

To the Board:

The University of Massachusetts Boston has made great strides this year in strengthening its status as a world-class urban public research university and in moving forward with our campus enhancements. As you will see in this report, the major campus construction projects underway (right) will be completed this summer, in time for what we expect in the fall to be the largest class of first-time entering freshmen in the history of the university.

In this report, I will share some of the many accomplishments of our world-class faculty and students—nearly 4,000 of whom, from 105 countries, graduated at the university's 50th commencement ceremonies in May at the Blue Hills Bank Pavilion and TD Garden. (page 2) Since my last report, numerous faculty have received research and scholarly awards (page 5), and our students have been equally impressive, receiving prestigious awards and fellowships, including two Fulbright Study Fellowships and two Boren Fellowships. (page 2)

At the same time, we have worked to further strengthen UMass Boston's academic offerings and open new opportunities. Over the past year we have worked with industry leader Triumvirate Environmental to develop an innovative program to provide a cost-saving pathway from classroom to career for students pursuing degrees in environmental science or environmental studies and sustainability. (page 3) Also, thanks to a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, we will be introducing new courses focusing on the Boston Harbor and coastal communities. (page 4)

And our growing excellence has been increasingly recognized in national rankings (page 2) and by organizations such as Victory Media Inc.'s Military Friendly Schools® list. (page 3)

The tenacity and drive of our campus community have once again awed me. I hope you will be equally impressed.

—Interim Chancellor Barry Mills



The "commencement lawn" in front of the Campus Center takes shape as workers install a handicapped-accessible pathway that connects to the HarborWalk.

Campus Transformation Reaches Turning Point as Residence Hall, Garage Set to Open

The campus is arriving at a major turning point in construction. The three large ongoing projects of the Residence Hall, Utility Corridor and Roadway Relocation (UCRR), and Parking Garage will all be substantially completed this summer. This work represents the culmination of the first ten-year phase of the university's master plan, where nearly \$800 million of construction has transformed the campus into an inviting, outward facing, modern place that embraces its waterfront location.

The Residence Hall, which will house over 1,000 freshman and sophomore students, opens in the fall and has already proven to be transformative to campus life. Prospective students have been touring model rooms while contractors work to complete the brick exterior.

Across campus soil piles are receding, roadways are reopening, and tree-lined sidewalks are taking shape as part of the UCRR project, which will begin wrapping up in July. Over the last five years this project has installed updated underground utilities and created a new perimeter road and landscape for the campus.

The 1400-space parking garage is set to open mid-summer. UMass Boston blue can now be seen from I-93 as Suffolk Construction has completed the concrete structure and enhanced façade.

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE

Forbes Names UMass Boston One of Nation's Best Value Colleges

The university was named one of the nation's 300 "best value colleges" by *Forbes* magazine in its third annual America's Best Value Colleges rankings. The list, which was released in April, is based on several factors, including student satisfaction, graduation rate, and academic success. UMass Boston was ranked No. 297. UMass Boston was also recognized earlier this year by The Princeton Review and *U.S. News & World Report* for its academic success and overall student satisfaction. In other rankings news, *CEO Magazine* listed UMass Boston's College of Management as a Tier One business school in its 2018 Global MBA Rankings. In addition, *CEO Magazine* ranked the college's online MBA No. 15.

Commencement Ceremonies Celebrate Graduates, Honorees



Geoffrey Canada

Nearly 4,000 graduates, as well as their friends and family, attended UMass Boston's 50th Commencement Ceremonies last month.

Geoffrey Canada, known for his advocacy for children and families in Harlem neighborhoods, served as principal speaker at the undergraduate ceremony, which took place at TD Garden on May 25. Canada, who received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, has been a leading figure in the field of urban education for more than 30 years. John F. Kennedy Award winner Chris Walkes, who earned his degree in English and minor in secondary education, served as student speaker at the event.



Barney Frank

The graduate ceremony, which took place at Blue Hills Bank Pavilion on May 24, welcomed former U.S. congressman Barney Frank as its principal speaker. Frank also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters for his pursuit of social justice. Paul Anatas '84 received an honorary degree at the graduate commencement as well

as for his accomplishments in the field of green chemistry, which he co-founded. Bobby Ricketts, who graduated from the Critical and Creative Thinking master's program, served as graduate student speaker.

Professors Awarded Co-Editorship of Education Research Publication

UMass Boston has been awarded co-editorship, along with UMass Amherst and Michigan State University, of the *Comparative Education Review*, the leading journal in the field. The journal, sponsored by the Comparative and International Education Society, investigates education throughout the world and the social, economic, and political forces that shape it. UMass Boston Assistant Professors Gerardo Blanco Ramirez and Francine Menashy will be associate editors of CER.

Students Receive Prestigious Fellowships

UMass Boston students have earned a variety of awards and fellowships this spring:



James Nickerson '18 will be teaching college students in Colombia how to speak English starting in July.

- Two UMass Boston students received Fulbright Study Fellowships this year. James Nickerson '18 won an English Teaching Assistant award and will teach college students in Colombia how to speak English this summer. Adam Darisse '16 '18 will use his fellowship to fund a master's degree in medieval studies at the University of York in the United Kingdom.
- Kate Butterworth, a first-year PhD student in the Global Governance and Human Security Program in the McCormack Graduate School, has won a Boren Fellowship to Georgia. Sophomore Benjamin Thomsen has won a Boren scholarship to South Korea.
- Three UMass Boston PhD students have been awarded graduate research fellowships from the National Science Foundation. Jessica Karch and Sederra Ross, students in the College of Science and Mathematics, and Kirsten Christensen, a student in the School of Liberal Arts, are all receiving \$34,000 fellowships for three years.

CEHD Partners with UMass Amherst on Development Program in Afghanistan

UMass Boston's College of Education and Human Development has co-partnered with UMass Amherst in the \$23.4 million USAID-funded Afghanistan University Support and Workforce Development Program. The project is focused on building the capacity of 11 universities and the Ministry of Higher Education in Afghanistan to develop and deliver high-quality academic programs and services that are more aligned with workforce development needs.

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE (CONT.)

Women's Track and Field Earn Second National Title

In May the UMass Boston women's track and field team became co-winners of the 2018 Outdoor National Championship, two months after winning the indoor championship. The win marks the program's second outdoor national title and sixth overall. Leading the scoring were

sophomore Wadeline Jonathas of Gonaïves, Haiti, winning the 200- and 400-meter dashes, and senior Taylor Driggers of Lisbon, Connecticut, claiming her first individual national title in the triple jump. The 4x100-meter relay team came in third place, and the 4x400-meter relay

team came in eighth place. Jonathas became the first athlete in program history to earn five All-American honors in a single weekend. With nine overall individual national titles, she is tied for first place among all track and field athletes to ever compete in Division III.

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Innovative Environmental Program to Provide Pathway from Classroom to Career

Students pursuing degrees in environmental science or environmental studies and sustainability will soon have the option to expand their studies outside the classroom. UMass Boston has partnered with Triumvirate Environmental, one of the largest and fastest-growing environmental services companies in North America, to develop the Triumvirate Scholars Program. The program, the first of its kind at UMass Boston, will launch this fall.

The Triumvirate Scholars Program is an innovative cooperative education program providing an employer-funded pathway for students interested in pursuing environmental studies in conjunction with employment-based experience. It combines a base of in-classroom courses, followed with online major and general education courses and full-time employment at Triumvirate, with the opportunity for Triumvirate Scholars to continue full-time employment at the company following graduation. The program will have students complete their first two years of coursework before beginning full-time employment as environmental apprentices. Triumvirate will offer paid internship opportunities during the summer between the first and second years.

Triumvirate Environmental, based in Somerville, is a leading provider of environmental services to healthcare, education, life sciences, and industrial markets. In addition to receiving credit for their work experience, students will participate in professional development workshops and training provided by Triumvirate. Triumvirate Environmental will cover the cost (tuition and mandatory fees) of the coursework the scholars take to complete their degrees.

Enrollment Management to Collaborate with Nauset Regional High School

The Division of Enrollment Management has announced a new collaboration with Nauset Regional High School, allowing high-achieving high school students to experience a UMass Boston oceanography course. Facilitated by the College of Advancing and Professional Studies, the program will give high school juniors and seniors a taste of the unique courses UMass Boston's School for the Environment has to offer. The partnership will allow students to receive college credits and to have access to the School for the Environment's research facilities, including the M/V *Columbia Point* vessel. This is the second high school to partner with UMass Boston in this new model of dual enrollment.

Online Aquaculture Course Offers Students Opportunity to Explore Marine Life

UMass Boston's School for the Environment, in collaboration with 5M Publishing, launched an online sustainable marine aquaculture program this semester. Forty-six students enrolled in their first course, which explores and addresses the essential aspects of aquaculture fish and invertebrate biology, including anatomy, physiology, and environmental requirements. The School for the Environment plans to add two more courses—Aquaculture Production and The Business of Marine Aquaculture—at a later date.

UMass Boston Welcomes Students from France in Unique Partnership

More than 70 French graduate students from École de management de Normandie, hailing from various campuses located throughout France, spent the spring semester at UMass Boston. The students enrolled in a unique combination of College of Management and English-language training. The program plans to welcome 100 students by fall 2018. The EMNormandie program is a collaboration between the College of Management, the College of Advancing and Professional Studies, and the Office of Global Programs.

UMass Boston Dedicates \$200K to Veterans Scholarships and Programs

In an effort to ensure that UMass Boston remains affordable for current students who served in the military, the university will offer \$200,000 in new scholarships for veterans beginning this fall. Under the plan, the \$200,000 will provide "fill the gap" financial aid to pre-9/11 veterans and performance-based merit aid. The university will also step up its veteran-recruitment effort. The university's Office of Veterans Affairs currently serves 533 student veterans and 99 dependents.

The university has also once again been named to Victory Media Inc.'s Military Friendly Schools® list. This is the fifth time that UMass Boston has been named to the list. Schools are chosen based on student retention, graduation rates, job placement and affordability, and a commitment to programs and issues of specific importance to veterans.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

UMass Boston to Use \$100K Grant to Create Courses on Boston Harbor and Coastal Communities

The National Endowment for the Humanities has given UMass Boston and its community partners a \$99,774 grant to create a three-course sequence focused on Boston Harbor, the Boston Harbor Islands, and the diverse coastal communities surrounding the harbor. Humanities and environmental science faculty will co-teach the three courses, which will blend the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Throughout their coursework, UMass Boston students will take UMass Boston's boat, the *M/V Columbia Point*, to the Boston Harbor Islands, engage in experiential learning activities in close collaboration with the National Park Service, and use the Joseph P. Healey Library's archival material on the Harbor Islands. Planning for the course cluster begins this summer; the courses will be available to students starting spring 2019. The goal is for the courses to eventually form the core of a new academic option for UMass Boston students: an environmental humanities focus.

Students Participate in Alternative Spring Breaks with Beacon Voyages for Service

Over spring break, nearly 70 students participated in Beacon Voyages for Service trips. The purpose of the trips is to address education and community development, economic inequalities, environmental preservation, hunger and homelessness, indigenous youth empowerment, and public health. This summer, students will have the option to travel to Tijuana, Mexico, to address issues of borders and immigration. They will be constructing a house for a family in need and visiting local orphanages and immigrant shelters. Students can also opt to travel to the Dominican Republic to address issues of gender equality. They will be working with the Mariposa Foundation, whose mission is to educate and empower girls to create sustainable solutions to end generational poverty.

Performing Arts Students Receive Kennedy Center Honors

Following the close of UMass Boston's production of *Nothing Is the End of the World (except the end of the world)*, cast members Caroline Clancy and Joshua Robinson were announced as nominees for the Irene Ryan award at next year's Region I Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Quentin Bell's costume design and Kelley Lefebvre's wig and makeup design were also nominated for Design, Technology and Management Awards. Jacques Matellus, selected as the National Irene Ryan Scholarship Winner, Region I, earlier this year, attended the National KCACTF in Washington, D.C., last week and walked away with the prestigious 2018 Williamstown Theatre Festival Apprenticeship for this summer.

INCREASE ENDOWMENT

Just Imagine Campaign Reaches \$87 Million

UMass Boston's Just Imagine campaign is close to 90 percent of the way to reaching its \$100 million goal, having raised \$86.97 million as of May. 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.

Institute for Early Education Leadership and Innovation Awarded \$100K Boston Foundation Grant

UMass Boston's Institute for Early Education Leadership and Innovation has been awarded a \$100,000 grant by the Boston Foundation. This is the second \$100,000 grant awarded to the Institute by the Boston Foundation. The grant will be used to train and support innovative, entrepreneurial, and skilled early educators to drive transformative change so that all young children and their families have access to high-quality early-learning opportunities.



UMass Boston students Scarlett Nord and Dawn DeRossette each received \$5,000 Krystle Campbell Scholarships.

School of Management Students Receive Krystle Campbell Scholarships

UMass Boston students Dawn DeRossette '18 and Scarlett Nord '20 were selected to receive this year's Krystle Campbell Scholarship. The \$5,000 scholarships — named after UMass Boston alumna Krystle Campbell, who lost her life in the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing — are presented to two undergraduate business students who stand out among their peers for their involvement in the university and community and overall academic excellence.

The 2018 Krystle Campbell Scholarship Marathon Team ran the 122nd Boston Marathon to raise money for the scholarship fund, increasing its endowment to \$750,000. The goal is a \$1 million endowment.

Endowed Fund to Support Faculty Development

The College of Education and Human Development created the Louis and Genevieve Wilczenski Faculty Development Fund to support faculty development. The endowment fund is supported by the reallocation of funds from an existing gift from Professor and Associate Dean Felicia Wilczenski in memory of her parents. The endowment was amended in 2018 to provide funds for professional development for faculty in the CEHD at the direction of the Dean of the College.

RENEW THE FACULTY

Faculty Member Awarded Fulbright Global Scholar Award

Sharon Horne, professor of counseling and school psychology and the graduate program director of the Counseling Psychology PhD Program, has received a Fulbright Global Scholar Award for 2018–2019. The Fulbright Global Scholar Award allows academics and professionals from the United States to engage in multi-country, trans-regional projects. Horne will be pursuing her project, “The Role of Psychology Policies and Guidelines on Mental Health Access and Treatment of Individuals of Diverse Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities, in Colombia, South Africa, and the Philippines.” As a representative for the American Psychological Association on LGBTQ concerns, Horne has been collaborating with colleagues in Colombia, South Africa, and the Philippines for several years.



Maurice “Mo” Cunningham was honored by the Massachusetts Teachers Association for “drawing back the curtain” on dark money in politics.

Professor Earns Award for Work on Charter Schools Campaign

Maurice “Mo” Cunningham, associate professor of political science, has received the Massachusetts Teachers Association’s (MTA’s) President’s Award for his research on “dark money,” often untraceable donations injected into ballot and electoral campaigns in Massachusetts and across the nation. The MTA highlighted Cunningham’s commitment to “drawing back the curtain on the secret funders” of the pro-charter-school Question 2 in Massachusetts in 2016. Cunningham, a former state assistant attorney general, was previously honored by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees for this work.

Other faculty awards include:

- **Rachel Skvirsky** and **Adán Colón-Carmona**, professors in the Biology Department, have received a five-year renewal award for a \$1.3 million National Institutes of Health research training grant serving undergraduate students at UMass Boston.
- Assistant Professors **Francine Menashy** and **Zeena Zakharia** received a \$461,981 Dubai Cares grant to fund a two-year research project focused on global and local educational responses to the Syrian refugee crisis in Lebanon.
- Associate Professor of Management **Banu Özkazanç-Pan** received \$360,000 from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to examine venture capital decision making, in partnership with the New England Venture Capital Association.
- **Ling Shi**, associate professor in the Department of Nursing, will be inducted as a Fellow in the American Heart Association’s Council on Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Health in New Orleans this year.
- Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing has announced that Professor of Nursing **Laura Hayman** will be inducted into the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame at the society’s International Nursing Research Congress in Melbourne, Australia, this July.
- Associate Dean **Felicia L. Wilczenski** received an outstanding faculty award for excellence in international programming at a symposium on international faculty-led programs hosted by Oregon State University for her leadership in the development and delivery of a series of short-term study-abroad experiences.
- **Kristin Murphy**, assistant professor of special education, is the recipient of a Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation Fellowship for the 2018–2019 school year to focus on improving and enhancing her instruction in a location other than her home institution.



Francesco Peri and Bernie Gardner, both from UMass Boston’s CESN, check remote real-time sensors in Snipe Creek, Florida.

UMass Boston Professor Part of National Carbon-Tracking Team

Bob Chen, a professor of organic geochemistry and marine organic chemistry in UMass Boston’s School for the Environment, was part of a 30-member team that created the first known carbon budget of the eastern coast of North America. The team tracked the flows of organic and inorganic carbon into and out of coastal waters from the southern tip of Nova Scotia, Canada, to the southern tip of Florida. Their findings were published in the March 2018 issue of *Global Biogeochemical Cycles*.

RENEW THE FACULTY (CONT.)



Susan Tan is in her fourth year as a postdoctoral research fellow at UMass Boston.

UMass Boston Postdoc Wins National Children's Literature Award

Susan Tan, a postdoctoral teaching fellow in UMass Boston's English Department, received a national award for her debut novel, a book she fine-tuned on the subway and shuttle to UMass Boston. Tan, in her fourth year teaching children's literature and young adult literature, won the American Library Association's Asian/Pacific American Honor Award in Children's Literature last month for the book *Cilla Lee-Jenkins: Future Author Extraordinaire*. Tan sought to tell a story of a mixed-race heroine (like Tan, Cilla is part Chinese) that has themes of family and identity.

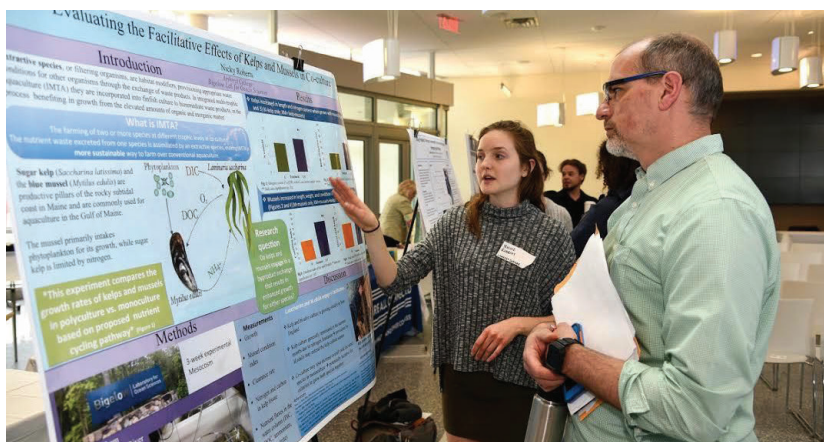
Professors Co-Edit Publication on Green Chemistry

Wei Zhang, professor of chemistry and the director of the Center for Green Chemistry, and Berkeley Cue, an adjunct professor in the Chemistry Department, are the co-editors of the second edition of *Green Techniques for Organic Synthesis and Medicinal Chemistry*. UMass Boston is home to the first PhD program in green chemistry.

Retired Music Professor Returns to UMass Boston for Concert

The Performing Arts Department welcomed founding music faculty member Laurence Berman for an Evening of Music in the University Hall Recital Hall. Playing a repertoire that included Bach, Chopin, and Debussy, Berman's concert launched the beginning of a Piano Fund. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of a new Steinway befitting the new Recital Hall. Music alumni joined with current students to listen to Berman's playing and perspective. Berman served on the music faculty for 22 years, a foundational period for the program, and retired in 1994.

DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE



The Environmental Research Colloquium and Intercampus Marine Science Symposium welcomed more than 100 undergraduate and graduate students from different universities.

Annual Environmental Research Colloquium Brings Together STEM Students

The sixth-annual Environmental Research Colloquium and Intercampus Marine Science Symposium, hosted by the School for the Environment and the Office of Career Services and Internships, recently welcomed more than 100 undergraduate and graduate students from different universities, as well as potential employers from Massachusetts, to discuss environment research opportunities. Students from UMass Boston and nearby universities presented posters and lectures throughout the morning and into the afternoon. Participants were invited to learn more about various environmental research, issues, implementations, and strategies. In addition to a "Women in Sciences" panel, the colloquium hosted 12 employers from the area who met with participants to share information about their organizations and the employment and internship opportunities they offer.

Senior Ammany Ty Named UMass Boston's "29 Who Shine" Winner



Governor Charlie Baker honored Ammany Ty '18 at a State House ceremony on May 4.

Ammany Ty, an undergrad student who is majoring in English and Asian American studies in the Honors College, is the 2018 "29 Who Shine" award winner from UMass Boston. Ty, along with award winners from each of the public universities across the commonwealth, were honored at a State House ceremony on May 4. Ty is an advocate for sexual violence awareness and refugee trauma. She also addresses refugee trauma and how it has played into embracing her identity as a Cambodian American daughter of refugee parents.

DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE (CONT.)

UMass Boston Alumna to Deploy Health Care Services in Liberia Through Princeton in Africa Fellowship

Anny Rodriguez '16 will be moving to Liberia this summer to serve as a 2018–2019 Princeton in Africa fellow. She'll be supporting Last Mile Health's joint effort with the Liberian Ministry of Health to deploy primary care services to Liberia's hardest-to-reach communities via a national network of professionalized community health workers, community health service supervisors, and community health clinic-based staff. Rodriguez said that faculty and advisors from UMass Boston were with her every step along the way of the fellowship application process, encouraging her to apply and preparing her for interviews.

IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATION AND IT SERVICES

UMass Boston BeaconCard Features Expand

The BeaconCard, which has been used for door access only, is expanding to be a multi-functioning OneCard. The Division of Student Affairs selected Atrium to provide the software and structure necessary to add functions such as meal plan use, debit card use, making prints and copies, fitness center and library access, and event admission and attendance. The new features will be launched this summer after the data feed is finalized and the testing is complete.

CONTINUE A POSITIVE FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE

Doctoral Candidate Wins Society of Clinical Psychology's First Diversity Award

Jennifer Martinez, a doctoral candidate in UMass Boston's Clinical Psychology PhD Program, is the first-ever recipient of the Society of Clinical Psychology's Student Diversity Award, an award that honors a student for their exemplary contributions to diversity within the field of clinical psychology. Martinez received the award in part for developing a website to identify culturally competent clinicians in Boston willing to see undocumented clients *pro bono* or on a sliding scale.

STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE



Sachatamia albomaculata

Biologist Discovers Frogs Impacted by Deadly Disease in Panama Are Making a Comeback

The search for answers to protect Central American frogs from extinction is giving scientists like UMass Boston Assistant Professor of Biology Douglas Woodhams clues on how to predict and respond to emerging diseases and epidemics in humans, other wildlife, and plants.

Woodhams is one of the coauthors of a paper published March in *Science* that documents the recovery of some tropical amphibians following continued exposure to a lethal pathogen, *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, which causes the disease chytridiomycosis and has been linked to population declines in amphibian species around the world.



UMass Boston students Jared Muehlbauer, Ashby Sturgis, and Jacob Strauss worked in the Plimoth Plantation visitor center laboratory during UMass Boston's summer field school.

\$181K NEH Grant Focuses on Pilgrim Artifacts

Christa Beranek, a project archaeologist for UMass Boston's Fiske Center for Archaeological Research, has received a three-year \$181,000 National Endowment for the Humanities grant to create a digital catalog of Plimoth Plantation's archaeological collection, including artifacts excavated from first- and second-generation Pilgrim homes between the 1940s and 1970s. More than \$60,000 of the grant money has been set aside to pay UMass Boston graduate students to work on the project. The project involves cataloging and digitizing field notes, plans, drawings, and photos associated with the excavation of four archaeological sites, making material currently in boxes accessible to teachers, students, scholars, and the general public. Certain artifacts will be imaged in 3D, meaning they can be re-created using a 3D printer.