domestic abuse. Council member Tom Kershaw ’88, put in a call to friend and fellow alum Chris Vasiliadis ’87, founder and president of Burlington-based Signature Faces, to enlist her makeup skills.

Vasiliadis took it from there. Her company, which specializes in makeup consulting — but focuses also on image enhancement in general — in turn recruited a second makeup artist and two hairstylists; local charity Meadows Solutions, LLC, in the new business incubator at the university’s Office of Research Administration.

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For further information please contact University of Massachusetts-Lowell Office of Alumni Relations 100 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA 01854 978-934-3140

*All prices are per person, based on double occupancy.

UMASS LOWELL MAGAZINE FALL 2004
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Heavy Weight Golf Shirt.
Navy golf shirt with white embroidered left chest. S-XXL. Currently only available in Lowell Tech imprint. Item #4 $34.98

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Diploma Frame.


University Chairs.
Armchair. Black with cherry arms and back lasered seal. Item #12A Armchair $339.98 Item #12B Boston Rocker $339.98

For UPS shipping to your residence, please add $35. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. Available with University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell Textile Institute, University of Lowell, Lowell State College, and Lowell Technological Institute seals.

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