

To the Board:

This semester has seen a flurry of activity on campus that once again demonstrates UMass Boston's continuing development as a first-rate research university pursuing its public mission to provide high-value, accessible higher education to students from Boston and beyond.

We were especially proud to welcome Joseph N. Cooper as the inaugural J. Keith Motley Endowed Chair for Sport Leadership and Administration (right). The only bachelor of arts in sport in Boston, the program has already become a popular offering, with more than 50 students signed up for the first class. We are grateful for the \$5 million gift from New Balance to fund the program.

Among other highlights in this report are:

- A two-year \$300,000 ADVANCE Catalyst grant from the National Science Foundation to conduct a self-assessment regarding gender and racial equity among STEM faculty at UMass Boston, with a goal of developing a strategic plan for STEM faculty equity (page 9).
- A signed MOA with the U.S. Coast Guard to provide students with two years of free tuition, active-duty benefits and pay, and a guaranteed job after graduation (page 7).
- A three-year \$12.4 million StrongStart Training and Technical Assistance Grant to our Institute for Early Education Leadership and Innovation to oversee the design and implementation of training and technical assistance services for the state's early education and out-of-school time workforce (page 3).
- A touching gesture by the UMass Boston Police Department for a nine-year-old El Paso shooting survivor (page 4).

I hope you find this report as informative and inspiring as I do.

—Katherine S. Newman, Interim Chancellor



Joseph Cooper, the inaugural J. Keith Motley Endowed Chair for Sport Leadership and Administration, speaks at the program's launch in October.

New Sport Leadership and Administration Program Launched, Inaugural Chair Named

Members of the UMass Boston community gathered with athletes, business leaders, and visionaries in the Integrated Sciences Complex in October to celebrate the launch of the New Balance Sport Leadership and Administration Program. NESN's Tom Caron emceed the event.

More than 50 students have signed up for the first class, Foundations of Sport Leadership, showing the considerable demand there is for this program. It is currently the only bachelor of arts in sport program in Boston.

Joseph N. Cooper has been named the inaugural J. Keith Motley Endowed Chair for Sport Leadership and Administration. A rising star in his field, Cooper taught for six years at the University of Connecticut's School of Education, where he specialized in sport management, gender and race in sport, and higher education.

The J. Keith Motley Endowed Chair for Sport Leadership and Administration and a corresponding scholarship are supported by a \$5 million gift from Boston-based industry leader New Balance, a champion of diversity and equity in the sport industry. New Balance Vice President of Running and Soccer Tom Carleo told attendees how internship programs that will be put in place this spring will be meaningful, innovative, and different, embedding students into problem-solving within the industry.

ENHANCE THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Chancellor Announces Professional Apprenticeship and Career Enhancement Program

Officially launching the new academic year with her convocation address, Interim Chancellor Katherine Newman unveiled an ambitious new program this fall aimed at helping undergraduate students gain professional experience before graduation.

The PACE: Professional Apprenticeship and Career Enhancement program will include on-campus apprenticeships for first- and second-year students, pairing students with staff volunteers who will enable them to gain supervised work experience in fields like IT, finance, communications, and health services.

Students will also have the chance to participate in “industry clusters,” placing them in the same room with Boston’s top business executives for a half-day of networking, leading to jobs, internships, and mentoring opportunities. Newman called this innovative model “a public education competitor” to private universities’ co-op programs.

PhD Candidate Receives Fellowship to Support Research on Vietnamese Families and Autism

Sixth-year doctoral candidate Thanh Nguyen is the second student this year in UMass Boston’s Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program to be accepted into the American Psychological Association’s Minority Fellowship Program. Only five to seven percent of applicants are accepted into the program, which covers the remaining tuition for the accepted student’s schooling. Third-year student Darrick Scott was accepted into the program earlier this year.

Nguyen’s research addresses health service disparities among racial and ethnic minority families dealing with autism and other developmental disabilities—especially the Southeast Asian population.



The Whalemobile is a replica of a real adult female humpback whale named Nile.

Lifesize Replica Gives Students a Lesson in Environmental Humanities

Students in Associate Professor of English Sari Edelstein’s ENG 205 Reading the Whale class didn’t just read Herman Melville’s classic *Moby Dick* this semester. The students held class inside the Whalemobile, a replica of a real-life adult female humpback whale named Nile. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation’s “High Impact Humanities” grant funded the visit, along with a whale watch. Edelstein said these high-impact experiences have been incredible ways to help students engage with a notoriously difficult text and to realize also how literature can help them read the world around them.

CEHD Receives \$1.1M Grant to Prepare Master’s Students to Work with Children with Disabilities

The U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services has awarded faculty members in the Curriculum and Instruction and Counseling and School Psychology departments a five-year \$1.1 million grant to prepare master’s-level students to serve infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children with high-intensity needs and their families.

The Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Early Childhood Education Project (ICEP) aims to prepare scholars to work as a team with families and other professionals to gather accurate assessment information. Accepted and matriculated ICEP scholars will have their graduate tuition covered.

DEVELOP A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PUBLIC SERVICE



The McCormack Graduate School cosponsored a debate among candidates for Boston city councilor at-large at WBUR's CitySpace.

McCormack Grad School Cosponsors City Council Debate

The eight candidates for Boston's four at-large city councilor seats squared off on October 22 on pressing issues including transportation, housing and development, addiction, and education. The debate, part of a series, was sponsored by a partnership between the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, WBUR, and the *Boston Globe*.

Institute for Early Education Leadership and Innovation Earns \$12.4M to Lead Statewide Professional Development Initiative

The Institute for Early Education Leadership and Innovation, housed in the College of Education and Human Development, has been selected to administer the Department of Early Education and Care's three-year \$12.4 million StrongStart Training and Technical Assistance Grant. Through this award, the institute will oversee the design and implementation of training and technical assistance services through five StrongStart Professional Development Centers located across Massachusetts.

The institute will support quality improvement in early education and out-of-school time programs and the professional development of leaders and educators to steer that change. They will work to coordinate and align the state's professional development and quality improvement systems for the early education and out-of-school time workforce, which includes more than 9,000 licensed programs and an estimated 70,000 early educators working in family child care, center-based child care, and out-of-school time programs.

Kew Joins USAID Team in Nigeria

Associate Professor and Chair of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance Darren Kew has been invited by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to join an international team of experts to develop a new five-year strategy for USAID's democracy promotion assistance for Nigeria in December. In October, Kew also assisted the U.S. Institute of Peace with its work to support the development of state peace agencies in Nigeria, focusing particularly on religious, communal, and resource conflicts in the northern half of the country.



Dean David Cash, Interim Chancellor Katherine Newman, Congressman Stephen Lynch, and UMass President Marty Meehan at the inaugural Your Congress event

U.S. Rep. Stephen Lynch Visits Campus for Your Congress Series

Congressman Stephen Lynch kicked off the McCormack Graduate School's Your Congress series in September with a wide-ranging discussion with students, faculty, and staff on issues from health care and diversity to student debt and climate change.

Your Congress aims to bring each member of the Massachusetts delegation to campus on a rotating basis, providing opportunities to hear from those who represent us in Washington. The university also welcomed Congressman Richard Neal to speak this fall.

POSITION UNIVERSITY IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION MARKETPLACE



Joseph Farah was the only undergraduate member of the Event Horizon Telescope Collaboration when an image of a black hole was taken.

UMass Boston Physics Major Shares in \$3M Breakthrough Prize for Black Hole Image

UMass Boston physics major and Honors College student Joseph Farah is sharing in a \$3 million Breakthrough Prize for being part of the Event Horizon Telescope Collaboration that took the first image of a black hole in April. When the image was recorded, Farah was the only undergraduate on the 347-member team.

In the spring Farah was also one of the 496 individuals nationwide to receive a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, the preeminent award for undergraduates in the sciences, engineering, and mathematics. After graduation, Farah hopes to pursue a PhD in astrophysics.

Gerontology Institute Marks 35th Anniversary With Symposium

UMass Boston celebrated the Gerontology Institute's 35th anniversary with a symposium held on campus this fall. A panel of founders and other past leaders of the gerontology program described the formative years of the institute and the gerontology academic department. They were joined on the Snowden Auditorium stage by the current directors of four Gerontology Institute centers, as well as two academic program leaders, who discussed their more recent achievements and current priorities.

RegisteredNursing.Org Ranks Online RN-BS Program No. 1 in MA

Nursing advocacy organization RegisteredNursing.org analyzed 440 online RN-BSN programs in the United States this summer and determined that UMass Boston's Online RN-BS Program is the 11th best in the country and the top program in Massachusetts. Nursing programs were assessed on several factors that represent how well a program supports students during school, toward licensure, and beyond.

Jonathan Safran Foer Visits Campus for Author Series

Author Jonathan Safran Foer spoke to students, staff, and faculty about helping the planet during the first installment of a new author series sponsored by National Public Radio's *Living on Earth*, the School for the Environment, and the McCormack Graduate School.

Foer, who recently released *We Are the Weather: Saving the Planet Begins at Breakfast*, made his case for why collectively reducing the consumption of animal products can reduce our carbon footprint in a conversation recorded before a live university audience in the Campus Center Ballroom for *Living on Earth* and a future podcast.



Ofc. Matt Coviello and Lt. Clara Molina look over a table's worth of items police agencies donated to 9-year-old El Paso hero Eduardo Mier.

UMass Boston Police Bring Gifts to El Paso Shooting Survivor

Members of the UMass Boston police department, led by Detective Lieutenant Clara Molina, reached out to departments across the country and Canada to collect patches, challenge coins, and other items for El Paso shooting survivor nine-year-old Eduardo Mier. Close to 50 agencies participated, including the FBI and New York City's SWAT team.

The department also bought Mier an iPad to help with his studies. Officer Matt Coviello flew to El Paso to deliver a suitcase full of all the donated items. Telemundo and NBC10 Boston aired a story on UMass Boston police's efforts.

STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE



Bob Chen shows off an example from a prior campaign of what will be on buses in the Merrimack Valley, Worcester, Kansas City, and Topeka.

NSF Awards 4-Year Grant to Interim Environment Dean for Climate Change Education

School for the Environment Interim Dean Bob Chen has put ostriches on the MBTA to tell people about climate change, and he's let kids do the talking through their artwork on the T. Last month the National Science Foundation awarded a four-year, \$3 million grant to Chen and his collaborators to create a climate change education model that can be replicated all across the country and even internationally. UMass Boston's portion of the grant is \$1,404,452.

The project builds upon the idea that the former director of science education of UMass Lowell, the late David Lustick, had—that children can engage other children on science and technology topics through their art.

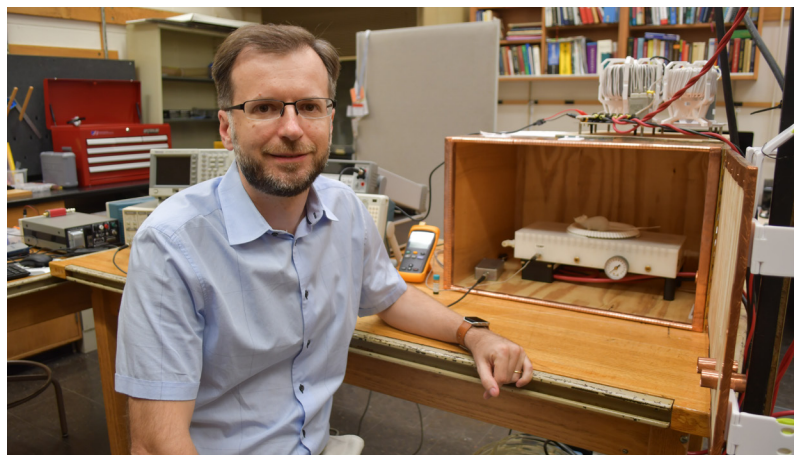
Woodhams's \$979K CAREER Grant Will Help Understand Disease Management in Frogs and Humans

Assistant Professor of Biology Douglas Woodhams has earned a five-year \$979,046 CAREER grant from the National Science Foundation to study how peptides—tiny proteins in mucus that are secreted from the skin glands—regulate the microbiomes of the northern leopard frog.

Woodhams is studying frogs in Burlington, Vermont, an area where a fungus has been killing off amphibians over the last 20 years. In this particular area, the frog population seems to have stabilized itself, and Woodhams wants to know why. There are human implications to this research as well, since we carry beneficial gut bacteria just as amphibians carry bacteria on their skin.

Pantalone Part of \$3.8M Grant to Increase HIV Testing, PrEP Use

Professor of Psychology David Pantalone is working to develop interventions to get sexually active minority men, especially black and Latino men, tested and treated for HIV. Pantalone is the clinical psychologist on a new five-year, \$3.8 million National Institute of Mental Health grant designed to get Latino gay and bisexual men to be tested regularly for HIV and to take pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), a medication treatment that prevents HIV acquisition. UMass Boston's part of the grant is \$228,000.



Alexey Tonyushkin's imaging prototype shows how his mouse subject would be positioned on the imaging device.

Tonyushkin Receives \$442K to Develop Breast Cancer Imaging Prototype

Mammograms can be painful. Biopsies are invasive. And MRIs take time. Research Assistant Professor Alexey Tonyushkin received a three-year \$441,780 grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop his magnetic particle imaging (MPI) prototype, which uses noninvasive techniques to detect nanoparticles—markers for breast cancer tumors.

Tonyushkin, who is also the director of the physics teaching labs at UMass Boston, says his technique promises to be cheaper, faster, and safer. It will take two minutes to do an exam.

American Heart Association Funds Study of How Blood Vessels Respond to Exercise Training

Assistant Professor of Exercise and Health Sciences Huimin Yan has received a two-year, \$154,000 American Heart Association Institutional Research Enhancement Award for her research of vascular health, the health of the blood vessels that provide blood to our tissues. She is focused on African American women because after diagnostic guidelines were streamlined last year, the AHA reported that 46 percent of African American women had high blood pressure, a major risk factor for stroke and cardiovascular disease.

RENEW THE FACULTY

UMass Boston Launches its Second Cohort of Faculty-Practitioner Co-Teachers

The Office of Community Partnership's Practitioner Scholars Program pilot recently kicked off a second year with a new cohort of four faculty-practitioner co-teaching pairs, thanks to a grant from The Boston Foundation and a private donation.

The program matches up UMass Boston faculty with community practitioners to co-teach a course in the spring, providing students with real life applications of their educational experiences. Students produce projects that contribute positively to the community through experiential learning, engagement, and social action.

Third Cohort of CLA Faculty Mellon Grant Winners Announced

Eight faculty members from UMass Boston's College of Liberal Arts have received grants to develop innovative humanities courses as part of UMass Boston's High Impact Humanities Initiative. Supported by a three-year \$515,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation, this initiative connects curriculum, community, and careers with the aim of spurring greater student interest and academic success in the humanities.

This year's award winners represent a range of fields, including American studies, Asian studies, English, Latin American and Iberian studies, performing arts, philosophy, and women's, gender and sexuality studies.

Sundean Receives Excellence in Policy Award from American Academy of Nursing

Assistant Professor of Nursing Lisa Sundean has received the Excellence in Policy Award from *Nursing Outlook*, the journal of the American Academy of Nursing. Sundean's article, "Nurses on Healthcare Governing Boards: An Integrative Review," shines a spotlight on the national initiative to appoint more nurses to boards of directors to guide governance decisions that support improved healthcare. This very competitive award was presented at the American Academy of Nursing Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in October.

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

Institute Receives Grant to Prevent Opioid Addiction in Native Youth

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Bureau of Substance Addiction Services has awarded UMass Boston's Institute for New England Native American Studies a contract for over \$600,000 to provide outreach and activities in the Native American community for youth affected by alcohol and opioid misuse.

Native American youth will participate in digital storytelling, sports activities, wellness retreats, and other approaches to enhance capacity for Native communities in the battle against substance misuse.

Olchanyi Awarded \$237K NSF Grant for Quantum Technology Work

Professor of Physics Maxim Olchanyi has received a three-year National Science Foundation grant worth \$237,700 for his project, "Ways to Mitigate Decoherence in Solitonic Schrödinger Cats." He wants to create a robust macroscopic quantum superposition. Part of the grant money will go toward increasing the public awareness of the importance of quantum technologies. For this part of the project, Olchanyi will be presenting at local museums. He hopes to get additional funding to support this particular effort.

DEVELOP FIRST-RATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Solar Array and Battery Storage Project Commences

UMass Boston has signed an agreement with energy services business Enel X to install solar, lithium-ion storage, and electric vehicle-charging stations on campus. Construction of the solar array and battery storage project has begun, with the goal to have it completed by early 2020.

Enel X will purchase, install, and operate the system on the university's behalf. Solar photovoltaics company EnterSolar is designing and developing the 1-MW rooftop solar facility in partnership with Enel X. The system should generate around 1.2 gigawatt hours annually.

Integrating the solar with a lithium-ion energy storage system means UMass Boston will be able to generate and store renewable energy that can be used when electricity costs are highest. A recent grant award from the state has increased the estimated amount of electricity cost savings to the university by another \$1 million over the 20-year agreement, for a total of approximately \$2.8 million.

Eleven electric vehicle-charging stations are being prepared for installation as well, and several internships and seminars are being planned per the agreement with Enel X.

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS



Interim Chancellor Katherine Newman signed a memorandum of agreement with Rear Adm. Andrew J. Tionson of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Students Eligible for Free Tuition and Job with Coast Guard

UMass Boston and the U.S. Coast Guard signed a memorandum of agreement this fall that paves the way for students to have a job after graduation and their last two years of tuition covered. The College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative Program at UMass Boston will cover a current sophomore's tuition and fees for their junior and senior years.

While still enrolled at UMass Boston, the student will also receive Coast Guard active-duty benefits and pay, as well as valuable leadership, management, law enforcement, navigation, and marine science training. After graduation, they will enter officer candidate school and have a guaranteed job as a Coast Guard officer. To start, one UMass Boston student will be accepted into the program each year.



Hundreds of prospective Beacons visited UMass Boston in October for Open House.

Freshman Open House Draws More Than 1,700 Visitors

UMass Boston's Division of Enrollment Management welcomed 753 students to campus this October for Open House. These prospective Beacons were accompanied by 1,025 guests, including their parents, siblings, and friends—making a grand total of 1,778 visitors.

Representatives from across the university shared information about UMass Boston's academics, student life, financial aid, athletics, housing opportunities, and the application process. Additionally, students and their families learned about study abroad programs, veterans' services, and other support areas of the university.



UMass Boston welcomed 1,000 students into its residence halls at the start of the semester.

UMass Boston Welcomes More than 1,000 Students During Move-in Days

More than 1,000 students and their families—coming from as far away as Haiti, Pakistan, China, and Japan—moved into the university's residence halls at the start of the fall semester. Seventy-six percent of residents call Massachusetts home, 16 percent arrived from out of state, and eight percent are international. The residential community closely resembles the diversity of UMass Boston undergraduates, with 52 percent new students of color residing in the halls.

IMPROVE DELIVERY OF ADMINISTRATION AND IT SERVICES



UMass Boston launched the Here4U app this fall.

University Launches New Digital Aid for Students

This fall UMass Boston launched a new feature as part of its mobile application, which aims to assist students with campus questions, concerns, and feedback. Here4U—umb.edu/here4u—is inspired by municipal 311 systems that provide a single point of entry for a multitude of issues.

Spearheaded by Student Affairs, it was developed via a collaboration of several university areas. Over the course of development, more than 70 common student issues were identified. The app uses student friendly language instead of organizational chart logic and institutional terminology. In two months of use, students have received assistance with their bills, reported facilities concerns, looked up events on campus, received information about on-campus employment, and received help on academic advising and registration.

New Student Co-Curricular Reward Program Begins

The Division of Student Affairs kicked off Beacon Rewards, an incentive program to encourage students to attend campus events. The more events a student attends, the more points they accrue. Points can be redeemed for prizes like air pods, water bottles, and wireless speakers. Currently, over 200 students are enrolled in the program and can attend events sponsored by departments within student affairs and campus recreation.



Vice Chancellor
John Drew

UMass Boston Names New Vice Chancellor for Enrollment

Interim Chancellor Katherine Newman has appointed John Drew as the Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management. He will lead the effort to build on the university's success in recruiting undergraduate students during a time of shifting demographics and a decline in the number of high school students, and work with other campus leaders to keep an upward trajectory for student retention and graduation rates.

Drew previously served as interim vice chancellor for Enrollment Management. He first joined UMass Boston in 2007 as senior associate director of Undergraduate Admissions, following six years in admissions at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I. In 2008 he was promoted to director of Undergraduate Admissions at UMass Boston, and in 2015 was again promoted to assistant vice chancellor for Enrollment Management.

INCREASE ENDOWMENT

State Teacher College at Boston Class of 1959 Supports Scholarship Fund

In addition to celebrating their 60th reunion in October, the State Teacher College at Boston Class of 1959 reached another milestone. Since the beginning of the fiscal year, they raised \$3,755 to support the State Teacher College at Boston Class of 1959 Scholarship Fund, bringing the current total to \$22,240. The \$1,000 scholarship is annually awarded to one undergraduate UMass Boston student.



Gislaine Braga '21, a first-generation college student from Brazil who is enrolled in the accelerated master's program for clinical exercise physiology, spoke at the Celebration of Philanthropy.

Just Imagine Campaign Exceeds Giving Goal of \$100 Million

The Just Imagine Campaign, which closed at the end of the 2019 fiscal year, has generated more than \$114 million, exceeding its giving goal of \$100 million. The campaign was launched in 2012 and has gone toward investing in the future of the university, funding student success, research efforts, annual support, and campus transformations. Among university opportunities created through the campaign, 11 endowed teaching and research funds have been established, 69 undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships have been endowed, and more than \$20 million has gone toward academic programs and departments.

More than 200 members from UMass Boston's Founder's Circle, Chancellor's Council, Lampas Society, and UMBelievers giving societies gathered at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute on November 7 for the university's annual Celebration of Philanthropy. The event recognizes lifetime, longtime, and annual donors of the university and thanks them for their continued support.

Boston Teachers College Luncheon Recognizes Student Scholarship Recipients

Five scholarship recipients were recognized at this year's Boston Teachers College (BTC) Luncheon in November. The luncheon is held annually to bring together former BTC classmates and honor recipients of the BTC Scholarship, all of whom are pursuing a career in education. Each student received a \$5,000 scholarship to go toward their future as educators. The BTC Scholarship Fund is currently at \$776,000, with a goal of reaching \$1 million.

CONTINUE A POSITIVE FOCUS ON DIVERSITY AND POSITIVE CLIMATE



The Uncornered Photo Documentary Project was on display in the Campus Center in October as part of Diversity Month.

UMass Boston Celebrates Diversity Month

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) celebrated Diversity Month on campus throughout October to promote awareness of a variety of issues that impact identity-connected experiences. Programming included a collaborative workshop series with Career Services, events in support of National Coming Out Day and ethnic organizations at UMass Boston, and the university's sixth annual Diversity Fair.

ODEI also partnered with College Bound Dorchester to host *The Uncornered Project* in the Campus Center Atrium. The large-scale public art project captures the experiences of Bostonians from public figures to former gang members sharing a moment they felt cornered and how they became "uncornered."

The Red Flag Domestic Violence Campaign Display Comes to Campus

During the month of October, students were asked to fill out red flags to indicate warning signs or indicators of danger in intimate situations that were then hung in the Campus Center. Creating a community-influenced project, each flag represented the individual narratives that people were courageous enough to share, focusing on domestic violence and sexual assault as it affects all genders, races, and sexual orientations. The campus effort was a collaboration between Office of Student Leadership and Community Engagement, University Health Services, and a student artist.

UMass Boston Awarded NSF Grant to Assess Gender and Racial Equity Among STEM Faculty

The National Science Foundation has awarded UMass Boston a two-year \$300,000 ADVANCE Catalyst grant to conduct a self-assessment regarding gender and racial equity among science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) faculty at UMass Boston, with the ultimate goal of developing a Five-Year Strategic Plan for STEM Faculty Equity.

To identify barriers and facilitators of faculty equity, UMass Boston's grant recipients and two graduate students funded by the grant will be looking at survey data and institutional documents and conducting individual and group interviews with faculty and administrators.

The central emphases in the work will be on hiring, tenure, promotion, work experiences, and sense of belonging among women faculty and faculty of color, with special focus on underrepresented racial minority faculty in STEM fields. The goal is for STEM faculty to reflect both the student body on this majority-minority campus, and the Massachusetts workforce the faculty are preparing students to enter.