Ivanova is Named Andrew Carnegie Fellow

Maria Ivanova, associate professor of conflict resolution, human security, and global governance, is one of 32 recipients, out of 301 nominees, to receive a $200,000 grant as part of the inaugural class of Andrew Carnegie Fellows supported by Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Ivanova teaches in the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, and serves as co-director of the Center for Governance and Sustainability, and director of Global Environmental Governance Project at UMass Boston.

Her project will focus on the work she launched at the Center for Governance and Sustainability, which tested the proof of concept for the creation of an Environmental Conventions Index. Significant academic research is necessary to close the existing gap in understanding the mechanism by which global environmental conventions do/should. “This work is truly collaborative,” Ivanova said. “It engages faculty, (continued on p. 10)

Keisler is First UMass Boston Professor Named Distinguished Fulbright Chair

Jeffrey Keisler, professor of management systems, has been awarded the prestigious Fulbright-Aalto University Distinguished Chair position for the 2015-2016 academic year. The College of Management professor will research methods for technology and other technology decisions at Finland’s premier science and technology institute, Aalto University.

“It’s important because we’re creating better modeling methods to allow for richer incorporation of scientific and economic knowledge. This can lead to better allocation of our resources toward technology improvements that benefit the world,” Keisler said.

According to Vice Provost and Director of the Office of Global Programs Schuyler Korban, Keisler is the first UMass Boston professor to earn such an honor. Only 40 scholars are chosen for the Fulbright Distinguished Chairs Program each year, making it one of the most prestigious appointments in the Fulbright Scholar Program, which awards a total of 8,000 grants each year. (continued on p. 10)
Warren Earns Prestigious DuBois Fellowship to Study the Education of Young Men of Color

Mark Warren, associate professor of public policy and public affairs at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, has been awarded the highly competitive College Board Fellowship to Advance Educational Excellence for Young Men of Color at the W. E. B. Du Bois Research Institute, a premiere global center for African-American and African research at Harvard University.

A sociologist, Warren studies efforts to strengthen institutions that anchor low-income communities and to build broad-based alliances among these institutions and across race and social class. He is interested in the development of educational and community leadership through involvement in multiracial political action as well as the outcomes of such efforts in fostering community development, social justice, and school transformation.

Warren’s latest research centers on the school-to-prison pipeline which is funneling a generation of young men of color into dismal, marginalized futures and disenfranchising them from full participation in American society. Warren’s new book project on building an educational justice movement will explore ways grassroots activism can stem this loss of human capital and reinvigorate communities by investing in the future of young men of color.

In mid-March, Warren was one of four invited experts who spoke at the annual meeting of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in Washington, D.C., discussing why this country is ranked 27th in the world in educational achievement more than 20 years after the “A Nation at Risk: The Imperative for Educational Reform” report sparked a series of reforms that made education a top national priority. Warren’s invitation to participate in this national dialogue came after his article, “Transforming Public Education: The Need for an Educational Justice Movement” appeared in the New England Journal of Public Policy (NEJPP) special issue on education, published by the McCormack School.

Ira Jackson, dean of the McCormack Graduate School, praises Warren’s latest achievements. “I read Mark’s widely-cited piece in the NEJPP, and then heard him speak so eloquently on this topic in Washington, where he impressed the large and influential crowd. I am thrilled that Professor Warren will have an additional opportunity as a result of this prestigious fellowship to dig more deeply and to publish more widely and to make an even greater impact on one of the defining issues of our time.”

The fellowship is valued at $45,000 and Warren will spend the 2015-2016 academic year in residence at the DuBois Institute working on his book project.

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**Warren Strikes Again!**

**One of 13 Social Scientists to Receive Guggenheim Fellowship This Year**

As recently announced in a full page ad in The New York Times, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs Mark Warren is one of the 2015 recipients of the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship.

This year, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation awarded 173 fellowships to more than 3,100 applicants who have demonstrated capacity for productive scholarship and show future promise. Warren, in his third year teaching in the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, was one of only 13 social scientists to receive the award, which includes funds to support his research project, “Building an Educational Justice Movement: Organizing against the School-to-Prison Pipeline.”
Studying the vast and constantly changing oceans, even with the aid of satellites, presents some major challenges. In Lee’s own metaphor, the task of getting an accurate measurement of the biological elements from a satellite is no less challenging than putting a man on the moon. An important aspect of Lee’s research focuses on tackling these challenges.

One challenge is posed by the several hundred miles of atmosphere in between the satellite sensor and the water. The atmosphere influences the quality of the images by adding its own enormous influence to the signals measured. Lee’s team aims to improve remote sensing technologies by developing better algorithms to counter the unwanted signals.

A related challenge of studying the oceans is the need to have very accurate measurements in the field (or “ground truth”) to calibrate satellite sensors and to verify the satellite-derived products. “There are a bunch of things we have to get right in order to get an accurate assessment of what’s in the water,” explains Lee. It is important not only to know what has changed, but how much in very precise numbers, because the impact of climate change on the ocean systems is subtle.

For example, if we want to understand how phytoplankton changes in the Boston Harbor over a period of time, say via observing changes in the water’s color, it is important to have a precise measurement of the spectrum of water color resulted from in-water optical processes, which was only achieved recently with a unique system developed by Lee’s lab. Once we have accurate measurements, we can ask the bigger question of what is causing these changes. The ultimate aim for Lee is to understand what’s in the water, and how and why it changes over time and space.

To quantify and understand what’s in the water, his team takes physical, optical, chemical, and biological measurements of the various properties of water in order to express these relationships in quantitative terms. “We measure lots of things – the spectrum of water color, the concentration of phytoplankton, the weight of sediments, the absorption of dissolved materials ... and then we link (continued on p. 9)
formality of the sonnet seemed to be a way of acknowledging that and giving back something that they hadn’t had. ” The form also helped her to maintain a respectful, but candid tone. “The sonnet is too short,” she says. “There’s no time to look away.” The strictness of the form kept her focused on the act of the execution. “Because once you start reading the stories and doing all that research, well it could be a novel, you could get lost in it.”

McDonough’s second book, Where You Live, contains both formal and free verse poems that look at the history of medicine and the history of the human body. McDonough blends the personal and the political with grace, panache, and mastery. The unprecedented moment of now holds enough magic for her. The act of sitting in her office overlooking the Boston Harbor is just as worthy of examination as is the act of a drone taking off a ship. She wants to question the meaning of progress in all its forms. “What does it mean,” she asks, “that we look at a phone longer than a person’s face?” Progress, she suggests, “is drone technology. But progress is also me owning a house with my wife. That’s not normal,” she declares. Poetry allows her to marvel at all the unprecedented phenomena.

Poetry, she believes is the perfect form for her inquiry. “Poems are short enough that you can take a rich and complicated subject and break it down into its component parts. You can focus very sharply on just the experience of, say, Bin Laden’s funeral at sea. ” Being able to look at these specific small things helps her plot her thinking on a larger graph of what is going on in this national moment.

When asked why is poetry important, she says, “Why is public transportation important? Poetry has been around for a long time because it brings pleasure. One reason I live in Boston is so that I can get on the train and go to the MFA. Living with art is how I understand my life.”

McDonough brings the same honest inquiry to teaching. She mentors students through the struggles of being a writer -- the struggle of being alone with a blank piece of paper, the struggle of finding the time (continued on p. 9)
Inc. Zhang jumped at the chance. “In a big company,” he says, “you dig deep but very narrow. I’m more interdisciplinary.” Fluorous technology is an efficient and rapid method of combinatorial chemistry; the creation of chemical reactions to synthesize a vast number of compounds, called compound libraries.

Researchers need compound libraries to screen for molecules that interact in a particular way with a biological target, like a molecule that inhibits a lung cancer-causing enzyme. To discover that precise molecule requires screening hundreds of thousands of compounds. For this reason, pharmaceutical companies invested large sums in combinatorial technology a decade ago.

Over seven years, Zhang was a director and engaged in research and development, management, and customer relations, and was granted two patents. But paradigm shifts in the drug-discovery model led to de-emphasis on the development of combinatorial chemistry, so he set his sights on academia. His logical choice: UMass Boston, home of John Warner and Paul Anantas, a groundbreaking Center for Green Chemistry, and the field’s first-in-the-nation PhD program. Zhang has established a highly-productive research team at UMass Boston, which currently boasts 16 members including two postdocs, seven graduate students, and two technicians. Just as importantly, 36 undergraduate students have performed research in Zhang’s lab since 2008.

Today, Zhang pursues fluorous technology for its green potential. “If you can make this process greener as well as efficient,” he says, “then it will be more (continued on p. 9)
**Public Policy Doctoral Candidate Receives Inter-American Foundation Grassroots Development Field Research Fellowship**

Ana María Sánchez Rodríguez, a doctoral candidate in public policy, is the recipient of an Inter-American Foundation Grassroots Development Field Research Fellowship. As a Fellow, Sánchez Rodríguez will conduct her research study, "Grassroots organizations' practices to end violence and abuse of women and girls with disabilities in Mexico," over the next year doing field work in Mexico.

The Inter-American Foundation (IAF) was created in 1969 by the U.S. Congress to fund the self-help initiatives of the organized poor in Latin America and the Caribbean and the groups that directly support them.

Sánchez Rodríguez plans to defend her dissertation proposal this spring. Her dissertation committee includes Donna Haig Friedman (chair), Heather MacIndoe (Public Policy), Gillian MacNaughton (Global Inclusion and Social Development), and Elora Chowdhury (Women's and Gender Studies).

**Clinical Psychology Doctoral Student Receives American Psychological Association Minority Fellowship**

Chuck Liu is the recipient of an American Psychological Association (APA) Minority Fellowship. As a Fellow, Liu is eligible for up to three years of funding as well as a variety of specialized training and networking opportunities to access other resources and funding.

Many of the program's students, present and past, have been honored by receipt of this APA Minority fellowship. Liu joins current Fellow Fanny Ng, and past Fellows Celeste Atallah-Guittieriez, Jessica Graham, Grace Kim, Nancy Lin, Phuong Nguyen, Jesse Tauriac, John Tawa, and Speshal Walker. Liu and Ng are mentored by Karen Suyemoto, associate professor of psychology and Asian American studies.

Liu is a fourth-year graduate student in the UMass Boston Clinical Psychology program. He received his BA in psychology from Wheaton College. He completed his third-year practicum at South Shore Mental Health, with a particular emphasis on services for Asian Americans. He is continuing at South Shore this year, and teaching undergraduate social psychology at UMass Boston.

Liu's master's thesis focused on how ethnic identity and generational status differentially affect the relationship between racism and mental health among Asian Americans. His research and clinical interests focus on Asian Americans, including acculturative stress among immigrant families, the experience and effects of racism, and the intersection of social justice and spirituality.

Ng is an advanced graduate student in the Clinical Psychology program. She received her BA with a major in psychology and a minor in Studio Art from Stony Brook University. Her clinical and research interests broadly include the study of the impact of race and racism on mental health in minority populations. Her master's thesis focused on race-related stress and its relation to racial identity, ethnic identity, and racism-related empowerment in Asian Americans.

For her dissertation, Ng plans to examine the intersectional experiences of racism and sexism for Asian American women leaders. She currently serves on the Asian American Psychological Association's Board of Directors as the elected Student Representative, as organizer of the Student of Color meetings for the Clinical Psychology program, and as the research coordinator for the Asian American Research Team under Suyemoto (picture directly below).
Alice Carter, director of the PhD Program in Clinical Psychology and professor of psychology, recently announced student internship placements for the forthcoming 2015-2016 academic year.

Once students are admitted to candidacy for the PhD and defended their dissertation proposals, they are eligible for a full-year immersion internship at American Psychological Association accredited sites around the country.

Here are the names of the students and information on their internships.

**Hillary Bush: Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN - General Internship-Autism Emphasis**
In an autism-focused position, Bush will spend eight months at the Christina Sarkine Autism Center at the Riley Hospital for Children. She will provide assessment and intervention services on an outpatient basis for children on the autism spectrum and their families. Bush will also complete rotations with other patient populations and in different treatment settings.

**Stella Kanchewa: Albany Consortium/Albany Medical College, Albany, NY - Psychology Internship**
Kanchewa will have the opportunity to train in both inpatient and outpatient clinics providing services to both adults and children/adolescents and their families presenting with a broad-range of psychiatric and mental health difficulties using a variety of modalities including individual, group, family, and couples therapy. She will also be involved in assessment and consultation services, including a minor rotation in the Albany Medical Center ER where she will provide emergency consultation and crisis intervention.

**Michelle Levine: University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Counseling Center, Baltimore, MD - Psychology Internship**
Levine will work in the Student Development and Success Counseling Center at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), which is a public honors university with a history and mission similar to UMass Boston. The UMBC Counseling Center offers core clinical services, consultation, and outreach to a diverse student population.

**Frances Martinez: Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA - Child Track**
Martinez will work at the Child Outpatient Psychiatry Services Unit doing child and family therapy, and at the Learning and Emotional Assessment Program (LEAP), which is the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) child-focused program for neuropsychological, educational, and developmental assessments. As part of her work at LEAP, Martinez will expand her experience working with younger children through the MGH Developmental NeuroPediatric Program (DNP). The DNP provides interdisciplinary team assessments and consultations for children between 18 months and six years of age with complicated neuropsychiatric profiles and developmental delays. Martinez will also do a rotation of emergency consultation and triage for psychiatric patients in the MGH ER.

**Marisa O’Boyle: South Shore Mental Health, Inc., Quincy, MA - Early Childhood Psychology Internship**
O’Boyle will perform outpatient clinical work with children as well as early intervention work with infants up to three years of age at the Bayview Associates Community Mental Health Clinic in Quincy, Massachusetts. While there, she will further develop her skills in outpatient child therapy, consultation, assessment, and multi-modal treatment in a community-based multidisciplinary setting.

**Ashley-Ann Shirai: University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA - Forensic Track**
Shirai will intern at the Worcester Recovery Center. As a forensic track intern she will be involved in conducting court-ordered evaluations (e.g., competency, criminal responsibility, aid in sentencing) and clinical risk assessments for individuals who exhibit violent and/or problematic sexual behavior. Shirai will also be involved in elective rotations such as neuropsychology, addiction treatment services, and ambulatory psychiatric care.

**Shannon Sorenson: Massachusetts Mental Health Center, Harvard Medical School at Beth Israel Deaconess Center, Boston, MA - General Internship**
Sorenson will intern at the Massachusetts Mental Health Center where she will provide individual and group therapy in the Partial Hospital Program, treat individuals with severe and persistent mental illness in the Cognitive Behavioral Program, and serve individuals with personality disorders in the Dialectical Behavior Therapy Program. Sorenson will also provide therapy to outpatient adults in the surrounding community.
UMass Boston Students Receive Prestigious NSF Graduate Fellowships

Zong-Guo Xia, vice provost for research and strategic initiatives & dean of graduate studies, recently announced the names of UMass Boston graduates who are recipients of the prestigious National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowships.

Jill Arriola, Geosciences, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Esra Mescioglu, Geosciences, UMass Boston
Jessica Panzarino, Life Sciences, Harvard University

The following two students with NSF Graduate Fellowships will undertake graduate study at UMass Boston.

Eric Johnson, Social Sciences, Northwestern University
Esra Mescioglu, Geosciences, UMass Boston

According to Xia, these awards partly reflect the quality of undergraduate education at UMass Boston and the competitiveness of our graduate programs and are the results of the top expertise, exceptional dedication and caring of our faculty and support staff and the hard work of our best prepared, most ambitious and hardest working students.

“I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate our award-winning students, their mentors and home departments and colleges, and to thank their mentors for their superb mentoring and special care. To win these prestigious awards, their mentors and advisors/supporters have to put in as much effort in preparing the applications as the students, if not much more.”

It is through the persistent efforts of our outstanding faculty, dedicated support staff, and hardworking students UMass Boston will emerge as a distinguished public urban research university before 2025.

Moir Receives Fulbright Grant to Study Women in Construction Industry in India

Susan Moir, director of UMass Boston’s Labor Resource Center, has earned a Fulbright Flex Award. Moir will travel to India in 2016 and 2017 to study women in the construction industry.

“India has the highest rate of women’s participation in the construction industry. I think they have a lot to teach us,” Moir said.

At the same time, Moir, whose area of expertise is women in the construction trades, says India could learn from practices here in the U.S.

“It is completely unregulated. There is no health and safety at all. There is no quality inspection at all,” Moir said. “In the West, women have a very hard time getting into a male-dominated industry and economic security. In the developing South[ern] Hemisphere, women are often doing [that work] barefoot and with bricks on their heads – working in very dangerous conditions.”

Because of the flexible nature of this particular Fulbright grant, Moir will travel to India for three months starting in January to meet with academics and labor leaders there. She plans to blog and recruit people to travel to the U.S. In 2017, she will go back to India with members of the U.S. labor industry. Moir said she’d like to set up a sustainable transnational exchange to explore and share conditions, best practices, and trends.

“The women in India are moving materials. They are manually doing what you see the machines doing in the Wheatley parking lot. You have an industry that is substantially female but also becoming increasingly mechanized. Who’s going to be put out of work?” Moir asks.

In addition to her work at UMass Boston (this semester she is teaching Field Placements in Workers’ Organizations) Moir is one of the co-conveners of the Policy Group on Tradeswomen’s Issues. In 2011, she co-authored the report Unfinished Business: Building Equality for Women in the Construction Trades.
them together with physics-based models.” His team can then draw conclusions as to how a certain body of water is changing over time, and what is driving the change – agriculture, bad weather, or global climate change?

In one of Lee’s current projects funded by NASA, Lee and his team not only conduct pre-phase studies to design new ocean color satellite sensors, but also help to generate improved satellite products for oceanic and coastal waters. They also study various water bodies, including the Great Lakes as well as the Boston Harbor.

Proximity to the Boston Harbor, Lee reveals, is in fact one of the great perks of teaching at UMass Boston. Teaching itself is a great perk because it positively influences his research. “Every time I teach I learn something new,” says Lee. “In trying to convince someone who has no background in oceanography, I have to read more articles and books, watch more videos ... so my own understanding improves.”

His own entry into the field of oceanography was accidental. “I grew up in an inland city,” reveals Lee. “I had never seen the ocean before.” But when he attended the Ocean University of China for graduate studies, he was shocked to see how big the ocean really is. That was when his fascination started.

Lee’s success is proof of his enthusiasm for his field. As an internationally recognized authority in ocean optics, Lee is a science member of the MODIS/VIIRS/PACE satellite missions. In the past three years, he has received nearly $2 million in research funds from various government agencies to tackle the various challenging issues in his field. Recalling his ground-breaking article published in 2002, Lee says, “Our paper set at new way of doing ocean color remote sensing. We crafted a more analytical way, using simple mathematics to represent the physics, that was very easy to understand and implement.”

Looking ahead, one of Lee’s long-term goals is to assist the design of new satellite sensors with more capabilities. A new geo-stationary ocean color satellite is in the works, which will enable his team and colleagues to observe coastal and inland waters in the North and South American continents continuously. Making hourly observations will significantly improve their capabilities to monitor these ecosystems. “This new system,” says Lee, “will prove to be a significant improvement, a leap forward to study the biogeochemical processes in the ocean and their relationships to natural events and anthropological activities.”

One of her many accomplishments during her time at UMass Boston is the launch of “Submitathon,” an event where students gather over pizza to submit their work to magazines. McDonough believes this process removes the secrecy about the process of submitting. “There’s a lot of envy and fear surrounding the process,” she says, “and submitathon helps students see that it’s just secretarial work.”

It is clear to see how much McDonough enjoys and excels as a teacher. She describes teaching at UMass Boston as a cocktail party without booze. “My students are adults who care about literature. It’s an extraordinary privilege.”

When asked what brought her to poetry, she reveals, “I was bored in school and I wanted to make a small perfect thing. I loved writing each word in a different colored pen. That’s the basic work of being a poet.” Her passion for art is as fundamental to her now as it was then. “The unexamined life has its appeal,” she says simply. “It’s not an option for me.”

For him, chemistry’s attraction is its architectural aspect. “Just as an architect can be creative in designing buildings, I can use my creativity with organic synthesis,” he says. “The building blocks are the atoms that make up the molecules—just harder to see. You have to understand each building block, and have the skills to put them together through chemical reactions. That gives you a lot of space to create molecules for various uses.”
Ivanova is Named Andrew Carnegie Fellow...continued from p. 1

students, and policymakers. It was initiated by a request for analysis we received from the UN Environment Programme, informed by our interactions with officials in the environmental convention secretariats, and inspired by the reactions we received from countries.

The United Nations at a Crossroads: Collection of Conventions or Mechanism for Planetary Stewardship study will conduct rigorous analysis with the goal of contributing to international policy that would stem the further breach of planetary boundaries including climate change, land-system change, loss of biosphere integrity, and altered biogeochemical cycle. It will seek to measure, explain, and improve the level of implementation across a set of 10 global environmental conventions.

Vartan Gregorian, president of Carnegie Corporation, said what distinguishes this new fellowship initiative is its extraordinary jury.

“The selection committee includes the heads of some of the nation’s preeminent institutions dedicated to the advancement of knowledge, including five current and former university presidents. In addition, each proposal was reviewed and rated by at least one of the 25 prominent scholars, educators, and intellectuals who served as anonymous evaluators.”

Ivanova is an international relations and environmental policy scholar specializing in governance and sustainability. Her research and policy work focus on global environmental governance and the performance of international environmental institutions. She has worked on issues such as financing for the environment, U.S. foreign environmental policy, and sustainability on campuses and in organizations.

Her career, marked by teaching excellence and policy leadership, has bridged academia and policy. Her academic work has been recognized for bringing analytical rigor and innovative input to the international negotiations on reforming the U.N. system for the environment. She has worked closely with national governments and U.N. agencies in providing an academic perspective into their political positions about international environmental governance.

Keisler is Named Distinguished Fulbright Chair...continued from p. 1

“This award recognizes Professor Keisler’s innovative research as well as his distinguished career as a prolific scholar and leader in our profession,” said Jorge Haddock, dean of the College of Management.

Distinguished chairs focus their work in one of four areas: the human-oriented living environment, the service economy, digitalization, or the energy and sustainable use of natural resources.

Keisler is an expert in decision analysis, a discipline using concepts from statistics, economics, psychology, and logic to find desirable paths forward.

In making investments in energy technology, decision makers face great uncertainty and complex demands and constraints. Keisler’s research applies decision analysis to managing project portfolios, estimating the value of information that can be acquired to improve decisions, and characterizing the interactions between related decisions and their outcomes.

Collaborating with researchers at Aalto University, Keisler plans to develop and test new techniques for supporting Finland’s technology development. Keisler will also co-teach two graduate short courses on portfolio decision analysis. He will be in Finland from January through June 2016.

Keisler joined the UMass Boston faculty in 2000. He is the past president of the Decision Analysis Society, and winner of its 2013 award for best publication.
New Sponsored Awards Reported by UMass Boston*

**Joan Becker** (Vice Provost for Academic Support Services and Undergraduate Studies) was awarded a $20,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education for “Massachusetts Higher Education Student Evaluations.”

**Deborah Boisvert** (Research Fellow, College of Advancing and Professional Studies) was awarded an $89,280 grant by the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education for the “Big Data Project.”

**Terry Bontrager** (Lecturer, Counseling and School Psychology) was awarded a three-year $330,000 grant by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (through Plymouth State University) for “Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Professionals.”

**John Butterworth** (Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Community Inclusion) was awarded a $300,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for “Partnerships in Employment Systems Change Training and Technical Assistance.”

**Rachel Cohen** (Lecturer, Psychology) was awarded a $16,830 grant by ICF Incorporated, LLC for “Coordination of the Network of Infant Toddler Researchers.”

**Ellen Douglas** (Associate Professor, School for the Environment) was awarded a $350,000 grant by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for “Assessing the Vulnerability of People and Properties to Flooding.”

**Michael Gilbert** (Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction) was awarded $30,750 grant by Framingham Public Schools for the “Massachusetts Mathematics and Science Partnership Program.”

**Emily Jones** (Assistant Professor, Nursing) was awarded a three-year $350,000 grant by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for her proposal “Reducing Cardiometabolic Risk in American Indian Women with Previous Gestational Diabetes.”

**Darren Kew** (Associate Professor, Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance) was awarded a $35,200 grant by the Kalliopeia Foundation for “The Transformation Prison Project.”

**Patrick McCormack** (Manager, William Joiner Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences) was awarded a $6,200 grant by the Massachusetts Cultural Council to “promote, encourage and disseminate literary, artistic and cultural expression of the subjects of war and social consequences, political violence and social justice.”

**Joseph Marrone** (Senior Research Fellow, Institute Community Inclusion) was awarded a $30,000 grant by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services for “Mental Health Supported Employment Services & Training.”

**Maria Paiewonsky** (Senior Research Fellow, Institute Community Inclusion) was awarded a $47,780 grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Education for the “2015 Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative.”

**Helen Poynton** (Assistant Professor, School for the Environment) was awarded a $31,688 grant from the University of California Regents for the “Assessment of Contaminant Effects to Invertebrate Fish Prey in Cache Slough.”

**Anthony Roman** (Senior Research Fellow, Center for Survey Research) was awarded $61,580 grant by the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for “Health Outcomes of Tai Chi in Subsidized Senior Housing.” The National Institutes of Health is the prime sponsor.

**Rachel Rubin** (Professor, American Studies) was awarded a $3,250 grant from the Popular Culture Association for the Allan MacDougall Popular Culture Archive.

**Edward Tronick** (Distinguished Professor, Psychology) was awarded a $25,000 grant by the Bial Foundation of Portugal for “Individual Differences in Infants Stress Reactivity.”

**J. Cedric Woods** (Director, Institute for New England Native American Studies) was awarded a $10,000 grant from Mass Humanities for “Massachusetts Native Peoples and the Social Contract: A Reassessment for Our Times.”

*Questions or concerns about your sponsored award?*

If your sponsored award is either missing or contains inaccuracies, please contact Matthew Meyer, associate vice provost for research and director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, at matthew.meyer@umb.edu with a copy to james.mortenson@umb.edu.

*Questions or concerns about your sponsored award?*
Editor’s Acknowledgements

Wow! The good news recognizing the accomplishments and potential of our faculty and students by external sponsors in the past five or so weeks has been impressive as well as unprecedented. So much so that putting together this Spring 2015 issue of RISC Quarterly was the easiest I have had the pleasure of putting together since our inaugural issue appeared in Fall 2010.

We would like to thank the folks mentioned below for their many fine contributions to this issue.

Barbara Graceffa, Director of Marketing and Communications, McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies

Andrea Reardon, Director of Business Development and Communications, College of Management

Crystal Valencia, Associate Director of Media Relations, Office of University Communications

Colleen Locke, Digital Communications Editor, Office of University Communications

Anna Pinkert, Digital Communications Specialist, Office of University Communications

Zach Herman, Senior Communications Specialist, Office of University Communications

A Special Thank You to…

As this semester heads to its inevitable conclusion, so does my time working with Shilpi Suneja, a graduate assistant who will receive her MFA in Creative Writing at UMass Boston’s 50th Commencement Ceremony on May 29, 2015.

Shilpi received her MA in English from New York University and her MFA from Boston University, where she was awarded the Saul Bellow Prize. Her work has appeared in Consequence, Hyphen, Meeting House, and Write on the DOT magazines, as well as on Kaafila.org. She recently completed her first novel.

While I could compose a sure-to-fall short description of her abilities, especially her uncommon ability to express her understanding of the humanities in a rich, accessible manner, Shilpi’s own words, as they appear below in excerpts of a recent interview by GrubStreet.org, more than suffice.

When did you first take a GrubStreet class? What prompted you to do so?

I took The Hook and the Book workshop with Sorche Fairbank because where else could I get so much face time with an established literary agent? The class gave me a much-needed market perspective on my novel that filled me with enough confidence to persevere with my project.

What did you like best about being in a writing workshop?

The ability to see your work from a very different perspective. Also, the affirmation when you are doing something right.

Do you feel like being a part of a writing community is helpful to you as a writer and creative person?

Being part of a writing community, esp. being part of GrubStreet is vital. I cannot imagine being a solitary writer for an extended period of time. Being part of a literary community makes you feel you’re a writer now, not five years in future when your book will be done. It is a daily process. Talking about good books, the trials of the writing process, is what makes you feel you’ve already become a writer. I don’t think I could do this without a writing community. I’m really thrilled to be able to take advantage of all that GrubStreet has to offer.

Who are some of your favorite writers?

I return to Balzac and Flaubert because their works remind me what joy it is to simply be alive and be able to read. Contemporary writers I like: Alice Munro, VS Naipaul, Salman Rushdie, Ha Jin, Jonathan Franzen, Zadie Smith, Teju Cole, Daphne Kalotay, Lisa Borders, and Tea Obreht.

If you could have dinner with any writing, living or dead, who would it be?

Balzac. Because he won’t really talk about literature at dinner. He’d eat. He’d eat like a glutton and the meal would be lavish and occasionally there would be a brilliant tidbit about Parisian streets.