

To the Board:

Under beautiful early summer skies on May 30, I presided over the graduation of nearly 4,000 students from the University of Massachusetts Boston, our largest class ever.

Our honored guest and principal speaker Christiana Figueres, executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, reminded students of their freedom to make their own choices, and their responsibility to do so wisely: for themselves, their communities, and their planet. Student speaker and John F. Kennedy Award for Academic Excellence winner Shaun O'Grady moved many audience members to tears as he described his own difficult journey, from high school dropout to commencement speaker to PhD candidate.

Their messages resonate with me as we begin a new academic year: The possibilities for transformation are contained within our own choices. On our campus, we will continue to do our all to facilitate these stunning metamorphoses. Contained in this report is a measure of our efforts.

Of particular interest:

- Nursing students receive financial, technical, and mentoring support from a new partnership with Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (page 6).
- Actor Mark Ruffalo visits the Nantucket Field Station to discuss his nonprofit work protecting drinking water supplies (page 8).
- Students travel to Japan over the summer on a fully funded trip to learn about the country's history and culture (page 3).

I hope you will enjoy this quarter's account of our continued progress.

—J. Keith Motley, Chancellor



Jason Green, assistant professor of chemistry

Chemistry Professor Earns Department of Defense Grant

Assistant professor of chemistry Jason Green has received a research award from the Department of Defense Multi-disciplinary University Research Initiative (DOD-MURI). The program supports scientists with transdisciplinary research efforts in order to accelerate the process of using research findings in practical applications.

Professor Green is part of a research team including principal investigators from the University of Missouri, the University of California system, and Northwestern

University that was awarded a total of \$6.25 million.

The team's project is titled "New Theoretical and Experimental Methods for Predicting Fundamental Mechanisms of Complex Chemical Processes." In layman's terms, the team will develop new methods for predicting the outcomes of complex chemical reactions, such as combustion.

Green will use roughly \$1 million of the funding to support research efforts on this project at UMass Boston.

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS

Debut of Early Action Admissions

UMass Boston has moved from rolling admissions to early action and regular decision for new student applications for fall 2015. More than 450 colleges and universities offer nonbinding early-action programs in addition to the regular admissions process; this change should help make UMass Boston more competitive. The new application deadlines are December 1 for early-action students (nonbinding), and March 1 for regular-decision students.

Out-of-State Merit Scholarships

For the first time in its history, UMass Boston will begin using a leveraging scholarship model to attract more out-of-state students for fall 2015. The campus will offer 25 merit scholarships in an effort to enroll additional out-of-state honors students while increasing tuition and fee revenue.

Enrollment Numbers Trend Up

The most recent enrollment report produced by the Office of Institutional Research for fall 2014 shows that the number of graduate and undergraduate students enrolled in classes this semester as compared to last year has increased by more than ten percent. UMass Boston's goal is to have a total university enrollment of 16,815 students for fall 2014, an additional 528 students compared to fall 2013.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE



UMass Boston students celebrated the completion of the CVP Career Academy this summer, along with CV Properties president and founder Richard Galvin, left.

CVP Career Academy Graduates Inaugural Class

This summer, 16 UMass Boston students celebrated their graduation from the inaugural CVP Career Academy, a ten-week internship program that provides students firsthand, paid experience in leading real estate, architecture, hospitality, and engineering firms. In addition to gaining knowledge of a booming industry, students were able to further their professional development by honing their workplace communications skills.

CV Properties (CVP), a Connecticut-based real estate firm now building two hotels in South Boston, worked with UMass Boston staff to design a program that would give students substantial exposure to the world of real estate development while getting paid.

Planning Progresses for Israeli Satellite Campus

Israel's Council on Higher Education has given initial approval to the application for a UMass Boston satellite campus to train graduate students in conflict resolution. The Peace College will be located at Wahat al Salaam/Neve Shalom/ ("Oasis of Peace"), an intentional community of Arab and Jewish families established more than 30 years ago. The community has been working with Professor David Matz of the Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance, who is a senior fellow of the Center for Peace, Democracy, and Development. The UMass Boston satellite campus curriculum will offer the same required courses for the master's in conflict resolution as those now offered in Boston, with the electives reflecting the setting in the Middle East and the ethnic composition of the community.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)



A student from Landon's team helps search through the dig site for artifacts from the Pilgrim settlement.

Archaeology Students Search for Original Plymouth Plantation

Plymouth, Massachusetts, is home to one of the United States's oldest European settlements, but no one knows where the settlement borders were actually located.

David Landon, associate director of UMass Boston's Andrew Fiske Memorial Center for Archaeological Research, and a group of undergraduate and graduate students spent five weeks of their summer on Burial Hill in Plymouth looking for walls that bounded the site of the original Pilgrim settlement.

The Archaeological Field School, one of two offered this summer through UMass Boston's College of Advancing and Professional Studies in collaboration with the Fiske Center and the Anthropology Department, is part of "Project 400: The Plymouth Colony Archaeological Survey"—a site survey leading up to the Plymouth Colony's 400th anniversary.

Although Landon's team didn't discover the walls this summer, the students did come across the site of an old school, as well as items such as horse bridles, doorknobs, ceramics dating back to the first half of the 19th century, and animal bones.

The identification work will continue back at UMass Boston in the fall, and one student will write a description of the artifacts for his master's thesis. Eventually, the Fiske Center will publish a report on the findings, and the collection of artifacts will be curated at Plimoth Plantation.

As for the settlement walls, Landon and his team are still looking. Landon plans to return to Plymouth with students every summer, until at least 2021.

UMass Boston Students Invited to Tour Japan

This summer, 23 UMass Boston undergraduates were invited on an all-expenses-paid trip to Tokyo, where they spent ten days learning about Japanese culture and literature and honoring the legacy of one of the most prominent Japanese-Americans, the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii.

UMass Boston was one of four universities selected for the TOMODACHI Inouye Scholars Program, a cultural exchange facilitated in part by the government of Japan. To be accepted for the program, students went through an extensive application process, which included a written essay and interview. Each accepted student wrote a paper on some aspect of Japan, with topics ranging from geography to Japanese-American internment camps to geisha-influenced fashion.

Paul Watanabe, the director of the Institute for Asian American Studies and associate professor of political science, accompanied the students along, with Honors College Dean Rajini Srikanth. During their trip, the students learned about the life and contributions of Senator Inouye and other Japanese-Americans, visited cultural and historic attractions in Tokyo, and toured the memorials to victims of the atomic bomb at Hiroshima.

Each of the universities in the TOMODACHI Inouye Scholars Program was also paired with a sister university. A contingent from UMass Boston's sister university, Showa Women's University, will visit UMass Boston this academic year.

STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE

Major New Grants Awarded to UMass Boston Faculty

- Susan Jeghelian (executive director, Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration) has been awarded a \$138,264 grant by the Massachusetts Child Support Enforcement Division to mediate cases referred through family court in order to create conditions suitable for the resolution of child access issues.
- Schuyler Korban (vice provost, Office of Global Programs) has been awarded a \$120,000 grant by the U.S. Department of State to support the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program for Iraq at UMass Boston.
- Edward Miller (associate professor of gerontology) has been awarded a \$36,825 grant by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to serve as research mentor to a PhD gerontology student at UMass Boston who works for a Veterans Administration Medical Center.
- Greg Sun (professor of engineering) has been awarded a three-year \$247,003 grant by the US Air Force Office of Scientific Research for the project "SiGeSn Heterostructure Photonics Technology for Ultra-fast Communications in the 2- μ m Infrared Region."
- Cynthia Thomas (coordinator of employment services, training, and technical assistance, Institute for Community Inclusion) has been awarded a \$900,000 grant by the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services for the project "FY 2015 Employment Outcomes."
- Kevin McKague (senior fellow, Center for Peace, Democracy, and Development) has earned a \$120,000 grant from Grand Challenges Canada to help South Sudanese-Canadian doctors train community health professionals to provide basic healthcare and health education to South Sudanese women and children with limited access to both.



Byrnes says that giant kelp can grow up to a foot a day, and create forest-like formations underwater.

Professor Asks for Help Tracking Kelp from Outer Space

Jarrett Byrnes, assistant professor of biology at UMass Boston, is seeking volunteers to take part in his latest marine ecology research—and they don't even have to get their feet wet. Byrnes, along with colleagues from California, Portugal, and Chile, is trying to find out whether climate change is having an impact on giant kelp forests. To do that, he needs citizen scientists to identify these green patches of kelp forest—from space.

In satellite photos, giant kelp forests show up as little green blobs in a big blue ocean: the kelp forest canopy floating on the surface of the water. Giant kelp provides habitat for otters, fish, and crustaceans, and requires colder water to thrive. Byrnes wants to know if warming ocean waters will cause these important ecosystems to change.

Byrnes and his collaborator Kyle Cavanaugh of UCLA have collected satellite images from NASA satellites that go back to the 1980s, and include images of kelp canopies floating on the surface. This 30-year record could tell scientists a lot about how kelp forests have fared through the last three decades of climate change. But, since the kelp forests are at the very edge of what the satellites can view, the researchers decided to turn to the public for help. According to Byrnes, computers have trouble distinguishing between sea foam and a kelp forest, whereas humans can easily tell the difference.

As a result, Byrnes and Cavanaugh developed www.floatingforests.org, a website where citizen scientists can help to identify these patches of kelp forest, one satellite image at a time; visitors will investigate thousands of images from giant kelp forests around the world. Byrnes hopes that the site will help nonscientists engage with marine ecology.

CONTINUE A FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE

CADE Summit Held on Campus

One hundred university administrators—and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh—visited UMass Boston in August for a national conference sponsored by the Commission on Access, Diversity, and Excellence (CADE), a branch of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Chancellor J. Keith Motley, the chair of CADE, served as the host of the conference, which gathers higher-education leaders from across the country to look at best-practice models for STEM education and retention programs for low-income, first-generation, and minority students, among other topics.

Panel discussions subjects included My Brother's Keeper, an initiative launched by President Barack Obama in February to address opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color, post-graduation opportunities, and using data to drive student success. The plenary session focused on facilitating Latino and Native American student success.

McCormack Students Hold Book Drive for Rwandan Library

Parfait Gasana and Wade Cedar are students pursuing master's degrees in international relations at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies. Gasana grew up in Rwanda and Connecticut, and Cedar is a first-generation college graduate and alumnus of UMass Boston. While their paths have been different, each man's life was saved by the power of education. Together, they decided to collect children's books and raise funds to build the Kigali Reading Center in Gasana's home country.

The pair has already collected more than 3,000 books from Craigslist, library sales, and yard sales. Second-graders at the Edward Devotion School in Brookline have adopted the Kigali Reading Center as their community service project and have contributed more than 400 books. A recent Boston Herald video blog and a presentation to the UMass Boston Board of Visitors are also drawing attention to the project.

Gasana and Wade have launched an online campaign to help raise \$30,000 to build bookshelves, purchase office and computer supplies, furnish the library, and ship the books to Rwanda. They hope that the nonprofit Kigali Reading Center will offer children the opportunity to improve their English skills.

The two students traveled to Kigali to begin building in August, with airfare provided by the McCormack Graduate School.

Youth Enrichment Conference

UMass Boston teamed up with Boston Mayor Marty Walsh in August to host the city's first-ever Youth Enrichment Day. More than 1,500 teenaged Bostonians participated in a series of professional and personal development workshops during the conference to complement their summer jobs experience.

Walsh addressed youths as the keynote speaker for the daylong conference. Speaking candidly about his life choices, the first-term mayor emphasized the value and importance of making the right decisions and encouraged all youths to stay on a positive path for success.

UMass Boston hosted the conference, which featured 30 different workshops on topics such as healthy relationships, financial literacy and education, professionalism, leadership development, advocacy, health and nutrition, entrepreneurship, and STEM education and careers.

RENEW THE FACULTY

UMass Boston Faculty Receive \$95,557 in Creative Economy Grants

Faculty at UMass Boston have received a combined \$95,557 in Creative Economy Grants from UMass President Robert Caret's office.

The winning faculty and their projects are:

- Professor of Gerontology Jan Mutchler and Gerontology Institute Research Fellow Bernard Steinman: "Mapping Community Assets to Improve Livability for Older Adults in Massachusetts" (\$30,000)
- Chair of the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences Ronald Iannotti: "Family Gym: A Novel Initiative to Prevent Obesity Among Families with Young Children" (\$39,824)
- Senior Associate Dean of Graduate Studies Stephanie Hartwell and Carl Fulwiler of UMass Medical School: "Developing a Culturally Appropriate Mindfulness Intervention for Inner-City Survivors of Violence Through Community Engagement" (\$27,500)

Since 2007, the President's Creative Economy Initiatives Fund has supported more than \$2 million of projects in the arts, humanities, and social sciences that bring new creative resources to Massachusetts communities.

Professor Maria Ivanova Receives UN Appointment

Maria Ivanova, co-director of the Center for Governance and Sustainability, and assistant professor in the Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance, has been appointed to serve as a member of the board of the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. She will serve a three-year term with this global think tank and postgraduate teaching organization, which is headquartered in Japan. Its curricula and activities focus on issue areas important to the UN, such as global sustainability, environmental governance, and development economics. In addition to this new appointment, Ivanova is a member of the UN's Scientific Advisory Board.

INCREASE ENDOWMENT

Nursing Students Set Sail for Success with \$500k Partnership



Harvard Pilgrim President and CEO Eric H. Schultz and Chancellor J. Keith Motley sign partnership agreement.

This June, UMass Boston and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care announced a partnership to launch a novel program focused on enhancing student success in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Harvard Pilgrim's Set Sail for Success initiative is a five-year, \$500,000 commitment. The program will begin in September with a cohort of 20 first-year students who will be provided with intensive counseling and support from a paid staff advisor dedicated to them. Students will be equipped with tablets preloaded with software designed to facilitate their orientation to the university. Programs to improve writing skills, a medical dictionary, and access to pre-subscribed health care websites will be included. Chat and instant messaging features will connect the students to each other as they work on course projects.

Students in the program will be required to take a one-credit course designed to help them successfully transition to college and health care. Through the course, they will attend community lectures by Harvard Pilgrim staff and other experts in the field. Paid peer mentors who are high-achieving upperclassmen in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences will be a resource for the students, as will Harvard Pilgrim employees who will serve as volunteer mentors.

DEVELOP FIRST-RATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Harborwalk Renovation Underway

UMass Boston began work on a stretch of the Harborwalk this summer. The project will restore and stabilize an 800-foot stretch of shoreline on the north side of campus between the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum and the Harbor Point apartments. A paved walkway closer to the waterfront will replace the current path. The new stretch will feature benches, lighting, gathering spaces, native plants, interpretive signs with historical narratives, and an area to display artwork.

A detour route will lead Harborwalk walkers, joggers, and bicyclists off the waterfront using an existing UMass Boston walkway between University Lot D and Harbor Point.

New Support Spurs Research Growth

The sciences at UMass Boston will undergo exciting growth this year thanks to substantial support received over the summer. The Biology Department received an anonymous \$1 million gift, provided to benefit the department's master's and PhD students by launching a new Biology Graduate Research Endowment that will provide stipends, cover conference expenses, and support research projects for years to come. Research, publications, and presentations can make or break an aspiring scientist's career; this gift will help attract more top-notch students to UMass Boston's biology programs, even as it helps current students prepare for their chosen careers.

The other boon for STEM efforts went to the Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy (CPCT) and its director Jill Macoska, who earned a \$150,000 grant from the University of Massachusetts' President's Science and Technology Initiatives Fund. The grant will help Macoska fund the Next Generation Biomarker Development Pipeline Program, which aims to produce an innovative tool for diagnosing tumors. This research will be conducted in partnership with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, the Harvard Cancer Center, and UMass Medical School.

DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Performance Management Conference

The Edward J. Collins Center for Public Management hosted the third annual Performance Management Conference in June, and the fourth annual StatNet conference in July. The goal of each event was to give public employee managers and staff practical tools for using data, analysis, and evidence more effectively in the management of their state agencies and municipalities.

IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND IT SERVICES

Gerontology Institute Welcomes New Director

Len Fishman, a nationally recognized leader in the field of aging policy, has been appointed as the new director of the Gerontology Institute. He has served as CEO of Hebrew SeniorLife, president and CEO of LeadingAge, commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health under Governor Christine Todd Whitman, and a health-care lawyer in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Office of Diversity and Inclusion Welcomes New Director

The new director of diversity and ADA compliance joined the Office of Diversity and Inclusion in August. Lori Corcoran received her doctorate in educational policy, research, and administration at UMass Amherst. She served as the dean of special populations and the ADA compliance officer at Quinsigamond Community College. She has more than 25 years of experience in the educational field, with expertise in the areas of disabilities, first-year students, persistence, retention, and grants.

UMass Boston? There's an App for That

UMass Boston has released its first mobile application. The free app can be downloaded from the App Store for iPhones or iPads or from Google Play for Android devices.

The new UMass Boston app allows smartphone users to view upcoming campus events, navigate using a multi-layered map of campus, and find out what campus dining options are open. Other features include construction updates, campus news, the campus directory, social media updates, photos, and videos. The app also gives the university another means to communicate emergency messages to students in the event of a campus closure.

Developing a mobile app was an important step forward for the university. According to a survey conducted by *The Boston Globe* this year, 90 percent of UMass Boston students own a smartphone, and 43 percent own a tablet computer. The app is designed to give students access to key information on the devices that they use most frequently. In the future, UMass Boston intends to expand the app's capabilities to include modules for course registration, library access, the bursar's office, and other frequently requested campus resources.

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE



Commissioner of Higher Education for Massachusetts Richard Freeland, Senate President Therese Murray, and UMass President Robert Caret celebrate UMass Boston Day with Chancellor J. Keith Motley at the State House on June 16.

UMass Boston Celebrates 50th Anniversary at the State House, Fenway Park

Students, alumni, faculty, staff, community members, lawmakers, and Red Sox Nation celebrated the 50th anniversary of the legislation establishing UMass Boston at two events on June 16.

At the Massachusetts State House in the morning, Speaker Robert DeLeo, Senate President Therese Murray, UMass President Robert Caret, Trustee Dick Campbell '70, former state representative James Smith '69, student government president Iggy Chaparro, and Commissioner of Higher Education Richard Freeland joined the campus community to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the university right where its founding legislation was passed: in the House Chamber.

After a speaking program, Elaina Quinn and Denise Kenneally—the daughters of Robert Quinn and George Kenneally, the legislators who sponsored the legislation—narrated the journey of the bill to its passage. Then the UMass Boston contingent was invited to gather on the State House steps for a group photo.

In the evening, hundreds of alumni, students, faculty and staff, and friends of the university descended on Fenway Park for UMass Boston Night, where in pregame ceremonies the Red Sox congratulated UMass Boston on the milestone, and the Office of Public Safety honor guard presented the colors for the singing of the national anthem.

It was a win-win: The Red Sox won, too.

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE (CONTINUED)

It's Good to Be Green

For the fifth consecutive year, UMass Boston has made the Princeton Review's Green Colleges Guide. To assemble the 2014 list, a panel of experts graded nearly all of the four-year institutions in the United States on their environmental policies, the sustainable quality of life on their campuses, and how well they prepare their students to be both green professionals and green citizens.

UMass Boston was touted for its green efforts, which include its extensive recycling and composting program, and the availability of organic coffee and locally grown food. Other efforts include the installation of hydration stations, which have kept 400,000 plastic bottles out of landfills since 2012, and a solar voltaic panel generating energy on the roof of Wheatley Hall.

The Princeton Review wrote that UMass Boston uses a variety of tools to help students develop their green consciousness, including the new School for the Environment, sustainability internships offered, and the research opportunities available at the marshes and rolling uplands of the Nantucket Field Station.

The Hulk Hits Nantucket Field Station

Oscar- and Emmy-nominated actor Mark Ruffalo, who stars as Hulk in the Avengers movies, visited UMass Boston's Nantucket Field Station recently to discuss a new partnership between his nonprofit organization Water Defense and field station director Sarah Oktay.

Water Defense, founded by Ruffalo to protect drinking water around the world, has responded to more than 45 contamination disasters. The organization's chief scientist, Scott Smith, and his team have developed new water testing standards, and are now teaming with Oktay to establish baseline water readings for the entire nation, beginning in Massachusetts.

Ruffalo visited the field station on June 28 with Smith, the creator of Opflex, a sponge-like material with thousands of small pores that remove oils and other pollutants from water. Along with Oktay, they announced cumulative testing results from samples taken in Eastham, Falmouth, Nantucket Harbor, and the Head of Hummock Pond at a press conference. Ruffalo and Smith also visited with students and interns enrolled in programs at the field station operated by the College of Advancing and Professional Studies.

McCormack Alumna Appointed as Chancellor of UNC Asheville

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts President Mary K. Grant will be the seventh chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Asheville. Grant will assume her new duties as of January 2015. She holds a master's degree in public affairs from the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

UMass Boston Is an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University

In recognition of its strong commitment to economic engagement, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) designated the University of Massachusetts Boston as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University. The designation acknowledges universities working with public and private sector partners in their states and regions to support economic development through a variety of activities, including innovation and entrepreneurship, technology transfer, talent and workforce development, and community development. UMass Boston received the designation after conducting a thorough self-review with outside stakeholder input and subsequently submitting an application that went through a rigorous independent review process.

UMass Boston now qualifies to submit an application for APLU's 2014 Innovation and Economic Prosperity University Awards, which will be given out at the association's annual meeting in November. The awards include an "IEP Connections" award, recognizing the university that is doing the most to build connections between categories of economic engagement--innovation and entrepreneurship, talent development, and social, community, and cultural development. "Best in class" awards will also be given in each category of talent, innovation, and place.

Beacons Baseball Player Drafted by Baltimore Orioles

2014 Little East Conference Co-Player of the Year Jamill Moquete became the second player in UMass Boston history to be drafted by a professional sports organization when he was selected by the Baltimore Orioles in the 32nd round of the 2014 MLB First-Year Player Draft. (The first to be drafted was Steve Coffey, selected by the Chicago Cubs in 1990.) The outfielder was one of just 14 NCAA Division III players selected in this year's draft.

In his college career, Moquete led the Beacons the past two seasons in almost every offensive category, and helped UMass Boston to three straight Little East Conference tournament appearances.



Friends of UMass Boston sign a giant card at the 50th Anniversary Block Party held on campus on June 18.