

To the Board:

As the academic year draws to a close, I am pleased to present this report chronicling recent progress we have made in enacting our mission.

Of particular interest are stories that highlight UMass Boston's commitment to workforce development. In April, we hosted officials from federal, state, and local governments for the launch of BEST Boston, a venture aimed at building a pipeline of talented, diverse business professionals for our region's small business sector. The program will enable select UMass Boston students to work with a pilot group of local companies and gain experience in business consulting by tackling real-world business challenges.

- In addition, UMass Boston announced a partnership with National Grid as the company launches a strategic workforce development effort intended to provide individuals from historically underrepresented and marginalized communities career exposure, development, and employment opportunities. As part of the partnership, National Grid will provide \$100,000 to UMass Boston for Clean Energy Scholars Scholarships.
- All of us were thrilled to learn that UMass Boston's Robotics and Engineering Club won first place in the 2023 Spring NASA MUREP Innovation and Tech Transfer Idea Competition. The team will now attend a virtual immersive experience at NASA's Ames Research Center in Silicon Valley, California, where they will virtually visit, tour and present to industry Silicon Valley technology companies, small businesses, NASA partners and leadership.
- At an April ceremony, the UMass Boston residence halls were named in honor of UMass Boston Chancellor Emeritus Dr. J. Keith Motley and Angela Motley. This gesture will honor in perpetuity the Motleys' commitment to our holistic, student-centered approach to education, and is a testament to their leadership and foresight in making our residence halls a permanent feature of campus life.

I trust you will appreciate this report on our progress.

—Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco



Dean Venky Venkatachalam, Mike Vlacich, of the U.S. Small Business Administration, Chancellor Suárez-Orozco, and Undersecretary Ashley Stolba of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development discuss BEST Boston.

New BEST Boston Engages Students with Small Business

UMass Boston's College of Management is launching a new program to connect small, Boston-area employers with business students through paid consulting engagements designed to develop a pipeline of talented and diverse business professionals for careers in Greater Boston.

Named BEST (Business Engagement for Students) Boston, the program is aimed at providing business students in the College of Management with experience in solving real-world business problems. Students will follow a rigorous curriculum, have access to cutting-edge technology, and be mentored by faculty as they participate in the program and prepare to pursue careers in business.

"BEST Boston is a strategic priority for the UMass Boston College of Management toward its commitment for the economic development of the Boston region. It is a win-win for both the businesses and students participating," said Venky Venkatachalam, dean of the College of Management. "BEST Boston creates a pipeline of talented business professionals that the industry always needs and provides a real-world experience for business students, which enriches their learning experience."

A pilot for BEST Boston will be launched in summer 2023, with four participating businesses—the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts, QUBIC Labs, The Castle Group, and Westnet.

It is intended to expand rapidly in the fall and spring semesters, when students are expected to dedicate 10 hours a week toward their project. The assistance will be free to participating businesses, and students will be provided a \$2,000 stipend funded by university donors.

Enhance the Learning Experience



(From left) Associate Justices Kenneth V. Desmond, Mary Thomas Sullivan, and Sabita Singh preside in the Campus Center Ballroom.

Massachusetts Appeals Court Brings Judicial System to UMass Boston

The Campus Center Ballroom was transformed into a courtroom in April, as UMass Boston partnered with the Massachusetts Appeals Court (MAC) to conduct a court session on campus.

As part of its own educational mission, the MAC holds a handful of sessions outside of the John Adams Courthouse in Boston each year. This is the fifth time that the court has visited UMass Boston.

The campus community as well as teachers and students from local high schools including BC High, Jeremiah Burke, Boston Collegiate, and Cristo Rey, were invited to witness the hearings and network with members of the court, staff, and UMass Boston alumni who work in the court system.

“As an educational institution, we believe that this event provides a valuable learning opportunity for your students to witness firsthand the workings of the Massachusetts legal system and we are excited to serve as host,” said Director of Community Relations Philip Carver, who helped organize the event on campus.

Associate Justices Mary Thomas Sullivan, Kenneth V. Desmond, Jr., and Sabita Singh presided over two criminal cases and two civil cases. Oral arguments for each case lasted about 30 minutes and ranged from assault to environmental conservation issues.

University Focuses on Mental Health Efforts

In response to the importance of student mental health, campus leadership has focused efforts on two significant initiatives: clinical care upgrades and non-clinical upgrades. On the clinical side, University Health Services (UHS) has made significant improvements by adding two new Counseling Center positions, with one specifically focused on the mental health of Black and African American students. UHS is also collaborating more closely with the clinical psychology doctoral program, and their 24/7 telephone-based counseling support service promotion has increased. Counseling Center staff have undergone extensive professional development to support our multicultural community further.

On the non-clinical side, UHS has hired two health educators to provide prevention and response strategies programming. The Division of Student Affairs is also doing more community mental health programming, such as the UMBeWell Day and weekly interfaith mindfulness meditation sessions. Dean of Students case management for students of concern is also more robust, and the campus has additional capacity and reach in basic needs support provided by U-ACCESS. These upgrades have reduced wait times for non-emergency follow-up appointments in the Counseling Center, improved provider-to-patient case ratios, and strengthened the community’s approach to mental health and wellbeing initiatives.



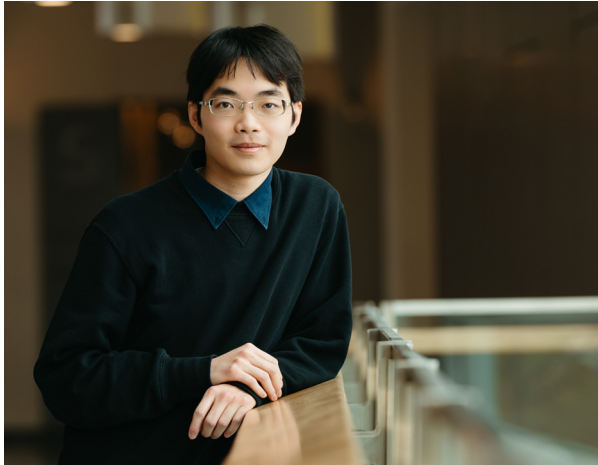
Students perform in *The Government Inspector* this spring.

UMass Boston Performing Arts Stages *The Government Inspector*

UMass Boston Performing Arts opened its season with sold-out performances of Nikolai Gogol’s hilarious *The Government Inspector*, a satirical comedy originally written in 1830s Russia but still widely regarded as among the funniest plays ever written.

Director Michael Fennimore had been looking forward to directing this piece for several years, fully prepared to work with a cast of 13 to do – simply put – anything for a laugh. “Physical humor, mistaken identity, breaking the fourth wall – everything is on the table,” Fennimore said. “I love this play. The dialogue is fast and hilarious, and the situations are ridiculous. We’re going to have a blast.”

Enhance the Learning Experience (cont.)



Kenji Maeda

College of Science and Mathematics Student Named a Goldwater Scholar

Kenji Maeda, a second-year engineering physics major, was named a 2023 Barry M. Goldwater Scholar. This is the fifth consecutive year that a UMass Boston student has been selected to receive the esteemed award, and the third time in the last five years that a student from the Physics Department has been chosen.

The Goldwater Scholarship Program is designed to foster and encourage outstanding college sophomores and juniors to pursue research careers in mathematics, natural sciences, and engineering.

“Kenji is a remarkable student,” Assistant Professor of Physics Akira Sone said. “Earning a Goldwater scholarship is a result of his dedication to his work in quantum information theory, his love and intuition for physics, and his exceptional mathematical skill in analytics and numerics.”

Maeda is looking forward to taking advanced physics courses and upper-level engineering courses during his junior and senior years. After he completes his undergraduate degree, he intends to pursue a PhD in physics.



Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Karen Ferrer-Muñiz, Chancellor Suárez-Orozco, and Assistant Vice Chancellor Steven Neville cut the ribbon.

UMass Boston Unveils Renovated Student Affairs Spaces with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

UMass Boston’s Division of Student Affairs and campus partners held a ribbon cutting ceremony earlier this spring, unveiling renovated spaces at the Campus Center dedicated to student success, inclusivity, and belonging.

The Student Affairs campus life and student services spaces, located on the second and third floors of the Campus Center, include Student Activities, Student Leadership and Community Engagement, U-ACCESS, New Student & Family Programs, Off-Campus Living, and Student Multicultural Affairs.

“It’s beautiful because of what it embodies, what it represents,” Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco said. “This is an early embodiment of a much, much larger endeavor. You’re seeing here the unfolding of UMass Boston 2.0—a new beginning, a new chapter in our journey to give the City of Boston the anchor public research university it needs.”

This project refreshed much of the furniture and carpet in the spaces for the first time since the building opened in 2004.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Karen Ferrer-Muñiz said the goal is to encourage collaboration and community, provide greater visibility of resources, enhance flexibility of the space, and better meet current student needs for office, social, and meeting space—all of which promote student belonging.

Enhance the Learning Experience (cont.)



Paul English

UMass Boston Launches The Paul English Applied Artificial Intelligence Institute

UMass Boston has announced the creation of The Paul English Applied Artificial Intelligence (AI) Institute, conceived and funded by tech entrepreneur and UMass Boston alumnus Paul English. The new institute will be the first of its kind and will be embedded in academic study across campus and include a focus on the social, ethical and diversity challenges and opportunities associated with AI.

The goal of the initiative is to give UMass Boston students in every field—who overwhelmingly join the Massachusetts workforce after graduation—the tools to shape the increasingly AI-powered world of work.

English, who earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science at UMass Boston, has committed \$5 million to establish the Institute, as well as an associated scholarship fund. It will formally launch during the academic year 2023–2024, funded with the investment from English plus a \$2 million match from the UMass Foundation.

“I’ve had the privilege of visiting dozens of universities over my career,” said Paul English. “What stands out about UMass Boston is its pragmatism, grit, and diversity. It is these things that will propel UMB to lead on Applied AI. The new generation of AI will change the jobs of everyone who uses a computer, and I will work closely with UMB as they leverage and develop AI tools across all their disciplines.”

EM Normandie Opens New International Campus at UMass Boston

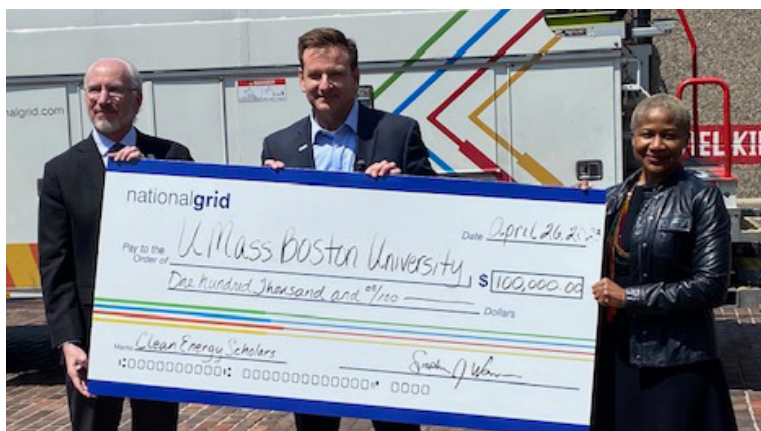


This spring, a delegation from the French business school EM Normandie, including Edouard Philippe, mayor of Le Havre and president of the Urban Community of Le Havre Seine Métropole, came to the UMass Boston College of Management (CM) to attend the signing of the official establishment of EM Normandie on campus. The establishment of the campus is the result of a historical and strategic partnership since 2016.

UMass Boston and EM Normandie are already working closely together to place their research work, particularly on CSR, in an international dynamic to facilitate innovation and exchanges between students and teachers. To date, 300 students from EM Normandie's Grande Ecole programme have spent a semester studying at CM.

To teach courses and develop joint research activities with CM professors, two EM Normandie professors - from all management disciplines – come to Boston every semester. From September 2025 onwards, the campus will welcome EM Normandie's BBA students who wish to spend a year of their Bachelor in Business Administration in the United States, in addition to the exchange students of the Grande Ecole programme. In the longer term, joint master's level programmes will be developed with CM in logistics, supply chain, and CSR.

Maintain and Improve Affordability and Access



(From left) Provost Joseph Berger; Stephen Woerner, president of National Grid New England; and Amanda Downey, vice president of strategy development & partnerships at National Grid

National Grid Partners with UMass Boston to Increase Diversity of Labor Force

UMass Boston is partnering with National Grid as the company launches a wide-ranging strategic workforce development effort intended to provide individuals from historically underrepresented and marginalized communities career exposure, development, and employment opportunities.

As part of the partnership, National Grid is providing \$100,000 to UMass Boston for Clean Energy Scholars Scholarships, to be awarded to qualifying students pursuing engineering or craft- and trades-related degrees.

“We could not be more excited about our partnership with National Grid. As the most diverse university in New England, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion work is part of our DNA; it’s purposefully at the core of everything we do to educate our students and prepare them for successful livelihoods,” said Joseph Berger, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

The long-term partnership is part of a plan to build the clean energy workforce of the future while ensuring that over the long haul, the workforce reflects the communities National Grid serves across Massachusetts.

Students at UMass Boston, along with Northeastern University and Franklin Cummings Tech, will participate in the Clean Energy Careers Academy, in which National Grid mentors and others engage students about the energy and utilities field, provide professional development opportunities, and create connections that can lead to future internships, co-ops, and full-time employment within National Grid.

GRAD Last Mile Scholarship Fund Increases Awards

Imagine being in your senior year of college and not being able to find the funding needed to complete your degree. To help students facing this challenge, UMass Boston has partnered with the City of Boston’s Mayor’s Office and private philanthropic firms for the fifth year to provide critical financial support to students in need. Founded in 2018, the GRAD Last Mile Scholarship Fund provides one-time scholarship awards of \$500 to \$2,500 to Massachusetts residents who may not otherwise be able to complete their education due to personal hardships.

Under the direction of the Merit Scholarship Office in the Division of Enrollment Management, the scholarship fund has grown from \$24,000 in its first year to \$125,000 this year. To date, 258 students have been awarded a scholarship. This collaboration between the city, the university, and area philanthropic organizations strengthens UMass Boston’s ties to the Commonwealth, and its commitment to provide students with an education that is affordable and accessible.

UMass Boston Successfully Expands Regional Recruitment Efforts

In an effort to increase geographic diversity, UMass Boston’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions increased its focus on regional and out-of-state markets this recruitment cycle. The department hired a full-time regional recruiter to engage students, parents, and school counselors in the New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania regions. The impact of this regional recruiter, in addition to other initiatives, has led to an increase in applications and enrollment deposits from those areas.

The regional staff member has dramatically enhanced the university’s presence in those markets by increasing high school visits, college fairs, and community college visits by 65 percent year-over-year. Enrollment deposits from those three states have increased by 18 percent compared to the prior year.

Improve Delivery of Administration and IT Services



Officer Daniel Martini speaks to volunteers during the exercise.

Office of Emergency Management and UMass Boston Police Conduct Full-Scale Emergency Preparedness Exercise

The UMass Boston Campus Center became the scene of a realistic but fictional active threat response in April, as the UMass Boston Police Department and Office of Emergency Management held a full-scale training exercise. The emergency exercise allowed campus police officers to practice active threat response in a university building and provided students, faculty, and staff with an opportunity to participate in an important emergency preparedness activity.

“We tested not only police response, but also the whole community civilian response to an active threat. Using our campus buildings allows our police to bring their outstanding offsite training home and shows us just how disciplined their active threat response training is,” said Justin Comeau, director of Emergency Management. “It is critically important to test response in a high-pressure, realistic situation.”

Campus police officers responded to three scenarios, with students, faculty, staff, and community members acting as witnesses, bystanders, and victims, enacting lessons learned from active shooter awareness training. Chair of Performing Arts Rafael Jaen led a group of students who assisted with moultage, applying makeup on volunteer victims so that they appeared injured.

In addition to evaluating the police response, emergency communications were tested internally to establish accuracies in response time and dissemination of information.

K9 First Responders, Medical Reserve Corps, Boston Public Health, Boston Police, MA State Police, Boston EMS, Brockton Police, Medway Police, Worcester Police, and staff and first responders from UMass Lowell, UMass Amherst, UMass Dartmouth, UMass President's Office, Harvard, Tufts, Boston College, Colleges of Fenway, and St. Joseph College also participated in the exercise as observers, evaluators, and players.

Increase Endowment

Gift from Former Staff Member Supports Self-Determination for People with Disabilities

In May, former staff member Stelios Gragoudas pledged \$100,000 over five years to establish the unrestricted, current-use Stelios Evan Gragoudas Discretionary Fund for Community Inclusion at UMass Boston's Institute for Community Inclusion. The fund will support the institute's mission to empower and advocate for personal choice, self-determination, and social and economic justice for children and adults with disabilities and their families, with particular emphasis on promoting resources for students navigating the transition from high school to college. Gragoudas, who holds a PhD in special education and teaching, worked as a researcher at the institute for almost two decades, bringing what he calls “a consumer perspective to all of his work” as a person with cerebral palsy.

University's Oldest Alumna Leaves Bequest and Pioneering Legacy

UMass Boston's oldest alumna, Ruth Anderson '39, passed away in March at 104, leaving an unrestricted \$100,000 bequest to the university. With bachelor's and master's degrees from Boston Teacher's College, Anderson lived a life unconstrained by the limits of societal expectations for women. Her career in computation included stints with MIT's Radiation Laboratory during World War II, the Naval Ordnance Test Station at China Lake, and the National Bureau of Standards' Applied Mathematics group, where her work focused on database design. After her retirement, she launched a second career as an information systems consultant. At the time of her death, Anderson was in the process of joining a study of the genetics of “super-agers”—people who live exceptionally long lives with little age-related decline or disease.

Strengthen the University's Research and Development Enterprise

Stanford-Elsevier Ranking of Top 2% Top-cited Researchers Includes Over 30 from UMass Boston

Over three dozen UMass Boston current and past researchers appear on the 2022 Stanford-Elsevier list of the world's most-cited scholars. Being included on this list is a powerful testament to the reach and impact of the research taking place at the university.

To create the publicly available database of top-cited scientists, a group of scientists at Stanford University developed a ranking method based on standardized citation metrics that considers total author number and author position. Modern academic research is highly collaborative, though authors in the first and last positions typically indicate the researchers who led or supervised a published research project, respectively. Originally published in the *PLOS Biology* Journal in 2020, Elsevier released the most recent update of the ranking in November 2022.

Professor of Biology Liam Revell said, "The large number of UMass Boston faculty on this list is a strong reflection of our identity as the leading public research university in metropolitan Boston, and should be a source of pride for our institution."

University Research Awards for the Last Quarter

- PI Liya Escalera/Academic Support Services received \$1,900,000 from the Richard & Susan Smith Family Foundation for *Early College-Smith Family Foundation*.
- PI Jill Macoska/Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy received \$1,288,464 from Massachusetts Life Sciences Center for *Spatial Transcriptomics: In Situ Tissue-Based Gene Expression Profiling at the Cellular Level*.
- PI Jessica Whiteley/Nursing and Health Sciences received \$771,500 from Massachusetts General Hospital for *2.2 Clinical Leadership Collaborative for Diversity in Nursing (CLCDN)*.
- PI Melissa Pearrow/Counseling & School Psychology received \$749,553 from Boston Children's Hospital for *BCH BIRCh Project Fellow: Diversifying Children's Behavioral Health Providers Across the Commonwealth*.
- PI Albert Kao/Biology received \$468,934 from the National Science Foundation for *BRC-BIO: Emergent dynamics and leadership in collective timing decisions*.
- PI Kimberly Hamad/Engineering received \$350,000 from *U.S. Army CCDC Soldier Center for Bio and Nano-material Systems for Soldier-Effective Performance*.
- PI David Landon/Anthropology received \$222,357 from National Park Service for *Catalog and Curate Archeological Collections for Region 1 Parks*.
- PI Kristin Uiterwyk/Urban Harbors Institute, School for the Environment received \$200,000 from the Walton Family Foundation for *National Working Waterfront Network*.
- PI Kourosh Zarringhalam/Mathematics Department received \$189,200 from the National Institutes of Health (sub from Baylor College of Medicine) for *Metabolic adaptation in residual triple negative breast cancer following chemotherapy*.
- PI Julie Wright/Exercise & Health Science, Nursing & Health Sciences received \$154,000 from American Heart Association for *Measures to Advance Cardiovascular Health Promotion for Black Women*.

Department of Counseling and School Psychology Awarded \$5.7M by Department of Education

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded faculty from UMass Boston's Department of Counseling and School Psychology a five-year \$5.7 million award to increase representation and diversity among mental health clinicians working in Brockton, Lawrence, and Quincy public schools.

While almost half of the children who attend Massachusetts public schools are considered to be from underserved communities, less than 10 percent of school personnel share a similar background. The goal of *Project Beacon: Training School Mental Health Providers in Transformative Social Emotional Learning and Advocacy* is to both increase the number of diverse school mental health clinicians in Massachusetts and to increase students' access to school mental health services.

Over the next five years, Project Beacon will recruit 50 Beacon Fellows, graduate students from underserved communities who will earn school psychology or school counseling degrees. Outreach to prospective students is taking place in UMass Boston's undergraduate community, local Boston-area school districts, and regional minority-serving institutions. Project faculty have already begun hosting webinars for prospective students to explain the important mission of Project Beacon and the unique benefits for the graduate students who participate in the program.

Position University in the Higher Education Marketplace



The UMass Boston robotics and engineering club

Robotics Team Takes Home First Place at NASA

UMass Boston's Robotics and Engineering Club won first place in the 2023 Spring NASA MUREP Innovation and Tech Transfer Idea Competition (MITTIC). They competed against six teams from across the country.

The team will now attend a virtual immersive experience at NASA's Ames Research Center in Silicon Valley, California, where they will virtually visit, tour, and present to industry Silicon Valley technology companies, small businesses, and NASA partners and leadership. The experience exposes participants to research facilities and start-up companies and provides the opportunity to discuss further concept development.

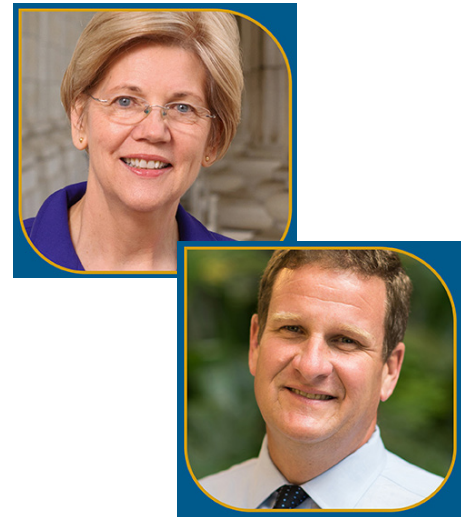
U.S. News: UMass Boston's Graduate Programs Among Nation's Best in 2023

UMass Boston's graduate programs in education, nursing, rehabilitation counseling, and public affairs are ranked as top 100 programs on *U.S. News & World Report's* 2023-24 Best Graduate Schools list, released this spring.

Designed for prospective students looking to further their education beyond the undergraduate level, the rankings evaluate programs in a variety of disciplines.

Six UMass Boston programs have new top 100 rankings:

- Graduate programs in education – No. 43
- Master of Nursing – No. 66
- Master's programs in public affairs – No. 63
- Doctor of Nursing Practice – No. 78
- Rehabilitation Counseling – No. 17
- Part-time MBA program – No. 98



U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren and business leader, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Rob Hale

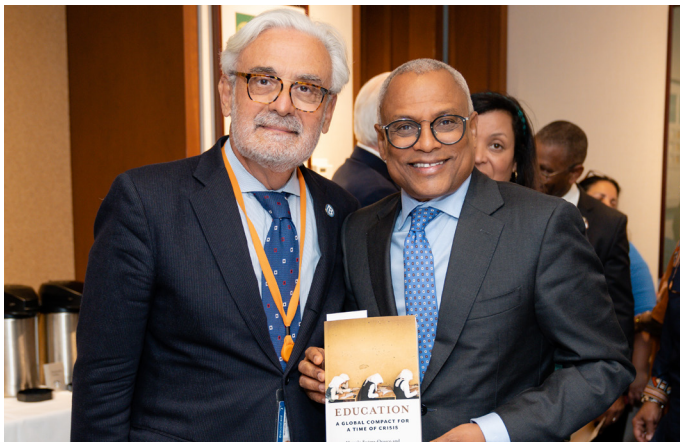
U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren and Business Leader Rob Hale to Speak at Commencement

The Honorable U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, the first woman elected to the Senate from Massachusetts, and business leader, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Rob Hale were slated to deliver keynote addresses at the university's 55th commencement ceremony on Thursday, May 25.

Climate scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan, who has been a driving force to enact policies to curb global warming for four decades, and Univision anchor Jorge Ramos will each receive honorary doctorate degrees. The Honorable U.S. Representative Stephen Lynch will receive a Chancellor's Medal for Distinguished Service.

The Class of 2023 graduation was held on UMass Boston's harborside campus for the first time since May 2019. Approximately 3,800 undergraduates, graduate, and doctoral students in the Class of 2023 received degrees this year.

Continue a Positive Focus on Diversity and Positive Climate



Chancellor Suárez-Orozco greeted and welcomed José Maria Neves, president of Cabo Verde.

Chancellor Greeted Cabo Verde President José Maria Neves for Annual MLK Jr., Amilcar Cabral Commemorative Program

Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco greeted and welcomed the Honorable José Maria Neves, president of Cabo Verde, before the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. and Amilcar Cabral Commemorative Program at the Campus Center this spring.

Chancellor Suárez-Orozco offered thoughts on the importance of civil rights icon Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Amilcar Cabral, pan-Africanist and founder of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde.

“In commemorating the legacies of these towering historical figures, it is inspiring and instructive to reflect on the scale of the challenges they took on,” Suárez-Orozco said. “For Dr. King, it was about living in the moral moment – serving humankind, moving citizens to action, and working toward the America we dream of. And for Amilcar Cabral, it was about challenging the economic and political dominance of colonial powers, on the African continent and around the world.

“For both, their words and deeds cultivated belief in the idea that all human beings had agency and dignity. For Africans and African Americans and, indeed for people of good will the world over, this was exhilarating, liberating, and long overdue,” he said.

The event—organized by Dr. Jemadari Kamara and the Africana Studies Department, and supported and sponsored by the Offices of the Chancellor, Provost, and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs—was held to commemorate the 55th and 50th anniversaries of the assassinations of King and Cabral, and included a keynote address by esteemed journalist and author Charlayne Hunter-Gault.



A local Indigenous dancer in Ohke Kah Nippi Mehquontamūonk

UMass Boston Grows Ecology of Acknowledgement through Art

The Native American and Indigenous Studies Program (NAIS), the Institute for New England Native American Studies, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and Arts on the Point announced the arrival in University Hall of *Ohke Kah Nippi Mehquontamūonk*. This short film was commissioned as a companion piece to the Robert Peters (Wampanoag) mural installed in the Motley Residence Halls in Oct 2021.

With this new art installation, the campus now hosts two original pieces of artwork by local Indigenous artists. This short film features original dance, music, and storytelling by a trio of local Indigenous dancers, set against urban sites and waterways in Boston, which is located on the traditional homeland of the Massachusetts tribe. *Ohke Kah Nippi Mehquontamūonk* connects Indigenous cultures and stories to the city's current landscape. The themes of environment, self, and community represented in the film reflect essential aspects of how these Indigenous artists engage with their identities through storytelling. The film asks the viewer to consider the complexities of navigating contemporary built environments and the legacies of colonialism.

Develop a Leadership Role in Public Service



Chancellor Suárez-Orozco, Bunker Hill Community College President Pam Eddinger, UMass Amherst Chancellor-Elect Javier Reyes, and World Education Services CEO Esther Benjamin

Chancellor Suárez-Orozco Leads Panel Taking on Immigration Issues in Higher Education

Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco moderated the lead panel discussion during an April 21 event at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate that included a series of panels entitled *Higher Education Pathways to Immigration: Why It Matters*.

Chancellor Suárez-Orozco kicked off the event with *An American Story: Higher Ed and Immigration*, a panel composed of immigrant higher ed leaders.

The event, exploring the challenges and promise of immigration in higher education, drew in-person and virtually more than 800 higher ed leaders, immigration experts, government officials, and others. It was led by the national Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education & Immigration and cosponsored by the Immigrant Initiative at Harvard and UMass Boston.

"Thirty-one percent of all students enrolled in higher education are immigrant-origin; 88 percent of Asian students are immigrant-origin; 68 percent of Latino students are immigrant-origin; 28 percent of Black students are immigrant-origin; 10 percent of white students are immigrant-origin," Suárez-Orozco said. "What do we need to do to address this geological change unfolding on every campus in our country? How can we do better?"

Chancellor Suárez-Orozco shared his story of immigrating to the United States at age 17 and enrolling in the California Community College system to start on a path toward leadership in higher education. Panel members included incoming UMass Amherst Chancellor Javier Reyes; Bunker Hill Community College President Pam Eddinger; and World Education Services CEO Esther Benjamin.

Chancellor Suárez-Orozco and Carola Suárez-Orozco, professor-in-residence and director of the Immigration Initiative at Harvard, wrote in the *Boston Globe* about immigrant origin students providing a demographic beacon of hope that has largely gone unrecognized.



Continue a Positive Focus on Diversity and Positive Climate (cont.)

Veterans Honored at the Inaugural Veterans Excellence Gala

The William Joiner Institute hosted its inaugural Veterans Excellence Gala this spring to celebrate the achievements of our nation's veterans and honor award-ees of the monthly Veterans Excellence Award, which brings attention to outstanding post-service achievements of veterans who continue to serve their broader community.

There were 12 Veterans Excellence Award recipients honored at the gala.

Thomas Miller, CEO of the Joiner Institute, said the event was inspired by his father, a Korean War veteran who served in the Air Force and worked post-service in southern Oregon as an educator and coach. After his father's passing and inspired by his father's work as a pillar in his community, Miller wanted to find a way to honor the veterans who continue to serve their communities and country and help strengthen the fabric of our society.

"All too often when we gather, it's to remember or memorialize the loss of one of our veterans. While we'll always pay tribute to those military members and their families impacted by their loss, tonight is intentionally different," Miller said. "I can think of no better way to honor William Joiner's legacy than by paying tribute to the veterans who are doing and accomplishing exactly what he set out to do at UMass Boston as our first director of Veterans Affairs."

Renew the Faculty



Bonnie Miller in her History Channel segment

Professor Bonnie Miller Talks Coffee Rivalry on The History Channel

UMass Boston Professor of History Bonnie Miller joined a recent episode of The History Channel's hit documentary series *The Food that Built America* to talk about the clash between Dunkin' Donuts and Starbucks from the 1970s through the 1990s, culminating with the competition between the Frappuccino and the Coolatta iced beverages. "Clash of the Coffee" aired on March 19, and can be streamed on the History Channel website.

Miller says the Frappuccino and Coolatta laid the groundwork to create a whole new generation of coffee drinkers by hooking young consumers on the beverage.

"I also argued that although these two brands were in competition, they actually mutually benefited each other because they helped grow the overall coffee consumption market, at least until the mid 2000's," Miller said.

This is Miller's second appearance on *The Food that Built America*. She was interviewed last year for the episode, "Do or Donut," which focused on the rise of both Dunkin' and Krispy Kreme and the rivalry that grew out of their fame. Miller, who teaches an undergraduate Food in American Culture course, is now also teaching a new online graduate course, HIST 684 Topics in Food History, this semester.



Develop First-Rate Infrastructure



Dr. J. Keith Motley and Angela Motley look on as their names are unveiled on the residence hall.

UMass Boston Celebrates the Dedication of Dr. J. Keith and Angela Motley Hall

On April 28, UMass dedicated its first residence hall in honor of Chancellor Emeritus Dr. J. Keith Motley and Angela Motley. More than 400 people attended the ceremony to recognize the Motleys' steadfast commitment to the university and their role as the driving forces in expanding the on-campus residential experience for students. Built in 2018, the newly dedicated Dr. J. Keith and Angela Motley Hall provides housing for first-year students, flexible living and learning spaces, and a venue for fostering a stronger on-campus educational experience.

Develop a Leadership Role in Public Service (cont.)

ICI's Think College Launches Accreditation Agency for Inclusive Higher Education

Think College, a center within the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at UMass Boston, has launched the Inclusive Higher Education Accreditation Council (IHEAC), a new accrediting agency for inclusive postsecondary programs for students with intellectual disability (ID).

In 2020, Think College set out to establish a process for implementing national program accreditation standards to ensure the quality and accountability of college programs for students with ID. The Think College National Coordinating Center (NCC) received funding from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education for this work.

The NCC Accreditation Workgroup has created a guidance manual as well as self-study and site visit processes. The workgroup is currently field-testing the full accreditation process. Dr. Kelly Kelley at the UP Program at Western Carolina University volunteered to complete the first accreditation self-study report and seek accreditation from the IHEAC.