Aquarium Partnership Strengthens Research Efforts

In March UMass Boston and the New England Aquarium launched a first-of-its-kind partnership to encourage collaborative research on climate change and conservation between the two institutions. As a part of this partnership, researchers from the New England Aquarium will teach courses at UMass Boston. Twelve researchers have already been named faculty members at UMass Boston’s School for the Environment. The two institutions will also share lab facilities in Boston and at their field stations.

In addition to the collaborations among researchers, UMass Boston graduate students will be able to work alongside researchers at the aquarium. Undergraduates at UMass Boston will have a special pipeline to apply for internships.

“We see some great synergies by working together,” said Bud Ris, president of the New England Aquarium. “We’re dedicated to research and public education for the public good. We share a strong commitment to managing our oceans and our coasts more wisely.”

“The New England Aquarium researchers think about the interconnectedness between the life in the ocean and humans,” said Dean Robyn Hannigan. “And that’s what we do in the School for the Environment.”

As the partnership grows, Hannigan wants to see even more UMass Boston students involved in the aquarium’s many programs.

“I expect that we will see students here at UMass Boston really understanding that the aquarium is part of our campus and is part of their educational experience,” said Hannigan. “Through this partnership, their stewardship of our planet will be deepened and strengthened.”
Welcome Day and Transfer Student Open House Attract Thousands

On April 12, a record 1,644 guests packed the Clark Convocation Center at the annual welcome day for accepted students, the university’s largest yield event. More than 203 staff volunteered to help tell the UMass Boston story to 722 accepted students.

Just five days later, Enrollment Management attracted 405 prospective transfer students and 172 guests to campus for a transfer student open house, a new event designed specifically for another key group of prospective students. The event included an application submission session, financial aid workshops, an academic program fair, and a next-steps session. During the application session, 82 students submitted applications. This event will be held annually.

Enrollment Numbers Trend Up

The current enrollment report for fall 2014, produced by Institutional Research, shows that the number of graduate and undergraduate students (both new and current) who are enrolled in classes, as compared to this time last year, has increased by more than 10 percent.

At the undergraduate level, the university is up by more than 6 percent in acceptances as compared to this week in 2013. On the graduate level, there has been a similar increase of more than 6 percent in applications, and 25 percent in acceptances.

UMass Boston’s goal is to have a total university enrollment of 16,815 students for fall 2014, an increase of 528 students over fall 2013.

Life Science Internship Program Trains Students

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh awarded $206,000 to UMass Boston in April for the creation of a life science internship training program. Funded by the Mayor’s Office of Jobs and Community Services, the program will connect 100 students from UMass Boston and other public higher education institutions with online training courses to prepare them for competitive life sciences internships at startups across the region.

Walsh announced the award at UMass Boston’s Venture Development Center, surrounded by the busy offices of life sciences entrepreneurs. The VDC has had particularly strong startup success, and many students have launched their careers through internships with life sciences startups at the VDC.

The online course, developed by UMass Boston, will teach students fundamental sales, marketing, and product development skills, which are highly coveted by small startup companies. In addition, students will learn what a startup is looking for in an intern, how students can present themselves to potential employers, and how interns, once hired, can prove themselves to be useful and adaptable employees.

Students from public higher education institutions, including UMass Boston, Bunker Hill Community College, and Roxbury Community College, will participate in the program.

CAPS to Offer UMass Boston’s First Online Undergraduate Degree

Students looking to begin an academic career at Boston’s public research university now have an online option: UMass Boston’s Bachelor of Arts in Global Affairs, available through the university’s College of Advancing and Professional Studies (CAPS).

The BA in Global Affairs is intended for students who wish to better understand and make an impact on the world around them. It prepares students for careers in the globalized world of the 21st century in areas such as public service, international business, and leadership of nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations.

In addition to onsite internships, the program will include courses in topic areas such as contemporary issues in global affairs, global communications and information, foreign policy analysis, diplomacy, human security, international terrorism, and conflict resolution.
**STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY’S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE**

**Major New Grants Awarded to UMass Boston Faculty**

- Elizabeth Sweet (assistant professor of anthropology) has been awarded a five-year $1,473,147 grant by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities for the project “The Price of Debt: The Unequal Burden of Financial Debt and Its Impact on Health.”

- Jason Green (assistant professor of chemistry) has been awarded a five-year $1,000,000 multidisciplinary university research initiative grant by the US Department of Defense for the project “New Theoretical and Experimental Methods for Predicting Fundamental Mechanisms of Complex Chemical Processes.” In addition to UMass Boston, partner institutions include the University of Missouri-Columbia; the University of California, Berkeley; the University of California, Santa Barbara, the University of California, Merced; and Northwestern University.

- Jennifer Bowen (assistant professor of biology) has been awarded a five-year $875,181 CAREER grant by the National Science Foundation for her project “Salt Marsh Restorations: A Structured Experiment for Learning and Teaching about Salt Marshes, Microbial Diversity, and Ecosystem Function.”

- Liam Revell (assistant professor of biology) has been awarded a five-year $852,556 CAREER grant by the National Science Foundation for his project “Phylogenetic Tools for Studying Phenotypic Diversification in the Tree of Life.”

- ZhongPing Lee (professor of optical oceanography) has been awarded a three-year $724,714 grant by NASA for the project “Development of New Solar Radiation and Primary Production Products from MODIS Ocean-Color Measurements.”

**Glasgow Exchange Fosters International Collaboration**

In March, 12 students from Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) visited UMass Boston’s College of Science and Mathematics in an exchange designed to encourage academic collaboration in biology, computer science, and engineering. Additionally, 15 students from UMass Boston studied at GCU. On their return, UMass Boston hosted a poster session for the students to present their findings.

**New Community Development Major Offers Opportunities**

Students can now major in community development in UMass Boston’s College of Public and Community Service. The Board of Higher Education approved the undergraduate major in late January. UMass Boston community development majors will graduate with the technical expertise and interpersonal skills needed for working with local residents to develop and maintain safe, healthy, and sustainable communities. The major prepares students for careers as project managers, property managers, educators, and health specialists, or for graduate study in community development and planning.

Currently, students can take courses in one of two concentrations: community health or economic development. More concentrations will be added later.

**ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

**New Ties Developed with University of Limerick**

UMass Boston and the University of Limerick celebrated St. Patrick’s Day by signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU), formally launching a strategic partnership between the two universities.

The purpose of the MOU is to develop academic and educational cooperation on the basis of equality and reciprocity and to promote relations and mutual understanding between the two universities. The partnership will facilitate mobility of students, faculty, and staff; development of joint scholarly and research projects; and active engagement and interaction with public and private sectors in both Boston and Limerick.

**Student-Run TEDx Conference Brings Big Names to Campus**

Massachusetts Secretary of Education Matthew Malone, President and CEO of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Edward Benz, Olympic champion Meghan Duggan, and renowned Boston chef Barbara Lynch were just a few of the names on the roster of speakers at TEDx, a conference organized by Graduate Student Assembly President Jesse Wright and a committee of his fellow students. TEDx events follow the same format as the high-profile TED talks with which they are affiliated. At UMass Boston, the speakers were invited to campus for a half-day to speak on the topics of their choice. Chef Lynch provided lunch.
CONTINUE A FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE

Mass. Memories Road Show Comes to UMass Boston

Alumni, former professors, current students, faculty, staff, and UMass Boston neighbors were invited to bring their candid photos and share the stories behind the photos at the UMass Boston Mass. Memories Road Show on May 2 and 3. The event was held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days on the Campus Center Terrace. “As the university prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary, we in the archives have been conducting a ‘Save Our History’ campaign, soliciting archival documents and photos from the departments on campus,” said Carolyn Goldstein, public history and community archives program manager.

RENEW THE FACULTY

Faculty Research Celebration

Associate Professor of Community Development and Planning C. Eduardo Siqueira, coordinator of the Mauricio Gastón Institute’s Transnational Brazilian Project, discussed his work in different communities and how it integrates past and current scholarship in a campus panel discussion, “Three Voices on Community-Engaged Scholarship: Made in Boston, Ready for the World.” The panel also included professors Shirley Tang (Asian American studies) and Hannah Sevian (chemistry). The annual faculty research celebration took place on May 5 and was coordinated by the Friends of the Library.

STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY’S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE (CONT.)

Professor Chen Releases Report on Ocean Awareness

In a new report, Professor of Organic Geochemistry and Marine Organic Chemistry Robert Chen presents some unorthodox suggestions about how scientists and educators could increase the public’s understanding of the ocean’s impact on everyday life. In the report, published by the School for the Environment at UMass Boston, Chen and his colleagues have made a wide range of recommendations to get more people, young and old, to take an interest in the world’s oceans. The authors of the report include scientists and educators from nationally recognized museums, aquaria, and academic institutions.

Clinical Psychology PhD Student Receives Weatherstone Predoctoral Fellowship

Autism Speaks recently announced its 2014 class of Weatherstone Predoctoral Fellows. Melissa Maye, a student in the UMass Boston PhD Program in Clinical Psychology, is among these nine promising young scientists, who will pursue two-year projects under the mentorship of leading investigators in autism research. Maye will develop and field-test a manual designed to help early educators adapt their methods to meet the needs of toddlers diagnosed with autism. Maye’s mentors include Professor of Psychology Alice Carter and Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction Angela Stone-MacDonald. Carter is a leader in early identification and diagnosis, and Stone-MacDonald is a leader in the development of inclusive early-education training programs.

Marine Science PhD Student Receives Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship

The Ford Foundation Fellowship Program recently announced the recipients of its 2014 predoctoral fellowships. One of the recipients is UMass Boston’s Ashley Bulseco-McKim, a PhD student in marine science.

The Ford program annually awards approximately 60 predoctoral fellowships, providing three years of support for individuals engaged in graduate study leading to a PhD or doctor of science degree. Bulseco-McKim studies the critical role played by larval connectivity, or the exchange of larval individuals among geographically separated regions, in controlling marine population dynamics.
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RENEW THE FACULTY (CONT.)

Jonathan Kozol Addresses CEHD

UMass Boston’s College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) hosted National Book Award–winning author Jonathan Kozol for a free talk on April 28. Kozol, a fourth-grade teacher-turned-author who has been working with children in inner-city schools for nearly 50 years, spoke as part of a half-day celebration of CEHD’s history. The school, which traces its roots back to the 19th century and the Boston Normal School, goes back much farther than that.

“Today I know is a day of celebration here on this Boston campus. And it’s a celebration from my point of view also,” Kozol said. “UMass Boston and its College of Education and Human Development, because of your unusual inclusiveness and dedication to the children of our inner-city schools, is at the very cutting edge of equal opportunity in the United States, so I’m doubly glad to be with you. I can’t say that at many of the colleges I visit. It’s quite unusual.”

INCREASE ENDOWMENT

Marathon Team Raises More Than $110,000 for Campbell Scholarship

This year, a system-wide effort was mounted to honor the memory of Boston Marathon victim Krystle Campbell ’13. Proceeds from the Run for Krystle charity team, organized by Trustee Richard Campbell, will support the Krystle Campbell Scholarship for UMass Boston College of Management students.

Another team of runners raised funds through the Boston Athletic Association 5K race, which preceded the marathon. The Alumni Association contributed $25,000 toward these fundraising efforts, which resulted in over $110,000 being raised for the Campbell Scholarship endowment.

UMass Boston Fundraising Efforts

Donors and prospective donors were engaged through two recent events: a Celebration of Support: Bringing Donors and Scholarship Recipients Together and Founders Circle/Chancellor’s Council Dinner: A Celebration of the Transformative Impact of Philanthropy. Two donors, Charlie Brown ’09 and Elaine Sudanowicz ’78 (Boston State), have made new commitments to support student scholarships.

Third-quarter fundraising totals reached nearly $8 million.

DEVELOP FIRST-RATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Topping-Off Ceremony Celebrates Completion of GAB Frame

UMass Boston celebrated a milestone in its ongoing campus development May 2 when Local 7 ironworkers raised the final steel beam for General Academic Building No. 1, the newest classroom building on the Columbia Point campus. Massachusetts Senate President Therese Murray joined Chancellor J. Keith Motley for a “topping off” ceremony, along with UMass Trustee Alyce Lee, UMass Building Authority Chairman Phil Johnston, and interim Executive Director Patricia Filippone.

The four-story, 190,000-square-foot building is set to open in fall 2015. The $113 million GAB No. 1 will feature nearly 2,000 seats of general-purpose classrooms, along with teaching laboratories, art and performance studios, a theater, and a 150-seat recital hall.

VDC Gets Grant for New Lab Space

On April 1, Governor Deval Patrick and the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center announced nearly $6 million in grants to support life sciences–related capital projects in the City of Boston, including $588,848 to help build a fifth ready-to-use wet laboratory within the Venture Development Center, as well as a core facility with shared equipment, in order to launch additional high-potential startup companies. As a result, the VDC will be able to meet the needs of one to three incoming life sciences startups.

The increased capacity will also create internship opportunities for talented students, thereby furthering the diversity of the life sciences workforce, and help the VDC to be 100 percent financially self-supporting through company memberships.
Three New Deans Appointed

Following national searches for new deans for the Colleges of Liberal Arts, Education and Human Development, and Management, three have been appointed and will begin in their roles in the fall of this year.

David Terkla, a professor of economics at UMass Boston with a joint appointment in the Department of Economics and the School for the Environment, will be the dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He is currently a member of the legislatively appointed Scientific Advisory Committee for the Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan and is on the editorial board for MassBenchmarks and the online Journal of Ocean and Coastal Economics.

Jorge Haddock has been appointed dean of the College of Management. Haddock comes to UMass Boston from George Mason University, where he holds the rank of professor, and where for four years he served as dean of the School of Management. Under his leadership, the school established new graduate and online programs, international partnerships, and cross-campus initiatives that engaged students from business, humanities, social sciences, and health care in entrepreneurial, venture-building activities. Among his many professional honors and recognitions, the Washington Business Journal selected Haddock to receive its Minority Business Leader Award.

Soon-to-be dean of the College of Education and Human Development Michael Middleton has 25 years of experience in education, beginning his career as a high school teacher in the Boston area. Subsequently, he served as assistant dean of the School of Management. Under his leadership, the school established new graduate and online programs, international partnerships, and cross-campus initiatives that engaged students from business, humanities, social sciences, and health care in entrepreneurial, venture-building activities. Among his many professional honors and recognitions, the Washington Business Journal selected Haddock to receive its Minority Business Leader Award.
In March, McGuffie also became the first Beacon to earn back-to-back All-America honors in over 20 years as she placed second in the 400-meter dash at the 2014 NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championship, with a time of 55.28 seconds.

**PhD Nursing Student Earns Prestigious Silen Award**

UMass Boston PhD nursing student Jacob Kariuki has earned the prestigious Ruth and William A. Silen, MD Award for his poster and oral presentation in the categories of public health, epidemiology, and translational research at the New England Science Symposium, held on April 6, 2014, at the Harvard Medical School.

Kariuki’s presentation, “Comparative Evaluation of Three Non-Laboratory Based Risk Assessment Tools in Characterizing Absolute Risk for Cardiovascular Disease in a Kenyan Sample,” is based on ongoing work conducted in Kenya as part of the Kenya Heart and Sole collaborative project.

The project is between UMass Boston and three Kenyan nursing schools: the Tumutumu Hospital School of Nursing; the Kijabe Hospital School of Nursing; and the University of Nairobi School of Nursing Sciences. Students and faculty from UMass Boston collaborate with their peers at Kenyan schools to provide health screenings to Kenyan villagers, many of whom have never been screened for high cholesterol or diabetes.

**McCormack Graduate School Student Named Among “29 Who Shine”**

Andrew Bunyard, a public affairs student at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, is the 2014 “29 Who Shine” award winner from UMass Boston. Bunyard and 28 other outstanding 2014 graduates of community colleges and state universities across the commonwealth were honored for academic achievement, leadership, and commitment to community service at a State House ceremony in May.

While taking classes at UMass Boston, Bunyard served as a performance management fellow for UMass Boston’s Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management. He has also served as a volunteer and intern coordinator for the Massachusetts Democratic Party/Together PAC, a field organizer for the 2012 Obama for America campaign based in Nashua, New Hampshire, and the founder of the Community Youth Alliance in Concord, Massachusetts. Bunyard also volunteers for the LGBT Advisory Committee at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

After a year of working as an organizational development associate at Beth Israel, Bunyard is starting a new job as a business analyst for the Public Consulting Group in Boston. He’ll be continuing the work he started with the Collins Center, improving access and efficiency for government agencies.