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MASSACHUSETTS/RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE FOR NURSING

NEWSLETTER



President's Message

Lisa Thomas PhD, RN, CNE MARILN President Associate Professor, MSN Coordinator Framingham State University



January is always such a busy time, as the holidays wind down, educators gear up for a new semester. In multiple conversation the sentiment is shared amongst colleagues. It doesn't seem to matter how many times you have started a new semester or how much you prepare it always starts out with a bang! Along with the change of semesters the MARILN board transitions in January. We are sad to see some of our long-term board members leave including Susan Maciewicz, Melissa Duprey, secretary Jennifer Wallace, and treasurer Carol Femia. Thank you for your service to MARILN you will be missed! But as we say goodbye, we are excited to welcome new board members including, Judith Pelletier (Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School), Christine Devine (Fitchburg State University), Lisa Cross (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences), and Kiley Medeiros (Johnson and Wales University). Joining our executive board are Angela McDonald (Lawrence Memorial/Regis College) as treasurer and Rebecca Hill (MGH Institute of Health Professions) as secretary. It is such a pleasure and an honor to work with each of these educators.

As you have undoubtably heard, MARILN will be undergoing many changes in the upcoming year! The NLN and its constituent leagues are forging a new relationship. It will become an alliance with leagues across the country in relation to the NLN. Some of the strict policies, by-law language, financial responsibility to the NLN will no longer be expected. Each league although in alliance with the NLN will be its own organization. The work of this transition is happening swiftly. I am serving on the Alliance planning committee, and the goal is to have a proposal of what the alliance will be to the NLN board of governors by mid-March! This seems like warp speed when our first meeting was at the end of January. Yet speed is necessary to allow leagues time to make the changes needed. Part of these changes will include independent by-laws, our own tax-exempt status as a non-profit, and new branding. There is much work to do!

As we busy ourselves to undergo this change and our list of tasks, I think that it is critical for the "collective us" to take a pause and evaluate who we are as MARILN. Then take some time to dream about who we want to become as an organization. With every challenge comes opportunity. This is the time to perhaps shift some goals, maybe expand beyond our two states, and more! We will be forming subcommittees to spearhead change, please reach out if you are interested in envisioning the future of MARILN with us. I have said multiple

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times with this change upon us MARILN is strong. We have robust membership, our board is composed of hard-working educators, and we are fiscally sound. There is much to celebrate. Let's remember the best is yet to come!

It is evident that nursing education is getting some attention! At the state level there is a focus through the Nurse Council for Workforce Sustainability, multiple recommendations have been made to support nursing education at various levels. More details regarding initiatives and funding coming soon! On the national level there are at least two pieces of legislation pertaining to nursing education and nurse educators. First the Future Advancement of Academic Nursing Act (FANN) is legislation to make investments in nursing education in order to meet future workforce needs. The act is (H.R. 7266/S.3770) and it consists of making a 1-billion-dollar investment in schools of nursing. For more information click here. Keep an eye on this act, it is interesting to note that this bill is sponsored by a nurse congresswoman. Second, there is a bill titled the Federal Nurse Faculty Shortage Reduction Act (Bill S. 2851). This bill addresses the issue of nurse educator's salary being low in comparison to clinical nurses. Click here to read the press release, and here to download the bill. Consider writing a letter to your representative to support this legislation. Let your nursing voice be heard!

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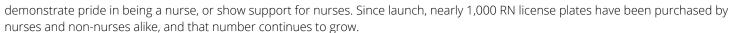
Lastly, I am looking forward to our spring conference "Hardwiring Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion into Clinical Teaching". We have the honor of having two speakers. Past MARILN president Janet Monagle PhD, RN, CNE from Northeastern University and Lisa Gonzalez MSN, RN from the College of Southern Maryland. It will no doubt be an engaging day filled with learning. Please join us at The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester on Friday April 12th. I look forward to seeing you there.

RN License Plates Now Available in Massachusetts!

Amanda Stefancyk Oberlies PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN Chief Executive Officer and Chief Nursing Officer Organization of Nurse Leaders

When driving around in your car, you may notice special cause license plates – plates that support a charitable cause by raising visibility and financially through the plate fees collected by the RMV and redirected to the charitable organization. As of 2017, there had not yet been such a plate established for nurses in Massachusetts, so the Organization of Nurse Leaders (ONL), embarked on a journey to establish a special RN License plate.

Now available for all non-commercial vehicles (both owned and leased) registered in Massachusetts, the RN License plate is a way to celebrate the nursing profession,



The \$40 plate fee is entirely tax deductible, and all proceeds from the license plates support the ONL Foundation, which works to empower and develop nursing professionals through education, leadership development, and research initiatives, and by awarding scholarships for continuing education in nursing.

RN License Plates can be ordered easily online through the Massachusetts RMV. Applicants will need their driver's license and current license plate information to complete the process. New plates are mailed within ten business days of purchase.

To learn more about the Massachusetts RN License plate or access an application, please visit www.oonl.org/massachusetts-rn-license-plates. To learn more about the ONL Foundation, visit www.onlfoundation.org.





Social Media SPOT

Calling all MARILN members!!

We want to celebrate YOU and all the amazing work you are doing in and outside the classroom.

We will be introducing two new monthly series on our social media accounts!

Nurse Educator Tip of the Month

Please send your name, school and education tip or strategy that you would like to share.

Nurse Educator Spotlight

Are you being featured on a podcast? Was your article just accepted? Are you presenting at a conference? Let us share our successes and spotlight the amazing things MARILN members are accomplishing!

Pictures and images welcome! Email ahamner@endicott.edu with your submission or any questions!



Catching Up With...Cheryl Williams PhD, MSN, RN, CNE

Lisa Cross PhD, RN, CNE, MARILN Newletter Committee

Cheryl is a past MARILN President. When asked why she first went into nursing she mentioned that her original plans were to be a teacher...but there were no jobs in the late 70s. "It is ironic...I wanted to teach and now I teach nurses to teach." Cheryl credits her father with steering her towards Boston to become a nurse.

After working as a nurse for a while she became an NP at Simmons College. The HIV/AIDS epidemic spurred me to become a NP. However, while practicing and teaching part-time, Cheryl realized she enjoyed teaching and wanted to go to school to become a better teacher. "I had my masters, so I thought I would just get a post-Master's certificate or something. I returned to my alma mater, Simmons College." She said one of her faculty encouraged her towards a PhD.

Now, Cheryl continues to teach research at the BSN, MSN, and doctoral level. "There is lots to do to build the science of nursing education." She is currently on sabbatical, enjoying time to look at her own research on growth mindset. She is known for her extensive research and tool development on the topic. She mentioned that she is actively collaborating on projects regarding the growth mindset, emotional intelligence, and achievement goals theory in faculty and students.



Thank you, Cheryl!



Mentorship: Moving Nursing Forward

Allison Hamner MSN, RN, CNE, 2023 MARILN Graduate Student Resident

When starting the journey to become a nurse, the buzzwords novice, mentorship, preceptorship, and internship are often heard. Many nurses take part in a new graduate residency program. Modeling the theoretical framework of Dr. Pat Benner, the aim of these programs is to hone our skills and critical thinking from the novice to the expert stage. Our goal is to progress through these stages as quickly and efficiently as possible.

As nurses progress through their careers, our focus frequently shifts to educating and developing others. We are constantly training new staff, orienting new adjuncts, and mentoring the next generation of nurses. Higher education is one path available to become a student -or novice-again. This is the path I followed; after obtaining my MSN in 2015 and working in academia after graduation, the next rational step for me was to enroll in a PhD program.

After becoming a nursing scholar and PhD student, I felt just like a new graduate nurse. Concepts and terms I were not familiar with were the basis of discussion board postings and writing papers became a weekly occurrence. The National Research Council (2010) estimates that about half of PhD prepared nurses leave academia following graduation, and the younger PhD prepared nurses often choose careers other than academia. After one semester, I understood why.

A professor told me about the Massachusetts and Rhode Island League for Nursing (MARILN) graduate student residency application, and suggested I apply. While MARILN's mentorship program has a formal application process, informal peer mentorship plays a critical role in socializing PhD students as they progress through the program and transition into life as a nurse scholar (Lewinski et al., 2017). The program boasted networking with regional educators, additional conference and professional development opportunities and reviewing committee reports.

My involvement with MARLIN has truly been life changing. I gained more than can be put into words. Over the past 12 months, my professional network expanded, I attended multiple professional conferences, submitted scholarly work, and even presented at the National League for Nursing. Every member on the board became a role model and mentor to me. The only downfall to this program is that it is not available or accessible to all PhD students.

The goal of this article is to encourage all nurses, no matter where we are in our professional journey, to continually seek out new opportunities and relationships. My experience with MARILN helped me realize how important mentorship and developing a professional community are. It is inspiring to see the work that is being done by others, and it motivates me to contribute more to the profession. I encourage all nurses, no matter the specialty, to seek out mentorship and professional relationships.

The profession needs more PhD scholars. But we also need new nurse administrators, educators, and nurses at the bedside. They need support, in both formal and informal ways. With a nursing and nursing faculty shortage looming, mentorship is the key to moving the nursing profession forward.[HS1]

References:Lewinski, A. A., Mann, T., Flores, D., Vance, A., Bettger, J. P., & Hirschey, R. (2017). Partnership for development: A peer mentorship model for PhD students. Journal of Professional Nursing: Official Journal of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 33(5), 363–369. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.profnurs.2017.03.004

National Research Council and Institute of Medicine. Committee on Opportunities to Address Clinical Research Workforce Diversity Needs for 2010. Status and Future Role of Academic Nursing in Clinical Research. (2010). Washington DC: National Academies Press (US); 2010.

Teaching Tips!

Explore the Potential of ChatGPT as Your Creative Partner in Education

Julika Wocial, MSN, MS, CCRN and Rachael Salguero, PhD, RN-BC, CNEcl

Have you ever been in a situation where you were scheduled to teach a class the following morning and did not have the time to find any good case studies for your lecture to promote critical thinking? Or maybe you have an exam coming up and found out your last semester's exam "leaked," and you needed to come up with 20 new NCLEX-style questions? If these situations resonate with you, continue reading to discover how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can become your invaluable partner and resource.

Over the past year, Al has gained immense popularity, and most nursing students are now well-acquainted with Al platforms such as ChatGPT. Nurse educators can leverage this resourceful tool to brainstorm ideas, craft exam questions, develop case studies, generate discussion topics, and even design simulations. While some nurse educators may have reservations, it's essential to stay current with our learners and actively explore innovative methods for instructing nursing students. ChatGPT is an accessible online platform that offers a free account sign-up to anyone interested.

ChatGPT demonstrates its highest effectiveness when provided with detailed instructions. For example, "Write an evolving NCLEX style case study with open-ended questions for students promoting critical thinking about a client who is Asian American cis-male (he/him/his pronouns) and is presenting to the clinic with symptoms or liver cirrhosis. Do not disclose the diagnosis in the case study, so that it will be a part of the student's learning." As demonstrated in the example above, the instructions should provide some keywords (bolded here for clarity, you do not need to bold in ChatGPT) to direct Al in the way it forms the case study. Please see this **link** to see how this evolving NCLEX-style case study was generated by ChatGPT.

An example for writing a Next Generation NCLEX exam question is, "Write a multiple-choice application level NCLEX style priority question involving four clients hospitalized on a medical surgical unit with GI disorders. Provide rationales for the answers." Similar to the case study, the prompt needs to have specific keywords (bolded here for clarity, you do not need to bold in ChatGPT) to make the question fit a desired format and Bloom's level. Please see this **link** to see how this evolving NCLEX-style priority question was generated by ChatGPT.

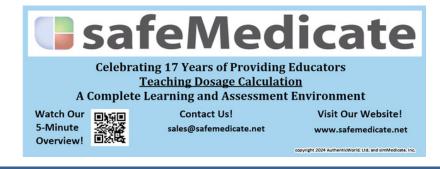
Although ChatGPT is undeniably a highly effective and valuable resource, it is imperative for nurse educators to consistently validate its content for accuracy and reliability due to the potential presence of errors. We recommend using ChatGPT as a tool to spark ideas. If one is using AI for exam questions or case studies, the nurse educator must verify the accuracy of answers and the rationale behind them. Additionally, it is crucial to incorporate appropriate citations when referencing ChatGPT. This **website** provides examples of how to cite ChatGPT in APA format.

Reference: OpenAl. (2024). ChatGPT. (Jan 25 version). [Large language model]. https://chat.openai.com

Race is Not a Risk Factor: It's Time to Incorporate Context

Cassandra Mombrun, MSN RN CPNP-PC, Karen Hunt, PhD, RN, RD, CNE, Rachael Salguero, PhD, RN-BC, CNEcl, and Kaveri Roy, DNP, RN, CNE

Even though the Human Genome Project has incontrovertibly proven that there is no genetic basis for race, nursing education continues to incorporate race as a risk factor when teaching, creating case studies, and formulating exam questions. For instance, educational materials might suggest that being Black is a risk factor for sickle cell disease. However, this condition actually stems from a genetic mutation that evolved as a protection against malaria, not a characteristic tied to race. This disease is prevalent in regions conducive to mosquitoes, such as the Mediterranean, Asia, and parts of South and Central America. Furthermore, with climate change, the type of mosquitoes that cause malaria are starting to migrate further north. The disease will likely become endemic in northern regions in the near future. Framing race as a determinant of risk fosters implicit bias and undermines the quality of clinical judgments. Nurse educators should acknowledge that considering race is important when teaching how structural and health inequities and systemic racism may lead to negative health outcomes. It is recommended that nurse educators and their students contact publishers when they encounter such outdated materials.



CELEBRATING OUR COLLEAGUES' SUCCESSES



Susan Maciewicz MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE

Salem State University community members were honored at the 2023 Northeast Regional Educators Hall of Fame Ceremony at the Hawthorne Hotel in Salem, MA on November 16, 2023 for their outstanding contributions in the field of education.

One of the awardees included our own MARILN "Historian" and longtime Board Member, **Susan Maciewicz MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE**. Susan received the Dorothy Foley '48 Northeast Region Educator Award for her demonstrated leadership and significant contributions in the field. Susan is the Director of Nursing at **North Shore Community College** and provides strategic direction to the associate degree registered nurse program and the licensed practical nursing program.

Submitted by Cheryl Williams, Salem State University

Laura Rossi's Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure

The Simmons University School of Nursing acknowledges Dr. Laura Rossi's achievement of Tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor. Dr. Rossi has demonstrated a commitment to teaching, scholarship, and service during her time at Simmons. This recognition by the university goes into effect on July 1st, 2024.

Bio: Laura Rossi has served as a member of the faculty in the Simmons University School of Nursing since 2017. In this role, she has been responsible for senior level courses including Leadership and Management in the Clinical Setting and the Clinical Capstone.

Dr Rossi Is certified by the American Nurses Association (ANA) as Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Health; her clinical practice has focused on care of patients with cardiovascular disease across various settings. She practiced for 24 years at BWH where she was instrumental in opening the Bretholtz Center for Patients & Families and the Kessler Health Education Library. More recently, she has worked in the area of Quality and Patient Safety at MGH where she has been engaged in various projects related to safety reporting, preoperative evaluation, and health care transitions. Her research interests are focused on improving clinical reasoning skills and redesigning models of care delivery.

Dr. Rossi received a BSN from Northeastern University, an MSN from Boston University and an MS in Health Services Administration from the Harvard School of Public Health. She earned her PhD in Health Services Research at the Boston University School of Public Health. She is active in many professional organizations, most notably, the American Heart Association (AHA) and NANDA-International where she has held many positions locally, nationally, and internationally. She was elected as a Fellow of the American Heart Association Council on Cardiovascular Nursing (1994) and NANDA-International (2018).





Dr. Laura Rossi



CELEBRATING OUR COLLEAGUES' SUCCESSES



Samantha Normilus RN

Simmons UNIVERSITY

Excellence in Nursing Practice at the NERBNA 36th Annual Excellence in Nursing Awards - Samantha Normilus, RN

Samantha Normilus is a registered nurse. She received her Bachelor of Nursing from **Simmons University**. Samantha is an outstanding dedicated clinical research nurse that provides quality and professional clinical care in the Lymphoma department at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Her job includes coordinating study enrollment, protocol treatment, and completion of study requirements for patients participating in clinical trials.

Samantha believes that every single life matters, so she ensures that every day she handles her job with great careful attention.

Samantha is a tremendous asset to the team. Her leadership qualities, coupled with her professionalism and compassionate care, makes her a truly special team member. Samantha is passionate about helping her patients and their families live healthier lives. She has served in various roles at Dana-Farber inpatient hospital and in the outpatient ambulatory clinic that align with her passion. Samantha is also fluent in Haitian Creole with is allows to connect with her non-English speaking patients in a more meaningful way, helping to provide a more comfortable experience and a better quality of care by communicating in a way the patient can fully understand.

Samantha's mother is an NERBNA Nurse Excellence Awardee.

Submitted by Yurona Pillay, Executive Assistant, Simmons University

Monagle, J., Jessee, M.A., Nielsen, A., Gonzalez, L., & Lasater, K., (in press). Observed use of clinical judgment among new graduate nurses. Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing.

This study reports what practice partners from across the US have observed in new graduate nurses and their ability to make clinical judgments.

Submitted by Janet Monagle, Northeastern University



Are you connected to our *New* Facebook page, LinkedIn, Instagram, and the MARILN website? The MARILN QR code is waiting for you! You do not want to miss new updates coming your way soon!



CELEBRATING OUR COLLEAGUES' SUCCESSES



Faculty Highlights from **UMass Dartmouth:**

Walsh, J. A., Sethares, K.A., Viveiros, J.D., & Asselin, M.E. (2024). Reflective journaling to promote critical reflective thinking post simulation-based education. Journal of Clinical Simulation. Published ahead of print.

Sosa, M., Chin, E., Sethares, K.A, & LeSeure, P. (2024). Perspectives regarding physical activity in women: Traditional gender role-based barriers and facilitators. Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing. Published ahead of print.

Whyte, M., & Sethares, K.A. (2023). A Socioecological Model of Heart Failure Self-Care. Advances in Nursing Science. Published ahead of print.

Grant: Project title: Finding ReLeaf: Digital Technology for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Support. Amount of \$24,555.50. PI: Valerie Seney, PhD, MA, MSN, LMHC, PMHNP-BC and Co-PI: Yi Liu, PhD and Monika Schuler, PhD, FNP-BC

Grant: Project title: Solution-Focused Consultation Sessions to Thwart Burnout in Nurses: A Multidisciplinary Pilot Evaluation. Funder: 2024 UMass Dartmouth Internal SEED award!

Amount of \$24,470.00. PI: Elizabeth Richardson, PhD and Co-Pi: Valerie Seney, PhD, MA, MSN, LMHC, PMHNP-BC

Grant: Project Title: Music Overhead System on Pediatric Inpatient Unit: Can Music Decrease Bedtime Anxiety? Funder: Lifespan Nursing 2023-2024. Amount: \$28,208.00

PI: Valerie Seney, PhD, MA, MSN, LMHC, PMHNP-BC and Co-PI: David Heeps, BS, RN

Schuler, M. and Seney, V. (in publication, 2024). It's My Secret": Shame as a Barrier to Care in Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder. Journal of the American Psychiatric Nursing Association.

Seney, V. (in publication 2024). Predictors and Barriers to Engagement in Caring for Children with a Mental Health Diagnosis: A Qualitative Study of Caregivers Perception of Power. Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing.

Accepted Publication: **Ross, J., Dunker, K., Duprey, M., Morrell, M. & Kim, L.** (2024). Clinical faculty orientation practices in the United States: A Descriptive Study. Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing.

Peeranuch LeSeure, Ph.D., RN, Assistant Professor

Grant: Project title: Social Determinants of Health, Family Involvement, Self-Management, and Glycemic Control Among Portuguese Americans with Type 2 Diabetes. The performance period for this award is from January 1, 2024, to August 30, 2024. (\$24,787.00)

Mary McCury, PhD, RNBC, ANP, ACNP, Shannon Avery-Desmarias, PhD, RN, AGPCNP-C, Monika Schuler, PhD, FNP-BC, CNE, Mirinda Tyo, PhD, RN, TCRN and Jennifer Vivieros, PhD, RN, CNE, have written a research article in November 2022 on "Perceived stigma, barriers, and facilitators experienced by members of the opioid use disorder Community when seeking healthcare." Journal of Nursing Scholarship, vol. 55, no. 3, 2022, pp. 701–710, https://doi.org/10.1111/jnu.12837. Learn More information about their no stigma team through this link: https://www.umassd.edu/nursing/research/no-stigma/



MARILN BALLOT 2024



Open Positions Include:
President-Elect, Secretary, Board Member (4),
Nominations Committee (2)
Submit Your Application Today!

The MARILN Nominations Committee reviews all applications received and then prepares a slate of candidates for the fall election. The application due date is 5/15/24. Voting will take place electronically from 9/24/24-10/24/24. The winners will be announced at our Annual Meeting on 10/25/24.

UPCOMING MARILN EVENTS





Opportunity to join MARILN Newsletter Committee!

This is an excellent time of year to reflect on the opportunities available for the upcoming year. The MARILN Newsletter Committee offers a written representation of our colleagues' successes, responsibilities, accomplishments, and perseverance as we continue our journey of discovery as nurse educators. The Newsletter allows us to share our knowledge and passion for teaching and learning. It is a place where we can invite other educators to witness the important work we are doing as researchers, teachers, leaders, and mentors. I invite you to consider a service role by joining the Newsletter Committee in its mission to continue to deliver a tri-annual representation of our colleagues' wonderful scholarship, research, teaching, and service. Contact me at lacross1@comcast.net or Sheila Blomquist at nursing.marlin@gmail.com if you are interested.

MARILN NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lisa Cross (lacross1@comcast.net) - Newsletter Chair
Kendra Bruce (kabruce@bidmc.harvard.edu) - Committee Member
Emily Cabrera (cabrerae@elms.edu) - Committee Member
Melissa Duprey (mduprey1@umassd.edu) - Committee Member
Lori Kasher (lkasher@ccri.edu) - Committee Member
Sheila Blomquist (nursing.mariln@gmail.com) - Administrative Director

Thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter! Please let us know if you have any future suggestions or if you would like to join our committee!

MARILN BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Officer Directors: Full Biographies and Pictures - CLICK HERE!

President: Lisa Thomas - thomasl1@framingham.edu President-Elect: Rachael Salguero - rhyler81@gmail.com

Treasurer: Angela MacDonald - angela.macdonald@tuftsmedicine.org

Secretary: Rebecca Hill - rhill@mghihp.edu

Members Directors: Full Biographies and Pictures - CLICK HERE!

Lisa Cross - lacross1@comcast.net

Jean DeCoffe - imdecoffe@ccri.edu (Rhode Island Rep)

Christine Devine - cdevine@fitchburgstate.edu Susan Lavallee - lavallees@middlesex.mass.edu

Patricia McCauley - pmccauley@framingham.edu

Joann Monks - jmonks@valleytech.k12.ma.us (PN Committee Rep)

Kiley Medeiros - kiley.medeiros@jwu.edu

Judie Pelletier - jpelletier@uppercapetech.org

Christine Salvucci - christine.salvucci@umb.edu

Kim Shea - kshea2@mwcc.mass.edu (AD/Diploma Committee Rep)

Lisa Walsh - walshl4@emmanuel.edu

Committee Chairs: Get Involved - Email committee chairs for more information!

Continuing Education: Terri Legare – terri.legare@salve.edu Faculty Award: Danielle Shaver – dshaver@worcester.edu

Finance: Angela MacDonald - angela.macdonald@tuftsmedicine.org

Membership: Susan Lavallee - lavallees@middlesex.mass.edu

Mentoring: Barbara Moloney - bmoloney@endicott.edu

Mini-Workshop: Susan Lavallee - lavallees@middlesex.mass.edu

Newsletter: Lisa Cross - lacross1@comcast.net Nominations: Kim Shea - kshea2@mwcc.mass.edu Poster: Lisa Walsh - walshl4@emmanuel.edu

Program: Rachael Salguero - rhyler81@gmail.com and Kim Shea - kshea2@mwcc.mass.edu

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Administrative Director:

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