As more families question the value, UMass Lowell is shaping itself into a top-notch return on investment.
It's been quite a year.

In just a little over 12 months, we opened or broke ground on six new buildings, moved all sports up to Division I and celebrated record enrollment and graduation rates. We like to say that UMass Lowell is rising, and everywhere you look, that's true. Our test scores, our endowment, our alumni salaries—everything is up.

People outside of Lowell are noticing. National and international ranking experts are calling us a top value. They say we're one of the best returns on investment in the country. In just one year, U.S. News & World Report moved us up 12 spots in its national ranking of top-tier universities; our rise over the last three years is the second largest among all top-tier universities in the country.

Recently, we celebrated with some ads (like the one below) in major publications. In addition to local outlets, you may have seen us in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and Time magazine.

At UMass Lowell we are in the business of making sure that the experience will provide invaluable knowledge that a college education is a good life decision. Students and families are not taking the soaring costs of higher education lightly—and nor should they. Before a student decides to take this path, she must be secure in the knowledge that a college education is a good life decision. She must know that the experience will provide invaluable lessons and opportunities, which, together, will allow her to succeed in every area of her life in the years following.

The ads ask, “Is college worth it?” In this issue of the magazine, we provide some answers.

Students and families are not taking the soaring costs of higher education lightly—and nor should they. Before a student decides to take this path, she must be secure in the knowledge that a college education is a good life decision. She must know that the experience will provide invaluable lessons and opportunities, which, together, will allow her to succeed in every area of her life in the years following.

At UMass Lowell we are in the business of making sure that’s the case. At UMass Lowell, college is worth it.

But don’t take my word for it. Turn the page and see for yourself.

The University of Massachusetts Lowell
Office of University Relations
150 East Campus Drive
Lowell, MA 01854
978-934-2223
Sarah_Corbett@uml.edu
Submit class notes to: Class Notes Editor, Alumni Relations, One Perkins St., Lowell, MA 01854 or online at umsl.edu/alumni/umsl担任杂志的作者时，请于编辑Sarah McAdams Corbett处的Mailing List Alumni将收到信息。
Fenway: Frozen?

The hockey team faced off against the Northeastern Huskies at “America's Most Beloved Ballpark” on Jan. 11. "Slushy" was a better word to describe the ice on that rainy and warm Saturday afternoon, and the conditions weren't on the River Hawks' side. UMass Lowell lost 4-1. Nonetheless, "I'll never forget this game," says senior center Joe Pendenza. "It was incredible to play in the same place the Red Sox won the World Series."
Our world

The new Richard P. Howe Bridge opened on Nov. 19, replacing the 116-year-old Textile Memorial Bridge. Extending University Avenue across the Merrimack River to join Pawtucket Street, the bridge links East and North campuses. At the south end of the bridge, between Merrimack and Salem streets, is the in-progress University Crossing, a 230,000-square-foot complex housing more than two dozen UMass Lowell departments, plus a food court and bookstore that will be open to the public. “It’ll be the social heart of the campus,” says Chancellor Marty Meehan. Richard P. Howe, for whom the bridge is named, is father to Peter J. Howe ’84 and grandfather to Peter J. Howe Jr. ’11.

A Bridge to EVERYWHERE

15 Years of Women and Work

The Center for Women and Work at UMass Lowell Women celebrated its 15th anniversary with a Women’s Works Fair on Dec. 5, which featured handmade crafts and musical performances.

FOX 25 Broadcasts from Campus

Boston’s FOX 25 Morning News team spent a morning at UMass Lowell in November, as part of the program’s six-campus College Tour of New England. The show—which featured alumna and Fox meteorologist Sarah Wroblewski ’05—was broadcast live from the lawn of the Campus Recreation Center.

GOOD CLEAN FUN

Junior electrical engineering major Thomas Marsh works on some chords while he passes the time waiting for his laundry to dry. Every space in the new University Suites residence hall on East Campus is modern and bright, including the ground-floor laundry room.
When Brandon Geisler received a medical discharge from the job he loved as a U.S. Marine Grill instructor, he felt unmotivated. Geisler, who served from 2001 to 2006, hadn’t contemplated a career apart from the Marines.

He bounced from unemployment to roofing to installing cable and then returned to school to pursue a degree in information technology. After earning his associate’s degree from Northern Essex Community College, he transferred to UMass Lowell.

Geisler found success in the classroom and is home to a growing co-op education program. Anil Singhal believes it could be a model for other private businesses in Massachusetts and around the country.

Student Vets Get Wired for Work

"This is exactly what I was looking for," says Geisler, who expects to earn his bachelor's degree in information technology. After earning his associate's degree from Northern Essex Community College, he transferred to UMass Lowell.

"They have committed to the pilot for at least three years. The plan is to gradually build the program. Anil Singhal believes it could be a model for other private businesses in Massachusetts and around the country."—RG

From Donuts to Descartes

Philosophy prof. John Kaag was bored during a session at a conference about renowned philosopher William James in Chocorua, N.H. To pass the time, he walked to a bakery, struck up a conversation with a guy, and then found himself at the door of a personal library filled with first editions from Hobbes, Locke, Kant and Descartes.

"I met a man named Brian Nickerson, who’d once farmed the estate of W.E. Hocking, also a noted philosopher, and one of my scholarly interests," says Kaag.

"After chatting, he asked if I wanted to see West Wind, Hocking’s massive estate in nearby Madison," says Kaag.

There, in an unheated, free-standing library, were hundreds of rare books, many handed down from James to his protege, Hocking. Kaag began to look through them, taking in the notes (or "marginalia") James and others made in reaction to the greater of Western philosophy.

Kaag’s serendipitous 2008 trip to West Wind will soon reap benefits for the University and philosophy scholars worldwide, as Hocking’s granddaughters—Penelope Hocking, Jillian Forwell and Jennifer Kaag—agreed to donate a selection of the collection to UMass Lowell.

"I got to know the Hocking family, and my partner (Prof. Carol Hay, also of the Philosophy Department) and I spent weekends cataloging the works and moving them to dry storage before the family kindly decided to donate them to the University," says Kaag.

Kaag and Hay used funds they received through a Healey Grant to have the works—also included William James’ marginalia from his copies of Nietzsche, Kant and Hegel, and 32 volumes of noted Idealist philosopher James Joyce—professionally appraised. During one of these working weekends, Hay discovered an anonymous first edition of John Locke’s 1690 "Two Treatises on Government" and Descartes’ 1649 "Discourse on Method," the book that first gave us "I think therefore I am."

"This collection will put UMass Lowell on the map in terms of archival research in the humanities," says Mark Reimer, executive director of special initiatives. "Such editions are housed only at the most prestigious universities—for example, only Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Wellesley and a handful of other institutions have first editions of Hobbes’ Leviathan."—SE

The Hocking collection, which was stored in an unheated library on the renowned philosopher’s New Hampshire estate (above), includes marginalia (or marginalia) made by William James, right.

The University’s Office of Veterans Services helped recruit students and the Career Services and Cooperative Education Center created a professional development seminar to prepare the student veterans for the job market.

The Chirag Foundation and NetScout have committed to the pilot for at least three years. The plan is to gradually build the program. Anil Singhal believes it could be a model for other private businesses in Massachusetts and around the country.

NEW PHARMACEUTICAL GRAD PROGRAMS AIM TO FILL VITAL WORKFORCE NEED

UMass Lowell is the first public university in Massachusetts to offer graduate degrees in pharmaceutical sciences. The new master’s and doctoral degrees are designed to meet the growing demand for pharmaceutical scientists who discover, develop, test and manufacture medications.

The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education recently approved the University’s new pharmaceutical sciences programs, which will be the only public programs in the Commonwealth. Courses in the programs will begin September 2014. The program will also involve affiliated faculty from UMass Medical School.

"UMass Lowell is in a unique position because of its existing programs in nanotechnology, clinical laboratory sciences, genomics and chemistry to prepare students for both research and leadership careers developing new methods of drug discovery and delivery," says Shortie McKinsey, dean of UMass Lowell College of Health Sciences.

The new programs will help fill a vital workforce need in the high-tech biopharmaceutical industry. Federal and state data projects a 17 percent growth rate in the pharmaceutical industry through 2016, but Massachusetts faces national and global competition to fill the jobs created by expansion of the industry.

UNIVERSITY RANKINGS:

UMass Lowell is in the top tier of universities in the nation for the fourth consecutive year, climbing a dozen spots since last year and 25 since 2011 in U.S. News & World Report’s annual ranking of institutions of higher education. The University is No. 158 on the 2014 list of Best National Universities, up from 170 last year. The University’s three-year jump is the second largest among all universities. UMass Lowell continues to be among the top 100 public universities in the nation, rising to No. 85 on the list this year.

The world’s top 200 universities in 2014, with ties included, are:

1. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2. University of California, Berkeley
3. University of California, Los Angeles
4. Stanford University
5. University of California, San Diego
6. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
7. University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign
8. University of California, Santa Barbara
9. University of Washington
10. University of California, Davis
11. Northwestern University
12. Pennsylvania State University–University Park
13. University of Texas at Austin
14. University of Southern California
15. University of Minnesota–Twin Cities
16. University of California, Irvine
17. University of Texas at Dallas
18. Michigan State University
19. University of Pittsburgh
20. University of Colorado at Boulder

The complete rankings are at usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/education/college-rankings/best-national-universities.
Anatomy of the ‘Perfect Athlete’

In a Nod to the 2014 Sochi Olympics, UMass Lowell Experts Deconstruct the Ideal Competitor

Michael E. Jones, legal studies professor, triathlete and former elite swimmer:
"In 2008, I had a chance to spend time with Michael Phelps before the Beijing Olympic Games and chat about his approach to competing and his role in Olympic history. He was ... The very best athletes have an ability to adjust to obstacles and not let the pressure of the moment spoil the race."

Jim Graves, adjunct professor of sports psychology:
"Many of them have the talent that would qualify them..." and "To compete at the highest level, the athlete must be able to..."

Tim DiFrancesco '06, head strength and condition coach, L.A. Lakers:
"It's a shame when a silly injury prevents an athlete from reaching a gold medal. The body performs best when it achieves the highest state of..."

Ruben Sanca '09, '10, Olympian runner in 2012:
"The path to achieving the Olympic dream is not a... There are ups and downs. Wins and losses. Having a strong support group of friends and family is a game-changer for many athletes as we face many obstacles..."

Devan McConnell, director of sports performance for UMass Lowell athletics:
"To compete at the highest level, elite skill in one's particular sport is not enough. Performance training is all about improving an athlete's ability to..."

Michael Dellogono '11, '13, Ph.D. student in biomedical engineering and biotechnology:
"One of the most important aspects in training is diet and nutrition. Intense training essentially breaks the body down and it is crucial that..."

After spending most of 2013 recovering from hip surgery, U.S. women’s hockey forward Amanda Kessel, 22, had already made two Olympic goals as of press time. Team USA—which took home silver in 2010—was set to play against Canada in the gold medal game on Feb. 20.
While on campus for four days, Levy also gave master classes for music students. "Howard is an amazing musician and highly collaborative," Shirley says. "I am honored that he thinks so highly of my music, completely out of his normal working tor" in the history of the instrument.

The Grammy Award-winning instrumentalist, composer, producer and teacher visited UMass Lowell recently, giving a concert that featured a piano duet with Levy and Meg Ruby, who teaches piano at UMass Lowell. Another highlight was the world premiere of "8-Bit Attitude," a composition for digitally processed harmonica written by John Shirley, chairman of the Music Department.

"Howard is an amazing musician and highly collaborative," Shirley says. "I am honored that he thinks so highly of my music, completely out of his normal working genre, that he’d ask me to compose something for him."

Fogle Boyd says that while readers might not pick up a research text on World War II, the love story of Anke and Erik might be more approachable and might encourage readers to pick up a history book after finishing a novel.

HISTORIAN PENS NOVEL ABOUT NAZI ART THEFTS
Anke Junger and Erik Brossler are fictional characters, but their story illustrates the systematic art theft and destruction perpetrated by the Third Reich and, later, the efforts to make things right.

While History Department adjunct professor Lauren Fogle Boyd is a medieval historian, she was inspired to write a historical novel, “The Altarpiece,” after seeing "The Rape of Europa," which details the widespread theft of artwork from Jewish families by Adolf Hitler. Hitler also sought out art he desired, most notably the van Eyck's "Ghent Altarpiece" referenced in the book title.

"I couldn’t believe I didn’t know more about this part of the war," says Fogle Boyd. "I thought the story would be best told as a historical novel. When I couldn’t find one, I decided to write it."

Fogle Boyd says that while readers might not pick up a research text on World War II, the love story of Anke and Erik might be more approachable and might encourage readers to pick up a history book after finishing a novel.

NEW DEAN ON THE SCENE
The Francis College of Engineering has a new dean this year, Joseph Hartman, an industrial and systems engineer by training, served as professor and chair of industrial and systems engineering at the University of Florida from 2007 through 2013. He served in a similar capacity at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Penn.

A native of the Chicago area, Hartman received a B.S. in general engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in industrial and systems engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology.

"When I interviewed for this past spring, I could feel the excitement on campus—new buildings, growing educational offerings, vibrant research programs, eager students, entrepreneurial endeavors and Division I sports," he says. "The excitement is invigorating."

PROF. MINKKINEN CELEBRATED AT CARNEGIE HALL
Prof. Anno Rafael Minkkinen has earned his share of acclaim: his work is exhibited in world-class venues including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the New York Museum of Modern Art, the Finnish Museum of Photography and the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography.

But for the Finnish-born photographer, being selected as the Leslie Foundation’s 2013 honoree for achievement in fine art was something special.

"It was one of the proudest moments of my artistic life," says Minkkinen. "You don’t apply, you don’t even imagine—it just drops out of the sky. It’s not about money or fame, it’s just about the work. And knowing folks who got it, I would never imagine the story thing would one day come my way."

The award was presented by Broadway producer Scott Landis ("Twelfth Night," "Richard III," "Nice Work If You Can Get It") and renowned photographer Sally Mann in front of a full house at Carnegie Hall, including the Finnish ambassador, editors from Time and Aperture, and world-class photographers from around the globe.

"Anno is a man of enormous generosity and kindness and talent, so light-filled and lustrous that it parts your hair. He is surrounded by a bright nimbus of what Nabokov once called ‘aesthetic blisse,’ a state of being embracing curiously tender and ecstatic." Mann told the crowd in her introduction.
LITTLE GIRLS AS SUICIDE BOMBERS?

Security Studies Profs Report on Trend

Over the past year, Mia Bloom and John Horgan, professors at UMass Lowell’s new Center for Terrorism and Security Studies, have been spending time in Pakistan, conducting research on children’s involvement in terrorism. They recently released some of their findings in an article on CNN.com.

“Disturbing reports are emerging from Afghanistan that 10-year-old girls named Spozhmai were pre-supervised in carrying out a suicide bombing attack against a police station in Khaneshin,” they wrote. “Though Taliban forces are already deploying female operatives in a limited capacity, it was the first report of a young girl who was groomed for martyrdom. It represents the latest development in a long history of terrorist organizations’ use of children.”

Bloom and Horgan report that in the large majority of cases they’ve researched, “the children were genuinely unaware of what they were being asked to do—what such operations could entail. Those who were aware displayed serious hesitation and were often given drugs to make them forget.”

More than $1 million in research grants has been awarded to the Center by the National Security Collaboration, whose stated mission is to improve the nation’s ability to prevent, deter, and respond to terrorism.

Over the past year, Mia Bloom and John Horgan, professors at UMass Lowell’s new Center for Terrorism and Security Studies, have been spending time in Pakistan, conducting research on children’s involvement in terrorism. They recently released some of their findings in an article on CNN.com.

“Disturbing reports are emerging from Afghanistan that 10-year-old girls named Spozhmai were pre-supervised in carrying out a suicide bombing attack against a police station in Khaneshin,” they wrote. “Though Taliban forces are already deploying female operatives in a limited capacity, it was the first report of a young girl who was groomed for martyrdom. It represents the latest development in a long history of terrorist organizations’ use of children.”

Bloom and Horgan report that in the large majority of cases they’ve researched, “the children were genuinely unaware of what they were being asked to do—what such operations could entail. Those who were aware displayed serious hesitation and were often given drugs to make them forget.”

More than $1 million in research grants has been awarded to the Center by the National Security Collaboration, whose stated mission is to improve the nation’s ability to prevent, deter, and respond to terrorism.
Michael E. Jones is seasoned at judging things. He is a pro, actually. He has done it while wielding a gavel in trial court and while serving on boards to resolve disputes surrounding the Olympic Games.

So when he saw the photographs of Rowland Scherman and heard his story, he judged this unique artist worthy of a book.

Bob Dylan’s wiry, mid-’60s mane in electric silhouette, iconic live shots from The Beatles’ first U.S. tour, seminal photos documenting the earliest days of the Peace Corps. JFK. RFK. When Crosby, Stills & Nash recorded their first album, he was in the studio. He was there. Writers, poets, presidents, musicians, athletes, artists. And perhaps most iconic, Scherman captured a 12-year-old Edith Lee-Payne in 1963, during the March on Washington, whose weary gaze came to symbolize March participants.

Millions of people have seen Scherman’s work, and UMass Lowell legal studies professor Jones and his wife, Christine, decided to make it their mission to let them know the name of the photographer and resecure his copyright. Thanks to the book they edited, “Timeless: Photography of Rowland Scherman,” people are learning. The book, and Scherman’s stunning shots, showed up often during media coverage of the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington last August.

“From the ’60s to the ’80s, he had this marvelous career,” Jones recently told a gathering on campus. “But when we met him not long ago, he was impoverished, living in Section 8 housing.”

The book, says Jones, will re-establish Scherman’s copyright over the work, in a world of complex and confusing digital rights. It is laced with the photographer’s recollections about the photos and will be available in bookstores this spring.

They are valuable photos. The Dylan shot, which ended up on the cover of the singer-songwriter’s first greatest hits album, earned Scherman a Grammy. But not much else. Jones says the record company paid him $300 for a “one-time use.” One time, on millions of LP jackets.

Jones discussed the still young field of intellectual property, spoke of publicity rights and the world of publication and fair use.

But it all came down to this: “The cover of this book has been on the BBC, NPR and lots of other media outlets, and for the first time ever, it said, ‘photographed by Rowland Scherman,’” he says.

Scherman first made a name—albeit a different one—for himself as Billy Donahue, crooning the teen hit “Dream of Me”/“Oo Darling” on Coed records. But he discovered a love for photography and smitten with the art of the eye more than the voice.

He went on to shoot live covers for Life, as well as place freelance shots in a wide array of publications.

The eye became the voice. Thanks to the Joneses, it is Scherman’s again.
ELECTRONICS WITH ‘LAB IN A BOX’

STUDENTS EXPLORE

As they push through first-year classes in calculus, physics and engineering theory, freshman engineering majors sometimes forget that the end result of those classes is the fun stuff: the ability and opportunity to design new products and processes.

But thanks to new Lab in a Box learning kits, freshmen in the Electrical and Computer Engineering program are getting hands-on training and design experience much sooner in their college careers.

Erin Webster, a recent computer engineering graduate and teaching assistant, worked with Prof. Jay Weitzen and technology companies Analog Devices and DigiKey to create the kits.

“We need to provide engineering students not only with math, physics and engineering theory, but also significant hands-on laboratory and open-ended design experiences so they are ready for high-technology jobs of the 21st century,” says Webster, whose work has been featured in Forbes, Electronic Design and Planet Analog.

Lab in a Box consists of an Analog Discovery module that connects to a PC via USB and functions as an oscilloscope, waveform generator, logic analyzer, voltmeter and power supply. The kit also comes with a Parallax microprocessor board; basic electronic components such as resistors, capacitors and LEDs; and the software to run everything.

Working with Prof. Jay Weitzen, computer engineering graduate student Erin Webster has developed “Lab in a Box,” a complete, low-cost electronics workbench that is portable and flexible.

STUDENTS EXPLORE ELECTRONICS WITH ‘LAB IN A BOX’

As they push through first-year classes in calculus, physics and engineering theory, freshman engineering majors sometimes forget that the end result of those classes is the fun stuff: the ability and opportunity to design new products and processes.

But thanks to new Lab in a Box learning kits, freshmen in the Electrical and Computer Engineering program are getting hands-on training and design experience much sooner in their college careers.

Erin Webster, a recent computer engineering graduate and teaching assistant, worked with Prof. Jay Weitzen and technology companies Analog Devices and DigiKey to create the kits.

“We need to provide engineering students not only with math, physics and engineering theory, but also significant hands-on laboratory and open-ended design experiences so they are ready for high-technology jobs of the 21st century,” says Webster, whose work has been featured in Forbes, Electronic Design and Planet Analog.

Lab in a Box consists of an Analog Discovery module that connects to a PC via USB and functions as an oscilloscope, waveform generator, logic analyzer, voltmeter and power supply. The kit also comes with a Parallax microprocessor board; basic electronic components such as resistors, capacitors and LEDs; and the software to run everything.

Working with Prof. Jay Weitzen, computer engineering graduate student Erin Webster has developed “Lab in a Box,” a complete, low-cost electronics workbench that is portable and flexible.

$750K Grant Will Help Senior Citizens Breathe Easier

UMass Lowell has been awarded a $750,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to reduce episodes of asthma among senior citizens living in Lowell public housing.

Studies show that asthma is under-diagnosed among senior citizens and that asthma-related morbidity and mortality among the elderly is increasing.

“The City of Lowell is an ideal area for our study since the prevalence of asthma among adults is 10.4 percent, higher than the state average of 8.1 percent,” says David Tantore, director of the Lowell Health Homes program, which is operated through UMass Lowell’s Center for Community Morbidity and Engagement.

“Seniors in particular spend 90 percent of their time in their homes, breathing in dust mites, mold and toxic cleaning solutions that can trigger asthma attacks,” Tantore says.

The study will measure the effectiveness of providing the elderly in Lowell public housing with interventions such as educational materials, mattress and pillow covers, green cleaning supplies, HEPA vacuum cleaners and pest control items to improve health and reduce medical costs.

UMass Lowell researchers are partnering with the Lowell Housing Authority and the Lowell Community Health Center.

Sphinx Meets 21st Century Technology

After protecting the receiving tomb at the Lowell Cemetery for a century, two 12-foot bronze sphinxes went missing in the 1970s. One was recovered and has been kept in safekeeping ever since. With the help of engineering students, there’s hope the sphinxes will take their rightful places again.

The tomb was first used for the young son of Freeman Ballard Sheed, a colonel, in 1890. It kept him and others who died in the winter safe until interments could resume in the spring. Mechanical engineering Asst. Prof. Christopher Hansen heard that the cemetery wanted to replace the missing statues with replicas that are easier to maintain and protect. He found five students eager to tackle the challenge as their senior capstone project.

The students digitally rebuilt the sphinx and milled a new one from foam. They also tested different composites to build a mold from the foam sculpture. While the sphinxes haven’t made their return to the Lowell Cemetery yet, Hansen is confident that the project will be completed.

“The opportunity to work with cutting-edge products and materials such as 3D scanning and composite research, above, The original sphinx is shown above.

Mechanical engineering capstone students are recreating a sphinx statue for the Lowell Cemetery with 3D scanning and composite research above. The original sphinx is shown above.

Study will Help Prevent Injuries from Radiation Exposure

A team of researchers from UMass Lowell and the Medical College of Wisconsin has been awarded two grants by the U.S. National Institute of Health totaling nearly $370,000 over a period of five years to develop ways to predict and mitigate injuries resulting from radiation exposure.

For one project, Biology Prof. Susan Braunhut and Physics Assoc. Prof. Mark Tries will collaborate with Assoc. Prof. Meetha Madhira in Wisconsin to test innovative “biomarkers” that can potentially detect radiation injuries to the lungs, weeks before symptoms become apparent.

This will help doctors in reducing lung injury in victims of a terrorist attack, a nuclear reactor accident or in patients receiving radiation therapy for lung and breast cancers.

The other project will study the use of the anti-hypertension drug lisinopril to mitigate radiation injuries to multiple organs, such as lungs and kidneys, before symptoms develop.

SCIENTOGO: GET YOUR HEAD OUT OF THE SAND!

Ostriches are the stars of the show in UMass Lowell’s ScientoGo, a multimedia, informal learning campaign designed to engage the 100,000 commuters who ride the MBTA Red and Orange lines daily.

ScienToGo, funded by a $2.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation, brings environmental awareness and science education into everyday life. Project partners include the Museum of Science, Hofstra University, UMass Boston, Goodman Research Group and the MBTA.

Through subway posters and placards, the project educates the public on the science of climate change while researching the efficacy of the approach. The campaign features a flock of ostriches, who, instead of keeping their heads in the sand on the important issue, share insights about climate change and how the public can get involved.

“Only 17 percent of the average American’s life is spent inside a formal school setting and most adults learn informally,” says Prof. David Lustick of the Graduate School of Education, who is leading the project. “If successful, the cost-effective model could be used on mass-transit systems across the country to address any socially relevant science topic.”

As part of the University’s ScientoGo campaign, signage throughout Boston educates the public about climate change.

OF THE SAND!
Thanks to the River Hawks’ ascension to Division I’s America East Conference, the basketball team opened its season in the Crisler Center in Ann Arbor, Mich., where it took on the powerhouse Michigan Wolverines, a perennial Final Four contender. “I was really amped,” says senior forward Kerry Weldon, shown here. “It was like, ‘Wow, this is a dream come true, playing one of the top teams in the country.’ [But] once the ball went up in the air, it was basketball—it was no different. There was a guy in another jersey you were just trying to tip out and beat.” The River Hawks held their own—the score was tied at halftime—but eventually lost 42-69.

JUMP!

JUMP!

Sports update

CAMPUS NEWS

SOCCER WITHOUT BORDERS

Assistant Women’s Soccer Coach Jamie Gillis ’10 and soccer co-captain Margaret McSpiritt ’14, spent a week in Nicaragua this January, volunteering with the organization Soccer without Borders. Their mission: use soccer to help underserved 10- to 14-year-old girls gain the confidence to grow and overcome obstacles.

“It was quite hot—over 90 degrees—and the field was mostly dirt as it is shared with a baseball field, but it was amazing to see the girls so excited to participate despite the heat,” says McSpiritt. “All of the girls are so cute and just want piggy back rides and people to play with.”

The pair—who were joined by several other current and former female collegiate players and coaches from all over the U.S.—also got a chance to play against the Nicaraguan women’s national team.

WHITE OUT!

On Nov. 23, the student section at the Tsongas Center was powered by Hood. The ice, meanwhile, was powered by “playoff-style hockey,” says Head Coach Norm Bazin. One night after blanking the No. 6 Fighting Irish—then the top-ranked penalty killing unit in the country—with a final score of 1-0, the River Hawks secured a sweep with a 3-1 win. Goalie Connor Hellebuyck stopped 34 of 35 shots and UMass Lowell had three power-play goals.

BIGGER AND BETTER.

With the move up to NCAA Division I this season, UMass Lowell’s men’s and women’s basketball teams are playing on a bigger stage—both literally and athletically. The teams have marked their inaugural Division I season in 2013-14 by playing five of their home games at the Tsongas Center, one of the premier sports venues in the region and longtime home to River Hawks men’s ice hockey. The games are possible thanks to the new Kennedy Family Court at the Tsongas Center. Dedicated in late November, the court is named in honor of alumnus John Kennedy (LTI ’70) and his family. A longtime supporter of campus athletics and academics, Kennedy was the recipient of this year’s James T. Smith Award, a lifetime achievement award.

SOCCER WITHOUT BORDERS

Assistant Women’s Soccer Coach Jamie Gillis ’10 and soccer co-captain Margaret McSpiritt ’14, spent a week in Nicaragua this January, volunteering with the organization Soccer without Borders. Their mission: use soccer to help underserved 10- to 14-year-old girls gain the confidence to grow and overcome obstacles.

“It was quite hot—over 90 degrees—and the field was mostly dirt as it is shared with a baseball field, but it was amazing to see the girls so excited to participate despite the heat,” says McSpiritt. “All of the girls are so cute and just want piggy back rides and people to play with.”

The pair—who were joined by several other current and former female collegiate players and coaches from all over the U.S.—also got a chance to play against the Nicaraguan women’s national team.

BIGGER AND BETTER.
When Andrew Byrne was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia at 2 years old, everyone in his family rallied by his side. But what the Byrne family didn’t know that day was that 27 burly members of the River Hawks’ hockey team also had his back.

May 2009 was just another jam-packed, bustling weekend for Jenn and Mark Byrne and their three kids, Carolyn, then 4, and her identical twin brothers, Andrew and Daniel, then 2. Andrew had a low-grade fever and didn’t seem himself for a couple of weeks, but when he woke looking jaundiced one morning, the family pediatrician suggested they go to the emergency room.

When the nurse drew blood to check for problems, Andrew’s arm instantly bloomed with bruises. Tests revealed he was severely anemic, his blood and platelet counts were low and his white blood cell count was high. This was no normal week.

Andrew Makes the Team

Andrew was paired with the River Hawks men’s hockey team—a “match made in heaven” for Mark, who grew up in Lowell with sister Emily, senior executive assistant to Chancellor Marty Meehan, and is a lifelong UMass Lowell fan—and a beautiful friendship was born.

Andrew was dispatched immediately to Tufts Floating Hospital for Children, where he was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). ALL—a cancer of the blood cells that develops in the bone marrow where white blood cells called lymphoblasts crowd out normal cells and spread into the bloodstream—is the most common and curable form of leukemia. He began treatment immediately.

Throughout the three-year ordeal, Andrew received chemotherapy, radiation, lumbar punctures, bone marrow biopsies, steroids, platelet and blood transfusions and other painful and invasive treatments to rid his body of the cancer.

Overnight, Jenn and Mark became medical experts as their family worked to heal Andrew and keep things together, staying as strong and positive as possible. It wasn’t easy—a 2 a.m. fever meant an immediate trip to the hospital in Boston, and Carolyn and Daniel often woke up with mom (or dad) and Andrew gone. Jenn confesses that the whole family participated in “roid rage” because steroids, “getting irritated and frustrated” with chronic illnesses with sports teams who “adopted” them. Team IMPACT’s Amy Rennick explains: “For many kids, getting involved with a team is a way to look down the road—not just to the next doctor’s appointment, but to some- thing fun.”

A highlight for all of the Byrnes was their trips to Maine’s Camp Sunshine excursions, Carolyn was happy, but confused.

“Everyone was talking about cancer, but who in our family has cancer?” she asked.

“We never called it ‘cancer,’” says Jenn. “That sounded way too scary—we just told the kids that Andrew’s blood was sick.”

A counselor at the camp told the family about Team IMPACT (inspire, motivate and play with chronic illnesses with sports teams who “adopt” them). Team IMPACT’s Amy Rennick explains: “For many kids, getting involved with a team is a way to look down the road—not just to the next doctor’s appointment, but to some- thing fun.”

Andrew was paired with the River Hawks men’s hockey team—a “match made in heaven” for Mark, who grew up in Lowell with sister Emily, senior executive assistant to Chancellor Marty Meehan, and is a longtime UMass Lowell fan—and a beautiful friendship was born.

By SHEILA EPPOLITO

“Our work with the Byrne family is a very special opportunity for us—I think we get more out of it than Andrew,” says captain Josh Holmstrom.

The team has taken its role seriously, making regular visits to the Byrnes’ house for street hockey games and ping-pong battles, inviting them to join in team photos and locker room meetings. The kids go to every home game, know all of the players’ numbers by heart, and feel that they, too, are River Hawks.

“It’s nice to give back, and Andrew gives me perspective—there is a lot more to life than just hockey,” says Holmstrom, who in our family has cancer?” she asked.

“We never called it ‘cancer’,” says Jenn. “That sounded way too scary—we just told the kids that Andrew’s blood was sick.”

A counselor at the camp told the family about Team IMPACT (inspire, motivate and play against challenges together) which pairs kids with chronic illnesses with sports teams who “adopt” them. Team IMPACT’s Amy Rennick explains: “For many kids, getting involved with a team is a way to look down the road—not just to the next doctor’s appointment, but to some- thing fun.”

Andrew was paired with the River Hawks men’s hockey team—a “match made in heaven” for Mark, who grew up in Lowell with sister Emily, senior executive assistant to Chancellor Marty Meehan, and is a longtime UMass Lowell fan—and a beautiful friendship was born.

Andrew Makes the Team

Andrew was dispatched immediately to Tufts Floating Hospital for Children, where he was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). ALL—a cancer of the blood cells that develops in the bone marrow where white blood cells called lymphoblasts crowd out normal cells and spread into the bloodstream—is the most common and curable form of leukemia. He began treatment immediately.

Throughout the three-year ordeal, Andrew received chemotherapy, radiation, lumbar punctures, bone marrow biopsies, steroids, platelet and blood transfusions and other painful and invasive treatments to rid his body of the cancer.

Overnight, Jenn and Mark became medical experts as their family worked to heal Andrew and keep things together, staying as strong and positive as possible. It wasn’t easy—a 2 a.m. fever meant an immediate trip to the hospital in Boston, and Carolyn and Daniel often woke up with mom (or dad) and Andrew gone. Jenn confesses that the whole family participated in “roid rage” because steroids, “getting irritated and frustrated” with chronic illnesses with sports teams who “adopted” them. Team IMPACT’s Amy Rennick explains: “For many kids, getting involved with a team is a way to look down the road—not just to the next doctor’s appointment, but to some- thing fun.”

Andrew was paired with the River Hawks men’s hockey team—a “match made in heaven” for Mark, who grew up in Lowell with sister Emily, senior executive assistant to Chancellor Marty Meehan, and is a longtime UMass Lowell fan—and a beautiful friendship was born.

By SHEILA EPPOLITO

“Our work with the Byrne family is a very special opportunity for us—I think we get more out of it than Andrew,” says captain Josh Holmstrom.

The team has taken its role seriously, making regular visits to the Byrnes’ house for street hockey games and ping-pong battles, inviting them to join in team photos and locker room meetings. The kids go to every home game, know all of the players’ numbers by heart, and feel that they, too, are River Hawks.

“It’s nice to give back, and Andrew gives me perspective—there is a lot more to life than just hockey,” says Holmstrom, who

Andrew Makes the Team

Andrew was dispatched immediately to Tufts Floating Hospital for Children, where he was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). ALL—a cancer of the blood cells that develops in the bone marrow where white blood cells called lymphoblasts crowd out normal cells and spread into the bloodstream—is the most common and curable form of leukemia. He began treatment immediately.

Throughout the three-year ordeal, Andrew received chemotherapy, radiation, lumbar punctures, bone marrow biopsies, steroids, platelet and blood transfusions and other painful and invasive treatments to rid his body of the cancer.

Overnight, Jenn and Mark became medical experts as their family worked to heal Andrew and keep things together, staying as strong and positive as possible. It wasn’t easy—a 2 a.m. fever meant an immediate trip to the hospital in Boston, and Carolyn and Daniel often woke up with mom (or dad) and Andrew gone. Jenn confesses that the whole family participated in “roid rage” because steroids, “getting irritated and frustrated” with chronic illnesses with sports teams who “adopted” them. Team IMPACT’s Amy Rennick explains: “For many kids, getting involved with a team is a way to look down the road—not just to the next doctor’s appointment, but to some- thing fun.”

Andrew was paired with the River Hawks men’s hockey team—a “match made in heaven” for Mark, who grew up in Lowell with sister Emily, senior executive assistant to Chancellor Marty Meehan, and is a longtime UMass Lowell fan—and a beautiful friendship was born.

By SHEILA EPPOLITO

“Our work with the Byrne family is a very special opportunity for us—I think we get more out of it than Andrew,” says captain Josh Holmstrom.

The team has taken its role seriously, making regular visits to the Byrnes’ house for street hockey games and ping-pong battles, inviting them to join in team photos and locker room meetings. The kids go to every home game, know all of the players’ numbers by heart, and feel that they, too, are River Hawks.

“It’s nice to give back, and Andrew gives me perspective—there is a lot more to life than just hockey,” says Holmstrom, who in our family has cancer?” she asked.

“We never called it ‘cancer’,” says Jenn. “That sounded way too scary—we just told the kids that Andrew’s blood was sick.”

A counselor at the camp told the family about Team IMPACT (inspire, motivate and play against challenges together) which pairs kids with chronic illnesses with sports teams who “adopt” them. Team IMPACT’s Amy Rennick explains: “For many kids, getting involved with a team is a way to look down the road—not just to the next doctor’s appointment, but to some- thing fun.”

Andrew was paired with the River Hawks men’s hockey team—a “match made in heaven” for Mark, who grew up in Lowell with sister Emily, senior executive assistant to Chancellor Marty Meehan, and is a longtime UMass Lowell fan—and a beautiful friendship was born.

By SHEILA EPPOLITO

“Our work with the Byrne family is a very special opportunity for us—I think we get more out of it than Andrew,” says captain Josh Holmstrom.

The team has taken its role seriously, making regular visits to the Byrnes’ house for street hockey games and ping-pong battles, inviting them to join in team photos and locker room meetings. The kids go to every home game, know all of the players’ numbers by heart, and feel that they, too, are River Hawks.

“It’s nice to give back, and Andrew gives me perspective—there is a lot more to life than just hockey,” says Holmstrom, who
Kreg Kaminski feels lucky. He is learning about business while teaching in an internship he landed through the UTeach Program, a Graduate School of Education initiative, prepares students to become teachers while earning degrees in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. The biology major is helping to teach an entrepreneurship course to Lowell High School students.

"By helping out with this course, I am getting an in-depth look at the processes behind both teaching and entrepreneurship," says Kaminski. The new entrepreneurship course—M2D2 Partnership Experience—teaches Lowell High School honors students how to develop medical device products, from identifying market needs to designing prototypes and pitching ideas to industry experts.

M2D2—the Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center—worked with Lowell High School to launch the course intended to inspire students to consider science, technology, engineering and math professions.

Along with the high school students, Kaminski and John Romano, another UTeach intern, are learning about the medical device industry, entrepreneurship, communication and teamwork skills.

"This internship has been an amazing and rewarding experience for me," says Romano, a math major. "It is definitely giving me real-world experience on how to be a teacher and I'm also learning about the medical device industry and how to start a business." —KA

HAWKS GET HORNY!
Comprised mostly of UMass Lowell students and alumni, The Party Band—also known as the Riverhawk Party Band—was the brainchild of community music grad student Seth Bailin ’06. Last March, Bailin, who plays tenor sax, invited a handful of members of the college’s concert band (including Alex Altman, a baritone alto-phonist) to join him after-hours for a jam session. Since then, the band has grown to nearly 25 members, who’ve played on Boston City Hall Plaza, at Somerville’s HONK! festival, at the Lowell Folk Festival and in venues around the region. The Party Band—whose self-described style is “New Orleans style jazz, boogie bounce, hot rhythm and swing”—performs both original music and covers. Heavy on brass instruments, the group eschews stages, preferring instead to roam through a crowd while playing. The group also regularly volunteers at local elementary schools.

“Our main goal is to bring the community together, which is done by performing for audiences of all ages,” says Bailin, who also helped the band write and record its first album recently.

Other alumni band members include Kevin Bergquist ’86, Zach Cooper ’11, Mike Kaskiewicz ’13, Savannah Marshall ’13, Anthony Prestigiovan ’13, Joseph Prieto ’13, Kyle Rees ’13, Julie Rousseau ’05, Zach Saunders ’13 and Kevin Webb ’12. Find the Party Band on Facebook @ RiverhawkPartyBand, and Twitter @ PartyBaaand.
UMass Lowell student athletes excel in a wide range of traditional sports. But there is an arena where students are tested in ingenuity and intellectual prowess—so-called “brain sports”—and UMass Lowell students are racking up impressive wins in national and regional competitions. Here are just a few recent examples:

- A robotics team called the "Rover Hawks" beat seven other teams from nine universities from across the country to take home the top prize at this year's RASC-AL Exploration Robo-Ops Competition sponsored by NASA.
- UMass Lowell's concrete canoe and steel bridge teams won first and third place, respectively, at this year's regional competitions organized by the New England student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers.
- A group of plastics engineering and chemistry students is among seven teams from six colleges and universities across the country that won the prestigious "P3"—People, Prosperity and the Planet—award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The teams were recognized for their work in designing environmental solutions that will help improve quality of life, promote economic development and protect the environment.
- Four mechanical engineering seniors won first place for their innovative custom-fit knee brace in the 2013 Design for Direct Digital Manufacturing Competition, sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

In ‘Brain Sports,’ We’re All-America

UMass Lowell students are racking up impressive wins in national and regional competitions. Here are just a few recent examples:

- A robotics team called the "Rover Hawks" beat seven other teams from nine universities from across the country to take home the top prize at this year's RASC-AL Exploration Robo-Ops Competition sponsored by NASA.
- UMass Lowell's concrete canoe and steel bridge teams won first and third place, respectively, at this year's regional competitions organized by the New England student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers.
- A group of plastics engineering and chemistry students is among seven teams from six colleges and universities across the country that won the prestigious "P3"—People, Prosperity and the Planet—award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The teams were recognized for their work in designing environmental solutions that will help improve quality of life, promote economic development and protect the environment.
- Four mechanical engineering seniors won first place for their innovative custom-fit knee brace in the 2013 Design for Direct Digital Manufacturing Competition, sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

The water for drinking, cooking and bathing offered to Haitian residents from community wells is not always safe, says Prof. Robert Giles, whose testing found bacteria in the water there.

Giles, who chairs the Physics and Applied Physics Department, has worked with the poor of Haiti for over a decade. He established the UMass Lowell Haiti Development Studies Center (HDSC) in Les Cayes, about 200 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince, to engage faculty and students from Haiti and UMass Lowell to solve life-threatening conditions faced by citizens in the world's poorest nations.

Two students in the University's Commonwealth Honors program—Rachel Paquette and Jillian Giles—are collaborating with Giles and the Center staff to provide clean, safe water for Haitian residents.

Paquette, a senior majoring in biology, is investigating established water-purification techniques with an eye to implementing them not only in the HDSC's facility but also in the surrounding regions.

Jillian Giles, daughter of Prof. Giles, is a grad student in the physics Ph.D. program. She is developing a pilot study in Haiti to diagnose leptospirosis, a bacterial disease that affects humans and animals.

You won't feel a thing, Teddy

As part of a service-learning project, electrical and computer engineering students soldered large buttons onto toys for local organizations with special needs clients.
IS COLLEGE WORTH IT?

As more families question the value, UMass Lowell is shaping itself into a top-notch return on investment.

When it came to selecting a college, Kevin Dibble had a thing for letters. WPI, RIT, RPI. And there, last on his list, as a “safety” pick, were three more letters—UML, or UMass Lowell. A proven student who took an unconventional route to college, Kevin had his choice of the alphabet. He crunched more than numbers on his way to a decision. He chose UML. Dibble is exactly the sort of student who belongs in college, say experts. He knew he wanted higher education. He knew his direction. He looked at the whole picture, actively seeking the best fit. Ask him if college is worth it and the Westford native smiles broadly. “I feel I am exactly where I should be,” says the 18-year-old sophomore during a break in the Southwick cafeteria. “Every time I visited UMass Lowell I found something else that seemed exactly right for me.” His parents, Jacki and Doran Dibble—“escapees” of the corporate high-tech world as Doran puts it—agree.

Photo credit: Lucy Schultz Photography

BY DAVID PERRY
Interestingly, prospective college students and their parents are weighing the relative value of a college education. What is it worth—and is it worth emerging from the cocoon of college life SWATted in deep debt, without job prospects?

A growing chorus of observers has weighed in on the matter, perhaps most notably former U.S. Secretary of Education and morning radio host William J. Bennett.

The value of a college education continues to fascinate and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University and draw attention. In mid-December, the pollsters at Gallop announced they would team with Purdue University.

The value of a college education continues to fascinate. In 2013 the University of Massachusetts Lowell jumped 12 spots to 358. In three years, the University has risen 5 spots, the second largest jump among all universities.

Among graduates more than ever the threshold each spring. Athletics, went Division I last summer. The University has greatly expanded its co-op program, research prospects and internship opportunities.

UMass Lowell was recently recognized as having the fastest-growing endowment in Massachusetts public higher education. In the past six years, it has grown by 75 percent, from $17.7 million to $66.1 million. Endowments are gifts to the University that are invested to earn a steady stream of revenue to fund scholarships, professorships, departmental chairs, fellowships and lectureships. This year, the University was able to award $1.75 million—mostly for scholarships—to support deserving students and to help keep educational costs down. UMass Lowell is meeting 91 percent of its students’ need for financial aid and has made it a top priority to continue growing endowments to ultimately meet 102 percent of need.

And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually. And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually.

T

his year, UMass Lowell has been in the national spotlight more than ever, earning kudos from those who weigh institutional value. Perhaps most notably, in U.S. News & World Report’s annual ranking of more than 1,500 universities, UMass Lowell jumped 12 spots to 358. In three years, the University has risen 5 spots, the second largest jump among all universities.

Forbes, meanwhile, named UMass Lowell 10th on its list of top technology colleges. And Business Insider called UMass Lowell the most underrated college in America.

More graduates than ever cross the threshold each spring. Athletics went Division I last summer. The University has greatly expanded its co-op program, research prospects and internship opportunities.

UMass Lowell was recently recognized as having the fastest-growing endowment in Massachusetts public higher education. In the past six years, it has grown by 75 percent, from $17.7 million to $66.1 million. Endowments are gifts to the University that are invested to earn a steady stream of revenue to fund scholarships, professorships, departmental chairs, fellowships and lectureships. This year, the University was able to award $1.75 million—mostly for scholarships—to support deserving students and to help keep educational costs down. UMass Lowell is meeting 91 percent of students’ need for financial aid and has made it a top priority to continue growing endowments to ultimately meet 102 percent of need.

And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually. And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually.

T

his year, UMass Lowell has been in the national spotlight more than ever, earning kudos from those who weigh institutional value. Perhaps most notably, in U.S. News & World Report’s annual ranking of more than 1,500 universities, UMass Lowell jumped 12 spots to 358. In three years, the University has risen 5 spots, the second largest jump among all universities.

Forbes, meanwhile, named UMass Lowell 10th on its list of top technology colleges. And Business Insider called UMass Lowell the most underrated college in America.

More graduates than ever cross the threshold each spring. Athletics went Division I last summer. The University has greatly expanded its co-op program, research prospects and internship opportunities.

UMass Lowell was recently recognized as having the fastest-growing endowment in Massachusetts public higher education. In the past six years, it has grown by 75 percent, from $17.7 million to $66.1 million. Endowments are gifts to the University that are invested to earn a steady stream of revenue to fund scholarships, professorships, departmental chairs, fellowships and lectureships. This year, the University was able to award $1.75 million—mostly for scholarships—to support deserving students and to help keep educational costs down. UMass Lowell is meeting 91 percent of students’ need for financial aid and has made it a top priority to continue growing endowments to ultimately meet 102 percent of need.

And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually. And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually.

T

his year, UMass Lowell has been in the national spotlight more than ever, earning kudos from those who weigh institutional value. Perhaps most notably, in U.S. News & World Report’s annual ranking of more than 1,500 universities, UMass Lowell jumped 12 spots to 358. In three years, the University has risen 5 spots, the second largest jump among all universities.

Forbes, meanwhile, named UMass Lowell 10th on its list of top technology colleges. And Business Insider called UMass Lowell the most underrated college in America.

More graduates than ever cross the threshold each spring. Athletics went Division I last summer. The University has greatly expanded its co-op program, research prospects and internship opportunities.

UMass Lowell was recently recognized as having the fastest-growing endowment in Massachusetts public higher education. In the past six years, it has grown by 75 percent, from $17.7 million to $66.1 million. Endowments are gifts to the University that are invested to earn a steady stream of revenue to fund scholarships, professorships, departmental chairs, fellowships and lectureships. This year, the University was able to award $1.75 million—mostly for scholarships—to support deserving students and to help keep educational costs down. UMass Lowell is meeting 91 percent of students’ need for financial aid and has made it a top priority to continue growing endowments to ultimately meet 102 percent of need.

And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually. And it’s a relative bargain. The College Board says the average cost of a four-year private college is $39,518; many schools cost closer to $50,000. Meanwhile, Massachusetts resident undergrads living on campus pay $23,340 a year to attend UMass Lowell. Commuters pay $12,097 annually.
NO QUESTION.

DEGREES?

THAN PEOPLE

BETTER OFF

GRADUATES

COLLEGE

COLLEGE

“I WISH

WINTER 2014

UMASS LOWELL MAGAZINE

WORTH IT?

Yes!

OUR STUDENTS GET

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE.

We spend over $65 million on research every year, and every undergraduate gets in on it. They get published—and patents. They also get amazing internships and co-ops in almost every major and industry.

WE MAKE GETTING A DEGREE AS EASY AS POSSIBLE.

Our award-winning Online and Continuing Education division offers both blended and fully online bachelor’s and master’s programs. We also offer accelerated bachelor’s-to-master’s programs (including a one-year M.B.A.).

OUR GRADS GET GOOD-PAYING JOBS.

Our alumni are at Google and Disney, on Broadway and Wall Street. In the halls of Harvard and the White House. With the Bruins and the L.A. Lakers. Our Fall 2013 Career Fair attracted 160 top employers—employers who pay well. We’re No. 1 in New England public research school for starting and mid-career salaries—and No. 80 in the nation.

IT’S AFFORDABLE.

Our students don’t have to sell their souls to pay for college. Forbes says we’re the No. 10 best value college in the nation. Plus, we help: We met 91 percent of student need last year. That’s $120 million worth of assistance!

OUR ENDOWMENT IS SOARING.

It grew from $37.7 million to $66.1 million over the past six years—what the Boston Business Journal called the fastest-growing endowment among public universities in Massachusetts.

WE OFFER A TOP-RATED ROI.

According to PayScale, we’re No. 10 in the nation among public colleges for return on investment. The 30-year ROI for our graduates is $1.1 million (and we’re one of just 75 schools whose grads break $1 million).

WE HAVE A GREAT REP.

We’re No. 2 in the nation for greatest three-year rise in U.S. News & World’s rankings of top-tier universities, business Insider called us “the most underrated college in America.”

WE HAVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH 95 UNIVERSITIES IN 40 COUNTRIES ON SIX CONTINENTS.

WE ARE A LEADER IN INNOVATION.

We have part- nerships with 95 universities in 40 countries on six continents.

OUR STUDENTS STUDY, WORK AND RESEARCH ALL OVER THE WORLD.

I suppose part of what helped us in the rankings is the high percentage of our graduates who are in sciences, engineering and business—fields that are more in-demand now,” says Donald Pierson, vice provost for graduate education. “We talk a lot about UMass Lowell being a work-ready place, but it is a very real thing and it goes back a long way here. We prepare students in how to learn and adapt.

Because college is a “cultural expectation,” as Pierson puts it, it can attract students who think they should be there but don’t know why.

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“To me, it’s a no-brainer. Yes, college is worth it, absolutely,” says Commissioner Freeland. “Of course, I wish college was more affordable. But are college graduates better off than people without degrees? No question.”

According to a Pew Research Center Report from 2011, the economic differences are sharp. Based on a 40-year work life, high school graduate will earn $775,000. An average college graduate hails in $1.42 million.

“Listen,” says Freeland. “I am very much in the fan club of the work Chancellor Meehan is doing at UMass Lowell. It truly is an institution on the rise. He is leveraging the institution’s intrinsic strengths in a really good way. SAT scores and applications are up. And I know from visiting every major and industry.

“We spend over $65 million on research every year, and even undergrads get in on it. They get published—and patents. They also get amazing internships and co-ops in almost every major and industry.

According to Pew Research Center Report from 2011, the economic differences are sharp. Based on a 40-year work life, high school graduate will earn $775,000. An average college graduate hails in $1.42 million.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“Listen,” says Freeland. “I am very much in the fan club of the work Chancellor Meehan is doing at UMass Lowell. It truly is an institution on the rise. He is leveraging the institution’s intrinsic strengths in a really good way. SAT scores and applications are up. And I know from visiting every major and industry.

“I love the community of learning that exists here,” says John Ting, vice provost for enrollment. “Our students come to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

Because college is a “cultural expectation,” as Pierson puts it, it can attract students who think they should be there but don’t know why.

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.

“One day, the students are coming to learn, and along the way have fun—not the other way around.”

“They don’t feel anything is ‘owed to them. They earn everything through their hard work, and this same attitude carries through after graduation, when employers tell us they flat-out prefer hiring our graduates over those from ‘elite’ schools,” says Ting.

“We make getting a degree as easy as possible,”

Our program offers part-time, full-time, and 100% online courses, and in-person evening courses. We have over 500 courses available, including 60 graduate degrees.
RIDING THE WAVE OF AN IDEA

Here were six of them, mostly engineering students. They shared some labs, often did homework together. At some point, about midway through their sophomore year, one of them, Jonathan de Alderete, a mechanical engineering student, came up with an idea for a prosthetic limb for amputee children. They talked it back and forth for a while, then built a crude model:

“The people: have a pretty solid team,” says de Alderete.

No nothing happened for a while. Then, last winter, the group entered their project in the University’s first annual Daimler-Maker Challenge. A creation of Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney and Associate Vice Chancellor Steven Tello, the program offers cash prizes to student teams that come up with the most innovative solutions to real-world problems. By the time the entries closed, there would be 40 teams coming from 25 academic departments.

Several months later, in late April, at the Stad Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center in front of a panel of alumni judges and an audience of 120, the de Alderete’s team—which at the time was calling itself Developing Nation Prosthetics—had three minutes each to present their concepts. de Alderete’s group was voted the best and won the top prize of $5,022.

That should have been the end of it—and indeed, for a while, there was. But last September during the first week of classes, an email arrived in de Alderete’s inbox: His team had been named as a finalist in the UMass Lowell$5 million Innovation Challenge. A creation of Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney and Associate Vice Chancellor Steven Tello, the program offers cash prizes to student teams that come up with the most innovative solutions to real-world problems. By the time the entries closed, there would be 40 teams coming from 25 academic departments.

Several months later, in late April, at the Stad Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center in front of a panel of alumni judges and an audience of 120, the de Alderete’s team—which at the time was calling itself Developing Nation Prosthetics—had three minutes each to present their concepts. de Alderete’s group was voted the best and won the top prize of $5,022.

That should have been the end of it—and indeed, for a while, there was. But last September during the first week of classes, an email arrived in de Alderete’s inbox: His team had been named as a finalist in the UMass Lowell$5 million Innovation Challenge. A creation of Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney and Associate Vice Chancellor Steven Tello, the program offers cash prizes to student teams that come up with the most innovative solutions to real-world problems. By the time the entries closed, there would be 40 teams coming from 25 academic departments.

Several months later, in late April, at the Stad Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center in front of a panel of alumni judges and an audience of 120, the de Alderete’s team—which at the time was calling itself Developing Nation Prosthetics—had three minutes each to present their concepts. de Alderete’s group was voted the best and won the top prize of $5,022.

That should have been the end of it—and indeed, for a while, there was. But last September during the first week of classes, an email arrived in de Alderete’s inbox: His team had been named as a finalist in the UMass Lowell$5 million Innovation Challenge. A creation of Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney and Associate Vice Chancellor Steven Tello, the program offers cash prizes to student teams that come up with the most innovative solutions to real-world problems. By the time the entries closed, there would be 40 teams coming from 25 academic departments.

Several months later, in late April, at the Stad Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center in front of a panel of alumni judges and an audience of 120, the de Alderete’s team—which at the time was calling itself Developing Nation Prosthetics—had three minutes each to present their concepts. de Alderete’s group was voted the best and won the top prize of $5,022.

That should have been the end of it—and indeed, for a while, there was. But last September during the first week of classes, an email arrived in de Alderete’s inbox: His team had been named as a finalist in the UMass Lowell$5 million Innovation Challenge. A creation of Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney and Associate Vice Chancellor Steven Tello, the program offers cash prizes to student teams that come up with the most innovative solutions to real-world problems. By the time the entries closed, there would be 40 teams coming from 25 academic departments.

Several months later, in late April, at the Stad Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center in front of a panel of alumni judges and an audience of 120, the de Alderete’s team—which at the time was calling itself Developing Nation Prosthetics—had three minutes each to present their concepts. de Alderete’s group was voted the best and won the top prize of $5,022.

That should have been the end of it—and indeed, for a while, there was. But last September during the first week of classes, an email arrived in de Alderete’s inbox: His team had been named as a finalist in the UMass Lowell$5 million Innovation Challenge. A creation of Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney and Associate Vice Chancellor Steven Tello, the program offers cash prizes to student teams that come up with the most innovative solutions to real-world problems. By the time the entries closed, there would be 40 teams coming from 25 academic departments.

Several months later, in late April, at the Stad Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center in front of a panel of alumni judges and an audience of 120, the de Alderete’s team—which at the time was calling itself Developing Nation Prosthetics—had three minutes each to present their concepts. de Alderete’s group was voted the best and won the top prize of $5,022.
Engineering the Perfect Cookie

ALUMNI CHRIS AND PAULA WHITE Use Undergrad Lessons in Innovation to Build Multimillion-dollar Business

BY SHEILA EPPOLITO

they say it all started in the car, on the way to the Cape.

Chris ’91 and Paula (Moriarty) ’91 White were chatting, as they often did, about ideas for creating their own business. They’d considered many possibilities—perhaps they should buy a franchise? Create a Disney-advice show for the Travel Channel? Sell Chris’ statistical analysis program for pitchers to Major League Baseball?—but none stuck.

Then, somewhere along Route 3, Paula said, “Hey, what about that cookie dough idea you mentioned? I mean how hard can it be? It’s just cookie dough.”

AND A 600 POUND GORILLA WAS BORN

The story of 600 lb. Gorilla, Inc. really began much earlier, as far back as 1987, in a fourth-floor dorm room in Bourgeois Hall, where Chris made an astute, entrepreneurial observation. Long before there was a variety of dining choices on East Campus, Friday and Saturday nights featured hungry students returning at 1 a.m. with no food options. White and his roommate (Gary Cronin ’88) responded by buying cold cuts and rolls, slapping together sandwiches and selling them—at a significant profit. Operation cold cut was followed by an equally successful underground T-shirt trunk sale, in which a $1,000 investment in Bobby McFerrin-inspired “Don’t Worry, Be Happy” T-shirts with bootleg ULowell logos sold out immediately.

This entrepreneurial spirit might suggest the Whites were business majors—maybe marketing. But the founders of what has become a multimillion dollar premium, all-natural cookie dough and ice cream sandwich company hold degrees in engineering: Paula in plastics, Chris in civil.

THE LONG AND WINDY ROAD

Paula Moriarty grew up in New Bedford. “I was the first in my family to go to college, so when the time came to choose a major, it was like, ‘Well, I’m strong in math and physics, and the guidance counselor says plastics engineering is a lucrative field, and

Continued
“LOWELL FOSTERED AN ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT IN US.”

—Chris White ’91, co-founder of 600 lb. Gorilla

ROLLING IN DOUGH

Following their Cape Cod car ride and hours of discussion, Paula and Chris agreed to pursue a company devoted to creating all-natural premium cookies. They dove into the business—Chris began testing recipes, investigating sources for chocolate, vanilla extract and the rest of the ingredients, while Paula immersed herself in the marketing and sales components of the business—all while balancing engineering jobs and a newborn.

Paula worked for Boston Scientific at home part-time, spending Mickey’s two-hour naptime getting smart about retail business, grocery store shelf policies, marketing and advertising. It wasn’t easy.

“I can’t tell you how many calls I made while simultaneously changing a diaper,” she says.

Then Boston Scientific forced her professional hand: either she work full-time, or they would have to let her go.

She went.

A MATTER OF DEGREES

As Paula and Chris dove into cookie-making, they were surprised at how much they relied on their engineering education and experience.

“The math, logic, planning and analytical skills we learned as engineers were invaluable,” says Paula, who also cites help from a required ULowell writing course when it came time to write a business plan.

While Chris simultaneously juggled his Big Dig job, Paula dove right into the cookie business, seeking help from SCORE, a non-profit organization that provides support to small business owners who are just starting out.

Eventually, she and Chris took out a Small Business Administration loan and hired a marketing consultant to help them with branding, logos and promotion.

“We owned our company the 600-pound gorilla because it was memorable, and because it was the exact opposite of what we really were,” says Chris.

Part of the SBA loan was used to create a safari set, complete with a 10’ x 10’ pop-up tent with Tahitian thatch roofing, Mexican rain cape roof and a split Bamboo-branch skirt, and matching costumes.

At the Boston Food Festival, the Whites caught on, and the smell of fresh-baked cookies drew lines of time.

“We handed out cards and asked people how they felt about our product, and where they shopped,” says Paula.

Armed with collected data on shoppers’ preferences, the Whites began cold calling buyers from major New England grocery stores, hoping to get some face time.

In one instance, Paula was afraid to make the call, so Chris did, during a break from his Big Dig job.

“Who’s calling?” asked the buyer’s receptionist.

“Chris White from 600 lb. Gorilla,” answered Chris.

After a chuckle—“I think she thought I was one of the buyer’s buddies making a joke!”—Chris was patched through. He held his own through the conversation, and a meeting was scheduled.

Paula made them both dress up in their safari garb for the meeting. But after arriving at the corporate office, they felt a bit foolish, sitting in the lobby sporting full safari attire, including boots, mid-calf brown wool socks, khaki cargo shorts and matching shirts with the gorilla logo, all topped off with original Tilley Embroidered hats.

“The buyer was an older guy who looked like he’d seen it all—I was sure we blew it,” says Chris.

The buyer gave them a chance, offering to carry their cookie dough in 225 area stores, and, in an added bonus, waived standard slotting fees that could easily have reached $10,000.

THEY WERE THEIR WAY

They incorporated in 1999, and production began in a modified technology incubator a few doors down from their home in Wrentham.

Over the next few years, Chris was laid off from the Big Dig, and turned all his energy to their company. The Whites welcomed two more children, Rylee and Reagan, making the challenges of building a company with no steady income that much more difficult.

While the Whites’ commitment to their cookie venture never wavered, their finances took a whacking.

“We were always good savers,” Paula says. “But one year, at tax time, our accountant looked at our W-2—which reported $17,000 in income—and asked where the rest of the income was.”

“ ’They were a bunch of meetings, and a corporate party kind of love-fest thing where we all had to jump up and yell ’Wal-Mart! Wal-Mart! Wal-Mart!’ ,” says Paula.

She did her part, jumped and cheered, biding her time until the meeting. But when she went to the appointment, though, the receptionist told her he left for the day.

“I freaked out, I mean, I flew all the way down there, we didn’t have the money, and now I was going to have to go home and tell Chris that I didn’t get the meeting—it was horrible,” she says.

PATIENCE PAYS OFF

Back in 2014, and things have improved for the Whites and their gorilla.

They’ve weathered economic downturns, expanded their business (at RJ’s request, they created an all-natural ice cream sandwich) and moved into their dream home near the water on the south shore.

These products are now produced in New Jersey and Ohio and, after the fateful Bentonville trip, they’ll soon be sold in Wal-Mart stores nationwide.

“The University fostered an entrepreneurial spirit in us,” says Chris. “There were assignments and lessons, including a drawing/prototype class that asked students to not only invent a child’s high chair that would attach to a table, but also to discuss the marketing advantages of the design to sell the concept to the class I loved that.”

One former professor stands out as a champion of entrepreneurial spirit.

“Dr. Petrovsek was assistant dean of engineering and an entrepreneur,” says Chris. “He taught a communications class that required us to market ourselves—he felt engineering skills were necessary, but being able to sell yourself was also vital.”

Petrovsek, who now teaches at UMass Dartmouth, was an early investor in the Whites’ company, helping the branchclan of students who lived his lessons.

“The Whites, meanwhile, say the big risk was worth it.

“We wouldn’t change a thing,” says Chris.

600 lb. Gorilla Cookie Dough is in the freezer section in Stop & Shop, Revere Bros., Pignud, Inc., Giant Food Stores, Market Basket, Stop & Shop Wholesale Clubs and (as of March) Wal-Mart Super Centers.

Chris and Paula (Mortarty) White graduated from the University of Lowell in 1991.
This is a story about two men who have very little in common. Or so it would seem.

James Costos and Alan Solomont were born nearly a generation apart. One was a political science major before turning to a career in fashion, then TV. The other trained as a nurse and went on to make his mark in eldercare nursing homes. One was raised the son of Greek-Americans in Lowell and the U.S. Embassy in Madrid; between them comes a friendship of a country whose signature sport involves the killing of bulls—the region's earliest protestors—along with John Kerry, who eventually became a friend—against the war in Vietnam.

But there is this: One just succeeded the other as U.S. ambassador to Spain. And both men are UMass Lowell alumni.

“Today is a day I would never have dreamed about,” said James Costos ’85 (above, right), the younger of the two, to an audience in Washington, D.C., on the day of his swearing-in last summer. His incredulity isn’t hard to grasp. It’s an improbable road between a childhood as the son of middle-class Greek-Americans in Lowell and the U.S. Embassy in Madrid, between membership on the board of the U.S. Human Rights and the ambassadorship of a country whose signature sport involves the killing of bulls; between a life lived as an openly gay man and the historically machismo ethic (for all its more recent tolerance) of a country such as Spain.

But Costos sees no contradictions—or, rather, admits none. Of the unlikeliness of his career path, he explains simply: “My passion for service comes from my parents, who instilled in us the values of hard work, self-reliance and service, exemplified by my father’s tenure as a U.S. Marine. Of the seeming dichotomy between his commitment to animal welfare and Spain’s passion for the bullring, he is classically ambassadorial: “I respect Spanish culture and its traditions, one of which is the corrida. And who am I to give my opinion?” And finally, on the issue of his gayness, as expressed to a Spanish newspaper last fall: “I broadly support human rights for all, regardless of sexual orientation. Am I to give my opinion?” And finally, on the issue of his gayness, as expressed to a Spanish newspaper last fall: “I broadly support human rights for all. I was always an activist. I came to it naturally, it was part of the message I got from my father—about what it means to serve something bigger than yourself,” says Solomont, who, with wife Susan Lewis, has two daughters.

By the mid-’70s, his work in the nursing home had instilled what would become a lifelong passion: Already with a degree from Tufts, he returned to school, this time to UMass Lowell, leaving in 1977 with a B.S. in nursing.

“For James Costos, who entered the working world 15 years later than his predecessor at the embassy, the route there was as different as the times. Not long after earning his UMass degree in 1985, he had taken his place at the corporate end of the New York fashion industry, as an executive first with Tofts of Italy and later with Hemins. By the early 2000s, he had migrated to Spain, then television, finally landing in 2006 at HBO as head of global licensing. His experience there, he would say later, had some useful parallels to the duties he would face in Madrid.

“A diplomatic mission, like a company, is comprised of multiple departments, all of which must be relied upon to move business forward… I managed by empowerment, and developed my team to make decisions that allowed them to take ownership of their work…” and finally, beginning in January, dean of Tufts University’s Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service, whose mission, he says, is “to see to it that every student is educated to be an active citizen.”

The older man, Alan Solomont ’77, ’94 (above, left) was an activist from the start. The son of a Russian-Jewish immigrant father who began his working life at 17 in the sweater mills of Lowell—then went on to own several businesses, including a night club, The Blue Room, on Merrimack Street—Solomont came of age at a time, the 1960s and early ’70s, when the movement for social justice was growing. As an E.L.22 on-hour worker in a local nursing home, he led the fight to improve conditions there—and was fired for his efforts. He launched an alternative monthly newspaper, The Communicator, that called the grievances of the poor and working class. He was among the region’s earliest protestors—along with John Kerry, who eventually became a friend—against the war in Vietnam.

By the mid-’70s, his work in the nursing home had instilled what would be a lifelong passion: Already with a degree from Tufts, he returned to school, this time to UMass Lowell, leaving in 1977 with a B.S. in nursing.

“I was always an activist. I came to it naturally, it was part of the message I got from my father—about what it means to serve something bigger than yourself,” says Solomont, who, with wife Susan Lewis, has two daughters.

One of those “bigger somethings” would be eldercare. After several years as a nursing-home director, he widened his field of vision with the launching, in 1984, of a multi-layered management and consulting organization, the A.D.S. Group, which developed New England’s premier network of services for the elderly. Its success, he says today, was “the platform needed—for public service, philanthropy, all the ways I’ve found since then to try to make a difference in the world.”

Those ways have been legion. At least since the sale of A.D.S. in 1996, Solomont’s presence has been felt across an ever-widening spectrum: the board of hospitals, corporations, non-profits and universities—including the chairmanship of UMass Lowell during the time of its merger with UMass—treasurer of the Massachusetts Democratic Party, national finance chair of the Democratic National Committee, lecturer, philanthropist, ambassador to Spain—the last an honor, he says, that “would have made my father so incredibly proud.” And finally, beginning in January, dean of Tufts University’s Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service, whose mission, he says, is “to see to it that every student is educated to be an active citizen.”

The Ambassadors

Two Men, Two Paths, Crossing in Madrid
ANALOG DEVICES: A PARTNER THROUGH THE YEARS

BY GEOFFREY DOUGLAS

THE BEST RELATIONSHIPS, WHETHER IN LIFE OR IN BUSINESS, ARE USUALLY THOSE THAT BENEFIT BOTH PARTIES MORE OR LESS EQUALLY AND—IDEALLY—THAT SUCCEED ON MORE THAN ONE LEVEL.

ake the University’s longtime alliance with Analog Devices Inc., the half-century old, multi-national semiconductor company based in Norwood. A profile of this union could begin almost anywhere you look with the scholarship program the company funds, providing internships to four undergraduate electrical and chemical engineering (ECE) students during the winter and summer vacations; or with the company’s executives—currently there are three—who rotate membership on the ECE’s industrial advisory board; or the long history of joint engineering ventures among students, faculty and Analog engineers; or, finally, with the almost countless UMass Lowell alumni who have launched, and often finished, their careers at ADI.

The joint ventures alone make for a powerful bond. There have been devices to assist the disabled, controller boards for robots, numerous collaborative research projects, a certificate program in engineering skills run out of the University’s Continuing Education program, and—as recently as this past fall—a portable “lab in a box,” co-created by UMass Lowell students, ADI and Digilent Inc., that engineering students can run off a laptop from almost anywhere (read the details on page 16).

But probably the most ambitious and longest-standing cooperation has come in the area of jobs. Analog, a $15 billion company with plants or design centers in at least 11 countries and more than 9,000 employees worldwide—2,000 in Massachusetts alone—has been hiring UMass Lowell graduates for as long as anyone at the company, or the University, can remember. There are at least 100 working there now, according to Beth Koenigsbauer, an HR consultant for ADI: “And that includes just those who’ve identified themselves as graduates. There are almost certainly more than that.”

“You walk around here, you’re going to run across a lot of alumni,” says Tom Dean, an ADI product and test engineer—and himself a UMass Lowell grad, ’91, ’92—who’s been with the company nearly 20 years.

Among the most lucrative sources of prospective employees, says Dean, have been the University’s twice-yearly career fairs, at which ADI typically hires many of the ECE seniors looking for employment following graduation—while the April event is more likely to be a source of summer interns.

“I’d say we take anywhere from five to 12 interns from UMass Lowell every summer,” Dean says. “The internships are a useful tool for us. For the students, too, I think. We think of them sort of as three-month interviews.”

And though ECE students normally make up the majority of those hired, they aren’t the only ones, says Koenigsbauer.

“We have UMass Lowell graduates all across the company, in a number of disciplines: quality control, distribution, manufacturing—one of the people I work with, in HR, is a graduate. UMass Lowell is definitely one of our ‘team schools,’ an important source of talent for us, in a wide range of roles,” she says.

The good feelings go both ways. “It’s clear that ADI recognizes the contribution our students can make,” says Jessica Pacquin, an assistant director in the University’s Career Services Center, who works principally with students from the College of Engineering. “They’re one of our most valued employers, and one of our longest-standing. Tom Dean is a presence at every career fair. That’s a great relationship to have.”

In the end, though, for all the excellent symbiosis that clearly exists between the company and the University it draws from, the most personal endorsement probably comes from Dean. Given his varied and long-standing role in the relationship, he is qualified to articulate what stands out about the UMass Lowell student:

“Students from UMass Lowell seem to thrive in a lab environment,” he says. “They’re roll-up-your-sleeves types, most of them, comfortable getting their hands dirty. And they have strong discipline, very strong discipline—and the motivation to investigate, the motivation to succeed. Those are the types of people we want.”

"UMASS LOWELL IS DEFINITELY ONE OF OUR TEAM SCHOOLS, AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF TALENT FOR US, IN A WIDE RANGE OF ROLES."
Jerry Colella wanted to teach high school. It was the late spring of 1978; he’d just graduated from the University with his B.S. in secondary education. His older sister was a teacher already, as was his girlfriend Joyce. It just seemed to him, he says today, “like a good way to make a living, a good thing to do with your life.”

But no one was hiring. At least not in southern New Hampshire where Joyce, whom he’d met in their student days at UMass Lowell, had a job at an elementary school; or in the Haverhill area where they planned to be living after they were married that fall. So, while he continued to look for teacher openings, he took the only job he could find: in the stockroom at a now-defunct typesetting equipment company, “putting things into boxes and taking things out.”

There were some hard times. The first year they owned their home, he remembers: “We were just scraping by, could barely pay the mortgage, and then the heating system went. There was nothing we could do, nowhere to turn—you just squeeze the budget tighter, look for a second job, get by however you can.”

Hard times were nothing new to Jerry Colella. He’d grown up in Haverhill, the son of a printing company in Chelmsford. Somewhere along the line, he gave up on his teaching before. “She showed the way for all of us,” he says. (Mary Colella Larcome, Lowell State’s officer, chief operating officer, president—and, finally, he became president and CEO effective Jan. 1. Along the way he went back to school at night for his MBA.

The Colellas’ fortunes rose alongside Jerry’s career. In 1986, they moved to Lowell and Joyce left teaching to raise two children—daughter Acelyn was born in 1986—and work part-time in a department store. In 1991 she went back to teaching, this time in Lowell, but has since retired.

Jerry, meanwhile, with the financial pressures easing, was able to revisit his own early dreams of teaching. For 14 years beginning in the late 1990s, he taught night-school business courses at Merrimack College and Southern New Hampshire University. “It helped me to realize that I really had something to offer,” he says.

The company he runs today bears little resemblance to the company he joined in April 1983, with just two plants and few employees. Today, the Andover-based MKS Instruments is a global supplier of equipment to the semiconductor, medical and pharmaceutical markets, with more than 20 facilities in 12 countries, over 2,400 employees and more than $600 million in sales. MKS went public 14 years ago; its market value today exceeds $1.6 billion.

And its president is happy and financially secure—with two children through college, a great income; a home on the coast of New Hampshire and another in Florida. “Joyce and I, we look at each other sometimes and just say, ‘Wow, look what we’ve been able to do’—two people with next to nothing, ending up with what we have. We’ve worked hard to earn it, but it’s still amazing, I think. We’re so fortunate to be where we are.”

More and more lately, he’s been sharing the good fortune. Since 2006, the year he joined the Advisory Board of the Manning School of Business (then the College of Management)—“and saw what could be accomplished, what was actually within reach”—he has been giving to the University at an increasingly generous pace of both his time and money.

The Colellas’ generosity so far has exceeded $100,000, much of it in a single gift last year for the Manning School of Business. But the pace has been picking up lately, and with any luck at all, says Jerry, the final total should reach a number several times that large.

“Joyce and Jerry Colella understand, in an intensely personal way, the value of an affordable, quality education,” says Edward Chiu, vice chancellor of university advancement. “They also understand the vital importance of public education to the future of our economy. These gifts to the University are a testament both to their wisdom and their commitment.”

Colella is uncomfortable, he says, when too much is made of his good fortune or success—“I get embarrassed, actually.” But a card his wife had made for him this fall, on the occasion of his appointment to CEO, strikes the perfect tone:

“From the Stockroom to the Boardroom—that’s what she had written. And it’s true, you know—it sums it up. I’m really of proud of that,” he says.
“GARY HUNT ’69, ’76, A UMASS LOWELL ALUM who works out at the Rec Center regularly and attends most of the basketball games, saw the article on Jose Molina, our Youth of the Year in the Lowell Sun. He stopped in today and is going to pay for Joe's books for the first semester and continue in the second semester if he gets a 3.0.”

—Letter from Joe Hungler, executive director of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell

Sarah Kirane ’07 ran the 116th Boston Marathon for the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism in 2013. "I ran for the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism. I was inspired by my team captain to run. I loved training, the race itself and most importantly, raising monies for a cause that is near and dear to me," says Sarah.

1993
Don Finegold has published his ninth mystery novel, “Murder in Leather Town.” It’s available as an e-book on Amazon.com.

1954
Joseph Levy says he is still trying to raise the funds to run for a charitable organization. "He wants to run to emotion by what happened that day," says Sarah. "We were around the corner when we heard the pair celebrated the anniversary of their engagement at the 117th marathon. "We were so affected by flying in, running the marathon and proposing to her in front of their family and friends. The best memory of her late younger brother, Daniel, an adult with autism who died after a viral infection in Cambridge, has been present with the Award of Merit by ASTM International Committee C09 on Concrete Aggregates. The award and its accompanying title of Fellow is ASTM’s highest organisational recognition for individual contributions to standards activities. Earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry at the Lowell Technological Institute and a master’s and doctorate in analytical chemistry from UMass-Lowell.

1980
Brian Latinia was elected chairman of the board of the Professional Center for Child Development in Andover.

1998
Suzanne Page, a soprano who earned a master’s degree in music from the New England Conservatory of Music and toured the United States and Europe with the Boston Lyric Opera Company, is back home in Lowell and is the associate director of board relations for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Not one to take herself too seriously, Suzanne says the most exciting thing about her life now is probably her dog, who barks along with her as they stop around the house in her high-pitched soprano voice.

2002

1983
John Traphagan has published his second book, “Restoring Astronomy: A Critique of Principals in Biomedical Ethics.” In May, John was promoted to the rank of professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, where he is also the Centennial Commission in the Liberal Arts Fellows. For the past three years, he has served as Secretary General of the Japan Anthropology Workshop, the largest organisation of anthropologists who do research on Japan in the world. He lives in Austin with his wife, Tomoko, and children Sarah and Julian.

1984
Lisa Brothers is president and CEO of W. R. Grace & Co., a research fellow at W. R. Grace & Co., in Cambridge, has been promoted to the rank of Fellow in ASTM International Committee C09 on Concrete Aggregates. The award and its accompanying title of Fellow is ASTM’s highest organisational recognition for individual contributions to standards activities. Earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry at the Lowell Technological Institute and a master’s and doctorate in analytical chemistry from UMass-Lowell.

2008
Brian Latinia was elected chairman of the board of the Professional Center for Child Development in Andover.

1980
Susan Apgar, a soprano who earned a master’s degree in music from the New England Conservatory of Music and toured the United States and Europe with the Boston Lyric Opera Company, is back home in Lowell and is the associate director of board relations for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Not one to take herself too seriously, Suzanne says the most exciting thing about her life now is probably her dog, who barks along with her as they stop around the house in her high-pitched soprano voice.

1982

1983
John Traphagan has published his second book, “Restoring Astronomy: A Critique of Principals in Biomedical Ethics.” In May, John was promoted to the rank of professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, where he is also the Centennial Commission in the Liberal Arts Fellows. For the past three years, he has served as Secretary General of the Japan Anthropology Workshop, the largest organisation of anthropologists who do research on Japan in the world. He lives in Austin with his wife, Tomoko, and children Sarah and Julian.

1984
Lisa Brothers is president and CEO of W. R. Grace & Co., a research fellow at W. R. Grace & Co., in Cambridge, has been promoted to the rank of Fellow in ASTM International Committee C09 on Concrete Aggregates. The award and its accompanying title of Fellow is ASTM’s highest organisational recognition for individual contributions to standards activities. Earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry at the Lowell Technological Institute and a master’s and doctorate in analytical chemistry from UMass-Lowell.

2008
Brian Latinia was elected chairman of the board of the Professional Center for Child Development in Andover.

1980
Susan Apgar, a soprano who earned a master’s degree in music from the New England Conservatory of Music and toured the United States and Europe with the Boston Lyric Opera Company, is back home in Lowell and is the associate director of board relations for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Not one to take herself too seriously, Suzanne says the most exciting thing about her life now is probably her dog, who barks along with her as they stop around the house in her high-pitched soprano voice.

1982

1983
John Traphagan has published his second book, “Restoring Astronomy: A Critique of Principals in Biomedical Ethics.” In May, John was promoted to the rank of professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, where he is also the Centennial Commission in the Liberal Arts Fellows. For the past three years, he has served as Secretary General of the Japan Anthropology Workshop, the largest organisation of anthropologists who do research on Japan in the world. He lives in Austin with his wife, Tomoko, and children Sarah and Julian.

1984
Lisa Brothers is president and CEO of W. R. Grace & Co., a research fellow at W. R. Grace & Co., in Cambridge, has been promoted to the rank of Fellow in ASTM International Committee C09 on Concrete Aggregates. The award and its accompanying title of Fellow is ASTM’s highest organisational recognition for individual contributions to standards activities. Earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry at the Lowell Technological Institute and a master’s and doctorate in analytical chemistry from UMass-Lowell.
THE COMEBACK
TO LOWELL
 Overrides, he oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impressed with what (Chancellor) Marty (Mee- gritty,” he says. “It’s really first-class.”

Barrett is forever thankful to his late mother, who died in 1989, for providing him an educational rudder. He has, like his mother and siblings, been a classroom teacher. But Barrett moved on to school administration, eventually switching to the publishing world. He ascended from regional sales to the top echelons. Last year, he retired as president of the publishing company Chandler & Sharp.

“To my mother, education was paramount,” says Barrett, the middle child of five. “My mother graduated from Lowell Normal but always wanted to return to the college to earn her bachelor’s degree.”

Ned, meanwhile, spent a year at Boston University following his 1954 Lowell High School graduation. Carpooling in to Boston with other Mill City students, his grades were good but he had no direction. “College was never in doubt,” he says. “All five of us went to college to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Lowell State in ’58. He oversees the administration of the Margaret Holland Barrett Teaching Scholarship, named for his mother. A generous alumni donor, 2000 Francis Cabot Lowell Award winner and chair to the Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Education, Barrett was impressed during a recent visit to campus.

“I’m so impresse...
1986
Direct Music Centre, owned and operated by David Channell, is celebrating 20 years in business. Dave says the company, a full-line music store with a main lesson program and that many of its teachers are UMass Lowell graduates.
Michael McGovern is a senior vice president and chief technology officer at Metro Credit Union in Charlestown.

1988
Elana Napolitano, wife of Brian Napolitano '97, is vice president of operations at Schlid Technical Solutions, Inc., a small, minority-owned, business-owned business serving the Department of Defense and other government agencies. Elana says Schlid is dedicated to providing unparalleled service to its employees, partners and customers.

For Jim Patch, "74, from as early as he can remember, it was all about flying.
From my first flight in my uncle’s airplane when I was 6, I always wanted to be a pilot," he says. "I always loved watching aircraft in the sky. It was a blessing to know early on exactly what I wanted to do.
He has done it—and much more. Since graduating from Lowell Tech in 1974 as the senior cadet group commander of his Air Force ROTC class, he has covered a lot of ground—and a lot of airspace. With over 3,300 hours piloting a half-dozen different Air Force jet fighters, including several that saw use in Vietnam or Desert Storm, he has made nearly 200 aircraft carrier landings; he has served in at least seven foreign countries, and trained untold numbers of young pilots to fly. He has also served as part of a NATO defense force in two nations and as attaché at a U.S. Embassy. Since retiring from the Air Force eight years ago, he has held varied positions in the aerospace and defense industry.

There wasn’t a lot of continuity to my (military) career. I always seemed to be moving on to a new aircraft and unchartered territory," Patch says. “Each time I was a different job, calling for a different set of skills—always a new learning curve. I enjoy those kinds of challenges, though.
He last assignment, he says, was probably his favorite, at least of those that didn’t involve flying: as the air attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Oslo—and, eventually, as “dayen” (president) of the Service Attaché Association there—from 2002 until his retirement three years later.

There were 22 attachés there, from 16 different countries, most with their spouses. A culturally diverse group. My wife and I made a lot of life-long friends in Oslo. It was a very rewarding time," he says.

Things have settled down a little since then. He retired from the Air Force Air Force eight years ago and settled in Colorado Springs, where he now works as regional sales lead of military aftermarket sales with United Technologies Corporation (UTC) Aerospace Systems, among the world’s largest suppliers of aerospace and defense products. His largest customers include his old employer, the Air Force, as well as the Navy, the Coast Guard and NASA. He also leads business development efforts for UTC’s NikeCrafts, a space station readied for fighter and bomber aircraft.

It’s been awhile since he’s been in the cockpit of a fighter. But the itch he was born with—for the sky—seems to have jumped the generations. He and his wife, a former Navy officer he met in Iceland, today have a son in the Air Force Academy. And he can see it looking out the window every day.

I n high school, Kim Sawyer ’89 was such a whiz at math that her algebra teacher once asked her to take over the class. She recalls this today, she says, as “something of a formative moment: “Being a naturally shy person, that inspired a lot of confidence in me.”

Her father meanwhile, constant of a white horse, himself, also discerned her abilities and encouraged her to pursue them. It wasn’t the sort of advice that girls, more than 30 years ago, generally got from their fathers—which helped enable her, she says today, “to overcome certain stereotypes about women in technical disciplines.

She has more than overcoming them. In years since then, Sawyer has managed trillion-dollar budget, supervised technology workforces that numbered in the thousands, overseen the IT operations of two global mega-firms—Xerox and Coca-Cola—and worked with customers on both sides of the Atlantic and beyond. Today, as deputy lab director and executive vice president for mission support at Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico—major U.S. Department of Energy R&D facility, owned by Lockheed Martin—her responsibilities include business operations, finance, IT, infrastructure operation and corporate governance.

It’s been awhile since he’s been in the cockpit of a fighter. But the itch he was born with—for the sky—seems to have jumped the generations. He and his wife, a former Navy officer he met in Iceland, today have a son in the Air Force Academy. And he can see it looking out the window every day.

There wasn’t much he didn’t do after that: scores of carrier landings on the USS Nimitz and USS Theodore Roosevelt, assignments at bases in New Mexico, Virginia and Florida—where he was responsible, following Desert Storm, for a force of 25 combat-ready pilots; NATO postings in Bosnia, Iceland and Italy, and a period as chief of operations and training, now by as a colonel, at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

“My reality today is very close to what I’d envisioned,” she says. “I think I know even then that a solid foundation in IT, by giving me the opportunity to immerse myself in different aspects of a business, would pressure me to be more effective.”

She grew up, the oldest of four children, in a community outside Pittsburgh—in a home “where we did everything together and worked on teams always as a team.” By the time she was 16, she was working part-time, first for a chiropractor, later in a real-estate office, both jobs, she says, adding to her “sense of what it was to be part of a business environment” and further cementing her resolve.

Then came college, then grad school, always with a job alongside, as a systems analyst at DuPont, a programmer at TRW, an information specialist at Lockheed Martin. Then, in the 1990s, the first real leadership posts: two years as CIO at Xerox, followed by nearly three as corporate director at Coca-Cola—each job with its IT functions, budgetary responsibilities and a need to think outside the box.

“Maybe it was one thing I learned at both companies, it was that however successful a particular practice, solution or approach might be in one culture, it could have the opposite effect in another,” she says.

There was a second lesson she learned: that for all the high-tech systems and data-crunching involved, the bottomline is always human.

“What I saw [in both jobs] was a core need by everyone to feel valued and respected,” she says.

It is this lesson, as much as her IT skills or flair for math, that has driven her these last several years, both in and out of the office. It is not an accident that behind the work she has done to improve team-building at Sandia Labs—“Keep the communication lines open,” she implored her colleagues, “because we are so much stronger when we work together” —and to spur the formation of a recent group meeting, “because we are so much stronger when we work together,” —and to foster the formation of a recent group meeting, “because we are so much stronger when we work together.”

It is the last lesson, as much as her IT skills or flair for math, that has driven her these last several years, both in and out of the office. It is what lies behind the work she has done to improve team-building at Sandia Labs—“Keep the communication lines open,” she implored her colleagues, “because we are so much stronger when we work together.”

What it means is that everyone’s idea, everyone’s creative spark, everyone’s flair for math, that has driven her these last several years, both in and out of the office.

Movie-goers are experiencing the power of the theater thanks to alumnus Bonnie Comley ’81.

The 2013 Broadway production of “Romeo and Juliet”— starring Orlando Bloom (above, left) and Condola Rashad (above, right) as the star-crossed couple—is being shown in cinemas across North America.

As part of an initiative called BroadwayHD—co-created by Tony Award-winning producers Comley and her husband, Stewart Lane—live performances are filmed in high-definition and are shown to the general public at their local movie theaters through a partnership with Screenvision.

Comley and Lane’s commitment to the theater world runs deep: a gift from the couple in 2007 allowed UMass Lowell to renovate its theater in Maloney Hall on South Campus and rename it the Comley-Lane Theatre. Comley, a native of Bedford, was the 2010 recipient of UMass Lowell’s Distinguished Alumni Award. For showtimes and tickets, visit www.BroadwayHD.com.

Charting a Leader’s Path: Building on Math Skills and a Father’s Faith

As daunting as all this sounds, it is no less than the life she had scripted for herself. Ever since her undergraduate days at Robert Morris University, she then later at UMass Lowell as a master’s degree candidate in math and computing, she had foreseen herself, she says, in an executive leadership role.

“My reality today is very close to what I’d envisioned,” she says. “I think I know even then that a solid foundation in IT, by giving me the opportunity to immerse myself in different aspects of a business, would pressure me to be more effective.”

She grew up, the oldest of four children, in a community outside Pittsburgh—in a home “where we did everything together and worked on teams always as a team.” By the time she was 16, she was working part-time, first for a chiropractor, later in a real-estate office, both jobs, she says, adding to her “sense of what it was to be part of a business environment” and further cementing her resolve.

Then came college, then grad school, always with a job alongside, as a systems analyst at DuPont, a program- mer at TRW, an information specialist at Lockheed Martin.

As part of an initiative called BroadwayHD—co-created by Tony Award-winning producers Comley and her husband, Stewart Lane—live performances are filmed in high-definition and are shown to the general public at their local movie theaters through a partnership with Screenvision.

Comley and Lane’s commitment to the theater world runs deep: a gift from the couple in 2007 allowed UMass Lowell to renovate its theater in Maloney Hall on South Campus and rename it the Comley-Lane Theatre. Comley, a native of Bedford, was the 2010 recipient of UMass Lowell’s Distinguished Alumni Award. For showtimes and tickets, visit www.BroadwayHD.com.

Charting a Leader’s Path: Building on Math Skills and a Father’s Faith

As daunting as all this sounds, it is no less than the life she had scripted for herself. Ever since her undergraduate days at Robert Morris University, she then later at UMass Lowell as a master’s degree candidate in math and computing, she had foreseen herself, she says, in an executive leadership role.

“My reality today is very close to what I’d envisioned,” she says. “I think I know even then that a solid foundation in IT, by giving me the opportunity to immerse myself in different aspects of a business, would pressure me to be more effective.”

She grew up, the oldest of four children, in a community outside Pittsburgh—in a home “where we did everything together and worked on teams always as a team.” By the time she was 16, she was working part-time, first for a chiropractor, later in a real-estate office, both jobs, she says, adding to her “sense of what it was to be part of a business environment” and further cementing her resolve.

Then came college, then grad school, always with a job alongside, as a systems analyst at DuPont, a programmer at TRW, an information specialist at Lockheed Martin.

As part of an initiative called BroadwayHD—co-created by Tony Award-winning producers Comley and her husband, Stewart Lane—live performances are filmed in high-definition and are shown to the general public at their local movie theaters through a partnership with Screenvision.

Comley and Lane’s commitment to the theater world runs deep: a gift from the couple in 2007 allowed UMass Lowell to renovate its theater in Maloney Hall on South Campus and rename it the Comley-Lane Theatre. Comley, a native of Bedford, was the 2010 recipient of UMass Lowell’s Distinguished Alumni Award. For showtimes and tickets, visit www.BroadwayHD.com.
By Geoffrey Douglas

Of Freckles and Fur, and 60-Wookerworkes:
The Life of a Disney Artist

I

You’ve seen any Disney animated films in recent years—“Tangled,” based loosely on the German fairy tale “Rapunzel,” or “Bo,” about a small white dog who believes he has super powers, or “Wreck-It Ralph,” an arcade-game villain turned hero—and can picture in your mind the endlessly long hair of the beautiful princess trapped in her tower, or the dangerous black rose or the villain’s squared-off shoulders, you have some idea of what John Huikku ’90 does for a living.

He is a look development artist for Walt Disney Animation Studios—which he explains, pretty much what it sounds like: “developing the look.” Of whatever is called for. Working digitally from a 3D model, he says, “We make metal look like metal, put freckles on a character’s cheeks, hair on its head, fur on an animal—whatever the subject is that day. It’s pretty nifty stuff.”

His latest effort, “Frozen,” a comedy-adventure about a mystical kingdom trapped in eternal winter, was released over Thanksgiving—and had the largest opening ever for Disney Animation.

Huikku has been with Disney for nearly a decade as a first-time artist and fully in look development—and has had his hand in roughly a dozen films, including those mentioned above, as well as “A Christmas Carol” and the 3D versions of “Lion King” and “Beauty and the Beast.” Before that he spent nine months in New Zealand as a texture artist and matte painter for Warner Digital’s “Lord of the Rings.”

It seems to have all begun, though, at the University of Lowell in the late 1980s, around the time he switched his major to art from electrical engineering and began spending time in the Art Department’s computer lab, often with Jim Vasho, today the department’s chair.

“That was back in the pre-World Wide Web days,” he says. “It was all new, all self-led exploration, a different world.

The next few years were a creative time for Disney and its new visual effects artist—spawning “Mulan” to “Mars,” “Inspector Gadget,” “Flubber,” “Bicentennial Man,” “Armageddon,” “George of the Jungle”—but nothing about what John Huikku ’90 does for a living.

His latest effort, “Frozen,” a comedy-adventure about a mystical kingdom trapped in eternal winter, was released over Thanksgiving—and had the largest opening ever for Disney Animation—was directed and produced by Christophe Beck.

With a pace as frenzied as this, and the eight- and nine-figure stakes, the job, he says, can be a grind sometimes. “It can get really, really crazy.”

And Hollywood itself, he says, for all its glamour, sometimes can seem like an alien planet to a transplanted New Englander. "And the weather … I wouldn’t even mind a real New England winter anymore. And the water … We can’t take our kids to the water [Huikku is married to Lauren Lee Woodward, a Disney animator]."

With a pace as frenzied as this, and the eight- and nine-figure stakes, the job, he says, can be a grind sometimes. "It can get really, really crazy."
The New Math: Calculus with a Hip-Hop Beat

It is “Mr. Plourde” or “Professor” to his students. Unless they know him out of class, in which case he’s Ty-Fak. He teaches freshman math at Northeastern, speaks succinctly about calculus and statistics in front of a chalkboard in buttoned-up shirt and tie — except when he’s spitting rap couplets at machine-gun speed at a club gig in black leather, basketball cap and shades.

“What I do,” he says, “is kind of off the map.”

And Elements, the Eulcid, intelligence I’m using it...And Elements like Euclid, intelligence I’m using it...It’s a vision that goes something like this: first “free-standing university that would use hip-hop to reach kids.”

What I do,” he says, “is kind of off the map.”

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-

The attitude, for Plourde, took root early. A product of thetiest years, he came young to the hip-hop culture, but also to thestreets and public schools of Lowell during some of the city’s grit-
River Hawk baseball team, .325 in his four years on the Cam Kneeland
in Pelham, N.H. Salem, N.H. The couple lives
with Chase PaymentTech in
and is a software engineer
degree in computer science
Landers in

12 after graduating summa
with a bachelor’s degree in environmental
from Illinois State Uni-
2010. Her academic
was occupational and
environmental. After
from UMass Low-
she accepted a position
in Advanced Filtration Systems Inc. in
Champaign, Ill.

Meghan Lovett has graduated from AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps. The organization engages
more than 80,000 Americans in intensive service each year at nonprofits, schools, public agencies and community
and faith-based groups across the country.

2013 Criminal Justice alum Brian
Bowe, classmate Cory Lach
and friend Liam Keogh at-
tended game two of the World
Series at Fenway Park thanks
to Prof. Charlie Vigo. “Since

the time of our lives—
everything from B.C. football
games, to AFC championship
games at Gillette to Bruins
playoff tickets,” says Bowe.

“is truly the most influen-
tial teacher I had in school—
and he deserves recognition.

Liam Crawford has been
living in Washington, D.C.,
since the final semester of
his undergraduate studies at
UMass Lowell. He completed his
degree with the credits he
earned through an internships
at TechAmerica, a technology
trade association. Upon

completing his internship, he was
offered a junior lobbying posi-
tion as coordinator of federal
government affairs. He says
he looks forward to working
with UMass Lowell students
interested in public policy and is
expected to provide guidance
and networking advice to any
student new to the D.C. area.

He hopes that his organization
and UMass Lowell can partner
to offer students internship
opportunities rarely rivaled
inside the Beltway.

David Leau married Sarah
Housekeeper 12 in June
2013. (See 2012 note.)

Anthony Prestigiovanni, who graduated with a degree
in music education, was an
instructor last year at the
Somerville Public Schools
Summer Wind Camp. The
camp is open to all wind
and percussion players who
have played for at least one
school year.

No Business like
(Shaved) Snow Business
BY JILL GAMBON

Curious about the long lines snaking
outside shops offering “shaved snow” in
Southern California, Jennifer Ho decided
to try the treat during a visit there
two years ago. The Taiwanese dessert, a
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-
culinary mash-up of ice cream and shaved
ice, was a revelation to Ho, then a Man-

Ho is involved with every aspect of
the business from working the count-
er to handling finances and managing
inventory. Her Manning School classes
in business management and leadership
prepped her well for starting her own company,
something she has always wanted to do.

“I’m getting a 360-degree view of
running a business,” she says.

WITH HO’S HOMEMADE (SHAVED) SNOW BUSINESS

John Duff, First President of the University of Lowell, Dies at Age 82

BY JACK MCDONOUGH

“HE WAS THE PERFECT LEADER FOR THE TIMES. HIS CONTRIBUTIONS WERE GREAT, NOT ONLY TO THE UNIVERSITY BUT ALSO THE CITY AND THE NATIONAL PARK.”

— Chancellor Marty Meehan

“John Duff was a remarkable guy. He had the confidence to say, ‘Yes, I can be president of a university.’”

— daughter Maureen Duff

“More than 150 educators from around the country applied for the job of president of the new university. The first board of trustees, sworn into office by Gov. Michael Dukakis in 1975, whittled the list down to a final three.”

In the end, by unanimous vote, the board chose Seton Hall Provost John B. Duff to lead the newly established University of Lowell. He took office on April 1, 1976.

From the very beginning, Duff insisted that the two campuses—North and South—he considered as one and that the University become an integral part of the Lowell community. He helped shape the image of the University as a part of the community—focusing on culture, education and health.

Leading the outreach efforts, Duff became chairman of the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission and oversaw development of the Lowell National Historical Park. And, when the Merrimack Repertory Theater was founded in 1979, he offered the group its first space.

He was a busy guy.

Larry Martin, the University’s former dean of admissions, says, “After he was here, we went from one society event to the next. You had to buy a tux because you’d go broke renting one. There were a lot of black-tie affairs, a lot of city-wide type events.”

His accomplishments were clearly evident on campus, too.

Under his presidency, the University increased its budget, enrollment and research grant awards and added faculty. The Continuing Education program also was greatly expanded, offering not only technical courses but programs in sociology, psychology, English and other liberal arts disciplines.

In 1981, Duff requested a two-year leave of absence to become the first chancellor of the Massachusetts higher education system, a post in which he served until 1986. He officially resigned the University presidency in January 1983.

And still he was not done.

After leaving the state education post in Massachusetts, he became the first non-librarian appointed commissioner of the Chicago public library system. In that post, he supervised the construction of the Harold Washington Library, the world’s largest public library.

In 1992, Duff became president of Columbia College in Chicago, where he oversaw the acquisition of the college’s first modern residence hall and led long-range planning and expansion efforts.

A pre-eminent Civil War scholar, he also was the author of several books, including “The Irish in the United States,” “The Structure of American History,” and “Shirley: Its Origin and Legacy.”

John Duff and his first wife, Helen, were married for 33 years and had three sons and three daughters. He was later married for 25 years to Estelle Shanley.

Duff died in Palm Desert, Calif., on Oct. 1 after a period of failing health. He was 82.

Chancellor Marty Meehan, who as a student had worked closely with President Duff, said, “He was the perfect leader for the times. His contributions were great, not only to the University but also the city and the national park.”
California Dreaming


[2] Alumni reconnect and learn about the progress at UMass Lowell at an exquisite brunch at Shutters on the Beach in Santa Monica. From left: Director of Alumni Relations Heather Makrez ’06, ’08; Ed Yang ’76; Vice Chancellor Ed Chiu; Suzanne ’65 and Walter McHendry ’64.

[3] Alumni gather for a beautiful day and a Red Sox win at the Dodgers’ home field. Front row, from left: Mark Dr. Angelos ’87, Kim Yap ’88, Kayla Yap and Abe Yap. Back row, from left: Joe Gandolfo ’66, ’01 (H) and Associate Vice Chancellor John Davis.

[4] Alumni spend the afternoon together in California Wine Country and enjoy an evening reception at the home of Mark Eastham ’78. From left: Ned Barrett ’58; John Davis, associate vice chancellor; Debra and Brian Scappaticci ’79; Heather Makrez ’06, ’08, director of alumni relations; Bob Ward ’71, ’12 (H) and Carole Barrett.

River Hawks on the Road

[1] Plastics Engineering alumni and students, sponsored by Princeton Tec, compete in a 210-mile Reach the Beach relay race to Hampton Beach, NH. From left: Melissa Egan ’03, ’13; Chair of Plastics Engineering Bob Malloy ’79, ’81, ’88; Cristina Emphasis ’93, ’95; Gabriel Mendible ’15; Amber Szapata ’11; Robert Danciam ’13; Greg Pigeon ’02; Jim Biggins ’03; Bill Siopes ’04; Douglas Malloy ’13; Melissa Siopes ’03 and Nick Riley ’12.

[2] Dean Joseph Hartman of the Francis College of Engineering, back row, far left, and Executive Director of Special Initiatives Mark Ramer, back row, sixth from left, with from left, join co-host Chuloo Louis Shih ’72, front row, right, and fellow alumni for dinner in Hong Kong on their trip to Asia.

[3] Dean Joseph Hartman of the Francis College of Engineering (center, rear) and Executive Director of Special Initiatives Mark Ramer (second from right) meet alumni from around the world at the K Show in Dusseldorf, Germany.

[4] Alumni enjoying a summer road trip to Tanglewood are Betty Athanasoulas, left, and Athena Letsou ’58.

[5] Alumni and guests enjoy a sunset gathering in Brewster for the second Annual Cape Cod Alumni & Friends Summer Event. From left: Peter FitzPatrick, Roberta Lang, Ed Bonacci ’54 and Linda FitzPatrick ’68.


On the Links

[1] The annual Boutin-Stone Golf Tournament was held as a celebration of the past, present and future of UMass Lowell Baseball. Pictured here are Hall of Fame Coach Jim Stone and Mrs. Fleurette Boutin.

[2] Sig-O fraternity alumni, students and corporate sponsors play a round of golf as a fundraiser to benefit the fraternity in their third annual tournament. From left: Mike Didak ’10, Dom Leggeri, Scott Laramee ’09 and Eric Flower.

Alumni Events

A record crowd of alumni, students, faculty, staff—and their friends and family members—attended our annual Fall Festival in October. The three-day homecoming weekend was packed with fun events—from homecoming to family day to reunions—designed to help alumni reconnect and make new memories.

We honored our most generous benefactors at the Celebration of Philanthropy and cheered on our Hockey East champs at the River Hawks home opener. We celebrated the season at an Oktoberfest party and remembered the friends we’ve lost at the Annual Jennifer’s 5K Fun Run/Walk.

We look forward to seeing even more alumni on campus in October 2014!
Then...

Students play bridge in the lounge of Eames Hall in 1957. Eames was the second dormitory built on campus after Smith Hall, both of which were part of President Kenneth Fox’s plan to expand the campus to address the surge of student veterans who enrolled following World War II. The Eames lounge was a popular between-classes haven for students. Let us know if you lived in Eames Hall! Email alumni_office@uml.edu and share a memory.

On and Around Campus

[1] The Saab-Pedroso Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture hosts “Sounds of Portugal.” From left: Luis Pedroso, Fado singer Rodrigo Costa Félix; Elisa ‘13(H) and Mark Saab ’81, ’13(H) and Dean of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Luis Falcón.

[2] Learning to Retiree Association members celebrated their 25th Anniversary and the signing of a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the University. The quilt in the background was designed and made by LIRA members. From left: Dotty Morris, Suzanne Knapp (one of the quilters), Connie Larson-Cage ’53, Toby (Koffman) Hodes ’38 and Betty Sampas.

[3] Faculty and staff gather at the start of the semester to celebrate the growth of the Commonwealth Honors Program. From left: Faculty award recipient Todd Avery; Honors Founders Eric Skokan and Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney ’75, ’92; student award recipient Seda Babroudi ’14 and Chancellor Marty Meehan ’78.

[4] Terrorism Panel: From left: Former National Security Council Deputy for Counterterrorism Roger Cressey ’87; Deputy Director of the National Counter Terrorism Center Nicholas J. Breamon, FBI Boston Division Special Agent in Charge Vincent B. Loi and Massachusetts Secretary of Public Safety Andrea J. Cabral participate in a practitioners’ panel at the launch of the University’s Center for Terrorism and Security Studies.

[5] Chancellor Marty Meehan ’78, Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA), family, friends, faculty and staff celebrate the induction of the 2013-2014 class of SAA members at the second Annual Student Alumni Ambassador Pinning Ceremony.

[6] Nora Smith, granddaughter of Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney ’75, ’92, gets a hug from Rowdy the River Hawk at the Tsongas Center.
Now...

There are two huge lounges and kitchens on every floor of our state-of-the-art University Suites residence hall, which opened for the fall semester. Comprised mostly of four- and six-person suites, the building also has a large common lounge and eatery on the first floor. U-Suites was built in response to the demand for student housing: Enrollment at UMass Lowell has risen 46 percent since 2007, to nearly 17,000 undergraduate and graduate students.
INNOVATION, IDEAS AND CREATIVITY

HAWK HATCH is a fundraising initiative geared to helping students “hatch” their projects. Whether they are launching a smartphone application, producing prosthetic arms, making concrete float, constructing a steel bridge to carry 2,500 pounds, building a medical warehouse in Haiti or bringing diversity to nursing, the support from believers like you will help these students soar higher and achieve greater.

To see what projects are currently in the Hawk Hatch nest, please visit www.uml.edu/hawkhatch and consider supporting a student project.