“AN INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE ALWAYS PAYS THE BEST INTEREST.”

Benjamin Franklin
Faculty of Distinction

Our endowed chairs and professorships attract and retain groundbreaking faculty who spark transformative change.

Life Changing Scholarships

Access and affordability are key to our heritage, mission, and future.

Leading the Way

We lead our state and nation in finding ways to improve lives.
Arthur Tuttle '85MS, tree fruit research associate, checks a trap at the UMass Amherst research orchard designed to monitor the presence and spread of new invasive pests in Massachusetts.

our faculty

11% spike in private sector funded research

$6M in research yields 1 scientific patent

38% jump over five years in federal funds for campus science and engineering

$1.2M annually in license income
More Fruit, Less Pesticide

After Ronald J. Prokopy, a UMass Amherst entomologist and veritable rock star to fruit growers, died 10 years ago, research into insect pest management in Massachusetts orchards waned. Now, family, friends, and farmers have raised nearly $900,000 to establish a memorial endowment in Prokopy’s name that will help fund a faculty position dedicated to helping fruit farmers produce high yields with minimal pesticides.

Charles P. McQuaid ‘74 graduated from the Isenberg School of Management with little debt and the knowledge that got him into a prestigious graduate business school. The affordable tuition, then roughly $200 a semester, part-time jobs, including summers working in a factory, and dedication to his studies helped launch his successful career as an investment fund manager.

An Investment, Endowed Professorship

Charles P. McQuaid ’74 graduated from the Isenberg School of Management with little debt and the knowledge that got him into a prestigious graduate business school. The affordable tuition, then roughly $200 a semester, part-time jobs, including summers working in a factory, and dedication to his studies helped launch his successful career as an investment fund manager.

Four decades later, McQuaid says it’s time to give back. With a $1.5 million gift, he established the Charles P. McQuaid Endowed Professorship in finance. The gift will also support students from his hometown of Ware, Massachusetts, and surrounding communities.

In terms of the student support, McQuaid says, “I want hard-working students to have opportunities like those I had when I graduated from UMass Amherst.” Some of those opportunities are studying with top-notch faculty. McQuaid says his UMass Amherst education was a significant factor in his acceptance to University of Chicago’s MBA program.

In March 2014, McQuaid retired after working for 35 years at Columbia Wanger Asset Management in Chicago, where he rose to president and chief investment officer. He remains active in the business world, managing the Columbia Thermostat Fund and advises analysts and writes quarterly shareholder commentaries. He wishes the Isenberg school was a publicly traded company. “If Isenberg were a stock, I’d invest in it in a heartbeat,” he says.
Creating World Peace

As a leader in the study of peace and violence, UMass Amherst has been training the next generation of scholars to understand how members of racial, ethnic, religious, and political groups are devastated by conflict and violence.

A new $1.5 million endowment for the Psychology of Peace and Violence Program will help the program flourish by continuing to support doctoral students and the convening of international peace and conflict scholars.

“We continue to attract students from around the world who are interested in research on these issues and the practical application of this work to promote peace and nonviolence in the world,” says Linda R. Tropp, who served as director of the program from 2007 to 2015. She notes that this gift ensures the long-term sustainability of the program, which will produce a significant body of research that can be used to promote peaceful and nonviolent approaches to reducing and resolving conflict.

The gift is the third made by a couple who wish to remain anonymous and hope to make the world a more peaceful place through research. In 2002, the couple gave a second gift of $2.5 million in 2011 for the establishment of an endowed chair in the study of nonviolent direct action and civil resistance.

With a lifetime commitment to peace, the donors have themselves participated in nonviolent action and civil resistance to promote civil rights and social justice. “They have strongly felt that one of the best contributions they can make is to train future generations of scholars to conduct rigorous research that would promote a more peaceful and nonviolent world,” Tropp says.

The effort to understand how and when nonviolent measures can minimize conflict and promote peace interests Sidney Topol ’47, ’85HON, a social activist who pioneered advances in satellite communications. His gift of $100,000 will be used to bring scholars together and coordinate efforts in promoting nonviolent strategies. “We have to work to find ways to end international violence and violence in the streets of America,” says Topol.

“An endowed chair will bring in yet another nationally and internationally renowned scholar to anchor what is already a highly regarded faculty,” says James Young, Distinguished Professor of English and Judaic Studies and the institute’s founding director. “The holder of the chair will focus on ancient Jewish civilization.”

The Jacobs, who live in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and have a long history of philanthropy at UMass Amherst, say their bequest is targeted at the two fundamental linchpins of higher education: groundbreaking faculty research and financial assistance for students. “Our gift will assure the continued success of these fine programs,” says Robert Jacobs, senior counsel and founding partner at Rock Creek Partners, LLC. Pamela Jacobs, a member of the UMass Amherst Foundation Board, says the institute, located near campus on North Pleasant Street, uniquely broadens the reach of philanthropy at UMass Amherst, bringing Holocaust studies to a wide audience. She adds, “Doing good deeds is what we were taught.”

The institute, home to a 3,000-book library and a permanent teaching exhibit, annually receives 3,000 visitors. The $1 million endowment will augment professional staff and programming such as public lectures and conferences and create new opportunities for internships and graduate fellowships. The bequest further includes $1 million for scholarships and $500,000 for the campus Hillel.

Though the Judaic and Near Eastern Studies Department is one of the smallest at UMass Amherst, it reaches many students through collaborations with affiliated faculty who teach general education courses in fields as diverse as memory studies and Hebrew and Yiddish languages and literature.

Gift Strengthens Judaic Studies

A $5 million gift from Robert D. Jacobs ’68 and Pamela M. Jacobs ’69 — earmarked for an endowed chair in Judaic and Near Eastern Studies and support for scholarships and the Institute for Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies — will strengthen the campus’s leadership in multidisciplinary Judaic scholarship.
LIFE CHANGING SCHOLARSHIPS

Joseph Bardin, left, a faculty member in the College of Engineering, teaches Jose LaSalle ’16 how to use a state-of-the-art network analyzer, an advanced tool that allows engineers to characterize the performance of ultra-high-speed microchips.

our students

23% represent racial diversity
25% are first-generation in college
28% come from the very lowest income families
72% graduate with debt
An Incentive to Return to College

After a hiatus in her education that included giving birth to her daughter, Amy McCarthy returned to UMass Amherst more determined than ever to finish her degree. She graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in nutrition and is now pursuing a master’s degree. She expects her two degrees will provide financial stability for her family as well as opportunities to do good work.

Her successful return to school as a single parent of a now five-year-old was aided by $4,500 scholarships, which are awarded to four different students. A leading nursing textbook author, Marieb herself had to leave college for several years and returned with the help of a scholarship. "I know the value of a good education. That's what comes from getting a scholarship made me feel like I can keep moving forward," she says. Her next step is to complete a two-year master's program on nutrition at the UMass Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences while completing a required internship. During the academic year she will be a nutritional intern at the public schools in Hadley, Massachusetts.

One of the campus’s most generous and long-term donors, Marieb has been donating $20,000 annually since 2011 for the Phoenix scholarships, which are awarded to four different students. A leading nursing textbook author, Marieb herself had to leave college for several years and returned with the help of a scholarship. With a strong faith in higher education, she says, “I know the value of a good education. That's what put me on the road to success.”

Two-Step Journey to Higher Food Production

When Aaron Benton ’17 learned in his high school in Madison, Wisconsin, that growing food for the 21st century poses unprecedented challenges, he pledged to help. He came east to UMass Amherst in pursuit of two degrees, one in sustainable food and farming and the other in management. "Whatever I do in life, I want to follow the creed of doing no harm, especially to the environment," says Benton, who is a member of Commonwealth Honors College.

Benton is charting new territory as he focuses on hydroponic farming, also known as controlled environment agriculture, in which crops are grown in large warehouse-sized greenhouses. "This method could take over the production of a significant amount of crops humans consume," says Benton.

He believes that his academic courses combined with field and lab experience will help him enter the fledgling hydroponic industry as agriculture adapts to climate change. His quest for two degrees means averaging around 20 credits a semester. He also has an eight-hour a week work-study job watering plants in the College of Natural Sciences greenhouse. Over the summer he began work on an Amherst farm renovating a new hydroponic greenhouse.

Benton says his goals were reinforced when he was awarded a $20,000 Eugene and Ronnie Isenberg scholarship for each of his final two years at UMass Amherst. "This boosts my confidence. It sends the message that I am making good decisions about school," says Benton. The award may also help him graduate without debt.

Scholarship Calms Financial Anxieties

When Emily Xarras ’17 enrolled in UMass Amherst she vowed to capitalize on the multitude of opportunities the flagship campus has to offer. She has rigorous studies as a member of Commonwealth Honors College and a hospitality and tourism major at the Isenberg School of Management. On the extracurricular side, she is a member of and gig manager for Vocal Suspects, the oldest a cappella group on campus, and a member and event coordinator for the University Programming Council. And, she works up to 24 hours a week as a front desk agent at the Campus Hotel.

Her biggest worry is not juggling a demanding schedule but keeping her education loans within reasonable amounts without giving up one or more of her treasured activities in exchange for even more paid work. A $10,000 Eugene and Ronnie Isenberg scholarship in both her junior and senior years and returned with the help of a scholarship. "Now I don't have to give up things that really do make me who I am and teach me skills outside of classes," she says. The scholarship further means that Xarras, who grew up in Westminster, Massachusetts, can afford to study abroad.

The joy in receiving a prestigious scholarship extends to the Xarras family, whose changing financial circumstances have meant less financial support for their daughter. “This is really special for us. It means that all those nights of not sleeping or skipping a meal to study have paid off,” Xarras says.
Inaugural Scholarship Goes to Community College Transfer Student

After two years at a junior college, Joel Lapin transferred to UMass Amherst where he amassed critical life and academic skills that he marshaled into a career as a sociology professor.

"Clearly, UMass gave me a solid liberal arts education in thinking critically and knowing how to conduct research and problem solving. I also had the experience of understanding other cultures," says Lapin, who recently retired from 43 years of teaching at a community college outside of Baltimore, Maryland. He earned his bachelor's degree in 1968 and a master's in 1971.

In gratitude for his UMass Amherst education, Lapin has committed $100,000 for the Joel D. Lapin Family Scholarship in Social Sciences. The scholarship is also a way for Lapin, the first in his family to graduate from college, to honor his late parents, Aaron and Anne, who raised their family in Worcester, Massachusetts. "My parents made enormous sacrifices. If it had not been for them I would have likely worked in a factory," he says.

Lapin prefers that his scholarship be given to students coming to UMass Amherst from a community college and planning a social science major. Evelyn Brand ’16, an economics major who attended Middlesex Community College, is the inaugural recipient of the Lapin scholarship. She says the $1,500 scholarship enabled her to work as an unpaid intern at a nonprofit organization. She analyzed labor laws in Greece and the Czech Republic and studied the impacts of illegal gold mines in Peru and Columbia.

A 25-year-old non-traditional student, Brand dropped out of her first year of college. "My life finally settled down and it was time to go back to school," she explains. She chose economics as her major in the belief it will give her the foundation to recommend public policies. After earning her bachelor's degree, she will begin a master's program in public policy at UMass Amherst. "I'm excited about using economics to help make feasible public policies to create something for the greater good," says Brand.

The scholarship is also a way for Lapin, the first in his family to graduate from college, to honor his late parents, Aaron and Anne, who raised their family in Worcester, Massachusetts. "My parents made enormous sacrifices. If it had not been for them I would have likely worked in a factory," he says.

Brand prefers that her scholarship be given to students coming to UMass Amherst from a community college and planning a social science major, who are underrepresented on campus.

Literary Treasure

Devin Melendy ’16 will be sure to add one of the eight critically acclaimed novels by Mary McGarry Morris to her extensive reading list, perhaps starting with the international bestseller, Songs in Ordinary Time. Melendy, an avid reader, is this year’s recipient of the $2,900 Margaret C. Chirico – Mary McGarry Morris Scholarship, named for the author and her mother.

Melendy’s love of literature and of writing, combined with her 3.7 grade point average, work ethic, financial need, and the fact that she was reared in a single-parent household, qualified her for the scholarship.

Mary’s husband, Michael W. Morris ’63, a former president of the UMass Amherst Alumni Association, established the scholarship. The Morris family has many UMass Amherst ties, including their children Sarah ’85 and Amy ’98, and grandchildren Joe Danisch ’17 and Maggie Danisch ’19.

Mary’s brother John McGarry ’67 is also a generous contributor to the fund created to honor both his mother and the literary accomplishments of his sister. Margaret C. Chirico, a single mother, instilled an appreciation for fine writing in her four children. “My mother worked three difficult physical jobs to support us,” John McGarry says. “She took business courses so that she could move on to an office job, and she always found time for reading. She would have loved the opportunity for a UMass education.”

Inspired by her mother’s determination, McGarry Morris wrote her first novel, Vanished, whenever she could find the time while rearing her five children. That book was a finalist for the National Book Award and PEN/Faulkner Award. Melendy has worked since age 14, including as a college student in the dishroom at Franklin Dining Commons and at the service desk at Crabtree residence hall. Nevertheless, she will graduate with approximately $40,000 in loans. She says that the scholarship will relieve some of her financial pressure as she completes a degree in English with a Professional Writing and Technical Communication specialization.
LEADING THE WAY

Heather Ducharme '16, a UMass Women into Leadership fellow, meets with U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, whose office was one of the inaugural internship sites for the program that grooms UMass women for public leadership.

our leadership

363 campus programs that partner with 500 organizations

27% reduction in greenhouse gases in 10 years

300 courses on sustainability theory and practice

20,000 hours of service from 9,000 students
First Net Zero Energy Building on Campus

In one year since its launch in 2014, UMass Women into Leadership (UWiL) has already shown long-term viability by recruiting powerful women to serve as directors and mentors to UMass Amherst women interested in public leadership.

In one year since its launch in 2014, UMass Women into Leadership (UWiL) has already shown long-term viability by recruiting powerful women to serve as directors and mentors to UMass Amherst women interested in public leadership.

Now, a $1 million planned gift from Jean Vogel ’82, a political science major, further assures a robust future for UWL. “This gift is transformative and will allow UWL to expand what we do, including scholarships for unpaid internships,” says Michelle Goncalves ’06G, UWiL executive director.

Vogel says she was planning to make a gift to the Department of Political Science and then read an article in a newsletter about the new program launched by the department detailing efforts to close the gender gap in public leadership. Besides her role as a benefactor, Vogel was a mentor to Corinne Elicone ’17, a 2015 UWL fellow and political science major from Acton, Massachusetts.

“I wish this program existed when I was in school. It may have opened doors for me to pursue a career in the foreign service,” Vogel says.

As it turned out, Vogel went on to a successful career in the business world, starting off as a paralegal and now working with Microsoft’s Federal Service Sales group. “I was ready for the business world when I left UMass because of my solid liberal arts education,” says Vogel, who grew up in Holliston, Massachusetts.

She says her gift and involvement with UWiL keep her connected to her alma mater and fulfill a wish to help others. “That’s really important to me. I want others to have the opportunities I did,” says Vogel. Elicone says Vogel’s mentoring has already paid off. Vogel helped rewrite her résumé and that led to a summer internship with the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival.

“Vogel says she was planning to make a gift to the Department of Political Science and then read an article in a newsletter about the new program launched by the department detailing efforts to close the gender gap in public leadership. Besides her role as a benefactor, Vogel was a mentor to Corinne Elicone ’17, a 2015 UWL fellow and political science major from Acton, Massachusetts.

“I wish this program existed when I was in school. It may have opened doors for me to pursue a career in the foreign service,” Vogel says.

As it turned out, Vogel went on to a successful career in the business world, starting off as a paralegal and now working with Microsoft’s Federal Service Sales group. “I was ready for the business world when I left UMass because of my solid liberal arts education,” says Vogel, who grew up in Holliston, Massachusetts.

She says her gift and involvement with UWiL keep her connected to her alma mater and fulfill a wish to help others. “That’s really important to me. I want others to have the opportunities I did,” says Vogel. Elicone says Vogel’s mentoring has already paid off. Vogel helped rewrite her résumé and that led to a summer internship with the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival.

Jean Vogel, left, and Corinne Elicone

If women’s representation in Congress continues to increase at the current rate, it will take

106 years to reach gender parity.*

Grooming Women for Public Leadership

In one year since its launch in 2014, UMass Women into Leadership (UWiL) has already shown long-term viability by recruiting powerful women to serve as directors and mentors to UMass Amherst women interested in public leadership.

Now, a $1 million planned gift from Jean Vogel ’82, a political science major, further assures a robust future for UWL. “This gift is transformative and will allow UWL to expand what we do, including scholarships for unpaid internships,” says Michelle Goncalves ’06G, UWiL executive director.

Vogel says she was planning to make a gift to the Department of Political Science and then read an article in a newsletter about the new program launched by the department detailing efforts to close the gender gap in public leadership. Besides her role as a benefactor, Vogel was a mentor to Corinne Elicone ’17, a 2015 UWL fellow and political science major from Acton, Massachusetts.

“I wish this program existed when I was in school. It may have opened doors for me to pursue a career in the foreign service,” Vogel says.

As it turned out, Vogel went on to a successful career in the business world, starting off as a paralegal and now working with Microsoft’s Federal Service Sales group. “I was ready for the business world when I left UMass because of my solid liberal arts education,” says Vogel, who grew up in Holliston, Massachusetts.

She says her gift and involvement with UWiL keep her connected to her alma mater and fulfill a wish to help others. “That’s really important to me. I want others to have the opportunities I did,” says Vogel. Elicone says Vogel’s mentoring has already paid off. Vogel helped rewrite her résumé and that led to a summer internship with the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival.

Jean Vogel, left, and Corinne Elicone

If women’s representation in Congress continues to increase at the current rate, it will take

106 years to reach gender parity.*

Grooming Women for Public Leadership

In one year since its launch in 2014, UMass Women into Leadership (UWiL) has already shown long-term viability by recruiting powerful women to serve as directors and mentors to UMass Amherst women interested in public leadership.

Now, a $1 million planned gift from Jean Vogel ’82, a political science major, further assures a robust future for UWL. “This gift is transformative and will allow UWL to expand what we do, including scholarships for unpaid internships,” says Michelle Goncalves ’06G, UWiL executive director.

Vogel says she was planning to make a gift to the Department of Political Science and then read an article in a newsletter about the new program launched by the department detailing efforts to close the gender gap in public leadership. Besides her role as a benefactor, Vogel was a mentor to Corinne Elicone ’17, a 2015 UWL fellow and political science major from Acton, Massachusetts.

“I wish this program existed when I was in school. It may have opened doors for me to pursue a career in the foreign service,” Vogel says.

As it turned out, Vogel went on to a successful career in the business world, starting off as a paralegal and now working with Microsoft’s Federal Service Sales group. “I was ready for the business world when I left UMass because of my solid liberal arts education,” says Vogel, who grew up in Holliston, Massachusetts.

She says her gift and involvement with UWiL keep her connected to her alma mater and fulfill a wish to help others. “That’s really important to me. I want others to have the opportunities I did,” says Vogel. Elicone says Vogel’s mentoring has already paid off. Vogel helped rewrite her résumé and that led to a summer internship with the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival.

Jean Vogel, left, and Corinne Elicone

If women’s representation in Congress continues to increase at the current rate, it will take

106 years to reach gender parity.*
MESSAGE FROM VICE CHANCELLOR FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

On several fronts, fiscal year 2014–2015 was a milestone year for UMass Amherst.

We surpassed the $300 million mark in our historic UMass Rising fundraising campaign, but our work is far from over. As the fundraising continues towards the June 30, 2016, campaign end date, we will focus on three priorities that require a higher level of support: student scholarships, faculty endowments, and the restoration of Old Chapel.

Your encouragement and gifts have established the momentum for fiscal year 2015-16. With the renovations already under way at Old Chapel, the generosity of alumni and friends will be vital in returning this historic icon to its former glory. We also are working diligently on a new Community Scholarship initiative, a program that benefits students hard-pressed with financial needs and includes those who are the first in their families to go to college and those from underrepresented groups on our campus.

Whether it is by helping to restore Old Chapel for future generations or by providing scholarships to students, your gifts create the catalyst for making the flagship campus an institution for an excellent and accessible education. The inspiring stories in this Annual Report on Philanthropy show clear evidence of the far-reaching results of your generosity.

The statistics highlighted throughout this report speak to how your gifts are leveraged for maximum impact and how seriously we take our role as stewards of your investments. Another notable landmark this year was being named among U.S. News & World Report’s top 25 most efficient among top-rated national universities. Institutions on this list spend their limited resources wisely to produce the highest quality education. UMass Amherst ranks among the nation’s top 30 public universities, moving up 11 spots during the past two years in the U.S. News & World Report’s annual college guide.

The entire campus community appreciates your generosity and loyalty. We hope that these stories of transformation make you proud to be a part of this remarkable community of supporters. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Michael A. Leto
Vice Chancellor for Development and Alumni Relations
UMass Amherst Foundation
After 40 years as a faculty member at UMass Amherst, Lori Celek’s passion for research and efforts to encourage more diverse women and minorities to study computer science shows no sign of ebbing. Celek retired in June 2015, stepping down as chair of the School of Computer Science. She will continue her National Science Foundation-funded research, now aimed at reducing medical errors, a leading cause of death in the U.S. Her husband, Leonard Sage, also an influential figure in the field of software engineering and now retired, served on the faculty for 21 years, four of those as dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

"Computer science graduate students up for a very strong career due to low funding backgrounds, it's a life changer. We support fellowships and scholarships that help graduate students into a field with opportunities."

Professor Emeriti Lori Celek and Leon Osterweil
I was always touched by the character of the people at UMass Amherst. My experience defined my personal and professional life. It led me to the field of education and into the world of service to my alma mater.

Richard Donovan
Lorraine Belle 73 developed her interests in women's health issues at UMass Amherst. While later working in Northampton, she served as a consulting pharmacist at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Health Center, where she was once a work-study student. Since leaving full-time practice, Belle has worked with Doctors Without Borders in Sudan, Sierra Leone, Jordan, and Lesotho. She has made a gift of $250 for those with degrees in medicine to the University’s Making the World a Better Place Fund. In addition, she has supported the Parents’ Fund for 6–10 years. "A foundation for my career in medicine."
STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

UMass Rising | The Campaign for the University of Massachusetts Amherst

OUR FISCAL YEAR COMMITMENTS TOTAL:

- Support Talented Students: $10,693,605 (18%)
- Support Annual Fund: $6,246,607 (10%)
- Support Research & Programs: $20,414,206 (33%)
- Support First-Class Faculty: $5,827,048 (10%)
- Support Buildings and Infrastructure: $17,704,041 (29%)

Growth Spurts

$1.8 million
from 1,745 faculty and staff members, compared to the national average of $776,000 for staff and faculty campaigns*

- 541 more joined the long list who have made annual gifts in the last 25 years
- 6,415 donors made their first gift
- 34% increase in corporate gifts
- 28% jump in number of gifts made online
- 14% rise in gifts from senior students
- 34% of the 2015 graduating class made a donation

*Council for Advancement and Support of Education

“IT IS OK TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO PULL THEMSELVES UP BY THE BOOTSTRAPS, BUT IF YOU DO, JUST REMEMBER THAT SOME PEOPLE HAVE NO BOOTS.”

Neil deGrasse Tyson
2015 Commencement Speaker