

UMass Dartmouth Law Professor Jeremiah Ho receives Manning Prize for teaching excellence

Award recognizes exemplary teaching and service on each UMass campus.

UMass Dartmouth Associate Professor Jeremiah Ho has been awarded the 2020 Manning Prize for Excellence in Teaching for his outstanding dedication to students and the university. The faculty members – one from each UMass campus – will receive \$10,000 awards in recognition of their sustained excellence in teaching and exemplary contributions to the campus community. Ho, who teaches at UMass Law, joined the University in 2012.

The Manning Prize was established in 2016 by UMass Lowell alumni Rob and Donna Manning to honor UMass professors who excel in teaching and service. “Donna and I are proud to recognize these five faculty members for their skill, passion and extraordinary commitment to students,” said Rob Manning, a 1984 graduate of UMass Lowell. “Faculty are the heart and soul of this great university, and we thank these talented educators for going above and beyond to enrich their campus communities and help students reach their full potential.”

Rob Manning, who is executive chairman of MFS Investment Management and chairman of the UMass Board of Trustees, credits UMass Lowell math professor Bernie Shapiro with helping him land the job that launched his career. Donna Manning, who received her nursing degree and her master of business administration from UMass Lowell, was an oncology nurse at Boston Medical Center for more than 30 years until her retirement in 2018. They are among the largest contributors to UMass in its history.

“We’re so thankful to Rob and Donna Manning for their generous

support of our faculty, who make UMass the world-class university it is today,” said UMass President Marty Meehan. “These faculty members inspire and empower students both in and out of the classroom, so this is a wonderful recognition of their efforts.”

Ho teaches Contracts, Trusts & Estates, Remedies, Products Liability, and Law Review Note Writing and writes about law and inequality, exploring such issues mostly concerning sexuality, race, and culture. He also writes extensively on legal education, methodology, and theory. Ho has won the respect and admiration of students and faculty colleagues alike. Letters of support consistently praise his energy and optimism as well as his dedication to student research, writing, and professional success.

“This recognition from Mr. and Mrs. Manning, UMass Dartmouth, and the UMass system is tremendous. I’m honored to teach at the first and only public law school in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,” said Associate Professor of Law Jeremiah Ho. “I dedicate this prize to my students and all of the remarkable teachers who have influenced me.”

In 2014, Ho was selected for Lawyers of Color’s 50 Law Professors Under 50. He has also received the Professor of the Year Award four times at UMass Law in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019. Recently, Professor Ho’s TEDx-style talk on law teaching was recorded at American University, Washington College of Law, and is part of a curated series at LegalED. He has also been interviewed previously by NPR for his views on legal education. Since 2013, he has been a contributing faculty member at the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning.

“Professor Ho is an incredible educator and advocate for our students and the work they do to help the communities we serve as the Commonwealth’s only public law school,” said UMass Law Dean Eric Mitnick. “I am so glad Professor Ho and his approach to legal education have been recognized with this award.”

This year's Manning Prize winners will be honored during a Zoom event on June 24, 2020.

Massachusetts State Universities Say Students Will Return in September

Michael P. Norton
State House News Service

State universities in Bridgewater, Fitchburg, Framingham, Salem, Westfield and Worcester plan in September to bring students back to campuses, where they are scheduled to return to dorms and attend on-campus classes as the state copes with the uncertainties posed by COVID-19.

The state universities, in addition to the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in North Adams, Mass. College of Art and Design in Boston, and the Mass. Maritime Academy in Buzzards Bay, plan to offer a "blended model of instruction with face-to-face and remote coursework for the fall semester."

The public higher education institutions announced their plans Thursday night, about three months after students were sent off campuses to pursue remote learning.

"Because the state universities have very few large lecture-style classes, and maintain low student-to-faculty ratios, we are confident our campuses will be able to provide students some level of in-classroom instruction," said Vincent Pedone, executive director of the State Universities Council of

Presidents. "Our campuses are well-positioned to adapt to gathering size limitations and social distancing requirements, while providing the high-quality and affordable programming that is our hallmark."

The large University of Massachusetts system, which has campuses in Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell and Worcester, has not announced its plans for the fall semester, and a spokesman for UMass President Marty Meehan said each of the UMass campuses will be making final plans available in the coming weeks.

The announcement came hours after state public health officials reported 271 new cases of COVID-19 and 36 new deaths, raising total reported infections in the state since the outbreak began to 106,422 and increasing the death toll to 7,770. COVID-19 hospitalizations, the seven-day average of the positive test rate and the three-day average of COVID-19 deaths continued to trend in downward in Massachusetts, but are rising in several southern and western states.

The state universities group said Phase 3 of Gov. Charlie Baker's economic reopening plan is "expected by mid-August," and said they plan to follow state and federal COVID-19 health and safety protocols and procedures. Gov. Baker, according to his own plan, could move the state into Phase 3 as soon as June 29.

The nine state universities said they are still accepting admission and residence hall applications through the summer, and will be releasing more detailed "safe return plans" in the coming days and weeks.

"We are hearing from our students a demand for the return to in-classroom instruction and a return to their on-campus housing," Pedone said. "Our students value the personal attention afforded them by our small class sizes and enjoy the residence life experience offered at all our state

universities.”

The state Board of Higher Education plans to meet on Tuesday at 10 a.m., with members participating remotely in a meeting accessible on Zoom.

Massachusetts Environmental Police remind beach-goers about Piping Plovers

A reminder for beachgoers, dog walkers, shore fishermen, and boaters that Piping Plovers are listed as a threatened species and therefore are protected under the Endangered Species Act. It is prohibited to take any threatened species. “Take” is defined as:

“Take, in reference to animals, means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, hound, kill, trap, capture, collect, process, disrupt the nesting, breeding, feeding or migratory activity or attempt to engage in any such conduct, or to assist such conduct.”

Learn more about Piping Plovers in Massachusetts at: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-piping-plovers?fbclid=IwAR06KTwllJzWGbAZGvQXNDYGeCgKgqXmwppHzq0etqJp2xHC7q45_mQwppA

New Bedford High School Evening Extension Class of 2020 celebrate with curbside commencement

New Bedford High School Evening Extension celebrated its 57th annual commencement and first Virtual Graduation on Thursday evening, June 10. Eighty-four graduates received their credentials in a curbside ceremony held in the circular drive of New Bedford High School's main entrance. Graduates queued up along Hathaway Boulevard in their decorated vehicles to pick up their hard-earned diplomas from a receiving party of faculty, district and city officials.

Observing social distancing guidelines, enthusiastic graduates with face masks arrived at assigned intervals and remained in their vehicles to receive diplomas and certificates as their teachers and staff cheered them on with signs, balloons, waves and thumbs-up at the festive outdoor ceremony. Graduates hailed from New Bedford, Acushnet, Canton, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Fall River and Flushing, New York.

The NBHS Evening Extension Virtual Graduation Ceremony will air on June 11 on the New Bedford Public Schools Adult Education webpage: adulthood.newbedfordschools.org

Thomas Anderson, Superintendent of New Bedford Public Schools congratulated the graduates, noting this "unique time in our lives has truly tested your perseverance and will power. I am proud that you stuck with it – and this diploma is a collective achievement for you, your family and those closest to you. Set your goals and pursue them with passion and the desire to make a difference in this world. Now more than ever your voice and strategic focus is needed to cultivate the

change and create a more equitable society that benefits all people. When we prepare ourselves, like you have, and have passion for what we are doing, there are no limits on what each of you can achieve.”

Rosemary Wilde, Principal of NBHS Evening Extension noted the day “marks a new beginning, a steppingstone on the journey to new dreams and accomplishments. Today, this class will begin a new life on the road to fulfill new goals in a world of ‘new normals.’ Despite the obstacles during the pandemic, graduates, you demonstrated that you are ready to overcome roadblocks encountered along your journey. You’ve proven that you are prepared to alter your course to reach your destination and the attainment of future hopes and dreams.”

Salutatorian Andrea Fernandes in her address to classmates recalled how her son inspired her in achieving her diploma. “I started thinking about going back to school when my son started school. I remember helping him with his homework and constantly reminding him of just how important school was for him. That’s when I started questioning myself. How can I sit here and tell my son that school is so important and that he needs to stay in school when I did not? Last year, I sat down and told him that I did not finish school. I explained that I was going back to high school to earn my diploma, and then going to college to earn my degree. He was not only my motivation, but my inspiration as well. I did this for myself, but also to show my son just how important school really is. I am proud of myself for making it here tonight. It was not easy, but I did it. This accomplishment of mine consisted of going to class right after long 8-hour workdays, just like many of my classmates. I stand here tonight hoping to serve as an example that anyone can do it. It is never too late.”

Several members of the Class of 2020 shared their thoughts on graduating. Dandan Zhang noted his diploma will allow him “to fulfill my dream of attending college.” Aarron Barbosa expressed appreciation of the second chance provided by the

NBHS Evening Extension program. "Thank you for providing me the opportunity to go back and erase a part of my life that was always a regret of mine." Of the program Larissa Hansen said, "It was an amazing experience – all of the students encouraged and supported each other."

Principal Wilde concluded by summing up the achievement of the Class of 2020. "In the face of the challenges, our graduates succeeded to fulfill their goal as they were required to change overnight from face-to-face classes to remote and online learning and communications systems. They stepped up their game and are now celebrating this victory."

New Bedford

Diploma: Josue Acosta, Darwin Alvarez, Laray N. Amado, Benjamin David Amaral, Cerinea Andrade, Kineisha Michelle Arce, Cameron R. Batista, Jackson J. Berry, Kaileigh Elizabeth Blessing, Madison Taylor Rae Bozzi, Alicia Cardoso, Daysha Le DeFreitas, Amaya Lynn Dejesus, Olguimarie DejesusDelgado, Kelsey Shannon Mariah Deschenes, Michael DeSouza, Lamina Faye Durarte, Shayn T. Elgar, Andrea Marie Fernandes, Dennisse E. Garcia, Amanda Garcia Coj, Kenny Joel Gonzalez, Zakya D'Shae Grace, Reed S. Gustafson, Larissa Mariah Hansen, Devin John Heroux, Darrell J. Holmes, Elaudiz Johan Jimenez, Kyla Lyn Johnson, Joshua Julian Koloba, Ashley Lacen Osorio, Armando Martinez, Zachary Ty Medeiros, Mariah Mercedes Mejia-Maalouf, Bouchra Msatfi, Darlene Mujica-Carrasquillo, Kayce Carol Nooth, Alicia Oliver, Carlos C. Reis, Moises Antonio Renderos Melendez, Iraine S. Rivas, Ava Victoria Rodriguez, Derek Santiago-Ortiz, Catia Milene Silva, Kevin Simas, Candace Marie Sylvia, Ricardo Jorge Tiniguar, Yukizia Torres, Angellis Marie Vazquez, Marissa Lynn Vieira, Tracy L. Walker, Alexander Amaral Wasilewski, Avis Williams, GladysLee Ranell Williams, Trinity Vieira, Jun Xiang Zhang.

Certificate: Dylan Bigos

Acushnet

Diploma: Vanessa Cahoon, Guilan Dong, Sofia Adelaide Harney,

Ava Victoria Rodriguez.

Canton

Diploma: Aarron Barbosa

Dartmouth

Diploma: Felicia DeMoranville, Matthew Ryan Magan, Mitchell Clayson Noble, Sabrina Elisabeth Skeffington.

Fairhaven

Diploma: Liping Lin, Emily Jade Murphy, Harley Dee Oliveira.

Fall River

Diploma: Jason Lee

Flushing, NY

Diploma: Dandan Zhang

Massachusetts Environmental Police and MassWildlife rescue and rehabilitate bald eagle

Approximately three weeks ago, a juvenile Bald Eagle was reportedly found injured in a backyard. Officers from the Massachusetts Environmental Police, along with personnel from MassWildlife, captured the bird without incident and transported it to Tuft's Veterinary Medical Center in Grafton for further evaluation.

It was determined the Eagle's flight feathers were not properly developed. After a short rehabilitation period, the

Bald Eagle was released in the same general area where it was found – taking flight unassisted and continuing to fly on its own.

MEP would like to thank the individuals who reported the injured animal, Tuft's for their rehabilitation efforts, and Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife for their assistance in the capture and release of the Bald Eagle.

New Bedford High School softball field ribbon cutting celebrates latest improvement to the school's 33-acre campus

New Bedford Public Schools staff and City officials hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to inaugurate New Bedford High School's new state-of-the-art varsity softball field on June 12. While a first game will have to wait until public health guidelines allow, a uniformed contingent of Whaler athletes was on hand to represent their teams and participate in a ceremonial first throw.

Two years in the making, the new field is laid out according to National Federation of High School (NFHS) Softball standards, noted Thomas Tarpey, NBPS Director of Physical Education, Health & Athletics, and emcee of the ceremony, to which only media was invited.

The ceremony will air on New Bedford Cable Access and online.

Mayor Jon Mitchell, whose advocacy for continued improvements to New Bedford High School include renovation of the Bronsiegel Auditorium, locker rooms and the new Bobby Watkins Fitness Center, said, "This new softball field complex adds to New Bedford High's portfolio of first-rate facilities and amenities. It is an investment for all students to realize their full academic and athletic potential – a flagship school now and for future generations."

School Committee member and chair of the Facilities Subcommittee Bruce Oliveira added "not only are we pleased to be able to provide a well-deserved, topflight facility for Lady Whalers softball, but I would like to believe that this field provides a ray of hope for a brighter future in this time of uncertainty and unrest."

Superintendent Thomas Anderson stated "The softball field is another example of our collective commitment to provide the highest quality academic and athletic experiences for our students. As a former Division I collegiate athlete, I cherish the memories and the opportunities I had in high school that prepared me – and I want our students to have the resources and supports to thrive and maximize their opportunities to compete at any level."

In thanking everyone who had a part in the project, Headmaster Bernadette Coelho noted "This new softball field is consistent with the city and district's continued commitment to capital expansion, enhancing the experience of New Bedford High School scholars and athletes."

Girls Softball Coach Harry Lowe looked to the future. "Especially in light of recent events, it's incredibly exciting to have this new, state-of-the-art field to look forward to. I'm thankful to everyone who helped make this happen and can't wait to get back out there."

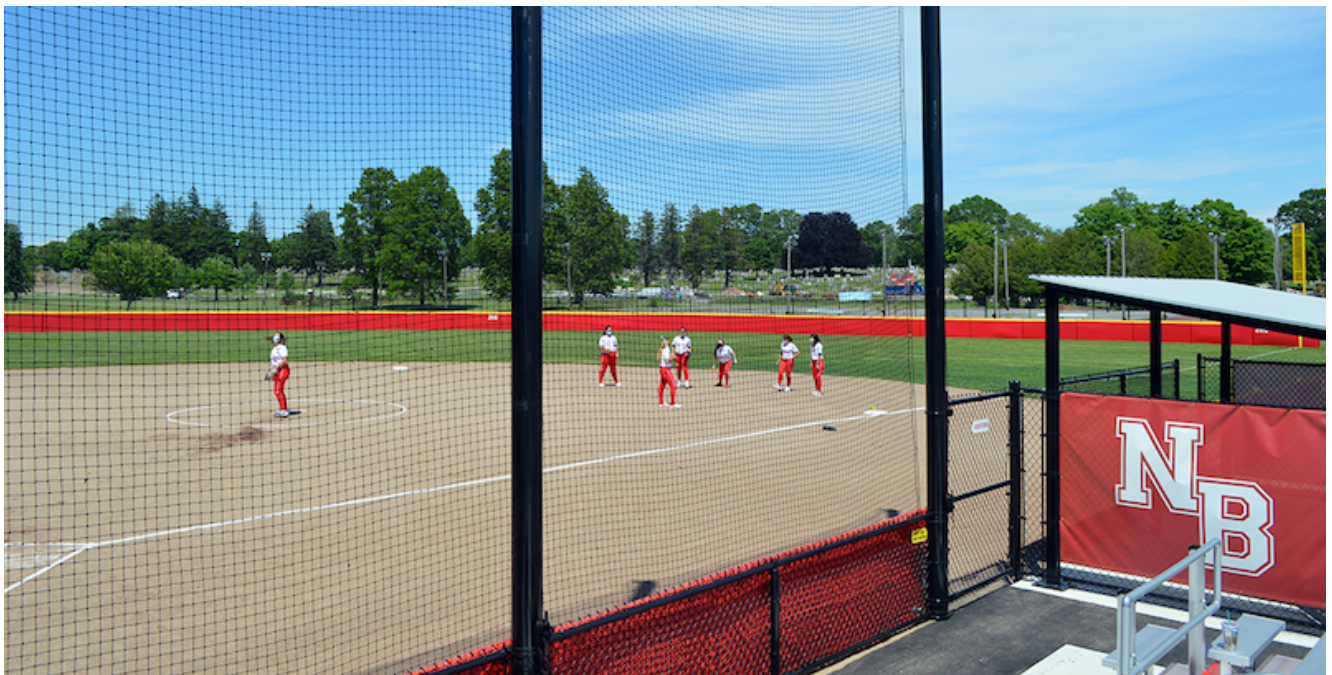
The complex features several upgrades including new dugouts, bullpen, fencing, security lighting, sound system, press box, seating and more.

Groundwork included significant upgrades to the entirety of the field footprint. Work included additive grading, leveling, and layering for optimal drainage using successive layers of sand, soil, sod, and gravel base. A clay infield was installed along with red crushed brick in the bullpen.

The field also features a specially constructed outfield wall designed to accommodate mix use for other sports, such as field hockey in the fall or lacrosse in the spring.

As part of the City of New Bedford's most recent Capital Improvement Plan, over \$250,000 was invested. This was in addition to work by the New Bedford Public Schools Facilities Department, which eliminated overhead costs and saved approximately \$150,000, noted Al Oliveira, NBPS Director of Facilities Operations.

Facilities carpenters also constructed the new press box to maximize savings.



The complex is fitted with NBHS Whaler graphics, created by

the NBPS Print Department.

The softball field is the latest major addition to New Bedford High School's athletic facilities and represents an extensive enhancement to the school's east campus grounds located along Liberty and Parker Streets. Director Tarpey added "It's a topnotch athletic facility; no school in the region has a better looking, better appointed softball field."

UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Johnson announces resignation

After a successful three-year tenure, Robert E. Johnson to leave UMass Dartmouth in September

UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Robert E. Johnson announced today that he will resign as Chancellor, effective September 4, 2020. Johnson has served as Chancellor of UMass Dartmouth since 2017.

"I am honored and humbled to have led, for three years, this world-class university that prides itself on its ambition, creative thinking, and research breakthroughs," said Chancellor Johnson. "I reflect fondly on our time together and what we have accomplished since I arrived in July 2017. Together, we developed a shared ambition for the university's future and have accomplished much."

"Chancellor Johnson's entrepreneurial spirit, commitment to student success, and belief in the power of a university to strengthen regional economies through research and engagement have helped create new opportunities for individuals and SouthCoast communities over the last three years," said UMass

System President Marty Meehan. “His leadership, grounded in personal and professional experiences, has been critical to the continued ascension of UMass Dartmouth as a national research university, especially during recent months as UMass and all of higher education have confronted unprecedented challenges.”

Highlights of Chancellor Johnson’s tenure include:

- The largest research grant in the University’s history – \$4.6M from the Office of Naval Research to fund research projects in undersea technologies.
- Achieving #84 nationwide and #3 in Massachusetts for student social mobility after graduation by U.S. News & World Report.
- Strengthened connections to the SouthCoast region for student learning experiences and community impact projects.
- Secured more than \$1.2M in funding for the University’s Blue Economy initiative that will create an interconnected marine science and technology corridor in the SouthCoast region.
- The completion of a new residential and dining complex for incoming first-year students.
- Research growth across campus, including a 26% increase in new externally funded grant awards from FY18-19.
- The expansion of the College of Nursing into the College of Nursing & Health Sciences to provide students with interdisciplinary, team-based health care workforce training and education opportunities.

“The state of UMass Dartmouth is strong, and it is positioned well for its next chapter with its next leader. Nothing stops and the journey continues. The university is advancing, the leadership is committed, the employees are resilient, and I could not be prouder of the students,” said Johnson.

UMass Dartmouth announces new Director of the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture

Dr. Paula Celeste Gomes Novera to lead the Center as it expands its international leadership in Portuguese education

UMass Dartmouth recently announced that Dr. Paula Celeste Gomes Novera was chosen as the new Director of the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture. The Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture, established in 1975, is a multidisciplinary international education and outreach organization dedicated to the study of the language, literature, and cultures of the Portuguese-speaking world.

“I am thrilled that Paula was chosen as the next Director of the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture,” said UMass Dartmouth Robert E. Johnson. “She brings a wealth of knowledge on the past experiences of the Portuguese community while maintaining a focus on the future of how UMass Dartmouth can strengthen its relationship with the Portuguese speaking world for the betterment of our students, faculty, region, and society at large.”

Specifically, the Center brings together UMass Dartmouth and other institutions involved in Portuguese studies both abroad and the United States. Over the past several years, the University has collaborated with multiple higher education institutions in Portugal to create unique learning and teaching experiences. The Center also houses Tagus Press, a leader in publishing Portuguese literature, history, and culture for an English-speaking audience. Tagus Press’s groundbreaking translations and journals address both

Portuguese lives abroad and in the United States.

“As Director of the Center, I hope to build upon my predecessor’s successes. I have several initiatives meant to broaden the scope and reach of Tagus Press, strengthen the Center’s connection with the community, support our 4+1 students training to be Portuguese language teachers, and create a new home for the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture on campus.”

Noversa is currently the Faculty Director of the Ferreira-Mendes Portuguese American Archives and a lecturer in the History program.

Noversa was born in Fall River after her parents immigrated from Sequeira, a small village outside of Braga, Portugal in 1960. She graduated from BMC Durfee High School before earning a dual degree in History and Portuguese Literature at UMass Dartmouth. Noversa earned her doctorate at the University of New Hampshire, Durham where she was the Prince Henry the Navigator and Portuguese Discoveries Graduate Fellow. In that capacity, she was the Assistant Editor of the journal Portuguese Studies Review. She was a Camões Institute Fellow at the University of Lisbon as well as a Truman Scholar at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence Missouri.

Noversa’s term begins on July 1, 2020.

Dartmouth’s Bishop Stang student recognized as MSAA

Massachusetts National Honor Society Student of the Year

It is with great pride and excitement that Bishop Stang High School announces Zoelle Morrissey '20, of New Bedford, has been selected by the Massachusetts School Administrators' Association (MSAA) National Honor Society Committee as the Massachusetts NHS Student of the Year.

The Massachusetts NHS strives to develop enthusiasm for scholarship, a desire to render service, leadership, and development of character and citizenship in the students of secondary schools in Massachusetts. Zoelle "exemplifies the very tenants the NHS stands for in our state". She was lauded by the Committee for her work on behalf of a number of community organizations for which she held fundraisers with her brothers and their band, Morrissey Blvd, and the support of student volunteers from her school and community.



Notably, they raised \$50,000 for the Immigrant Assistance Center, the proceeds of which went to a program at local high schools that works directly with children of immigrants to keep them safe and in school.

Of her dedication, Zoelle says that she is “honored to have done something for my community, but I must admit that I didn’t give it much thought. I love my city, my community, my world, and helping people in any way I can (which NHS has encouraged me to do) seems second nature”.

The NHS Committee recognizes that “ Zoelle’s work was not completed in a vacuum and Donna McDougal, her NHS adviser at Bishop Stang, and all the members of Bishop Stang High School’s NHS Chapter deserve credit for this award”.

Congratulations to Zoelle Morrissey and her family for this wonderful achievement!

UMass Dartmouth student awarded 2020 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently announced that UMass Dartmouth doctoral student Akira Harper was awarded a 2020 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. A STEM Education student, Harper's selection as an NSF Graduate Research Fellow is a highly significant national accomplishment and places her amongst an elite group of fellows who have gone on to distinguished careers in STEM or STEM education.

"This National Science Foundation award means that I have begun to desettle spaces in STEM. When I stay desettle, I mean shifting everyone's perspective, in the STEM field, on who these awards are traditionally given to," said Harper. "In my life I grew up with more hardships than blessings, so this award and working with my mentor, Dr. Kayumova, in this graduate program is affording me with the opportunities to affect change for my community for generations to come."

This award provides three years of financial support for Harper to engage in a research project with her advisor, Assistant Professor Shakhnoza Kayumova (STEM Education & Teacher Development). Harper's proposal to the NSF was based on her research on science identity development among culturally and linguistically diverse learners.



"I hope to gain a more powerful critical voice and understanding of how students, who look like me, can enter the spaces of STEM education and excel from K-12 and continue

during their undergraduate and graduate careers. Our STEM field needs critical scholars to question and challenge what a socially just and equitable education looks like, for students of color, in terms of resources, funds, and opportunities. I hope that by researching and trying to understand the perspectives of students of color, while also considering my own, as a black woman who is a first generation doctoral STEM candidate, will allow me to intellectually contribute to the STEM Education field in ways that have not been critically challenged before," said Harper.

Harper's proposed study will examine the role of engagement in science identity development among culturally and linguistically diverse students from nondominant backgrounds in the context of Kayumova's ongoing research project.

Harper earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from UMass Dartmouth and was recruited to the STEM Education Ph.D. program by her current advisor by Kayumova two years ago. The NSF fellowship puts Harper amongst the top graduate students nationwide.

The Graduate Research Fellowship Program is NSF's oldest program, dating to the Foundation's first fully funded year in 1952. Since then, GRFP has supported over 50,000 US citizens, nationals, and permanent residents to pursue advanced degrees in science and engineering. Among its alumni are over 40 Nobel laureates, over 450 members of the National Academy of Sciences, thousands of science and engineering faculty, and many notable individuals in industry, government, and the non-profit sector.