

UMASS DARTMOUTH

Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture announces new Advisory Council members

The UMass Dartmouth Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture, the nation's preeminent university-based organization devoted to promoting and sharing the culture of the Lusophone world, has announced the appointment of new Advisory Council members.

"Over the last 15 months, I have become keenly aware of the importance of the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture to both the university and the community," Interim Chancellor Peyton R. Helm said. "Our goal with the appointment of these new members is to honor the mission and history of the center while positioning it for a path-breaking future. These members will re-energize the important commitment of this academic center to community outreach and collaboration. I am impressed by the depth and breadth of these individuals' leadership credentials and grateful for their willingness to serve in this important endeavor."

"Our new members bring a rich diversity of experience and an unyielding commitment to supporting the important work of the center," said Center Director Victor Mendes. "With their guidance, the center is poised to embark on a new journey, celebrating and sharing the cultures of the Lusophone world."

The Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture is one major component of UMass Dartmouth's commitment to the

study and dissemination of Portuguese culture. The university is also home to the Ferreira Mendes Portuguese-American Archives, a comprehensive collection of materials related to the Portuguese-American experience; and the Department of Portuguese, which houses undergraduate, master's, and doctoral level academic programs.

The new members include: Nélia Alves-Guimarães, president of the House of the Azores in New England; João Caixinha, deputy coordinator for the Portuguese Language Programs and Education Affairs in U.S., Camões Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua, IP; Joseph Cordeiro, chief of police, City of New Bedford; Nuno Couto, founder and managing partner, Optimal Partners; Helena DaSilva Hughes, executive director, Immigrants' Assistance Center; Gerard Kavanaugh, senior vice chancellor, UMass Dartmouth; Manuel J. Louro, state council president, Prince Henry Society; Joseph Medina, vice chancellor for advancement, UMass Dartmouth; Victor Mendes, director, Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture; Glivânia de Oliveira, consul-general of Brazil in Boston; Sarah Quintal, president, Azorean Maritime Heritage Society; and Carlos Wahnnon Veiga, Cape Verdean ambassador.

Additional members may be added in the future.