50th Anniversary / Share the Dream

A celebration of opportunity and success

On February 3, 2018 at White’s of Westport, past and present College Now students, faculty, staff, alumni, families and guests will come together to Share the Dream. We look forward to this celebration of student success as we have for fifty years.

Fall Semester First Year Student Highlights

Students were most proud of their academic performance this semester. Excelling beyond their course load, many students sought opportunities to learn more about their community and themselves. Tashneal Africa shared, “Not giving up in psychology. Not quitting volleyball no matter how stressful it got.” Janessa Alston shared that the highlight of her semester “was joining the track team because I met a lot of friends.” Collectively, students were appreciative of the College Now staff. They felt like their counselors were supportive and helpful especially when difficulties arose. Students also noted that tutoring was a main contributor to their academic success. Some students also believed that because of College Now, they have grown into a better version of themselves!

In this Issue:
- Share the Dream
  50th Anniversary
- Student Highlights
- Craig’s Corner
- FAFSA workshops
- Lecturer Appreciation Day
- Peer Mentors
- Student Recruitment
- Semester Events Recap
- Heroes
- Community Service
- New Laptops for testing

“I am proud of changing my habits and working hard.”
-Muhammad Shaikh

“I am proud that we actually get to learn about how to handle college and be more organized.”
-Chayla Ewing

“I am most proud about being part of the College Now program because they offer a lot of help to students. I am proud about the fact that I will pass this semester. I am proud to be in college.”
-Edwinsa Sidney
Craig’s Corner

College Now is excited to be welcoming the program’s 50th cohort of students this Fall semester. It is important to recognize the effort and commitment of all current and past employees of the university who have made this moment possible. Over the years these people have openly fought for equality in our education system, inspired students to create and achieve their goals, and unified the message and image of our institution. Having grown more familiar with the program, it has become increasingly clear how this program serves as a pillar for personifying the Commonwealth’s stance on social responsibility. Additionally, the lasting impact of the program has made it clear that all who participate in any capacity are proud to be a part of the College Now family. I am truly happy to have the opportunity to be a part of this legacy and look forward to celebrating the success of our students at this year’s 50th Share the Dream Banquet.

-Craig Elkins, Director of College Now/START

Community Service

Community service is one of the key requirements for College Now students because to be an educated person one must show love and care to the community. By volunteering to help others, students grow as people, develop new skills, make social connections, and build goodwill with the community. College Now not only wants to make an impact on student’s academic success, but in their life as well. Therefore students are taught to be leaders, role models, and heros to their community. Some of the places College Now students volunteered this fall include: America Reads, Arnie’s Cupboard, Boys and Girls Club, Brockton Hospital, Buttonwood Park Zoo, The Unity House, Dartmouth YMCA Farm, and the UMass Dartmouth Fall Family Festival.

New Laptops!

College Now has purchased new laptops to use for placement testing as part of the College Now admissions process. Shifting from the more traditional pencil and paper testing method, these laptops will make the testing and review process easier and more efficient.

Reaching Out and making a difference.

At 9/11 Day of Service: Share the Harvest at the Dartmouth YMCA.

See more photos on page 5
Student Panel in UNV 101

The transition from high school to college can be exciting and scary at the same time due to all the changes and challenges students encounter along the way. This year’s student panel took place on September 19th. During this event, upper class students from different majors shared their experiences and the challenges they faced throughout the years. Since each experience was unique, first year students had an opportunity to hear about all the different challenges that can occur during college and the different approaches that can be taken to overcome them. Students were delighted with all the support and advice they received from the upper-class students. Events such as this one are great because it helps to motivate and inspire first year students. Students were comfortable asking questions of their peers. The upper class students that participated in the student panel were: Tayaba Tariq, Neusa Gomes, Claudia Borges, Ivanilde Semedo, Keila Gomes, Harrison Gbarbo, Michael Danso, Jared Louf-Woods, and Nathaniel Wilson.

Dean Panel in UNV 101

On October 24th 2017, Academic Deans of each undergraduate college gathered to offer support, guidance, and help our first year students as they transition to college. The purpose of the panel was to give our students an opportunity to interact with academic leaders and to learn more about various colleges, majors, and possible career opportunities at UMass Dartmouth. The interaction between the Academic Deans and students was very enjoyable. The students had questions that the Academic Deans were happy to answer. Some of the Academic Deans also shared their own academic background, and what it means, in their eyes, to be an educated person.

The Academic Deans that participated in this year’s panel included:

- College of Engineering, Interim Dean Ramprasad Balasubramanian,
- College of Nursing: Dean Kimberly Christopher; Associate Dean Karen Barnett
- Charlton College of Business: Assistant Dean Neal Gouck
- College of Arts and Science: Interim Dean Amy Shapiro
- College of Visual and Performing Arts: Dean David Klamen
Lecturer Appreciation Days

Many instructors came to our 9th Annual Lecturer Appreciation Days in late September and joined the College Now staff in celebrating our students’ success. These instructors are responsible for helping pave the way for our students to achieve academic success. Without the help of our instructors, we would not have the ability to educate these bright minds that come through the door and have a life changing experience here at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

The Places We Go…

Following are some of the places we have traveled to this fall to recruit and meet with prospective students.

Attleboro  Fitchburg  Middleboro  Winchendon
Boston     Franklin  New Bedford  Worcester
Bourne     Gardner   Plymouth    
Brighton   Hanover   Rochester   
Brockton   Harwich   Roxbury     
Canton     Hyannis   Roxbury Crossing 
Carver     Hyde Park  South Easton  
Charlestown Jamaica Plain  South Yarmouth  
Dartmouth  Leominster  Swansea     
Dorchester Marion   Taunton     
East Boston Marlborough  Upton      
Fairhaven  Mattapoisett  Wareham    
Fall River Medford   West Roxbury  
Falmouth   Middleboro  Westport   

Page 4
9/11 Day of Service: Share the Harvest

Every year the 9/11 Day of Service marks a very important anniversary not only for the nation but also in our community. On this day many community based organizations rally at the Share the Harvest community farm at the Dartmouth YMCA. Volunteers help harvest produce that is then distributed to local families and veterans in need through local food banks. The Day of Service helps provide an opportunity to individuals looking to contribute in their community. As in past years, College Now students and staff participated along side other UMass Dartmouth groups in this community service event.

College Now Spotlight!

Jose Junior Bettencourt, works for CITS on campus and does a great job fixing our computers. Keep a look out for him when you call CITS for Computer support.

Jared Louf-Woods, is the Little East Conference Men’s Indoor Track Athlete of the Year! He is also one of our student office workers. Good work, Jared!

Matt King graduated last year and is currently working in a marketing position at the Swansea Mall. He is very thankful for all the support he received from College Now while at the university.

Carla Furtado, a recent graduate of UMass Dartmouth, is currently working as a Personal Banker at St. Anne’s Credit Union. Good luck Carla in your new position!
College Now Activities, Fall 2017

Kickball and Cookies

Kickball and Cookies, our first event for the fall semester, was held on September 20th. Students gathered for some kickball, and socializing to help relieve some of the stress that the beginning of the semester often brings. This was a great opportunity for our first-year students to meet upper-classmen. It was a fun-filled fall evening.

Career Development

During the Fall semester two Career Development workshops were conducted for College Now students. Career Development Center professionals provided students with the necessary information to build an effective resume. They also provided a workshop to students on acquiring essential skills to be successful in the job market.

Campus Trail Time

On November 2nd, 2017, the College Now program organized a campus trail time with Jamie Jacquart and some of his students from the Sustainability Green Navigator program. Students had the opportunity to spend time outdoors and explore the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's beautiful campus.

Academic Advising Sessions

This fall we held three sessions for College Now students to learn more about academic advising in various colleges within UMass Dartmouth. Representatives for the College of Arts and Science, the College of Engineering, and the College of Visual and Performing Arts came to talk with our students about different programs and information about academic advising within each college.
College Now Activities, Fall 2017

Board Games and Ice Cream

Back by popular demand. The end of the semester gathering was held on December 5th and included board games and ice cream. First year and upper class students gathered to celebrate a successful fall semester. Over 40 students came to play some games, eat some ice cream, and visit with peers and College Now staff. It was a great way to wrap up the semester.

Student Worker Luncheon

Every semester College Now holds a student worker luncheon to thank the Peer Mentors, tutors, and office workers. This fall staff brought food for a home style potluck. It was wonderful having lunch and sharing some holiday cheer before heading into finals. The College Now Staff appreciates all of our student workers and the positive impact that they have on students’ success. Thank you for giving your time and your care for the students in College Now.

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.”
~Nelson Mandela
Who is your Hero?
When many people hear the word "hero," they automatically think about those iconic figures such as Superman, Wonder Woman, Police Officers, Firefighters, and doctors.

Often our greatest heroes are those closest to us. They could be parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, friends. Sometimes our heroes are celebrities we admire. They might not be the people out there saving every person in distress, but they are our very own special heroes. As the saying goes, “Not all heroes wear capes.”

There are the many heroes behind the scenes that rarely ever get the recognition they deserve. They are behind us pushing us forward. They are the heroes that we lean on in times of distress. They are the heroes that will unconditionally love us for who we are. They are the heroes that motivate us to be our best version of ourselves. They are the heroes that support us financially, emotionally, work endlessly, and overwhelmingly to give us a better life. Thank you to all our heroes.

“My hero is my mom because even though we’ve been through a lot as a family she has always loved and cared for us. She taught us what is important in life.”
-Paige Zora

“Earl Thomas. He went from rich to poor and never gave up in life.”
-Malik Sanon

“My grandfather, Nelson Velezquez. He was a huge role model when growing up and was always here for me.”
-Xavier Colon

“Hugh Shug. Computer genius.”
-Jose Fernandes

“My grandma. She was extremely successful.”
-Zoe Carr

“Trevor Noah, he is funny and has a television show in America, he is from South Africa.”- Ianted Kariemi

“My mom because she never left my side and is always there for me no matter what.” -Odia Bah

“My aunt Karen because she showed me how important an education is.”- Nathan Niziolek

“Jane Morgan. Even though it is not her job to help me with other classes she always does.”
-Miguel S. Santana

“My mom, my grandma, Steve Jobs, Nelson Mandela. They taught me the value of hard work.”
-Jose Marques

“I am my own hero. I am the only person I can completely rely on. I strive to be the best version of myself.”- Tinsae Aklilu

“My Mom is my hero because she’s always been on my back and she’s always pushed me to be the best.”—Joseph Marquez.
**Academic Calendar:**
**2018 Spring Semester**

- **Sunday, January 21, 2018**
  Students move back into Residence Halls

- **Monday, January 22, 2018**
  First Day of Classes

- **Friday, January 26, 2018**
  Last day to Add, Drop, or Audit

- **Saturday, February 3, 2018**
  Share the Dream Banquet

- **Monday, February 19, 2018**
  Presidents’ Day Holiday: no classes

- **Tuesday, February 20, 2018**
  Follow Monday’s class schedule

- **Monday, February 26, 2018**
  Last day to file Pass/Fail

- **Thursday, March 1, 2018**
  Priority FAFSA Deadline

- **Friday, March 9, 2018**
  Spring recess begins after last class

- **Monday, March 19, 2018**
  Classes resume

- **Wednesday, April 11, 2018**
  Last day to Withdraw from a class

- **Monday, April 16, 2018**
  Patriots’ Day Holiday: no classes

- **Tuesday, May 1, 2018**
  Last day of Spring classes

- **Wednesday, May 2, 2018**
  Study Day

- **Thursday, May 3, 2018**
  Final exams begin

- **Wednesday, May 9, 2018**
  Final exams end

- **Saturday, May 12, 2018**
  Undergraduate & Graduate Commencement

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**Priority FAFSA Deadline is March 1st**

The UMass Dartmouth priority deadline for filing FAFSA is March 1st. It is important that students log onto their COIN account, and take a look at the Student To Do List because incomplete items will impact Financial Aid eligibility. To assist student’s with this process, the University provides Financial aid workshops to help you with this process. Financial Aid staff is available every Friday from 3:30pm-4:30pm in LARTS 203. Students and Parents are welcome.

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**You Are Invited to Our Financial Aid Labs**

**When**
Every Friday!
3:30pm – 4:30pm
Open to Current & Future UMD Students!

**Where**
LARTS 203
*Located on the Second Floor, above the Liberal Arts Building North Entrance.*
Once College Now, Always College Now.

“Whatever you’re afraid of, or hesitant to become because you think you can’t--Become it. Rawly. Fiercely. Honestly. If you’re scared of it, it’s probably an indication you’re headed in the right direction. -Kristi Stout

Math 100 Presentations ~ Fall 2017 ~
On November 30th, 33 students from Anne Boisvert’s Math 100 class displayed posters they created. The posters demonstrated information about Parabolas, including the use of the Quadratic Formula to find x-intercepts. Additionally, they displayed translations of functions, sometimes called "Function Families."

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