

Report to the Board of Trustees

from the University of Massachusetts Boston

May 2013

To the Board:

A few weeks ago, I hosted a panel discussion on the influence of education on the cultivation of civic virtue, and the special charge of public institutions to instill this value across a broad spectrum of learners. This topic took on a special meaning in light of the bombings that changed our city forever.

Education nourishes the extraordinary qualities displayed by so many who responded bravely and selflessly amid the chaos following the explosions, who confronted the suspects in armed combat in the night, who provided leadership for our cities and towns in the aftermath of the crisis.

I am proud to say that many UMass Boston students and alumni are among the exemplars of civic leadership who have responded in these difficult times. I encourage you to read this report for more examples of how we continue to answer the call of civic virtue.

Of particular interest:

- UMass Boston students led the state in earning Massachusetts High-Demand Scholarships (right)
- Counselor Madame Xu Lin of the State Council of China visited campus to formally transfer oversight of the Confucius Institute to UMass Boston (page 3)
- The new School for the Environment is set to welcome students in the fall after trustee approval (page 2)

I hope you will enjoy this quarter's account of our progress toward becoming a preeminent student-centered urban public research university.

-J. Keith Motley, Chancellor



Governor Deval Patrick congratulates Nick Krause, a junior majoring in nursing, one of the 100 students from UMass Boston who received Massachusetts High-Demand Scholarships.

Governor Patrick Unveils High-Demand Scholarship Program

Governor Deval Patrick visited UMass Boston in March to announce \$2 million in new scholarships for students who attend the commonwealth's public colleges and universities. UMass Boston led the way, with 100 students receiving scholarships.

The new Massachusetts High-Demand Scholarship program provides funding for students pursuing degrees in the fields of healthcare, business, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). For recipients studying at UMass Boston, the scholarship reduced their tuition this semester by nearly half.

The scholarship program is the first of its kind to encourage students at public institutions to pursue majors in particular fields through financial incentives. It was designed to create a better-educated work force in fields that face, or will face, shortages of qualified employees, according to the state's Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

Chancellor J. Keith Motley, Secretary of Education Matthew Malone, Commissioner of Higher Education Richard Freeland, Representative Tom Sannicandro, chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education, and two scholarship recipients from UMass Boston joined Governor Patrick to speak about the program.

Chancellor Motley congratulated the 100 scholarship recipients in the audience and reminded Patrick that the majority of those who earned the scholarship are UMass students. Of the 800 students across the state who received the scholarship, more than half study at one of the UMass campuses, 28 percent attend other state universities, and 20 percent attend community colleges.

The state legislature approved the Massachusetts High-Demand Scholarship Program for this past semester; it is hoped that the program will be funded again in fiscal year 2014.

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS

UMass Boston Tackles Issues of Accessibility in MOOC

With UMass Boston's Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), anyone with an Internet connection can sign up for a course for free. This expanded access to higher education raises a question about access: can persons with disabilities enjoy the same level of access as other students to these courses online? Access to MOOCs is not necessarily automatic for learners who have auditory, visual, or cognitive impairments.

Alan Girelli, director of the Center for Innovation and Excellence in eLearning, in the College of Advancing and Professional Studies, is working to make UMass Boston one of the first universities to tackle this issue of accessibility. For the university's first adaptive MOOC, "Molecular Dynamics for Computational Discoveries In Science," Girelli reached out to a long-standing partner, the Liberated Learning Consortium (LLC).

LLC will be developing captioning files and transcripts of hours of lecture video for learners in the MOOC with hearing impairments and for those with cognitive deficits. Though the video lecture files rendered by LLC are readable by screen-reader software, the UMass Boston MOOC design team and their course design partners at Synaptic Global Learning will also address access needs of learners who are blind and visually impaired by creating audio annotations of graphic material.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

PhD Student Wins Third Annual Business Launch Competition

A smartphone app designed by a UMass Boston PhD student and an alumnus took top honors at the third annual Business Launch Competition in May, earning its creators \$1,500 and space at the university's Venture Development Center (VDC). The competition for UMass Boston students and their associates is sponsored by the Entrepreneurship Center of the College of Management.

Keith Cialino, a PhD student in the School for the Environment, and his business partner, UMass Boston alumnus Seth Sheldon, won the competition with their prototype for a smartphone app called made it!, which enables users to easily send notifications to their family or loved ones that they are safe—their flight has landed, they arrived home after a night out, or they survived a natural disaster.

In addition to the cash and VDC access, the pair received a legal consulting package from Gunderson Dettmer. The entrepreneurs hope to put made it! on the market within a year. The top three finishers all earned cash and access to the VDC.

Benyamin Lichtenstein, research director for the Entrepreneurship Center and an associate professor in the College of Management, said an entrepreneurship concentration for management students is under consideration.

School for the Environment Approved, Will Welcome Students This Fall

UMass Boston has taken a major step toward becoming a global leader in environmental research, education, and outreach with the UMass Board of Trustees' approval of a new School for the Environment.

The school, which is being developed from the existing Department of Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences, will welcome its first new undergraduate and graduate classes in fall 2013.

The School for the Environment will incorporate a range of disciplines including physical, chemical, biological, and social sciences; business; and human dimensions to generate and apply new knowledge about the quality of our environment and the sustainable use of its resources. In Massachusetts, 27 institutions grant "interdisciplinary" environmental degrees; however, UMass Boston is the only university that provides undergraduate and graduate degrees in environmental science that integrate the science and social science disciplines.

The school's approval came a month after the launch of UMass Boston's new Nantucket Living Lab, a semester-long residential environmental studies program on Nantucket. The School for the Environment will be housed within the College of Science and Mathematics. Upon the opening of the Integrated Sciences Complex, a majority of the school's faculty and programs will move into the new building.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE CONTINUED FROM P. 2



Captain Paul Pierce of the Boston Celtics speaks about leadership at UMass Boston's Clark Athletic Center.

UMass Boston Draws Big Names to Address Students, Perform

In early March, the Student Arts and Events Council hosted a conversation with rapper and actor Ice-T, whom many students know as Detective Tutuola, the streetwise cop from the long-running TV series *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.* But Ice-T's real life story engaged the audience of more than 800 UMass Boston students, faculty, and staff more than his television persona could have, as he encouraged students to stay openminded and true to themselves.

Days later, as part of the Undergraduate Student Government Leadership Speaker Series, Boston Celtics captain Paul Pierce visited campus to speak to students about leadership in sports and his Truth on Health campaign to help empower and encourage young people to lead healthier lifestyles. He was joined by Tara Mardigan, a nutritionist for the Boston Red Sox, and Bob Ryan, columnist emeritus at *The Boston Globe*.

Finally, the Student Arts and Events Council invited rapper Kendrick Lamar to perform at the annual Spring Concert in May. Tickets sold out in a day, and the concert was a success.

STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE

Professor Helps Launch Study for Young People with Disabilities

A new research program co-founded by UMass Boston Associate Professor of Exercise and Health Sciences Richard Fleming will study family-based weight loss and maintenance methods among populations of young people with intellectual disabilities. The program, located at UMass Medical School's Shriver Center, is funded by the National Institutes for Health and is targeted toward adolescents and young adults with intellectual disabilities, and their family members. Little research has been done on weight and health maintenance in this particular population.

Families will meet once a week with dietitians and behavioral counselors, engage in group exercise activities, and receive personalized counseling. The first participants will begin the program this fall.

Fleming received a three-year, \$1.7 million grant for the study.

Selected Recent Sponsored Awards

Kristen Wendell, assistant professor of curriculum instruction, has been awarded a five-year, \$598,270 grant by the National Science Foundation to develop, implement, and assess a model that introduces 90 novice elementary school teachers to community-based engineering design as a strategy for teaching and learning in urban schools.

Michael Johnson, associate professor of public policy and public affairs, was awarded \$21,373 by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council for the project "Decision Modeling for Vacant Structures Demolition and Redevelopment."

Jack Wiggin, director of the Urban Harbors Institute, was awarded \$42,898 by the state Department of Transportation for the project "Ports of Massachusetts Strategic Plan."

Patricia Gallagher, of the Center for Survey Research, was awarded \$86,259 by the National Institutes of Health for the project "Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms."

Marion Winfrey, associate dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, received \$283,086 from Partners Healthcare for the project "Clinical Leadership Collaborative for Diversity in Nursing: Cohort VI."

Cascade Sorte, a lecturer in the Biology Department, was granted \$35,502 by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the project "Are Blue Mussels Declining in the Gulf of Maine?"

CONTINUE A FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE



Chancellor Motley and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Patrick Day present freshman Helen Ngo with a Beacon Award for Student Leadership at the 21st annual award ceremony in May.

Management Programs Are Among 'Best for Vets'

Master's programs at the College of Management were recently ranked among the "Best for Vets" in the 2013 *Military Times* rankings. Some 100 institutions offering graduate business degrees were surveyed by *Military Times*. The business schools were evaluated on campus culture, financial aid, average GMAT score, and academic and career support.

UMass Boston Mourns Krystle Campbell

The university community was devastated by the loss of former student Krystle Campbell, who studied sociology on campus from 2005 to 2007. On Monday, April 22, students, faculty, and staff came together for a memorial and remembrance service for Krystle, and for all the victims and survivors of the Boston Marathon tragedy.

Campbell will be remembered on campus during commencement, when she will be awarded a posthumous degree, and through the generosity of trustee and alum Richard Campbell (no relation), who has agreed to rename his UMass Boston scholarship in her honor.



Madame Xu Lin and Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Winston Langley renew the Confucius Institute's partnership with UMass Boston.

Oversight of the Confucius Institute Is Transferred to UMass Boston

Madame Xu Lin, chief executive of the Confucius Institute head-quarters and a State Council of China consultant, visited UMass Boston in April to sign an agreement renewing UMass Boston's partnership with the Confucius Institute and formally transferring oversight of the institute from the UMass system. Hanban (the Chinese governmental agency for teaching Chinese abroad) has contributed more than \$1 million for the Confucius Institute's programs on campus, such as annual speech contests—which have attracted more than 10,000 students from more than 100 high schools, and 1,000 college students from 18 universities—and study-abroad trips to China for business, education, and liberal arts students.

The Confucius Institute at UMass Boston was the first to be opened in New England and remains the only one in Massachusetts.

INCREASE ENDOWMENT

Latest Numbers from University Advancement Demonstrate Growth

Private philanthropy during the first three quarters of the fiscal year showed an increase from more than \$6 million in 2012 to more than \$13 million in 2013. During the same period, donors increased from 3,255 to 3,730 alumni donors, and from 8,894 to 9,373 non-alumni donors.

DEVELOP FIRST-RATE INFRASTRUCTURE



President Robert Caret, Chancellor Motley, UMass trustees, and elected officials break ground on GAB No. 1 on February 27.

General Academic Building No. 1: Construction Underway

In February UMass Boston broke ground on a \$113 million, 180,000-square-foot general academic building adjacent to the Campus Center in the former North Lot.

General Academic Building (GAB) No. 1 is the second new academic facility in UMass Boston's 25-year campus master plan. The Integrated Sciences Complex, opening next fall, is the first new academic building to be constructed on campus since 1974.

Addressing an audience of elected officials, construction and design partners, students, faculty, staff, administrators, members of the UMass Board of Trustees, and President Robert Caret, Chancellor Motley said that the start of construction on the new facility symbolizes a new chapter in UMass Boston's history.

The busy GAB No. 1 construction site is now populated with construction trailers and equipment. Crews are excavating, doing utility work, and driving piles to begin foundation work this summer. The site will be elevated to protect against potential sea level rise.

When the doors of GAB No. 1 open in 2015, students and faculty will have access to teaching laboratories, studio space and recital venues for fine and performing arts programs, study and lounge areas, a café, and nearly 2,000 seats in 26 classrooms. Easing the space crunch for faculty and staff, new offices for both will also be located in the building.

RENEW THE FACULTY

3 Faculty Members, 2 Students Earn Fulbright Awards

Three faculty members at UMass Boston will be teaching and doing research overseas during the 2013-2014 academic year through the Fulbright Scholar Program.

Ellen Douglas, associate professor of hydrology in the School for the Environment, will be working with Australia's national science agency to assign an economic value to the Murray-Darling Basin, promoting sustainable water use and water management. Pratyush Bharati, associate professor and chair of the Management Science and Information Systems Department, will be conducting research on social media at the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore, India. Eve Sorum, associate professor of English and the English Department's graduate program director, leaves in mid-August for a yearlong teaching assignment at the University of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso, Africa.

Additionally, two UMass Boston students have earned the opportunity to study abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. Julianna Andrews will be studying in Bulgaria and Ronda Zelezny-Green will be studying in Kenya.

Community-Engaged Partnerships on Display

On April 10, the Campus Center Ballroom was buzzing with conversation as faculty, students, and community partners shared projects and new ideas with each other at the annual Community-Engaged Partnerships Symposium, highlighting the university's 350 partnership programs with various off-campus organizations.

A collaborative effort by the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the Division of Government Relations and Public Affairs, the symposium offered the opportunity to learn about and deepen community partnerships in the areas of teaching, research, and service.

DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Nursing Students Help Treat Marathon Bombing Victims

Not anticipating the day's tragic outcome, Professor Adrienne Wald and Senior Lecturer Kathleen Kafel from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS) offered their students the opportunity to volunteer to treat exhausted runners at the health tent set up near the finish line of the Boston Marathon. After explosions tore through the crowd, some students rushed into the chaos to help those injured in the bombings. Others focused on caring for runners with more predictable injuries, who were at risk of being forgotten amid the bloodshed.

All the while, the professors and students looked out for one another. Wald and Kafel scanned the crowd for new white hats they had distributed to members of the UMass Boston group. In the end, every member of the CNHS volunteer team was found safe.

Nursing Students Provide Healthcare in Honduras

Lisa Kennedy Sheldon, assistant professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS), returned to Juticalpa, Honduras, in February with six students for the second CNHS Honduras Initiative. The six CNHS students were part of a team of 29 people who traveled to the Olancho province to provide healthcare in rural clinics and services in local schools.

Student Government Recognizes Student, Alumni Leaders

The UMass Boston Undergraduate Student Government honored Medford Mayor Michael McGlynn '76, Professor of Finance Arindam Bandopadhyaya, and Christopher MacRae '14 at its fourth annual Leadership Awards Dinner at the UMass Club on April 9.

The event, sponsored by the UMass Boston Alumni Association, unites student leaders with distinguished alumni and faculty, strengthening the ties between the groups and celebrating the university's mission of service. Students awarded McGlynn with the John Ziergiebel '73 Lifetime of Distinguished Leadership and Community Service Award for his dedication to public service for the past 36 years; he has led Medford since 1988, making him the longest-serving mayor in the commonwealth.

Professor Bandopadhyaya won the Distinguished Academic Leadership and Outstanding Service to the Students of UMass Boston Award, and accounting major MacRae received the Michael Ventresca '69 Distinguished Student Leadership Award.

Past award winners include Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, Codman Square Health Center co-founder Bill Walczak, and the Honorable Sally Kelly, an associate justice with the Boston Municipal Court.

IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND IT SERVICES

Faculty Roll Out iPads in the Classroom

Over the past academic year, ten faculty members across various disciplines participated in a university-wide iPads in the Classroom project to enhance their teaching. A cart of 15 iPads was available to their classrooms in order for students to work individually and in groups with apps specially selected for their courses. Professors participating in the project have used iPads to present course lectures and distributed the devices to students to help them interact closely with course content, to share work with one another, and to receive immediate feedback on their performance.

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE

College of Management Student Among "29 Who Shine" in 2013

Twenty-nine outstanding 2013 graduates of Massachusetts community colleges, state universities, and the University of Massachusetts were honored for both academic achievement and their contributions to the commonwealth in a State House ceremony last week. Alyssa Trinidad, a management major from Winthrop, is the "29 Who Shine" award winner from UMass Boston.

When Alyssa graduates this spring with a bachelor's degree in management, a bright future awaits her. Alyssa will hold her third internship at the international accounting firm Deloitte and plans to work toward a master's degree in accounting this fall. A recipient of a Chancellor's Scholarship, she credits her success to the many opportunities she was given at UMass Boston, whether it be studying abroad in Oxford or teaching a first-year seminar through the honors program. Alyssa says that she has gained a community here that will be a part of her long after she walks across the commencement stage.

Beacons Honored at New England Hockey Writers Banquet

UMass Boston men's hockey head coach Peter Belisle and seniors Rob Florentino and Travis Daniel were honored at the New England Hockey Writers Award Banquet on April 18. Belisle was recognized as the New England Coach of the Year at the DII/III level, while Florentino and Daniel were the first players in school history to be named DII/III New England All Stars by the writers association.