

**University of Massachusetts Boston
College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Helene Fuld Health Trust Scholarship Fund for
Baccalaureate Nursing Students**

The following students are recipients of this year's Helene Fuld Scholarship. They were selected from 240 highly qualified applicants. A faculty and staff sub-committee selected the recipients based on criteria developed by nursing faculty that includes: leadership, academic performance and financial need. We are very excited about our choices and know that these students will become leaders in the nursing field. These bio-sketches were presented at the Helene Fuld Health Trust Scholarship Luncheon on November 8, 2011.

Kidmalem Adamu *a student in the RN-BSN Online Program*

Kidmalem Adamu is completing Research & Evidence-Based Practice while maintaining a 3.94 cumulative GPA. While at the University of Massachusetts Boston, Kidmalem has worked as a Registered Nurse at Cambridge Rehab and Nursing Center 30 hours a week. Born in Ethiopia, Kidmalem was inspired by the positive relationships he had with his nurses when he was sick at a young age. In his application essay, Kidmalem states, "Being a nurse means to promote health, prevent disease and help patients cope with illness. My goals are to provide direct patient care, to be an advocate and health educator for patients, families and communities."

Shohana Afroz *a student in the Traditional Option*

Shohana Afroz is currently is a junior completing Mental Health Nursing, Maternity & Women's Health Nursing and Legal, Ethical & Health Policy. She entered the University of Massachusetts Boston in Fall 2007 as a College of Liberal Arts major and transferred into the Undergraduate Nursing Program in Fall 2010. She has maintained a 3.33 cumulative GPA and has been on the Dean's List three times. While at the University, she has been a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, has volunteered at the Greater Boston Food Bank and has raised money for Hurricane Katrina and the tsunami in Indonesia. Shohana writes in her application essay "Working with patients and their close family members, being next to them during difficult times, helping them cope and teaching them patient care will be welcome objectives of my nursing career". Shohana would like to return to Bangladesh and offer free health education sessions for the poor.

Mariela Baez *a student in the Accelerated Option*

Mariela has been academically successful at the University of Massachusetts Boston, maintaining a 3.89 cumulative GPA. While in the program, she has served a Membership Chair for Peer Elected with the National Student Nurses Association, Scholarship Committee Member for the Association of Multicultural Member of Partners at Brigham and Women's Hospital and a volunteer editor for the website yougwomenthealth.org. Mariela states in her application, "I have witnessed firsthand how difficult it is to gain access to quality care in underserved

communities. For this reason, I plan to work in facilities that care for these populations in need". Following graduation, she plans to pursue a Credited Family Nurse Practitioner program and continue working in underserved areas.

Sareena Gagner *a student in the Traditional Option*

Sareena Gagner, a senior, is currently completing Nursing in the Community and Care of Children. Since entering the undergraduate Nursing Program in Fall 2009, she has been a part of the Dedicated Educational Unit (DEU) research study with Massachusetts General Hospital. In her application essay Sareena speaks to the importance of learning as much as possible in the nursing field. In the future, she is committed to using this knowledge as a mentor for students as well as members of the community. She strongly believes all new students need support and positive experiences towards their new nursing career.

Katrina Hanscom *a student in the Traditional Option*

Katrina Hanscom is in her first clinical semester and is pursuing a double major in Psychology and Nursing, and maintains a 3.65 Cumulative GPA. In her application essay, Katrina states, "When I applied to the Undergraduate Nursing Program I was unsure of what I wanted to do with my life and career. The only thing I was certain about was that I wanted to spend the rest of my life helping others physically, psychologically as well as spiritually." Katrina has made a great impact during her time at the University of Massachusetts Boston by participating in Habitat for Humanity Beacon Voyages-Alternative Spring Break with Dr. Ed Tronick, being a recipient of the McNair Research Fellowship and being member of the National Honor Society in Psychology.

Leanne Laventure *a student in the Traditional Option*

Leanne Laventure is a new transfer student from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Prior to her arrival at the University of Massachusetts Boston, she volunteered at Albert Einstein Hospital Medical Center in Philadelphia, volunteered in Eldoret, Kenya and The Adventures Club, a program similar to Girl Scouts of America for children ages 3-10. After completing her nursing degree, Leanne plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Microbiology and to become a traveling nurse with the hope to work in third world countries.

Tamra Lissell *a student in the Accelerated Option*

Tamra Liseel has maintained a 3.64 cumulative GPA at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Prior to entering the undergraduate nursing program, Tamra was a Certified Nurse Assistant at Bay Pay Nursing and Rehabilitation in Duxbury. In her essay, Tamra quotes Leo F. Buscaglia: "Too often we underestimate the power of touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." Tamra continues by sharing her own commitment, "I expect to make footprints in my patients' lives, by practicing to the best of my ability and integrity and by teaching in ways that the patient can easily understand." After graduation, Tamra hopes to work on an operating room floor.

Carol Orton *a student in the RN-BSN Online Program*

Carol Orton is finishing her final semester completing Community Health for RN's and has maintained a 3.91 Cumulative. During her time at the University of Massachusetts Boston, she has worked as a Community Residential RN at NuPath Inc. She is a member of the American College of Medical Genetics, New England Consortium of Metabolic Program and the New England Genetics Collaborative Face Forward Project which is a summer conference for youth with rare metabolic and genetic conditions. As the mother of a son with Phenylketonuria, Carol has is aware of the services lacking in the health care system for children with special health care needed. She has been able to tailor her undergraduate education to help reach her goals of researching what is available to youth transitioning to adult health care with special health care needs. Carol plans to pursue the issue of health-care transition further into her professional nursing career and help start programs for this underserved population.

Theresa Rodrigues *a student in the Traditional Option*

Theresa Rodrigues returned to the University of Massachusetts Boston in Spring 2010 after earning a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts in December 2005 with degree honors of Magna Cum Laude. Theresa is in her junior year completing Adult Health Nursing and Pharmacology and maintains a 3.55 cumulative GPA. Outside of school, Theresa has been a volunteer kitten foster parent for the Animal Rescue League of Boston. The main goal for this program is to nurture kitten until they weigh two pounds so they can be adopted. Theresa writes in her application that she plans to become a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and care for victims both emotionally and physically while collecting evidence in order to assist in the prosecution of sexual predators. The SANE healthcare program has been a successful program that bridges the gap between healthcare and law enforcement.

Jay Thornton *a student in the Traditional Option*

Jay Thornton has demonstrated a high level of academic success at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Jay first entered the University in Fall 2009 as a Psychology Major and changed his major to nursing in Fall 2010. Jay maintains a 3.38 cumulative GPA while being a member of the Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology and Co-Class Representative for his nursing cohort and local Boston Rugby Club. Jay plans to continue his education in a nurse anesthetist Master's certificate program and hopes to complete a PhD in order to serve as a professor.