

BY JENNIFER NEJMAN BOHONAK

ENTERPRISE BANK:

AN EXTENDED FAMILY FOR RIVER HAWKS

Enterprise Bank CEO Jack Clancy '80 is proud the bank has helped so many River Hawks get a good start in their careers. Being a partner to local organizations is one of the founding principles of the community bank, which is around the corner from UMass Lowell's campus.

More than 150 current and former employees of Enterprise Bank are UML alumni, including Clancy.

"As a strong supporter of the university's co-op program, Enterprise has been fortunate to welcome many students back as full-time team members after graduation," Clancy says. "Enterprise Bank has been honored to partner with UMass Lowell. Our missions to help build stronger communities—where we live and work—are aligned."

As frequent partners for the co-op program, career fairs, athletic sponsorship and on-campus panels, the bank and UML each benefit from the relationship.

"What I like about Enterprise Bank is they always show up," says Greg Denon, associate dean of student affairs for career development. "I like having relationships with companies that are not just about recruiting."

Through Enterprise's co-op program, students learn that careers in banking are varied, from working on loans to engaging in social media marketing. Students receive a salary and gain valuable experience, Denon says. Co-ops help students learn what they are looking for in company culture, work schedules and job positions so they can choose wisely when they accept their first job after graduation, he adds.

In the spring, senior business administration major Autumn Ouellet '23 was a social media marketing co-op student at Enterprise. In March, she produced a social media takeover day on behalf of the bank.

For Ouellet, the takeover event was an opportunity to plan and execute a large public-facing project. She developed content and created graphics, starting about a month prior to the event, that ran on the Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce's Instagram account.

On the takeover day, Ouellet used her smartphone to film Clancy as he welcomed viewers to the social event. She then spent the day posting on Instagram, often appearing on camera to discuss the Bank's Non-Profit Collaborative Seminar Series as well as the Racial Equity & Inclusion Seminars, and a community service event during which bank employees collected prom gowns to benefit high school students.

The bank's devotion to community service was something that caught Ouellet's attention during the co-op application process. She noticed a large section

on Enterprise's website was dedicated to its involvement in community service.

"I thought it was really cool how much community service they do," she says. "I am in a sorority, Phi Sigma Rho, so I do a lot of community service and philanthropy. I think it's important to give back."

Her co-op experience has been "a 10 out of 10," she says, adding that she will always remember the big smiles with which every Enterprise employee greeted her on her first day—and also their immediate acceptance of her as a team member whose opinions they valued. Ouellet also picked up new skills from colleagues, including website coding.

The experience has helped her think about what choices she will make as she shapes her career.

"We truly value having UMass Lowell co-op students work collaboratively alongside our team members," says Clancy. "The program provides the students with firsthand knowledge about our bank, culture and service philosophies, while strengthening our departments and branches where they work and share their talents."

But the relationship is about more than a mutually beneficial workforce pipeline. Enterprise Bank is one of a select group of corporate partners that support UMass Lowell in a variety of ways. In addition to being part of the co-op program since 2013, the bank also has a tuition reimbursement program at UML for employees who enroll in graduate courses.

The company also sponsors university athletics and events, and supports several UML entrepreneurship, culture, arts and diversity and equity programs.

Enterprise has made gifts to help the M2D2 (the Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center & Biotech Incubator, a partnership between UMass Lowell and the UMass Chan Medical School); the Innovation Hub at 110 Canal; the Rist DifferenceMaker program; the River Hawk Scholars Academy for first-generation students; the Center for Asian American Studies; the Global Entrepreneurship Exchange program; the Saab Center for Portuguese Studies; the UMass Lowell Women's Leadership Conference; and scholarships to support students and emergency student needs.

Clancy says the partnership between Enterprise and UML has flourished under Chancellor Jacquie Moloney's leadership.

"Chancellor Moloney has had a profound impact on the university and the greater Lowell community," he says. "Her leadership, perspective and insight as a member of our board of directors is invaluable." **UML**

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JACK CLANCY '80
Enterprise Bank CEO

< Co-op student Autumn Ouellet '23, Enterprise Bank CEO Jack Clancy '80 and co-op student Andrew Park '22.