

To the Board:

This fall, the University of Massachusetts Boston welcomed the largest freshman class in our history. More than 1,400 students joined the Class of 2017, an impressive percentage of the larger total of 16,277 students enrolled for the 2013-2014 academic year. We exceeded our goals for total student headcounts, with undergraduate and graduate enrollment rising by two and four percent, respectively. This is continued evidence we are a university on the move, and students want to be part of it.

Last month, I made a presentation to the board on our five-year goals and capital needs. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to review our progress and anticipate our bright future. This report provides another chance to do the same.

Of particular interest:

- Professor Maria Ivanova has been named to a prestigious United Nations Scientific Advisory Board by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (page 5)
- UMass Boston and Roxbury Community College were awarded a grant of nearly \$300,000 for a partnership project aimed at student success (page 2)
- Our School for Global Inclusion and Social Development has been officially approved by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education (page 2)

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

—J. Keith Motley, Chancellor



Sanofi CEO Chris Viehbacher, Chancellor J. Keith Motley, and Jim Burns, head of the company's research and development hub, celebrate Sanofi's new research center.

Sanofi, UMass Boston Partner on Student Success

International pharmaceutical company Sanofi and its Cambridge-based biotechnology company, Genzyme, have established a new partnership and \$1 million gift to support student success programs in the College of Science and Mathematics (CSM) at the University of Massachusetts Boston. The gift was announced at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Sanofi's new Cambridge research center in September.

Genzyme and Sanofi target their philanthropic giving toward areas of need in communities, with a particular focus on science and education, including organizations that foster the next generation of diverse STEM leaders. CSM is a minority-majority college with large numbers of first-generation and low-income students,

and has developed a highly successful program for advancing student success in STEM majors. This program revamped advising, academic support, and orientation, and developed a learning community program as its centerpiece. Retention in the program is more than 15 points above the college's preexisting levels, with large increases of students remaining in STEM majors.

The gift from Sanofi and Genzyme marks the third significant philanthropic gift this year supporting student success programs. Earlier this year, San Francisco-based software giant Oracle gave \$300,000 to support student success efforts in CSM, and Ralph and Janice James pledged \$1 million to support similar efforts campus-wide.

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS



Nearly 3,000 prospective students and their family members and friends arrived on campus on Saturday, October 19, for Open House, UMass Boston's annual recruitment event. Here, a student volunteer provides information on an outdoor club to visiting high school juniors and seniors.

New \$1.25 Million Grant Awarded to Vision Studies Program

The UMass Boston Vision Studies Program was recently awarded a \$1.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Projects to continue its preparation of teachers of students with visual impairments. The program is shared between the university's School for Global Inclusion and Social Development and College of Education and Human Development.

This federal funding will enable the program to expand its internationally recognized distance education model. Through this model, students worldwide receive training to teach, guide, and counsel people who have visual impairments.

"Vision Project" Grant Boosts UMass Boston, RCC Collaboration

In September, UMass Boston and Roxbury Community College (RCC) received a \$294,859 grant, enabling the two campuses to partner on a new coaching and advising program. The program is based on Success Boston, an initiative with a strong presence at UMass Boston that gives Boston Public Schools students intensive support as they transition into and through college.

The grant aims to improve the graduation and success rates of both high school and college students, helping students who transfer to UMass Boston from RCC remain on track to complete their programs of study. The funding is part of \$7.5 million in grants announced by the Commonwealth's Vision Project Performance Incentive Fund, designed to spur innovations and improve educational outcomes in public higher education.

The UMass Boston/RCC grant will enable UMass Boston to hire a dedicated coach to work with all RCC transfer students on campus. The university will also hire peer mentors who will encourage engagement on campus and provide academic and other kinds of support. UMass Boston also received a separate grant from the Vision Project to study peer learning cohorts in the College of Liberal Arts.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

New School Approved by BHE

In late October, the School for Global Inclusion and Social Development (SGI) at UMass Boston received full approval for its curriculum in both master's and doctoral programs in global inclusion and social development from the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education. The school is now officially open and accepting applications for its first master's class, which will start in January 2014.

SGI is focused on exploring why certain groups are excluded, or left out of their communities, worldwide. Topics of exclusion studied will include disability, gender, age, sexual preference, global location, and more. The school seeks to identify how more inclusive communities can be built through transdisciplinary study, research, and activity, and will prepare its students for leadership roles in inclusion. Graduates can expect to seek positions in community development and advocacy, or education, research, and policy.

The school will offer all of its core classes in September 2014, which will mark the start of its inaugural PhD class.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Appeals Court Holds Session on Campus

The Massachusetts Appeals Court was in session October 18 in UMass Boston's Campus Center Ballroom. The Appeals Court holds about a half dozen sessions outside of the John Adams Courthouse in Boston each year, during which the three-judge panel generally hears three criminal and three civil cases. Students from criminal justice, political science, and government programs attended the court and enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the judges at a networking breakfast and lunch. This is the second time the Appeals Court has visited UMass Boston.



Chancellor Motley with a painting by Wang Linxu.

Fine Arts Students Watch Painter in Action

In October, internationally renowned painter Wang Linxu treated students – including fine arts classes – faculty, staff, and administrators to an interactive demonstration of his painting. Mr. Wang uses an interactive approach and Chinese inks to display lighting and colors as seen in more traditionally Western oil paintings. His work graces museums and exhibitions worldwide, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the Art Museum of Beijing's Fine Art Academy, and galleries in Singapore, Tokyo, Brazil, and Paris. He was invited to UMass Boston by President Robert Caret.

STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE

Researcher Finds Teen Obesity Rate Leveling Off

Ronald Iannotti, chair of UMass Boston's Exercise and Health Sciences Department, is the principal investigator of a new study that shows U.S. teens are eating more vegetables and fruit, exercising more, and watching less TV. The study appears in the current issue of *Pediatrics*.

Between 2001 and 2009, the research team surveyed more than 9,000 students between the ages of 11 and 16 about their behaviors and measured their body mass index (BMI). The results show that teens made healthier eating choices and chose exercise over sedentary activity. The teens' BMI did not increase significantly in the last four years of the survey, which indicates a possible "leveling off" of obesity among young people. The improved health behavior patterns held across all ethnicities, though there were some differences between boys and girls.

Iannotti says that the results of the study indicate that public health messages around exercise and healthy eating are working, but that lasting improvement will require contributions from everyone.

- Assistant Professor of Psychology **Abbey Eisenhower** has been awarded a three-year \$882,459 grant by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration for her project "Addressing Health Disparities in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Diagnosis, Services, and School Engagement." The aims of the study are to improve early detection of ASD and family engagement during the transition to preschool among children living within the Circle of Promise, a geographic zone in Boston with high rates of poverty and social risk factors.
- National Mentoring Partnering Professor of Psychology **Jean Rhodes** has been awarded a three-year \$499,324 grant by the U.S. Department of Justice for her study "Investigating an Innovative Approach to Mentoring at-Risk Youth." The program will seek to enhance what is understood about mentoring as a prevention and intervention strategy for youths who are at risk of involvement or already involved in the juvenile justice system.
- Associate Professor of Biology **Alexey Veraksa** has been awarded a four-year \$533,750 grant by Emory University for the project "Steroid-Dependent Changes in the Yorkie Interactome." The National Institute of General Medical Sciences is the prime sponsor.
- Founding Dean of the School for the Environment **Robyn Hannigan** and Professor of Biology Ron Etter have been awarded a four-year \$353,436 grant by the National Science Foundation for their project "An Integrated Theoretical and Empirical Approach to Across-Shelf Mixing and Connectivity of Mussel Populations."
- Associate Professor of Chemistry **Hannah Sevian** has been awarded a three-year \$355,901 grant by the National Science Foundation for the project "Crossing the Threshold of Problem Solving: Electrical Engineering vs. Chemistry."

CONTINUE A FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE

Publication of Campus Climate Survey Invites Next Steps

In fall 2012, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) conducted a campus-wide survey to gauge the climate on campus around issues of diversity and tolerance. The results of the climate study survey were presented to the university community in October, and the report, materials, and presentation video are available on the ODI website, umb.edu/odi. ODI is developing action plans that incorporate community feedback and ideas and will be holding a series of listening and planning sessions throughout the year to solicit input on specific areas of concern identified through the survey.

UMass Boston Joins Federal Effort to Support Veterans

In recognition of veterans' potential as a source of talent for diplomacy and development, the U.S. Department of State has launched the Veterans Innovation Partnership (VIP), a public-private alliance platform aimed at serving America's veterans and separating service members by preparing them for meaningful diplomacy and development careers. Secretary of State John Kerry invited Chancellor Motley to the announcement of the VIP program in late October. UMass Boston has joined the effort as a University Partner.

Six Athletes, Tennis Team Inducted into Hall of Fame

UMass Boston's Division of Athletics, Recreation, Special Programs and Projects inducted its eleventh Hall of Fame class – including UMass Boston and Boston State College alumni – in October at the Clark Athletic Center. Six outstanding athletes from class years 1970 to 2011 were honored with membership, along with the 1990 men's tennis team. Attendees celebrated the inductees and viewed the new digital Hall of Fame, an interactive display that has replaced the plaques that lined the walls.

Fulbright Scholar in Residence at Labor Resource Center

Fulbright Scholar Motsomi Marobela, a professor in the School of Business at the University of Botswana, is in residence until December at the Labor Resource Center at UMass Boston, as he researches and writes about the history and impact of a 2011 public sector labor strike in Botswana. The center hosted several university engagement activities to welcome Dr. Marobela, including a Botswana Independence Day luncheon and a lecture.

University Health Services Outlines AOD Programming

In response to a charge from President Robert Caret, UMass Boston has outlined its approach to preventing the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs on campus. The Department of Health Education and Wellness, within University Health Services, coordinates this approach.

The programming is informed by both quantitative and qualitative data gathered through surveys, participation rates, consultative work, and other measures, as well as by professional organizations such as the National College Health Association. Current programs and services include universal prevention strategies for the university community, targeted outreach for high-risk groups, confidential assessment and intervention, and support for members of the university community in recovery.



Through papermaking workshops, veterans use uniforms they wore in service to create works of art. Drew Cameron, an Army vet, and Nathan Lewis showed UMass Boston students how it works.

Veterans Military Uniforms Made into Art

For one week in October, a stack of military uniforms grew in a pile on a table in the Campus Center. As the week went on, those uniforms were transformed, first into paper and then into artwork created by UMass Boston students. The artwork was put on display in the Campus Center Terrace.

The idea of the San Francisco-based Combat Paper Project, brought to campus by the William Joiner Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences through a grant from the UMass Creative Economy Fund, is to open up discussions about war among veterans and civilians. The work created during the papermaking workshops at UMass Boston was also on display at a gallery in Fort Point.

RENEW THE FACULTY

Professor Appointed to UN Scientific Advisory Board

UMass Boston Assistant Professor in the Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance Maria Ivanova, an internationally recognized expert on governance and sustainability, has been appointed to the new United Nations Scientific Advisory Board by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. Ivanova, who co-directs the Center for Governance and Sustainability at UMass Boston, is one of 26 members worldwide appointed to the new Scientific Advisory Board of the UN Secretary-General, which comprises experts from the natural, social, and human sciences. The board was designed to strengthen the interface between science and policy, so that the latest scientific findings are reflected in high-level policy discussions, according to the Secretary-General.

INCREASE ENDOWMENT

Annual Gala Raises a Record \$1.4 Million

Thanks to the more than 800 guests who attended UMass Boston's ninth annual fundraising gala in September, UMass Boston set a fundraising record of \$1.4 million that evening. The gala was held to raise funds for the James T. Brett Chair in Disability and Workforce Development, the country's first endowed chair in this field. William Kiernan, dean of the School for Global Inclusion and Social Development, will hold the Brett Chair.

The event drew business leaders and longtime supporters of UMass Boston, including Jack Connors, Jr., a founding partner of Hill Holliday, who emceed the event and co-chaired the Gala Host Committee with Patricia Jacobs and Joseph R. Nolan, Jr. More than 100 sponsors contributed to the record fundraising total.

Veteran Honored Through New Scholarship

When Army helicopter pilot Kyran Kennedy '83 was killed in Iraq, his family found some solace in helping other veterans attend Kennedy's alma mater by establishing a scholarship in his name, announced recently. Five members of the Kennedy family, including Kyran's sisters, who are also UMass Boston graduates, made gifts to the endowment.

DEVELOP FIRST-RATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Crews Repair Library Roof Damaged by Superstorm Sandy

A major roof replacement and waterproofing project began in October at the Healey Library. Last year's Superstorm Sandy caused major damage to the Healey roof and drainage system, and the tenth and eleventh floors of the library.

This project will address water infiltration issues by replacing the roof and drains, and installing insulation and waterproofing on the roof and surrounding walls. The roof and waterproofing will be in place by December. Crews will return in early spring to install new bricks and masonry.

DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

University Joins Boston Learns Together Effort

A coalition of 59 leaders from Boston's nonprofit, cultural, higher education, business, and philanthropic sectors unveiled the new Boston Learns Together program in October, committing their organizations to ensuring that Boston's young people have greater access to enriching opportunities beyond school.

Chancellor J. Keith Motley and Vice Provost for Academic Support Services Joan Becker represent UMass Boston in the coalition, which includes an unusually broad array of Boston institutions. Boston Learns Together was developed in recognition of growing evidence that shows enriching experiences, in addition to quality schools, are crucial to children's success.

Writing Centers Expand to More Schools

Students at UMass Boston are serving as reading and writing tutors at three area high schools this fall, including the Muriel Sutherland Snowden International School at Copley. Snowden is a first-time participant in the Calderwood-UMass Boston Writing Centers partnership, which also includes Charlestown High School and college prep school Another Course to College in Brighton. UMass Boston will open Snowden's writing center on Thursday as part of an open house.

IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND IT SERVICES

Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy Director Welcomed

The Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy held a reception at the start of the academic year to honor its new director, Ann Bookman, who is an internationally recognized expert on many hot-button issues, including political participation, community engagement, and work-family balance. Bookman came to UMass Boston with three decades of experience in academia and government, having directed several university-based research centers, including the MIT Workplace Center at the Sloan School of Management, where she oversaw research on redesigning the workplace to ensure gender equity and family support, including child care and elder care. She was also appointed by President Bill Clinton as policy and research director of the Women's Bureau at the U.S. Department of Labor.

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE



University Distinguished Professor of Psychology Ed Tronick speaks at IDEAS Boston 2013.

IDEAS Boston Draws Large Audience, Big Names

IDEAS Boston, the annual conference that showcases some of the most cutting-edge thinkers in the Boston area, was held at UMass Boston for the third year. Featuring 12 innovators from a range of disciplines, Tom Ashbrook as moderator, and a performance from the Boston Circus Guild, the event drew more than 300 attendees and generated a lot of conversation on social media and in *The Boston Globe*. University Distinguished Professor of Psychology Ed Tronick represented UMass Boston with a talk on his still-face experiment and infant psychology, while Katherine Luzuriaga from UMass Medical and Steve Cadrin from UMass Dartmouth presented on their research work in curing HIV and assessing fish populations, respectively.

On November 6, *The Boston Sunday Globe* included a six-page supplement highlighting the day's presentations.

CM Wins Princeton Ranking for Third Consecutive Year

The College of Management at UMass Boston is one of the nation's best business schools, according to The Princeton Review. The Princeton Review's survey asks business school students about their school's academics, student body, and campus life, as well as about themselves and their career plans, and then synthesizes the data to rank each school. The education services company features the College of Management in the 2014 edition of its book *The Best 295 Business Schools*.

Professor of Peace Holds Fifth Global Forum for Divided Cities

In early November, John Joseph Moakley Distinguished Professor of Peace and Reconciliation Padraig O'Malley traveled to Kaduna State, Nigeria, for the fifth meeting of representatives of cities in conflict that he has helped facilitate. Nearly 100 delegates from cities that have experienced or are experiencing violent conflict – such as Belfast and Kirkuk – met in Kaduna to discuss strategies and resolutions for achieving reconciliation, safe living conditions, and peace. Professor O'Malley began the Forum for Cities in Transition to create a platform for peace among communities that have suffered from religious and/or ethnic divisions.

Representatives Attend Disability Meeting at United Nations

On September 23, Dean William Kiernan of UMass Boston's School for Global Inclusion and Social Development (SGI) and staff members from the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) were selected as delegates to a high-level United Nations meeting on disability and development. The meeting was convened to discuss how disability relates to the UN's Millennium Development Goals, and the importance of addressing disability rights within the UN's post-2015 development agenda. Among the attendees were UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.



The Harbor Gallery at UMass Boston recently exhibited the "Rowe Show," a collection of nineteenth-century American paintings by artist Willie Reed Rowe. Featuring works owned by Nancy Rowe '69 and John Rowe, the exhibit drew students, faculty, staff, and community members to learn about these unique paintings.