



Report to the Board of Trustees

from the University of Massachusetts Boston

September 2021

To the Board:

Our university continues to be deeply grateful to Trustee Robert Manning and his wife, Donna. Long-time supporters of UMass Boston, they made a historic \$15 million gift to support our nursing and health sciences programs in late August. And we are excited to christen the new UMass Boston Robert and Donna Manning College of Nursing and Health Sciences, which will elevate our already well-recognized programs to the next level in training and educating the diverse and talented health professionals of the future.

I am also pleased to report that last month at the TD Garden, in a first for our university, UMass Boston held two commencement ceremonies in one day, graduating more than 7,500 students from the Class of 2020 and Class of 2021. It was thrilling to see the joy and pride in our graduates' faces and those of their parents and loved ones who had waited so long for an in-person ceremony. (page 2)

As we return to campus this fall, we have more good news to report:

- The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) has accepted UMass Boston's interim report on accreditation, recognizing the significant accomplishments of the campus community since the last comprehensive accreditation review and site visit in 2015. (page 2)
- Dr. Tyson D. King-Meadows, former associate provost for strategic initiative at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, has been appointed as the next dean of the College of Liberal Arts. (page 6)
- UMass Boston has increased its commitment in its partnership with the City of Boston's Mayor's Office in the GRAD Last Mile Scholarship program to provide critical financial support to students on the cusp of completing their degree. (page 7)
- Professor of Nursing Haeok Lee is the site principal investigator on a \$4.8 million National Institute of Health/National Institute on Aging grant to study Alzheimer's Disease in Asians, in collaboration with several universities across the country. (page 8)

I hope you find this report informative and compelling.

—Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco



Robert and Donna Manning's gift to UMass Boston will foster health equity in Boston and beyond.

Robert and Donna Manning Make Historic \$15M Gift to UMass Boston to Endow Nursing Program

Chairman of the UMass Board of Trustees Robert Manning and his wife, Donna Manning, have made a historic \$15 million gift to UMass Boston. The Manning's visionary gift—the largest in UMass Boston's history—will endow the university's nursing, exercise and health sciences, and urban public health programs, which will become the Robert and Donna Manning College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

The funds will be focused on supporting student diversity and ensuring that new cohorts of nursing professionals are champions of equitable patient care. The \$15 million is part of a larger \$50 million gift to the entire University of Massachusetts system.

Donna Manning's 35-year career as an oncology nurse at Boston Medical Center inspired the decision to focus the gift on nursing and CNHS at UMass Boston. Known for her dedication to patients, Manning donated her salary to the hospital each year.

"For the majority of my career in Boston, I was struck by the fact that most of the nurses looked like me while most of the patients didn't," said Manning. "UMass Boston plays a critical role in supporting diversity in Boston, and I have seen first-hand how diversity in the nursing workforce can improve patient care and address health inequities."

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences is the fastest-growing college at UMass Boston and offers the only four-year public programs in nursing and exercise and health sciences in the Greater Boston area. The undergraduate and graduate population of approximately 2,100 students in the college is 19 percent Black, 12 percent Latinx, and 11 percent Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI).

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE



UMass Boston conferred degrees to 3,860 members of the Class of 2021 and 3,727 in the Class of 2020.

UMass Boston Celebrates Classes of 2021 and 2020 at TD Garden Ceremonies

More than 7,500 graduates from UMass Boston's Class of 2020 and Class of 2021 were honored Thursday, August 26, as the university held in-person commencement ceremonies for the first time since the start of the coronavirus pandemic at the TD Garden.

Graduates crossed the stage in their caps and gowns as friends and family cheered them on from the arena seats, and thousands more watched the celebration on computer screens. While everyone remained in masks as a safety precaution, face coverings couldn't hide the excitement as the UMass Boston community came together to celebrate after a year and a half of remote learning and social distancing.

In a historic first, the university held two commencements in one day—with the Class of 2021 kicking off festivities in the morning, and the Class of 2020 processing later in the afternoon. The university also hosted virtual ceremonies on the UMass Boston website.

UMass Boston conferred degrees to 3,860 members of the Class of 2021 and 3,727 in the Class of 2020. Graduates hail from more than 140 countries around the world, and speak 100 different languages. More than 50 percent of UMass Boston students are first-generation college students.

A virtual portion of the celebration—viewable at www.umb.edu/commencement—featured addresses by UMass President Marty Meehan, Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Kathleen Theoharides G'07, and *Boston Globe* columnist Adrian Walker. Theoharides and Walker both received a Chancellor's Medal for Distinguished Service.

UMass Boston Earns High Marks from New England Commission of Higher Education

The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) has accepted UMass Boston's interim report on accreditation, recognizing the significant accomplishments of the campus community since the last comprehensive accreditation review and site visit in 2015.

In particular NECHE commended successes in making significant progress toward achieving financial stability, equitably addressing the needs of students, implementing initiatives that directly support student success, investing in equitable faculty support, improving transfer pathways, enhancing support for graduate students, addressing needed improvements in the library, and more. NECHE also lauded the stabilization of campus leadership and the strategic focus on continuous improvement as the campus looks to develop a new mission-driven strategic and campus master plan that will enable further growth and enhance the mission of an anti-racist and health-promoting institution.

NECHE's favorable report positions the university well for the next comprehensive review scheduled for Spring 2025.

Former Beacon Track Standout Wins Gold at Tokyo Olympics



Wadeline Jonathas became the first former Beacon student-athlete to win an Olympic medal.

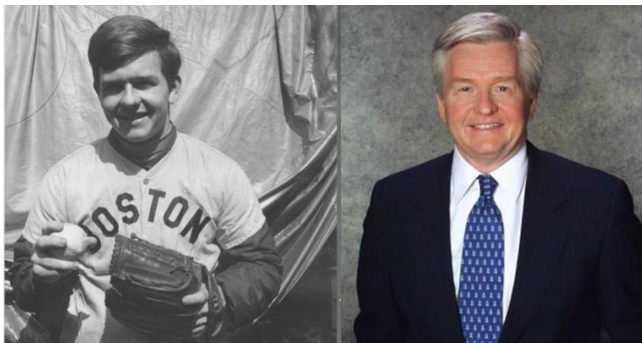
Former Beacons women's track and field star Wadeline Jonathas has become the first UMass Boston student-athlete to earn an Olympic medal. Jonathas, who competes for Team USA, won a gold medal in the 4x400M Relay at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Jonathas competed for the UMass Boston women's track and field program for two seasons. Over the course of the 2016–17 and 2017–18 campaigns, Jonathas won nine individual Division III titles, set six Division III national records, and led the Beacons to the 2018 NCAA Division III Indoor and Outdoor National Titles.

She helped lead the USA Women's 4x400M Relay team to the Olympic finals on August 5, with her quartet running the fastest time in prelims and the third-fastest time of any team in the world this year with a mark of 3:20.86. While

Jonathas was not selected to run in the final of the event, she still earned a gold medal after helping the team reach the finals.

INCREASE ENDOWMENT



Dan Rea, currently the host of NightSide, played hockey and baseball with the Boston State College Warriors.

University Receives Major Gift for Weight Room Renovation Project

UMass Boston received a substantial gift from famed Boston broadcaster Dan Rea '70 to renovate and endow the weight room in the Clark Athletic Center. Rea, who graduated from Boston State College a decade before it merged with UMass Boston, has chosen to honor the importance of both institutions and their athletic programs through the Dan Rea '70 Boston State College Varsity Training Facility.

The gift is being used to give the varsity weight room a significant and much needed facelift. The improvements include acquiring and installing new equipment, flooring, large ceiling fans for better air circulation, and paint to freshen the walls. The remaining funds will establish an endowment to maintain the weight room over time. This gift is the first endowment for the Division of Athletics and Recreation in UMass Boston history. The 3,300-square-foot space opened in August as student-athletes began training for their 2021–2022 seasons.

Rea is a long-time supporter of UMass Boston athletics, and is a member of its Hall of Fame. A former student-athlete who played hockey and baseball with the Boston State College Warriors, Rea is one of the most recognizable and respected names in broadcasting in New England. Rea currently hosts *NightSide*, heard every weeknight from 8 p.m. to midnight on WBZ 1030 AM.

Former Associate Provost Peter Langer Supports Scholarships through Six-Figure Gift

Former Associate Provost Peter Langer recently made a triple commitment to support scholarships for current and future UMass Boston students. Through his annual gift, pledged endowment commitment, and bequest intentions, Langer will create a six-figure Peter Langer and Lynne Goodstein Scholarship Program to support juniors and seniors in completing their degrees in any field of study. The fund pays homage to Langer's 32-year tenure at UMass Boston, as well as Goodstein's equally devoted career in higher education at Penn State and UConn. Both celebrated their retirements in 2018; shortly after, Goodstein succumbed to a rare disease. The Langer and Goodstein Scholarship is a loving and living tribute in her memory.

Endowment Created in Honor of Faculty Member Frank Caro

The Gerontology Department has founded the Frank Caro Scholarship for Social Justice in Aging to pay tribute to one of its founders and respond to the confluent injustices presented by agism and racism. With cornerstone commitments from the Caro and Cohen families—and incredible support from former students, faculty, and leaders in aging from across the country and world—the Caro Scholarship was endowed with \$330,000 in gifts and commitments this summer. Beginning in 2021, diverse and equity-minded Caro Scholars will join the Gerontology Department's cohort of doctoral students to learn and lead at UMass Boston.

Professor Emerita of Art Ruth Butler Provides Seven-Figure Bequest

Professor Emerita Ruth Butler has made her intentions known to provide a seven-figure bequest to UMass Boston. Her estate gift will include provisions to endow the Ruth Butler Curator of Contemporary Art, the Ruth Butler Faculty Travel Fund in the Art Department, and the Carl Kaysen Scholarship Fund for economics and political science students. These three endowed legacy gifts join with her Ruth Butler Travel Fellowship to provide support for the College of Liberal Arts, and particularly studio art-based opportunities. Butler retired from UMass Boston in 1993 but has remained active with the Art Department faculty and students since retirement.

DEVELOP FIRST-RATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Campus to Embark on Master Plan Update

UMass Boston will begin the process to develop a comprehensive Campus Master Plan Update. Over the past decade plus, the university, as a community, accomplished and implemented many of the strategic milestones outlined in the 2009 Campus Master Plan. This new planning effort will set a vision and course for our physical environment for the coming decade.

This Master Plan Update will be achieved through a collaborative effort among our community, stakeholders, a master planning consultant team, and the UMass Boston Office of Campus Planning. There will be many instances in which all of these groups will have the opportunity to participate in the creation of the Master Plan Update. The Campus Master Plan Update will integrate the Academic Strategic Plan and the institution's missions into a comprehensive vision and plan for university's physical environment.

Quad Reconstruction Marks Milestone as Students Return to Campus

The reconstruction of the central plaza at UMass Boston into a large, green, and engaging quadrangle marked a milestone during the last week of August. In preparation for the return of students, faculty, and staff to campus a portion of the new quad at the east end of the campus was completed and was opened to the public just before Labor Day. The newly opened portion abuts the Campus Center and Wheatley and McCormack halls and will greatly enhance pedestrian flow among those buildings and to the rest of the campus.

The quad is the centerpiece of the Substructure, Science Center, Pool Building, and Plaza Demolition and Quadrangle Development (SDQD) project, part of the 25-Year Campus Master Plan. It also addresses structural issues with the original campus buildings and replaces the original science building and underground parking structure with a rolling green. Renderings of the new quad can be found at umb.edu/quad.



As students, faculty, and staff returned to campus this fall after what was a year and a half of remote learning for many, they were greeted with a new "Welcome Beacons" wall graphic and other images aimed at creating community and sprucing up entrances and highly traveled paths as construction progresses.

Bobby Beacon cut-outs across campus also welcomed the community and served as reminders to students, faculty, and staff to wear masks inside buildings.

DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

McCormack Graduate School and Media Partners Host Boston Mayoral Debate

The McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, WBUR, the Boston Globe, and WCVB Channel 5 teamed up to host a debate among Boston's mayoral candidates in a historic race in which the candidates are all people of color.

Mayoral candidates John Barros, Andrea Campbell, Anissa Essaibi George, Kim Janey, and Michelle Wu participated in the debate at WBUR CitySpace on September 9. WBUR's Radio Boston host Tiziana Dearing and Boston Globe columnist Adrian Walker moderated. The event was broadcast on WBUR, and livestreamed on the UMass Boston website.

UMass Boston, Rep. Liz Miranda Host Virtual Town Hall on Birth Equity Study

Lisa Heelan-Fancher, an assistant professor in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and Laurie Nsiah-Jefferson, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, joined forces with Massachusetts State Representative Liz Miranda to raise awareness and discussion of birth equity and racism, hosting a virtual town hall in June.

The UMass Boston Birth Equity team is conducting a study examining the impact of racism experienced by Black women who have recently given birth in the Greater Boston area, their perceived ability to affect change related to birth equity, and its impact on birth outcomes. The study will also explore perceptions and experiences of how COVID-19 has affected Black women's access to prenatal and delivery care during the pandemic.

Heelan-Fancher and Nsiah-Jefferson expect their study findings to continue to contribute to interventions and public policy recommendations designed to reduce racial and ethnic inequities in childbirth, and specifically to the efforts of the Commonwealth's Maternal Inequities Commission.

RENEW THE FACULTY

Assistant Professor of English Receives Manning Prize for Excellence in Teaching

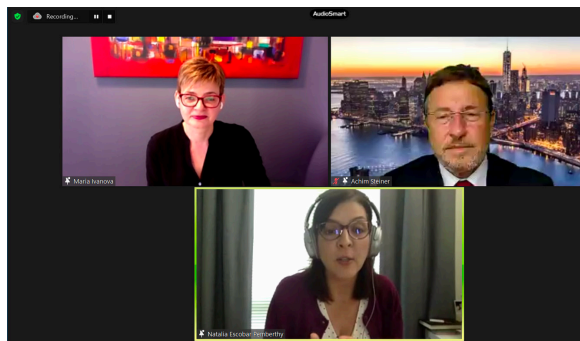
Assistant Professor of English Lauren Bowen has been named UMass Boston's recipient of the 2021 Manning Prize for Excellence in Teaching.

Bowen, who joined the university in 2015, also directs the Composition Program, in which 65 instructors teach first-year writing to more than 4,000 students each year. Under her leadership, the program has developed a research-informed writing curriculum to develop postsecondary writers' flexible, adaptable writing knowledge and practices.

During a special Zoom ceremony to honor the Manning Prize recipients, Bowen recognized her colleagues at UMass Boston, saying they strive every day to be better teachers by enacting the practices of inquiry, of mentorship, of listening, and of inter-cultural communication.

The Manning Prize, established by UMass Lowell alumni Rob and Donna Manning, is awarded to faculty members from every UMass campus who demonstrate excellence in teaching along with exemplary dedication to students and their campus community. Each selected faculty member will receive a \$10,000 award.

Center for Governance and Sustainability Launches Global Environmental Dialogue Series



Associate Professor Maria Ivanova speaks with Achim Steiner, administrator of the UN Development Programme, and Natalia Escobar-Pemberthy, as part of the Dialogue Series

and imagine the future, and through this series, hosted by Associate Professor of Global Governance Maria Ivanova, the center seeks to catalyze conversations about leadership in global environmental governance. The dialogue series coincided with the publication of Ivanova's book *The Untold Story of the World's Leading Environmental Institution: UNEP at 50*.

The UNEP at 50 Series engaged UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen and the Administrator of the UN Development Programme Achim Steiner about the state of environmental governance and aspirations for the UN system moving forward. The center will continue the conversations this fall, starting with Kenyan activist Wanjira Mathai of the World Resource Institute. With a global audience and policy makers at the forefront of sustainability work, these dialogues have been a rare opportunity to learn from and engage with global leaders in the environmental movement and will continue until June 2022.

This summer, the McCormack Graduate School's Center for Governance and Sustainability embarked on a global dialogue series to commemorate the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as it prepares to enter its 50th year as the foremost global environmental institution.

Anniversaries offer opportunities to reflect on the past

CONTINUE A POSITIVE FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE



UMass Boston is launching the Social Justice Case Study Competition.

University Kicks Off Social Justice Case Study Competition

UMass Boston has launched a Social Justice Case Study Competition, providing an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students at the university and in the Greater Boston area to work together to create new knowledge related to issues involving bias, discrimination, diversity, equity, and inclusivity

as it relates to the college experience. This city-wide initiative will help to advance the university's goal of becoming a leading anti-racist and health-promoting campus.

Entrants will be asked to either write or respond to a case study depending on which stage of the competition they enter. In the writing competition, entrants will be prompted to write a case study that presents one or more problems centered around a complex issue related to social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion within a college setting.

Organizers say there is a lack of tailored scholarship/practice addressing social justice and equity-based assessment that illuminates the experience of students of color related to student services, engagement, and support, with particular attention given to students at non-predominately white institutions. This issue presents blind spots for well-intentioned administrators seeking to implement inclusive engagement, equitable professional practice, and student success opportunities. More information is available at www.umb.edu/sjcomp.

IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATION AND IT SERVICES



Tyson D. King-Meadows

Chancellor Appoints Tyson D. King-Meadows as College of Liberal Arts Dean

Tyson D. King-Meadows has been appointed as the next dean of the College of Liberal Arts, effective September 20. He will lead the university's largest college as it builds on existing strengths to deliver the highest quality of learning experiences for students, promote high-impact scholarship, fulfill a mission of service to the community, and contribute to the campus-wide commitment to be a leading anti-racist and health-promoting institution.

Dr. King-Meadows last served as the associate provost for strategic initiative at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. In this role, Dr. King-Meadows identified and implemented initiatives that seed and scale strategic partnerships with academic learned societies, organizations, and community groups addressing systemic barriers to inclusion. His distinguished career has been anchored by a dedication to and passion for service to each university at which he served, the community at large, and his students.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE



Interim McCormack Graduate School Dean Rita "Kiki" Edozie, fourth from right, and the university's Civic Action Project fellows.

McCormack Graduate Students Participate in Civic Action Project Fellowship and Internship Program

This summer, nine McCormack Graduate School students participated in the Civic Action Project (CAP) 2021 Fellowship Program, which offered full-time summer internships over 12 weeks. Fellows were placed according to their interests in offices in government, nonprofits, socially responsible corporations, labor unions, and the media, where they performed substantive work, received assignments, and shadowed a senior-level member of their respective offices.

Fellows spent four days a week at their individual internships, and one day per week as a group, engaging in roundtable discussions with prominent leaders and practitioners involved in public policy and civic engagement. MGS Fellows interned with Environmental League of Massachusetts, Alliance for Business Leadership, Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards, Massachusetts Business Roundtable, New England Aquarium, State Representative Tram Nguyen, Conservation Law Foundation, and Congressman Jim McGovern.

The PACE Program Prepares Students for Career Success

UMass Boston's Professional Apprenticeship and Career Experience (PACE) program, a bold initiative to supercharge students' professional prospects, continues to grow, with 51 students currently working in apprenticeships ranging from information-security analyst to sustainability research associate.

The PACE program employs paid, long-term, on-campus apprenticeships as a means of giving students a competitive boost in the job market after graduation. As early as freshman year, students apply for PACE positions in the field they aspire to join, working with faculty and staff supervisors who act as mentors. Over months or years of increasing responsibility, students amass career-specific experiences of value to outside employers. Each cohort also completes an eight-week, one-credit PACE Success course focused on career exploration, workplace-readiness, and personal-branding skills like résumé writing.

The program was created with a \$2.25 million gift from Ralph and Janice James. As it matures, PACE will help apprentices expand their professional networks and develop the connections they need to find external internships, co-ops, and jobs.

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS

Reimagining Recruiting and Enrollment with Slate CRM

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions launched the first of many features in its new Technolutions Slate CRM this summer. Undergraduate Admissions made public via its events webpage all in-person campus tours for the month of August, accompanied by all event-related email communications—a small, but exciting first step on a long and complex system rollout.

Over the coming months, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Office of Graduate Studies will transition all aspects of their daily business functions and operations to the Technolutions Slate CRM. The new system will encompass student recruitment, email and print communications, prospect management, events, application submission and decisioning, applicant portal, and document imaging. The highly centralized nature of the Slate CRM will allow for greater audience segmentation and customer service, catapulting UMass Boston's recruitment and enrollment initiatives to new heights.

Included in this endeavor are members of UMass Boston's Undergraduate Admissions and Division of Enrollment Management, Office of Graduate Studies, UMass Boston IT Services, UMass Information Technology Services, and a number of independent consultants.

UMass Boston and Mayor's Office Support the 'Last Mile'

UMass Boston partnered with the City of Boston's Mayor's Office for a third year to provide critical financial support to students on the cusp of completing their degree. The GRAD Last Mile Scholarship program aims to ensure that financial roadblocks do not stand in the way of degree attainment for Boston residents or Boston Public High School graduates.

One-time scholarship awards ranging from \$500–\$2,500, have proven to be impactful for students with non-tuition related hardships that threaten to derail their education. Funds can be used to address a vast array of circumstances from transportation and childcare costs, to food insecurity and reliable internet access.

UMass Boston's allotment has grown from \$24,000 in the first year of the program to a generous \$110,000 this year. In the course of three years, under the direction of the Merit Scholarship Office in the Division of Enrollment Management, the GRAD Last Mile Scholarship has been awarded to 139 UMass Boston students. It is collaborations like GRAD Last Mile that underline UMass Boston's commitment to the city of Boston and its residents.

IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATION AND IT SERVICES (CONT.)



Jacqueline Schuman is the university's new director of athletics and recreation.

Jacqueline Schuman Named Director of Athletics and Recreation

Jacqueline Schuman is UMass Boston's new director of athletics and recreation—the first permanent female director of athletics in university history. Schuman, formerly the senior associate athletic director at Colby College, assumed her new role on July 19.

Schuman takes the reins from Interim Director of Athletics Darlene Gordon, who guided the program through the past year after longtime leader Charlie Titus retired.

Schuman brings to UMass Boston a wealth of experience in college sports management, leadership, and fundraising. At Colby, she had direct oversight of 12 highly successful sports programs, provided strategic planning for athletics advancement, and served as deputy Title IX coordinator. She has worked on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion at the college level, statewide, and regionally. In addition, Schuman has been a consultant, facilitator, and advisor to the Institute for Sport and Social Justice in Orlando for more than a dozen years and has served in leadership roles in athletics and student affairs at the University of Delaware, Convent of the Sacred Heart, Catholic University of America, University of Tennessee, and Florida Atlantic University.

At UMass Boston, Schuman will be charged with building on the success of her predecessors in guiding a collegiate athletics and intramural sports program that includes a highly diverse body of student-athletes in a manner that promotes academic achievement as well as excellence in athletics. Additionally, she will be tasked with strengthening community engagement and to help coordinate fundraising efforts for athletics.

STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE



In order to help recruit participants for a study headed by Professor of Nursing Haeok Lee, an ad campaign was created.

Professor, Asian Cohort for Alzheimer's Disease Receive \$4.8M NIA Grant

Professor of Nursing Haeok Lee is the site principal investigator on a National Institute of Health/National Institute on Aging grant to study Alzheimer's Disease in Asians.

Lee's research will focus on Korean Americans as part of a joint study called the Asian Cohort for Alzheimer's Disease (ACAD) with the University of Pennsylvania, Boston University, Columbia University, University of California San Francisco, and other sites around the world. ACAD recently received a \$4.8 million grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA). Her studies focus on Korean Americans in the Northeast from Boston to Washington D.C.

Asian Americans are a rapidly growing population in the United States but are rarely included in scientific research, due to language barriers, the "model minority stereotype," and their image as a healthy and well-to-do population, Lee said.

She was drawn to this research because of her own experience as a caregiver for her mother, who suffered from cognitive impairment. While taking care of her mother, Lee learned that there is inadequate information on how Alzheimer's Disease impacts immigrant and minority populations, particularly Asian-American elders.

Sustainable Solutions Lab Awards Second Round Summer Funding for Anti-Racist Research

The Sustainable Solutions Lab (SSL) awarded its second round of seed grants to two research projects exploring the employment and maternal health impacts of climate change on lower-income and minority communities. Each project, selected out of a highly competitive pool of applicants, received \$7,500 through funding from SSL-affiliate deans.

Keren M. Horn, associate professor of economics, and Dania V. Francis, assistant professor of economics, are exploring the employment impacts of natural hazards, particularly for lower-income and minority individuals in their study titled "Hurricanes, Floods, and Fires: What are the Employment Impacts of Climate Change?"

Media stories and policies often focus more on property damage and flood insurance rates than on displacement or public health. The second seed grant winner, Lisa Heelan-Fancher, assistant professor of nursing, is working to fill in that information gap with her research project titled "Living in an Environmental Justice Community and its Impact on Birth Outcomes."

In addition to funding, seed grant recipients will receive support on proposal development, media outreach, and connections to local stakeholders and climate justice leaders. This summer, with support from the Barr Foundation, SSL also supported climate justice research with a focus on issues of race and racism, with stipends of up to \$2,500 for faculty and students.

LTSS Center Research Cited in Biden's American Jobs Plan

The \$2 trillion American Jobs Plan released by President Joe Biden in March calls for an investment of \$400 billion to "solidify the infrastructure of our care economy by creating jobs and raising wages and benefits for essential home care workers." The White House cited research conducted in 2020 by the LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston to justify the workforce investments.

The research was conducted by Christian Weller, Beth Almeida, Marc Cohen, and Robyn Stone. Research findings are contained in their report *Making Care Work Pay: How Paying at Least a Living Wage to Direct Care Workers Could Benefit Care Recipients, Workers, and Communities*.

Biden called on Congress to invest in expanding access to quality, affordable, home-based or community-based care for older adults and people with disabilities.

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



Graduate students Nicholas Densley, left, and Kiara Montes, use brushes while searching for artifacts at an excavation site on Cole's Hill, in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Dig at Pilgrim and Native American Memorial Sparks Intrigue

While working on a hill near Plymouth Rock, where a park will be built in tribute to the Pilgrims and their Native American predecessors, a UMass Boston archaeology team made a poignant discovery this summer: It's not the first time the site has been used as a memorial.

David Landon, associate director of the Fiske Memorial Center for Archaeological Research, says his team unearthed a cache of personal items he thinks were buried there in the late 1800s, most likely by a brokenhearted settler who had outlived all three of her children.

The items—eyeglasses, clothing, sewing implements, a pocket watch, and a book—turned up during final excavations of Cole's Hill, a National Historic Landmark site in Plymouth, where Remembrance Park is set to be constructed. Landon and the UMass Boston team spent the summer working at the waterfront site where the Pilgrims are said to have come ashore in 1620.



Oath of the Sword (1914) will be preserved by the Japanese American National Museum due to efforts by Assistant Professor Denise Khor. (Courtesy of George Eastman Museum)

American Studies Professor Receives Grant to Preserve Earliest Asian American Film

Assistant Professor of American Studies Denise Khor is on a mission to preserve historical Asian American cinema. While researching for her forthcoming book, *Transpacific Convergences: Race, Migration, and Japanese American Film Culture before World War II*, Khor located the sole surviving copy of a 1914 silent film, *The Oath of the Sword*, at the George Eastman Museum.

The *Oath of the Sword*, considered the earliest Asian American film in history, is a three-reel drama featuring an all-Japanese lead cast about an ambitious young man leaving behind his beloved in Japan to study abroad at the University of California.

Khor and a team including the George Eastman Museum and the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles have won a grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation to preserve the film. Khor said it's their hope that through preserving the film, it will get a revived public life and that new audiences will be able to see it.