

To the Board:

As we reach the midpoint of the new academic year, I am pleased to present this quarterly report highlighting recent progress UMass Boston has made in enacting our mission. In this report are stories that highlight student success and workforce preparedness through innovative academic initiatives that invest in our talented, motivated young people, and support equitable pathways through higher education to careers.

- In our ongoing efforts to bolster enrollment, UMass Boston and Bunker Hill Community College signed a partnership agreement to streamline the pathway from community college to four-year university through the new Future Beacon Joint Admissions Program. The partnership aims to ensure student success and improve outcomes for community college transfer students in the commonwealth. In addition, UMass Boston recently introduced the Beacon Pledge program, our promise to keep higher education affordable for Massachusetts residents, remove financial barriers, and demystify the cost of college by offering high-need students the ability to earn a bachelor’s degree at UMass Boston for free. (page 3)
- Reflecting our commitment to workforce development for the city of Boston and the commonwealth, UMass Boston is piloting a microcredentialing initiative aimed at enhancing workforce readiness for students and expanding skill-building opportunities for community members. On the strength of a key appropriation by Congressman Stephen Lynch, UMass Boston will initially offer three new noncredit microcredentials programs. (page 5)
- This fall, the UMass Boston’s Chancellor’s Lecture Series on climate change and resilience featured a groundbreaking presentation by renowned landscape architect Kongjian Yu on his globally recognized “sponge city” concept. Yu’s lecture detailed how he and his design firm have transformed urban centers across China into “sponge cities” that are more climate resilient and capable of managing coastal flooding. The lecture also served to expand the conversation on strengthening coastal resilience in Boston, one of UMass Boston’s Grand Scholarly Challenges. (page 5)

I trust you will appreciate this report on our progress.

—Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco



Rep. David Biele, Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, students Abdulrahman Shabayta and Isabella Pino, Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, Vice Chancellor John Drew, and Rep. Dan Hunt at the Beacon Pledge announcement event.

UMass Boston Announces Free Tuition for Eligible Students

UMass Boston has announced a new free tuition pledge for students with the greatest needs, combining university, state, and federal aid to provide unprecedented certainty to students and families as their college application process begins.

Drawing on the significant support the Healey-Driscoll administration has provided through MASSGrant Plus Expansion, UMass Boston’s Beacon Pledge will provide a comprehensive aid package to enable eligible students next fall to attend college with all tuition and mandatory fees covered.

The university officially launched the Beacon Pledge at an October event attended by Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, Representatives David Biele and Dan Hunt, and Senator Nick Collins, along with prominent business and community leaders and members of the university community.

“I want to thank the Healey-Driscoll administration for their unwavering support of public higher education. Considering over 80 percent of our graduates remain in Massachusetts, the state’s continued investment in public higher education is an investment in our future

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Cover Story (cont.)

workforce,” said UMass Boston Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco. “Being the son of schoolteachers and an immigrant myself, I know education’s vital role in opening doors for young people. Our Beacon Pledge program will make a four-year degree at Boston’s premier public research university not just a dream but an attainable reality.”

The Beacon Pledge Program offers high-need students the ability to earn a bachelor’s degree for free. It will use federal, state, and institutional aid to cover total tuition and mandatory fees. In-state students from families with an adjusted gross income of \$75,000 or less qualify for the program. University leaders hope the program can support as many as 3,000 students in its first year, more than one-third of whom are expected to come from Suffolk County and a vast majority of whom are expected to be students of color.

Improve Delivery of Administration and IT Services

UMass Boston Public Safety and Police Earn Reaccreditation

This October saw a significant achievement for the UMass Boston Department of Public Safety and Police—a third consecutive accreditation from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission.

The accreditation reflects the dedication, hard work, and commitment of every member of the department to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and service to our community. Police Chief Stacey Lloyd received the official reaccreditation certification for UMass Boston, a testament to the dedication of accreditation manager Lt. Clara Molina, a 29-year department veteran.

For UMass Boston, reaccreditation represents the department’s pledge to continually review, refine, and improve the way it serves and protects. It is a commitment to transparency, accountability, and community trust, the foundation of effective policing.

New Director of the Ross Center for Disability Services Named

Anne Jannarone has been named director of the Ross Center for Disability Services. She will be joining the UMass Boston community after having served as the assistant dean of students and director of the Office of Disability Services at Georgia Institute of Technology. In addition to her extensive work experience, Jannarone holds advanced degrees in rehabilitation counseling and higher education administration.

Enhance the Learning Experience



Avak Kahvejian speaks at UMass Boston's convocation.

Chancellor, Life Sciences Entrepreneur Inspire Students and Faculty at Convocation

“In the AI era, it must be our humanity that sets us apart.” This was the message Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco had for the campus community at convocation on September 12, urging that higher education must begin educating for an AI future that is humanist.

While students, faculty, and staff were welcomed back to classes earlier in the month, the convocation—which marks the beginning of a new academic year—served to remind the UMass Boston community of their shared mission.

Chancellor Suárez-Orozco also welcomed life sciences inventor, entrepreneur, and CEO Avak Kahvejian, who encouraged the UMass Boston community to ask bold questions, experiment, and explore, explaining that “breakthroughs arise from new experiences that drive new insights and connections.”

“This is the way to innovation....Keep an open mind,” he said.

Earlier in the program, Provost Joseph Berger welcomed 32 new tenure-track faculty members recruited to campus this year through national searches. He also congratulated 40 faculty who have been recognized for promotions to the rank of associate professor, full professor, and senior lecturer, as well as five library promotions.

Maintain and Improve Affordability and Access



BHCC President Pam Eddinger and UMB Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco at the signing event

UMass Boston Celebrates New Direct Transfer Admissions Process with BHCC

This fall, UMass Boston signed an agreement to streamline the pathway to admission for students at Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) planning to transfer to UMass Boston. Deemed the Future Beacon Joint Admissions Program, the partnership is designed to provide a seamless transfer experience and support student success.

Through the new agreement, signed by UMass Boston Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco and BHCC President Pam Eddinger, prospective students may access resources and support services across both campuses, including the Beacon Fitness Center, campus Wi-Fi, events, and libraries, as well as the ability to apply simultaneously to both UMass Boston and BHCC.

As Boston's premier public research university, UMass Boston welcomes more than 1,500 new transfer students annually, more than any other public university in the commonwealth. BHCC is the largest institution sending students to UMass Boston, with more than 300 students transferring annually. The Future Beacon Joint Admissions Program provides a comprehensive support network and a seamless transfer experience for transfer students who want to move from BHCC to UMass Boston to continue their education.

"This agreement solidifies the longstanding partnership between BHCC and UMass Boston and expands opportunities for students by continuing to remove critical barriers students experience when transferring institutions," said Sydney Morgan, director of undergraduate admissions at UMass Boston.

Enrollment Management Implements Slate for Student Success

The Division of Enrollment Management recently implemented Slate for Student Success. The new system, designed to increase efficiency and centralize communications, data analytics, and customer service, will ultimately improve the student experience and reduce administrative burden.

Through Slate, staff members can gain a full picture of individual student engagement, from class registration, to appointments with advisors, and next steps in the financial aid process. The syncing of student information across functional areas enables staff members to provide holistic support to keep students enrolled and thriving.

The positive impact of this platform is seen throughout different areas of the division, including the One Stop, the Office for Merit-Based Scholarships, Veterans Affairs, Financial Aid, and Student Employment Services. The system empowers staff to track and prepare for student interactions, send targeted email communications, review aggregate data to identify bottlenecks and monitor progress, and view email opens and appointment records. Slate replaces Salesforce and Form Assembly, reducing administrative costs to the university while expanding the streamlined and tailored service necessary for student success.

Renew the Faculty

Geochemistry Professor Karen Johannesson Elected as an AGU Fellow



Karen Johannesson

UMass Boston Professor of Geochemistry Karen Johannesson has been named an American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fellow for her research in environmental geochemistry.

The Earth and space science association bestows this honor annually to a select number of individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the advancement of Earth and space sciences.

Johannesson said she was surprised to find out the news after many years of being an AGU member and celebrating friends who received the same recognition in the past. "It feels good," she said. "It's a very small percentage of the group and it's a huge organization, so it's quite an honor to become an AGU fellow."

Johannesson's work at UMass Boston focuses on chemical speciation and biogeochemical cycling of trace elements in the environment. She has worked extensively in groundwater flow systems over the years, and more recently she has focused on estuarine and coastal marine systems. She is particularly interested in how microbial processes influence the mobilization and transport of trace elements in environmental systems.

Continue a Positive Focus on Diversity and Positive Climate



A student tries out the smoothie bike at the wellness fair.

Beacon Wellness Walk and Resource Fair Draws Hundreds to Promote Health and Community Connection

University Health Services and UMass Boston Dining Services led an inaugural Beacon Wellness Walk Resource Fair on October 3 in the newly opened quad. Designed to promote both individual and community well-being, the event encouraged participants to explore a broad array of campus resources—from mental health to academic support—in an engaging environment.

The wellness-centered fair featured 20 UMass Boston departments, offering information on crucial topics like general health, fitness, self-care, nutrition, time management, sustainability, transportation, and academic support. More than 750 attendees explored interactive tables, connecting with staff and student leaders as they learned about services that promote a healthier and balanced lifestyle.



From left, Laurie Nsiah-Jefferson, director for the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, moderates a discussion with Professor of Psychology Evan Auguste; Tashira Halyard, a Georgetown University attorney, equity consultant, and content creator; Mark Scott, of the Boston Public Health Commission; and doctoral candidate Ashley Lazarre.

UMass Boston Celebrates Fifth Annual Black Lives Matter Day, Focuses on Holistic Wellness and Health Promotion

Social and racial justice depend on the well-being of individuals and communities.

Reflecting this connection, the campus's fifth annual Black Lives Matter Day, held on November 4, focused on empowering participants to enhance their own wellness and family health. The event also encouraged advocacy and organization for stronger social, physical, and administrative systems that impact their health.

The event featured a panel of health researchers and practitioners, a keynote, remarks from Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, and a health fair. Tariana Little, co-founder and CEO of EmVision Productions, a health behavior and public health advocate and UMass Boston graduate, served as the keynote speaker.

"This year's Black Lives Matter Day can shine a light on the tremendous expertise in health sciences, policy, and services among our Black community at UMass Boston, in Greater Boston, and nationally, and the experiences we all have that can enable us as individuals, family members, and community leaders to ensure that our environments are truly health-promoting and we may enjoy robust good health and wellness that are our rights as Americans," said Michael Johnson, special assistant to the chancellor for Black life, an organizer of the event.

Health is central to UMass Boston's commitment to becoming an antiracist, health-promoting institution.

"I hope our Black Lives Matter Day today helps you recognize your agency in supporting your own health and wellness, and that of your families, your communities, your coworkers, your fellow students, your fellow staff members. And I hope it gives you the tools to advocate for health-promoting environments," Suárez-Orozco said.

Enhance the Learning Experience



(From right) GBH and PRX's *The World* cohost Carolyn Beeler led a fireside chat with Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, landscape architect Kongjian Yu, and School for the Environment Dean Carol Thornber.

Landscape Architect Kongjian Yu Talks Sponge Cities at Chancellor's Lecture Series

As climate change leads to more intense storms and flooding in cities across the world, renowned landscape architect Kongjian Yu is urging us to move away from concrete-based solutions that build walls against water and instead to “embrace the water.”

Yu, a professor and founding dean of Peking University College of Architecture and Landscape and founder and design principal of Turenscape, shared his groundbreaking concept of “sponge cities” as part of the Chancellor's Lecture Series on October 24.

A leading voice in ecological urban design, Yu emphasized that traditional infrastructure methods, such as concrete flood barriers, often fail to protect cities from extreme weather events intensified by climate change. Instead, his sponge city model advocates for more urban parks, gardens, green spaces, wetlands, nature strips, and permeable pavings—resilient landscapes that absorb, store, and naturally filter water, transforming urban spaces into ecosystems that work harmoniously with nature.

After the lecture, GBH and PRX's *The World* cohost Carolyn Beeler led a fireside chat with Yu, Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, and School for the Environment Dean Carol Thornber, discussing what opportunities there might be for more nature-based solutions in Boston.

This was the third event in the Climate Crisis to Climate Resilience Chancellor's Lecture Series, which was established by Chancellor Suárez-Orozco in 2023 to engage distinguished scholars on global challenges that define our times.



Students give final presentations in the iTCGA Research Immersion in Cancer Genomics microcredentialing course.

UMass Boston Launches Campus-Wide Microcredentialing Initiative

UMass Boston is piloting a new campus-wide microcredentialing initiative as part of its ongoing efforts to help students prepare for entry into the workforce and give community members the opportunity to update or expand their skill sets. Microcredentials are competency-based, short, and flexible programs of study designed to develop specific in-demand skills.

The initiative currently includes three new noncredit microcredentials: Introduction to Offshore Wind, iTCGA Research Immersion in Cancer Genomics, and a Resident Assistant program.

“Microcredentials are a value-add for UMass Boston students, faculty and staff, as well as community members, especially our trusted employer partners that look to us for a full range of learning and training opportunities,” said Tina Chang, assistant provost for community and executive education, who is leading the initiative. “Growing numbers of employers invest in microcredentials to upskill and reskill their staff to enhance their talent recruitment and retention efforts.”

Bob Chen, a professor in the School for the Environment, led the first Introduction to Offshore Wind microcredential course this summer. Students virtually experienced traveling to an offshore wind farm and climbing to the top of a wind turbine, he said. “Seeing this enthusiasm for a rapidly evolving career opportunity suggests that microcredentials are an engaging, low barrier, adaptive model for engaging and educating diverse audiences,” he added.

Strengthen the University's Research and Development Enterprise

University Research Awards for the Past Quarter

- PI Kelly Ann Haines/Institute Community Inclusion received \$2,233,401 from the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (Sub from U.S. Department of Education) for *FY24-28 GoMN! Subminimum Wage to Competitive Integrated Employment Model Demonstration Project*.
- PI Serra Acar/Curriculum and Instruction received \$1,246,480 from the U.S. Department of Education for *Project PEP: Preparing Early Intervention Providers to Promote High-Expectations and Provide Effective Evidence-Based Interventions and Services*.
- PI Rahul Kulkarni/Physics received \$900,000 from the National Science Foundation Award for *Partnership for Research and Training in QUantum, Artificial intelligence, Non-equilibrium Physics Theory, and Applications (QUANTA)*.
- PI Bo Sheng/Computer Science received \$439,695 from the U.S. Department of Defense for *Developing a New Research and Teaching Laboratory for Networked AI at UMass Boston*.
- PI Anne Douglass/Institute for Early Education received \$250,000 from Stranahan Foundation for *Building Evidence About Pathways for a Diverse and Thriving ECE Workforce*.
- PI Anne Douglass/Institute for Early Education received \$200,000 from the MA Department of Early Education and Care for *Continuous Quality Improvement Planning*.
- PI Jessica Whiteley/Nursing received \$200,000 from the Linde Family Foundation for *Nurses Connect - A Peer Mentoring Program to Enhance Nursing Student Success*.
- PI Michael Rahaim/Engineering received \$199,952 from the National Science Foundation for *ERI: SDR Beyond Radio: Enabling Experimental Research in Multi-Node Optical Wireless Networks via Software Defined Radio Tools and Techniques*.
- PI Rafael Valotta Rodrigues/Engineering received \$199,355 from the National Science Foundation for *ERI: Integration of Offshore Wind Energy and Marine Energy for Efficient Use of the Marine Space*.
- PI Nir Eisikovits/Ethics Center received \$162,400 from the Institute for Ethics and Emerging Tech for *AI, BCIs and Cognition Postdoctoral Fellowship*.
- PI Callie Brusegaard Zube/School for Global Inclusion and Social Development received \$103,269 from the Gibney Family Foundation for *Training to Diverse Practitioners in the Field of Visual Impairments and Deafblindness*.
- PI Marcelo Suárez-Orozco/UMass Boston Chancellor received \$1,108,145 in awards for *Global Climate Change Resilience* summit.

New Study: Medicaid Reimbursements Fail to Meet Actual Costs of Caring for Medicaid Nursing Home Residents

For each dollar a nursing home spends providing daily care to a Medicaid recipient, the average nursing home receives just 82 cents in reimbursement. This was the top-level finding in a study published by a team that included research faculty, staff, and graduate students with the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston. The report was commissioned by the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

“It is important that if we want to have nursing homes provide high-quality care to our most vulnerable citizens, we should make sure they have the resources to do so,” said Edward Alan Miller, an author of the study and professor and chair of the Department of Gerontology.

The report, *Assessing Medicaid Payment Rates and Costs of Caring for the Medicaid Population Residing in Nursing Homes*, involved three years of research. Researchers collected detailed information on 9,543 nursing homes across 44 states, examining the direct relationship between payments, costs, staffing, and a high-level quality outcome measure on a facility-by-facility basis.

Increase Endowment



More than 500 alums gathered on campus for the Beacon Bash.

University Hosts a Record-Setting Reunion

The university's third annual Beacon Bash, held September 20 and 21, set a new attendance record for on-campus alumni events. Attendance hit 535, an 83 percent increase over last year's milestone. Though rain did dampen turnout—the alumni office received more than 730 registrations, compared to 510 in 2023 and 212 in 2022—alumni from across the country came together for celebration and connection, with events including a 5K race, a barbecue lunch, faculty lectures, clam bake, and family movie night.

A highlight was the inaugural gathering of UMass Boston's new Golden Reunion Society, which welcomed back to campus alumni of UMass Boston and its legacy schools who graduated 50 or more years ago. More than 130 golden reunion attendees returned to see friends, induct the Class of 1974, and celebrate the enduring bond between alumni and alma mater, some traveling from as far as Alaska to join the party.

The turnout is a testament to the strength of the UMass Boston alumni network and the lasting impact of their experiences here at the university.

Music Lover's Trust Establishes Scholarship for Students

The Murray Burnstine Charitable Trust, established by the late biomechanical engineer and saxophonist, donated \$150,000 in October to establish two current-use funds benefiting UMass Boston's music program. The \$100,000 Murray Burnstine Music Scholarship Fund will be used to award scholarships to undergraduate students studying music during the 2024–2025 academic year. The \$50,000 Murray Burnstine Music Fund will provide support for music program expenses, including the purchase and maintenance of musical instruments and costs related to teaching and performances.

Burnstine, who had no affiliation with the university, passed away in June 2023 at age 95. An engineer by profession—notably making significant contributions to Harvard University's influential studies of automobile safety in the early 1960s—he was also an avid musician and played with several Boston-area orchestras and bands. He created the Murray Burnstine Charitable Trust to support music education and performance. Through these gifts to UMass Boston, the trustees hope to help prevent financial constraints from cutting short the musical education of the next generation of musicians.

New Endowment Honors Faculty Member's Memory

UMass Boston was honored to receive a \$105,000 pledge in October from Tracy Gibson, who established an endowed fund in memory of her late niece, Katherine Gibson, a dedicated associate professor in the Biology Department. The Dr. Katherine E. Gibson Support Fund will assist graduate students who are pursuing advanced degrees in biology, helping them to step into their science careers with confidence and ensuring that Professor Gibson's passion for teaching and research continues to inspire future generations. The fund will also receive a \$50,000 match from the state's Public Higher Education Endowment Incentive Program.

Professor Gibson, who passed away in June, was a respected educator and researcher at the university for 16 years. Her research focused on bacterial-host interactions, a critical field because of the fundamental biological questions it addresses and its relevance to pathogenesis and disease.

Position University in the Higher Education Marketplace



Dave Durell Ndecham speaks about student life and belonging during The College Tour taping.

UMass Boston Premieres Amazon Prime College Tour Episode, Now Streaming Online

UMass Boston is featured in the twelfth season of *The College Tour*, a groundbreaking video series streaming on Amazon Prime. Hosted by *The Amazing Race* winner Alex Boylan, the UMass Boston episode takes viewers behind the scenes to hear from 10 current students about all aspects of college and campus life, from the new central quad and waterfront views to the robotics team and ocean research boat.

While prospective students are encouraged to visit UMass Boston in person to learn about all the university has to offer, *The College Tour* offers a unique visual tour for those who want to get a feel for the campus before visiting.

The 30-minute episode was produced on campus in the spring and is now live on the UMass Boston website and *The College Tour website*.

“Our episode of *The College Tour* really captures what student life is all about at UMass Boston—the sense of belonging and support, and our commitment to making a lasting impact on the communities we serve,” said Vice Chancellor for Marketing and Engagement Megan Delage Sullivan.



Watch the episode.



The women's tennis team celebrates their championship with Vice Chancellor Jacqui Schuman.

Beacons Take Home LEC Championship, Multiple Honors

For the third consecutive year, the Beacons women's tennis team celebrated as Little East Conference champions, after defeating Rhode Island College in October. With the win, the team earns the LEC automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament in the spring of 2025. Women's tennis also earned the first Singles Player of the Year and Doubles Team of the Year. Head Coach Malcolm Neville was elected Head Coach of the Year by his peers in his first fall season as a Beacon.

UMass Boston men's soccer had a trio of major award winners, including LEC Defensive Player of the Year and LEC Goalkeeper of the Year. Coaching Staff of the Year also went to UMass Boston, led by eleventh-year head coach Jake Beverlin and assistant coaches Marcelo Cunha and Estive Sosa.

The women's soccer team was awarded with the Offensive Player of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Coaching Staff of the Year, and seven all-conference selections following a successful 2024 campaign. Twentieth-season head coach Amy Zomback, assisted by Bob Meals, Darren Burke, and Abby McCullough, were awarded the 2024 Coaching Staff of the Year, Coach Zomback's fourth such award of her career.

Position University in the Higher Education Marketplace (cont.)

UMass Boston Adds Women's Field Hockey as 20th NCAA Division III Varsity Program

Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco and Vice Chancellor and Director of Athletics and Recreation Jacqueline Schuman have announced the addition of women's field hockey as UMass Boston's newest NCAA Division III varsity program.

"We are thrilled to expand our sports program and extend our tradition of excellence in the Little East Conference. The new Beacon field hockey team, UMass Boston's 20th NCAA sport, will support a more vibrant campus community, deepen school spirit, and create more opportunities for student-athletes to compete and excel here at UMass Boston" said Suárez-Orozco.

With the addition of field hockey, UMass Boston now offers 11 women's and 9 men's NCAA-sports teams.

"The Northeast region has a wealth of competitive field hockey programs, and we're thrilled that this addition will create new avenues for female student-athletes to thrive in NCAA intercollegiate athletics at UMass Boston," Schuman said.

The Beacon field hockey team will start competing during the 2025–2026 academic year. They will officially enter Little East Conference competition during the 2026–2027 school year, becoming the eighth member of the LEC to offer the sport.



Families posed for photos with UMass Boston mascot Bobby Beacon.

University Hosts Successful Annual Family Weekend

In October, UMass Boston welcomed 219 families, totaling 758 individuals, to its 3rd Annual Family Weekend. This number is a 45 percent participation increase over 2023. Attendees came from across New England, the country, and abroad to participate in three days filled with 18 unique activities for all ages, including a brunch with Bobby Beacon, a Family Fall Fest, drag brunch, and wellness fair.

Develop a Leadership Role in Public Service

UMass Boston Receives \$350K to Assist Craft Beverage Manufacturers with Sustainability Efforts

UMass Boston will receive \$350,000 to assist craft beverage manufacturers in reducing their environmental footprint, with a focus on supporting those in communities facing environmental justice challenges.

The project, directed by Professor Vesela Veleva of the College of Management, will specifically aid manufacturers in reducing the use of toxic cleaners, minimizing energy and water usage, and reducing single-use packaging. UMass Boston business students will also receive training in utilizing sustainability benchmarking tools, providing hands-on experience in identifying pollution-reduction opportunities, and contributing to both environmental and economic gains.

The grant is part of a collective \$1.5 million awarded to UMass campuses at Amherst, Boston, and Lowell by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These grants will support the development of pollution prevention practices (P2) to benefit local businesses and communities.

"This project supports sustainable practices and offers invaluable experiential learning opportunities for our students, preparing them to lead future businesses toward sustainability. I commend Dr. Veleva's expertise and commitment to environmental and economic growth," said Venky Venkatachalam, dean of the College of Management.