



# Report to the Board of Trustees

from the University of Massachusetts Boston

March 2016

## To the Board:

Our spring semester got off to a spirited start in January as we opened portions of University Hall, our second new academic building to be opened at the University of Massachusetts Boston in two years.

We've received rave reviews from students, faculty, and staff; the building is already considered a favorite on campus for its teaching facilities, advanced technology, and stunning views of the harbor. We look forward to inviting you to a grand opening in the coming months.

Meanwhile, Beacons fans have even more cause for celebration as our baseball team played its first home game at J. Donald Monan, SJ Park, a two-field baseball facility developed in partnership with Boston College High School, complete with a replica Green Monster. We are so proud to have a new stadium to share with our community on and off campus.

Our students, faculty, and staff have been busy learning, conducting research, and building connections across the country and abroad. In these pages you will learn more about:

- our participation in the UN climate summit held in Paris and an environmental diplomacy workshop at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia (p. 9);
- our Honors College colloquium's visit to Manzanar, a Japanese American internment camp in California (p. 2); and
- our new graduate program that will enable students to study conflict resolution at Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salaam in Israel (p. 4).

I continue to be proud of the way our university is a beacon for change here in Boston and around the world, and I look forward to keeping you apprised of our progress!

—Chancellor J. Keith Motley



*A rendering of UMass Boston's future student housing, set to open in 2018.*

## UMass Boston to Offer Housing in 2018

Last month the UMass Building Authority (UMBA) Board of Trustees and the Baker Administration approved moving forward with the development of the first residential housing on the UMass Boston campus, with an aim to open the new facility in 2018.

The 1,000-bed facility will be built using an innovative public-private development model that will be the first of its kind for the UMass system. Under the arrangement, the UMass Building Authority will contract with Capstone Development, a national leader in building student housing, to lease a portion of the UMass Boston campus adjacent to the Clark Athletic Center to construct the \$120 million housing complex. Capstone will develop the facility, which will be owned and operated by a nonprofit management entity. UMass Boston will oversee the student life at the facility, providing resident assistants and other support to enhance student success.

Last year, UMBA conducted an initial request for qualifications (RFQ) for the project. From eight submissions from developers, UMBA invited seven firms to submit proposals. From those proposals, UMBA selected Capstone as the best qualified developer to undertake the UMass Boston project. Capstone has partnered with Elkus Manfredi Architects and Shawmut Design and Construction on the project.

The student housing complex will accommodate UMass Boston freshmen and transfer students. Research shows that there's a direct link between student success and students being able to live on campus, especially in the early years. The Boston campus, which is the most diverse campus in New England, is the only Carnegie-designated research university in the nation without on-campus housing. When surveyed, more than 60 percent of UMass Boston students indicated a preference for living on campus.

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## ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

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### College of Management Offers Graduate Programs at New Sites

UMass Boston MBA students now have the opportunity to earn credits by taking courses in downtown Boston. This spring, the College of Management started offering three core MBA classes—financial management, operations management, and organizational analysis—at the UMass headquarters at One Beacon Street. Six additional MBA courses are expected to be offered there in fall 2016.

In fall 2015, the College of Management also launched its 16-month, Professional MBA Program at UMass Boston's facility at 150 Mount Vernon Street, near the JFK/UMass MBTA station. The MS in Accounting Program also is convening classes there, and the MS in Finance Program is expected to follow this fall.

### Honors College Students Visit Internment Camp, South Africa

Ten students in Professor Paul Watanabe's Honors College Colloquium learned about Japanese American internment camps during World War II by visiting Manzanar, a California camp that was one of 10 built in the wake of Pearl Harbor. Hank Umemoto, an 87-year-old man who was relocated to Manzanar with his family at age 13, took students on a tour of the area where his family was kept behind barbed wire fences and armed guards. A UMass Boston alumnus also arranged for students to meet with Manzanar's head archaeologist and cultural resources program manager. An NBC news crew also followed along on their tour.

Honors College Dean Rajini Srikanth led a group of Honors College students to Cape Town, South Africa, over winter break to engage with leaders from the areas of public health, sanitation, housing, resistance to police violence, and other issues. During their journey, students heard from community activists, government officials, educators, economists, healthcare workers, and medical researchers. The trip capped the students' semester learning about the interdisciplinary approach to public health.

### Board of Higher Education Approves New Programs

Provost Winston Langley received program approvals from the Board of Higher Education for a new graduate PhD program in computational sciences in the College of Science and Mathematics, an integrative biosciences graduate program with tracks in biochemistry, biophysics, and bioinformatics, and a new minor in Arabic studies in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.

### Entrepreneurship Center Holds Bootcamp for Women

Erin McCormick, new director of the College of Management's Entrepreneurship Center, launched new online classes in February to reach women who want to boost their business skills in a low-pressure environment. The Online Business Bootcamp for Women will be offered for eight Thursday evenings through the College of Advancing and Professional Studies in partnership with the Startup Institute.

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## MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS

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*Members of the University of Massachusetts Boston Marathon team who are running in support of the Krystle Campbell Scholarship Fund.*

### UMass Awarded Marathon Bibs for Run for Krystle

The University of Massachusetts has been awarded 15 race bibs for the 2016 Boston Marathon on April 18. Funds raised through the Run for Krystle marathon program will support the Krystle Campbell Scholarship Fund in memory of the UMass Boston alumna who lost her life in the 2013 bombing. UMass Trustee Richard Campbell (no relation) established the scholarship fund to support educational opportunities for students who pursue a degree in business at UMass Boston. The 2016 team has a goal of raising \$100,000 toward the ultimate investment goal of \$1 million; the fund total currently stands at approximately \$500,000. To learn more about the runners or to support the team, visit [www.umb.edu/runforkrystle](http://www.umb.edu/runforkrystle).

## MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS (CONT.)

### Camp Shriver Receives \$60,000 Grant

Camp Shriver at UMass Boston has entered into a new three-year partnership with the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC®) of Eastern New England, which has made a \$60,000 grant award to support the 100 to 120 campers hosted each summer. Camp Shriver is a four-week inclusion camp that promotes the health and welfare of children with and without disabilities, available to families at no charge.

Camp Shriver's partnership with the RMHC dates back to 2011. For a second time last summer, Camp Shriver hosted a visit from Ronald McDonald, who put on an interactive magic show for campers that taught them about teamwork and working together.

### Corporations Provide Funding for Student Success

Follett Corporation, Eastern Bank, and the Walmart Foundation have each made gifts to support the establishment of a new Center for Excellence for Veterans at UMass Boston, which will consolidate a range of university services that ensure the success of 600 student veterans. The Center of Excellence for Veterans aims to help student veterans transition from military life to civilian life and will connect enrollment management, academic support services, a Veterans Upward Bound program, health and counseling services, a student affairs office, and the William Joiner Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences. The center also will offer services such as navigational coaching, advising, mentoring, tutoring, career specialists, and training for frontline service providers.

In addition, the Davis Educational Foundation has built upon its long-term commitment to student success and retention at UMass Boston through a new grant of \$331,000 to study outcomes related to general education and majors.

### Boots to Business Workshop Offered to Veterans

In January, the UMass Boston Learning Center in Plymouth hosted a free Boots to Business course targeting business-minded veterans interested in reentering the work force or starting an entrepreneurial endeavor. The Second Change Group, Mass Military Marketing, Platoon Daddy, and Business Boot Camp led trainings related to job searches, resumes, entrepreneurship, and networking for military service members, veterans, and small businesses.

## STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE

### Grant Supports Ongoing Archaeological Study of Plymouth Colony

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded a three-year, \$200,000 Collaborative Research Grant to a team of UMass Boston researchers who have been conducting an archaeological study of the Plymouth Colony and the colonists' relations with indigenous Wampanoag people. The annual archaeological field school, sponsored by the College of Advancing and Professional Studies, is investigating preserved areas of the original Pilgrim settlement, and the NEH grant will enable an expansion in the scale and scope of the study.

Led by David Landon, associate director of UMass Boston's Andrew Fiske Memorial Center for Archaeological Research, the project draws on faculty and staff from the Fiske Center, the Department of Anthropology, and the Institute for New England Native American Studies. A public outreach component is incorporated through work with the Town of Plymouth, Plimoth Plantation, and other community stakeholders.

### New PhD Program Focuses on Early Childhood Development

Beginning this fall, UMass Boston will offer one of the state's first PhD programs in early childhood education and care, focused on research, policy, and practice related to the development and education of young children from birth through age five.

The doctoral program builds on the post-master's certificate program in early education research, policy, and practice that UMass Boston designed with the state's Department of Early Education and Care in 2012. The four courses required in the post-master's certificate program transfer to the PhD program. Both address a need for advanced graduate study opportunities in the education of young children, as well as research and policy study in early education and care.

### Ford Foundation Grant Awarded to Centers

In February, the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy and the Center for Social Policy received a Ford Foundation grant to research paid leave, following the release of their paper "Less Than a Latte A Week: The Cost of a Paid Family and Medical Leave Program in Massachusetts." Randy Albelda, a senior fellow at the Center for Social Policy and a professor of economics, and Northeastern economist Alan Clayton-Matthews, developed a simulation model that enables one to estimate the number, lengths, and associated costs of the leaves currently taken in Massachusetts without a state-wide paid leave program, as well as with the paid family and medical leave currently proposed to the state legislature. Albelda and Clayton-Matthews used inflation-adjusted data from a five-year sample of American Community Surveys (2009-2013) and information about family and medical leave taken from a survey conducted in 2012.



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

### UMass Boston Opens Israel Campus to Teach Conflict Resolution

UMass Boston students now have the opportunity to pursue an MA in conflict resolution at an instructional location in Israel known as Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salaam, through a program established by the Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance at the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies.

The two-year master's degree program focuses on ways in which Arabs and Jews live in peace despite the violent conflicts afflicting their communities. Graduate students will undertake the interdisciplinary study of conflict resolution with the same core requirements as the UMass Boston program, but with electives reflecting the environment in the Middle East and the ethnic composition of the community. The program, which was founded by former director of the graduate programs in conflict resolution David Matz, will include a teaching staff composed of leading regional Palestinian and Jewish scholars as well as UMass Boston faculty.

Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salaam, meaning "Oasis of Peace," was established in the 1970s as a peace village, where 60 families—half Jewish, half Palestinian—live together in a single, integrated community. It also contains a bilingual and bicultural primary school, the first of its kind in Israel, as well as a School for Peace, where more than 60,000 Arabs and Jews have learned dialogue methodology. The community has been nominated twice for the Nobel Peace Prize.

## CONTINUE A POSITIVE FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE



Sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt were on display in the Campus Center in December.

### Office of Diversity Hosts AIDS Memorial Quilt Exhibit

UMass Boston sponsored a World AIDS Day community reception to display sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, the 54-ton, handmade tapestry that memorializes more than 90,000 individuals lost to AIDS. Throughout the week, the quilt sections remained on display in the Campus Center, while the University Health Services team hosted a fair about HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, as well as offered rapid HIV testing to members of the university community.

### Imam, Pastor Visit UMass Boston to Discuss Islam

Imam Muhammad Ashafa and Pastor James Wuye of Nigeria's Interfaith Mediation Centre, internationally recognized peace experts, returned to UMass Boston in December for a panel discussion on "Islam During Times of Crisis." They each received honorary degrees from UMass Boston in 2012.

Darren Kew, director of the university's Center for Peace, Democracy, and Development, moderated their discussion, which focused on the lack of knowledge that many non-Muslims have about the religion and the misguided perceptions about its relationship to the terrorist actions of groups such as ISIS, Al Qaeda, and Boko Haram. Ashafa and Wuye once led opposing militias and were bitter enemies in Nigeria, a country sharply divided between Muslims and Christians. They later settled their differences and joined together to form the Interfaith Mediation Centre.

### UMass Boston Goes Tobacco Free

UMass Boston has enacted a new policy banning the use of all tobacco products on campus. The new policy took effect one week before the start of spring semester and includes outdoor spaces, parking lots, the Bayside property, and the HarborWalk. According to the Centers for Disease Control, tobacco-free policies improve air quality, improve health, reduce secondhand smoke exposure, and increase smoking cessation. University Health Services is offering smoking cessation programs to assist students, faculty, and staff who wish to quit smoking.

## CONTINUE A POSITIVE FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE (CONT.)



Chancellor J. Keith Motley; Ray Offenheiser, president of Oxfam America; Maitreyi Bordia, lead social development specialist of the World Bank; Robin Hambleton, professor of city leadership from the University of West England; and Dean Bill Kiernan at the Building Inclusive Communities Conference.

### SGISD Hosts Building Inclusive Communities Conference

The School of Global Inclusion and Social Development (SGISD) welcomed nearly 300 people from the education, health, nonprofit, business, and policy sectors to the Back Bay in December for its inaugural Building Inclusive Communities: Neighborhoods to Nations Global Conference.

The two-day conference grappled with cultural, social, and political norms that permit various forms of exclusion across society. Groups of experts exchanged ideas for solutions that promote equal access to human rights, opportunity, and dignity for all citizens. The introductory panel, charged with answering the question “What is inclusion and why does it matter?” was moderated by SGISD Dean Bill Kiernan and featured discussion between Ray Offenheiser, president of Oxfam America; Maitreyi Bordia, lead social development specialist of the World Bank; and Robin Hambleton, professor of city leadership from the University of West England and author of *Leading the Inclusive City: Place-Based Innovation for a Bounded Planet*.

As part of the conference, SGISD held its second annual Beacon for Global Inclusion awards at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate. The 2015 honorees were Dorothy Stoneman, founder of Youth-Build, which aids unemployed young adults and high school dropouts with education, counseling, and job skills training; and Partners in Health, a Massachusetts-based global health-care nonprofit focused on supporting poor and marginalized populations.

## RENEW THE FACULTY

### Two Faculty Members Appointed to Community Leadership Roles in Boston

Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh has appointed Professor of Human Services and Latino Studies Miren Uriarte to the Boston School Committee, the governing body of the Boston Public Schools (BPS). Uriarte is an active member of Boston's Latino community and, as a UMass Boston faculty member, has performed extensive research on the impact of educational policies on the outcomes of Latinos and English Language Learners in BPS and Massachusetts schools. She also was named to the board of trustees of the Schott Foundation for Education in Cambridge.

Associate Professor of Community Development and Planning Eduardo Siqueira was appointed to the 29-member advisory board for the Mayor's Office of New Bostonians, which is committed to making Boston a more welcoming city and a national model for immigrant integration. Siqueira teaches in the College of Public and Community Service and is coordinator of the Transnational Brazilian Project, which promotes research, teaching, and service activities primarily for Brazilian immigrants living in Massachusetts.

### PBS Documentary Brings Book to Life

In January, PBS premiered *The Mine Wars*, an original documentary produced for the Oscar- and Emmy-winning history show *The American Experience*. *The Mine Wars* is based on *The Devil is Here in These Hills: West Virginia's Coal Miners and their Battle for Freedom* (Atlantic Monthly Press, 2015), a book by history Professor Emeritus James Green. Green's book and the new documentary detail miners' battles for dignity and workers' rights at the turn of the 20th century.

Two months earlier, Mayor Marty Walsh named November 5 “James Green Day” in the city of Boston, recognizing Green's founding of the Labor Studies Program and Labor Resource Center at UMass Boston, his Fulbright Scholarship, and other accomplishments. The mayor's proclamation was presented at the relaunch of the Labor Studies Program and the Labor Resources Center at UMass Boston, which provides education and information to advance the interests of workers and their organizations.



## RENEW THE FACULTY (CONT.)

**Select Research Awards**

- Assistant Professor of Nursing **Teri Aronowitz** was awarded a \$900,000 three-year grant by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Administration, an arm of the Department of Health and Human Services, to recruit a team of nursing students to serve as peer educators for the UMass Boston Nursing Substance Abuse, HIV, and Hepatitis C Prevention Program. The university will collaborate with Harbor Health and Wayside Youth and Family Services for the program.
- **K.C. Kerby-Patel**, an electromagnetics researcher at UMass Boston, received the 2015 Young Faculty Award from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to investigate low-profile antennas. The award, given to just 22 recipients, aims to “identify and engage rising research stars in junior faculty positions at U.S. academic institutions” and consists of \$500,000 for the first two years, and nearly \$250,000 for the third, optional year.
- Assistant Professor of Management **Banu Özkazanç-Pan** and two fellow researchers have won a \$47,000 grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to study women entrepreneurs in the Boston area and organizations that support entrepreneurs.
- Assistant Professor of Gerontology **Pamela Nadash** has been awarded \$120,000 by the Donaghy Foundation for the project “Nursing Home Satisfaction Measures: What is Their Relationship to Quality?” Co-investigators include departmental colleagues Jennifer Hefele, Edward A. Miller, and Kathrin Boerner.
- Associate Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs **Mark Warren** received a \$100,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to research the movement against the school-to-prison pipeline. Warren’s research builds new theory and understanding of the role of local organizing in building an educational justice movement and how national movements can strengthen local organizing.

**Office for Faculty Development Celebrates Authors**

Over the 2014-2015 academic year, 32 UMass Boston faculty members published books or completed major musical compositions. They were honored in December at Provost Winston Langley’s third annual Provost’s Book Party, where faculty and staff can peruse the publications and speak with authors. “It’s a way of honoring what is really considered one of the capping achievements in an academic career,” said Judith Goleman, associate professor of English and the director of the Office for Faculty Development, which sponsored the event. For a complete list of faculty and their publications, visit [https://www.umb.edu/news/detail/office\\_for\\_faculty\\_development\\_celebrates\\_umass\\_boston\\_authors](https://www.umb.edu/news/detail/office_for_faculty_development_celebrates_umass_boston_authors).



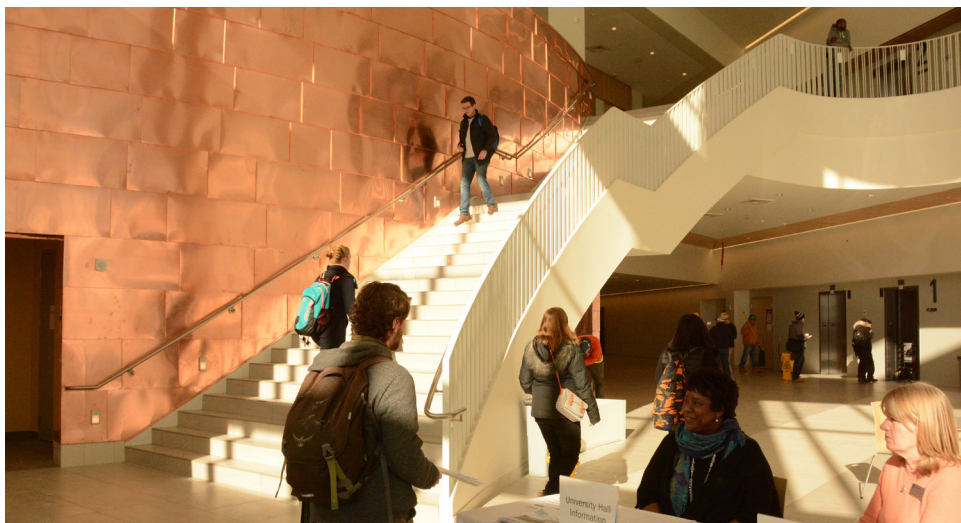
*Chancellor J. Keith Motley, professors Jean Rhodes, Erik Blaser, and William Robinson, and Provost Winston Langley, following the 2015 Distinguished Faculty Lecture.*

**Distinguished Faculty Lecture Celebrates Research, Teaching, Service**

UMass Boston celebrated the accomplishments of Distinguished Faculty Award winners Jean Rhodes (scholarship), Erik Blaser (teaching), and William E. Robinson (service) in December with a faculty lecture series.

Rhodes, the Frank L. Boyden Professor of Psychology and director of UMass Boston’s Center for Evidence-based Mentoring, highlighted the university’s responsibility to ensure youth with low social capital have the same access to quality mentors as their peers with more connected parents. Blaser, an associate professor of psychology who has taught at UMass Boston for 13 years, cited his own mentor—his father—for providing a teaching role model for his style of relying more on engagement than technology in the classroom. Robinson, who joined the university in 1992, recalled UMass Boston’s collective efforts to establish itself as the UMass system campus for environmental, coastal, and ocean sciences, despite several setbacks over the years.

## DEVELOP FIRST-RATE INFRASTRUCTURE



*The first day of classes at University Hall.*

### New University Hall Opens

The beginning of spring semester marked the first classes to be held in University Hall, the second new academic building to open at UMass Boston in two years. Professors from a cross-section of disciplines are teaching students in 10 classrooms, and students also are using soundproofed studio space designed for instrumental and vocal lessons, dance studios, and common study space.

In the coming months, UMass Boston looks forward to the completion of the building's recital hall, theater, 500-seat auditorium, additional classrooms, and other specialized teaching areas. The 190,000-square-foot building ultimately will provide nearly 2,000 classroom seats, faculty and staff offices, a café, student lounge and study spaces, and specialized instructional space for three academic departments: art, chemistry, and performing arts. University Hall will support the university's strategic plan to expand academic offerings and grow enrollment.



*The Beacons are enjoying their first baseball season at home on Columbia Point at the newly opened J. Donald Monan, SJ Park.*

others, the two-field Monan Park features a replica Green Monster, a 500-seat stadium, and a field that has the dimensions of Fenway Park. Both fields meet NCAA Division III standards.

The park is named for Fr. J. Donald Monan, a former president of Boston College who served for 24 years and now is chancellor of the university. Corporate sponsors include WB Mason, Rockland Trust, Lambert's, McGee Toyota, and Prime Time Sports. The Beacons previously played home games at Campinelli Stadium in Brockton and Yetten Field in Waltham.

### Beacons Practice, Play First Game at Monan Park

This spring, the UMass Boston Beacons are enjoying their first baseball season truly "at home" on Columbia Point, with the completion of the new J. Donald Monan, SJ Park, developed via a public-private partnership between UMass Boston and neighboring Boston College High School. Thanks to the support of the Yawkey Foundation and

## INCREASE ENDOWMENT

### WUMB Year-End Drive Raises \$45,457

UMass Boston's public radio station WUMB held its first year-end, on-air fundraising drive to support operating expenses, bringing its total annual on-air drives to four. The year-end drive exceeded an initial goal of raising \$30,000 and brought in a total of \$45,457.

### Just Imagine Campaign Tallies \$62.4 Million

UMass Boston's *Just Imagine* campaign is 62 percent of the way to reaching its \$100 million goal, having raised \$62.4 million as of January. As the largest campaign in the university's history, *Just Imagine* aims to support key areas of the university's strategic plan, including student success, building the research enterprise, enhancing the campus, and annual support. For more information, visit [www.alumni.umb.edu](http://www.alumni.umb.edu).

### Make Your Mark in University Hall Auditorium

University Advancement has launched the Make Your Mark campaign, which encourages new donors to name a seat in University Hall's new 500-seat auditorium. To date, more than 150 seats have been sold to donors ranging from alumni, students, and parents, to current or retired faculty and staff.

### Giving Tuesday Exceeds Goal

University Advancement launched its second Giving Tuesday campaign with a goal of obtaining 1,000 donors by the end of the 2015 calendar year. By December 31, they exceeded their goal with 1,500 contributors and more than \$400,000 raised for the campaign. In fiscal year 2015, the first Giving Tuesday campaign raised \$58,426 from 630 donors.



## DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

### CPCS Students Achieve Love Your Block Grant

The City of Boston awarded a Love Your Block grant to students in UMass Boston's spring civic engagement class in the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS). The Love Your Block program, a joint initiative of the city, [citiesofservice.org](http://citiesofservice.org), and AmeriCorps, awards mini-grants for improvement projects in Dorchester, Roxbury, or Mattapan. UMass Boston students and volunteers will use the grant to install a mural on the outside of John W. McCormack Middle School in Dorchester. In their proposal, the students called the half-mile walk from JFK/UMass Station to UMass Boston "dreary" and determined that a mural on the side of the school might build community pride and beautify the street. The students reached that conclusion by surveying families at the Walter Denney Youth Center and in the Harbor Point community and conducting a multicultural dinner with an artwork session.

### Local Stakeholders Focus on Emergency Preparedness

In February, UMass Boston convened a tabletop exercise with stakeholders from the Columbia Point peninsula to discuss communication and collaboration techniques for emergencies in the neighborhood. The exercise explored emergency procedures and evacuation plans, and reviewed how neighborhood organizations could work together to enhance preparedness. Participants included Boston College High School, the *Boston Globe*, Boston Public Schools (McCormack Middle School), the Boston Office of Emergency Management, Corcoran Jennison Companies, Double-Tree by Hilton Hotel Boston Bayside, the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate, the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, the Massachusetts Archives, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority/Department of Transportation, Santander Bank, and members of the UMass Boston Department of Public Safety, Boston Police Department, and Massachusetts State Police.

### MGS Serves Public Through Projects, Presentations, Research

The John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies completed several projects, reports, and presentations this winter that furthered its commitment to serving the public good.

- The Collins Center for Public Management completed projects that included the recruitment of Canton's town administrator; human resources pay and classification studies for the communities of Southwick, Tisbury, and Wenham; and a study on the delivery of public services in Swampscott.
- The Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration (MOPC), an applied research center in McCormack and the state's dispute resolution agency, submitted its annual report to the legislature and administration reflecting on its increased work capacity, including public meetings such as the environmental clean-up at the former South Weymouth Naval Air Station and the potential school consolidation in the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District. In January, Dean David Cash and MOPC Executive Director Susan Jekhlian also briefed state leaders on the \$11 million return on investment of the Community Mediation Center Grant program.
- Economist and Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs Christian E. Weller provided testimony on the state of the Massachusetts economy to the state secretary of administration and finance and the Joint Ways and Means Committee as part of the state's developing budget process for fiscal 2017.

## IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND IT SERVICES

### Financial Aid Services Goes Paperless

Financial Aid Services in the Division of Enrollment Management is moving to a paperless management system to improve service delivery and achieve greater efficiency and security, following in the footsteps of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, which went paperless in 2014 and increased efficiencies by 20 percent. Financial Aid Services awards more than \$150 million in federal, state, and institutional financial assistance annually to students. Document imaging improves the department's ability to comply with federal and state information technology and privacy laws. Scanning documents that contain personal information, such as tax returns and citizenship documents, also allows a large volume of sensitive information to be password protected and only available to authorized individuals.

Over the past year, approximately 25,000 financial aid folders have been imaged, while another 8,000 student files will be imaged over the spring semester, representing more than 500,000 documents no longer retained in hard copy format.

## POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE

### College of Management Named a Best Business School

The College of Management was again rated one of the nation's outstanding business schools as *The Princeton Review* ranked it among its Best 295 Business Schools for the ninth year running. In addition to making the 2016 *Princeton Review* list, the College of Management also is ranked eighth on the Greatest Opportunity for Minority Students list. *The Princeton Review* editors wrote that UMass Boston's College of Management's graduate business program "combines strategically focused management curriculum with optional specializations, offering one of the best educational values in the Boston area."



## POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE (CONT.)



*A negotiation simulation held during the Regional Environmental Diplomacy Institute—Africa.*

### Faculty, Students Address Climate Issues in Paris, Addis Ababa

In December McCormack Graduate School Dean David Cash; Professor Maria Ivanova, co-director of the Center for Governance and Sustainability; Natalia Escobar-Pemberthy, a PhD candidate in global governance and human security; and other students participated in the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) of the U.N. Climate Change Convention in Paris, France, where 195 countries adopted a universal climate change agreement.

Cash attended the summit with a delegation of leaders from the Northeast Clean Energy Council, which is composed of clean energy companies. Ivanova, whose column about women participants at COP21 was published on CNN.com, participated in a panel discussion organized by the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies as well as an event focused on the Horn of Africa, considered one of the most vulnerable regions in the continent to the impacts of climate change. The Global University Climate Form, sponsored by the International Alliance of Research Universities and the International Sustainable Campus Network, featured presentations by 35 teams of students from around the world who produced projects to increase student and global environmental consciousness.

Additionally, the Center for Governance and Sustainability and the Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre & Network, Addis Ababa University, co-hosted a high-level environmental diplomacy workshop at the Gulele Botanic Garden in Addis Ababa in January. The workshop, known as the Regional Environmental Diplomacy Institute—Africa, was the first in an annual series convening officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and members of Parliament from Djibouti and Ethiopia, as well as experts, practitioners, and civil society advocates from Addis Ababa and Boston. Students from the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Coasts and Communities program also visited for a week as part of their study of environmental issues in the Horn of Africa course.

### NEASC Approves Continued Accreditation

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) approved UMass Boston's continued accreditation in January, confirming the university as a sophisticated research enterprise committed to teaching and public service. The confirmation came after an 18-month process involving university faculty, staff, and students and included developing a comprehensive self-study that objectively assessed UMass Boston's challenges and areas of excellence.

The NEASC commission noted the university's strengths, including its significant progress in developing programs to support student success, advancements made to enhance academic offerings and its research profile, the diverse array of community partnerships, and the progress made to renew the physical environment. The commission also noted areas in which measures may help the university reach its objectives. One such suggestion, for example, was to enhance the integration of the university's planning processes. Campus leadership is in the process of working to more closely integrate budget planning, strategic planning, enrollment planning, and academic planning. In 2020, UMass Boston will submit the normal interim report to NEASC that will assess the university's progress, ahead of its next comprehensive review slated for 2025.

### Carnegie Designates UMass Boston as "Higher Research Activity"

In a February report, the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education ranked UMass Boston a Doctoral University – Higher Research Activity, the second level of its tiered classification system. The ranking confirms UMass Boston, along with UMass Lowell and UMass Dartmouth as a hub for world-changing research. The university has twice received the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, a national award given to universities that demonstrate a commitment to building productive community partnerships; UMass Boston most recently received the honor in 2015.

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## POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE (CONT.)

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### UMass Boston Awarded 100,000 Strong in the Americas Grant

Chancellor J. Keith Motley and Associate Professor Allen Gontz, undergraduate program director in the School for the Environment, traveled to Washington, D.C., in December to attend a White House ceremony honoring recipients of the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Initiative. President Barack Obama launched the initiative to increase educational exchanges in the Western Hemisphere and to strengthen U.S. relations with countries of the Americas.

Gontz's proposal, entitled "The Comparative Coastal Systems of Sergipe, Brazil, and Massachusetts, USA," was selected as an Innovation Grant winner in Competition 9: Promoting Study Abroad in Engineering, Physics, Geology, and Geophysics. The program will be conducted with UMass Boston partner Tiradentes University in Brazil, via the new Tiradentes Institute at UMass Boston, and includes collaboration and matching funds provided by UMass Boston's Office of Global Programs, School for the Environment, College of Advancing and Professional Studies, Honors College, and Office of Academic Support Services. Along with matching funds provided by Tiradentes University, support also will be provided by industrial partner MALA Geoscience USA.

### Theatre Art Students Perform at Kennedy Center Festival

Several students who served as cast and crew members in the UMass Boston productions of *Museum*, *Musical Theatre Cabaret*, and *New Voices, New Stories: A Celebration of Student Playwrights*, were nominated for Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCATF), Region 1, awards. KCATF is a national theater program involving 20,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide annually.

In January, the students performed at the Region I KCATF at Western Connecticut State University. Ian Teng "Christy" Choi, lighting designer for *Museum*, was selected among 102 nominees from New

England and New York to move on to the next stage of competition in Washington, D.C., in April. The award grants a full scholarship for the National Festival, where she will attend master classes with Broadway designers. Choi also received the Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas award, which offers an opportunity to undertake a student internship as a lighting designer assistant to a professional in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Other merit awards included:

- The cast of *Museum*, Excellence in Ensemble Acting
- Alexanderia Teixeira, *Musical Theatre Cabaret*, Excellence in Make-Up Design
- Shannon Doane, *Musical Theatre Cabaret*, Excellence in Stage Management
- Cast, crew, staff, and playwrights, *New Voices, New Stories: A Celebration of Student Playwrights*, Outstanding Work in Two World Premieres

### Moakley Chair's Book Named an NPR Favorite Read

National Public Radio named Padraig O'Malley's latest book, *The Two-State Delusion: Israel and Palestine—A Tale of Two Narratives*, as one of its favorite reads in 2015. In it, the John Joseph Moakley Chair of Peace and Reconciliation at UMass Boston's John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies argues that a two-state solution is no longer a viable path to lasting peace.

O'Malley, an award-winning author, mentor, and teacher who has worked on peacekeeping around the world, also penned an opinion piece that appeared in *The Conversation*, and then in *Newsweek*, and he delivered two speeches at Israeli universities in March. He also earned Tufts University's 2015 Dr. Jean Mayer Award for Global Citizenship and delivered the Mayer Lecture at its Institute for Global Leadership.

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