



## UMass Amherst Advocacy Action

**Act Now:** [Visit](#) , [Call](#), [Write](#), or [Email](#) your [Massachusetts State Senator](#). If you do not know your MA State Senator in the General Court, find out [here](#).

**Due date: May 15, 2009**

**Ask your Massachusetts State Senator** to support UMass funding at the recommended House level in the FY 2010 budget:

UMass system – \$413,398,263; line item 7100-0200

UMass Amherst Commonwealth College – \$3,190,184; line item 7100-0500

**Background:** House members have recognized the value of UMass by their proposed funding level during these challenging times. Comparable funding from the Senate is vitally important!

We need you to reinforce the House's proposed UMass funding by contacting your Massachusetts State Senator.

**Timeline:** Now is the time to contact your Massachusetts State Senator and to remind him/her of the value UMass adds to Massachusetts. The Senate Ways and Means Committee is devising its FY 2010 budget recommendations.

Tell your Senator why UMass Amherst matters to you; and why it should matter to him/her. For instance:

### Talking Points

1. The university leverages state dollars to attract additional funding from other funding sources – federal grants and contracts; private donors; foundations and corporations. For every \$1 invested in UMass Amherst, \$8 returns to the Commonwealth.
2. The Amherst campus attracts and retains talented people who study, live, get good jobs and pay taxes to the Commonwealth. A well-educated, readily available workforce will be vital to the state's recovery from the recession.
3. Faculty research spin-offs morph into viable commercial ventures – creating new business opportunities and jobs for citizens.
4. Innovation from supported research enhances undergraduate education with cutting-edge knowledge and attracts the next generation of faculty researchers – graduate students – to UMass.

Questions? Contact Cheryl L. Dukes at 413-545-2560 or [sgr@admin.umass.edu](mailto:sgr@admin.umass.edu).

**UMass Amherst Advocates...Building a Stronger UMass**