The Office of Community Relations serves as UMass Boston’s primary liaison with neighborhood, community, business, and nonprofit organizations on matters pertaining to campus-community relationships. The office is an engaged civic, cultural, and business partner dedicated to preserving the University's long-term community relationships, advancing current priorities and exploring new initiatives.

We continue to elicit feedback and appreciate suggestions or ideas from our external partners on ways we can continue to engage and strengthen our partnerships with the community.

Community Relations is responsible for:

- Building and maintaining the University’s outreach to Neighborhood Groups, with the goal of communicating University news and strengthening relationships with local residents.
- Identifying local issues of interest to University’s administration
- Coordinate community/university projects
- Make the University resources available to the community.
- Promote the University as a key resource to community leaders
- Match UMass Boston’s programs to specific community needs.
- Coordinating the Chancellors & Quinn Community Service Awards Breakfast—a celebration of our partnerships with the Greater Boston Community.

The office focused specifically this past year on local small business development, assisting elected officials in achieving their public policy goals and rebuilding connections with local community groups now that much of the campus construction is completed. Following is a summary of the efforts over this past year.

**SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:**

**Small Business Summit:**
UMass Boston hosted more than 100 small business owners, local and state officials, business executives, and community members for its inaugural Small Business Summit, providing a venue to discuss important issues facing small businesses across the city and commonwealth. Attendees heard updates from leaders in the public and private sectors, participated in a Q and A with a panel of business and agency executives, and visited information tables on how to access services. The Office of Community Relations recruited the City of Boston’s Chief of Economic Development John Barros and Jay Ash, CEO of the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership and the former Secretary of Housing and Economic Affairs, to serve as keynote speakers. Additionally, we recruited a diverse panel of experts in their respective fields to talk about accessing capital, new programs for minority- and women-owned businesses, advice on navigating the myriad of small business development agencies, what’s being done to create jobs and small businesses in this area, the state bidding process, and the city’s economic development center. The panel featured Barros; Nhat Le, chief operating officer of the Massachusetts Office of Business Development; Glynn Loyd, executive director of Eastern Bank’s Business Equity Initiative; Joyce Stanley, executive director of Dudley Square Main Streets;
and Roxann Cooke, regional director of consumer banking and wealth management at JPMorgan Chase Bank. Also in attendance were Boston City Councilor Frank Baker, State Representative Tommy Vitolo, and Natalia Urtubey, director of small business in the Mayor’s Office of Economic Development. We will be hosting a follow up event with the City of Boston’s Office of Economic Development in the fall.

Metro South Chamber of Commerce Partnership:
UMass Boston Community Relations is a proud sponsor of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce’s Government Affairs Committee. The Metro South Chamber of Commerce works on behalf of members to advance responsible public policy that ensures that the business community has the resources, infrastructure, and opportunities to keep our region’s economy strong and growing. The mission of the Government Affairs Committee of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce is to review pending legislation and regulations for their impact on business and develop positions that will enhance economic growth. The committee also develops programs that inform and encourage members to participate in the Chamber’s government affairs initiatives. Meetings take place monthly with thoughtful dialogue on contemporary issues. Committee members receive regular legislative updates. Additionally, we were able to secure Erin McCormick, UMass Boston’s Director for the Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship to serve as the keynote speaker at the Metro South Chamber’s 2018 Small Business and Entrepreneur of the Year Awards presented at a special Luncheon on in Brockton.

Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC):
We worked with Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) to identify and recommend local minority businesses from the Boston area to take part in their Inner City Capital Connections program. The program is a tuition-free executive leadership training program designed by the ICIC to help business owners in economically-distressed areas build capacity for sustainable growth in revenue, profitability, and employment. The Office of Community Relations helped recruit over 30 small- and medium-sized businesses of all diverse backgrounds that would benefit from this personalized mentoring program. Here is a list of the businesses that we recommended for the Inner City Capital Connections program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cityfresh</td>
<td>Roxbury</td>
<td>Stylistik</td>
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<td>Haley House</td>
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<td>Boston Hairnista Salon</td>
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<td>Chill on Park</td>
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<td>Ashmont Cycles</td>
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<td>Louis D. Brown Peace Inst.</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>The Record Company</td>
<td>Roxbury</td>
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<td>Metrosouth Insurance</td>
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<td>Backlash Brewery</td>
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<td>20Ten Ashmont Market Inc</td>
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<td>Bully Boy Distillers</td>
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<td>Abc ConveCnience Plus Inc</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>Prospect Hard Cider Company</td>
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<td>Affordable Construction</td>
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<td>Newmarket Community Partners, Inc.</td>
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<td>Tasha Michelle Kloset</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>Above and Beyond Catering, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Lindsey &amp; Associates</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>Happy Supermarket, Inc.</td>
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<td>Home America</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>Tri Seafood Market Corp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zia Gianna Italian Bakery &amp; Cafe</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>Flames Restaurant</td>
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<td>El Barrio Mexican Grill</td>
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<td>Tres Islas Group Corporation</td>
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<td>Ripple Cafe</td>
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Massachusetts Small Business Development Center (MSBDC):
The Massachusetts Small Business Development Center is funded in part by the US Small Business Administration and the Massachusetts Office of Business Development through the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The MSBDC is a statewide network providing small business owners and entrepreneurs in Massachusetts with the tools and guidance needed to become successful in today's challenging economic climate. It provides free and confidential one-to-one business advice to prospective and existing small businesses focusing on, business growth and strategies, financing and loan assistance as well as strategic, marketing and operational analysis. In addition, low-cost educational training programs are offered across the state targeted to the needs of small business. We have been working with Nam Pham, Assistant Secretary for Business Development & International Trade and Georgianna Parkin, state director of the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center to facilitate the reconstitution of the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center (MSBDC) and Minority Business office here on campus. Once the state budget is signed there will be an RFP put out to create a Boston centric advisory center which was previously housed here on campus. As the MSBDC network is built on partnerships, including the U.S. Small Business Administration, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Massachusetts Office of Business Development, it relies heavily on higher educational institutions such as University of Massachusetts Amherst, Clark University and Salem State University. We feel that under Chancellor Newman’s leadership UMass Boston is uniquely situated to reclaim the Boston office and have it work cohesively with our college of management to assist the business owners of greater Boston.

GOVERNMENT:

Government Internship Program:
The Office of Community Relations partners with Professor Kim to place Economics Department Interns with either the Boston City Council or the state legislature. The Internship Program which provides students an opportunity to participate in and contribute to the City of Boston’s Municipal Government and/or the Massachusetts State Legislature by interning for an elected official. In order to compete for the Internship Program, an undergraduate student must be currently enrolled in UMass Boston and have successfully completed a minimum of two years of college. Graduate Students are also eligible. The Internship applications are reviewed internally and consideration is given to the education of the applicant, previous work experience in relation to the internship positions available and current academic standing. The students are then carefully paired with an elected official whose requirements meet the student’s strengths, they receive 3 units of credit for 8 hours of work/week or 6 units of credit for 16 hours/week. To receive course credit, the work must use their economic, analytical or research skills, which includes any of the following: economic analysis, data analysis, economic research, literature reviews on economic issues, collecting data, surveying communities on economic issues, drafting reports or policy analyses. They cannot be used as administrative or clerical assistants, events planners or IT help (establishing websites, setting up networks). They can update websites if they conduct research on the economic issues and data they are updating. They can conduct marketing analyses. The basic criteria are that they use their economic knowledge, skills or analytical abilities. They need to analyze a problem, collect data, or conduct research relating to economics or an economic issue. Last Semester Hosts: State Representative Liz Miranda, State Representative Dan Hunt, State Senator Nick Collins and Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn.

Ireland Delegation Visit:
UMass Boston Community Relations Office was proud to host a high-level trade and investment delegation from Northwest Ireland. The delegation, led by John Boyle, the Mayor of Derry City & Strabane District Council and Seamus O’Domhnaill, Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council as
well as representatives from Ireland's North West Regional College. This visit was part of the ongoing positive work being done by the two Councils to establish strong economic development links and initiatives in the US and will build on the work done in previous years in promoting the North West region as an attractive investment proposition and on developing new market and network opportunities for businesses from Donegal, Derry and Strabane areas. The five-day trade & investment mission built on the strong political, economic and cultural linkages already established between Boston and the North West City region of Ireland, also allowing the delegation to reach out the Irish diaspora. We arranged for the dignitaries to have a VIP tour of the John F. Kennedy Library, the Edward M. Kennedy Institute, a welcome luncheon hosted by UMass Boston Chancellor Katherine Newman and presentations from UMass Boston’s Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management and UMass Boston’s Venture Development Center (VDC).

US Congressional Visit:
U.S. Representative Joe Kennedy and three of his fellow members of Congress visited UMass Boston recently to discuss the current state and future of bipartisan cooperation on Capitol Hill with our students, faculty, and staff. Kennedy (D, MA), Congressman Rodney Davis (R, IL), Congressman Markwayne Mullin (R, OK), and Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester (D, DE) fielded questions on everything from their proudest moments passing bipartisan legislation to the challenges of working across the aisle and what young people should know before running for office. Chancellor Katherine Newman welcomed the two Democrat and two Republican Representatives to campus, calling it a very special occasion. Additionally, the Representatives, along with Chancellor Newman, visited Dorchester’s Jeremiah Burke High School earlier in the day to host a civics discussion with students, an event made possible by UMass Boston’s partnership with Boston Public Schools.

Appeals Court:
Community Relations in partnership with UMass Boston Alumni Affairs and the Massachusetts Appeals Court hosted a three-member judicial panel to hear two criminal cases and three civil cases ranging from a stop and frisk case to a dispute over the presence of affordable housing to a failed children’s book series. This is the third time in four years the court has visited campus. UMass Boston criminal justice, sociology, and political science students had the opportunity not only experience the judicial process without leaving campus, but to network with members of the court, their staff, and alumni, some of whom work for the court system. We also arranged for the Constitutional Law class from the Jerimiah Burke High School in Dorchester to attend. After all of the cases were heard, the justices talked about their own backgrounds and answered questions about their preparation process and how it differs from case to case. Associate Justice Mary Sullivan, an UMass Amherst alumna announced that “This is my favorite sitting.” “The students, the alumni – it’s the best.”

EVENTS:
Chancellors Community Discussion:
In October we hosted a contingent of community leaders to an informal dinner meeting with Chancellor Newman to discuss UMass Boston and the Columbia Point revitalization. The goal of the meeting was to build upon the positive working relationships with individuals and groups in the surrounding community. The meeting provided us with the opportunity to hear ideas and concerns, and to share the many positive activities on campus and explore ways in which the University and the community can work together to achieve shared goals.
Attendees:
- Paul Nutting – Columbia Savin Hill Civic / Neponset Greenway
- John Lyons – Port Norfolk Civic Assoc.
- Maggie LeBlanc – Clam Point Civic
- John Schniderman – Popes Hill Neighborhood Assoc.
- Orlando Perilla – Harbor Point Task Force
- Pat O’Neil – Ashmont Adams Civic / Ollie
- Jean Hunt – PHNA / Ollie
- John Lynch – Clam Point / BPDA
- Kathy Lynch – Clam Point
- Eileen Fenton - Columbia Savin Hill Civic
- Andrea Baez – Dorchester YMCA
- Desmond Rohan - Columbia Savin Hill Civic
- Elissa Birdseye- BPL/Adams Street Branch & Alum
- State Rep. Dan Hunt
- City Councilor Mike Flaherty Aide

Robert H. Quinn Community Service Award Breakfast:
UMass Boston established the Robert H. Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leadership in 1987. The award is presented annually by UMass Boston to honor individuals whose contributions have significantly improved the quality of life in the Boston area. It’s named after the former Massachusetts attorney general who pushed legislation that helped with the foundation of the UMass Boston, who died in 2014. The recipients of this award are nominated by members of the community, and the awardees are chosen by a special committee. The winners are recognized during the University’s annual breakfast. This year Chancellor Katherine Newman presented longtime Dorchester resident Thelma Burns with the Robert H. Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leadership. A fixture in Boston’s civic life, Burns has committed her life to serving others. Drawn to the issue of educational inequality, she helped found one of Boston’s first after-school programs, and later served as director of the Belmont METCO program for 28 years. Burns has also devoted more than 35 years to the board of directors of Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD). Advocating for Boston’s senior community, she served on the Central Boston Elder Services Advisory Committee and volunteers for the mayor’s Senior Advisory Council. Veteran Boston police officer Cynthia Beckford-Brewington was also recognized at the event for her involvement in the community for the past three decades. She received the Chancellor’s Award for Longstanding Community Commitment and Service. Brewington has served as a Boston police officer in District B3 in Mattapan since 1989, working for the past ten years as a community service officer. Brewington runs a Teen Police Academy every summer, leads the “Youth & Police Dialogues” program, organizes the annual “B-3 Holiday Party for Children” which draws hundreds of families in need, organizes “Meet our Captain” meetings for residents, and leads workshops for women on topics like domestic violence and dating.
Board Affiliations

Following is a listing of all board affiliations, partnerships and events that the Office of Community Relations participated in over the past year.

**Columbia Point Associates:**
UMass Boston Community Relations is proud to represent the University in this association of organizations on the Columbia Point peninsula. The goal of CPA is: (1) to exchange information and discuss relevant issues on Columbia Point; (2) to seek joint principles for future development on the peninsula; (3) to develop positions on area of common interest and civic concern and take action when needed; (4) to share resources and serve the community. CPA membership is open to any institution with a major physical presence on the peninsula. Key partners include Boston College High School, The Boston Teachers Union Health and Welfare Fund Club, Doubletree Hotel at Bayside, Corcoran Jennison Companies the Walter Denney Youth Center, UMass Boston, JFK Library, EMKI & Mass Archives, etc.

**Work Inc.:**
Community Relations has served on the Work Inc. Board of Directors for the last six years. WORK Inc. is nationally recognized as an innovator in developing community based programs for individuals with disabilities, they are New England’s leading agency providing the skills and supportive services needed to help people with disabilities achieve their career goals. They are the largest employer of people with disabilities in the region. The agency has a myriad of programs — Commercial Services, Day-Habilitation, Deaf Services, Family Support, Employment and Residential Services — which all converge toward one goal: “To make the lives of individuals with disabilities better.”

**Dorchester Board of Trade:**
Community Relations has served on the Board of Directors for almost two decades. The Dorchester Board of Trade has been uniting and strengthening the community's businesses, as well as giving them a voice in the community since 1911. The Board is committed to the belief that strength among businesses, along with civic attentiveness, profits the entire community. The benefits and services of the Board of Trade are always expanding and today are greater than ever.

**Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center (ABCD):**
Community Relations has served on the Board of Directors for the last 10 years. The Dorchester neighborhood service center provides: fuel assistance for low-income families, free tax preparation, and after school program from 2pm-5pm, help with food-stamp and Mass Health applications. ABCD also has a job development program that helps individuals with resumes and job searches, and has a summer works program for youth ages 14-21. Most of the services and programs are free but some go by a sliding scale and/or vouchers. The Ultimate goal is to expand resource access for family members and individuals in Dorchester.

**Boston Collegiate Charter School:**
Community Relations has recently joined the board of directors within the last two years. The Boston Collegiate Charter School is a highly rated, public, charter school located in Dorchester, MA. The mission of Boston Collegiate Charter School (BCCS) is simple yet ambitious: to prepare each student for college. It has 680 students in grades 5-12 with a student-teacher ratio of 10 to 1. 100% of their graduates have been accepted to college; the majority of them will be the first in their families to complete a college degree.
Project D.E.E.P. (Dorchester Educational Enrichment Program):
Community Relations has served on the Board of Advisors for the last ten years. DEEP is a nonprofit educational program, which operates through collaborations with Boston Centers for Youth & Families and Mayor Martin J. Walsh, and charitable institutions like The Martin Richard Foundation. The mission of the program is to foster the educational, athletic and social growth and development of middle school children of all races, creeds and ethnic backgrounds throughout the Dorchester community.

New Market Square Business Association:
Community Relations has served on the Board of Directors for the last ten years. The Newmarket Business Association, a chartered, non-profit organization founded in 1977, is committed to: the continued growth of business in the Newmarket area. Promoting business to business interaction. Communicating the interests of our members to City and State officials and working with those officials to create a better business climate. Working as the primary advocate and voice of its membership for the betterment of the Newmarket District.

Dorchester YMCA:
Community Relations has served on the Board of Advisors for the last ten years. The YMCA of Greater Boston is dedicated to improving the health of mind, body and spirit of individuals and families in our communities. We welcome men and women, boys and girls of all incomes, faiths and cultures. The Y is the largest provider of after school programs and child care in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, offers the state's largest summer youth employment program, involves more than 10,000 children in summer camps, and leverages resources to provide over $10.3 million in critical services at no cost to low income participants.

Community Engagement:
The following examples highlight some of the many ways in which UMass Boston's Office of Community Relations contribute to the Greater Boston community through volunteerism, partnerships and civic engagement initiatives. UMass Boston will continue these efforts and initiate new ones in the months and years ahead.

Community:
- **All Dorchester Sports League:**
  The ADSL is committed to providing the youth of Dorchester with resources to be healthy, active members of the community. They strive to provide the support that will allow children to grow into happy, successful adults. UMass Boston is a frequent collaborator with ADSL and sponsors a little league team each season.

- **Dorchester Chili Cook-off:**
  UMass Boston Community Relations takes part in this annual competition. The University’s student athletes and as well as Campus Services join forces for the Dorchester Chili Cook-off. The competition comprises more than 20 local civic groups, associations, and businesses in pursuit of the official title of Best Chili in Dorchester. All proceeds from the event go towards funding the Dorchester Day Parade.
• **Greater Ashmont Farmers Market:**
UMass Boston is proud to be an annual sponsor of the hugely popular Ashmont Farmers’ Market in Dorchester located just outside of the Ashmont MBTA Plaza at 1900 Dorchester Ave. The market, which last year served up to 600 people a week, providing healthy options for an at risk community.

• **Harbor Point Partnership Mural Background:**
Spearheaded the Harbor Point Partnership, made up of representatives from UMass Boston College of Public and Community Service and the Boys and Girls Club Dorchester Walter Denney Youth Center, and submitted an application for a Love Your Block Mini-grant. The group was awarded a grant in the sum of $2,500 to support the completion of a mural at the McCormack Middle School. A September unveiling with Mayor Walsh is being planned.

• **Louis D. Brown Peace Institute:**
UMass Boston’s Community Relations Office has been working collaboratively with the Peace Institute for close to a decade. The Dorchester-based institute was founded by the parents of Louis D. Brown, an innocent 15 year-old boy who died after being struck by a bullet as he walked along Geneva Avenue in December 1993. The Institute works to support families affected by violence, including offering free counseling for loved ones and helping to pay for burial costs. UMass Boston has been able to assist them in expanding their services, training, and advocacy work.

• **Mattapan Farmers Market:**
UMass Boston has recently partnered with the Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition (MFFC) to work on improving the food and physical activity environments in Mattapan. MFFC promotes healthy behaviors through its membership, its networks, and its partnerships with other organizations. The Mattapan Farmers Market hopes to promote positive in the community to help decrease health problems like diabetes, heart disease, obesity and other health conditions.

• **Neponset RiverFest:**
UMass Boston’s Office of Community Relations and the School for the Environment collaborate with the Neponset River Watershed Association at their annual RiverFest. The festival is a local event aimed at celebrating and bringing attention to the “hidden river” of Boston – the Neponset River. The Neponset travels 29 miles from Foxborough, near Gillette Stadium, to Dorchester Bay, and is home to over 200 species of birds, fish, and other wildlife.

• **Roxbury YMCA:**
UMass Boston is proud to be a sponsor & participant at the Roxbury YMCA’s annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast. The breakfast is an opportunity to celebrate Dr. King’s legacy of service and begin the year inspired to live out his dream in our homes and throughout the community moving us closer to Dr. King’s vision of a “beloved community” with this year’s theme, “remember his words.” The event attracts an audience of about a 500 including leaders in business, civic, community, religious leaders, as well as education and community organizations from across Boston.

**Business:**

• **Small Business Summit:**
UMass Boston hosted more than 100 small business owners, local and state officials, business executives, and community members for its inaugural Small Business Summit, providing a
venue to discuss important issues facing small businesses across the city and commonwealth. Attendees heard updates from leaders in the public and private sectors, participated in a Q and A with a panel of business and agency executives, and visited information tables on how to access services.

- **Metro South Chamber of Commerce Partnership:**
  UMass Boston Community Relations is a proud sponsor of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce’s Government Affairs Committee. The Metro South Chamber of Commerce works on behalf of members to advance responsible public policy that ensures that the business community has the resources, infrastructure, and opportunities to keep our region’s economy strong and growing. The mission of the Government Affairs Committee of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce is to review pending legislation and regulations for their impact on business and develop positions that will enhance economic growth. The committee also develops programs that inform and encourage members to participate in the Chamber’s government affairs initiatives. Meetings take place monthly with thoughtful dialogue on contemporary issues. Committee members receive regular legislative updates.

- **Chambers of Commerce:**
  UMass Boston Community Relations is a proud member of the following Chambers of Commerce in the Greater Boston Region: Boston Chamber, Quincy Chamber, South Shore Chamber, Metro South Chamber, Newmarket Business Association, Neponset Valley Chamber, Stoughton Chamber, Everett Chamber, Revere Chamber, East Boston Chamber, Malden Chamber and Braintree Chamber.

**Government (City/State):**

- **Annual BPS Principal Partners:**
  Honored to join the Boston Public Schools and BPE at the Annual Principal Partners day to support the city’s schools. I joined leaders from the corporate, public, and nonprofit sectors collaborating with BPS principals as they lead their schools through the activities of a regular school day. Each year, participants get a firsthand look at the complex work of Boston’s school leaders, the school improvement investments the district has made, and the challenges that remain. Since the first event in 2003, more than 600 leaders have participated. This year I was fortunate enough to visit the Ellison/Parks Early Education School in Mattapan.

- **Boston Elderly Commission:**
  UMass Boston Community Relations is proud to collaborate with the City of Boston Elderly Commission in hosting various events that supports older adults in multifaceted capacities. We have been fortunate to host a few special events on campus that create fun opportunities for seniors to meet up with each other in a fun and safe environment. Recently we have hosted the Columbia Point Historic Walking Tour for seniors which summarized Columbia Point’s fascinating history and overview of today’s exciting offerings and cohosted a Marine Science Boston Harbor Cruise focused on sustainability, marine life and climate adaptation.

- **Basketball for Peace tournament:**
  Annually, UMass Boston hosts the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Basketball for Peace tournament. The day long tournament is made up of local teens from area youth centers
throughout Suffolk County. In addition to the games, the District Attorney recognizes local leaders that serve as “true role models” for city youth.

- **BPS Promising Pen Pals:**
  A unique writing program where community and business partners are committed to the educational advancement of its youth. Through letter writing the Promising Pals program bridges generations by matching Timilty middle school children with an adult pen pal.

- **Government Internship Program:**
  The Office of Community Relations partners with Professor Kim to place Economics Department Interns with either the Boston City Council or the state legislature. The Internship Program which provides students an opportunity to participate in and contribute to the City of Boston’s Municipal Government and/or the Massachusetts State Legislature by interning for an elected official. In order to compete for the Internship Program, an undergraduate student must be currently enrolled in UMass Boston and have successfully completed a minimum of two years of college. Graduate Students are also eligible. The Internship applications are reviewed internally and consideration is given to the education of the applicant, previous work experience in relation to the internship positions available and current academic standing. The students are then carefully paired with an elected official whose requirements meet the student’s strengths.

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- **US Congressional Visit:**
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Non Profit:

- **Taste of Dorchester Network:**
  Served on the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance’s Community Board for the Taste of Dorchester Event. MAHA’s 10th annual Taste of Dorchester was a fantastic evening with 25 restaurants, live jazz, raffles and silent auction, photo booth and roving magician. The Taste or Dorchester helps MAHA raise over $100,000 to support affordable and sustainable homeownership in Dorchester and throughout Massachusetts.

- **Youth and Family Enrichment Services Festival (YoFes):**
  The Annual YoFestival celebration promotes the communities talents while honoring the contributions of Haitian culture and leaders in Boston. UMass Boston’s Office of Community Relations was proud to join YoFes this year in honoring the program founder, Dr. Nicole Prudent who has dedicated 40 years of her life in the area of pediatric medicine at Boston Medical Center and is a key leader in the Haitian community. The goal of YoFes is help youth reach their full potential despite poverty and social disparity to build a bright future for themselves and the community in which they live.

- **Youth Engaged In Action (YEA!):**
  UMass Boston's Office of Community Relations was invited to speak about advocacy at the Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center's YEA program. Yea, (Youth Engaged in Action) is an ABCD Summer Program for Boston area 13-Year-Olds. In this program the kids learn about personal finance, careers and civic engagement, gain leadership skills and subsequently have priority admission status To ABCD’s Summer Works Program.

University Related:

- **Community Meet and Greet:**
  In collaboration with State Senator Nick Collins and State Representative Dan Hunt, the Office of Community Relations hosted a Community Meet and Greet with UMass Boston's Interim Chancellor, Katherine Newman. The casual and extremely well attended event, held at the Dorchester Brewing Company served as an unofficial introduction between the immediate external community and Chancellor Newman.

- **ISC Lighting Project:**
  UMass Boston Community Relations in partnership with the University’s Facilities created the ISC lighting initiative. UMass Boston is proud to show our support for various City of Boston & Community Awareness campaigns. Our Integrated Science Complex is quickly becoming an iconic landmark on the city of Boston’s cityscape. Its beautiful glass façade provides the perfect venue to coordinate our lighting to show support and bring awareness to various initiatives and causes. Over the past year we have celebrated causes like One Boston Day, Massachusetts Fallen Heroes and Boston Children's Hospital and joined iconic Boston landmarks like Government Center MBTA Station, South Station, TD Garden, Zakim Bridge, Hancock Tower, Prudential Center, University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Fenway Park, Liberty Mutual, National Grid Gas Tank and Rowes Wharf.
• **Prepared on the Point:**
  Community Relations in conjunction with the school’s Emergency Management cohosted a series of discussion-based emergency exercise for institutions and entities on Columbia Point. The tabletop exercises provided for a facilitated discussion of emergency plans and procedures. The goal of this event was to increase communication and collaboration, resulting in greater preparedness and resilience for all organizations participating.

• **Robert H. Quinn Community Service Award Breakfast:**
  UMass Boston established the Robert H. Quinn Award for Outstanding Community Leadership in 1987. The award is presented annually by UMass Boston to honor individuals whose contributions have significantly improved the quality of life in the Boston area. It’s named after the former Massachusetts attorney general who pushed legislation that helped with the foundation of the UMass Boston, who died in 2014. The recipients of this award are nominated by members of the community, and the awardees are chosen by a special committee. The winners are recognized during the University’s annual breakfast.

• **Vietnam Veterans Memorial:**
  UMass Boston led efforts to aid in the restoration of the Dorchester Vietnam Veterans Memorial since a vandal targeted the site in October, destroying 50 memorial shrubs and damaging the central granite monument, which includes an engraved list of the names of the men from Dorchester killed in Vietnam. UMass Boston workers cleaned up the debris from more than 20 shrubs that were cut up by a saw, and helped replant severely damaged shrubs and other landscaping. Additionally, UMass Boston contributed $15,000 toward the full restoration of the memorial.

**Community Partners (sampling)**

- A.D.S.L. All Dorchester Sports League
- Ashmont-Adams Neighborhood Association
- Boston Collegiate Charter School Board
- Boston Police Department B-2, C-6, C-11
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston, Dorchester, South Boston
- Brockton Public Schools
- Cedar Grove Civic Association
- Clam Point Civic Association
- Columbia-Savin Hill Civic Association
- Dorchester Board of Trade
- Dorchester Career Access Point Advisory Board
- Dorchester Park Association
- Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative
- Everett Chamber of Commerce
- Fields Corner Civic Association
- Fields Corner Main Street
- Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Bowdoin Geneva Neighborhood Association
- Hancock Street Civic Association
- Harbor Point Community Task Force
- John W. McCormack Civic Association
- Louis D. Brown Peace Institute
- Lower Mills Civic Association
- Mattapan Square Main Streets
- Meetinghouse Hill
- Melville Park Association
- Metro South Chamber of Commerce
- Pope’s Hill Neighborhood Association
- Quincy Chamber of Commerce
- Saint Mark’s Area Main Streets
- South Boston Chamber of Commerce
- South Shore Chamber of Commerce
- Uphams Corner Main Street
- Vietnamese-American Civic Association
- Work Inc.