

UMass

SUMMER 2008 VOLUME 11 NUMBER 2

Lowell

M A G A Z I N E

MARTIN T. MEEHAN INAUGURATED AS CHANCELLOR OF UMASS LOWELL

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Lays Out Vision for Taking 'Strong' Institution to the 'Next Level'

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF CHANCELLOR MARTIN T. MEEHAN

For this issue of the UMass Lowell Magazine, which features Chancellor Martin T. Meehan's inauguration, we are publishing his inaugural address in lieu of the regular letter from the Chancellor.

It is with deep humility and a sense of great responsibility that I accept the honor of becoming the second chancellor of this great institution, the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

I am the second chancellor of UMass Lowell but I am the fourteenth leader of the institution and its predecessor schools, founded in the 1890s.

Our roots run deep into this land.

This region was the cradle of the American Revolution and remains a fountain-head of American innovation.

Lowell gave our nation an Industrial Revolution.

More recently, our region spearheaded the Information Revolution.

This region, this watershed, is synonymous with invention, entrepreneurship, industry, philosophy, literature, environmentalism, healthcare and education.

Think about our scientists and engineers like James B. Francis and An Wang.

Consider our writers such as Anne Bradstreet, Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson.

And this University continues to build on that proud legacy.

We want the world to know we are one of just four National Science Foundation centers of excellence in nanomanufacturing.

We have the nation's only master of music program in Sound Recording Technology, and our graduates are winning Grammy Awards.

We have scientists who are engaged in groundbreaking research in limb regeneration.

Our MBA program is recognized by the Princeton Review as one of the best in the country.

The Graduate School of Education is a leader in STEM pipeline initiatives.

Our nursing graduates are caring for people in every hospital, medical center and clinic in the region.

Our scholars have made Lowell the world's hot spot for research on Jack Kerouac.

At a recent Plastics Engineering conference in Germany, 150 industry leaders in attendance were our alumni.

And with opening day at Fenway Park about ninety-eight hours away we want the world to know that our engineers test all the baseballs used in Major League Baseball.

These are only some of the good things happening on this campus every day, and there are many more.

And this is a very good thing.

Our region depends on the University being world class, not only in a few areas, but across the spectrum of disciplines.

This University is different from many private colleges in the Commonwealth.

The majority of our graduates stay here to work and raise families, to create businesses and jobs, to contribute to civic and cultural life.

The role that this University plays in the development of the intellect and character of our students cannot be overstated.

We offer more than just world-class scholarship.

We offer hope for the advancement and enlightenment of each student who walks through our doors.

And we offer hope for the continued progress and prosperity of our community.

Today on this campus, 12,000 resident, commuter and online students of all backgrounds pursue bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees.

These students are the stewards, leaders, healers and builders of tomorrow.

I want to talk about one of our students, an exceptional young woman who captures the spirit of UMass Lowell. Rachel Carnes is a senior from Haverhill. In high school, she says, she didn't have a clear plan for her future. But then she was accepted at UMass Lowell and she saw it as a chance to take a new direction. She's a business major on the Dean's List. Everything was going well, until one terrible morning in January, Rachel was sitting on a bench in front of the library when a pickup truck roared out of control, jumped the curb and struck her. She sustained life-threatening injuries.

Since then she has fought her way back through intensive medical care and rehabilitation.

Last week, miraculously, Rachel returned to school. Her determination mirrors the strengths of so many at this institution who overcome adversity to get an education.

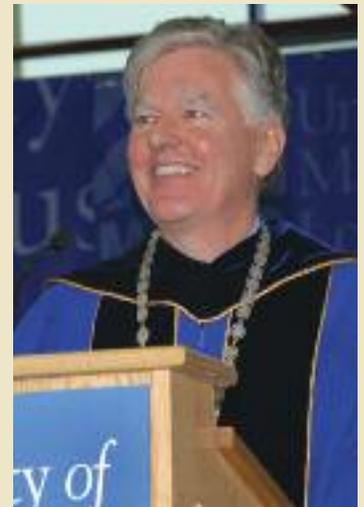
Rachel, you, like most of our students, have been working and borrowing to pay the cost of your education.

Well, thanks to the generosity of donors to these inaugural activities, I am happy to announce you will be the first recipient of the Chancellor Martin T. Meehan Educational Excellence Scholarship to cover your outstanding costs and loans.

As we look to the future, we must start by acknowledging that the University exists in the most competitive educational environment in its history and we must rise to that challenge.

We live in a global society and UMass Lowell must be part of that.

We live in a knowledge economy and we must contribute and compete.



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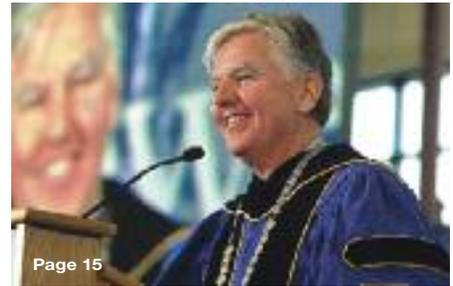
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Colleges - Arts and Sciences

Researcher's Work Makes List of 100 Top Science Stories

Since the 1960s, scientists have known that during a severe geomagnetic storm, the Earth's magnetosphere — the region around our planet controlled by its magnetic field — can generate highly energetic electrons capable of crippling orbiting satellites and posing a radiation hazard to spacewalking astronauts. Scientists have wondered how these “killer” electrons could attain such high energies and travel nearly at the speed of light.



Discover magazine's January 2008 issue.

In June 2007 an international team of researchers led by Dr. Qiugang Zong of the UML Center for Atmospheric Research published findings that finally shed light on this mystery. Their discovery ranked No. 37 in Discover magazine's 100 Top Science Stories of 2007. UMass Lowell is the only public university in New England to be featured on the list, which was the cover story for the January 2008 issue of Discover, the nation's leading monthly popular magazine on science and technology.

Zong and his colleagues, who include Paul Song, co-director of the Center, and research assistant Xuzhi Zhou, determined that during a severe geomagnetic storm, the solar wind — a continuous high-speed stream of charged particles from the sun — impacts and compresses the daytime side of Earth's magnetosphere, triggering instabilities along the magnetosphere's boundary.

These instabilities create Ultra Low Frequency electromagnetic waves, which in turn produce killer electrons. Following a storm, electrons can be energized up to a million electron volts or more and accelerated up to 94 percent of the speed of light.

State Funds \$97K Grant to Make Lowell Seniors Count

When Lowell's disparate (and growing) senior population was analyzed eight years ago, many elderly people weren't included because of language barriers and social isolation. This time, UMass Lowell Asst. Prof. Andy Hostetler wants to get it right and ensure that critically needed services are made available to those in need.



Andy Hostetler

Hostetler and his collaborators on the “Lowell Seniors Count” project, including the Lowell Senior Center, Lowell Community Health Center and the City of Lowell's Division of Planning and Development, earned two grants totaling \$97,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The grants are funding a comprehensive, interviewer-administered census covering health, well-being and safety/security issues.

“The effort places hundreds of trained volunteers — including many bilingual representatives — directly within communities to increase participation and foster community outreach, especially among Southeast Asian, Portuguese, African and Latino populations,” says Hostetler.

The project, part of the City of Lowell's ten-year plan to end homelessness, will present a comprehensive portrait of Lowell seniors' health, well being and quality of life, to properly identify the resources and services needed to achieve what Hostetler terms “optimal aging” within the city.

Disabled Youngsters Play Video Games Designed by UML Students



Youngsters at the Franciscan Hospital for Children's Kennedy Day School in Brighton play and enjoy computer video games thanks to students in Asst. Prof. Fred Martin's software engineering class. Martin and his students visited the school to present several simple, interactive games that the students had developed specifically with the children's multiple physical and developmental disabilities in mind.

Asperger's Intervention Program Combines Psychology with Music

For one mom, the first clue that something was wrong came when her infant daughter — still in a car seat — grew so frustrated that she had what appeared to be an epileptic seizure.

For another mother, it wasn't until her son had tremendous difficulty making friends that it became clear something was wrong.

For both of these parents, and thousands of others, the challenges facing their children are caused by Asperger's Syndrome, one of several pervasive development disorders on the autism spectrum.

First described in 1944 by Hans Asperger, an Austrian doctor, the disorder has only recently come into mainstream consciousness, with an estimated three out of 10,000 people affected. Those with the disorder often have difficulty interacting with others, and generally do not make friends easily. They sometimes have trouble using facial expressions and understanding body language, and can have problems comprehending language in context.

They typically have a limited range of interests, and can develop an intense, almost obsessive focus in a few areas. Many are exceptionally talented, and most are highly verbal, making the diagnosis difficult until about age three.

For fourteen high-functioning teens and young adults with autism spectrum disorders — mostly Asperger's — a recent intervention program developed by UMass Lowell Profs. Ashleigh Hillier of psychology and Gena Greher of music encouraged communication and creativity through an eight-week music program.

"We created a program we called 'SoundScapes,' which incorporated music to help people with Asperger's feel less stressed and more comfortable socially," says Hillier. Seven student volunteers from music education and psychology helped implement the sessions, which featured music-listening exercises and technology-based creation activities. The program concluded with an exercise in which participants created and starred in their own videos, complete with music, which they shared with family and friends in a standing-room-only celebration.



Volunteers and participants in the "SoundScapes" music intervention program for people with Asperger's Syndrome

Greenway Development Chronicles History of the Concord River



Chad Montrie

In 1839, Henry David Thoreau and his brother boated on the Concord River, but when they reached Lowell, they took the Middlesex Canal to avoid the city. "We did not care to loiter in this part of our voyage," said Thoreau, put off by the industrialized section of the waterway.

Soon, thanks to the efforts of the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust (LPCT), the Tsongas Center, the Lowell National Historical Parks (LNHP) and Chad Montrie, assistant professor of history, scores of others will be able to enjoy access to a greenway developed on the banks of the last two miles of the historic river. The LPCT is collaborating with supporters to create an accessible, welcoming place to connect the city's major public spaces, including Shedd and Rogers parks, and the collection of walkways developed by the Lowell National Historical Parks.

Montrie sees the development of the greenway as an opportunity to chronicle the river's significant social, economic and environmental history. Recently, he received one of six awards from the University Research & Scholarship Fund to support his efforts on the project.

"My goal is to create an outdoor classroom — primarily for students in grades 7 through 10 — where the relevance of the river is easily demonstrated," says Montrie, who is working with the LPCT, the Tsongas Center and the LNHP to develop resources to create an outdoor classroom complete with a documentary film, adaptable walking tour and website (lowellandtrust.org/ConcordRiver).



Asst. Prof. Li Xu of the Computer Science Department and doctoral candidate Zhi Yang are developing the prototype Sustainability Dashboard for tracking progress on campus composting.

Student and Adviser Win EPA Grant for Tracking Project

Doctoral candidate Zhi Yang and his adviser, Asst. Prof. Li Xu of the Computer Science Department, are leading a team of faculty and students in designing interactive software that tracks social, economic and environmental progress on sustainability projects.

They won funding last fall for the project from the P3 program of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop what is called a Sustainable Project Dashboard.

The EPA's P3 program is a national student design competition for sustainability focusing on "People, Prosperity, and the Planet" (P3) leading to commercial and human benefit. The \$10,000 preliminary award is given to about fifty teams nationally, culminating in a demonstration of designs on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and judging by a panel of experts from the National Academies (Science, Engineering and Medicine). A few projects will be selected for full implementation grants.

Janet Clark, senior associate director of the Toxics Use Reduction Institute, is coordinating the dashboard project, which will track progress on the development of a campus composting project.

Campus partners in the project include staff from the Facilities Department, the Office of Environment, Health and Safety, ARAMARK and the Center for Family, Work and Community. Student participants are working with Assoc. Prof. Sarah Kuhn of the Regional Economic and Social Development (RESO) Department, Asst. Prof. Rick Hochberg of the Biological Sciences Department and Asst. Prof. Thomas Sloan in the College of Management.

Tripathy Symposium Participants Discuss Latest in Materials Science



The Sukant Tripathy Annual Memorial Symposium, held in memory of the late professor, brought together researchers, associates and students to discuss the latest advances in materials science. They are, from left, Dr. Merrill Cohen of Chemco Consulting Inc.; Chancellor Marty Meehan; Dr. Lynne Samuelson of the U.S. Army Natick Soldier RDEC; Dr. Susan Thomson-Tripathy; Prof. Jayant Kumar of the Center for Advanced Materials and Dr. Ashok Cholli of Polnox Corp.

Survey Finds Nanotech Companies Want Safety Roadmap

UMass Lowell researchers have conducted a new survey of New England-based nanotechnology companies, yielding information that can guide federal agencies and regulators.

The objective of the survey, funded by the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and The Pew Charitable Trusts, was to discover how firms in almost every sector of the economy address the possible environmental, health and safety (EHS) impacts of new nanoscale materials and products.

The survey found that these firms lack a clear roadmap of government EHS expectations and regulations for successful commercialization, as well as the information needed to meet those expectations.

Prof. Margaret Quinn of the Work Environment Department and doctoral candidate John Lindberg authored the report, drawn from an online survey distributed to one hundred and eighty managers from nanotechnology firms in the Northeast.

The survey indicates that as nanotech industrial and consumer applications enter the market, U.S. companies need more information and guidance to manage risks effectively.

Lindberg and Quinn found that 80 percent of large firms were taking steps to manage nanotechnology EHS risks, compared to only 33 percent of small and micro companies.

"Many smaller firms recognize the need to address risks proactively, but few have the resources to do so," Lindberg says.

Colleges - Education

Tsongas Center Ranger Donates \$37,500 to 'Place I Wanted to Support'

Working for the Tsongas Industrial History Center for the past 20 years has taught National Park Ranger Rick Smith a great deal about the way museums work. One truism he learned is that if an institution relies too heavily on state and federal grants, it risks financial instability.

This inside knowledge inspired him, along with his wife, Martha, to make a \$37,500 donation to the Tsongas Center to establish a discretionary endowment fund for the center's director. This unrestricted fund, which includes a match from a state endowment enhancement program, provides the director with additional funds, outside of grant money, to spend on the Center's priorities.



Park ranger Rick Smith

He's hoping his gift will be the inspiration for others.

"I am very passionate about the Center. I have spent my whole professional career working here, and when I had to opportunity to make a gift, I knew this was the place I wanted to support," says Smith. "I'm hoping this sets an example for others."

The Tsongas Center is a partnership between the University of Massachusetts Lowell Graduate School of Education and Lowell National Historical Park, which each provide a portion of the funding and staff to operate the Center.

Colleges - Engineering



Nypro Inc. presented a \$250,000 check to UMass Lowell during the Global Technical Conference. Taking part in the presentation were, from left, Nypro Engineering Vice President Greg Adams, Nypro President and CEO Ted Lapres, Chancellor Marty Meehan, Nypro Technology Director Michael McGee, Prof. Robert Malloy and Engineering Dean John Ting.

Nypro's \$250,000 Gift Supports Scholarships, Research and Scholar Interns

Plastic materials and products are an integral part of modern society. From toys, appliances and food and beverage containers to cars, medical devices and bullet-proof vests, plastics make our daily lives easier, safer and more convenient.

To showcase the latest advances in the field of plastics research and manufacturing, Nypro Inc. will be conducting a Global Technical Conference each year. UMass Lowell's Department of Plastics Engineering hosted the first such meeting this academic year at Wannalancit Mills. The four-day event attracted about one hundred participants and highlighted programs geared toward transforming new ideas from the drawing board to the marketplace.

Clinton-based Nypro is a leading custom plastics molder, with operations in seventeen countries. The company has been collaborating with UMass Lowell for more than two decades, working with its faculty and students on product inception and commercialization. Nypro's modern Precision Injection Molding Laboratory is sited at the Plastics Engineering Department.

To underscore the company's long-term commitment to the University, Nypro President and CEO Ted Lapres presented a \$250,000 check to Chancellor Marty Meehan. The amount will be used to provide scholarships to plastics engineering majors, to support research at the department's labs and the Center for High-Rate Nanomanufacturing and to assist three College of Engineering scholar interns.

"We chose the University of Massachusetts Lowell for this conference because it is one of the world's leading plastics universities," says Lapres.

"Nypro wanted to focus on technology, especially 'green' plastics and nanomanufacturing, two areas of significant advancement in the last few years," says department Chair Robert Malloy. "The people at Nypro recognize UMass Lowell as a leader in these areas."

M2D2 Receives \$4.5 Million in State Funding to Support Its Mission of Helping Entrepreneurs

The Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2), which helps entrepreneurs move ideas from patents to production, has received \$4.5 million in state funding to help support its mission.

In a news conference held in Wannalancit Mill in late February, Gov. Deval Patrick announced that the Center — a UMass Lowell, UMass Worcester partnership — was receiving \$4 million to help spur growth of the life sciences industry.

Two months earlier, the John Adams Innovation Institute of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative had announced a \$500,000 grant to M2D2.

In announcing the most recent award, Patrick said Massachusetts is a world leader in life sciences and has a “super cluster” of medical device companies, but that these companies face diminished venture capital support in the early stages.

“We must not assume because we have it today we will have it in the future,” he said. The cost of inaction is too high.”

The \$4 million funding comes from a bond authorization approved earlier by the legislature.

UMass President Jack Wilson said, “M2D2 is a stellar example of the University of Massachusetts’ role and example of the success we can create when we bring education, business and government together.”

Also taking part in the news conference was State Sen. Steven C.



Chancellor Marty Meehan, right, welcomed to campus, from left, UMass President Jack Wilson; State Sen. Steven Panagiotakos, chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee; and Gov. Deval Patrick. The governor announced a \$4 million state grant for the advancement of medical device development in the Commonwealth.

Panagiotakos, who said that he and the governor were “committed to boosting this sector of the life sciences super cluster that can lead to jobs, and new state revenue, quickly.”

Speaking on the occasion of the John Adams grant announcement, Prof. Steve McCarthy of the Plastics Engineering Department, a co-director of M2D2, said many small medical device companies with promising innovations face a major obstacle as they search for funding. With venture capital getting harder to obtain, entrepreneurs need help to develop their patented ideas into prototypes for federal review and to interest investors.

McCarthy said M2D2 will support up to eleven start-up companies each year with product evaluation, business advice and product prototyping, leveraging the state funds.

“We have tested our concept — that M2D2 can help inventors of new medical devices secure additional funding to develop their ideas. The new state funds will put M2D2 on the fast track, directly assisting companies with product prototyping and testing.”

Chen and Gu Study Industrial Safety of Nanoheaters

While the potential explosion hazards of micron- and submicron-size particles in coal mines, in the food and pharmaceutical industries and in powder-processing facilities are well known, safety guidelines do not exist for dealing with nano- (billionth-of-a-meter-) size particles. Two UMass Lowell engineering professors are tackling this issue as part of an international research collaboration.

Prof. Julie Chen of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Zhiyong Gu of the Department of Chemical Engineering hope to better understand and mitigate the risk of accidental fire or explosion during the processing, handling and transportation of nanoscale particles, wires, fibers and films. Their co-researchers include Teiichi Ando of Northeastern University, Peter Wong of Tufts University and Haris Doumanidis and Claus Rebholz of the University of Cyprus. The U.S. group’s research project is funded by a \$589,775 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Their study focuses on “nanoheaters,” composite structures of exothermically reactive (heat-giving) materials arranged in various geometries that provide heat in a controlled manner.

Students Create Toys for Local Zoos' Big Cats

The “big cats” at Zoo New England’s Franklin Park Zoo in Boston and Stone Zoo in Stoneham are playing with more than balls of yarn these days, thanks to a group of UML freshman engineering students.

Nearly four hundred students participated in a collaborative service-learning project with Zoo New England as part of the University’s Introduction to Engineering course, taught by Prof. David Kazmer and Dr. Stephen Johnston of the UML’s Department of Plastics Engineering. The project required students to develop safe, innovative enrichment devices that would encourage the cats to interact with their environment in ways similar to how they would in the wild.

The teams demonstrated their finished projects to University faculty, staff, administrators and officials of Zoo New England in December. The more than 30 projects turned over to the zoo ranged from simple devices such as a large, hard-plastic ball mounted on a spring to more complex setups such as an artificial rain machine. The students incorporated treats, exotic sounds and scents, fog, soap bubbles, streams of water and various physical shapes and textures into their designs to stimulate the cats’ senses.

“Overall, I was overwhelmed by the results of this collaboration,” said John Linehan, president and CEO of Zoo New England. “Some of the concepts displayed incredible creativity.”

“The students had a budget of only \$10 per person,” Kazmer says, “and many of the best projects relied heavily on free or donated materials, such as logs, scrap metal and used drums.”



Student Joseph Fournier demonstrates the “Ball on a Spring” device that he and classmate Louay Ayoub created for the zoos’ big cats.



Nursing faculty and state officials at the grant announcements for reducing racial and ethnic health disparities were, from left, Asst. Prof. Lisa Abdallah; John Auerbach, commissioner of the Department of Public Health; Prof. Karen Melillo; Dr. JudyAnn Bigby, secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services and Assoc. Prof. Jacqueline Dowling.

Project Encourages Minorities and Disadvantaged to Consider Nursing Careers

Despite the nationwide shortage of nurses, minorities and the economically disadvantaged are under-represented in the profession — depriving individuals of excellent job opportunities and the public of critically needed trained nurses.

Nursing faculty in the School of Health and Environment aim to change that equation with the help of a new grant program from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services in the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The three-year grant awards nearly \$183,000 to the project.

The project — “Bring Diversity to Nursing” — has the goal of recruiting under-represented minority and disadvantaged students, both male and female, to nursing through workshops to increase interest in and awareness of nursing careers.

The funded work is based on a pilot program of summer workshops created by Asst. Profs. Lisa Abdallah and Margaret Knight and delivered to middle and high school students in Lawrence and Lowell.

With funding through June 2010, the expanded program will include summer and after-school programs for middle and high school students, and nursing career workshops. Offerings will be coordinated with the Graduate School of Education College Prep program, the Lowell and Lawrence high schools and the Lawrence YMCA Teen Achievers Program. Prof. Karen Melillo, chair of the Nursing Department, is the principal investigator.



Steve Cannon, project coordinator, and Assoc. Prof. Connie Seymour of the Physical Therapy Department in the School of Health and Environment, meet with graduate students, from left, Sarah Smulligan, Melissa Graves and Sheena Stone. The students volunteer as advocates in the HELP program for the frail elderly living on their own.

Students Intervene with Elders at Risk

“Frequent flyer” has a special definition among those who work with at-risk elderly. These are the patients who are unable to maintain their health status outside a hospital and become part of the recidivism statistics for hospitalizations and homecare.

Assoc. Prof. Connie Seymour and project coordinator Steve Cannon, both of the Physical Therapy Department in the School of Health and Environment, are working to change those statistics, using a low-tech intervention.

“We’re training students as ‘family member’ advocates,” says Seymour. “They are non-professional, caring individuals who visit twice monthly to help with health monitoring and advocacy.

“Though we’re still in the early stages of the project, we have evidence of positive behavioral change.”

The project, Healthy Elder Living Program (HELP), is a collaboration with the Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Lowell, Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and Project Teamwork. Started in the fall of 2006, HELP has received a second round of funding, a \$20,000 grant from the Charles Irwin Travelli Fund.

The program aims to reduce re-hospitalizations by helping elders pay more attention to blood pressure, blood sugar and other daily health measurements, and improving nutrition and increasing physical activity. Working with twenty-eight clients over six months, the six students in the study have developed a rapport with them, helping to improve their health and, more importantly, their outlook.

Pediatric Patients Benefit from UML Health-Care Study

The findings of a two-year, EPA-funded UMass Lowell study that examined the relationship between environment and health so as to improve diagnoses and prevention methods for children were presented at a public health meeting in Washington.

Prof. Stephanie Chalupka of the Department of Nursing was joined by Dr. David Turcotte from the Center for Family, Work and Community in relating the findings of their study, called “Strengthening the Capacity of Health Professionals Serving Minority and Low-Income Communities to Better Identify, Manage and Prevent Environmental Health Risks.” Chalupka presented the results at the 135th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association in Washington, D.C.

The \$150,000 research, education and evaluation project delivered professional development programs to more than five hundred pediatric providers, forty nursing faculty members and six hundred student nurses, reaching the health-care providers of more than 60,000 children. Special training developed by Asst. Prof. Joel Tickner of the Work Environment Department helped community health outreach workers identify potential environmental health risks that can cause childhood illnesses.

Dean Wegman to Step Down

David Wegman has decided to step down as Dean of the School of Health and Environment for family health reasons. Dr. Wegman has led the school for five years, developing a new mission and vision that connects health and the environment, with a focus on preventing diseases. The school makes a significant contribution to fulfilling the state's critical healthcare workforce demands and promoting the health and wellbeing of the Merrimack Valley and the entire state.



Wegman has a distinguished career in medicine and higher education. He became dean after 16 years as professor and founding chair of the Department of Work Environment, and serves as adjunct professor at the Harvard School of Public Health. He received his B.A. from Swarthmore College, and his M.D. and M.Sc. from Harvard University and is board certified in preventive medicine (occupational medicine). Previously he served as director of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Health at the UCLA School of Public Health and on the faculty at Harvard School of Public Health. He has chaired National Research Council Institute of Medicine committees on the Health and Safety Needs of Older Workers and on the Health and Safety Consequences of Child Labor, and served as a member of several others. He currently serves as chair of the NRC-IOM Committee on Review of NIOSH Research Programs. He has published extensively on public health and policy, and occupational health.

Wegman plans to continue to serve as dean until a new dean is in place, at which time he expects to re-join the faculty.

Colleges - Management

Powers, Sullivan Endow Accounting Department with \$37,500 Gift for Discretionary Endowment



Jim Powers '78 and Rich Sullivan '79, from the accounting firm of Powers and Sullivan, present a check for \$37,500 to Chancellor Marty Meehan to create a discretionary endowment for the Accounting Department. The gift includes a match from the state's Public Higher Education Endowment Incentive Program. Holding the giant "check" are, from left, Powers, Meehan, Sullivan and, at right, College of Management Dean Kathy Carter.

Students Receive Scholarship Named for Brian Kinney, Alumnus Killed on Sept. 11



James Sullivan of Westford and Michael Cappello, both accounting majors in the College of Management, recently received \$3,000 Brian Kinney Memorial Scholarships. Kinney, a Lowell native who graduated from UML in 1995, was killed on Sept. 11, 2001. The scholarships are funded by a \$125,000 donation from accounting firm PriceWaterhouse Coopers, for whom Kinney worked. Shown at the scholarship presentation are, from left, Stephen Collins, chair of the Accounting Department; Sullivan; Alison Lewandowski of Lowell, Kinney's widow; Cappello, and Kathy Carter, dean of the College of Management.

Outlook

Proximity Program Offers Reduced Costs to Southern N.H. Students

Beginning this fall, it will be possible for Southern New Hampshire students living within twenty miles of the campus to save more than \$6,000 per year on the cost of a UMass Lowell education.

For 2007-08, for example, out-of-state tuition and fees totaled just over \$20,000. Under the proximity program, qualified students would have paid slightly more than \$14,000. Tuition and fees have not been set for the 2008-2009 academic year.

"This is a win-win program," says Thomas Taylor, dean of Enrollment Management and Student Success. "We are reaching out more effectively to students across our region, which does not stop at the state border, and also offering a reduced cost to highly qualified students for whom UMass Lowell is a great option.

"We think this program will be an attractive choice for New Hampshire students who want to live at home while attending college, but who live too far from an in-state campus to commute," says Taylor.

Participating students are eligible for on-campus housing after their first semester.

The new Proximity Regional Rate program is based on a provision of the New England Board of Higher Education Regional Student Program, which offers reduced tuition and fees to out-of-state students studying a major not offered at their home-state campus. UMass Lowell's proximity rate uses Regional Student Program tuition and out-of-state fees.

Outreach



Participants in the official opening of the new Lawrence High School campus last fall included, from left, Paul Reville, chair of the state Board of Education; Hector Torres, director of the College Prep Program; Anita Greenwood, interim dean of the Graduate School of Education; Wilfredo T. Laboy, superintendent of Lawrence Schools and Lawrence Mayor Michael Sullivan.

University Contributes to Development of New Lawrence High School

The new Lawrence High School campus, billed as “the new 21st century prototype,” was developed, in part, with the help of the University’s Graduate School of Education and the Center for Field Services and Studies.

The new campus, which replaces an outdated and overcrowded facility, offers students six separate schools that provide a college-like culture. The six areas of concentration are Fine and Performing Arts; International studies; Health and Human Services; Humanities and Leadership Development; Math, Science and Technology and Business Management and Finance.

Students choose the school they would like to attend, based on their interests. Each school is run independently with a separate principal, staff, budget and classrooms.

The student body shares certain features, such as a 12,000 square-foot media center and a 3,400-seat field house. All six schools are connected by a bridge walkway.

Chancellor Marty Meehan participated in the official opening of the schools last fall, along with Gov. Deval Patrick, State Treasurer Tim Cahill and other state and local officials, educators, students and city residents.

UML and the City of Lawrence are continuing their partnership, making available additional educational services and opportunities for students, school personnel and community residents.

UMass Lowell Receives \$2.7 Million for Worker Safety Program

The University has received \$2.7 million in federal funding to launch a new program to prevent workplace injuries and dangerous exposure to silica among Hispanic workers.

The program, *Protección en Construcción: Lawrence Latino Safety Partnership*, is a partnership with UML, the City of Lawrence, JSI Research and Training Institute Inc. of Boston and Laborers Union Local 175, which has more than six hundred members.

More than nine hundred Hispanic workers died on the job in 2006 in the United States. While 12 percent of the total workforce is Hispanic, workers from that ethnic group accounted for 16 percent of on-the-job deaths, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Paul Marion, executive director of Outreach, represented Chancellor Marty Meehan at the announcement of the program and described the project as an example of UML’s commitment to the Lawrence community.

Prof. Rafael Moure-Eraso, chair of the Department of Work Environment, said, “The University is very proud to be a part of the project, which will develop prevention strategies to decrease injuries and illness in Latino workers in Lawrence.”

The \$2.7 million in research funds came from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, a program of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Taking part in the press conference at Lawrence Heritage State Park announcing a new worker safety program were these representatives of the Department of Work Environment, from left, Lenore Azaroff, Maria Brunette, Prof. Rafael Moure-Eraso and Susan Shepherd.



Victor Piper, left, with Yeth John Kong

Kong's Poetry Flows Faster with Assistive Technology Help

Yeth John Kong loves to write poetry. But for this middle-aged, wheelchair-bound Tyngsboro man, typing even a few words or phrases on his computer keyboard was a slow, arduous process because he has cerebral palsy, a non-progressive brain disorder caused by damage to the cerebrum.

Kong's problem with the computer was just the kind of thing that can be solved through the University's Assistive Technology Program, which helps improve the lives of people with disabilities by finding solutions to problems they face in their daily lives.

Last year, Victor Piper, then an undergraduate student in electrical engineering, met Kong while visiting the Community Center for Life Links in Lowell. Piper was there because he needed to find a subject for a capstone project in Assistive Technology.

When Kong told him how he needed help to improve his speed in inputting text in his computer, Piper knew he had his project.

"I decided to seek an approach that would combine hardware and software," he says. After settling on a hardware design, he searched the Internet for software ideas.

Zi Corp., a global provider of intelligent interface solutions based in Calgary, was the first to respond. Piper found its eZiText

one-touch predictive-text software to be the most suitable for the project.

"Every step of the way, I was impressed with the Zi Corp. team," he says.

Following a semester of development and trials, Piper came up with TapMe, a specially designed, touch-screen-style keyboard that features fewer, larger keys (without omitting any characters or symbols) and eZiText-enabled driver software.

"With this device, Yeth will be able to generate words with fewer keystrokes," says Piper, who now works at Raytheon.



Specially designed keyboard

The entire project had cost him less than \$100. "Half of that was to replace a controller board that I fried by miswiring the power input terminals," he says. "The University bought the original unit."

Last summer Piper delivered the finished product to Kong, who was thrilled. "Yeth is a man of few words," he says, "but the happiness on his face speaks volumes."

Spotlight on Immigrant Stories of Lowell



Patrick Chhoy, a member of the CITA summer team, makes a grand entrance to the red-carpet premiere of the team's video, "Immigrant Stories of Lowell," held at the Revolving Museum last fall. Chhoy is greeted by fellow team members, from left, Thuquynh Dinh and Yingchan Zhang, and CITA team manager Patricia Coffey. The video, which captured twenty-five Lowell immigrants' stories, was produced by five area high school students and five UMass Lowell graduate students. The program was funded by the University's Committee on Industrial Theory and Assessment (CITA), co-chaired by Profs. Robert Forrant and Linda Silka.

University's STEM Outreach Goes into Overdrive

UMass Lowell's leadership in the effort to increase the number of qualified young people who choose careers in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields has generated concrete results, including the Northeast Network STEM Pipeline Project, the TEAMS Academy and the annual STEM Summits.

The Graduate School of Education is the lead partner in the Northeast Network, and in 2007 it was awarded a two-year, \$322,000 grant by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education to continue the expansion and implementation of the STEM Fellows and Leaders program, which concentrates on teachers' professional development.

This academic year, the University's TEAMS Academy, funded with \$650,000 from the state, offered thirty-two advanced high-school juniors and seniors from twelve local school districts a chance to supplement their curricula by enrolling in four creative, customized University courses — in environmental biotechnology, interactive robotics, baseball bat engineering design and assistive technology and electronics.

The purpose of the STEM Summits is to explore and analyze the problem and its solutions. This year's gathering in Sturbridge attracted about six hundred participants, including PK-12 and college educators, non-profit organizations, community and business leaders and local and state government policymakers.

People

Roberts and Martin Honored for Exemplary Public Service

Prof. Kay George Roberts of the Music Department and Asst. Prof. Fred Martin of the Computer Science Department were two of six winners of the 2007 UMass President's Public Service Awards.

The University-wide awards are presented annually to faculty members from the system's five campuses who have been nominated by their chancellors for providing exemplary public service to the Commonwealth.

In announcing the awards, UMass President Jack M. Wilson said Prof. Roberts "has dedicated her career to advocating for the underrepresented and overlooked in society, promoting music education for children and using music as a bridge to connect cultures. She utilizes her love of music to reach out to the community, advancing K-12 music education in the City of Lowell."

In 2001, Roberts created the UMass Lowell String Project, a community outreach program for public school students that fosters diversity in classical music by offering instruction on classic string instruments.

"I experienced first hand how important early exposure to music is for a child," said Roberts. "Teaching at UMass Lowell gave me the chance to reach out to the Lowell community to give back what has been given to me — education and opportunity."

In 2004, she founded Lowell's first professional chamber orchestra, the New England Orchestra with the mission to link cultures through music and to celebrate harmony in diversity.

The first woman to receive a doctorate of musical arts in orchestral conducting



Asst. Prof. Fred Martin, left, of the Computer Science Department and Prof. Kay George Roberts of the Music Department were two of six faculty members throughout the UMass system to receive the 2007 President's Public Service Awards. The two were nominated by Chancellor Marty Meehan.

from the Yale University School of Music, Roberts has served as cover conductor for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and guest conductor for the Cleveland Orchestra the Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Nashville and National Symphony orchestras, and the Orchestra Svizzera Italiana, where she conducted jazz greats Max Roach, Diane Reeves and the New York Voices.

In nominating Martin, Chancellor Marty Meehan called him "a champion of K-12 science education, using robotics as the platform to encourage creative scientific investigation for students and teachers. He demonstrates how robotics can be used as an entry point to other scientific disciplines, bringing enthusiasm and creativity to a critical academic area."

Martin joined the faculty in 2002. In partnership with fellow CS Prof. Holly Yanco, he developed Botball, a series of competitions among high-school teams' robots, and Botfest, an exhibition of student-designed interactive robots. He also co-founded the Artbotics project, which combines the work of art and CS students in developing robots.

In 2006 Martin received a five-year, \$600,000 CAREER grant from the National Science Foundation, awarded to

promising pre-tenure faculty researchers to support their early work. The following year he and Doug Prime, director of K-12 outreach for the College of Engineering, in collaboration with visiting Asst. Prof. Michelle Scribner-MacLean of the Graduate School of Education, won a three-year, \$1.3 million grant from the NSF for "Building an Internet Community of Design Engineers." The project develops and supports online engineering design programs for students in grades 7 to 12 in Lowell, Lawrence and Boston.

"It's very exciting," said Martin, "and I'm extremely grateful for all the support UMass Lowell has given me, allowing me to engage in the work I'm being recognized for. I hope that some of the programs that I have fostered have made a difference to the children who have participated in them."

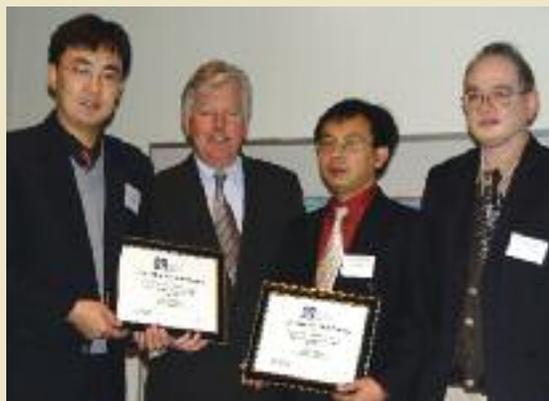
Tripathy Fellows Honored for Outstanding Research

Yanping Wang and Dingsong Feng, two doctoral candidates in the Chemistry Department's polymer science program, were awarded 2007 Tripathy Memorial Graduate Fellowships in recognition of their academic accomplishment and multidisciplinary research in the areas of materials science and polymer science.

Each award consists of a \$6,000 research stipend for the summer, plus an optional \$750 in travel funds to participate in a national meeting of the awardee's choice during the academic year.

Wang and Feng are working in industry post-doctoral positions at Konarka Technologies in Lowell and Henkel Corp. in Rocky Hill, Conn., respectively.

Now in its fifth year, the fellowship is given in memory of the late Sukant K. Tripathy, an internationally recognized leader and renowned researcher in materials science, and the founding director of the Center for Advanced Materials. A professor of chemistry, he also served as the University's provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.



From left, Yanping Wang, Chancellor Marty Meehan, Dingsong Feng and Prof. Jayant Kumar at the annual Tripathy Memorial Symposium at which Wang and Feng were awarded Tripathy Memorial Graduate Fellowships.

UML Researcher Helps to Barcode Life on Earth

While NASA is busy searching for evidence of life on Mars and elsewhere in the solar system, a global network of biologists, taxonomists and research institutions has been working quietly on an equally massive and ambitious project: to identify and catalog every living biological species on planet Earth.

Called the Consortium for the Barcode of Life (CBOL), the project, launched in 2004 by the Smithsonian Institution with funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, is committed to using molecular barcode technology as a means of identifying every organism. Rick Hochberg, an assistant professor of zoology in the Biological Sciences Department, is involved with CBOL as an associate researcher for the Smithsonian.

"A molecular bar code is a short sequence of DNA, or nucleotides, from a mitochondrial gene called cytochrome



Rick Hochberg collects water samples in Panama.

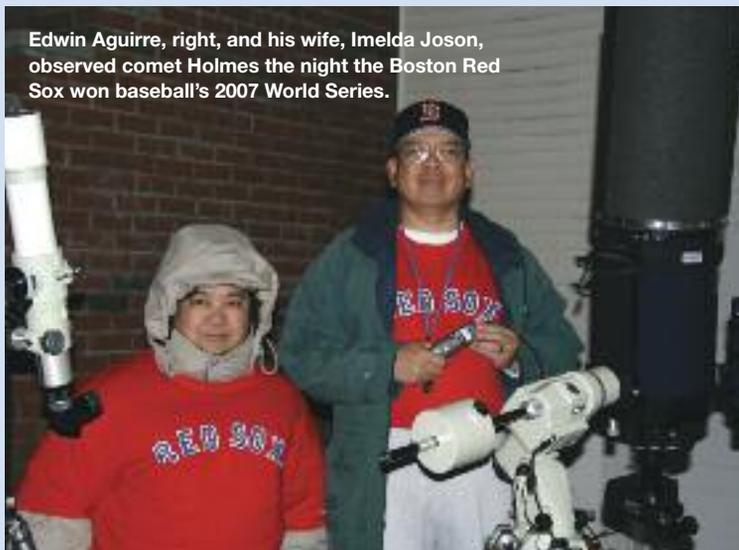
c oxidase I," he says. "This gene varies by about 1 to 2 percent per species, which means that in theory, each species will have a unique DNA barcode."

This barcode is significant because it can be sequenced from partial specimens (pieces of skin, hair, etc.), so entire organisms don't need to be sacrificed. The technique also works with all life stages of an organism and can be used to identify cryptic species, i.e., species that look identical (at least to humans). Finally, the barcode can be used to build evolutionary trees to demonstrate relationships among closely related species.

"My particular role in this project is to identify, catalog, and barcode all species of the phylum Gastrotricha," Hochberg says. "Gastrotrichs are microscopic, 0.1- to 3-mm long worms present in freshwater and marine environments."

He compiled the first inventory of marine gastrotrichs from the Bocas del Toro archipelago in Panama last summer.

Hochberg's study forms the basis for a much larger project to collect, identify, catalog and barcode all gastrotrichs of the wider Caribbean, from South Florida to the Guiana-Brazil border.



Edwin Aguirre, right, and his wife, Imelda Josen, observed comet Holmes the night the Boston Red Sox won baseball's 2007 World Series.

UML Staffer Captures an 'Exploding' Comet

Comet 17P/Holmes is a faint, nondescript cosmic visitor that uneventfully orbits the sun roughly every seven years. Except for a cadre of dedicated observers, the comet has remained largely unknown outside the astronomical community.

That is, until late last October, when the comet suddenly and unexpectedly "exploded" in brightness by nearly a million times — from visual magnitude 16 to 2.5 in just 48 hours — making the object visible to the naked eye as a bright "star" in the constellation Perseus.

"Comet Holmes didn't really blow itself apart," says Edwin Aguirre, the science and technology writer in the Public Affairs Office. "Its solid nucleus ejected a tremendous cloud of gas and dust, which reflected sunlight and dramatically increased the comet's surface brightness."

This was the third known explosive outburst of comet Holmes since November 1892, when it was discovered accidentally by English amateur astronomer Edwin Holmes.

Aguirre and his wife, Imelda Josen, were able to photograph comet Holmes from their driveway in Woburn, using a Canon EOS 20D digital SLR camera coupled to an eight-inch f/10 Meade Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. Their sequence of photos, which shows the dramatic expansion of the comet's dust cloud, was featured on the NASA website SpaceWeather.com on Nov. 8.

Aguirre joined the Public Affairs staff in September. Before coming to the University, he was an associate editor for twelve years at *Sky & Telescope*, an international monthly astronomy magazine based in Cambridge.



October 28 November 2 November 6

New Electronic 'Nose' to Sniff for Explosives

When the project is completed, a new electronic "nose" being developed by a group of UMass Lowell researchers will be able to detect and predict threats from explosives with high precision. The system is said to mimic the olfactory ability of a bloodhound.



Pradeep Kurup

The researchers are integrating novel sensor arrays based on different sensing principles with multisensor "data-fusion" techniques. The result will be a system that can detect traces of TNT and other explosives as tiny as one part per trillion, or even smaller.

The project has received a three-year, \$800,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

"Data fusion is a relatively new term that's gaining popularity, but its concept is not a new one," says Pradeep Kurup, a professor of civil and environmental engineering and the project's principal investigator.

"The human brain is perhaps the best example of a data-fusion system. The brain fuses data — sight, sound, smell, taste and touch — from multiple sensors — eyes, ears, nose, tongue and skin — and uses its memory, experience, and a priori knowledge to make inferences about the external world. For example, the sound of a voice combined with visual information, such as hair color or distinctive facial features, aids a person in recognizing an acquaintance."

There are a number of explosives-detection systems currently available but each is based on a single sensing principle. The challenge on this project will be to make different types of detectors operate in unison.

The project will have a global impact in the areas of law enforcement, defense and homeland security and counterterrorism, as well as in environmental monitoring, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and medical diagnostics.

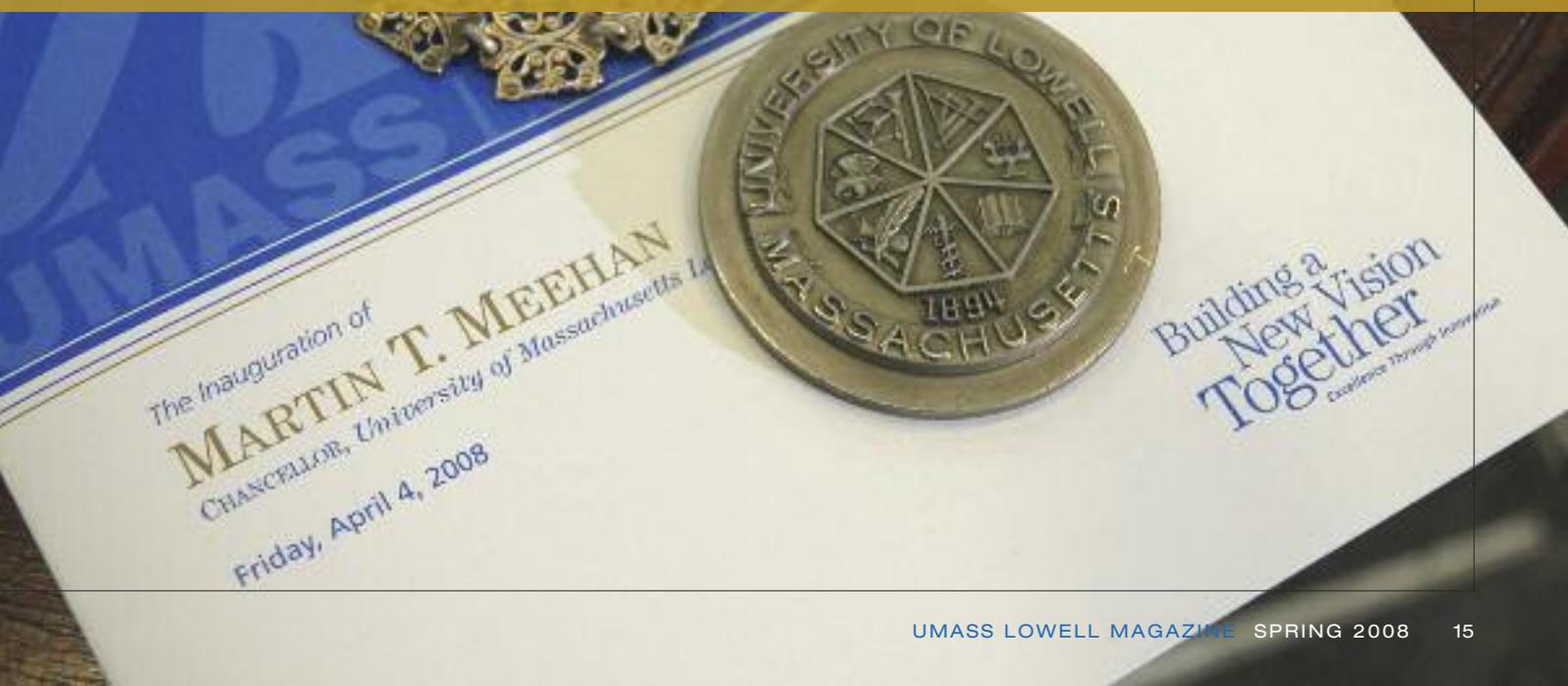
Kurup's co-principal investigators include Profs. Zhiyong Gu of chemical engineering, Ramaswamy Nagarajan of plastics engineering, Hongwei Sun of mechanical engineering and Jayant Kumar of physics.



UMass President Jack Wilson congratulates Chancellor Martin T. Meehan during the inauguration ceremony as Ellen Murphy Meehan looks on with sons Daniel and Robert.

MARTIN T. MEEHAN INAUGURATED AS CHANCELLOR OF UMASS LOWELL

Lays Out Vision for Taking 'Strong' Institution to the 'Next Level'



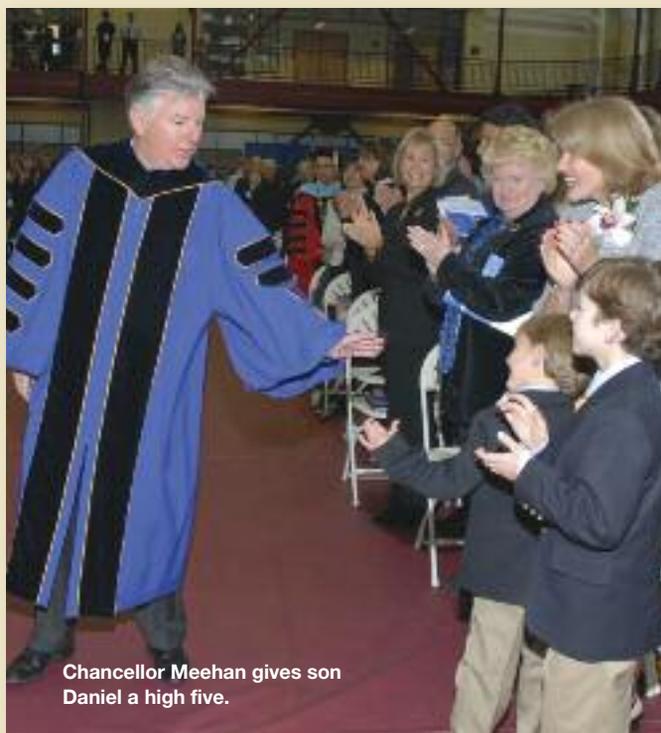
Martin T. Meehan was inaugurated as chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Lowell on Friday, April 4, committing himself to a vision of leading the institution to the “next level” of student opportunity, community engagement and heightened excellence in academic performance.

Nine months after leaving behind a distinguished fifteen-year record of service in Congress to accept the role of chancellor, Meehan was inaugurated during a colorful two-hour ceremony in the Campus Recreation Center before an audience of nearly one thousand members of the University community; delegates from other universities; city, state and national leaders; alumni; representatives of industry, and friends and family.

“It is with deep humility and a great sense of responsibility that I accept the honor of becoming the second chancellor of this great institution,” said the man who is also an alumnus of the University.

“Now I am responsible for a new generation of students who need what I once needed. This institution was here to provide me a gateway when it was time for me to further my education. The gateway through which I passed must remain accessible and affordable and be a path to excellence.

“Our new vision involves taking a strong research university to the next level toward wider opportunities for our students, increased engagement with our community, and heightened excellence in teaching, research and scholarship.”



Chancellor Meehan gives son Daniel a high five.



The inaugural ceremony, rich in academic tradition, featured Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick among a number of prominent speakers.

“Our new vision involves taking a strong research university to the next level toward wider opportunities for our students, increased engagement with our community, and heightened excellence in teaching, research and scholarship.” — Marty Meehan

UMass President Jack M. Wilson placed the Chancellor’s medallion around Meehan’s neck, symbolizing the authority and responsibility of his new office.

The event capped a week of forums, lectures and exhibits with the theme of “Building a New Vision Together: Excellence Through Innovation.”

While shining a spotlight on the strengths of the University, the week’s activities also raised \$1 million for student scholarships.



Chancellor Marty Meehan talks about his vision for the University.

Addressing the gathering at the inaugural event, Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, spoke of her respect for her friend and former colleague and her great hope for the future of the University under his leadership.

“He brought the values of Lowell to Washington, D.C. Now he brings his great reputation as a reformer in Washington to his new position as chancellor,” said Pelosi. “He was a star in Washington. He was always a son of Lowell. We wish you much success here, in your home town, your alma mater. Marty Meehan has come home.”



Chancellor Marty Meehan, Gov. Deval Patrick, George Behrakis and Charles Hoff '66

Gov. Deval Patrick brought greetings from the Commonwealth and emphasized their shared goal of keeping quality education affordable.

“Today we celebrate the wisdom of the University of Massachusetts. You have embraced the understanding of what opportunities are possible with a great education,” said Patrick. “I have confidence in our people, and none more than your new chancellor here at UMass Lowell.”

“Today we celebrate the wisdom of the University of Massachusetts. You have embraced the understanding of what opportunities are possible with a great education.”

— Gov. Patrick

Meehan had already made an impact on the campus in his first nine months of office. Some notable accomplishments: hiring a nationally recognized provost; announcing a bold plan to grow the University through new academic and research buildings; implementing plans to increase the number of students living on campus; reinvigorating a hockey program that had been on the brink of elimination; improving the University’s profile and recruitment efforts through targeted advertising and marketing and enhancing fundraising through record-setting events and private donations.

UMass President Wilson said, “Clearly, Chancellor Meehan is already off to a fantastic start. He will need all students, alumni, faculty and staff to achieve his ambitious goals for the campus.”

Rob Manning '84, chairman of the UMass Board of Trustees, spoke of an encounter with Meehan during the interview for the chancellor’s position. He asked Meehan why he wanted to become chancellor.

“He said, ‘Because I love UMass Lowell. It has given me everything that I have and I have to come back and create opportunities for people like me.’ I let that swirl around the room for a while,” said Manning. “Then I knew that he would be our next chancellor. Not because of the words he said, but the feeling behind them.”

David Sargent, president of Suffolk University where Meehan earned his master’s and juris doctorate degrees, said that



From left, U.S. Rep. Edward Markey, U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Chancellor Marty Meehan and Gov. Deval Patrick

Meehan “now stands as an exemplar for the transformative power of education. It is so perfectly fitting that the product of Lowell, the representative of Lowell, the alumnus of Lowell today be installed as the chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Lowell where I know he will have the same transformative impact on the University and the city.”

Government leaders who represent the region in Congress and state Legislature also spoke.

“As an activist member of Congress, Rep. Meehan has been a dedicated advocate for our communities and has made a real difference in our country,” said U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas. “And now Chancellor Meehan’s impact will be felt at UMass Lowell and across the region; he has the background, skills and passion to be a great asset to the University at such a critical time, leading the institution to great achievements in the innovation economy for the 21st century.”

State Sen. Steven Panagiotakos said, “Only someone with Marty’s résumé could understand the role this great University has played in ensuring the economic health of Lowell and the entire region.”

Other participants included Lowell Vice Mayor Rita Mercier; UMass Lowell Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney; Interim Provost Donald Pierson; Prof. Ann Marie Hurley of the Faculty Senate; the Rev. Nicholas Sannella of Immaculate Conception Church in Lowell; the Very Rev. Dr. Cleopas Strongylis of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Community of Lowell; UMass Lowell Student Government President Steve Holstrom and UMass Lowell honors program student Alexandria Murray.



From left, Gov. Deval Patrick, Chancellor Marty Meehan, U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Ellen Murphy Meehan with Daniel and Robert Meehan.



From left, Trustee Henry Thomas, UMass Lowell Student Trustee Anthony Beatrice, Charles Hoff '66, UMass President Jack Wilson, Chancellor Marty Meehan '78, Speaker of the U.S. House Nancy Pelosi, UMass Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Manning '84, Vice Chair James Karam, and Trustees Edward Collins and Philip Johnston



U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi



UMass President Jack Wilson

From left, Interim UMass Amherst Chancellor Thomas W. Cole, Jr., UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Jean MacCormack, UMass Lowell Chancellor Marty Meehan, U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, UMass President Jack Wilson, Gov. Deval Patrick, UMass Boston Chancellor Keith Motley and Interim UMass Medical School Chancellor Michael Collins



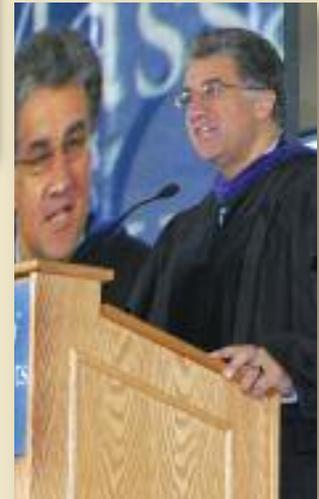
The deans, from left, David Wegman, health and environment; Bob Tamarin, sciences; Anita Greenwood, education; Charles Carroll, fine arts, humanities and social sciences; Kathryn Carter, management; Robert Gamache, UMass Marine Sciences and John Ting, engineering.



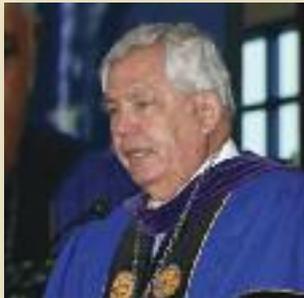
Marty Meehan accepts the plaudits of the audience after receiving the Chancellor's Medal from President Jack Wilson.



U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas.



State Sen. Steven Panagiotakos



David Sargent, president of Suffolk University.



Student Government President Stephen Holstrom '08



Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Manning '84



Honors program student Alexandria Murray '10



Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney '76, '92



State Reps. Sean Garballey, Thomas Golden, Marie St. Fleur, Brian Dempsey and David Nangle.



From left, State Reps. David Nangle, Kevin Murphy, Cory Atkins, Jamie Eldridge and Lowell Vice Mayor Rita Mercier



Lura Smith, assistant to the president of Middlesex Community College, sings the National Anthem.

Continued from inside front cover

We live in dynamic communities, and we must be able to respond to the challenges and opportunities outside our doors and across the seas.

Our inaugural theme is: “Building a New Vision Together: Excellence Through Innovation.”

But what does that mean?

Our new vision involves taking a strong research university to the next level toward wider opportunities for our students, increased engagement with our community and heightened excellence in teaching, research and scholarship.

In the spirit of educator Ernest Boyer, I want us to infuse the word “scholarship” with a broader meaning — one that embraces the concepts of discovery, teaching, engagement and integration.

Part of the great legacy I have been bequeathed is an outstanding faculty and renowned academic programs.

We must build upon that foundation to give our students the richest possible intellectual experience.

I am confident that our new nationally and internationally known provost, Dr. Ahmed Abdelal, will help us achieve great progress toward this goal.

We are proud of our world-renowned, innovative community partnerships which bring faculty, staff and students together with the public to solve problems and develop resources.

Our world is interdisciplinary.

We should encourage scholars who leap beyond boundaries to find new patterns of connectivity and insight.

As chancellor, I do not see north or south or east when I look at this campus.

I see one University. We are together today. We are going forward together.

The new bridge to be built across the Merrimack River will symbolize our desire for enhanced two-way connections with our neighbors near and far.

We will build more bridges to other sectors, private and public, for-profit and nonprofit business and cultural.

Over the next several years, this campus will be physically transformed. New buildings will rise on each side of the river.

Some say the best way to predict the future is to invent it. Well, we are going to design and build our future right here.

Our goal is to increase enrollment, growing our student body by 2.5 percent a year and becoming more diverse. Diversity drives creativity. We say to people of all races, ethnicities, classes, religions, genders and sexual orientations; here you will find a welcome learning and working environment.

We are committed to increasing the percentage of women at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and across disciplines, especially in the fields of math and science. We are also committed to building a more vibrant campus life. Our goal is to see half our undergraduates living on campus and enjoying the arena and ballpark — which were built with university and state

investment — as well as festivals, the National Park and many other Lowell attractions.

Part of our mission statement commits us to supporting “the development of sustainable technologies and communities”. We cannot be healthy if our world is not healthy. Our vision for UMass Lowell is to be a model sustainable community.

From practicing energy efficiency and recycling to ensuring that our new and retrofitted buildings meet the highest “green” standards.

And you know we have the pieces in place to achieve our vision. To help realize our new vision I will be an active listener, a collaborative leader who is accessible and responsive, who values accountability, transparency and an optimistic, entrepreneurial spirit. I say to each member of this community — to my new colleagues — I will need your help to guide this University forward.

I worked in Washington for fifteen years. I had the opportunity to travel the world and meet with leaders of many, many foreign countries.

But for all my life, Lowell and this region have been my home. This University has always been close to my heart and the aspirations of the people of this region are my aspirations.

The scientist E. O. Wilson says, “Knowledge accompanied by pleasurable emotion stays with us.” That’s exactly how I recall my years on this campus. This University gave me the intellectual capacity, the analytical skills and the inspiration to contribute to our society. This University is about creating and preserving knowledge, opening and inspiring eager minds, broadening outlooks to encourage tolerance and fairness, applying knowledge to improve people’s lives.

Now I am responsible for a new generation of students who need what I once needed.

This institution was here to provide me a gateway when it was time to further my education.

The gateway through which I passed must remain accessible and affordable and be a path to excellence. I commit to provide that and more to go further because students at this public university deserve the very best. When I walk this campus, I see myself in the students I meet.

They come from modest backgrounds and stand on the brink of unlocking their potential.

They will leave UMass Lowell ready to be decision-makers, entrepreneurs and leaders.

They will leave, with heads held high, knowing they can compete against and collaborate with the best in the world, because of what they learned here because of what they gained here.

Keeping faith with those who came before us, we seek to make a better life for those who are here now and for generations yet to come. This is our unifying passion.

We shall achieve excellence through innovation.

And we will do all of this together.

Week of Inaugural Events Highlighted University's Strengths

The UMass Lowell campus was abuzz with activity during the first week in April, with a variety of inaugural events showcasing the strengths of the University. Featured events included:

- “Martin T. Meehan: Vision, Courage, Service,” an exhibit that highlighted Chancellor Marty Meehan’s congressional and public service career.

- “Engaging and Transforming Students — The UMass Lowell Effect,” an electronic exhibit that featured the stories of some of the countless students who have experienced the transformative effect of UMass Lowell.

- “A Vision for Addressing Climate Change,” a panel of decision-makers and industry leaders discussed the challenges and best approaches for addressing climate change both for the United States and New England.

- “UML Research: Creating the Future of the Commonwealth,” which featured the work of more than 100 faculty members, was unveiled at a luncheon for high school guidance counselors. Exhibits and presentations by faculty covered a wide range of topics, including the relationship of arthritis to certain occupations, an overview of art history, exercise and rehabilitation science, robotics and the latest on Alzheimer’s. The event was sponsored by the Faculty Union, of which Prof. Robert Parkin is president.

- “Evaluation of a University-Based Social and Vocational Skills Program for Adolescents and Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum,” a Psychology Department Colloquium on autism by Asst. Prof. Ashleigh Hillier.

- “Achieving Excellence through Partnerships – UML and the Community,” a panel that focused on community partnerships in Lowell and Lawrence, business partnerships and health and education partnerships.

- An honors program lecture and discussion by author Jonah Lehrer about how new visions can sometimes be found in unusual places and innovation can be fostered by interdisciplinary communication.



UMass Lowell Chancellor Marty Meehan speaks with Gururaj “Desh” Deshpande, co-founder and chairman of Sycamore Networks. Deshpande was the keynote speaker at “Innovation for the Next Generation,” a signature event during inauguration week that also featured a panel of distinguished alumni.

- “Innovation for the Next Generation,” a panel discussion led by Gururaj Deshpande, co-founder and chairman of Sycamore Networks, with alumni Michael Olivieri ’85, publisher of the Boston Business Journal and Mass High Tech; Joseph Vaillancourt ’90, ’01, managing director of organic growth at Waste Management and Kenneth Steinberg ’86, chief executive officer and founder of Savant Protection.

- M. Virginia Biggy Lecture by author and activist Jonathan Kozol with a panel discussion led by Bridgewater



Featured speaker and Greeley Scholar for Peace Studies Linda Biehl, at left, with guest speaker Ntobeko Peni of South Africa; Assoc. Prof. Dan Egan of Sociology and Rev. Imogene Stulken of Campus Ministry.



Jonathan Kozol delivers Biggy lecture.

State College President Dana Mohler-Faria, the governor’s special adviser for education.

- “Re-envisioning Local, National and Global Security as if Women Mattered,” a talk by Prof. Cynthia Enloe, Clark University, a noted feminist, political scientist and author of many books, to celebrate the Center for Women and Work’s 10th annual Gathering at the Well.

- “A New Vision for Peace: Creative Strategies for Responding to Gang Violence,” a talk by Linda Biehl, world-renowned peace and reconciliation expert, director of the Amy Biehl Foundation Trust and the University’s first Greeley Scholar for Peace Studies.

- “Living the Legacy – Concert for Peace,” a concert to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., featuring the New England Orchestra, under the direction of Prof. Kay George Roberts.

One Million Dollars Raised Through Inauguration

The inauguration of Chancellor Marty Meehan may be viewed as a model for other institutions that want to officially welcome their leader and raise scholarship money at the same time.

Sponsors and donors to the inauguration of Chancellor Meehan exceeded all expectations, raising \$1 million for scholarships through the most successful fundraiser ever at the University. The more than \$700,000 in private donations will receive a 50 percent match from the University of Massachusetts system, most going to the Chancellor Martin T. Meehan Educational Excellence Endowment Fund.

Money came in from many sources, some familiar, such as overall inauguration sponsor Charles Hoff '66 who donated \$50,000, and some who have never given money to the University before, such as the New England Patriots Foundation. Costs for the week of inauguration activities were kept as low as possible — for instance, all events were held on campus to avoid rental fees — which will allow most proceeds to go directly to scholarships.

Sponsors of \$25,000 and more were recognized at the Inaugural Benefit Gala at Allen House the night before the inaugural ceremony. In addition to Hoff and the New England Patriots Foundation, these included Aramark Corp., George Behrakis, the Demoulas Foundation, John F. Kennedy '70, L. Donald LaTorre '59 and the Lowell Sun. Two hundred people, who paid \$1,000 a ticket or were sponsors, packed the historic home of Charles Allen for the festivities.



Student Dayna Brown brought down the house accompanying the Faculty Jazz Quintet during the Inaugural Benefit Concert.

Also honored at the gala for being Honorary Inaugural Committee co-chairs were Behrakis, who also co-chaired the recently completed provost search; Richard and Nancy Donahue; and Carole Ward. Alumnus Alan Solomont '77 received the Circle of Distinction Award.

“This scholarship [fund] will play a vital role in shaping our student body in the future.”

— Marty Meehan

The first student to benefit from this new scholarship endowment fund is Rachel Carnes, a senior who was hit by a truck while waiting for a bus on University Avenue in January. Carnes, who recently returned to campus after recovering from life-threatening injuries, will graduate debt-free thanks to the scholarship.

“This scholarship [fund] will play a vital role in shaping our student body in the future,” Meehan said during the gala. “We’re going to bring in a more diverse student body, and students who otherwise couldn’t afford to come to UMass Lowell now will be able to attend.”

Members of the campus and local communities contributed to the scholarship fundraising effort by purchasing \$100 tickets to the Inaugural Benefit Concert, held in Durgin Hall on Thursday night before the gala. The concert highlighted the many talented students and faculty involved in the University’s music program, and also featured a reading from Andre Dubus III, award-winning author of “House of Sand and Fog.” Most proceeds from the concert will go to music scholarships.

For a complete list of top sponsors, visit www.uml.edu/inauguration.



Athletics Director Dana Skinner, UMass Boston Chancellor Keith Motley and his wife, Angela, and Carol and Edward Barrett



Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney, George Behrakis, Provost Ahmed Abdelal and Margo Behrakis



Prof. Kay George Roberts



From left, Prof. Luvai Motiwalla, Prof. David Lewis and Assoc. Prof. Edward Chen



The Public Affairs staff at the Benefit Concert, from left, Gerry Nelson, Patti McCafferty, Elizabeth James, Suzanne Dulude-Potter, Renae Lias Claffey, Elaine Keough, Kristen O'Reilly, Victoria Dalis and Sheila Eppolito



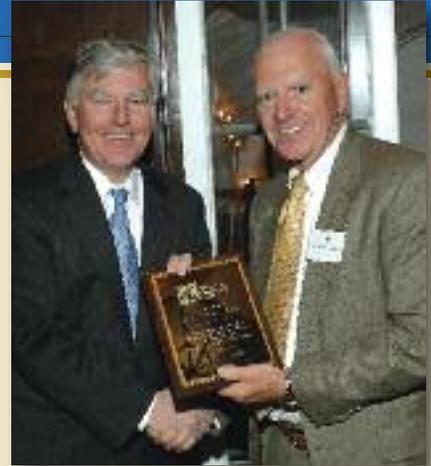
Denise Anastasopoulos, Mary Connelly, Brenda Evans, Pat Vaillancourt, Louise Griffin and Joan Handstad



Prof. Ann Marie Hurley, Prof. Emerita May Futrell and Prof. Robert Parkin.



Attorney Michael Zaim, Saints Medical Center President and CEO Michael Guley, David Pender, All Sports Promotion President Mike Kuenzler and Trinity Ambulance President John Chemaly



Chancellor Marty Meehan thanks Lowell Sun Publisher Kendall Wallace for his sponsorship of the inauguration.



From left, May Futrell, Jan Stecchi, Susan and Alan Solomont '77 and Marty Meehan



Staffers Kathy Rourke, Jackie Paradise and Laurice Achin



Chancellor Marty Meehan with Inaugural Co-Chair George Behrakis and Charles Hoff '66



Athletics Director Dana Skinner greets the Meehan family.



Chancellor Marty Meehan chats with English Department faculty members Tony Szczesiul and Marlowe Miller.



The University Choir at the Benefit Concert



From left, Terry O'Connor, Executive Director of Outreach Paul Marion, Rosemary Noon, John Pearson, Jr. and Barbara Pearson



Nancy Donahue, Susan and Alan Solomont '77, Chancellor Marty Meehan and Richard Donahue



Prof. Andres Dubus III '83



Chancellor Marty Meehan with Mark Russell '83 of Raytheon Corp.



Chancellor Marty Meehan congratulates the first recipient of the Martin T. Meehan Educational Excellence Award, Rachel Carnes, a senior who was seriously injured in a traffic accident on University Avenue earlier this year.

Rachel Carnes Awarded First Meehan Educational Excellence Endowment Award

Rachel Carnes, a senior in business administration who was seriously injured in a freak traffic accident on University Avenue in January, was presented with the first Martin T. Meehan Educational Excellence Endowment Fund award during Chancellor Meehan's inaugural ceremony.

The scholarship will cover all her outstanding debt and the cost of the remainder of her undergraduate education, which she plans to complete in the fall.

While seated at the bus stop opposite Cumnock Hall, Carnes was seriously injured when struck by a pickup truck that leaped the curbing and raced along the sidewalk. She was airlifted to Boston where she spent two and a half months in hospitals and rehabilitation.

In presenting the award during inauguration ceremonies, Meehan said she persevered in the face of adversity. "It's a miraculous story that she is back on campus," he said. More than \$1 million will be available from the fund for student scholarships, largely due to fundraising related to Meehan's inauguration week events.

"I really love school a lot," Carnes said. "I really just wanted to go back to school really bad" and back to "my life."

'Thoughtful, Entertaining' Sunrise Show Celebrates an Anniversary

By Jack McDonough

It's 6:46 a.m. on a Thursday when Bob Ellis bursts into the studio, satchel in hand.

Wearing his trademark dark outfit — with leather vest, lime green shirt and a necktie that shouts — he takes a seat, digs into his bag and pulls out a half dozen bottles of water, a set of headphones and a sheaf of notes and schedules.

It's 14 minutes to air time and Ellis is ready.

But he wasn't the first one to arrive. The engineer, Perry Persoff, was there ninety minutes earlier, writing sports copy and doing everything else that needs doing to put the show on the air.

The show is Sunrise, WUML's morning news and interview program, which celebrated its third anniversary earlier this year.



Also on hand is today's co-host, Jim Wilde, executive director of the Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership, who will join Ellis in talking with the day's on-air guests.

While Ellis and Wilde discuss the merits of MP3s, iPods and cell phones, Persoff is all business, getting the first guest on the telephone and counting down the minutes.

At 7 a.m. on the dot, Persoff says, "Here we go." The chatter stops. Ellis leans in to the microphone and announces, "This is Sunrise." Another show is on the air.

After Persoff reads the news, sports and weather, the first guest is political consultant Michael Goldman. He chats with Ellis and Wilde about the recent presidential primaries. Goldman can't see it, but Ellis punctuates his questions with gestures, repeatedly tapping the tented fingers of his right hand on the table.

At the break following that segment, while recorded public service announcements and promotional pieces play, Ellis and Persoff discuss the sound quality of the Goodman inter-

view with Sunrise Executive Producer Christine Dunlap, who also is now on hand. They had detected a slight static-like sound. "Was he on a cell phone?" Dunlap asks. The answer is no. The noise remains a mystery.

Other interviews follow. Northeastern University Journalism Prof. Dan Kennedy shares his thoughts by phone about recent layoffs at newspapers large and small. The next two guests appear in studio. Attorney Mary Jane McKenna talks about her new position at the law firm of Gallagher and Cavanaugh, and her role in the Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys; and Guy Lefebvre, owner of The Lowell Gallery, talks about the world of art.

Actress Gloria Bieglar, who plays the role of Julia in the MRT production of Edward Albee's "A Delicate Balance," is the final guest of the morning, another telephone interview.

The three hours pass surprisingly quickly, probably because when you're in the studio, there's a lot happening — or about to happen — every minute.

As Dunlap says, "The program may not sound complicated to the listener but it is. It's a ballet."

Launched on Jan. 2, 2005, Sunrise offers what Dunlap describes as "thoughtful, entertaining radio focusing on issues, events and people of the Merrimack Valley." It also serves as a laboratory, teaching student interns news writing, production and engineering skills.

"We always try for the local angle," she says. "National Public Radio can do a great job reporting events from someplace like Iraq, but our pieces will tell the stories of the local men and women who have been there. We feel we offer what no one else does."

Michael Gallagher says pretty much the same thing. He's the founding partner of the law firm of Gallagher & Cavanaugh, one of the underwriters of Sunrise.

The program, he says, "provides something radio listeners can't get anywhere else: in-depth, informative interviews

with intriguing guests and thought-provoking essays on matters of local and regional interest.”

He believes the show enables his firm to reach “an engaged audience of individuals, business leaders and decision-makers who care about local and regional issues and happenings.”

Another underwriter is the Merrimack Valley Magazine, which has been associated with the program since it began publishing in 2006. Publisher Glenn Prezzano says, “Our relationship with WUML has been very effective in raising awareness of our publication. We plan to continue our relationship as an underwriter as it both supports quality, informative programming and benefits our business and the greater Merrimack Valley community.”

Other underwriters include Lowell General Hospital, the Lowell Five Savings Bank and UMass Online.

“Our listeners are, in general, highly educated and have higher-than-average household incomes,” Dunlap says. “The audience is growing and we continue working to expand it. This is the kind of programming our audience wants and they can’t get anywhere else.”

What the audience gets to hear are interesting discussions with Merrimack Valley residents from all walks of life: business, political and community leaders; artists and writers; health care professionals; teachers; librarians; university faculty members and researchers. The list is long.

Many well-known personalities from outside the area who have been part of Sunrise include author/historian Doris Kearns Goodwin and Massachusetts GOP Chairman Peter Torkildsen, as well as former Red Sox General Manager Lou Gorman and Roger Cook of the “This Old House” television program.

The person responsible for rounding up all this talent is Sunrise Producer Henri Marchand.

“It’s like putting on a variety show every day,” he says. “We try to mix it up, day to day and week to week. We schedule topics that we believe would be interesting for all listeners. If a subject interests us, we think it will interest listeners.

“We look for a range of personalities and people with different expertise. The essays are very popular, too.”

The five-minute essays, aired at 7:55 each morning, cover a wide range of topics from the serious to the not-so-serious (do wire coat hangers reproduce in the closet when you’re



The staff that produces the Sunrise show each weekday morning includes, standing from left, Henri Marchand, Christine Dunlap and Bob Ellis, and, seated, Perry Persoff.

not looking?). The essayists include members of the UMass Lowell faculty and staff, school teachers, authors, newspaper reporters and other writers from different walks of life.

Tom Tiger, the technical and operations director for WUML, produces many of the essays, molding each recording into a smooth finished product with music and, when appropriate, sound effects.

Dunlap and Ellis, a long-time Merrimack Valley radio personality, take turns hosting the show, always with one of a number of regular co-hosts.

Broadcasting on 91.5 FM with 1400 watts of power from a newly renovated studio beneath Alumni Hall, the station’s signal reaches an audience throughout the Merrimack Valley and beyond. The Sunrise program offers prizes in a daily trivia contest, and the respondents call in from as far west as Fitchburg, as far east as Haverhill, as far south as Waltham and as far north as Manchester, N.H.

The Sunrise program and WUML as a whole seek to advance the mission of the University. The station’s goals include communicating UML’s message to internal and external audiences; supporting the University’s advancement efforts; boosting faculty staff and student morale and strengthening the bonds connecting students and alumni with government, community and business leaders.

“We’re meeting those goals,” Dunlap says. “I know we are.”

The Sunrise show is heard weekdays from 7 to 10 a.m. on 91.5 FM and online at uml.edu/sunrise. Information about guests, podcasts of most previously aired interviews and schedules about upcoming programs is available at uml.edu/sunrise.

Cahill, Paige and Curran Named to UML Athletic Hall of Fame

Three outstanding scholar-athletes Jon Cahill '01, Jill (Croft) Paige '02 and Brandon Curran '03 have been inducted into the UMass Lowell Athletic Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremony took place in May as part of the Excellence Banquet, held in the Costello Athletic Center.

In addition to her University honor, Paige also has been inducted into the Northeast-10 Conference Hall of Fame.

Cahill, a member of the River Hawk baseball team from 1998 to 2001, led the squad to four NCAA tournament bids and its first-ever trip to the Division II college World Series.

Paige, who starred in track and field, becomes the first UML athlete named to the NE-10 Hall since the University became part of that conference in the 2000-01 season. She was the most decorated female athlete of her time, earning All-America honors seven times in the indoor and outdoor long jump, indoor high jump and indoor 60-meter dash.

Curran spearheaded the ascent of the men's soccer program to regional and national prominence earlier in this decade, a level the program has maintained.

From his sophomore year on, Cahill collected multiple honors, peaking with his senior year in which he was named to the American Baseball Coaches Association All-America First Team.

His coach, Jim Stone, now retired, says, "Jon was just an all-around good player. He worked awfully hard and did so many things well. He's just a terrific kid from a terrific family."

George Davis, who retired in 2002 after thirty-three years of coaching, says of Paige: "Jill was coachable. She was aggressive in the sense that she wanted to be better. She enjoyed that aspect of competition. She was also a very good leader, a good teammate and a wonderful person."

Regarding Curran and his effect on the soccer program, Coach Ted Priestly says, "Brandon's impact on UMass Lowell soccer has been immeasurable. He's an example of exactly the type of player that has made the program successful. He played every game as though it was his last and he sacrificed individual goals for the betterment of the team."



Jill Paige



Brandon Curran



Jon Cahill

Hockey Team Doubles Win Total from Previous Season

The River Hawks Hockey team took nationally ranked Boston University to the tie-breaking third game in the quarterfinals of the Hockey East tournament in March before losing 4-1. Despite the loss, the season was widely regarded as a success as the team doubled its win total from last year, finishing 16-17-4.

The River Hawks were nationally ranked for eleven weeks in the USCHO.com/CSTV Division I poll, reaching as high as No. 13 in January.

Several players enjoyed breakout seasons. Kory Falite led the league with 15 goals in 27 games and was named a Hockey East Second Team All Star. He finished with a team-leading 18 goals overall and 32 points. Maury Edwards led UML rookies with 19 points on eight goals and 11 assists and was named to the league's All-Rookie team. The freshman tied for the team lead with 14 power play points and led the squad with seven power-play goals. Barry Goers (4 goals, 20 assists), Mark Roebathan (14 goals, 9 assists), Mike Potacco (10 goals, 12 assists) and Ben Holmstrom (7 goals, 20 assists) also enjoyed career seasons.

Jeremy Dehner, perhaps the best defenseman in Hockey East, had a solid season as a sophomore despite missing six games with an injury. Dehner chipped in with 16 points on one goal and 15 assists. Freshman center Scott Campbell finished second on the squad with 18 points on seven goals and 11 assists.

As a team, the River Hawks received the Charlie Holt Sportsmanship Award as Hockey East's least-penalized team. UML averaged just 10.1 penalty minutes per game in league games and just 10.8 minutes in penalties in all games.

The River Hawks drew 64,517 fans in 19 home games for an average of 3,396 per game (up from 2,984 last season).

Sports Illustrated Features UML's Hlebichuk

Field Hockey Head Coach Shannon Hlebichuk was featured in the February issue of Sports Illustrated as one of its "Faces In the Crowd."

Hlebichuk is the third UML coach or student-athlete to receive such national recognition since 2004.



Hlebichuk was named the NCAA Division II Coach of the Year by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association for the third time in five years following another sterling season. She guided the River Hawks to a 19-3 record this past fall, which included Northeast-10 Conference tournament and regular season championships. She was named the NE-10 Coach of the Year for the fifth straight time.

In six years as head coach, Hlebichuk and the River Hawks have compiled a 100-31 record, which includes five straight NE-10 Tournament titles and the 2005 national championship.

Former UML Catcher Singles in First Major League At-bat

Matt Tupman of the Kansas City Royals, only the second former UMass Lowell baseball player to make the major leagues, singled in his first major league at-bat on May 18 in the Royals' 9-3 victory over the Florida Marlins.

The left-handed hitting catcher achieved the milestone as a pinch hitter in the top of the ninth inning. He then went behind the plate for the bottom half of the inning.

The Concord, N.H., native helped lead UMass Lowell to its only two Division II World Series appearances, in 2001 and 2002. He left school prior to his senior year when he was drafted in the ninth round of the major league draft by Kansas City.

In 24 games with AAA Omaha this season, Tupman was batting .278 with four home runs before being called up to KC.

The only other former River Hawk to make the majors was Mike LaValliere, also a catcher, who played for the Phillies, Cardinals, Pirates and White Sox from 1984 through 1995.

Seven Field Hockey Players Make National Academic Team

Seven members of the UMass Lowell field hockey team were named to the 2007 National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division II National Academic Team.

Senior Jayne Vagenas was named to the squad for the fourth straight season, while juniors Missy Seeley and Sasha Lovejoy were each chosen for the third straight time. Sophomore Molly Clay was picked for the second year. Lizzy Ales, Sammy Macy and Amy Carbon made the squad as freshmen.

In addition to the seven individuals named to the squad, the entire team was recognized for posting a team grade-point average of 3.0 or higher.

The River Hawks finished the 2007 season 19-3 and made their fourth consecutive trip to the NCAA tournament. UML captured the 2007 Northeast-10 regular season with a 15-1 regular season conference record and won the NE-10 tournament title for the fifth straight year.



Student-Athletes Finance Disney Trip for Alums' Daughter

Melissa Delisle '98 holds her daughter, Alana, who gives a high-five to River Hawk hockey team captain Ben Holmstrom prior to a February game against Maine. Alana, who dropped the ceremonial puck before the start of the game, is winning a battle against Ewing's Sarcoma, a rare form of cancer. UML student-athletes raised \$7,500 through various events for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which enabled Alana and her family to visit Disney World. Joining the group at center ice are Melissa's husband, Joe '98, and their other daughter, Ella.

Remembering the Early Days: Big Challenges, and the Opportunity to Prevail

by Geoffrey Douglas

The ULowell Computer Science Department was barely a fledgling when David Shulman first joined it, as an undergraduate, in the fall of 1981. Its equipment was mostly donated — punch cards, a few DECwriter terminals hooked up to Control Data Cyber computers and, later, a DEC Vax. Its faculty had been looted from other departments: math, physics, music, management. Its classrooms and offices — which would move a year later, then again three years after that — were shoehorned onto parts of two floors of Olsen Hall.

“But it was great,” Shulman remembers today. “We were so small, and so new at things — it was almost like being part of a small company. There was real opportunity for flexibility, for innovation. It was the kind of hands-on experience you just don’t get everywhere.”

Shulman, who graduated in 1985 with a 3.96 GPA in mathematics and computer science, remembers working with both Prof. Tom Costello — today the University’s interim chief information officer — and Prof. Charlie Steele, his faculty advisor at the time. It was Steele, he recalls, who got him involved, in his freshman year, in a graduate-level honors program in combinatorics math:

“It was small. I think there were only five of us. And it was tough, the toughest course I ever had in my life. But I like to learn things. I like new challenges. If you give me something new like that, something I haven’t tried before, I’m probably going to say, ‘Sure, I’ll give it a try’...Plus, I learned so much. We were working with real things, real problems. It was an experience I probably couldn’t have had anywhere else.”

It was a third computer science professor, David Korff, a former member of the physics faculty, who would be responsible for the young Shulman’s first job, which he began while still working toward his ULowell master’s degree: as director of software development at North East Research in Woburn, where Korff himself, by then, was serving as president.



David Shulman, right, his partner Erik, and Erik’s adopted son, Matthew. The three merged households in 2002, around the time Shulman left Microsoft to start a company of his own.

But it wasn’t to be a long assignment. In the summer of 1988, Korff died unexpectedly. Not long after, Shulman saw an ad in a computer-industry magazine from a software company in Washington state. The company had gone public three years before; it was expanding, and looking for programmers. Its name was Microsoft.

“I flew out, we talked, I guess we both liked what we saw,” is how he remembers things today. He began working at Microsoft not long after, as a programmer of e-mail and

scheduling software — and moved up from there, through a series of positions, until he was managing a group of fifty employees. By the time he'd been there thirteen years, he was a liaison between a corps of scientists and developers and the company's executive staff.

This was the time, of course, of Microsoft's grand ascension. In 1989, the same year Shulman came on board, the company launched its flagship office suite, Microsoft Office, followed a year later by Windows 3.0 —which sold 100,000 copies in the first two weeks alone.

Then came a series of new products — and new markets — as the stock price continued to rise. Bill Gates was on his way to being an American icon; the Microsoft culture would be the template for U.S. corporate life. It was a heady time.

And not always an easy one. There were a lot of seventy- and eighty-hour work-weeks, Shulman remembers, and a lot of working weekends: "Sometimes life could feel like non-stop work." But there were compensations: "The company treated me well," he says. "There were stock options. I was very fortunate."

"I was glad to be able to give. My time at ULowell was a critical time for me. The opportunities I had there, the challenges and the confidence people placed in me — I can't imagine where I'd have been without all that. It was a very big part of everything that followed."

— David Shulman

He was nearing 40 by then, though, and beginning to feel, as he puts it, that "it might be time to think about what I wanted to do with my life." Also, he had met someone, another Microsoft employee, named Erik, and the two were starting to talk seriously about joining their lives. "It was a time for me then," he remembers, "when family thoughts and obligations were starting to ramp up in my mind."

He left Microsoft in 2002 — around the time the time he and Erik, and Erik's adopted son, Matthew, merged households — and founded his own company, a technical consulting service, Sargon Technology, in Bellevue, Wash. And though he and Sargon would eventually part ways — he has been with Motorola since 2005, engineering public-service software — he and Erik remain together, in their home in

"My gift will assure that it'll always be there — and that's good to know. If I'm not mistaken, it's the only ACM club that's ever been endowed. There's something kind of special about that."

— David Shulman

Bellevue, where Matthew, now 13, is today attending private school.

His generosity to the University began in the late 1990s, with a \$100,000 scholarship fund — the David E. Shulman Fund for Excellence in Computer Science, which supports scholarships and a lecture series — and which, because he was still with Microsoft at the time, was augmented by funds from both the company and the state of Massachusetts, bringing the total to nearly twice that amount.

"I was glad to be able to give. My time at ULowell was a critical time for me. The opportunities I had there, the challenges and the confidence people placed in me — I can't imagine where I'd have been without all that. It was a very big part of everything that followed."

In addition to the Shulman Fund, he has also made two smaller gifts: one honoring the 25th anniversary, four years ago, of the Computer Science Department, which has grown almost beyond recognition since his day; and a second to endow a lesser-known entity, the Association of Computer Machinery student chapter fund — which, to hear him tell it, holds a very special place in his heart:

"It's just a club, a social organization, I guess you'd say, where computer science students come to hang out, to meet and talk and work on projects together. But it's important. It's a gathering place. It brings [like-minded] people together. It's a real necessity, I think..."

"My gift will ensure that it'll always be there — and that's good to know. If I'm not mistaken, it's the only ACM club that's ever been endowed. There's something kind of special about that."

Rob Manning: *The New UMass Board Chairman Maps His Priorities, Looks Toward the Future*

It was only a year ago, in the spring 2007 edition of this magazine, that we were celebrating the appointment of ULowell alumnus Rob Manning to the UMass Board of Trustees. And now here it is spring again — and he has been named the board's chairman. It might be hard, looking back, to find another member who has managed the ascension quite as fast.

"Sometimes things just happen in life," is as far as Manning will go in claiming credit — though he does acknowledge that his financial background may have played a part in the decision. "I'm not a political kind of guy, I don't play politics at all," he says. "I'm just a big believer in the value of a public education. I'm passionate about it. And I *ought* to be — I'm a product of one myself."

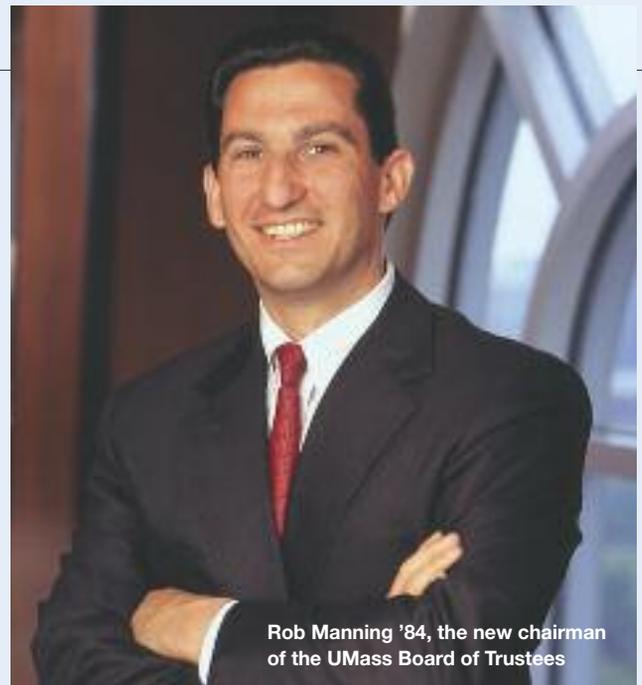
A 1984 ULowell business administration graduate, he turned down a job offer from Wang Laboratories — at the time the state's technology darling, with \$3 billion in revenues — to take a job selling junk bonds for MFS Investment Management in Boston. Today, fourteen years later, he is president and CEO of the company, which manages \$150 billion in assets worldwide.

His prognosis for the UMass system, as he steps into the driver's seat of the body that directs its business, could hardly be more bullish. "We're better positioned than we've been in generations," he says. "We're well bolstered in technology, healthcare, the life sciences, all the things we excel at. We're really well situated there. We just need to make the investments to ensure our future, to ensure that we hold onto our edge."

There are two broad, overriding priorities, Manning says, that should command the board's attention at least through the immediate future. Both are building projects. The first is a rebuilding of the University's infrastructure. The second is the strengthening of its alumni support.

"We can't continue to rely on state support, as we have in the past," the new board chairman says. "We can't rely on the legislature. We've got to expand on our own, through whatever means we can — including, where necessary, the taking on of debt."

Accordingly, he says, the University is embarking on a \$2.4 billion, ten-year expansion campaign, designed,



Rob Manning '84, the new chairman of the UMass Board of Trustees

among other things, to address the infrastructure needs of all the campuses in the system.

"Our buildings are old. The move is overdue. Past budget cuts have delayed these expansions. They've been put off for too long. We need to upgrade our properties — our science and tech buildings, our classrooms, our labs and research facilities — if we're going to attract the sort of new faculty we need to have to compete. Every campus has its own plan, its own priorities. But it's a move that needs to be made."

Of all the campuses, says Manning, Lowell's needs may be the greatest.

"It has the oldest buildings. There haven't been any new [academic] buildings in something like forty years. The campus is known for certain things — nanotechnology, the health sciences. It has to continue its investment in those areas, as well as in others. It has to continue drawing good faculty. It can't afford to let that slide."

The second priority could almost be said to be an outgrowth of the first. Alumni support, says Manning, is going to be a critical cog in the future growth of the University system:

"We've got to reach out to our alumni, encourage their participation, ask for their support. A lot of them, I think, haven't bonded with the mission yet. They've got to be made aware of what the needs are. We need to bring them in closer touch."

One way to do this, he says — and at the same time, to build bridges toward the future — is to reach out to students while they are still enrolled, as well as to young alumni early in their careers: "We need to have more interaction between students and alumni groups, maybe

through events like the 'Night at the Pops' or something similar. We've got to get the word out to these people early, get them caring and involved. You could think of it as a branding campaign."

All of which takes him on yet another tangent — although, as is often the way with him, there's a definite tie-in involved:

"We need to improve student life, to create more of a life on the campus itself," he says. "The hockey program the chancellor is backing is one way to do this — that's a strong priority with him, and it's a good one — and there have to be others as well. Whatever can be done to enrich the life our students have while they're here. That's going to bond them to the school, which in turn creates supporters in future years."

The new chancellor, Manning says, is one of several reasons he believes the University is on a promising track.

"He's the night person at the right time. And he's made an incredibly strong start," he says. "I've gotten the chance to get to know him some over these past months, and to get a sense of his priorities. I think they're good ones, and I think the world of him. He's an asset already. He'll be an even bigger one down the line."

As for his own contributions to the University, they continue to grow, the new chairman says. Speaking to this magazine a year ago — shortly after first being named to the Board — he laid out the broad diagram of the commitment he and his wife have made: the Robert and Donna Manning Endowed Scholarship Fund, originally funded with a pledge of \$100,000 (augmented by \$50,000 from the state), which is to endow two \$3,000 scholarships per year, one each from the College of Management and the nursing program of the School of Health and Environment (Donna Manning, who earned both her B.S. and M.B.A. at ULowell, is today an oncology nurse in Boston, and serves on the advisory board of the UMass Lowell Nursing Department).

"We continue to increase our commitment," he says today. "Endowing scholarships has been, for both Donna and me, an enormously rewarding thing. We're both products of the education we got at ULowell — and we both owe it more than we could say."

"And we live in a state that's defined by the quality of its educational institutions, and by its educated workforce. So when you're investing in that, you're investing in our strength. And in our future. And it doesn't get any better than that."

"IT'S THE LOWELL FUND CALLING..."



You may have received a call from one of our students asking for your support of the Lowell Fund. Each year a team of 40 students call more than 40,000 alumni. Here are answers to the top three questions these students are asked:

1. WHAT IS THE LOWELL FUND?

The Lowell Fund is the University's annual giving fund that supports the many campus services that broaden academic experiences and enrich campus life.

2. WHY SHOULD I MAKE A GIFT?

Help the next generation of students benefit from the same great education you received. Only 25 percent of the UMass Lowell budget is state assisted. Private support is essential to keep tuition and fees affordable for every qualified student.

3. WHY IS MY PARTICIPATION IMPORTANT?

Every gift makes a difference. Grant funders often look at the participation level of alumni to gauge the effectiveness of, and satisfaction with, a UMass Lowell education.

Lowell Fund gifts, no matter what the size, are put to immediate use to help meet current on-campus priorities, such as scholarships, faculty development, library and computer upgrades, special research projects and campus facility improvements.



THE LOWELL FUND: BUILDING A NEW VISION TOGETHER

Your gift makes a difference. Give today. 978-934-4821 or www.uml.edu/givenow

By Jack McDonough

The 'Rowdy Bunch'

(and 64,000 Others)
Make River Hawk
Season a Smash

Rowdy's Bunch, posing between periods of a game. Lila Lorrey is at lower left.



They call themselves Rowdy's Bunch. There are 15 of them. Some have been friends for years; several first met last fall. Some work at the University; others have jobs in town, or across the line in New Hampshire. Some have been coming to River Hawk games for a decade; others could barely have told you, before this year, which end of the ice was which. But by the end of the season, they were a very tight, very loyal group of fans.

Lila Lorrey is the core. "The driving force," as she puts it. Rowdy's Bunch is her creation: a hodgepodge of old friends, new friends, singing buddies (she sings with a group that calls itself Standing Room Only Players) and former and current colleagues. Lorrey, assistant to the University's chief public affairs officer, has been a River Hawks fan for years, along with her husband, Marty — but Rowdy's Bunch is something new.

"When the Chancellor announced last year that the deal was done [to save the UMass Lowell hockey program] but said he couldn't do it alone, that he needed University people to buy tickets

and come to the home games — well, that was when I started making phone calls. Some people were a little hesitant at first — the idea of a season ticket kind of threw them off, I guess — but I'd just say, 'Hey, come on, we'll make it fun, don't think of it just as a hockey game, think of it as evening out.' And usually they'd say okay. And after a while it just caught on.

"It's a social thing for us, a social event. We get together, we talk, we laugh, we cheer, we make loud noises, we have a few beers — then usually we go out together somewhere after the game and do it all some more. It's just fun. A fun night out with friends, once or twice a week, for not a lot of money. Where else are you going to be able to do something like that?"

There were nineteen home games this season. Lorrey was there, in her regular seat in Section L at the Tsongas Arena — where she's been every year for ten years — for sixteen of them, plus one more game on the road.

Always she would wear her River Hawks shirts (red some nights, other nights blue), and always she would come with her cowbell — a small one to start the season, a larger one by the end — an idea that got its start with another Rowdy's Bunch member.

"The big one — it's a real one — was kind of cumbersome to carry around,

"There was just a spirit, you could feel it; it was everywhere. You had the River Hawks shirts everybody was wearing, the giveaways on game days, the games they had between periods on the ice." — Lila Lorrey

but it made that really cool sound that only a cowbell can make," she says. "I'd ring it whenever something good happened on the ice, or sometimes just when I felt like it. Other people would be clapping or yelling, but the cowbell really stood out. It was my signature cheer."

It hasn't always been this way.

"Sometimes in other years, there'd be so few people in the arena, the other side would have more fans than we



Lorrey and her husband Marty, with one-time Bruins great Pie MacKenzie, another River Hawks fan

would,” remembers Father John Hanley, pastor of St. Williams in Tewksbury, who, like Lorrey, has been coming to River Hawk games for years. “There used to be this joke going around — ‘please sit in your own seat,’ one fan would say to another. ‘Or at least in your own section.’ It was like that. It could feel pretty lonely in there.”

It feels different these days, says Father Hanley: “There’s no comparison, really. There’s more noise, more spirit, more energy. The band helps, too, I think — they kind of pick everything up, get people’s spirits going.” But the biggest difference, he says, is the students.

“There are probably three times as many as there used to be,” he explains. “A lot of them sit together, sometimes with the band right above them at the end the rink. And they make noise, they’re really spirited. I think that’s helped the team’s performance. They add a definite spark.”

Father Hanley’s estimate isn’t far off. The number of student attendees last year averaged around 150. There were just shy of 400 students at an average game this season, according to Scott Donnelly of the Athletics Department. And it wasn’t only the students. More than 64,000 fans attended River Hawks’ games at the Tsongas Arena this season, an increase of more than 50 percent.

“When you’re playing in an arena with those kinds of numbers yelling and screaming,” says Donnelly, “it can only be good for the team.”

“There was just a spirit,” Lorrey says. You could feel it, it was everywhere. You had the River Hawks shirts everybody was wearing, the giveaways on game days, the games they had between periods on the ice. The poles were all draped with the players’ photos; the pep band would do its loop around the concourse, playing the theme song they always did — it was kind of like ‘Rocky’ — and everybody would be cheering and doing thumbs-ups. It was inspiring, it really was. It created an atmosphere...

“We’re building a culture of fans among the kids. And the rest of us in the meantime — we’re having a whole lot of fun.” — Lila Lorrey

“The great thing about it is, it perpetuates itself. You get the freshmen involved, with the free student tickets and the shirts they give away” — black, with leering red eyes and ‘See You at the Tsongas!’ in bold letters underneath — “and they start coming to games and bringing their dates and their friends. And then next year there’ll be more freshmen and more friends, and so on and so on, it just goes on like that. We’re building a culture of fans among the kids. And the rest of us in the meantime — we’re having a whole lot of fun.”

“The University’s commitment to this really shows,” says Father Hanley. “I was afraid for a while — I think a lot of us were afraid — that we were going to lose the team. But the University led the way, and the community has really united behind it. It’s been an exciting thing to see.”



Lila Lorrey, left, with Father Hanley and UMass Lowell Chief Public Affairs Officer Patti McCafferty, between periods of a game

River Hawks 2008-09: Season Tickets Now on Sale

Lila Lorrey and the rest of Rowdy’s Bunch (and a lot of other fans, no doubt) have already re-upped for the 2008-09 season. But for those who haven’t, or who may not have not been ticket holders this past season for whatever reason, the UMass Lowell Athletic Department has just given notice that next season is now on sale — at the same prices and with the same benefits as 2007-08:

“After experiencing the positive impact that the increased fan base has had on our program this year, we would like nothing more than to enhance and improve the game atmosphere again next season,” wrote River Hawks coach Blaise MacDonald in a recent letter to the community. “We are asking you to consider being a part of the team and renewing your season tickets for the 2008-09 season.”

Prices for the 2008-09 season are as follows:

Season Ticket/Plus:	\$199
<small>(includes advance notice of Tsongas Area events)</small>	
Season Ticket:	\$149
Faculty or staff:	\$99
Youth Ticket	\$70
<small>(12 and under)</small>	

Checks should be made payable to UMass Lowell Athletic Ticket Office, and mailed to: UML Athletic Ticket Office, One University Ave. Lowell MA 01854. Major credit cards may also be used.

For more information, call Melissa Gardner at 978-934-2304.



Ken Kerouac '87, left, and his wife, Becky, and Angela Grelle and her husband, Peter '74, were among the Detroit area alums and family members who enjoyed a reception and Celtics-Pistons basketball game on Jan. 5. They are joined here by John Davis, standing, executive director of University Advancement.



Medford alumni and friends from Medford High School gathered at the Tsongas Arena on Jan. 18 to celebrate the awarding of the first Medford High School Scholarship before attending a UML hockey game versus Boston College. The group included, from left, David Stordy '90 and Jake Burke '90, who established the scholarship; the recipient, Valerie Franey '11, Medford Mayor Mike McGlynn and Chancellor Marty Meehan.



Pausing for a photo during the Medford Alumni and Friends night at the Tsongas arena on Jan. 18, are, from left, Tony Aliberti '81; Sammy D'Agostino, a transfer student who plans to skate with the UML varsity hockey team next season, and his father, Sam; River Hawk sophomore hockey defenseman Steve Capraro and Tony LoPilato, '88, a former River Hawk hockey player.



These happy fans were on hand Jan. 19 for the annual alumni family and friends event at the Tsongas arena that included a pre-game skate and River Hawks hockey game against UMass Amherst.



Returning to campus to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the 1988 NCAA Division II National Basketball Championship were, from left, Brian Parath, Tony Jackson and Gavin Cummings of that championship team; recent head coach Ken Barer; Leo Parent and Howard Holley of the 1988 team and then assistant coach John Paganetti. In attendance but missing from the photo was Bobby Licare.



Enjoying a round of golf during UMass Lowell's annual alumni week in Florida are, from left, Charlie Hoff '66, John Pulichino '67 and UMass President Jack Wilson.



Don LaTorre '60, left, and his wife, Gloria, seen here with UMass President Jack Wilson, were among the guests at The Mar-a-Lago Club reception in Palm Beach, Fla., in March.



Alumni and friends from the UMass system gathered in Palm Beach, Fla., in March for the annual Mar-a-Lago Club reception. The group included, from left, Charlie Sullivan, Tara O'Brien, Renee Bourgeois, Joyce Sullivan, UML Chancellor Marty Meehan, Geri DiGacomo and UML Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney.



Receiving special recognition for chairing the "See You at the Tsongas" campaign, which sold more than 800 club seats for hockey games at the arena, is former UML student Mike Kuenzler, seen here with, from left, UMass President Jack Wilson, Chancellor Marty Meehan and state Sen. Steven Panagiotakos.



Sharing in a special evening of recognition and thanks with Mike Kuenzler are a number of his friends from Lowell. They include, from left, James Dolan, Saints Memorial Medical Center President Michael Guley, Sharon Dolan, Dan Durkin, Michael Phillips, James Kemos, Kuenzler, Chancellor Marty Meehan, state Sen. Steven Panagiotakos, Gary Sepe, Atty. Andrew Zaroulis and Atty. Karin Theodoros.



Joe Day '66 and his wife, Diana, seen here with UMass President Jack Wilson and UML Chancellor Marty Meehan, were the gracious hosts of The Mar-a-Lago Club event in March.



Guests were surprised to be welcomed to The Mar-a-Lago Club by celebrity Donald Trump, joined here by Joe Day '66.

1954

Mel Ettenson published the 100th issue of *The Global Plastics Letter* in February. The newsletter has been in publication since 1999.

1965

Jose D'Arruda, a faculty member at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke since 1974 and a leader in physics and science education, has received the University of North Carolina Board of Governors Award. He established a regional science fair that attracts thousands of elementary, middle and high school students, and created a Mr. and Mrs. Wizard program to help strengthen students' math and science skills. He also opened the UNCP observatory, and established the Jose and Dorothy D'Arruda Endowed Scholarship to benefit a UNCP student majoring in physics.

1968

Michelle Cobleigh Healy and her husband, **James '67**, returned to the United States in March after living in Asia for almost eleven years.

1972

Dr. Steven Ramberg has returned to the Washington, D.C., area following four years in Italy as director of NATO's Undersea Research Center. After a short time as an Arete Fellow, he recently became vice president of the company's D.C. area Division for Sensor Applications and National Security Studies.

1973

Patricia Nagle has had an illustrious musical career in Europe. Currently, Patricia enjoys a prominent career in France where she is a member of "A Ciel Ouvert," an instrumental ensemble comprised of soloists, directed by Bernard Calmel. She also is a member of the Romantic European Orchestra. In addition, Nagle is a professor at the National School of Music in Orsay and the internationally known Conservatory, the École Normale de Musique-Alfred Cortot in Paris.



Patricia Nagle

1975

Michael Morin was appointed senior vice president of Mall Networks, the leading provider of merchant-funded loyalty shopping solutions. He brings more than twenty-five years of success in solution selling, including enterprise application software, consulting services and technology sales. He will be responsible for managing all areas of sales, including the company's fast-growing inside and outside sales teams. Prior to Mall Networks, Morin was senior vice-president of worldwide sales for CXO Systems before its acquisition by Cisco Systems; vice president of sales at i-cube and regional vice president of sales at Razorfish.

Steve Whitman and his wife, Linda (LeBeau) '70, '74, bought Long Lake Camps, a 14-cabin camp on the shore of Long Lake in Princeton, Maine, several years ago. From the camp, fishermen can access what Whitman calls "the best small-mouth bass fishing in the country." The camp draws people from throughout the country who come to enjoy the camp's cedar cabins, seventy secluded acres of land and 4,000 feet of waterfront. The Whitmans bought the property when Steve retired and sold his engineering firm, Whitman & Bingham Associates. For more information, go to www.longlakecamps.com.

1977

Tom Vaughn has been named Massachusetts Science Education Leadership Association Outstanding Science Educator for 2007. As a dedicated educator, he also has been honored many times in the past for his efforts and contributions, including Massachusetts Science Educator of the Year 2006 by the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers; Distinguished Alumni Award, Lesley University 2005; Distinguished Alumni Award, Boston University 2002 and Distinguished Alumni Award, UMass Lowell Alumni Association 2000.

1979

John Harris Jr., who majored in Environmental Science, says he never worked in that field. He became an LPN in 1984 and practiced for fifteen years. After recovering from a major illness, he went to Rittners School of Floral Design, receiving a diploma in Floral Design and Floral Business Practice in 2006. He opened his own shop

this past December, doing what he loves. Single again after a twenty-year relationship, Harris is currently secretary to the Board of GFP Inc., Gays for Patsy, a country-western dance organization in Boston.

Peter Lojko is senior vice president of operations at Whaleback Systems where he is responsible for scaling operations to support the continued growth of Whaleback's CrystalBlue Voice Service, which provides small and medium businesses with all-inclusive local and long-distance calling. Lojko has nearly thirty years of experience in business development, engineering and operations for leading carriers and vendors in the telecom, PCS, cellular and satellite industries. He previously ran his own wireless consulting firm, helping technology companies promote their solutions to operators and standards bodies. Before that he was founder, president and CEO of Watercove Networks, which developed a mobile data infrastructure solution focused on the mass-market deployment of personalized mobile data services. He has also served as vice president and general manager for the Wireline and Wireless Business Units of Excel Switching, where he established and successfully grew the direct-to-carrier sales business for programmable infrastructure switches. Prior to Excel, Lojko held the positions of regional VP/GM for NextWave Telecom and served as VP of operations for American Mobile Satellite Corp. He began his career at New England Telephone and NYNEX Mobile, where he directed large engineering and operations teams. He also serves on the board of directors of The First Tee of New Hampshire.

1983

Garland A. Davis Jr. has been named co-chair of the Hazardous & Solid Waste Committee of the Boston Bar Association's Environmental Law Section. The committee addresses issues relating to federal and Massachusetts hazardous waste laws and federal and state statutes governing the generation, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste. Davis is general counsel of the Department of Conservation and Recreation and is a graduate of Northeastern University School of Law.

Sarah Ponrathnam is an IT manager responsible for system and network administration and hardware and software procurement. She works for the Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics at the Pune University campus in India.

1984

Mark Bossi has become a certified divorce financial analyst. A sole practitioner, he provides divorce, investment and tax planning services. Bossi specializes in non-profit auditing and also is treasurer of the Chelmsford Historical Society.

1985

Stephen J. Lemire has been named the first executive director of the National Professional Science Master's Association by Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). Headquartered at WPI, the Association promotes and supports professional science master's degree programs at universities across the nation.

As executive director, Lemire says his mission also includes helping to raise awareness of the PSM degree among the general public and potential students, helping promote the creation of new PSM



Stephen J. Lemire

programs at universities around the nation, and developing best practices and educational metrics that can help strengthen existing programs and guide the development of new programs. He brings to his new position twenty years of experience leading nonprofit membership organizations, particularly those focused on health, health policy reform and workforce development. He also has more than a decade of experience in adult graduate education. He has served on national committees for the National Association of County and City Health Officials and the National Business Coalition on Health and has written several articles on the development of professional membership societies. Lemire has also been named a distinguished academic visitor in WPI's Mathematical Sciences Department.

Richard Sarnie is global director of Risk Management and Environmental, Health & Safety for Global Crossing, a global leader in telecommunication. He relocated to New Jersey with his wife, Susan, and two children.

1986

Almerinda (Gomes) Silva '86 holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, and works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers managing the clean up of Superfund hazardous waste sites throughout New England.



But this engineer has a creative side, too. Silva, an artist specializing in works that incorporate the human figure, was commissioned by the former Congressional staff of Chancellor Marty Meehan to create a portrait of him in recognition of his successful political career.

"I am proud to hang Almerinda's portrait at the University," says Meehan. "It reminds me of the rewarding years I had serving the people of Massachusetts in Congress."

"I'm thrilled and honored to have been asked to paint this portrait," says Silva. "Who would have thought that an engineering major would be asked to paint a portrait of the chancellor of her alma mater?"

Silva's portfolio can be viewed at www.almerinda.com.

1987

Dave Dunham has run more than 100,000 miles, which is roughly four laps around the equator. He has run thirty marathons, and eleven other races longer than marathon distance. He once ran a 100-kilometer race (62.2 miles) in 6:46:32, which is a 6:32-per-mile pace.

Sheri Russell has been selected to participate with the United States Olympic Committee Sports Medicine Department to provide care for USA's top athletes in the Olympic trials. She owns and operates a sports medicine clinic in Beverly and provides sports medicine care to recreational, collegiate, Olympic and professional athletes.

1988

Christine (Thompson) Picker lives in the Santa Monica Mountains above Malibu, Calif., with her husband of ten years, Scott Picker, M.D., and her two boys, Jake, 9, and Colin, 7. She earned a master's in nursing at UCLA Medical Center and is a

family nurse practitioner with two private practices. She is still "best friends" with her classmates from school, Julie Frazier, Sue McGrail and Christine Salvo.

1991

David Kilkenny has formed the new Anthem Music Group Inc., in North Billerica. Anthem Music Group has partnered with top instrument manufacturers in China to produce a quality line of student band instruments that will be sold through an exclusive team of independent music retailers in the United States.

1992

Jay Anderson has left National Grid/Massachusetts Electric after 18 years of service to become operations manager at Marblehead Electric.

1993

Kerry Johnson, a certified public accountant, has been promoted to principal at Edelstein & Co. LLP, a Boston-based certified public accounting and business consulting firm. Johnson has been with Edelstein & Co. for more than fourteen years. She specializes in financial consulting for physician-owned medical practices.

1994

State Rep. Thomas A. Golden of Lowell was among six Massachusetts residents who received Medallion Awards for Leaders of Distinction from the Academy of Notre Dame in Tyngsboro this spring. The awards "applaud the leadership contributions of residents and former residents of New England who have a connection to the Notre Dame community and to acknowledge these individuals as examples to future generations." The school's announcement said Golden "demonstrates the qualities of community building and commitment to global justice through outreach and service to those in need, qualities that are fundamental to the mission of the Academy of Notre Dame and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur."



Thomas A. Golden

Ward Holloway has received his professional engineering license and is a machine designer for Morgan Construction.

Edmonton Oilers goaltender **Dwayne Roloson** has been inducted into the Norfolk County Sports Hall of Recognition in Canada. Roloson helped Simcoe, Ontario, teams win three Minor Hockey Association championships before entering UML. As a River Hawk, he was a Hobey Baker Award nominee and NCAA All-American. He later played in the American Hockey League before going on to the NHL where he has been a net minder for the Calgary Flames, the Buffalo Sabres, the Minnesota Wild and Edmonton.

1995

Carol Green has been named regional lending manager at the Bank of Canton's Auburn Mortgage Center. A 25-year industry veteran, she most recently served as senior mortgage consultant at Prime Mortgage Financial in Southboro.



Carol Green

1996

Dong Wook Cheong is opening an online shopping mall (www.piyzone.com) — only a Korean version for the present time. He may be contacted for any digital printing media needs (www.imizpah.com) and customized photogifts in Korea.

Andrea Robidoux has been named a partner of Hall & Stewart LLP's Intellectual Property Group. She will continue to concentrate on patent portfolio creation and management counseling for all sectors of the pharmaceutical industry. Robidoux received her J.D. degree with distinction from Suffolk University Law School in 2006.

Photographs by **Elaine Seidel** of the Information Technology Department have been chosen for an exhibit in the office of state Sen. Steven C. Panagiotakos. The senator, chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, requested the exhibit as a way to feature the "creative economy" in action. Seidel's photos are titled "Whispers" and "Painted Lowell." The exhibit also will include a mixed media painting, titled "River Runs Through," by Jacqui Hawk of the Continuing Studies and Corporate Education Department.

1997

Glen Chase, former traffic enforcement officer, has been promoted to sergeant of the Pelham N.H. Police Department. He

was previously commended for his actions during an incident when he and fellow officers were under fire. Chase is a five-year member of the Southern New Hampshire Regional Tactical Team. He also teaches self-defense in rape aggression defense training classes. Previously, he worked at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and was an auxiliary officer in Haverhill.

1999

Peter Simpson received his M.B.A. from UMass Isenberg School of Management in 2002. He is now a financial advisor with MetLife, helping individuals and businesses with retirement planning, investment and insurance needs. Simpson and his wife, Jody, have a 9-month-old daughter and recently bought a house in Grafton. He writes that he would be happy to help any faculty or alumni with their financial needs.

2000

Denise Meyer has become a manager of solutions marketing for Interactive Intelligence, Inc., an IP Business Communications company in Indianapolis. She also has been elected to the board of directors of the Network of Women in Business, Indiana's oldest businesswoman's networking group, as marketing and communications chair for 2008. Meyer and her husband have purchased a home in Noblesville, Ind.

Kristin Ohlin and Jeremy Parker '99 became engaged on Feb. 10. They didn't know each other while they were in college, but must have crossed paths many times. They had several friends in common and spent a lot of time in the music building, although music was neither her major nor his. They finally met on Match.com and have been happy together ever since. They have not yet set a wedding date, but will most likely have a ceremony this coming fall somewhere in Massachusetts.

Ben Powell, a research fellow with the Independent Institute and an assistant professor of economics at Suffolk University, argues in his new book, "Making Poor Nations Rich: Entrepreneurship and the Process of Economic Development" (November 2007/Stanford University Press), that we must eliminate the governmental shackles that ruin prospects for economic growth. Proposals to reduce poverty typically involve expanded restrictions on individuals' freedom to innovate, trade and build enterprises that improve their lives. His argument questions this orthodoxy and

comprehensively addresses the disparities between rich and poor countries. The book brings together the work of 15 economists. Powell is the author of more than thirty scholarly articles and policy studies. His primary fields of research are economic development, immigration, Austrian economics, public choice and housing economics. His research findings have been reported in more than one hundred popular press outlets, including The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times, and his writing has appeared in Investor's Business Daily, Financial Times, Christian Science Monitor and elsewhere. He frequently appears on TV and radio, including CNN, MSNBC, Showtime's "Penn & Teller" and NPR.

2003

Aaron Goldberg was named to the 2008 Design Team for Citations Drum and Bugle Corps, an International Open Class non-profit youth organization. He is returning for his second year as brass arranger. Goldberg has taught music at every level, from kindergarten through college, and has been on the brass staff of the Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps since 2002. Before that, he was a performer with the Crossmen. He is currently the director of athletic bands at Boston College. He performed with the Tony and Emmy-award-winning Broadway show "Blast" on its 2005-2006 National Tour. Goldberg received his M.M. in Euphonium Performance from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University.

Nate Jenkins, who finished seventh in the most recent U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials in New York, has been named New England Runner of the Year by New England Runner magazine, and is a recipient of the Jock Semple Award. Jenkins also appeared on the cover of the January issue of New England Runner magazine.

Ellen Koretz and a colleague have published a book titled, "Collaborative Individualized Education Process: RSVP to IDEA," (Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishing). The text captures the authors' shared visions about the special education process, one that incorporates the spirit and requirements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act and its reauthorizations. It gives the complex demands of the legislation form, function and meaning so teams move through the special education process cooperatively, understanding what they are doing and why. The text is organized

according to the stages of the RSVP Model to provide a systematic and comprehensive approach to implementing special education legislation meaningfully.

Erin Miller lives in Kathmandu, Nepal, and works with an NGO for the political empowerment of women.

Tim Peng is a professional musician, teacher and piano tuner. He has fallen in love with antique phonographs and has become a phonograph repairman and dealer. Peng works from home and attracts business through his Duo-Art Music Web page (duoartmusic.com). His goal is to have a store where he would sell pianos and phonographs.

2004

Sirinart Madmai reports that she became engaged on Memorial Day weekend on Boston Common last year: "My fiancé and I have just relocated back to the east coast from Kansas City. We're both working in financial services in the heart of New York City."

2006

Dan Borland is attending the University of Chicago Divinity School and will receive a master's degree this June. He hopes to continue on to a doctorate.

Charles Gobron was appointed by Northborough and Southborough School committee members as superintendent of their local and regional school districts. He had been acting superintendent of the towns' districts since April 2007, after the death of his predecessor, Rosemary Joseph. In a Jan. 7 statement, committee members said their unanimous vote reflected the depth of their confidence in Gobron, who has worked in Northborough-South-

borough schools since 1972, rising from the ranks of elementary and middle school teacher to director of curriculum and instruction.

Rocco J. Perla was named a 2008-2009 recipient of the George W. Merck Fellowship at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in Cambridge. He is one of three fellows selected from a pool of applicants from around the country. A biologist and researcher at Health Alliance Hospital, Rocco earned a doctoral degree in education at UMass Lowell. As a student, he was the first to be named graduate research scholar for two consecutive years and was the outstanding doctoral student of the year for 2003. He and Prof. James Carifio established an interdisciplinary research platform that is used to guide and optimize decision-making in fields from health care to technology. As a Merck fellow, Perla will take part in a one-year, on-site program at the Institute, which works to build leaders in health care and improve quality and safety. He will complete training in a variety of disciplines at the Harvard University School of Public Health.



Rocco J. Perla

2007

Jennifer Cantwell of Haverhill has been named full-time administrative assistant/website facilitator by the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, which serves fourteen communities in Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire.

Sean Garballey, 23, of Arlington became one of the youngest legislators in Massachusetts when he won a special election to fill a vacant seat in the House of Representatives in March. A Democrat, he collected 3,591 votes to his Republican rival's 1,727 in the 23rd Middlesex special election made necessary when the incumbent won a Senate seat in a December special election. No stranger to public service, Garballey was elected a town meeting member at the age of 18 and, at age 20, was elected to the School Committee.



Christy Hall and Bryan Reynolds

Christy Hall married Bryan Reynolds on Aug. 11, 2007.

Evan B. Hatter has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force after having completed the University's Air Force ROTC program. He has been assigned to the 562nd Flying Training Squadron at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Orlando Pena was married in March 2007, and he and his wife are expecting a baby girl at the end of June. She will be their first child, so they are both very excited. In 2007, he joined Barr Associates as a test engineering technician and, in June, was promoted to test engineer.

Nikolaos Piskopanis completed his police academy training on Dec. 14 and began working at the York, Maine, Police Department.

Calendar of Events 2008

June 30
River Hawk Golf Classic
Sky Meadow Country Club
Nashua, N.H.

July 28
Hockey Alumni/Friends
Golf Classic
Turner Hill Golf Club
Ipswich, MA

September 20
50th Anniversary Gala
College of Management
Campus Recreation Center
UML East

September 22
David J. Boutil
Memorial Golf Tournament
Sky Meadow Country Club
Nashua, N.H.

October 24
River Hawks v. Providence
College
Division 1 NCAA Men's Hockey
Home Opener
Tsongas Arena
Lowell

October
Date TBA
10th Anniversary Celebration
Center for Women and Work



SoftRight's Kevin Adolph, left, and Larry Holt

Alums' Westford Company Continues to Grow

Some people have a talent for recognizing a business opportunity when it comes their way, seizing it and turning it into a huge success. That's what happened to two 38-year-old former city workers-turned-entrepreneurs, Kevin Adolph and Larry Holt. They started SoftRight, a provider of financial and revenue applications for municipal governments, in 1995. Along the way, they saw an opportunity to modernize an old municipal finance software package developed by a Danvers firm, and their company has been growing ever since.

Located in Westford, SoftRight offers Windows-based programs for payroll, accounting, treasury and tax-collection applications as well as product training and consulting services. "Today, the company employs nine people, with revenues in excess of \$1 million," says SoftRight president Adolph.

Adolph and Holt are both 1991 UML graduates in computer science. "I think the most valuable lesson the University taught me was the importance of following through on projects and meeting deadlines," says Holt, the company's CEO. "It's such a large element of a successful business, and it all started in college."

"Programming is one of those skills that comes from practice," says Adolph. "UMass Lowell provided a great formal vehicle for that practice."

To date, more than 70 of the 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth are using SoftRight's products and services. "We've had inquiries from neighboring states like New Hampshire and Connecticut, but right now we want to stay focused on Massachusetts," says Adolph.

Day-Trading Alum Doubles as Pro Baseball Umpire—and Takes Home First Prize

From May through August, every year since 2005 when the league was founded, the players of the six teams of the Southern Coast League, an independent baseball league, crisscross the deep south to compete in each others' stadiums — in small towns and cities in Georgia, South Carolina and Florida.

Ron Russo '80 goes with them, not to play but to umpire. And judging by the honors bestowed on him, he is among the very best.

"Ron exemplifies everything this award is meant to be about," read a statement from the South Coast League in September, honoring Russo as the first-ever recipient of the George "Butch" Fisher award for the SCL's top umpire. "His on-field demeanor and professionalism was clearly defined each and every time he took the field. He was a true pleasure to work with. We are honored to have an umpire of his caliber receive this award."

When he isn't umpiring SCL games, Russo spends much of his time, as he puts it, "staring at five [computer] monitors, day-trading equities and derivatives in the U.S. markets." He also runs two companies, a sports management agency and an investment firm, and is in the process of launching a third.

He spent this season as crew chief of the Aiken, S. C., market, and was presented with the award prior to game one of the league championship.

The Southern Coast League, founded two seasons ago, is a professional league unaffiliated with Major League Baseball. Many of its players are drawn from the college ranks; others are veteran players looking for a way back into major or minor league ball.



Ron Russo '80, right, accepts the George "Butch" Fisher award, given to the SCL's top umpire, from the league's chief operating officer, Chris Allen, just prior to the opening game of the league championship.

Remembering a Friend —

Charlie Puliafico: Visionary, Businessman, Sox Fan and Benefactor to Many

The University has lost a dear and generous friend.

Charlie Puliafico, who earned his B.A. from Lowell Tech in 1944, then turned a good idea and \$938 into a multi-million dollar company that has funded the education of countless UMass Lowell students, died March 6 at a hospital near his home in Webster. He was 86 years old.

Puliafico launched his first company, Webster Chemicals, in 1947 out of the back room of his mother-in-law's variety store. His first product was a floor cleaner. Nine years later, he sold his stake for thirty-five times his investment. With this he started a second company — Webco Chemical Corp. — which today, now in Dudley and run by his family, bills more than \$20 million a year.

Lowell Tech, he said of his alma mater in an interview with this magazine in 2004, was “the foundation of my success.” His wife, Jackie, also an alum — the two met on a bus, as students, on their way home for a weekend in 1941 — felt the same: “If we’re ever able financially,” she still recalls saying to him, not long after they were married more than sixty years ago, “we’ve got to see what we can do for Lowell.”

They’ve been living that promise ever since. In addition to the \$750,000 they have given over the last fifteen years to the Chancellor’s Discretionary Fund, they have funded scholarships for chemistry students, music and nursing students and student-athletes, and have given of their time to boys’ clubs, girls’ clubs, golf clubs, banks, hospitals and too many other causes to name.

“Charlie was a true visionary,” says UMass Lowell Chief Development Officer John Davis. “By allowing the bulk of his generosity to be used as the Chancellor sees fit, he showed his instincts and background as a CEO. Yet by giving also to the areas and projects that were dear to his heart, and to Jackie’s — chemistry, athletics, music and nursing — they’ve both made it clear that they’ve never forgotten their roots.



Charlie Puliafico

“He was a treasured friend. It’s impossible to measure all the ways we’ll miss him.”

In tandem with his generosity and his acumen in the executive suite, Puliafico was also a golfer, a woodworker and a devout, lifelong Red Sox fan — who, nearly twenty years ago, already nearing his 70th birthday, led off an inning in a Sox fantasy-camp championship game with a single against Luis Tiant.

He leaves behind Jackie, his wife of sixty-three years; a daughter, a son, a brother, a sister, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, several in-laws and more than twenty cousins, nieces and nephews.

“We were just a couple of kids from Massachusetts who met on a bus,” he told this magazine four years ago, speaking of Jackie and himself. “Our first date was a movie — and I could barely pay for that. But life since then has been very, very good.”

Vitale, Caturano Firm Establishes Fund for Accounting Department

The accounting firm of Vitale, Caturano & Co. has donated \$25,000 to establish a discretionary fund to help the faculty and students of the Accounting Department. With a state matching grant from the Public Higher Education Endowment Incentive Program, the entire gift totals \$37,500. Taking part in the presentation were, from left, John Geraci '97; Chancellor Marty Meehan '78; Christopher MacKenzie '84 and Michael Smith '92, both vice presidents of Vitale, Caturano; Kathryn Carter '78, dean of the College of Management and Stephen Collins, chair of the Accounting Department.



UMass Lowell Professor Meets Alums at Plastics Show in India

PlastiVision India is one of Asia's largest plastics trade shows, attracting more than a half million plastics-industry professionals and manufacturers from all over the world. Last year's show was held in December in Mumbai. Ramaswamy Nagarajan, who obtained his Ph.D. in polymer science/plastics engineering from UMass Lowell in 2000 and is now an assistant professor in the Plastics Engineering department, was on hand to promote the department's online and graduate-degree programs together with graduate student Mithun Kamath. The University's booth drew tremendous interest from industry professionals, top government officials, prospective students and about 40 plastics alumni.

"We were pleasantly surprised by the large turnout of our alumni" says Nagarajan. Many of them now own plastics product and equipment manufacturing companies in India. With double-digit growth in plastics consumption seen over the years in the country, these companies are doing extremely well. "Our alums were quite delighted to see us at the show," he says. "They reminisced about the great experience they had while attending UMass Lowell."

According to Kamath, the Chemco group of companies, founded and owned by Ram Awatar Saraogi MS '83, won the award for the best booth display at PlastiVision 2007. Saraogi attributed his professional success to the high-quality education he obtained at UMass Lowell. He mentioned that whenever he's in the U.S., he makes it a point to visit the campus and meet



UML's Plastics Engineering Department faculty got together with some alumni and friends at a dinner in Mumbai, India, in December. Gathered at this table are, from left, Vishal Savla MS'00, Asst. Prof. Ramaswamy Nagarajan, Samir Sheth MS '01 and graduate student Mithun Kamath.

with his former thesis advisor, Prof. Rudolph Deanin. Saraogi is also very much in favor of establishing a formal arrangement with the University to enable the next generation of Indian students to get the same world-class education in plastics engineering.

"Today, my family business is reaping the rewards of my education at UML. Whether it is injection molding or the economics of manufacturing, a bit of each of the professors is doing wonders for our company." — Vishal Savla

Vishal Savla MS '00 also had fond memories of his time at UML. "Coming to the University for graduate studies was an eye opener," he says. He refers to his former thesis advisor, Prof. Stephen Driscoll, as "a wonderful mentor to plastics testing." He says that Driscoll's "positive energy and concern for everyone is a character trait I look up to even today."

He adds: "Prof. Stephen Orroth is truly an extrusion and processing guru, and Prof. Deanin a walking encyclopedia of plastics knowledge.

Prof. Robert Malloy and Nick Schott taught me everything I needed to know about product and mold design. Today, my family business is reaping the rewards of my education at UMass Lowell. Whether it is injection molding or the economics of manufacturing, a bit of each of the professors is doing wonders for our company."

After the conference, Nagarajan also visited multinational companies such as SABIC (formerly GE plastics) in Bangalore, where he presented his research and met with alums Suchetana Shetty MS '00, Nilesh Munot MS '99 (currently working as scientists at SABIC) and Ravi Ramasamudram MS '00.

"UMass Lowell's Plastics Engineering department has produced more than two hundred students from India with master's degrees and doctorates, plus a number of undergrads," says Department Chair Malloy. "It's great to know that our alums are doing extremely well."

Alums Advise Students in Money Management Competition

By Christine Gillette

Two alums who are prominent money managers are using their skills to help a group of UMass Lowell undergrads in a Student Managed Fund learn valuable real-life lessons about investing.

Warren Isabelle '78 and John Kattar '82 are advising a group of College of Management students in their efforts to beat out students from the Amherst, Boston and Dartmouth campuses in an investment competition. The three teams have been given \$25,000 each by the UMass Foundation to invest in the stock market with the goal of learning real-life skills and raising money for scholarships.

"It's an emotional and volatile market," says Kattar, managing director of investments for Eastern Investment Advisors. He's advised students that "in this sort of environment, they should, one, dial back on the portfolio risk and, two, take a longer-term view and not be as influenced by the day-to-day gyrations in the market."

"When a position goes against you, re-examine the reasons why you initially bought the stock and make sure they are still valid," says Isabelle, principal of Ironwood Investment Management LLC. "That's what we have basically been telling the students. That's Investing 101."

The UMass Lowell students participating in the competition were chosen for the project on the basis of their grade-point average. Asst. Prof. Ravi Jain of the College of Management is the faculty director of the Fund.

Also providing expertise are Frank Andrews, director of undergraduate programs for the College of Management; Steven Rogers, a major gifts officer with University Advancement and Steven Freund, an assistant professor of management.

The student team consists of David Ball, Minhai He, Evan Huff, Jared Jordan, Michael Krieger, Brian Lesniak, Eleni Liakakis, Mike McCarthy, Amy Osgood, Jessica Silva Courtney Stepien and Scott Wilson.



Warren Isabelle '78 and John Kattar '82 are providing their money management expertise as advisers to a group of UMass Lowell students competing with counterparts from the Amherst, Boston and Dartmouth campuses to see who can get the best return on \$25,000 invested in the stock market. The students and their advisers include, standing from left, Steve Rogers, Frank Andrews, Jessica Silva, Scott Wilson, David Ball, Jared Jordan, Eleni Liakakis, Courtney Stepien, Michael Krieger, Didier Bertola and Brian Lesniak. Seated, from left, are Ravi Jain, Steven Freund, Kattar and Isabelle.

The UMass Foundation makes the actual trades, according to Didier Bertola, associate vice president and assistant treasurer of the foundation.

"The real value of this exercise is to give students the experience of thinking through the issues and making their own decisions," says Kattar. "Sometimes they will make mistakes and they'll learn from those mistakes. That's part of the process."

"Our job is really to sort of coach, if you will, rather than dictate or suggest," says Isabelle. "You don't get to be a good investor by everyone telling you what to invest in."

Isabelle and Kattar's involvement with the Student Managed Fund is another example of how they've shared their expertise with UMass Lowell and the system overall.

"I volunteered because I'm committed to helping UMass students in any way I can," says Kattar. "But frankly, it's also a lot of fun for me. The students are great: bright, energetic and passionate."

"It was a natural," says Isabelle, who has two children who attend UMass Lowell.

In addition to investing the \$25,000 in seed money, the students are working with Rogers to raise more money for the Student Managed Fund through donations.

As the magazine went to press, word was received that the UMass Lowell team had won this round of the Student Managed Fund competition.

Ayan, Donahue Nominated for Grammy Awards

Adam Ayan '97 and Mark Donahue '99, both graduates of UMass Lowell's Sound Recording Technology Program, were each nominated for a 2008 Grammy Award, the recording industry's most prestigious honor.

While neither took home an award this year, even a nomination for the award is remarkable.

Ayan was nominated for his work on country artist Vince Gill's "These Days," which competed for Album of the Year against CDs by Kanye West, Amy Winehouse, Foo Fighters and Herbie Hancock.

Album of the Year is awarded to the producer, recording engineer, mixer and mastering engineer as well as to the artist. Ayan was the mastering engineer on the CD. Originally from Malden, he lives in Portland, Maine, where he works at Gateway Mastering Studios.

Donahue was nominated for his work as mastering engineer on one of the CDs in the running for Best Classical Album, "Lorraine Hunt Lieberson Sings Peter Lieberson: Neruda Songs." Donahue, who lives in Malden and is originally from Longmeadow, works for Soundmirror Inc. in Boston.

Ayan — who won a Grammy two years ago in the Best Historical Album category for his work on a boxed set of jazz great Jelly Roll Morton's music, and two Latin Grammys in 2007 for recordings with Juan Luis Guerra — says his UML experience helped him in two important ways.

"It opened my ears to listening to music as an audio engineer, as opposed to a lay listener or even a musician. How you listen as an engineer is very different," he says, adding that UML also helped him build the work ethic needed to be successful. "The program is structured in a way you really have to work hard to do well and I think that's indicative of the industry itself. I felt really well-prepared when I got out for how hard I was going to have to work in the industry."

The Sound Recording Technology Program, part of the University's Department of Music, is one of only a few in the United States. In the past, breaking into the recording business meant training informally as an apprentice. The UML program gives students strong formal training, including the practical experience and theoretical background needed for success in the industry.

Prof. Will Moylan, coordinator of Sound Recording, says "These nominations mean a great deal to the SRT program. Recording positions are highly competitive and extraordinarily demanding. This proves that the intensive experience provided by our program brings our graduates significant opportunities to lead in today's recording and audio industries."



Robin (Renna) Farrell '91, center, honored her late husband, Bo, by hosting a fundraiser before the UML-BC hockey game on Feb. 16. With Robin are her sisters, Melissa Jenkins, left, and Stacey Renna.

Alumna's Hockey Fundraiser Honors Husband

For years, Robyn (Renna) Farrell '91 and her husband, Bo, enjoyed a friendly college rivalry when hockey came around. Bo was the ultimate Boston College athletic fan, owning football, basketball and hockey season tickets for decades. But when the Eagles came to the Tsongas Arena to take on the River Hawks, Robyn's loyalties to her alma mater came through. For eight years, she bought huge blocks of tickets — sometimes up to a hundred — for the many UML and BC fans in her large family, and wore her UML pride on her sweatshirt.

This year, however, she wore Boston College colors at the game on Feb. 16, honoring Bo after he lost his three-year battle with cancer last year. Her family and friends also hosted a fundraiser at the Brewery Exchange before the game, raising \$10,000 to support colon cancer research and Chelmsford community activities. More than seven hundred people came to remember Bo, buying raffle tickets for gift baskets, autographed UML and BC hockey jerseys and Bruins and Celtics tickets.

Robyn says she hopes to make the fundraiser before the UML-BC game an annual event. To support to the Robert "Bo" Farrell Fund, send contributions in his name to Enterprise Bank, 20 Drum Hill Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824. For more information, contact Robyn at farrell49@comcast.net.

Expatriate Alumnus Fosters a Mission of Giving Back

Midway between Mumbai and Goa, on India's western coast, is a two-acre plot of land, still undeveloped, that holds the keys to a future for five hundred orphan children. The head of the group that holds that key, a software engineer 6,000 miles away in Massachusetts, has been working for seven years to make that future happen.

Nathan Peo, an Indian expatriate who came to the U.S. in 1991 to seek an education, earned his master's degree from UMass Lowell two years later. Today, as president of the Next Generation Foundation, a non-profit group based in Shrewsbury, he has dedicated his efforts and those of his sixty fellow members to a lofty mission: "the eradication of poverty and illiteracy among children across India."

To further this goal, the group has secured the two-acre coastline property and raised \$40,000 toward the building of a boarding school — to be known as the National Integrity and Responsibility Complex — for five hundred orphan children who, because of their orphan status, often fall outside the Indian caste system and are there-

fore consigned to a bare-minimum education. The mission of the foundation is to identify 500 of the brightest of these orphans, and offer each one ten years of room and board and a liberal-arts education at the school. The price-tag for this — more than reasonable by U.S. standards — is \$375,000. It is toward this target that the \$40,000 has been raised.

"The caste system is the main obstacle [the children] face as they try to improve their lives," Peo told a reporter last winter. "These are barriers that don't allow a child to excel."

The Shrewsbury-based non-profit, which got its start in 2001, is made up largely of Indian expatriates who have settled in Greater Boston, and are therefore acutely aware of the graduate and professional opportunities available to those with a solid early education.

"When we come to this country we admire the opportunities we have here," says Peo. "A common topic around the water cooler is how to give back."

Designs on Success: Alumni Make Their Artistic Marks

Allen Iverson's success with the Denver Nuggets may be based on blessed genetics, solid coaching or years of dedicated practice. But his shoes can't be hurting his game, either, and he may owe something to Kohei Kanata '03 for that.

Kanata, a graphic design graduate and footwear designer for Reebok International, is involved in designing the 14th edition basketball shoe for Iverson's signature line.

"My education gave me the fundamental foundation to become a productive designer," says Kanata. "My job as footwear designer combines all my passions: design, basketball and shoes."

For fellow graphic design graduate Jennifer Skoropowski '06, working in design preceded her current profession as full-time artist. "The way I approach my work in terms of color and composition is a direct result of my graphic design background," says the alum, who is more often known by the name Jenn Ski.

Jenn Ski credits a UML class called Senior Studio — in which students design a project from start to finish — for instilling confidence in her abilities.

"My project involved coming up with products based on classic fairy tales and children's stories, and designing packaging for them: I created funny products like Humpty Dumpty glue, poisoned apples and magic beans. It was the first time I'd undertaken a project that big, and the incredibly positive response from [Asst. Prof.] Karen Roehr and others felt like a nice culmination of my studies," she says.

Jenn Ski's work has appeared in a variety of places, including a Hood milk television commercial. She is inspired by mid-twentieth century art and design, and uses two media: paintings using acrylic and paper on hardboard, and prints created from digital files. Her creations — including stationery, tote bags and other products — are available for sale at her website www.jennski.com.

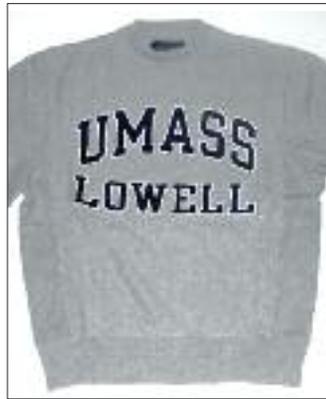


Jennifer Skoropowski

UMass Lowell Alumni Gift Items



Champion Hooded Sweatshirt
50/50 fleece hooded sweatshirt
Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL
Color: Gray \$34.99 Item #1



Champion Heavy Weight Sweatshirt
Screen-printed collegiate sweatshirt available in gray only. S-XXL. \$49.98 Item #2 (Available in November-January)



Golf Wind Jacket
Gear For Sports durable navy embroidered wind jacket. Available with Lowell Tech or University of Lowell logo. Available in M-XXL. \$49.98 Item #8



Tackle Twill Hooded Sweatshirt
50/50 blend fleece with wool patch "UML" and 3-color embroidery. Available in sizes S-XXL. Oxford gray. \$49.98 Item #3



Club Colors Polo
Navy golf shirt with embroidered left chest logo. Available with Lowell Tech, Lowell State or University of Lowell logo. S-XXL. \$29.98 Item #4



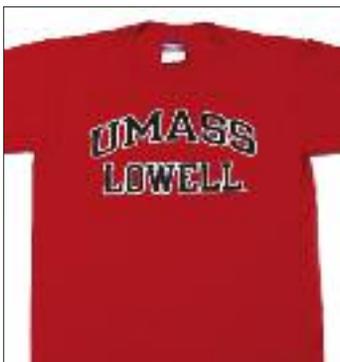
Baseball hat
Our most popular cap. Wool blend, stretch-to-fit with embroidered Riverhawk on the back. \$19.98 Item #10



Champion Crewneck Sweatshirt
Screen-printed logo on 50/50 blend fleece. Charcoal. S-XXL. \$24.99 Item #5



University Chairs
Black with cherry arms and back lasered seal
Item #12A Armchair \$409.98
Item #12B Boston Rocker \$409.98



Champion T-Shirt
UMass Lowell imprint. Available in gray, red, light blue. Sizes S-XXL. \$14.98 Item #9



Champion Alumni Tees
Grey tees available in Lowell Tech, ULowell, and Lowell State imprint. \$14.98. M-XXL Item #7

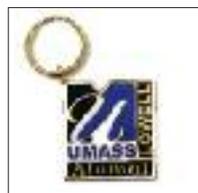


University Picture
Framed picture available with picture of Southwick, Cumnock or Coburn Hall. Available in 10x12 pen & ink style for \$85 or full color painted for \$140. Personalization is available on the pen & ink drawing for an additional \$10. Item #6

For UPS shipping to your residence, please add \$25. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.
Available with University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell Textile Institute, University of Lowell, Lowell State College and Lowell Technological Institute seals.

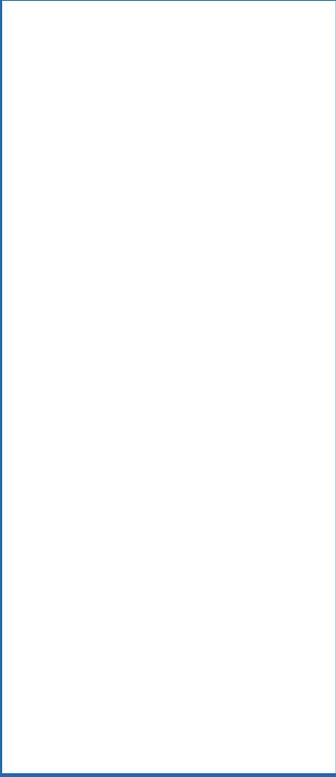


Alumni Decals
UMass Lowell Alumni River Hawk decal. UMass Lowell Alumni square decal. University of Lowell Alumni decal. \$1.49 each Postage & Handling on this item is 50 cents. Item #13



Alumni Keychain
UMass Lowell logo alumni metal keychain. \$5.98 Postage & Handling on this item is \$1.95. Item #14

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