

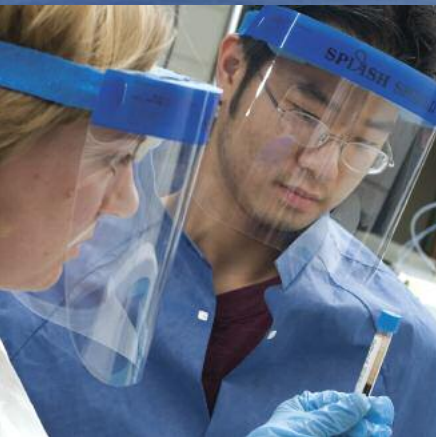
UMass

WINTER 2010 VOLUME 13 NUMBER 1

Lowell

M A G A Z I N E

**The Power
of Possibility:**
How Your Dollars
Make a Difference



A Message From Chancellor Martin T. Meehan '78

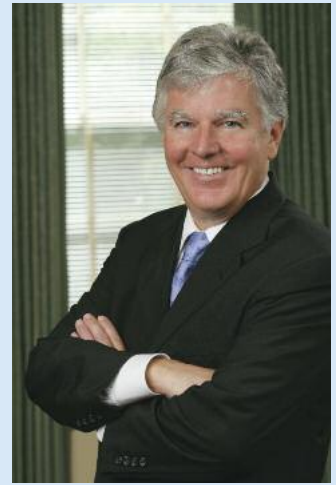
This issue of the UMass Lowell Magazine is devoted to recognizing philanthropy. I am grateful to be in the honored position of leading this institution – my alma mater – that has such great potential to improve lives and communities. Since assuming this role, I have been humbled and inspired frequently by the commitment of alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends of UMass Lowell.

There is enormous power in your philanthropy. More than 7,000 people – students, alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends – have contributed to the University in the past year. With only 29 percent of the campus's operating budget coming from the state, your gifts are more important than ever. In this issue, you will read just a few of the many stories of tremendous generosity demonstrated by our donors – and the impact of gifts on the lives of our students at, and beyond, UMass Lowell.

What is made possible by giving to UMass Lowell? The potential is almost limitless. The impact of your gift is amplified through the lives that you help to improve through education and the important research that you help to advance. Whether you are supporting the annual fund, a scholarship, academic programs or athletics, you are providing the margin of excellence on our campus. Your gifts allow us to aspire to achieve goals of greater excellence, increased access and higher levels of engagement with our local and global communities.

The value that our public university creates is delivered on so many fronts: in the education of our workforce, in the creation of new technology that advances industry and job creation, and in research that informs responses to some of our most pressing local, national and even international problems. The public purpose of higher education is amplified further by the increasing number of students who are served at UMass Lowell and the affordable access that we continue to provide. We are educating more students than ever, generating graduates who fuel the state's economy with their innovations and entrepreneurship and who become informed and engaged citizens. We also are turning more research dollars than ever into technological, environmental, health and economic development innovation that make our region – and our world – a better place in which to live and work. With your help, we can continue this progress.

Your philanthropy helps to turn possibility into reality, our aspirations into plans for what we will achieve. For those of you who have made gifts this year: thank you! For those of you who have not yet considered a gift to UMass Lowell, I urge you to join me in supporting this great University. You can visit us at www.uml.edu/advancement/give or call (978) 934-4807. It is quick, easy and secure. I encourage all of you to visit campus and see all of the good that is being accomplished. On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of UMass Lowell, thank you.



Marty Meehan

A handwritten signature of Marty Meehan in blue ink. The signature is stylized and cursive, written in a professional but personal style.

Chancellor

Winter 2010
Volume 13, Number 1

The UMass Lowell Alumni Magazine is published by:
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From the Editor

Welcome to our special issue on philanthropy, in which we examine the many ways your gifts impact the people, programs and places of UMass Lowell. From enabling deserving students to pursue their dreams, to contributing to the purchase of top-notch equipment, to helping faculty create groundbreaking programs in the community, your generosity is making the University a world-class institution. We couldn't do it without you, and we thank you.

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Lowell Textile School • Massachusetts State Normal School • State Teachers College at Lowell • Lowell Textile Institute
Lowell Technological Institute • Massachusetts State College at Lowell • Lowell State College • University of Lowell

COLLEGES - ARTS AND SCIENCES

Prof. Eby Helps Colombia Grow Forensic Lab

A body is discovered hidden deep in the woods somewhere. A prime suspect in the murder case has dirt caked onto the bottom of his boots. How do crime-scene investigators determine if the soil found on each person is from the same place? They turn to forensic geology.

If they're in Colombia, they do so thanks to the help of Prof. Nelson Eby, who spent a week in Bogota, Colombia, helping the country establish an Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis Laboratory for use in criminal investigations.

Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA) detects elements in samples — such as soil, gunshot residue, bullet or glass fragments, paint specks and hair — typically found at crime scenes. NAA is also used in archeology, gem fraud, art and historical artifact research, biochemistry, epidemiology, geological science, semiconductor materials and soil science.

Eby, who teaches a course in forensic geology for the Environmental, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, presented an all-day seminar in Bogota on the use of geology and various analytical methods in forensic investigations.

"We anticipate that this program will be an ongoing collaboration with the Colombians," he says.



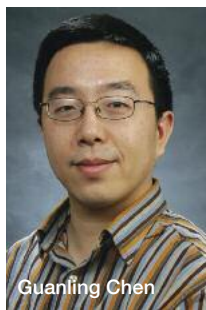
Nelson Eby

NSF Grant Helps Improve Smartphones

We live in an increasingly "wireless" society, with people staying in touch and accessing information anywhere and everywhere through mobile smartphones like the Apple iPhone, BlackBerry and Google Android phones. Such smartphones allow users to install third-party applications on their mobile devices to access news, weather, investing, games, entertainment and social networking.

Computer Science Asst. Prof. Guanling Chen recently received a three-year, \$300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to help improve consumers' experience in using such applications. His goal is to identify the root of common problems like slowness or connection failures.

"It is often unclear what is causing the problem — the device, the application, the network or the server," says Chen. "The only feedback mechanism on the phones today is the



Guanling Chen

number of bars indicating a signal's strength, which can be misleading as strong wireless signals do not guarantee good end-to-end application performance."

Chen is using the NSF funding to develop tools that will help users troubleshoot their wireless systems.

Kidd Creates Group to Support Area Singers

Murray Kidd knows first-hand what it's like to be a struggling performer, without steady pay or benefits.

That's why the UMass Lowell Visiting Professor formed the Boston Singers' Relief Fund, an organization that provides financial assistance to members of the singing community.

"Given the scarcity of full-time positions for singers in the United States, I've often thought about how hard it is for musicians to fulfill their creative ambitions without the support of health care, sick days, pensions, disabilities and other perks," says the Music Department professor.

To launch the fund, Kidd organized more than 50 of the area's top singers, including soloists Barbara Kilduff, Michael Calmes and UMass Lowell alum Donald Wilkinson '84, for a benefit concert called "The Singers' Voice Gala Concert," which was held at the Church of the Covenant in Boston.



Murray Kidd

Research Explores Connection Between Weather in Siberia and U.S.

A new study by Asst. Prof. Mathew Barlow of the Environmental, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department and a team of co-researchers proposes that increased snowfall in Siberia can actually lead to colder winter temperatures in the Northeast; less Siberian snow means a warmer winter for us.

"Decreasing Arctic sea ice appears to actually increase autumn snow over Siberia," says Barlow. "Also, the amount of autumn snow cover over Siberia appears to play a role in influencing — via a fairly complicated dynamical pathway — subsequent winter winds over much of the Northern Hemisphere, including the United States."

The project, which launched in the fall, is funded through a \$175,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Another interesting angle the team is pursuing is the recent apparent slowing of global warming.

"It turns out that this is due mainly to Northern Hemisphere winter, which has actually gotten slightly colder over the last decade while the other three seasons have continued their merry warming ways," he says.



Mathew Barlow



O'Connor Family Scholar Anne Laraia, seated in middle, is flanked by her parents and joined by Chair of the Sciences Advisory Board Carole Ward '62, seated at far left. Standing behind them are, from left, Ward's husband, Ray Pritchard, Susan Pasquale '75, Computer Science Assoc. Prof. Fred Martin (winner of the Pasquale-Boudreau Faculty Award for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning in the Sciences) and Pasquale's husband, Ron Boudreau '75.

Students Meet Benefactors at Sciences Dinner

Often, when a student receives scholarship money, it's an impersonal transaction; rarely is he or she able to put a face to the generosity.

For science students that all changed recently. The division organized a dinner the night before its semi-annual board meeting so that scholarship recipients, and their parents, could meet their benefactors, members of the Sciences Advisory Board.

"My mother and I had an incredibly nice time at the scholarship dinner," says student Tom Cole, recipient of the LaTorre Family Scholarship, who met Don LaTorre '60. "I have gotten plenty of scholarships before, and for the most part I never met the person giving the scholarship, so it was incredibly nice getting to talk to Mr. LaTorre. He really is an incredible man and it was a pleasure getting to know him."

The benefactors have similar reactions upon meeting students, says Sciences Dean Bob Tamarin.

"Board member John Kennedy still talks of the first scholarship that he gave out in 2006 to biology major Athina Mantzouranis, a very moving experience for both of them," he says.

It's also a vital component in the education of so many students.

"So many of our students work so many hours during the week that it is hard for them to concentrate on very challenging curricula; scholarship money can make the difference between good and poor grades and between four, five or six years to graduate," Tamarin says.



Student Caitlin Dolan, winner of the Kennedy Family Scholarship, second from right, is joined by her parents and Dean of Sciences Robert Tamarin, right.



LaTorre Family Scholarship winners Thomas Cole and Bianca Melo flank Sciences Advisory Board member Don LaTorre '60.



Thomas Shea, left, and Sangmook Lee

Shea and Lee Receive Grant to Study Neurons

Motor neurons are among the largest in the central nervous system. Starting from a small cell at the base of the spine, for example, a nerve axon extends all the way down the leg to move muscles in your toes.

How motor neurons mature and function is the focus of a new study, funded by a \$65,405 grant award from the National Science Foundation. Leading the research team is Prof. Thomas Shea of the Biological Sciences Department and director of the Center for Cellular Neurobiology and Neurodegeneration Research. Sangmook Lee, senior post-doctoral research fellow, is conducting the study with the assistance of undergraduate student Jacob Kushkuley.

Nerve structure and function are remarkably complex. A long series of research investigations in Shea's lab has led to ever more detailed knowledge, more understanding and new questions.

"At the beginning, we didn't even know what proteins are involved [in nerve maturation] and now we're investigating their electrical charge," says Shea.

Lee, with Kushkuley, recently published findings on the team's work in the *Journal of Cell Science*.

EDUCATION



The Tsongas Industrial History Center, whose weaver room is shown here, provides participants in the Teaching American History project with site-based experiences to accompany their course work.

University Shares in \$1 Million Education Grant

UMass Lowell — in partnership with a consortium of eight of the region’s school districts, led by Billerica Public Schools — was recently awarded a three-year, \$1 million Teaching American History grant by the U.S. Department of Education.

Funding will enable 120 elementary and secondary history and social studies teachers to participate in professional development as part of a project titled “Imagination, Invention, Innovation: The Making of American History.”

Faculty in the Graduate School of Education have been working with Billerica and the consortium to develop a range of activities for each of the three years. Each year will encompass a particular theme in American history with local history examined in relation to the larger, national dynamics.

This is the fifth such grant UMass Lowell has received from the Department of Education. In total, the University and 25 school district partners have been granted almost \$5 million in Teaching American History money.

“I think the continued success of the proposals is due to the high quality of project designs, excellent scholarly content provided by UMass Lowell faculty and robust partnerships with school districts,” says Judith Boccia, director of the Office of School Partnerships, which, along with the Tsongas Center, is part of the Graduate School of Education.

Carifio Wins Mentoring Award, Sees Mentees ‘Pay it Forward’

Prof. James Carifio of the Graduate School of Education was recently presented with the Thomas F. Donlon Memorial Award for Distinguished Mentoring from the Northeastern Educational Research Association.

Rocco Perla ’06, a biologist and researcher at HealthAlliance Hospital, earned his doctoral degree in education from UMass Lowell – with the help of Carifio. Perla nominated his former professor for the award.



James Carifio

“Like many students before me, Prof. Carifio helped me not only as a student but at every point in my professional development, well beyond my days at the Graduate School of Education and well beyond anything that could be expected from a faculty member,” he says. “I think Prof. Carifio is the standard by which all faculty mentors should be measured.”

Carifio says that he is particularly proud that many of his mentees have gone on to “pay it forward.” In fact, while a founding teacher years ago at The Hyde School in Bath, Maine, Carifio had a student “who is now quite successful financially, who contacted me last year to ask me how he could return the help I had given him then and over the years,” he says.

“I told him to pay the tuition and fees of some worthy student going to UMass, which he did and found it so satisfying that he did the same for another student this year and is thinking about expanding his ‘program,’ ” Carifio says.

He points out that it’s notable that his former mentee chose to help UMass students, even though he only attended private schools himself.

“I said to him at one point in the original conversation, ‘Everyone gives to and supports students going to private schools and universities ... be different and provide some help and support where there isn’t a lot – where it can and will make a big and real difference’, ” he recalls.

New Education Minor Helps Undergrads Get a Jump

More than a century ago, when UMass Lowell was known as a State Normal School, the University offered nothing *but* undergraduate coursework in education. But it’s been almost 30 years since the school has carried an undergrad program; instead, the focus has been on the robust Graduate School of Education and its myriad advanced degrees.

That changed this school year, when the University also began offering an undergraduate minor in education.

“There was a lot of interest over the past few years from students asking about undergraduate work and our fifth-year [Fast Track to Teaching] master’s program,” says Vera Ossen, director of educator preparation programs at the Graduate School of Education.

Although the 18-credit minor will not lead to licensure, it will enable students to explore education as a possible career path. Should a student decide to become a teacher, he or she can apply to the fifth-year master’s degree program, either as a Fast Track candidate in the senior year or upon completion of the undergraduate degree.

COLLEGES - ENGINEERING

Honda, Motorola Help Fund DesignLab

DesignLab – UMass Lowell’s innovative after-school educational program offered through the University’s Future Engineers Center – got a boost recently with gifts of \$50,000 from the American Honda Foundation and \$50,000 from the Motorola Innovation Generation Grant.

“This is the second time we have received generous support from both Honda and Motorola,” says Douglas Prime, the Center’s executive director. “They really are excited about what we are doing with kids.”



These funds go a long way in helping realize DesignLab’s five-year, \$1.4-million expansion plan to formally develop and pilot-test eight after-school engineering workshops for middle schools, says Prime.

“Our plan involves training 125 teachers from more than 50 middle schools who will teach hands-on engineering programs to more than 7,500 students in Massachusetts by 2011,” he says.

This is the first time that the Center is conducting two 30-hour DesignLab courses in which 17 middle-school teachers participate in two hands-on engineering workshops: electrical inventions and motorized machines. The teachers then apply what they have learned by conducting these workshops for sixth- and seventh-grade students in their respective schools.



Helping launch the Lawrence High School Weather Club are, from left, NECN meteorologist Danielle Niles '06, Lawrence High School teacher Steve MacDonald '78, Dean of the School of Marine Sciences Robert Gamache and Judith Boccia, director of the Office of School Partnerships in the Graduate School of Education.

University Helps Lawrence High School Launch Weather Club

Robert Gamache, dean of Marine Sciences and a professor of Environmental Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, along with a team of his students, has helped Lawrence High School create a weather club.

Using WeatherBug equipment – which provides real-time and archived weather data – Gamache’s students will provide demonstrations and projects for the high school students. He will also oversee a dual-enrollment course in weather and climate at Lawrence this spring.

The ultimate goal of both initiatives, he says, is to pique and sustain high-school students’ interest in the STEM areas: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

“It is hoped that learning weather and using mathematics as a tool for solving weather-related problems will increase their interest in math and science,” Gamache says. “We lose too many students from the STEM areas in middle and high school. We want to present science to them as something vibrant and dynamic.”

Helping to launch the Weather Club recently was UMass Lowell Atmospheric Science graduate Danielle Niles '06, an on-air meteorologist at New England Cable News (NECN), who joined Gamache and teacher Steve MacDonald '78 in speaking at a kick-off event at the high school.

Margala’s New Technology to Lead to Ultrahigh-Speed Computers

Electrical and Computer Engineering Assoc. Prof. Martin Margala wants to make today’s computers perform even better. He and a research team of students are developing a unique type of super-fast chip, called the “ballistic-deflection transistor,” or BDT, which is a building block for ultrahigh-speed computers and circuits.



Martin Margala

“Such a nanotransistor would operate a thousand times faster — in the terahertz range — and consume extremely low power and generate far less heat compared to conventional transistors,” explains Margala.

Margala’s research on BDTs actually began in 2005, when he was with the University of Rochester. Since he joined UMass Lowell in early 2007, he has continued his work in this field, receiving grants from the Air Force (\$400,000), Navy (\$453,000) and the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (\$60,000).

This past September, he received a \$100,607 grant from the National Science Foundation (along with \$40,000 from UMass Lowell) to purchase a multi-probe, wide-temperature parameter analysis system for measuring low voltages and low noises. Margala is the principal investigator in the NSF grant, with Profs. Craig Armiento and Joel Therrien serving as co-principal investigators.

“Ballistic deflection transistors should be easy to manufacture using current technologies,” says Margala. “They have the potential to revolutionize modern electronics.”

Therrien, Schmidt to Develop Probe, Will Improve Airbags, Wii and iPhones

Asst. Profs. Joel Therrien of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department and Daniel Schmidt of the Plastics Engineering Department have received a three-year \$340,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to produce new, unconventional cantilevers for use in high-speed Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM).

The AFM is a type of scanning probe microscope capable of resolving surface features down to a fraction of a nanometer (billionth of a meter). It consists of a mechanical cantilever with a sharp tip, or probe, at its end that is used to “feel” the surface of a specimen.

However, high resolution comes with a price: speed.

“Current AFM probes are unable to rapidly scan over large areas,” Therrien says. “To give an idea of how slow they are, it will take them a little over 2,200 years to scan a single 8½-by-11-inch sheet of paper! This is because the response of the probe — determined by its shape and stiffness — is simply not fast enough.”

The team’s research is looking at ways to make AFM probes operate significantly faster.

Therrien and Schmidt say the techniques they are developing can eventually be applied to devices known as Micro Electro-Mechanical Systems (MEMS), to enhance their functionality and durability. MEMS are commonly found in a wide range of consumer products, such as air-bag sensors in cars and the position and pressure sensors in Nintendo Wii video game controllers and iPhones.

“Our process will result in tremendous cost savings,” says Therrien. “We will be able to take a normal, five-minute scan and reduce that to a few seconds.”



Joel Therrien



Daniel Schmidt

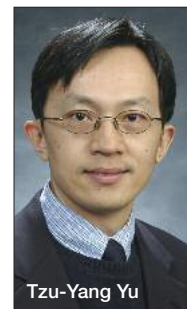
Prof. Yu Develops Handheld Device That Detects Damage in Roads, Bridges

On July 10, 2006, a three-ton concrete ceiling panel in Boston’s Interstate 90 connector tunnel fell on a car heading to Logan Airport, killing a passenger and injuring the driver. After the collapse, a section of the tunnel was closed for nearly a year. This Big Dig tragedy illustrates the need for regular monitoring and inspection of the country’s highway and bridge infrastructure to prevent further loss of life and property.

Asst. Prof. Tzu-Yang Yu of the Structural Engineering Research Group in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering has developed a new method that can help. His non-contact, non-destructive technique uses radar signals to conduct in-depth inspections of buildings, bridges, roadways, tunnels and dams for any structural defect or damage to the concrete or rebar.

“The practical application of this technique will be a portable, handheld device to collect radar measurements from the surface of the structure at a distance of about 20 to 50 meters,” says Yu, adding that one inspector can operate the device without stopping traffic.

Yu recently published a book about his method entitled “Damage Detection of GFRP-Concrete Systems Using Electromagnetic Waves: Theory and Experiment,” which is available at Amazon.com.



Tzu-Yang Yu

UMass Lowell, Indian Institute to Collaborate

UMass Lowell recently signed an agreement for education and research cooperation with the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering Technology (CIPET), a premier institution in India devoted to academic and technology support for the country’s plastics and allied industries.

Dr. Shri Bijoy Chatterjee, secretary of the Government of India’s Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and president of the CIPET governing council was among those representing CIPET at the signing.

The agreement was the result of Chatterjee’s vision of creating formal alliances between CIPET and leading institutions in the United States.

“The timing was perfect for a formal partnership between the leading plastics engineering institutes in India and the United States,” says Prof. Stephen McCarthy, who will serve as technical contact for UMass Lowell.



Witnessing the signing of the CIPET agreement are, from left, Dr. S. K. Nayak, Prof. Ramani Narayan, Secretary Shri Bijoy Chatterjee, Prof. Stephen McCarthy, Provost Ahmed Abdelal and Prof. Krishna Vedula.

Chancellor Tests Touch-free Fingerprint Scanner

Thanks to Electrical and Computer Engineering Prof. Sam Mil'shtein, the days of using ink pads to obtain fingerprints may soon be over. He and a team of ECE students have developed a contactless fingerprint scanner that produces quick scans of fingers without any smudging or mess.

Chancellor Marty Meehan was among the first to test the scanner, inserting each of his fingers into the device's small porthole. A high-resolution electronic camera then swung 180 degrees around each finger, recording a three-dimensional, distortion-free scan. The entire scanning process took only about a second. The prints were then downloaded and displayed on a computer monitor.

Such a system, according to the team, is far more accurate than the traditional ink method since there is no distortion of the fingertips' dermal patterns.

For added security, the same camera can also be programmed to take a simultaneous infrared image of the finger's blood vessels. Like the blood vessels in the retina, a person's pattern of finger blood vessels is unique to each individual, says Mil'shtein.

This technology will be especially useful in law enforcement, forensic investigation, counterterrorism and identity theft. For example, electronic fingerprints can be embedded in the magnetic strips of credit cards, IDs and ATM cards to help authenticate the identity of the person using the card.



Chancellor Marty Meehan's fingerprints are scanned as engineering student Michael Baier and UMass Lowell Police Chief Allan Roscoe, left, look on.

COLLEGES - HEALTH



New Dean Welcomed to School of Health and Environment

Faculty, staff and administration welcomed Shortie McKinney as the new dean of the School of Health and Environment at an outdoor reception at the Allen House. Flanking her, above, are Charlotte Mandell, vice provost of undergraduate education, and Donald Pierson, vice provost of graduate education. McKinney was formerly dean of the College of Health Professions at Marshall University in Huntington, W.V. She succeeds Prof. David Wegman, who stepped down in 2008. Prof. Kay Doyle, department chair, served as interim dean following his departure.

Newly Detected Chemicals in Great Lakes

Current chemical regulations in Canada and the United States are not protecting people from newly detected chemicals in the Great Lakes, according to a new report co-authored by the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production.

Known as "chemicals of emerging concern," these contaminants are primarily coming from the use and disposal of everyday products, such as pharmaceuticals, pesticides, cosmetics, personal care and plastic products. Established policies and control mechanisms, such as wastewater treatment plants, were not designed to manage these types of substances, and as a result, they are now found in the Great Lakes basin along the Canada-United States border.



"If governments do not take decisive action now, there is a reasonable chance the Great Lakes will see another catastrophe like that of PCBs that are now suspected by federal agencies to cause cancer," says report co-author Assoc. Prof. Joel Tickner of the Community Health and Sustainability Department and project director in the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production. "The only way we can truly eliminate the emissions of these toxics is to redesign products so that they do not contain dangerous chemicals to start with."

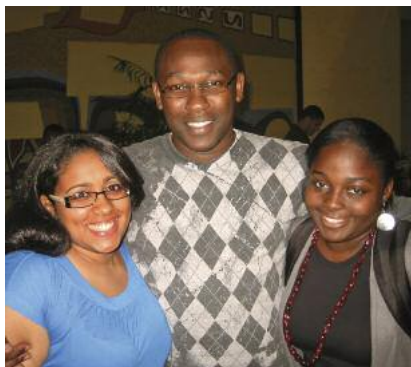
'Bring Diversity to Nursing' Program Expands

The Nursing Department recently welcomed 10 new students to the Bring Diversity to Nursing Program, bringing the total number in the program to 23.

Funded in September 2008 with \$1 million in federal and state grants, the program was developed to recruit, retain and graduate minority and economically disadvantaged nursing students. The students receive scholarships, equipment, tutoring and mentoring to help them succeed.

"As our population grows older and more diverse, we need to not only attract more people to the profession to stem the nursing shortage, but we also need people who can effectively interact with patients across cultures to deliver the best care possible," says Prof. Karen Devereaux Melillo '78, chair of the Nursing Department.

During the past year, the Bring Diversity to Nursing team visited 13 elementary schools in Lawrence and Lowell, held workshops for more than 300 middle- and high-school students and participated in career fairs and informational sessions.



Diorra Guzman, left, who was accepted into the Bring Diversity to Nursing program in September, joins Alex Kinyanjui and Ava Richardson, who have each been with the program for a year.

COLLEGES - MANAGEMENT



Student-Managed Fund team members from this year and last, along with adviser Ravi Jain, gather with the UMass Foundation and University of Massachusetts President Jack Wilson at the UMass Club in Boston.

Student-Managed Fund Team Remains Unbeaten

For the second year in a row, UMass Lowell bested the competition in the system-wide Student-Managed Fund contest. The group retains its title as the only team to ever win the competition, which challenges business students from each of the University of Massachusetts campuses to make the most money on a \$25,000 seed fund through real investing in the stock market.

UMass Lowell posted a 2 percent decrease in value in the fund (which beat the performance of major stock indexes like the S&P 500 for the same period); the team's original investment of \$25,000 two years ago now stands at about \$31,000.

UMass Amherst's team came in second in the competition, followed by UMass Dartmouth and UMass Boston.

"All of these funds 'beat' the market quite well and all of the student managers should be quite proud of their accomplishment and significant experience and training in the investment field," the UMass Foundation stated in announcing the results.

In honor of the team's win, current and past members of the Student Managed Fund group, along with faculty adviser Asst. Prof. Ravi Jain, were invited to the UMass Club in Boston to meet with the investment committee of the UMass Foundation. While they were there, they also met UMass President Jack Wilson and Treasurer Roy Zuckerberg, who chairs the investment committee, as well as other foundation leadership and staff.

"They graciously commended us on our achievements and wished the current group future success," says alum Amy Osgood '09, who participated in the first two years of the competition and now works for Fidelity Investments.

OUTLOOK

Middle East Center Holds First Event

UMass Lowell officially launched its Center for Middle East Peace, Development and Culture with a special event featuring a presentation by Prof. Yoram Meital of Ben-Gurion University in Israel.

The new Center, directed by Prof. Paula Rayman of the Regional Economic and Social Development Department, reflects UMass Lowell's growing commitment to international programs that promote the mutual understanding necessary for the future of our society, both locally and globally. Through the Center, UMass Lowell faculty will explore collaborative ventures with major universities in Middle East nations, including Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Turkey.

Meital, chairman of the Chaim Herzog Center for Middle East Studies and Diplomacy at Ben-Gurion University, is an expert on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the politics of Arab states and nationalism in the Middle East, and provides news analysis for media around the world. Meital's most recent book is "Peace in Tatters: Vision and Reality in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict."



Welcoming Prof. Yoram Meital, center, are Prof. Paula Rayman, director of the new Center for Middle East Peace, and Provost Ahmed Abdelal.

The newly renovated UMass Lowell Bellegarde Boathouse: "The jewel of the Merrimack River."



Boathouse Renovations Completed

The University recently unveiled the results of two years of extensive renovations to the Merrimack River boathouse that is home to university, local and community rowing programs.

With \$1 million in state funding that the University received in 2007, extensive remodeling and repairs were done on the interior and exterior of the 27-year-old boathouse. The building houses offices, locker rooms, storage bays for boats and equipment, a meeting room and space for educational programs. Improvements included replacing the roof, windows, gutters, trim, siding and decks, as well as upgrades to boat docks, mechanical systems, fencing and signs and other displays inside and outside the building.

"With this work, this first-rate facility is now truly the jewel of the Merrimack River and something that the entire community can enjoy," said Chancellor Marty Meehan.

The facility has been renamed the UMass Lowell Bellegarde Boathouse in honor of both the landmark's history and the University's commitment to its restoration. The boathouse was constructed in 1982 and originally named for Edmund Bellegarde, a Lowell resident and avid boater whose family still has strong roots in the community. The state Legislature transferred the boathouse, located on Pawtucket Boulevard, to UMass Lowell from the Massachusetts

Division of Conservation and Recreation in 2006.

The boathouse's condition had been deteriorating prior to the start of the repairs and suffered more serious damage from spring flooding in recent years. Educational programs that had been offered through UMass Lowell and the National Historical Park's Tsongas Industrial History Center at the boathouse were suspended because of the poor conditions. The other primary users – the UMass Lowell and Lowell High School rowing teams and the Merrimack River Rowing Association – were also at a disadvantage because of the facility's deterioration.

Since reopening, the boathouse has become home to new programs for the general public, including kayaking and paddle-surfing. The annual Textile River Regatta, the longest single-day regatta in the nation, uses the boathouse as a base of operations. An advisory committee representing the primary users and community will establish additional programs for the public.

The boathouse's rebirth also includes a renewal of programs designed to educate students about the historical and environmental significance of the Merrimack River. Funding from the National Park Service of \$65,000 to UMass Lowell's Graduate School of Education and the Lowell National Historical Park, will support and expand the Tsongas Industrial History Center's experiential education programming at the facility.

New ICC Residence Hall Enriches, Expands Student Life

Right from the first day, one thing was clear – this was not your basic college dorm.

There was the opening-night meal: a welcome banquet, hosted by Aramark, complete with food stations, with the Chancellor as guest speaker. The on-site dining room, the mail room, the plush front lobby, the oversized bedrooms – all with air conditioning – the private bathrooms, the queen-size beds. Even a special second-floor “learning commons” for uninterrupted late-night study. And a shuttle bus that ferries students to and from campus at 15-minute intervals. Almost like a three-star hotel. Which, of course, is what it was.

On Aug. 30, a Sunday, UMass Lowell students officially set up housekeeping in the University’s newest residence hall: the 252-room UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center – formerly the DoubleTree Hotel – which the University purchased earlier in 2009 for \$15 million.

As presently configured, the ICC houses roughly 400 students, mostly upper-class and honors – many of them organized as “living and learning communities” of eight students or more, focused on particular subjects or themes – on the top seven floors of the nine-story building. The lower two floors, once renovations are complete, will continue to be used as a hotel.

“The message we wanted to give them, right from the start, right from that first-night banquet, is that this is different – this is the new UMass Lowell,” says James Kohl, the University’s director of Residential Life.

The biggest reason for the hotel purchase, of course, was the shortage of student housing: last year, the overflow was so critical the University was forced to house close to 400 students at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua. But there’s more to it than that, says Kohl.

“There are so many resources in the city – the restaurants, the coffee houses, the museums, the galleries, the national park – that we hadn’t tapped into completely before,” he says. “So we saw this as an opportunity to do that: to expand the University, to bring the city to the students, to really infuse student life. The idea was to make Lowell, in a very real way, a part of the campus – with all the benefits that accrue.”

Conference Joins UMass Lowell, Irish Universities

UMass Lowell, in partnership with Queen’s University of Belfast and Dublin City University, hosted the first U.S./Ireland Emerging Technologies Conference in October.

The international conference featured experts from the three universities presenting on new research in biopharmaceuticals, medical devices, nanomanufacturing and nano/biosensors. All sessions were held at UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center in downtown Lowell.

Robert Tamarin, dean of the Division of Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences, who opened the conference, says the event was beneficial on several levels.

“The conference offered UMass Lowell and Irish scientists the opportunity to get together with leading industry partners as they consider the application of new technologies to meet medical and scientific needs,” he says. “Also, it reflects our growing commitment to international partnerships, which add to the vibrant exchange of ideas.”



Prof. Stephen McCarthy, left, and Francis Talty, right, with Queens University Profs. Fraser Buchanan, Tony McNally, Eileen Harkin-Jones, Peter Hornsby, Marion McAfee and Nicholas Dunne

Virtual International Centers Established

UMass Lowell recently established six virtual international centers, each of which is being directed by faculty members who are leading the University’s international efforts with partner institutions.

Provost Ahmed Abdelal says that pursuing international partnerships will not only give students a global perspective, but will also strengthen research efforts by increasing the breadth and depth of collaborations with international universities, research centers and firms. By nurturing research relationships around the world, the campus increases the chances that it will innovate more efficiently and more effectively and perhaps in ways not otherwise imagined.

The six virtual centers are: the Center for Irish Partnerships; the Center for Asian Partnerships, including China, India and Cambodia; the Center for Latin and South American Partnerships; the Center for African Partnerships, including South Africa and Ghana; the Center for Middle East Partnerships and the Center for Hellenic Partnerships.



Toxics Use Reduction Institute Saved with Stimulus Funding

The Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) will survive the current budget year, thanks to an infusion of federal economic stimulus funds granted by the state's Executive Office of Education (EOE).

"Governor Patrick and the legislature stepped up the plate to ensure that TURI can continue to help reduce the use of toxics in the Commonwealth," says Chancellor Marty Meehan. "The one-time federal funding will allow UMass Lowell to cover the costs of the institute this year, without disinvesting in our core mission – providing high quality, affordable higher education."

Meehan had announced in August 2009 that UMass Lowell would be able to fund the Institute only through December, if no outside funding were secured. Thirty-nine representatives and 13 senators signed letters to their leadership requesting separate state funds for TURI, and UMass President Jack Wilson helped work out an agreement with EOE for the Education Stabilization funds. The federal stimulus legislation ensured that the Stabilization funds were available.

Although TURI is part of the UMass Lowell campus, it has been funded separately by the state since its inception in 1990. Under the state's Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA), Massachusetts businesses that use toxic substances pay fees to the Commonwealth, in essence covering the costs of the program. In 2008, \$3.2 million in fees were collected from 550 facilities. This year's state budget requires that UMass cover its costs.

"I'm relieved that the stimulus funds will carry TURI through this year. Nevertheless, the environment is not something we can decide to protect one year, and forget about the next," says George Bachrach, president of the Environmental League of Massachusetts. "We look forward to a robust discussion with state leaders about how to fund it well into the future."

Since the inception of the TURA program, TURI has helped Massachusetts companies reduce the amount of toxic chemicals used in manufacturing processes by 41 percent.



Sen. Jamie Eldridge, D-Acton, right, helped save TURI. Joining him at a State House celebration are, from left, Prof. Ken Geiser, Prof. Michael Ellen Becker and Shortie McKinney, dean of Health and Environment.



Members of UMass Lowell and Queens University are joining forces to offer a four-week program to students that will examine the Great Irish Famine and wave of Irish emigration through archeological digs in Belfast and Lowell. From left, are Frank Talty, director of academic programs in the Division of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Chancellor Marty Meehan, Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney, UMass President Jack Wilson, Queens University Pro-Vice-Chancellor Gerry McCormac, Provost Ahmed Abdelal and Queens University Archeology Prof. Colm Donnelly.

OUTREACH

UMass Lowell Shares in Community Service Grant

Harnessing the strength and enthusiasm of 1,500 UMass students, a five-campus effort is placing volunteers in a wide range of community service projects across the state.

The Corporation for National and Community Service awarded a Learn and Serve America grant for \$471,000 to the five UMass campuses to support a statewide effort to increase student involvement in their communities.

Through a \$83,000 sub-grant, UMass Lowell students have the opportunity to supplement their academic experience by participating in mentoring projects at local K-12 schools, pursuing alternative school breaks working in high-poverty Massachusetts communities, receiving IRS training to help local families with tax preparation, assisting in worker-education programs and incorporating service-learning into their curricula. It is expected that an additional \$1.4 million in federal funding will be forthcoming over the next three years.

"We have big plans for the funds, and look forward to supporting civic engagement through student outreach," says Robin Toof, assistant director of the Center for Family, Work and Community.



Robin Toof

Two Lowell Homes Win 'Zero Energy Challenge'

The winners of the "Getting to Zero Energy Challenge," a competition sponsored by National Grid and the City of Lowell, in partnership with UMass Lowell, were honored in a ceremony at Lowell City Hall recently. The contest aimed to help local property owners get their homes as close to zero net-energy consumption as possible.

Lowell residents Bonna Sam Mai and David and Sharon Logvin each received a \$25,000 rebate from National Grid for having the most energy-efficient homes. Mai's residential building on Wilder Street qualified under the low- to medium-income category, while the Logvins' home on Starbird Street qualified under the unrestricted-income category.

In preparation for the contest, Prof. Sammy Shina of the Mechanical Engineering Department organized two training sessions for 11 mechanical engineering students on the basics of zero net-energy homes. National Grid donated \$10,000 for the training, which was conducted by the Building Science Corp., a zero-energy consulting firm in Westford. Eight seniors served as volunteers for the contest.

Prof. John Duffy, who coordinates the University's solar engineering graduate program, led the students in two senior capstone teams to assist contest applicants in developing detailed design proposals for the final phase of the selection.

By retrofitting Mai's home with better insulation and more energy-efficient doors, windows, lighting, appliances and heating/cooling systems, the team was able to create energy savings of nearly \$87,000 over 30 years and reduction of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by about seven tons per year.

The Logvins will also realize savings of nearly \$87,000 in energy bills in three decades and reduce roughly five tons of CO₂ emissions a year. A three-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system will also be installed on their south-facing roof to provide a renewable source of energy.



Energy contest winner Bonna Sam Mai, center, receives a \$25,000 check from Lowell City Mayor Bud Caulfield, left, and City Manager Bernie Lynch.



David and Sharon Logvin and their son pose with former Mayor Bud Caulfield, left, and City Manager Bernie Lynch.

UMass Lowell Ranked Top School in Graduates' Salaries

When it comes to translating a bachelor's degree from a public university into a salary, UMass Lowell delivers the top mid-career pay in New England, according to PayScale.com.



PayScale.com ranked institutions in order of graduates with the highest mid-career salaries. The goal of the study was to determine which undergraduate programs provide the most value.

New England schools ranked in the top 10 were private institutions: Dartmouth College, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University and Yale University. UMass Lowell was the top-ranked public institution in New England and in the top 20 percent of public and private schools nationally, coming in at No. 124 of more than 600 institutions included in the survey.

"This is another example of how UMass Lowell offers a high-quality education that our graduates are able to use to achieve their career goals and earn top salaries. And, not only does the University offer a top-notch education, it does so at an affordable price that will not leave graduates with decades of debt," says Chancellor Marty Meehan.

UMass Lowell graduates with a bachelor's degree earn an average mid-career salary of \$90,000, according to PayScale.com.



Chancellor Marty Meehan welcomed school district leaders from 25 communities to the third annual Chancellor's Breakfast for Superintendents recently. "I started this annual tradition when I became Chancellor to make it clear that partnerships with you and your teachers are central to our work here at UMass Lowell," he told guests. Four panelists spoke at the breakfast, introduced by David Troughton, superintendent of North Reading Public Schools. Pictured, from left, are Anita Greenwood, interim dean of the Graduate School of Education; Susan Nicholson, assistant superintendent of Andover Public Schools; Jim Nehring, assistant professor and Chris Scott, superintendent of Lowell Public Schools.

PEOPLE

Moloney Honored for Online Learning Vision

Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney was recognized for her online learning leadership recently by the Sloan Consortium (Sloan-C), which presented her with the 2009 award for Most Outstanding Achievement in Online Learning by an Individual.

UMass Lowell's program, which began with 400 students and four classes now generates more than \$24 million in revenues and currently has 12,000 students enrolled. It has been incorporated into UMass Online.



Jacqueline Moloney

Bond Honored for Ethnic Minority Mentoring

Meg Bond, professor of community psychology and director of the Center for Women and Work, was awarded the 2009 Ethnic Minority Mentorship Award by the Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA).

As a past president of SCRA, Bond introduced the practice of inviting to executive committee meetings someone who could suggest how its decision-making might affect minority groups. She also encouraged minority members to assume leadership positions and was proactive in recruiting talented individuals.

"Ethnic minorities often arrive in professional organizations and university departments without networks of support," says Bond. "We need to be attuned to the dynamics in various settings in order to create a structure where people feel they belong, are supported and welcome."



Meg Bond



Prof. Ken Geiser, center, has been recognized as University Professor, the most esteemed title bestowed on a faculty member. Geiser is joined at a recent celebration of the honor by Prof. David Wegman, left, and Prof. John Wooding. "Ken is everything a faculty member should be," says Chancellor Marty Meehan.



FACILITIES

The New Tsongas: 'The Region's Premier Entertainment Destination'

The 6,500-seat Tsongas Arena, home of the UMass Lowell River Hawks and the American Hockey League's Lowell Devils, is now – following a sale by the city, and its blessing by the state legislature – officially the property of UMass Lowell.

The transfer, announced at a River Hawks game in October and formally ratified early this year, will allow the University year-round, debt-free use of the \$24 million facility, both as a home to the River Hawks and as a venue for other events. Previously, the University had paid the city \$50,000 a year for the team's use of the arena.

Early plans for the newly owned venue, which has been renamed the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell, include a slate of UMass Lowell basketball games, the state high school hockey and basketball championships and nationally known musicians. Another new addition is the installation of electronic, LED-powered fascia boards – the only ones in the region, outside of Boston, says Assistant Athletic Director Eric Allen – which display scores, messages and fan cheering cues visible from every angle.

"This is about making UMass Lowell a place where students want to be," said Chancellor Marty Meehan following news of the transfer. "The Tsongas Center will help us provide the array of activities and events necessary to keep them engaged and happy – important ingredients for ensuring that students succeed academically."

The River Hawks and the Devils account for about 60 days of the year-round schedule. The venue also hosts a number of concerts, conventions and other sporting events. Liza Minelli, Barry Manilow, Bob Dylan and Lynyrd Skynyrd all have performed there, as have the Boston Bruins and tennis mega-stars Venus and Serena Williams. A performance by hip-hop artist Drake is planned for April.

Funds Raised, Honors Given

by Kristen O'Reilly

Faculty, Alumni, Community Member Recognized for Accomplishments

It was a night to celebrate individuals who have brought honor to UMass Lowell – successful alumni, pioneering faculty members and one community member whose support has helped bring music to Lowell school children. More than 200 people applauded these honorees at the Francis Cabot Lowell Alumni Awards and Honors Fellows Gala on Thursday, Nov. 19, at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center. Proceeds from the event will benefit students in the Honors Program.

“We are very, very fortunate to have a wealth of riches: from world-class faculty, to our diverse and motivated students, to engaged and active and successful alumni,” said Chancellor Marty Meehan. “This event highlights some of those riches.”

Honored were: **Lawrence J. Ardito '69**, president of Toscano & Ardito PC: Francis Cabot Lowell Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business; **Claire Chamberlain**, retired physical education, physical therapy and exercise physiology faculty member: Francis Cabot Lowell Faculty Award; **Swanee Hunt**, Eleanor Roosevelt Lecturer in Public Policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, president, Hunt Alternatives Fund, former U.S. ambassador to Austria: Community Honors Fellow; **Mary Kramer**, retired English professor and strong supporter of the UMass Lowell Honors Program: Honors Fellow, College of Arts and Sciences; **Ehud David Laska '75**, president and CEO of Pelion Financial Group: Francis Cabot Lowell Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business; **Peter O'Connell**, retired director of the Tsongas Industrial History Center: Honors Fellow, Graduate School of Education; **Diana Tran '02**, founder and owner of Diana's Hair Fashion and Design: Francis Cabot Lowell Young Alumni Award.

Hunt, who spoke earlier in the day to honors students and gave the 2009 Community Fellows Talk, accepted her award



in honor of her mother, whose four brothers saved up money to pay for a year of college for their sister.

“My mother was very smart – Cracker Jack smart. She would have given any amount in the world to have more than one year of college. But there weren't scholarships for someone like her,” said Hunt. “And when I look at this room and I see what you are all supporting, I take it very personally.”

The Hunt Alternatives Fund gives money to Prof. Kay George Roberts' String Project, which introduces Lowell grade-school students to string instruments. Twelve students from the group, the charter members of the Lowell Symphonic Youth Orchestra, played a piece during the reception.

Honors Fellow Mary Kramer talked about the importance of leaving a legacy to the next generation. “My colleagues and I think that maybe we have contributed through teaching, providing students not just the academic materials, but ideas and theories and values. We teach them why and then encourage them to go out and ask, why not,” she said.

Peter O'Connell noted that the Tsongas Industrial History Center is considered a partner of the University so his faculty role was somewhat unusual. “The fact that

the University is making the award to a 'partnership person' like me says much about the University's commitment to partnerships. It is the way the University does business,” he said.

Larry Ardito's friends and family donated \$5,000 in his name to the Honors Program, creating the Larry Ardito Accounting Scholarship. He talked about how, as an 8-year-old, he sat with his father sorting money and receipts from the family business at the dining room table. Going to college was not optional in his family, and he spoke fondly of his time at what he now calls “UMass Lowell Tech.”

“My professors, some of whom don't want to admit they taught me for age reasons, imparted such knowledge and gave me the character and ethics and direction that you couldn't get anywhere else,” said Ardito.

Claire Chamberlain objected to being called a pioneer in advocating for women's athletics, even though when she came to the Lowell State 37 years ago there were no intercollegiate athletics for women and she worked hard to change that environment. She has been inducted into the Northeast Hall of Fame for her pioneering work for Title IX.

“We simply saw what needed to be done and did it,” she said. “You students here



1. More than 220 people gathered at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center to honor the award winners.
2. Former U.S. Ambassador Swanee Hunt was named the 2009 Community Honors Fellow.
3. State Rep. David Nangle presents Young Alumni Award winner Diana Tran '02 with the Francis Cabot Lowell Award with Executive Vice Chancellor Jackie Moloney.
4. The Francis Cabot Lowell Alumni Awards and Honors Fellows Banquet raised money to help students in the Honors Program. Scholarship winners were recognized at the event. Shown, from left, are Liam Driscoll; Honors Program Administrator Beth Donaghey; Tinuviel Lathrop; Ianna Hondros-McCarthy; Cassandra Lowney and Honors Program Director Doreen Arcus.
5. Enjoying the evening were Prof. Emerita Ethel Kamien, Ehud David Laska '75, Kathy Laska, Eric Laska and Siri Kamien.
6. Larry Ardito '69, left, shared the evening with his family. With him are from left, Dan Ardito, Deborah Gangi and Genevive Gangi.
7. Honors Fellow Peter O'Connell and Claire Chamberlain.
8. From left, Swanee Hunt, Community Honors Fellow; Peter O'Connell, Honors Fellow, Graduate School of Education; Mary Kramer, Honors Fellow, College of Arts and Sciences; Lawrence J. Ardito '69, Francis Cabot Lowell Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business; Claire Chamberlain, Francis Cabot Lowell Faculty Award; Ehud David Laska '75, Francis Cabot Lowell Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business; Diana Tran '02, Francis Cabot Lowell Young Alumni Award; Chancellor Marty Meehan.

tonight will mark your own brilliant paths, and you couldn't have picked a better place to do it."

Ehud Laska, who has achieved success in building, restructuring and selling companies, offered some career advice: "Your point of view is not important, but your viewing point is," he said, noting the former is an opinion and the latter is a perspective. "If you look at things from a different direction or a different perspective, you'll be able to close a deal, close a transaction and invent something."

Diana Tran, who came to the United States knowing little English 14 years ago and has now achieved success as a small

business owner, gave a touching acceptance of her award.

"After I was accepted as a student at UMass Lowell, I learned from students and faculty who set high standards and encouraged me to reach my goals. For myself, UMass Lowell has given me the confidence and knowledge to enter the world of business," said Tran.

"This Honors Program is making a difference in the lives of our students," said Meehan. "Your support provides an opportunity for highly motivated students to realize their full potential as thinkers, inventors, teachers, analysts, creators, entrepreneurs, innovators, critics.

Whatever they want to do, our Honors Program can give them the tools they need to reach their full potential."

The Francis Cabot Lowell Award, given to alumni, faculty and staff, honors the values and accomplishments of the city of Lowell's namesake. Honors Fellows represent the legacy of educational excellence that inspires the UMass Lowell Honors Program. The Community Honors Fellow is the only fellow selected outside of UMass Lowell, a tradition that began in 2008 in recognition of the synergistic connection between the University and the community. ❖



by Geoffrey Douglas

A TIME OF GROWTH: MORE STUDENTS THAN EVER LEADING RICHER LIVES

For UMass Lowell, it has been a time of superlatives – so many ‘firsts’ and ‘mosts’ and ‘bests’ that it might be hard to find another time, any other year or two in the University’s long history, in which progress could be measured on so many fronts.

It has been a time of growth: more graduates last June than ever before, more new ones than ever taking their place, more of those already here staying on to graduate. And a time of change, nearly all of it for the better: a greater diversity than at any time in the past (a 51 percent two-year increase in minority students); more students than ever now living on campus; an ambitious outreach beyond the University, unparalleled initiatives within it. And all of this against the backdrop of an ever-finer student body: higher freshman SAT scores than at any time in the past, and an average GPA that creeps upward every year.

And it’s not only the freshmen. On the graduate level, the combined total of master’s-degree and doctoral enrollments is up 10 percent this year. Over the past two years, across all classes, total student enrollment has grown by more than a fifth – while the growth-rate of new-student enrollments has been even more impressive than that.

Put it all together, and the message seems irrefutable: today’s UMass Lowell students are more numerous, more diverse, more accomplished and more motivated than they’ve ever been before.

Much of this, of course, is the product of what's been happening on-campus. The 13 percent increase in residential students (to 2,900, the highest number ever) has been made possible through the addition of more than 700 new beds over the past two years – 400 alone in the newly outfitted UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center – while the upswing in total enrollment is a function of a couple of things: richer opportunities for students on campus, and an unprecedented outreach beyond it.

“The numbers are very exciting, very hopeful,” says Director of Undergraduate Admissions Kerri Johnston. “We’re doing a lot more outreach than ever before, both out of state and internationally. Academically, there’s more opportunity in the classroom, and more internships being offered. And student life – with nearly 120 student clubs now, and the [residence hall] living and learning communities – has probably never been richer. All in all, I think we’re just making ourselves more attractive, and more visible. And it’s showing some results.”

Perhaps the most ambitious of these on-campus initiatives (and a big part of part of what Johnston is talking about) has less to do with numbers than with lives. Beginning this past fall, all incoming freshmen (as opposed to roughly half in 2008-09, the program’s first year) have been enrolled in cohorts of 20-25 students each, known as learning communities, in which they share three core courses, a faculty adviser and a major or academic theme. To further cement the bond among them, all residential freshmen in a particular cohort are assigned to the same University residence hall.

The underlying objective, as Provost Ahmed Abdelal explained last year, is to improve the freshman-to-sophomore retention rate (and thus the graduation rate) by helping students “bond with each other and with a faculty mentor, and [thereby] connect solidly with the campus.”

“The changes these last couple of years have really made a difference. We’ve got the new academic buildings coming in, a growing athletic focus. There’s just a lot happening right now. That’s exciting.” — Gerry Durkin

In a further extension of this concept, in place for the first time this year, designated sections of Fox Hall have been given over to cohorts of 20 or more residential freshmen, known as living-learning communities (or LLCs), joined by their interest in some distinct (usually non-academic) topic or theme. Though looser and less formal in their make-up, LLCs also are often mentored by faculty.

Both the learning communities and the LLCs, says Dean of Students Larry Siegel, “give students the opportunity to come together around a shared life interest – politics, the environment, performing arts, whatever – and to explore it further, often with the people they’re living with. This is the sort of thing that builds connections, often friendships – as well as knowledge. All of which goes a long way toward making for a richer, fuller college experience.”

Much of the University’s outreach has been directed internationally, toward partnerships and exchange programs with foreign schools – which partly accounts for the steady increase in diversity. Another target has been the transfer-student population. The main sources of this are the state’s 15 community colleges, especially the nearest two: Middlesex and Northern Essex. This year, of the University’s 936 transfer students (a 14 percent increase over 2008-09), 250 were from Middlesex alone. Next year’s goal, says Johnston, is to increase this number by another 5 percent.

“We try to maintain a strong presence at the community colleges,” said Gerry Durkin, director of transfer admissions, speaking on his cell phone on the way to a college fair in Roxbury. “One appearance a month at least, at the first-tier schools, and probably

once a semester at the others. And it’s a year-round push. Unlike with freshman enrollments, we get an active February class of students as well – we had 425 enroll for the spring semester last year.”

The spike in transfer enrollments, says Durkin, much like the increase among new freshmen, has a lot to do with what’s happening on campus these days: “The changes these last couple of years have really made a difference. We’ve got the new academic buildings coming in, a growing athletic focus. There’s just a lot happening right now. That’s exciting. It creates lots of interest – which makes our job easier, of course.”

Meanwhile, as enrollments continue to grow across all sectors of the population – freshmen, graduate students, transfers, residential – what of those students who have been here all along? In 2008, the national freshman retention rate (the percentage of freshmen who return for their sophomore years) for all U.S. colleges, according to ACT, the independent educational assessment organization, was just under 66 percent. How does UMass Lowell fare against that number?

More than 15 percent higher — at 76 percent, for the same (2007-08) academic year. For this year, it was 81 percent, or more than 20 percent higher than the national average.

“That’s a very high number for a public institution,” Chancellor Marty Meehan told a reporter earlier this fall. “I think if we can get it up a little higher, we can compete with anyone at any time.”

With enrollment at an all-time high, a new \$15-million residence hall just opened, a second one refurbished for nearly \$12 million, at least three new academic buildings on the drawing

Continued

board and millions more being spent or budgeted for improvements – and state funding for higher education in a years-long decline – the question has never seemed more pressing: Just where are the dollars coming from?

The short answer: from more places, and in greater numbers, than at any time in the past.

“I think what people are seeing is a university moving forward, a university on its way up.”

— Kerri Johnston

It has been roughly two-and-a-half years since Marty Meehan took over as chancellor, and less than two years since his inauguration. In that time, the new administration, while presiding over the largest student enrollment in the University’s history, as well as its most ambitious expansion plan ever, has also overseen a doubling of the UMass Lowell endowment – to more than \$40 million – a more-than-doubling of its scholarship funds and a dramatic, unprecedented widening of its fund-raising outreach.

It’s been a remarkable run. By the close of the 2008 fiscal year alone, the University had raised nearly \$8.5 million in cash and pledges, \$14 million in total support – far in excess of its goal. Within the UMass system, only Amherst by then exceeded the UMass Lowell endowment: close to \$3,800 per student, a 65 percent increase in just five years.

That’s the big picture — which, like most big pictures, is an amalgam of a thousand smaller ones. And it is among these smaller ones (some of them not so very small) that you find much of the richness and diversity that will take the University into its future.

Like the gift from Nancy and Richard Donahue, a \$500,000 donation announced last spring, to create the University’s first-ever endowed



Nancy Donahue, left, and her husband Richard, second from right, join Chancellor Marty Meehan and fellow arts supporter Terry O’Connor at a concert where the Donahues announced their endowed professorship.

professorship in the arts. Or the two \$500,000 gifts – matched by a UMass trust fund – from Jim Dandeneau and Mark Saab, who graduated a year apart in the ’80s, used to fund two endowed professorships in “green plastics.” Or the long-ongoing Hoff scholarships (see related story on Page 30), the legacy of a gift of alumnus Charlie Hoff ’66, that have helped put as many as 1,000 UMass students through school. Or the \$511,000 Dana McLean Greeley endowment, now in its second year, that is funding yearly campus visits by world-renowned peace activists. (“With this gift, we are institutionalizing peace,” said UMass Lowell Prof. Robert Gamache of the Greeley endowment).

Or any of dozens of others.

“There are just so many exciting things happening right now,” says Kerri Johnston. “The speakers series, the new professorships, the new residence halls – they make us that much more visible, that much more attractive to students. And the new scholarships [being funded] – they tell the world out there that we recognize the need for assistance, especially in these times we’re all living through, and that we’re ready to step in....”

“I think what people are seeing is a university moving forward, a university on its way up. And that makes our job that much easier – that they want to be a part of that.” ❖





Steve Weisfeldt



Oneida Blagg



Casey Maxwell

by Geoffrey Douglas

Students, Staff, Alumni Support 'Continuum of Giving and Learning'

Alumni giving is at the heart of the financial health of any university. And a big part of that heart – for all the critical importance of wealthy alumni and those five- and six-figure donations – is the large, unsung body of former students, faculty and staff who answer the phone when they're called and give whatever they can.

At UMass Lowell, there are more than 7,000 of them – students, alumni, faculty and staff, parents and friends – who, each year, realizing that state-support and tuition dollars alone are not enough to provide an education to all those who deserve it, dig into their pockets to make up the difference. Over the years, in response to calls from the 40-odd student workers who man the phones in the "Phone Room," and to the thousands of letters and fliers that go out, many millions of dollars have been raised for the annual fund.

Steve Weisfeldt '88 is one of those 7,000 givers – and a Lowell Fund caller's dream. Twenty-one years out of school, and he's been giving for the last 15, more generously as the years have passed. After earning his degree in computer engineering, he is today (following a recent, difficult stint with a start-up that fell victim to the recession) the owner-founder of a small software consulting firm in Belmont, and doing very well. For him, the choice of giving – as well as how much, and to whom – has evolved naturally, over time, as a kind of philosophical ranking of priorities.

"I used to give to a lot of causes – schools, hospitals, charities, a little bit to each – until at some point I got to thinking: Is it better to give a little to a

lot of people, or more to just one or two? And the more I thought about it, the more I realized: a college education is at the root of everything, of all those other things I'm giving to," he says.

"So now I just give to UMass Lowell and one or two others – but I give more," he says.

Not all those who give are alumni. Some, like donor Christopher Chao, a current student now in his senior year, have come early to an understanding of the urgency – as well as to the incalculable benefits – of a UMass Lowell education. He used to believe, he says, that "the costs would always be covered ... I assumed that state funding would always cover any deficits."

But lately, at least partly through his own fund-raising duties (he has made calls for the annual fund himself), he has come to think differently: "I was surprised to learn how much state funding has dropped over the past nine years. That went a long way toward changing my mind," he says. "I see now how important it is that students, alumni, whoever is able, give as much as they possibly can.

"I hear a lot from alumni, when I make those fund-raising calls, how much they feel the school has grown and changed since they left. I want to be sure I have that same feeling myself, 20 or 30 years down the road."

Casey Maxwell graduated in 2007 with a degree in business administration. She works today in a research lab at Mass General Hospital in Boston. For her, giving has always seemed as natural as going to school itself.

"My mother, who's a nurse, always gave to her college," she says. "And she's stayed in touch with so many friends from there, it's been such a big part of her life – I guess I just grew up believing in it, seeing it as something you needed to do.

"And now that I've been through the same experience myself, and with the friendships I made at UMass Lowell that I'll probably always have, and the training it's given me – I don't know where I'd be without it – giving just seems like an easy, natural choice. I guess you could say it's my way of closing the circle."

Oneida Blagg, neither student nor alumna, is the University's director of Equal Opportunity and Outreach, and another annual fund donor. For her, much like for Maxwell, giving seems largely a matter of closing a circle – though with a different emphasis.

"The students at UMass Lowell today, the ones we're giving to – not only are they our future leaders; they're the ones, as time moves on, who will be taking care of us. So as they learn, as they become more productive and take on responsibility, it's important that we support them in every way we can," she says. "It's all part of a continuum, really. A continuum of giving and learning."

The current campaign, under the banner of "The Power of Possibility," kicked off in the fall with a direct-mail drive to alumni, and also features an "Alumni Showcase" speakers' series, highlighting the wisdom and experience of former students who return to campus to share their memories and life experiences. ❖



Graduate student Ken Hanson, left, and Andrew Fothergill, a junior, create polyethylene film with the custom-made equipment provided by Gloucester Engineering.

by Jack McDonough

Gloucester Engineering Hopes Students Will ‘Torture’ Its Valuable Gift

When Bill Hellmuth '77 was an undergraduate in the Plastics Department 35 years ago, the equipment in the film laboratory was, to phrase it diplomatically, not what you'd call “cutting edge.”

Or, to quote Hellmuth today, “I was using the laboratories from '74 to '77 and the film lab was old when I was there.”

That situation changed for the better about 10 years ago, thanks in large measure to Hellmuth and Gloucester Engineering, the firm at which Hellmuth is senior product manager for blown film systems.

As Department Chair Bob Malloy tells it, “Our existing blown film line was very old, probably dating from the 1960's, when we approached Bill around 2000 to see if Gloucester could do anything for us.”

They could. And did.

“Gloucester Engineering was so receptive to this request,” Malloy says, “that they wound up giving us a very sophisticated line worth about \$350,000. The line was custom built for our

specific needs and space limitations.”

It was installed in Ball 108, which was completely renovated with new flooring, ventilation, plumbing and lighting. The room was painted with the company's color scheme and logos, and the sign on the lab's glass door read “Gloucester Engineering Film Extrusion Lab.”

When the space was ready, Gloucester delivered the line, which included an extruder, gravimetric feed system, screen changer and other features, along with a blown film tower and winder.

“Not only did they donate the equipment, but they also sent along a team of electricians and technicians who worked for a week to get the line up and running,” Malloy says. “And they still help us whenever we have maintenance issues.”

But that's not all.

“Now,” Malloy says, “the Gloucester management has offered to upgrade the line. They want to be sure that our students are working with state-of-the-art extrusion equipment.

They plan to upgrade the controls with a current generation touch-screen control system, add a second extruder and put in a new die and new air ring cooling system.

“This will be as sophisticated a lab film line as I have seen at any university.”

Happily, Gloucester Engineering will also realize some benefits from its generosity.

Carl Johnson, the company's president and CEO, says, “We're going to get something out of this, too. We'll get feedback from the next generation of plastics graduates. We're excited about that.

Gloucester is currently converting the University's extrusion control system to a multi-layer system and upgrades will continue over the next couple of years. He says the upgrade will probably take place in conjunction with the Plastics Department's anticipated move into the Emerging Technologies building, which is slated for construction on the North Campus. The ceiling in the new laboratory will be higher than the one in Ball, making possible the installation of the larger tower required for the new equipment.

Johnson says, “We want the kids there to have access to the latest technology and be able to understand how the process works. It's one thing to read about these processes in a book but it's another to actually do it.

“We also want them to torture test this new software. If anybody can give it a run for its money, it's a bunch of very curious college students.”

Johnson says Gloucester developed its relationship with the plastics program through alumni who work for the company and who are “very dedicated to UMass Lowell.” In particular, he mentions Hellmuth, Dave Constant '79 and German Laverde '97.

“The University gave Bill a chair in honor of his service and we have it in our boardroom. He and Dave have really been instrumental in maintaining our ties with the University,” Johnson says.

“We plan to continue working with UMass Lowell,” he adds. “We believe there's a lot of value in it.” ❖



Ken Hanson uses the computer-based process system that controls the Gloucester Engineering blown film extrusion line in the Ball Hall laboratory.



Carl Johnson

Corporations Provide Vital Support for Plastics Engineering Program

“Maintaining state-of-the-art manufacturing, testing and design laboratories is an extremely expensive proposition,” says Plastics Department Chair Bob Malloy. “Given our limited operating budget, there is no way we could acquire and maintain these facilities without corporate and alumni support.”

The assistance provided by Gloucester Engineering, as described in this issue of the alumni magazine, is but one example of the generosity extended to the University by a number of companies, Malloy says.

The list includes:

Cincinnati Milacron, a leading manufacturer of injection molding machines. The very first company to provide lab support, Milacron has consigned several molding machines to a lab bearing its name, and provides technical support and training in its operation.

Putnam Plastics, founded by Jim Dandeneau '80, has donated a named laboratory containing tubing and sheet extrusion lines and thermoforming machines. Additional equipment in that room was donated by other companies, including **Boston Scientific**, **Maac Machinery**, **Gillette** (now **P&G**) and the **Society of Plastics Engineers**.

The Nypro Corp., its founder Gordon Lankton (H) '02 and the Nypro Foundation have also been long-time scholarship and lab supporters. “I would estimate that more than 80 students have received Nypro scholarships over the years,” Malloy says. The corporation also provided funds for equipment and renovation for the Nypro Precision Injection Molding Laboratory. Other companies that have provided electric molding machines for this lab include **Nissei America** and **Sumitomo Machinery**.

The Rocheleau Corp. of Fitchburg has donated blow molding equipment and provides service for technical problems. “The importance of follow-up service by these companies cannot be over-emphasized,” Malloy says.

The Advanced Polymers Corp., founded by Mark '81 and Elisia Saab, donated funds for the renovation of the Physical Properties Testing Lab, along with a variety of endowed scholarship funds. “This very large lab is used for both melt rheology and solid properties testing,” Malloy says, “and is a night-and-day improvement over our previous materials testing facility.”

He adds that “other companies sponsoring labs include **Freudenburg NOK** for our rubber processing and **Moldflow** (now **Autodesk**) for our Computer Aided Engineering and Design Lab. And **Leistriz Corp.** has provided major donations for our materials compounding lab.

“The list goes on and on. The students, faculty and staff are greatly indebted to so many individuals and corporations it would be impossible to thank them all individually,” Malloy says.

An Encore Tribute to Senior Plastics

by Edwin L. Aguirre

More than 325 plastics engineering alumni and friends gathered in Chicago last June to honor five senior plastics engineering faculty, each of whom have 40 or more years of service at UMass Lowell — Profs. Aldo Crugnola, Stephen Driscoll '66, Stephen Orroth '66, Nick Schott and Rudy Deanin, who retired last year.

However, because of the bad economy and company travel restrictions, many alumni were unable to attend the Chicago get-together, which was held in conjunction with a major national plastics conference and expo.

“Many local alumni contacted me to see if we could hold an encore event locally,” said Prof. Robert Malloy, chair of the Plastics Engineering Department. “We decided to have another tribute dinner in conjunction with the MassPlastics Trade Show in Fitchburg on Oct. 21, and once again we had a great turnout with more than 250 alumni and friends attending.”

During the program, Chancellor Marty Meehan presented his dynamic vision for the University. He announced that Plastics Engineering will have a significant presence in the new Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center, which is scheduled to begin construction this spring with completion targeted for 2012.

Meehan also awarded two new endowed professorships — the Mark & Elisia Saab and the James V. Dandeneau Endowed Professorships — to Asst. Profs. Dan Schmidt and Ramaswamy Nagarajan, respectively. Both awards were established with \$1 million gifts. Interest from these funds are to be given annually to faculty members who bring additional



elements of sustainability and environmental awareness to the department. Schmidt was cited for his work as sustainable curriculum coordinator while Nagarajan was recognized for his research on environmentally friendly flame retardants and biopolymers and for developing a curriculum on plastics and additives from sustainable materials.

Malloy spoke to attendees about the early history of the Plastics Engineering Department. He said while credit is often given to Prof. Russ Ehlers for founding the department, people tend to overlook the developments that led to the hiring of Ehlers by the Lowell Technological Institute. Malloy pointed out that, as the textile industry moved south, there was no longer a demand for textile engineers, chemists and designers.

“Around 1952, the Lowell Tech administration formed an advisory group of local industry leaders to determine what technologies would be emerging that would require a skilled technical workforce,” he said. “One industry leader and visionary, Ralph Mondano of Raytheon Corp., said that companies would need pro-

cess engineers, materials engineers and design engineers to work with the new family of materials known as plastics. We, as graduates of the plastics engineering program, are all indebted to Ralph for his unique vision at the time. He has never really been given proper credit for this and other work he has done for the College of Engineering.”

Malloy has asked the UMass Lowell Advancement Office to rename the Plastics 50th Anniversary Endowed Scholarship the Ralph Mondano Endowed Scholarship in honor of his efforts.

“We can think of no better way to thank Ralph for his efforts relating to the creation of the Plastics Engineering Department,” he said.

That evening, Malloy also thanked Prof. Amad Tayebi, who recently announced his intention to retire in June. Malloy presented him a letter on behalf of the Chancellor awarding an Emeritus Professor status to Tayebi upon his retirement.

“Prof. Tayebi is known for his excellence as an educator, receiving more departmental teaching awards than

Engineering Faculty

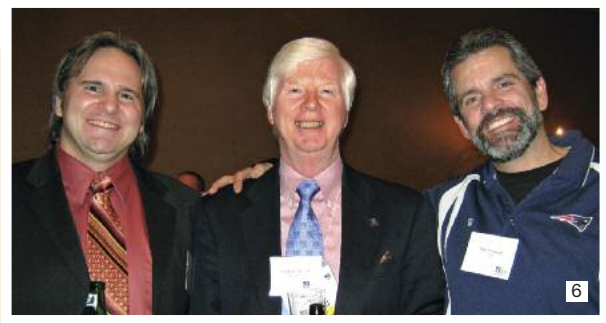
“We decided to have another tribute dinner in conjunction with the MassPlastics Trade Show in Fitchburg on Oct. 21, and once again we had a great turnout with more than 250 alumni and friends attending.” — Robert Malloy

any other faculty member,” said Malloy. “He has also brought a spirit of entrepreneurship to the department, teaching courses such as his popular Business Law for Engineers.”

Upon retirement, Tayebi intends to continue to teach part time at the

University and will also give lectures at companies on the subjects of intellectual property and patents.

“The funds he earns for this work will be donated to The Amad Tayebi Plastics Engineering endowed scholarship he has recently created,” said Malloy. ❖



1. Chancellor Marty Meehan presents Prof. Ramaswamy Nagarajan the first James V. Dandeneau Endowed Professorship.
2. Plastics Engineering class of 1980 alumni gather, from left: Mark Yates, Juliette Carignan, Mike Heath, Andy Routsis, Carol Royal, Steve Kincaid, Jim Nason and Roger Temple.
3. Friends and co-workers, from left, Steve Fidrych '00, Peter Harrison '77, John King '97 and Michael Poirier '01.
4. Longtime Plastics Engineering supporter Rick Hoeske '66, left, chats with, from left, plastics alumni Roger Somers '69, Bob Cook '77, Steve Kincaid '80 and Gary Lane '78.
5. Prof. Aldo Crugnola, center, speaks with his college classmate Ray Naar, left, and plastics alum Bob Pierotti '69.
6. Ron Pataky '94, left, and John Doucette '89 congratulate Prof. Stephen Driscoll, center.
7. Class of 2003 alumnae Susan Parisi, Melissa Egan and Cristina Emphasis catch up.

Generous Alums Inject Funds to Help Mold Budding Plastics Engineers

by Jack McDonough

Every Monday and Friday morning at 7:30, Michael Furbush leaves his University Avenue apartment, gets into the 1985 Chrysler New Yorker that used to be his grandfather's and which, he says, "is dying pretty quick," and heads off to work.

The senior plastics engineering major drives to Bedford where, for 17 to 20 hours a week, he works for Millipore Corp., one of several jobs that have helped him pay for part of the expense of earning a college degree.

He also has worked summers as a house painter, waited tables at Ruby Tuesday's, had a work-study job in the College of Engineering and, this past summer, had an internship at Millipore.

"I work as many hours as I can, given my class workload," he says.

Still, the debt is mounting.

Before graduating from Bishop Feehan High School in Attleboro, Michael applied to several colleges and "got in pretty much everywhere," but chose UMass Lowell because it was the most affordable one that offered civil engineering and industrial planning, careers he thought he might like to pursue.

But he soon discovered that civil engineering wasn't his cup of tea. Then he gave the business curriculum a try with the same results. At that point, a



Scholarship money and a variety of jobs have helped Michael Furbush finance his education.

Philanthropy: The Power of Possibility

“I probably wouldn’t make it through college without scholarship help,” he says. “Anything helps. \$500. \$1,500. Anything. Once I graduate and I’m paying off my loans, I’ll realize even more what a difference that money has made to me.” — Michael Furbush

friend suggested plastics. That sounded “new and cutting edge,” he says, and he soon found himself majoring in plastics engineering.

Finances continued to be a problem, though. His father, who has always worked in the financial field, and his mother, an accountant, had established a small business, which failed after three years. There was little support, therefore, for Michael and his younger sister, Sara, who eventually would have to drop out of college for lack of funds.

It was critical, therefore, that scholarship money be available for Michael at UMass Lowell.

“I probably wouldn’t make it through college without scholarship help,” he says. “Anything helps. \$500. \$1,500. Anything. Once I graduate and I’m paying off my loans, I’ll realize even more what a difference that money has made to me.”

Rick Hoeske ’66 knows what Michael means because he, too, relied on scholarship money when he was a student at Lowell Tech. Now he has returned the favor, establishing The Hoeske Family Scholarship Fund that has benefited Michael and many others.

Now retired after a career that included 31 years as vice president of engineering at Nypro Inc., Hoeske says there was no money for college when he graduated from high school in Pittsfield in 1958.

“So,” he says, “I entered a four-year apprentice program, going three nights a week to learn how to design and construct injection molds to produce plastic parts. When I finished, I had the equivalent of an associate engineering degree and a journeyman’s card, but I wanted to explore the possibility of furthering my education.

“I still didn’t have much money, only enough to pay for about a semester and

a half. But I wanted to go anyway, so I quit the job I had and enrolled at Lowell Tech.”

Once at Lowell, Hoeske made the most of it, playing varsity basketball, serving as president of his freshman class and becoming actively involved in social activities.

“I became very close with the class adviser, Prof. (Ernie) James, and Dean (Richard) Ivers and they arranged for me to have a three-year scholarship as long as I maintained my grades,” he says.

Hoeske did maintain his grades but discovered that the plastics curriculum wasn’t for him (too much chemistry) so he earned his degree in Industrial Management. After graduating, however, he did “get involved” in plastics, working first for E.I. Dupont and Becton Dickinson Inc. before joining Nypro.

“I always vowed that if I could do it, I’d like to reciprocate to the University and support some students,” he says. “There definitely are students at Lowell who need money.

“I’ve found it very gratifying to do this and I’ve enjoyed meeting students who’ve received support from my fund. I try to encourage them to stay in this wonderful world of plastics, and remind them that if they get the opportunity to reciprocate in the future they should try to do it.”

The Plastics Engineering Department has benefited from the generosity of many alumni like Hoeske. Among them are Andy Routsis ’80, Larry Acquarulo ’81, Barry Perry ’68, John Quinn ’69, Leo Montagna ’70, Joe Day ’66, Fred Charpentier ’81, Eamonn Hobbs ’80, Michael Johnston ’69, Jim McDonough



Rick Hoeske '66

’76, Dave Myers ’76, David Pernick ’41, Peter Rucinski ’92, ’93 and Mark Yates ’80, ’81.

Routsis, who established the Andy Routsis Endowed Scholarship, says, “I just wanted to give back in some way. I’d like to give more and, as things develop and get better, I think I’ll be able to do that. I didn’t receive any financial aid when I was a student. I worked fulltime and paid for it out of my own pocket.”

Because he had to work his way through school, Routsis understands how difficult it can be and he wants to make his scholarship attainable.

“When my scholarship was established, the school wanted to set the parameters higher,” he says. “They wanted the student to maintain more than a 2.5 GPA but I said ‘no.’ If someone is struggling with the work, the last thing they need is to worry about how to pay for their education. I probably had the lowest GPA in my class because I had to work fulltime.”

Routsis, president of A. Routsis Associates, a leader in the production of training material for the plastics industry, is excited about the prospects of Plastics Engineering occupying a section of the University’s planned Emerging Technologies building.



Andy Routsis '80

“We’ve got an outstanding reputation all over the world,” he says. “We need to be in a modern facility because we’re producing world-class talent.”

The other alumni have similar stories to tell.

Larry Acquarulo has established the Acquarulo Family Endowed Scholarship. What was his motivation?

“Probably the same as everyone else,” he says. “You’ve done well since you left Lowell so you feel an urge to give something back. It was a great experience

Continued

Philanthropy: The Power of Possibility

there and it's been a great experience after graduating ... keeping in touch with other alumni ... and the success we've had. Feeling fortunate. You'd like to see the school do well and you'd like to have everyone coming through the school have the same opportunity that you had.



"I really like the direction that (Department Chair) Bob Malloy has taken the program in, and (Chancellor) Marty Meehan has done a nice job supporting the plastics program. We certainly want to keep it as it is — recognized as one of the premier programs in the world."

The founder and CEO of Foster Corp. in Putnam, Conn., Acquarulo says, "The last few years we've been on campus recruiting graduates. And we've been bringing in interns for the last eight or 10 years. We try to hire as many Lowell candidates as we possibly can."

Barry Perry, retired chairman and CEO of the Engelhard Corp. of Iselin, N.J., is another successful alumnus who

knows it's not always easy to finance a college education.

"When I went to school I came from a working-class family. Going to college was a big deal," Perry says. "I was fortunate to get some scholarships and that really made a difference for me. So, when I had a little extra disposable income, I started to think of what I wanted to do, and I thought of what Lowell Tech and plastics had done for me. I'd like to have other kids have a scholarship if they need it, so that's why I went with the [Barry Perry Plastics Engineering Endowment] scholarship fund.



Barry Perry '68

"The program has maintained its basic values and I think that's important.

"The thing that I think is so valuable about the education I got was that it had the technical components that are absolutely necessary but there was also a practical element. I went to GE plastics right out of school, and I found that I had a lot of practical skills like how to operate a machine that they were trying to teach new hires. Those things served me well in jump-starting my career."

John Quinn, president of Excel Polymers of Solon, Ohio, and founder of the John E. Quinn Scholarship Endowment Fund, says, "I was motivated to give back when I heard that engineer-

ing careers are diminishing in this country. I want to help keep the torch lit for the plastics program, the world-class team of professors and, of course, the students, the next generation of our industry.

"The Plastics Engineering program at Lowell has been a premier curriculum supporting the global growth of the polymers industry for over five decades. I was fortunate to have 'caught the wave' for 40 of those years. Not only did I receive an education at Lowell, but I have been able to maintain a network of classmates who penetrated the industry and with whom I have had the opportunity to work.



John Quinn '69

"One of the more satisfying aspects of my job has been to recruit and mentor Lowell plastics engineers and to watch their professional and personal development."

Leo Montagna says, "I started making small contributions as soon as I graduated. As I started earning more money in my job, my amounts increased to where they are now. What motivated me was gratitude for the education I got and the opportunities that opened up to me."

Montagna, president of Lee Plastics in Sterling, has established the Lee Plastics Equipment Endowment. ❖

Plastics Department Scholarship Funds

The Eastman Kodak scholarship fund
 The Russell Ehlers scholarship fund
 The Henry Thomas scholarship fund
 The Raymond Normandin scholarship fund
 The Sung (S.J.) Chen scholarship fund
 The Scott Adams scholarship fund
 The Dandeneau Family scholarship fund
 The McDonough Family scholarship fund
 The John E. Quinn scholarship fund
 The Moldflow Corporation scholarship fund
 The Sterilite Corporation scholarship fund
 The Hoeske Family scholarship fund
 The Lee Plastics equipment fund
 The Visteon scholarship fund

The Mark and Elisia Saab scholarship fund
 The Day Family scholarship fund
 The Plastics Faculty scholarship fund
 The Eamonn Hobbs scholarship fund
 The Acquarulo Family scholarship fund
 The Michael Johnston scholarship fund
 The David Pernick Grad Student exchange fund
 The David Pernick Plastics equipment fund
 The Andy Routsis scholarship fund
 The New England Keyboard scholarship fund
 The Nypro Corporation scholarship fund
 The Scholarship Fund for Students from India
 The Plastics 50th Anniversary scholarship fund
 The Barry Perry Plastics Engineering Endowment

Plastics engineering major Michael Furbush works many hours a week to help pay for part of the cost of his education. When he says he probably couldn't make it without scholarship help, he's describing the plight of many UMass Lowell students today.

The example set by the six alumni whose scholarships and endowments are described in this article could be considered a challenge for all graduates to follow their lead.

For information on how to underwrite facilities or offer financial assistance of any amount to those preparing today to be tomorrow's productive citizens, contact John Davis, executive director of principle programs, at (978) 934-4806 or John_Davis@uml.edu.

Laying the Foundation

With more than \$500,000 in grants, the Theodore Edson Parker Foundation has enabled a deeper connection between UMass Lowell and the community

by Sarah McAdams

More than 130 years ago, on an April evening in 1877, 40 men gathered upstairs in the Boston and Lowell railroad station in Lowell to watch Boston University Professor Alexander Graham Bell demonstrate his new brand-new invention, the “telephony.”

Among those believed to be present – and to listen to an organ 26 miles away in Boston play songs like “Yankee Doodle” – was Dr. Moses Greeley Parker. An amateur inventor, as well as physician, Parker was intrigued by the telephone demonstration and began buying stock. By 1883, he was one of the largest stockholders in both the American Telephone Co. and the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co.

“We’re all about the revitalization of Lowell and certainly the University has been very good at that.” — Phil Hall

Upon his death, the bulk of the fortune he amassed passed to his sister, Mary Greeley Parker Morrison, and to a nephew, Theodore Edson Parker Jr. The latter inspired the formation of the Boston-based Theodore Edson Parker Foundation in 1944; in its early years, the foundation spread its goodwill throughout the state. Today, it supports only Lowell-based non-profits.

After all, “the money was made in Lowell,” says Phil Hall, the foundation’s administrator. “Plus, our annual budget of about \$1 million doesn’t go far in Boston, but in a city like Lowell it does.”

UMass Lowell has been a beneficiary of the Parker Foundation’s commitment to Lowell; since 1985, the organization has supported the University with more than \$500,000 in gifts, across a broad range of disciplines.

“We’re all about the revitalization of Lowell and certainly the University has been very good at that,” he says. “The acquisition of the downtown hotel, when coupled with the influx of artists, is very



Music Prof. Kay George Roberts, left, traveled to Cambodia to conduct the workshop performance “Where Elephants Weep,” an opera funded in part by the Theodore Edson Parker Foundation.

exciting for us. It’s making for a much happier downtown and students [who are living in the new Inn & Conference Center] contribute greatly to that.”

Meanwhile, says Caitlin O’Brien, UMass Lowell’s corporate and foundation relations officer, the Parker Foundation’s “dedication to the Lowell community has allowed the University to partner with local organizations and to provide services to many – not just our students.”

In particular, the foundation has provided critical funding to encourage a deeper collaboration between UMass Lowell and the National Park Service, as well as with Middlesex Community College and the City of Lowell through the Cultural Organization of Lowell.

“The Parker Foundation plays an essential role in Lowell as both a funder and leader in helping the community set priorities for development,” says Paul Marion, executive director of Community and Cultural Affairs at UMass Lowell.

Most notably, Parker grants were critical to the success in recent years of collaborative projects such as the premiere of the Cambodian rock opera “Where Elephants Weep,” the award-winning museum exhibition of Jack Kerouac’s legendary “On the Road” scroll manuscript and the first two years of the Massachusetts Poetry Festival in Lowell.

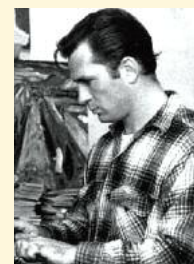
David Turcotte, program manager of the University’s Center for Family, Work

and Community, knows firsthand the value of the foundation; since 1999, his proposals have earned him \$135,000 in grants from the Parker.

Turcotte has used the money to address a variety of challenges: the growing homelessness and foreclosure crisis; the need for sustainable development and green building programs and operational training for non-profits.

“These grants often lead to the creation of other institutions to sustain the important work,” he says. “For example, the Non-Profit Alliance was organized through funding from Parker and has continued its work for almost 10 years while the green building report we produced for the City of Lowell led to the establishment of Lowell’s Green Building Commission, which is helping to implement many of our recommendations.”

The Parker grants provide seed funding for needed projects that don’t qualify for traditional federal and state funding, Turcotte adds. “Unlike a city like Boston, which has many large private foundations to support the work of community-university partnerships, Lowell only has the Parker Foundation to support these kinds of projects and research,” he says. ♦



Lowell’s Jack Kerouac inspired a generation of beat writers through his work, including “On the Road” which was typed on a long scroll. An exhibit featuring that scroll was funded in part by the Theodore Edson Parker Foundation.



by Geoffrey Douglas

'Desh' Deshpande: Philanthropist, Visionary, Venture Capitalist to the World

“If you pose a problem to an innovative mind, it will come up with a solution to the problem.”

Such a simple notion. Obvious, really. But when you replicate it, thousands of times over — which is what Gururaj Deshpande is really talking about — and back it with commitment, patience and millions of dollars in capital, it can literally change the world.

Applying minds and dollars to some of the world's biggest problems is what “Desh” Deshpande devotes his life to these days. He is doing it, especially, in his native India, where a kitchen he is funding is feeding hungry children at a pace of 185,000 meals a day — and where a total of 70 of non-profits he is backing are harvesting rainwater, teaching children to read, training teachers, empowering women, massing voter drives, improving healthcare and a hundred other things. He is doing it at MIT, where his \$20 million gift supports research and collaboration among students, young companies and high-tech entrepreneurs: the Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation, one of the world's foremost non-profit college think tanks. And he is doing it right

here at UMass Lowell, where his Indo U.S. Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE) is funding engineering workshops in India, led by U.S. professors, to advance the teaching of engineering education in Indian colleges.

“Things can be done in India at unimaginably low costs,” he says. “The idea is to find these [low-cost] areas, optimize your solutions, then replicate them as widely as you can.”

Deshpande is, as you would expect, a very wealthy man, though with the bursting of the high-tech bubble, his wealth may be less today (“I’m a rich guy — every day’s a fun day for me,” is the only answer he would give to a reporter last April when he had asked if he’s a billionaire). Whatever his wealth totals, its earliest growth took place in Canada, where he had moved in the mid-70’s from India after earning his B.S. at the Institute of Technology in Madras. As he tells it, a professor he had in graduate school — Queens University in Toronto, where he earned his Ph.D. in data communications — offered him the chance to work with him at a small company there, a division of Motorola. He began there in 1980.

“It was very small, a garage operation, really, with maybe 20 of us. But we had quite a ride,” Deshpande says.

By the end of that ride, four years later — when he left Canada for the United States, to work for Motorola itself — the 20 employees had grown to 400, and the company was billing \$100 million a year. He would spend the next four years learning the guts of a business — with jobs in sales, marketing and other areas — but he knew by now where he wanted to be going from there.

“I’d gotten hooked on building companies,” he says. “I had really caught the bug.”

There was one false start along the way: a start-up called Coral Networks, which was launched with a partner in 1988. It didn’t work out; when he left two years later, there was almost nothing in the bank (“I had no money,” he would tell a writer several years later, “but once you’ve run a company, it’s very tough to work for anyone else again”).

There would be no more failures. The next venture, Cascade Communications, based in Westford, a developer of frame-relay equipment, was a winner from the

start. Founded with a partner in 1990 with a few thousand dollars and some venture-capital help, it quickly grew to 900 employees and \$500 million in sales. In March 1997, it was sold for \$3.7 billion. The Deshpande share, though only a fraction of this, still measured in the hundreds of millions.

That was big – but nothing even close to what followed. Sycamore Networks, in Tewksbury, one of the earliest fiber-optic companies, was launched in 1997, in the heat of the technology boom. Funded, like Cascade, on venture-capital funds (“Once you’ve done a successful start-up, it becomes relatively easy to get access to venture capital,” he would say later), it went public only two years later: the IPO, which opened at \$38 a share, closed the same day at \$170, and would rise far higher in the following months – eventually reaching a market capitalization of \$51 billion. By any measure you apply, Deshpande was now a billionaire.

And that was when he got out. Or, as he prefers to describe it: “It was when I decided I’d rather be more of a coach.”

Leaving his old business partner to run Sycamore, Deshpande refocused his efforts. Where before they had been singular – one company, one set of goals at a time – they now became almost impossibly diverse: Piggy-backing on his ability to attract venture-capital funds, he has been launching small start-ups and non-profits (the goal, he says, is one of each every year) since he walked away from Sycamore nearly 10 years ago. Some are high-tech, others not. All are backed by venture-capital money. Some of them, not surprisingly, are based in India.

One of the first start-ups was Tejas Networks, a telecom company in Bangalore. Another is A123 Systems, which makes rechargeable batteries. There is a wireless company, Airvana, an investment company, a natural language processing company and many, many more.

The non-profits are even more diverse – and more ambitious. Funded largely through grants by the Deshpande Foun-

“[Feeding] one kid can change a family. With a million kids, you could change a million families. You do that for 15 or 20 years, you could change the entire country.”

— Desh Deshpande

dation, which was created by Desh and his wife, Jaishree, 13 years ago and has been building on itself ever since, these are a network of organizations, based in the northwestern Karnataka region of India (the childhood home of both Desh and Jaishree) that raise the level of life across the widest possible spectrum – and, at the same time, create an affordable, “scalable” model for expansion.

The basic idea is to apply the time, efforts and creativity of the best minds available to some of the most intractable problems in India: hunger, illiteracy, unemployment, disease, drought, pollution, the marginalization of women. By concentrating their initiatives solely on the Karnataka region – an area of roughly 9 million people, which the Foundation terms its “Sandbox” – the non-profits can remain focused, make the greatest difference possible for the dollars available and, at the same time, construct a model for expansion (“optimize, then duplicate”).

There is almost no limit to the scope of these organizations. Loosely structured around four basic classifications – livelihood, agriculture, education and health – they include everything from village clinics and school-lunch kitchens to irrigation projects, science classes for rural children and micro-loans for family farms. The key to all of them is the participation of innovative leaders – the “social entrepreneurs” that are at the core of the Deshpande initiative.

Then there is the IUCEE. This initiative, similar in intent but narrower in focus than the Karnataka non-profits, was the brainchild of UMass Lowell engineering Professor and Dean Emeritus

Krishna Vedula, also a native of India, who sees it as a way to transform the scope and quality of engineering education in that country.

Based on the premise that the United States and India are at the leading edge of the worldwide technology revolution, the aim of the IUCEE is to increase the number of engineering faculty in the two countries, at the same time promoting collaboration. Under the direction of Vedula (whom Deshpande describes as possessing both “the energy and the intellectual rigor to make this a success”), and backed by the Deshpande Foundation and a consortium of global organizations and businesses – HP, Infosys, Dassault Systemes, National Instrument, the World Bank Institute, and others – the IUCEE is now approaching its third year. For the last two summers, 600 engineering college teachers in India have attended workshops there, in a range of specializations, taught by U.S. professors.

The idea, of course, is that the chain will self-perpetuate: each summer’s student-professors will in turn impart their knowledge to the students they teach at home, and so on down the line. Ultimately, if the chain remains intact, up to 600,000 engineering students will have benefitted from the best training and the finest body of knowledge available in the world – and both they and the world will reap the results.

It is this same philosophy that lies at the core of all of Desh Deshpande’s many – now nearly countless – initiatives: that if you apply the best possible minds to a problem, then replicate the process, there is no limit to what you can achieve.

“[Feeding] one kid can change a family,” he says. “With a million kids, you could change a million families. You do that for 15 or 20 years, you could change the entire country.”

And, by natural extension, the world. ♦

Datda Chanthavysouk '10



Ciana Abdollahian '09



Daniel Ewing '98

A Hoff Scholar, 15 Years Later: 'You Were Able to See the Person I Could Become'

by Geoffrey Douglas



Robert Molinari '94

Robert Molinari '94 was 40 years old in 1992, a single father of two young children working a blue-collar job. But at least there was security – he had been with the company 15 years at the time.

Then one day, with little warning, he learned that the company would be moving out of state. He had a choice to make: follow the work and risk disruption to his children, whose lives were already upended by their parents' divorce; to look for another job or – the riskiest course of all – to take the opportunity to complete the college education he'd halfway-finished years before.

"I met [Charlie] Hoff at his office in Attleboro," Molinari wrote in a letter two years ago. "I explained my situation and asked him for his help."

He was awarded a Hoff Scholarship, one of the early ones. For the next two years he worked part-time jobs, took care of his children and carried the fullest course-load he could manage ("day, night, summer and interses-

sion") to earn the credits required to graduate – which he did, from the College of Management with a 3.95 GPA, in June of 1994.

He passed the CPA exam that same spring with the third-highest score in the state. He is today a successful accountant, managing the internal audit department of a major health-care system.

"Without the support of the Hoff family, I'm certain I wouldn't have been able to take the courses needed in the timeframe that I did," Molinari writes in concluding his letter. "They were a lifeline for us in a time of real need."

The Hoff Scholars

Robert Molinari's letter is one of dozens Charlie Hoff '66 received in the spring of 2008, congratulating him on receiving the UMass President's Medal, the University's highest honor, which was awarded to him that year at a presentation in Boston's Symphony Hall. Many of the letters, like Molinari's, are from long-ago graduates;

Philanthropy: The Power of Possibility



Jarrad Farrington '08



Carol Francis '92



Michael Hatfield '94

“It is a great honor to be a recipient of a Hoff scholarship. Without it, I don’t think I would be able to attend college full-time. When I graduate, I will be the first in my family to go to college and finish.” — Datda Chanthavysouk

others are from recent ones, others from students still in school. All of them share a common story-line: of financial need answered, an education made possible, the successes that followed, the deep gratitude that endures.

Hoff, a 1966 Lowell Tech graduate, has been giving away UMass educations – at all five campuses – for more than 20 years. The exact number of “Hoff scholars” is hard to determine, but it is at least 1,500, probably more. Their majors run the gamut from music to nursing to business management; some are as young as 19, others as old as 60. All that joins them is financial need, a desire for an education and a minimum 3.0 GPA. And finally, as Hoff once put it: “They need to be the sort of people who’ll make a difference in their communities ... the sort of people who, if I were still hiring, I’d want to hire myself.”

Daniel Ewing '98, like Molinari, seems just that sort of person. Awarded a Hoff scholarship in the early 1990s, he was still a student several years later when, he writes, a diving accident rendered him a quadriplegic. He spent much of the next three years in and

out of hospitals, shuttling between surgeries and rehab appointments, relearning how to live. Finally, in 1996, with much help from friends and caregivers, and the Hoff scholarship still in force, he was able to return to his studies. He earned his UMass Lowell degree, in chemical engineering, in 1998.

“The only problem,” his letter says, “was that being confined to a wheelchair didn’t lend itself to working as a chemical engineer.” So he mastered some new skills, relearned some old ones, and found work as a software engineer. He has been working at the same company now – with continual advancements – for more than 10 years.

“My career is rewarding, and I welcome new challenges,” he concludes his letter. “[What I accomplished] was made easier for me by the self-confidence I gained because you, and others like you, had confidence in me.”

Datda Chanthavysouk’s story, or much of it, is still unwritten. A senior this year on her way to a degree in business management, she lives in Lowell with her parents, who, she

wrote, “emigrated from Laos to pursue better lives from communism.” At the time of her letter, she was working part-time as a teller at a bank in Lowell, and helping to take care of her parents. Following graduation, she is hoping to be part of the bank’s management team – though her long-term goals were more ambitious than that:

“One of my dreams is to open a youth community center that serves as a place where young children can go after school. I want to be able to help build a better future, and I think it starts with the youth...”

“It is a great honor to be a recipient of a Hoff scholarship. Without it, I don’t think I would be able to attend college full-time. When I graduate, I will be the first in my family to go to college and finish. This was a dream that is now an obtainable goal.”

In the fall of 2007, just as Jarrad Farrington was starting his first semester as a Hoff scholar (he was a senior at the time), his father died unexpectedly. Not only was this a devastating blow – it also left him to look after, almost single-handedly, a close family friend, an elderly man who suffered from Alzheimer’s and had depended on Farrington’s father for his care.

“This entails between two and six hours a day, seven days a week,” he

Continued

wrote in the spring of 2008. “It is difficult at times, but extremely rewarding.” At the time he wrote his letter, he was still in pursuit of a degree in his double-major of psychology and criminal justice, and working part-time as an auxiliary police officer in Winchester. He was also president of the criminal-justice honors society and the psychology honors society; at graduation, several weeks later (though he couldn’t have known it at the time), he would be honored with the Department of Psychology’s Rondeau Leadership Award

“It has been several months since we met,” Farrington wrote, “but I still remember every moment... Without your exceptional generosity and high expectations of me, my work on- and off-campus would not have been possible. I thank you for everything you have done, for my fellow students and me.”

The tributes go on and on. Alexandra Schechter '10, a senior this year, who spent her freshman year (before qualifying for a Hoff scholarship) working three jobs, writes to thank the Hoff family for “taking the burden of my tuition off my parents’ shoulders – they are the hardest-working people I know.” Ciana Abdollahian, a 2009 marketing graduate, writes to share the news of her graduation and new job as a marketing specialist, and to add that she hopes: “one day, like you, to be able to contribute to the success of future generations.” Michael Hatfield '94, today a director of finance at a public company, remembers that “when I met [you] it was a time in my life where, due to circumstances, very few people had any confidence in me. [You] were able to look past things that had happened in my life, and to see the person I could become.”

Carol Francis '92, who owns and runs her own lease-advisory company, concludes her letter (in which she enclosed a photo of her with her baby daughter, Sophia) with perhaps the simplest, most eloquent tribute of them all:

“Sophia has just celebrated her first birthday, and is by far my greatest accomplishment and joy. Your gift of an education has allowed me to become a woman I hope my daughter will one day admire: educated, self-sufficient and happy. And for that you have my gratitude.” ❖

For Lawrence High School Students: Bridging the Tuition Gap

Henry J. (“Hank”) Powell '55 and his wife M.J., like Charlie Hoff '66 and his family, are a fixture among UMass Lowell scholarship funds. For more than 10 years now, the Powell Family Endowment Fund has been making educations possible, awarding scholarships to students – especially minority students – from high schools in Lawrence and Lowell.

Only last year, Chancellor Marty Meehan announced the establishment of the Henry J. Powell Lawrence High School Endowed Scholarship for University Success, designed to bring students from Lawrence public schools to UMass Lowell for a seven-week residential summer program. Nearly 150 students from grades seven through 12, at all achievement levels, participate in the program.

The most recent Powell initiative, the Lawrence High School/University of Massachusetts Pathways Initiative, follows in the tradition of earlier Powell efforts by taking the lead in placing a UMass Lowell education within reach of qualified Lawrence High graduates.

In order to augment this funding, a new collaborative effort by the University and the Lawrence Public School System, directed specifically at UMass Lowell alumni living in the Greater Lawrence area, aims to raise an additional \$100,000 in scholarship funds for LHS graduates who plan to attend UMass Lowell.

“As an alumnus and resident [of Lawrence], you may have a personal interest in helping your alma mater support a very special scholarship initiative,” reads the text of a letter that went out recently to Lawrence-area alumni. “Henry Powell and his wife are leading the way...” Last September, 40 LHS graduates entered UMass Lowell as freshmen. Of these, nearly half – 19 students – had participated in the UMass Lowell summer program. And of these 19, three were awarded scholarship aid as a result of contributions that had come in through the new Powell initiative – a number, says Vice Provost for Graduate Education Don Pierson, that the University hopes to improve on as the \$100,000 target grows nearer.

“The Powell family has consistently taken the lead in making a University education affordable to Lawrence students who could not otherwise afford it,” says Pierson. “For students willing to commit their time in the summer, this new program – assuming that other alumni follow their lead – will make it possible for even more of them to attain their educational goals.”

Although all 40 of last fall’s entering freshmen from LHS received some form of private and/or state scholarship aid, Pierson notes, the average student was still left with \$5,500 in debt to meet the costs of first-year tuition and fees – which, projected over four years, would accrue to a loan burden of more than \$20,000 by graduation. More than a few of these students, if history is any guide, will elect to drop out of school before finishing if something isn’t done to lighten their load.

“That shouldn’t be happening,” says Pierson. “And thanks to the generosity of the Powell family and the alumni who follow their example, it will be increasingly less common – as more of those students than ever before will be able to afford to complete their educations.”

Powell, a Lowell native and 1955 UMass Lowell graduate, is the founder and former president of the Powell Corporation in Haverhill.



Linda FitzPatrick '68, shown here with her grandchildren, established the FitzPatrick Family Endowed Scholarship in 2005 to make a lasting impact on UMass Lowell.

Linda FitzPatrick Gives Back to UMass Lowell for 'Changing Her Life'

As the oldest of eight children, Linda (Mangan) FitzPatrick '68 might not have been able to attend college without the scholarship she received from UMass Lowell (then Lowell State).

"That scholarship opened opportunities for me, as someone from a working-class family," she says. "The education I received and the possibilities it opened up for me changed my life."

That's why, in addition to her ongoing support for her alma mater, she included a bequest in her will for UMass Lowell. She thinks other alumni should, too.

"My line of work taught me the importance of bequest gifts to non-profits," says FitzPatrick, who retired two years ago as senior vice president and national business manager for Charitable Gift Services at BNY Mellon Wealth Management in Boston. "They are usually larger gifts that create a lasting impact on the charity. I wanted to make a lasting impact on UMass Lowell with the FitzPatrick Family Endowed Scholarship."

She established the FitzPatrick Family Endowed Scholarship in 2005 with an outright gift. The scholarship benefits students enrolled in the Fast Track to Teaching Program in the Graduate School of Education.

"The bequest will ensure ongoing, continuous support for the scholar-

ship," she says. "It's important to provide a good education for those who don't have the resources."

FitzPatrick was originally an elementary school teacher with a degree from Lowell State, but later earned bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting from other universities. Her career evolved from teaching to working with not-for-profits, and culminated in her heading up BNY Mellon's Charitable Gift Services division.

It was her early years at Lowell State, though, that "opened up all these possibilities for me and gave me my start," she says. She remembers fondly her Lowell State professors who influenced her, including Dr. McGauvran who "instilled confidence in me" and Dr. Burto, who was "just wonderful and creative."

In retirement, FitzPatrick and her husband, Peter, a retired engineer, enjoy traveling and spending time with their two children and two grandchildren. At UMass Lowell, Linda serves on the Graduate School of Education Advisory Board. She helped establish the Planned Giving Committee, and advises on fundraising and marketing of planned gifts.

"The FitzPatrick Family Endowed Scholarship is not about me. It is about UMass Lowell now and in the future," she says. "I had a wonderful career, and I want others to have the same opportunity." ❖

Bequests Provide Long-Term Support for UMass Lowell

One of the easiest ways to make a significant gift to UMass Lowell is through a bequest.

"Leaving a bequest to UMass Lowell or creating a charitable gift annuity allows donors to hold on to their money now and give it away when they no longer need it," explains Carolyn Flynn, director of gift planning for the UMass system.

Establishing an endowed fund like Linda FitzPatrick did is just one way to provide such a gift. Other ways to leave bequests include creating a new will or revocable trust, adding a codicil to your present will, or designating UMass Lowell as the beneficiary of your retirement plan, insurance policy, donor advised fund or private foundation.

Leaving a bequest to UMass Lowell demonstrates your confidence and support for the future of the University, says Flynn, adding that most donors "may be able to do more than they ever thought possible through a planned gift."

For more information, please contact Flynn at 877-775-1992 or ogp@uml.edu.

UMass Lowell Hockey: Hunter or Hunted

by Bob Ellis

There is a difference between being the hunter and the hunted. In the 2009-10 college hockey season, the UMass Lowell River Hawks are the latter.

“We’re the hunted for sure,” says Head Coach Blaise MacDonald. “The difference is, in the past we’ve always postured ourselves as the hunter.”

The identities have been defined by the national rankings. UMass Lowell spent the first 13 weeks of the college hockey season among the elite. The team held a place in the top 20 according to both major polls, USCHO and USA Today/American Hockey Magazine. This is the team’s longest period of time ranked since the 2001-02 season when the River Hawks spent 22 weeks in the top 20.

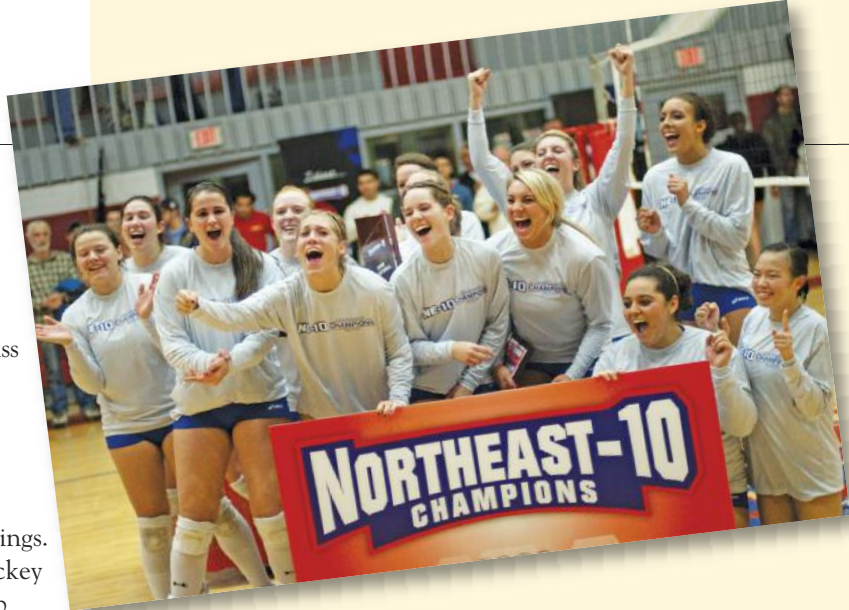
Even during the last two seasons, which each culminated with a trip to the NCAA tournament, the River Hawks spent fewer weeks on the hot list.

“That’s respect shown to our players and program,” says MacDonald, “but the only thing that matters is the action on the ice.”

For MacDonald, the coaching staff and the players, it’s not about what the “experts” say: “We try to have our team feel a great sense of pride in who we are, not what other people say we are. We always want to strive for excellence,” says MacDonald. “We want to take the small but difficult leap from good to great.”

Does a national ranking bring additional pressure? No, says MacDonald: “Pressure is something that you can apply or feel. We want to have such high standards that nobody can put pressure on us.

“Lowell hockey is tough, hard-nosed hockey. Lowell Hockey is playing with a lot of integrity, consistency and preparation. Lowell hockey is dependent upon trust and structure.”



Volleyball: A well deserved Championship

by Bob Ellis

“This is the greatest!”

So exclaimed UMass Lowell Volleyball Head Coach Karen McNulty after the No. 4 seed River Hawks surprised everyone and won the Northeast-10 Conference Volleyball Tournament.

“We’ve had some big wins, but this is the biggest,” says McNulty, now in her 16th season as head coach. “This is the greatest win since I’ve been here.”

UMass Lowell defeated Adelphi University in the conference tournament championship game, three sets to two. The scores reflect the battle; 23-25, 25-22, 25-17, 21-25 and 15-12.

The championship was the volleyball program’s first in its 27-year history. It was only the third time in history the school had reached a conference championship game.

“Certainly we are a talented team,” says McNulty, who was named the Northeast-10 Conference Coach of the Year, “but I also think maturity was a big part of the success.”

The coach also pointed to the off-season preparation: “We had two great non-traditional seasons in which the players have lifted [weights] and gotten stronger, which made us mentally stronger.”

The turning point in the season came in late September – a 3-1 win against Merrimack in what was the team’s 17th game of the year. “We hadn’t beaten Merrimack in quite a while and they were a very good team,” says McNulty. “The players realized, once they were actually able to get that ‘W,’ that potentially they could beat anybody they wanted to.”

The River Hawks went on to win 16 of their next 19 games and the NE-10 tournament Championship, finishing the year with a 22-10 record.



UMass Baseball Coach Inducted into Hall of Fame

Former UMass Lowell baseball coach Jim Stone was inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Hall of Fame in January.

"I think this is the biggest honor I've ever received," says Stone. "Something like this doesn't come down road for everyone. I am very, very fortunate to have had the players and assistant coaches that helped make this happen."

After joining Lowell Technological Institute in 1965, Stone compiled an 801-393-7 record in 37 seasons. He was inducted into the UMass Lowell Athletic Hall of Fame in November 2003 after his final season with the River Hawks. Over his last 22 seasons, the River Hawks won at least 20 of the 30 games they played seven times.

Stone led UMass Lowell to the Northeast Regional Championship and Division II World Series in 2001 and 2002. In 2001, the team fell to St. Mary's (2-1) and Delta State (6-2). In 2002, the River Hawks reached the semifinal round before falling to Cal State-Chico, 8-4.

Joining him at the induction ceremony in were many family members, as well with several of his former players, including Joe Luis, Steve Botto and Jon Cahill, along with Fluorette Boutin, mother of the late David Boutin, a catcher at UMass Lowell from 1988 to 1990, who lost his life to cancer in 1990. UMass Lowell Director of Athletics Dana Skinner and Head Baseball Coach Ken Harring also attended the ceremony.

A native of Easthampton, Stone and his wife, Pat, have raised three children and have six grandchildren. They now reside in North Fort Myers, Fla.



Jamie Gillis: Keeping the Net Clean

by Bob Ellis

The goal defended by the UMass Lowell women's soccer team has been kept clean of unwanted objects for an extraordinarily long time: 12 consecutive shutouts. In total, 1,333 minutes have passed without a goal scored against the River Hawks.

The shutout streak constructed by goal keeper Jamie Gillis and her teammates is an NCAA Division II record.

Gillis' name went into the record book, officially, during the second half of the River Hawks' Oct. 17 match against Southern Connecticut State University, when the total surpassed the previous record of 1,192 minutes established in 1997 by Lynn University goal keeper Nikki Kalavitis.

"I guess it's pretty cool. I have to give a lot of credit to my teammates," says Gillis. "I haven't had to make too many saves."

Head Coach Elie Monteiro describes Gillis as a special player: "The thing that separates Jamie from other goal keepers who have had success in the Northeast-10 Conference is that her attitude has never changed. She continues to want to get better and to want her teammates to get better," he says.

The streak began on Sept. 9 during a 3-1 win against Stonehill College and ended, 45 days later, in an Oct. 24 double overtime, 1-0

loss to the College of Saint Rose. In between there were 12 consecutive shutouts, four of which included two overtime periods.

"It's about knowing your positioning and where you have to be for the shot," says Gillis. "If you can do that, you should be able to make the save pretty easily. I'm not really afraid of anything, I'll do whatever I have to, to make a save."

The NCAA record book will list only Gillis' name, but the goal keeper refuses to take the credit for herself. "It's definitely a team accomplishment," she says. "I've had three of the same (defensive) back four since I've been here and I think we've done a good job with each other. We know how each other plays."

Indeed, this was arguably the best River Hawk Women's Soccer season; the team finished the year with a 12-5-3 record and made its fourth appearance in the NCAA tournament in five years.

Gillis and teammate Kathleen Strazerre were named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Division II All America Teams. They are the first two River Hawks to earn such honors in the program's 15-year history.

Gillis also appeared in Sports Illustrated's "Faces in the Crowd" section in October, the sixth River Hawk so honored.





#1 Sarah Wroblowski '05, Stacey Pincus '06, Joshua Carroll '05 and Laura Petros '04 enjoyed the recent alumni reception at Grand Canal in Boston in October.

#2 Plastics alumni from the Class of 1980 gathered for a mini-reunion in April. From left: Roger Temple, Andy Routsis, Brian McGregor, Steve Kincaid, Carol Royal, Mike Heath, Jim Dandeneau, Jim Nason, Ralph Guyer and Al Trieber.

#3 Several members of the Lowell State College Class of 1954 met for an informal luncheon in October at the Old Salt Restaurant in Hampton, N.H. Pictured, from left: Larry Marocco, Christine Derby Marocco, Jane Yarnall Walker, Andy Morse and Joan Young Palmer. Others who attended: Barbara Lyons Arey, Bob Bachelder, Mary Luciano Danahy, Robert Ellison, Gerry Ferronetti, Joan Tassinari Francis, Richard Gesner, Martina Harrington Grover, Esther Connor Hopkins, Rosemary Liston Janis, Mary McLarnon Mansur, Mary Lamb Nee and Nancy Taylor Williams. Anyone interested in attending next year's gathering should call Jane Yarnall Walker at 978-692-8646 or Christine Derby Marocco at 978-475-7264.

#4 Engineering Dean John Ting, far right, and Professor Nathan Gartner, head of the Civil & Environmental Department, second from right, visited Fay, Spafford, Thorndike recently. With them are FST President Dean Groves, far left, and some of the UMass Lowell alumni who work at FST. UMass Lowell graduates represent nearly 10 percent of the company's staff.

#5 Patricia Sullivan Talty, Chancellor Marty Meehan '78, Linda Willis, Michael Sullivan and Doug Sullivan gather at Allen House for an evening to establish the G. Douglas and Mary C. Sullivan Scholarship Fund.

#6 From left, Daniel Dodson; Bob Malloy '79, professor and chair, Plastics Engineering; Sheila Eppolito, staff writer, Public Affairs; Lois Nangle, assistant to the director of information and donor services; Heather Makrez '06 '08, associate director of programs and alumni services; and Bob Gamache, dean of the school of marine sciences.

#7 Gavin Cummings '88 and John Paganetti '84 traveled to Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn., to see the River Hawks basketball team take on the UConn Huskies in an exhibition game. At an alumni reception before the game, fans heard from River Hawks Coach Greg Herenda and UConn coaching legend Dee Rowe.



A Business Plan to Live By: Bare Feet, Sunshine and an Outdoor Tiki Bar

Theirs was a friendship, like a fair number of friendships at UMass Lowell, that began on the hockey rink. Mark Pandolfo and Pete Tormey were a forward and defenseman, respectively, on the River Hawks' 2004-05 team, which finished that season with 20 wins. Only a year later, by sheer coincidence, they found themselves together again, this time as teammates on the Trenton Titans double-A pro team. They signed up to be roommates – which led to a lot of talking, some of it about what they could do to make a living off the hockey rink. There was some talk about starting a business together but, as it is with much of that sort of talk, nothing came of it at the time.

The season ended and the two went home for the summer, Pete to Buzzards Bay, Mark to North Andover. Sometime not long after, Pete, who was known to be handy with a hammer, was asked by a friend if he'd build him a backyard bar. He did, it was a good one, and the friend was very pleased. Somewhere along the way a light went off, which was brightened in a phone call to Mark – and the rest, as the saying goes, is history.

Barefoot Bars, the product and company that grew out of that summer's enterprise, is today a household name on the Cape. And, now with custom-made outdoor bars at clubs and restaurants all over New England – the Red Sky and Grand Canal in Boston, the Boathouse in Falmouth, the Brickhouse Bar & Grill in Woonsocket, R.I. — they are a thriving, growing presence all over southern New England.

"We're offering people a product to help them escape the daily stress," says Mark Pandolfo. Our slogan gives you a pretty good sense of what we stand for — "Get away from the grind, in a barefoot state of mind!"

There is a bar for every space and need, and almost any budget – from the small, portable Barefoot Adventure Bar, which "breaks down in just minutes," for \$749, all the way up through the Barefoot Tiki Bungalow at upwards of \$2,000: a four-cornered, faux-Hawaiian number with a thatched roof, custom sign and three different colors of paint.

And they haven't stopped with bars. The company's website, not much more than a year old, is already touting its T-shirts, decals, special events and catering services ("From upscale corporate events to backyard bashes, your wish is our command"). They've even got something they call the Barefoot Yacht Club, an outdoor venue on Falmouth Harbor, complete with "wait staff, bartenders and the best live music on the Cape," whose credo seems a perfect fit for its free-spirited pair of founders:

"No Shirt, No Shoes, No Worries."



Pete Tormey '06, left, and Mark Pandolfo '06, behind one of their custom-made bars

Mazzei's Book Examines Paramilitary Groups

Julie Mazzei's significant research into paramilitary groups has resulted in publication of her book, "Death Squads or Self Defense Forces? How Paramilitary Groups Emerge and Challenge Democracy in Latin America," by The University of North Carolina Press.

Mazzei '95, professor of Political Science at Kent State University, became interested in how paramilitary groups – sometimes called "death squads" – get organized and powerful. According to Mazzei, paramilitary groups form when the wealthy elite, members of the military and the politically powerful pool their resources to prevent reform, and use their money, expertise and ideology to organize groups. In each of the countries she studied, Mazzei found that



Julie (Thomas) Mazzei '95

once a reform movement gains momentum and poses a political threat to entrenched powers-that-be, factions within the threatened groups begin searching for ways to defeat reform advocates. Eventually, they pull together paramilitary groups and turn to violence to combat political change.

Mazzei describes paramilitary groups as inherently political organizations – unlike crime families – that require political strategies for prevention and demobilization. In El Salvador, for example, facilitating formation of a political party to compete non-violently for the agenda of the "threatened" powers resulted in a process that delegitimized the use of force. However, Mazzei cautions that of the three countries she included in her book, thus far only El Salvador has been able to entirely demobilize a paramilitary group and shift to a non-violent democracy.

Mazzei's most recent work is concentrated on the post-conflict era in El Salvador. Her book is available via amazon.com, Barnes & Noble and other booksellers.

New SUNY Business Dean, an LTI Alumnus, Brings Global Credentials to the Job

He is an author, an educator, a business consultant to more than 30 companies, a certified healthcare expert, a licensed auctioneer – and brother to one of the most celebrated whistle-blowers in U.S. history. And now, since early last summer, he is the dean of a school of business that has never had one before.

Russell Boisjoly, who graduated from UMass Lowell (then Lowell Technological Institute) in 1972 with a degree in industrial management, has been named the first dean of the School of Business at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Fredonia. He has served in the same role at two other universities, Adelphi and Fairfield University, and been a member of the faculty at several others, including UMass Lowell (by then the University of Lowell), where he taught business for four years in the 1980s.

“I’ve been very impressed with what I’ve seen here so far,” says Dr. Boisjoly, part of whose mission at Fredonia is to guide the University through an accreditation process that will certify it as among the top business schools in the country.

There is no short or neat way to summarize his career. As an international consultant in finance and business strategy, his clients have included some of the biggest names on both sides of both major oceans: GE, Microsoft, Boeing, Verizon, DHL, Deutsche Post, China Eastern Airlines. He has taught courses in more than 20 countries. The auctioneering, he says, was mostly a sidelight: “I got my license so I could help a friend who owned an antique shop to sell his antiques.”

His writings have been on an almost limitless range of business topics: mergers and acquisitions, capital structure, bankruptcy prediction, accounting practices, business ethics, shareholder value creation and many more. Perhaps the best-known of these was written in response to an ethical dilemma experienced by his brother – then shared with half the world.

Roger Boisjoly, a 1960 graduate of LTI in mechanical engineering (a third brother, Rick, ’73, is also an alumnus), was the aerospace engineer who, in July of 1985, famously warned his superiors at Morton Thiokol of a faulty design in the solid rocket boosters of the space shuttle Challenger. If left uncorrected, he wrote in a memo, the defect could imperil the shuttle’s launch, scheduled for early the following year. He followed this first warning with later, stronger ones, but ultimately no action was taken. On Jan. 28, 1986, the Challenger exploded in midair shortly after launch, killing all seven astronauts on board.

Russell Boisjoly’s article about his brother’s role in all this, “Roger Boisjoly and the Challenger Disaster: the Ethical Dimensions,” appeared more than three years later, in the summer of 1989, in the *Journal of Business Ethics*. It is still often cited by researchers and managers, and was named recently by the International Library of Management as one of the most important management research articles to be published in the 20th century.



Russell Boisjoly, ’72, in his new post as dean of the business school at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Cabrera’s Company Wins SBA Award

Cabrera Services Inc., an environmental radiological remediation services firm founded by Lorenzo Cabrera ’94 and based in East Hartford, Conn., won the 2009 U.S. Small Business Administration Region I Subcontractor of the Year award. Following the award ceremony in Washington D.C., Cabrera and the other winners were honored by President Barack Obama in a brief ceremony at the White House.

Cabrera Services provides high-tech science and engineering support, primarily to the federal government, for remediating sites contaminated with chemical and radioactive materials.

“The education and training I received at UMass Lowell was top notch,” says Cabrera. “The Radiological Sciences program and, more specifically, my professors, inspired me to follow my dreams. They encouraged me to start my own radiological services company.”

He formed Cabrera Services in 1994 and within four years, two other alumni — Steven Masciulli ’75 and David Watters ’93, ’94 — joined him.

“With more than 150 of the most talented staff in the industry and more than \$100 million in revenue to date, I credit the success of Cabrera Services to my education and experiences at UMass Lowell,” says Cabrera.

In 2002 he established a scholarship program, the Dr. Edward Lawson Alexander Endowment Fund, for the Radiological Sciences Department. Cabrera Services has pledged more than \$100,000 over 10 years to help improve the department’s infrastructure and provide funds for minority students pursuing a degree in this field. To date, 25 scholars have benefited from the program.



Lorenzo Cabrera ’94

Secret of Bullard's Success

Hoke Bullard '95 credits his UMass Lowell education for his professional success. Since 2005, he has been with Church & Dwight Co. Inc. — maker of such consumer products as Arm & Hammer, Trojan, OxiClean and Orajel — managing the company's Global New Product Engineering and Packaging Equipment Engineering Departments.



Hoke Bullard '95

"My group designs new mechanical and electrical products as well as new packaging equipment, and I have teams based in Princeton, N.J., and Guangzhou, China," says Bullard, who holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University.

Bullard previously worked for Rubbermaid in Ohio and the Netherlands and at Gerber Baby Care in Michigan and New Jersey.

"I continue to lean heavily on my UMass Lowell experience," he says. "The education and knowledge I gained there 15 years ago provides me with the tools I need for world-class success. My UMass Lowell education is the foundation for my career."

Alumna Combines Passion for Plastics and Biomedicine

For more than 20 years, Orpha James '93 has been combining her knowledge and experience in plastics engineering and biomedicine in developing products for the medical device and healthcare industry. An article that she and Biology Prof. Peter Bradley of Worcester State College wrote about determining the biocompatibility of thermoplastics with nanomaterials was featured in the July issue of the industry magazine *ConvergentTechnologies*.

James is a senior validation engineer at Nypro Healthcare, a provider of plastic injection molding for the healthcare industry based in Clinton. She also holds a master's degree in Plastics Engineering from UMass Lowell.

"I had a wonderful experience at the University, especially with the Plastics Engineering Department," she says. "It has an excellent faculty and was very helpful in introducing me to the application of plastics to the biotech field. My education really helped me combine both plastics and biomedicine in my professional career."



Orpha James

Four Alumni Named 'Fascinating People'

As part of its third-annual "most fascinating people of the year" feature, The Lowell Sun selected four UMass Lowell alumni to join the 2009 list of local luminaries.

Deb Huber '90, a music professor and director of instrumental outreach at the University, was lauded for using her Zuckerberg Leadership Prize of \$60,000 to commission five new musical works that middle- and high-school musicians can perform.

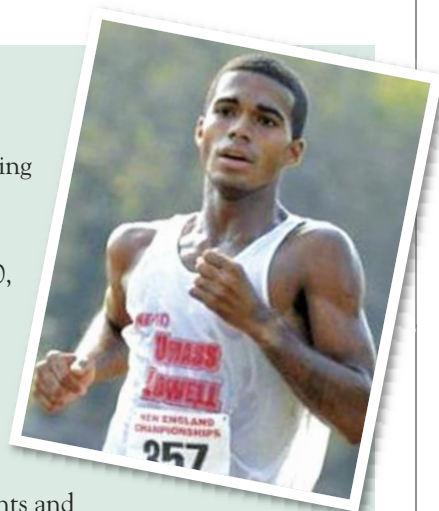


Deb Huber '90

Also recognized was Ruben Sanca '09, who achieved the fastest Division 2 time in the country at Boston University's Terrier Invitational (5,000-meter race). He faced a major setback when he slipped and cracked a bone at the base of his spine. Still, wrote The Sun,

"he pushes forward, volunteering to teach inner-city kids at the Roxbury Track Club to run."

Molly (Gleason) Sheehy '60, '82, '00, dean of Middlesex Community College's Lowell campus, was honored for funding a trip to the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., for four veterans. She paid for the flights and expenses of the men — all now in their 80s — with money left over from the funeral of her brother, who was also a WWII vet.



Ruben Sanca '09

Also making The Sun's list was Rebecca Taylor '05, daughter of Tom Taylor, dean of enrollment and student success. A pediatric nurse, Taylor was recognized for spending two years on a floating hospital helping Africa's poorest children; to do so, she raised about \$60,000.

While Fighting Cancer, Jeff Casey Does Good for Others

Bathed in excitement about the birth of his baby girl Isabella the previous day, Jeff Casey '02 sat in his doctor's office for what was supposed to be a routine follow-up examine to tonsil surgery. But what followed was anything but.

His doctor delivered the news: Jeff had non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"I really only remember bits and pieces after the word lymphoma – it's not a death sentence, upwards of an 85 percent cure rate, my chest X-rays are good, chest CT scan is good, I am young, I am in good health," says Casey '02, who earned his master's degree at UMass Lowell in occupational ergonomics.

Casey, 33, says he set out on an information-gathering crusade, reading all he could about the disease and treatment.

What he discovered was sketchy and sometimes scary, especially when he did searches online.

"My doctors at Windsor Regional Cancer Centre in Ontario, Canada, were very helpful, but I'd come home and think of so many more questions," says Casey.

When an opportunity arose to contribute to libraries within the Centre, he didn't hesitate. During his year-long chemotherapy treatments, he raised more than \$9,000 by selling T-shirts. That money helped fund the Learning Resource Centre which celebrated its grand opening in October. Located at the Windsor Regional Cancer Centre, it includes two libraries where patients can search for information about their diseases.

"It's very scary when you're faced with a life-and-death diagnosis and information can be very empowering," says Casey.

His giving back didn't stop there. He put his training as an ergonomist to good use when he noticed that caregivers and nurses in the chemo suite were sitting in harmful chairs. He worked with a local ergonomic chair company and persuaded them to donate the right chairs for the job so that the health care workers, who were caring for people every day, didn't get sick themselves.

"Jeff was one of my master's students – and while I could never have dreamed of something like this happening, especially at his young age, I did know that he was a hard worker who was very caring of others," says Prof. Laura Punnett of the Department of Work Environment.



Jeff Casey '02 with his daughter, Isabella, and wife, Diletta, about a week after his last major chemotherapy treatment.

All the Right Moves

Suzanne Page '80, associate director of board relations for the world-renowned Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO), also serves as one of three corporate officers. Prior to these roles, Page spent more than 10 years as assistant to the managing director and manager of board administration for the orchestra.

"I'm very fortunate to be an arts administrator in the BSO family," says Page. "I'm thankful to the inspiring and supportive music faculty for providing me a disciplined and balanced music and liberal arts education, and giving me the tools to compete with graduates of other top-tiered music schools and conservatories."

Page also credits former voice coach Eunice Alberts, a member of the music faculty for 29 years, and an internationally recognized contralto.

"Studying with Eunice – a working singer of international prominence – was a nurturing and formative relationship for me," says Page. "In fact, Eunice and I developed a friendship that has grown over a 30-year span."

Page, who holds a bachelor's degree in music-vocal performance, has enjoyed a career in opera, cabaret and musical theater in the United States and Austria. She serves as an advisory board member for the College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.



Suzanne Page '80, left, and former voice coach and faculty member Eunice Alberts have built a friendship that's lasted decades.

Kaplo Wins \$25,000 Teaching Award

Patrick J. Kaplo '04, a physics teacher at Campbell High School in Litchfield, N.H., has won a \$25,000 Milken National Educator Award for teaching excellence.

"I'm not at all surprised that he won," says Graduate School of Education Asst. Prof. Michelle Scriber-MacLean, of her former student.

During his undergraduate program in mechanical engineering at WPI, Kaplo had to complete an interdisciplinary project that included some student teaching.

"It really caught my attention and was something that I loved doing," he says. "While in industry I continued to think about teaching and finally matriculated at UMass Lowell in 2001."

He chose UMass Lowell because of the ability to focus his degree on science teaching, he says.

"I learned from some great faculty members like Chuck Christianson and Michelle Scribner-MacLean," he says. "The methods they taught were put into practice and that modeling was a powerful lesson for me."

As a student, Kaplo had "an innovative approach to assignments and even co-authored an article about technology in the classroom with me," says Scribner-MacLean, who hosted Kaplo recently when he came to campus to speak to some of her students.

Kaplo says winning the award "was definitely a great feeling and one that I'll always remember."

So, too, will his children: "I have a 5- and a 3-year-old, so I'm thinking that a college-savings plan is in order," he says. "What's tuition up to these days anyway?!"



Nursing Grad Helped Build Houses in Louisiana

When Tracy Durkin '09 arrived in Thibodeau, La., late last summer, she was surprised at how much still needed re-building in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

"It opened my eyes to the fact that it has been four years since Hurricane Katrina hit the Louisiana area – and there are still homes being built, there are still people needing homes," she says. "I had the opportunity to hear some real stories about the devastation that happened down there."

The nurse practitioner spent a week working with Habitat for Humanity, helping to build three different houses on Jon Bon Jovi Boulevard.

"The homes were in various stages of building," says Durkin, who lives in Somerville and is a geriatric nurse practitioner in Newton. "I worked on tiling a bathroom floor and kitchen. I worked on nailing boards to the frame of a house. I helped build the railing to a set of back stairs."

Giving back is important, Durkin says.

"I feel that I was in a position to help someone else out," she says. "I wanted to help out with my time and hands not just donating money."

Durkin does not, however, rule out the latter; although a new graduate, she's already donated to her alma mater.

"I feel that giving back to the community either monetarily or through volunteering is something I can contribute as a recent UMass graduate," she says. "In this financial climate, even a small monetary contribution can help someone else who is having a hard time paying for college so they can get ahead."



Members of the St. Jude performance team work out during a recent "Fitness for a Cure" event benefitting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. From left, Heather Rozen, Sherri Sarrouf, Dannie Miller, Amanda Jordan and Michelle Hartman.

Alumni Sweat it Out for a Cure

Eleven dedicated alums have joined forces with a local organizer in an annual Lowell event that has raised nearly \$1.5 million for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Sherri Sarrouf put 25 years as a fitness instructor to good use in creating a benefit event – called "Fitness for a Cure" – a high-energy, fully choreographed series of fitness dance routines performed live on stage by the St. Jude Performance Team, a group of 75 children and 25 adults, including the alumni volunteers.

This year, Fitness for a Cure is planned for March 27 at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, and will include an elegant semi-formal evening event with both live and silent auctions. The afternoon performances will be simulcast live to patients in the hospital. Sarrouf is hoping to raise \$500,000, bringing her total support to \$2 million.

Founded by entertainer Danny Thomas, St. Jude's is a pediatric cancer center that covers the cost of everything – including food, travel, lodging and uncovered insurance expenses – for each patient and a family member.

Alums involved in Fitness for a Cure include:

Nanci (Heffernan) Bolduc '83; Deborah (McHale) Bushnell '89; Karen Freitas '08; Joe Hennessey '85; Philip Joseph '81; Shelagh (McHale) Hennessey '86; Valerie (Natsios) Wood '78; John Osgood '90; Heather (McLean) Rozen '92, '95; Maureen Sakakeeney '01; Lisa (Jason) Tenczar '85.

To sponsor the event, make a donation or purchase tickets, visit www.fitnessforcure.com.

Lorrey's Musical Range Showcased on New CD

Elizabeth Lorrey '93 and Dave Fitzgibbons '93 certainly got their money's worth from their Sound Recording Technology degrees. Both recently released CDs – Lorrey's first as a solo artist, a second for Fitzgibbons and his band – that they personally produced and engineered.

Lorrey's CD, "Awakening," showcases her significant musical skills: she wrote all of the original songs and played every instrument on the album except drums. Described as "edgy, intense acoustic rock," the music is instrumentally lush, a blend reminiscent of Suzanne Vega crossed with The Cure.

The Rafters, an acoustic duo comprised of Fitzgibbons and his wife Miki (Bryan) Fitzgibbons '93, released their second CD, called "With the Sun," which Fitzgibbons describes as a "collection of 10 melodic songs about real people and real things, delivered through melody and lyrics over a blend of folk and pop influences."

The Rafters joined forces with Lorrey for a dual CD release party and sold out show at the Bull Run in Shirley. Both acts employed full bands made up almost entirely of alumni: joining the Rafters were keyboardist Greg Compagnone '93, drummer Rob D'Amico '96 and bassist Brian Alford '93.

Lorrey's band included bassist Kris Lucander '93 and keyboardist Bob Murphy '95, with Dave Fitzgibbons doing double duty on guitar.

To hear a sample of Lorrey's music or to purchase her CD, go to www.elizabethlorrey.com or www.cdbaby.com/artist/elizabethlorrey. To hear a sample of The Rafters music or to purchase their latest CD, go to www.theraftersband.com or www.cdbaby.com/artist/therafters2.



Elizabeth Lorrey's recently released debut CD showcases her musical talents.

Body of Work: Arno Rafael Minkkinen

by Sheila Eppolito

Prof. Arno Rafael Minkkinen – world-renowned photographer known for self-portraits set in natural surroundings under seemingly impossible conditions and positions – has recently shared his work in the shadow of one of the world’s artistic masterpieces, Michelangelo’s famed statue “David.”

Minkkinen was invited to deliver a lecture, appropriately called “Art is Risk Made Visible,” in the Galleria Dell’Accademia in Florence as part of a Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation sponsored lecture series. In his work, Minkkinen photographs his body – or a single arm, leg or foot – in snow, underwater, in the limbs of a tree. Still using film, he works alone – without assistants, and without manipulation.

“In the 1970s, there was no Photoshop, so I learned to make pictures in the reality of the moment,” says Minkkinen.

“I have always been fascinated by the geometry of the physical self – volume, shape, line, proportion and balance,” he says. “By placing the self in the context of nature rather than in portraits made in someone’s home or a studio, I can

build an equation between what is natural and what is human.”

Teaming up with art school programs in Finland, Switzerland and Italy, Minkkinen has inspired UMass Lowell students and young photography scholars around the world through workshops held in Oaxaca, Mexico; Tuscany, Italy; St. Petersburg, Russia and Prague, Czech Republic. The touring exhibitions of the students’ photographs to each institution are featured in a new book titled “Spirit Level.”

Minkkinen’s artistic reach is substantial – his work has been featured in hundreds of books and journals, and is the subject of a documentary film titled “Still Not There” by Finnish director Kimmo Koskela, scheduled to be released this year. His work is collected by museums worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Musée de l’Elysée in Lausanne, Switzerland and the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography.

“I see the image, or what I think will be the image, in my mind. Then, I frame

the shot using my mind’s picture as a guide. I set up the shot, get the cable release ready, and have 10 seconds to push the bubble, toss the cable aside and capture the image. Sometimes, the photo is not up to my mental sketch; other times, it’s better. Reality provides the overlay,” he says.

The art, for him, is the process – the spontaneity, the image frozen, the witness it provides to a moment. Nobody sees the image until he processes the film in the darkroom. Until then, he says, he has an idea of what it might look like, but nobody is looking through the lens, so nobody sees the shot. After it reveals itself, he doesn’t manipulate the image at all. “Reality,” he says, “has a greater imagination than we ever thought possible.”

Minkkinen has taught photography in the Art Department at the University for 20 years. ❖



Asked to share some of his most difficult shots, Prof. Arno Rafael Minkkinen chose these, taken, from left, in Jamestown, R.I.; Grand Canyon, Ariz.; Hite, Utah and Kajaani, Finland.

Alumni Speak About 'Power of Possibility'

Managing partner of Google Ventures Richard Miner '86, '89, '97 kicked off the Power of Possibility Alumni Showcase, a speaker series highlighting successful alumni as they return to campus to share their wisdom and career stories. Miner, who received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from UMass Lowell, spoke about his 25 years of experience growing businesses with innovative communications and interface-intensive applications. He joined Google Ventures, the venture capital division of the Internet search giant, after Google acquired Android, a mobile platforms company that Miner co-founded.

Miner encouraged the students in the 150-member audience to follow their passion, befriend like-minded innovators and create strategic networks to induce "smart luck."

He talked about the qualities needed to be an entrepreneur, including having the "fire in the belly." He enjoyed being a part of the process of starting and growing a company, expanding the breadth of his skills and creating a company culture. "Building something is a great feeling," he said.

Later in the series, more than 200 people received a back-stage pass to the Broadway theater industry when Bonnie Comley '81 and her husband Stewart Lane screened their documentary "Show Business: The Road to Broadway" at a Power of Possibility Alumni Showcase Talk.

"This was a labor of love," said Comley, who is vice president of Stellar Productions.

The documentary told the story of the race for the 2004 Tony Award for



Alum Rich Miner '86 '89 '97 of Google Ventures spoke to students about following their passion.

Best Musical, following three of the four nominees: "Wicked," "Avenue Q" and "Caroline, or Change" plus the not-nominated, but controversial, "Taboo." The production team filmed every play and musical that opened during the 2003-2004 season, and edited down more than 400 hours of footage from casting calls, rehearsals, previews and opening night, culminating at the Tony Awards.

Another speaker in the series was Scott Waugh '90, rehabilitation coordinator, physical therapist and athletic trainer for both the Red Sox and Bruins, who told the audience he discovered the passion for his profession at UMass Lowell, thanks to the relationships he created as a student.

"Twenty-three years ago, when I first came here, I sat in these same seats," said Waugh to the several hundred students, alumni, faculty attendees. "I made some strategic decisions back then that set some things in motion for me so that I can enjoy the success that I have now."

These days, Waugh said, his time treating ordinary people at his clinic, Sports and Physical Therapy Associates, is what he treasures the most. "I will never take myself out of patient care," he vowed, even as his clinic grows to treat thousands of



Bonnie Comley '81 and Stewart Lane

people. Everyone who enters his clinics gets "a hug," even if that means just listening to their problems.

His advice to students: "Make patients part of their rehabilitations. You can never lose the human side of this."

Waugh remains committed to the University that helped him on his successful career path. ("I'm in a position to send my kids anywhere [to college]. I would send them here in a heart beat," he said as an aside.)

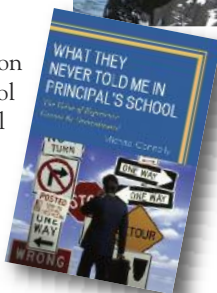
At the end of his talk, which was the fourth in the Power of Possibility Alumni Showcase, the Advancement Department announced that Waugh has made a gift to fund two Sport Therapy Fellowships each semester for the Athletic Department. The \$3,000 fellowships will be awarded to second-year physical therapy students who show an interest in and commitment to pursuing a career in sports medicine.

1964

Ann Chandonnet of Vale, N.C., a poet and editor, has signed a contract with Winoca Press of Wilmington, N.C., to write a non-fiction book about the Civil War. The book, the working title of which is "Write Quick: War and a Woman's Life in Letters, 1836-1867," is based on nearly two hundred letters written by Ann's ancestors and the extended kinship network in New England. The 600-page book, to be published this spring, will include fifty illustrations as well as two infantry rosters and three family trees. A former reporter with the The Anchorage Times and the Juneau Empire, Ann is the author of a travel guide, "Alaska's Inside Passage," and a food history, "Gold Rush Grub," plus collections of poetry. She was born in Lowell and grew up in Dracut. Bobbi Pevear of Exeter, N. H., co-author of "Write Quick," is descended from one of the main characters in the book.

1965

Mike Connolly's book, "What They Never Told Me in Principals' School," was published by Rowman and Littlefield Publishers in October and is available at amazon.com. He is also co-author, along with colleague Sophie Mason of an article called "Why Education Needs the Arts," published in the National Association of Secondary School Principals Principal Leadership journal in November.

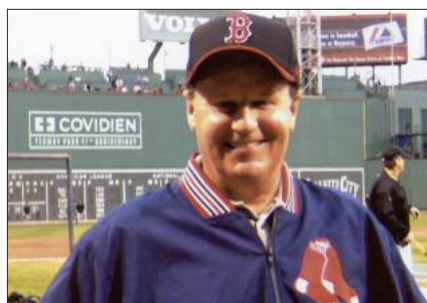


1970

Michael J. Nirsberger has retired after a 37-year career with Ciba Geigy Corp. At the time of his retirement, Michael was a senior staff scientist in the Analytical Chemistry Research labs at Ciba's Tarrytown, N.Y., research center. After graduating from Lowell Tech, he entered the Air Force and was assigned to the USAF Environmental Health Lab in San Antonio, Texas. Over time, he earned master's degrees in physics, computer science and chemistry. He will live near Troy, N.Y.

1974

John Murphy, a UMass Lowell baseball Hall of Famer and current Atlanta, Ga., resident, returned to Massachusetts this past summer as a special guest of the Boston Red Sox. He and several colleagues were invited onto the field at Fenway Park to attend pre-game batting practice. John is director of purchasing operations for Mikart, Inc., a Georgia-based pharmaceutical manufacturer.



1976

Mike Andrew has moved to Dubai to work with one of his former clients. He is the senior group director for executive development for the top 120 executives of Emirates Telecommunications Corp., the largest non-banking firm in the United Arab Emirates and the largest telecom in the Middle East. His book, "How to Think like a CEO and Act Like A Leader: Practical Insights for Performance & Results," has been translated, edited, published and launched throughout South Korea.

1978

J. Brian Imhoff of Wakefield, R.I., joined Citizens Bank in Providence as a mortgage loan officer. An experienced originator of a wide range of mortgage programs, including conventional and government loans, jumbo loans, construction loans and first-time home buyer loans, Brian has been in the mortgage business for 18 years. He joined Citizens from Bank of America Home Loans, where he had been a loan officer for 14 years.



1988

Bill Herenda has joined Positive Coaching Alliance as executive director of its Sacramento-area operation. He will lead the non-profit organization's effort to provide all Sacramento-area youth and high school athletes with a positive, character-building sports experience. A key member of the 1988 NCAA Division II Champion UMass Lowell basketball team, Bill has coached youth and high school athletes and conducted basketball camps and clinics. He also serves as color analyst on the UC Davis radio network, Comcast SportsNet and as an on-air contributor to sports talk radio. Bill's brother, Greg, is head coach of the River Hawk men's basketball team.

1989

Alice Bonner recently became director of the bureau of health care safety and quality at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health after a long career as a nurse practitioner. She specialized in caring for the elderly and was executive director of the Massachusetts Senior Care Foundation before trading in her stethoscope for policy briefs as leader of the bureau.



1990

Chris Boyd is a director of business development for Cisco Systems. He moved to the west coast in 1997 to work for the Sutherland Group as a sales manager, then worked at SAIC Science Applications International Corp. for five years. Hobbies include sailing, sea kayaking, beach volleyball and traveling with his girlfriend, Cassie.



1992

Anne Manning, a Peabody city councilor-at-large, spearheaded the formation of Green Peabody, a group of city and school officials and community members working to promote recycling, make city and school buildings more energy-efficient, and secure grants. The group also will make recommendations to the council on ways to make Peabody greener.

1993

Mark Carlson, the head coach and general manager of the United States Hockey League's Cedar Rapids RoughRiders, was the head coach of the 2009 U.S. Junior Select Team that competed at the World Junior A Challenge in November in Summerside, P.E.I.

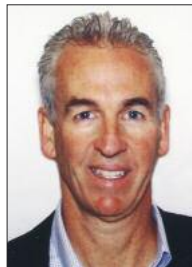


1994

Scott Boyle, who consistently brought out the best in his teams during his time as Lowell High School's head football coach, was the new defensive coordinator for Bentley University's football team this past season.



Leo J. Ryan has been named business development manager by Boston-based EnerNOC, Inc., a leading provider of clean and intelligent energy solutions. Leo uncovers energy efficiency opportunities for large facilities throughout New England with EnerNOC's Monitoring Based Commissioning (MBCx) solution and the CarbonTrak® information, analysis and management system. Before joining EnerNOC in 2009 as a business development associate, he was the sole proprietor of EcoLogiq. Prior to that, he was a senior consultant at Arthur D. Little, and then a financial adviser at Ameriprise Financial. Leo lives in Natick with his wife and three children, and is a dedicated triathlon competitor.



1997

Sean Harrington joined Harvard University in 2009 as part of the wrestling coaching staff. A native of Dracut, Sean has been involved in the sport of wrestling as an athlete or coach for twenty years. He was a two-time NCAA All-America Division II champion at UMass Lowell and later coached for the River Hawks in 1997 and 1998.



1997

Spencer Peavey, director of Student Activities and Orientation at Alfred State College, recently gave a presentation at the National Orientation Directors annual conference on the topic, "Expecting More Out of Your Orientation Program: A Great Way to Incorporate Service into Your Orientation Program." Spencer, who developed New Student Service Day four years ago, reviewed the program. More than 35 representatives from colleges throughout the United States and Canada attended the session. Spencer is upper New York State coordinator for the National Orientation Directors Association. In his role at Alfred State, he implements and assesses student extra-curricular activities and new student orientation programs. Prior to joining Alfred, Spencer served in a similar capacity at St. Bonaventure University in Olean, N.Y. He also has been a therapist for Port Psychological Services in Port Allegany, Penn.; coordinator/therapist for Beacon Light Behavioral Health Services in Bradford, Penn., and therapist in the Mentally Ill Chemically Addicted unit of the Bradford Regional Medical Center.

Sandra (Blute) Koch, a 1992 graduate of Greater Lowell Technical High School, is a new instructor of cosmetology at the school. She owns Cut, Color and Company in Lowell.

1998

John Ware is the assistant vice president, business relationship manager of Cambridge Savings Bank, responsible for the development of the small business market segment. John previously served as vice president, manager/commercial lender at Bank of America. He has eleven years of experience in the banking industry. He lives in Reading.



1999

Irene Revis is a learning specialist in the Upper School (grades 6-9) in Pepperell. She has certifications in Special Needs, Orton-Gillingham and Project Read, and has worked at The Carroll School as a math and science teacher, and at the Byam Elementary School in Chelmsford as an educational specialist.

Justin R. Ward married Ann-Marie Kaye last October in Hamilton, Bermuda. In attendance from UMass Lowell, from left in photo, were **Chris Cannon**, **Jay Coolidge**, **Doug Rexrode** and **Pete Makros**. Also attending but not in the photo was **Brian McGoldrick**. The couple lives in Milton.



2004

Diana Brown and **Jeffrey Belair** were married on April 18, 2009 in Great Barrington. They live in Denver, Colo., where Jeff is an accountant for EKS & H. Diana graduated from law school, passed the Colorado bar and is an attorney and volunteer CASA.

Nate Jenkins ran in the IAAF World Track & Field Championship in Berlin, Germany, as part of the U.S. Marathon Team. He is a former standout distance runner (1999-04) and assistant coach (2004-08) at UMass Lowell.



Patrick Joyce earned his Ph.D. in statistics from the University of Connecticut last August, having written his dissertation on "A Multivariate Spatial Point Process Model: Theory, Simulation and Application." As a research mathematical statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau in Suitland, Md., he is researching aspects of sampling methods and spatial statistics in connection with the American Community Survey.

2005

Carly Hopkin and Kyle Burson were married in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where her family operates a service group. The day before the wedding, Carly says, she and Kyle



helped build two houses for two needy families in the hills outside Tegucigalpa. Carly and Kyle met and both played soccer at UMass Lowell. They live in Iowa, where Kyle is an administrative manager for New York Life and Carly is a permanency specialist for the Department of Human Services.

Jenn Ski creates retro-modern paintings, prints, totes and cards under her eponymous label and blogs about turning retro to



modern. Ski was featured in the Boston Globe under the headline, "It's a mod mod mod mod world. Designer embraces the retro in a mid-century N.H. house." Ski and her husband, Al Koury '04, live in New Hampshire. <http://www.jennskistudio.blogspot.com>

2006

Bobby Robins plays professional hockey for the Belfast Giants in Ireland and was interviewed on YouTube by some Giants fans.



2008

Ben Bettez is engaged to Dana Jones. They live and work in Boston. An October wedding is planned in South Portland, Maine.



The Charitable Gift Annuity

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Supporting UMass Lowell's future — and yours — can be mutually beneficial with a charitable gift annuity. Here's how it works: you make a gift to UMass Lowell. In exchange, you receive a fixed income for life, with your payments guaranteed and secured by UMass's assets. Your annuity rate is based on the age(s) of the beneficiary(ies), and locked in when the annuity is established. You also receive an immediate income tax deduction.

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Single Life

Age	Annuity Rate*	Income Tax Deduction
70	5.7%	\$9,772.50
75	6.3%	\$11,219.75
80	7.1%	\$12,687.50
85	8.1%	\$14,209.25

*Rates subject to change. Assumes an IRS discount rate of 3.4%.

Contact the Office of Gift Planning to obtain personalized information on the income and tax benefits of your gift: 1-877-775-1992 or ogp@uml.edu.



International Interest Alumni Survey

As the World Connects,

UMass

Connects

We want to hear from you!

Please fill out this brief survey and return it to us.

We want to find out more about our alumni and their international experiences as we work to help our students internationalize their education. We want to share stories of the importance of globalization with our UMass Lowell community and you can help!

Do you work with **international colleagues** now? Any comments?

Have you or are you conducting **research with an international colleague** or on an **international topic**? Any comments?

Did you have an **international experience** as a student (study abroad/international internship/exchange/etc.)? Please, tell us about it.

Please send to:

**UMass Lowell
Office of Alumni Relations**

Southwick Hall
One University Ave.
Lowell, MA 01854-3629
Fax: (978) 934-3111
E-mail: Alumni_Office@uml.edu

Did you have an **exchange student** in your class and/or as a friend? Any comments?

On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being the most important), how valuable do you think an international component is to a college education? 1 2 3 4 5

Finally, do you have any photos/videos/blogs you would like to share?

Do you have a quote on the importance of international education for us to use in future materials?

Please give us some information about yourself.

Name

Year of Graduation

Major

Email Address

Current Home Address

Current Employer



You can also email this information to alumni_office@uml.edu.



Want to stay in touch? 4 simple ways!

1.

Facebook- UMass Lowell Office of Alumni Relations

As a UMass Lowell alumnus/a many of you already connect with college friends via Facebook. NOW... UMass Lowell has a central meeting place there. You can find long-lost friends, reconnect with people you may have forgotten to look up when you created your account, learn about events on campus, see how you can reengage with the University, discover what services we offer that might help you with the next phase of your life and, if nothing else, help support and promote UMass Lowell's growing River Hawk pride.

HOW TO: Just type "UMass Lowell Office of Alumni Relations" in your search box at the top of your home page and become a fan or visit <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Lowell-MA/UMass-Lowell-Office-of-Alumni-Relations/61402692126?ref=s>

2.

Alumni Network

This is a simpler social networking site on the UMass Lowell website that will get better the more people use it. Right now, we are trying to help alumni from all over the system connect with one another in a more cohesive way! A bigger UMass network is a better UMass network for everyone who gets involved.

HOW TO: <http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/membersonly/UMCL/mypage.jsp>

3.

Twitter

For those of you who have been brave enough to try the waters of Twitter, UMass Lowell has feeds you can follow. The UMass Lowell alumni office is teaming up with the UMass Lowell Tweeter to send updates to our alumni.

HOW TO: Here is the master site of them all: <http://www.uml.edu/twitter>

4.

LinkedIn

Are you LinkedIn and connected to other professionals? Why not connect with other UMass Lowell Alumni and expand your network. UMass Lowell has an alumni group for you to join: "UMASS LOWELL ALUMNI." Where people post discussions, suggest readings and advertise job opportunities. The bigger we grow it, the better.

HOW TO: Go to groups and search for UMass LOWELL ALUMNI or visit <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=55178>. You must have a LinkedIn account to access and join the groups. Both are easy to do.



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The Power of Possibility

The Annual Campaign for UMass Lowell



A Powerful Combination

Just as the mighty Merrimack River powered the Industrial Revolution, so the University on its banks is empowering the next generation of thinkers and dreamers, innovators and doers. UMass Lowell is a world-class institution that creates possibilities for thousands of students each year. The Power of Possibility: The Annual Campaign for UMass Lowell will support four essential areas: student scholarships, faculty research, facilities and athletics.

Your gift to The Power of Possibility: The Annual Campaign for UMass Lowell provides critical resources to the University on an annual basis.

Calendar of Events

March 16-20, 2010

One Day UMass, Palm Beach, Fla.
Mar-a-Lago Reception, Palm Beach, Fla.
One Day UMass, Naples, Fla.
Naples Alumni and Friends Reception
Red Sox Game, Ft. Myers, Fla.

March 31, 2010

Young Alumni Reconnection Road Trip
The Fours, Quincy

April 3, 2010

UMass Red Sox Day at Washington
Nationals Game
Washington, D.C.

April 7, 2010

Criminal Justice Scholarship Award
and Alumni Reception
Allen House, UMass Lowell

April 10, 2010

Celebrate Professor Dean Bergeron
UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center

April 15, 2010

Young Alumni Reconnection Road Trip
Lawrence

April 28, 2010

One Day UMass & Reception
Washington, D.C.

April 29, 2010

Professor Nick Minton Retirement Party
Alumni Hall, UMass Lowell

April 30, 2010

UMass Lowell Red Sox Day at
Baltimore Orioles Game
Baltimore, Md.

Visit www.uml.edu/alumni for more information.