



SOME OF OUR **Points of Pride**

the University of Massachusetts Amherst



The University of Massachusetts Amherst provides exceptional opportunity at a great price. Its award-winning faculty and rich array of academic and extracurricular programs offer almost limitless possibilities for professional and personal growth.

The 2001 edition of *America's Best Colleges*, published by *U.S. News & World Report*, ranks UMass Amherst among the nation's top 50 "Great Schools at Great Prices" in the category of national universities. And when the July 2000 *Change* magazine evaluated the National Research Council's ratings of research-doctorate institutions, UMass was again in the top 50, both for its "reputational rating" and the number of citations and awards its programs receive.

There's more good news. The authoritative *Technology Review* ranked UMass 21st among the nation's universities for the range of its intellectual property and commercial partnerships and the frequency with which its patents are cited in technical literature. (Among other Massachusetts institutions, only MIT made the list.) This year's edition of *America's Best Graduate Schools*, published by *U.S. News*, places the University's Linguistics and Polymer Science programs first in their categories and the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing tenth. And the Interior Design and Architectural Studies Program at UMass has been ranked fifth in the nation by the *Almanac of Architecture and Design 2000*, based on a survey of more than 150 leading U.S. design firms.

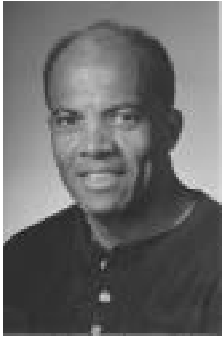


UMass Pharming Country The cattle cloned by UMass Amherst scientists in 1998 are full-grown and doing well. As the first genetically altered cloned cattle, Charlie, George, and Albert represent a significant step in the eventual production of animals whose milk will include enhanced quantities of therapeutic proteins for use in human medications—an example of "pharming," the development of pharmaceuticals using farm animals.



Prez-entation UMass biologist Lynn Margulis, Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Geosciences, received a 1999 National Medal of Science from President Bill Clinton in a White House ceremony on March 14, 2000 (above). She was cited for "outstanding contributions to the understanding of the structure and evolution of living cells, and for extraordinary abilities as a teacher and communicator of science to the public." A member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Margulis joined the UMass faculty in 1988.

Uncommon Ability At Commonwealth College, the University's new honors college, the 525 men and women in this year's incoming class—the school's second—have a median grade point average of 3.9 and an average SAT score of 1312, and ranked in the top 6 percent of their high school classes. There are now 1,325 Commonwealth College students; the University's honors program has an additional 1,175 students.



Heavyweight UMass Amherst English Professor John Edgar Wideman (left) received the O. Henry Award for 2000 after his “Weight” was judged by a panel of distinguished judges to be the best of the thousands of short stories published in the United States and Canada

during 1999. He was otherwise honored when his life and work were the focus of a March 2000 conference at the University of Virginia.

Reverse Sticker Shock In 2000-01, in-state undergraduates at UMass are paying \$5,212 for tuition and fees—6 percent less than the \$5,546 their predecessors paid as long ago as 1993-94.

Athletes’ Feats As evidenced by its 90 post-season invitations over the last decade, UMass continues to field one of the nation’s finest all-around intercollegiate athletic programs. Last year, 10 of its teams earned post-season bids and six captured Atlantic 10 titles. In each of the past six years, UMass has led the A-10 in All-Academic selections, with 29 honorees last year. During that same period it also won four Hanes-Atlantic 10 Commissioner’s Cups for having the league’s top athletic program.

New Horizons UMass ranks seventh among U.S. public research institutions in the percentage of its students studying abroad, according to the Institute of International Education. Study-abroad participation throughout the University is expected to reach 20 percent in 2000-01.

Taking Care of Business As a spur to an already successful fund-raising drive, the Isenberg School of Management has been awarded an \$850,000 challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation.

Fine on Nine Tennis star Billie Jean King (right), speaking at the May 2000 UMass Amherst commencement, gave the University high marks for being one of the very few colleges to be fully compliant with Title IX without having cut any sports from its men’s program.

Easing Math Anxiety A \$2.4 million grant from the National Science Foundation is enabling a team at the University’s Scientific Reasoning Research Institute to develop software to help math-anxious middle-schoolers come to grips with statistics. The team’s leader, Research Associate Professor Cliff Konold, says the initiative is important because statistics and data analysis are increasingly prevalent in and out of academia.

Arborists’ Laurels The Stockbridge School of Agriculture at UMass Amherst is the first academic institution to receive the Award of Merit from the National Arborists Association. The association’s highest honor, it recognizes individuals or organizations that have “positively influenced the practice of arboriculture.”

Mighty Mite UMass Amherst Computer Science graduate student Hariharasubrahmanian Shrikumar has designed what is believed to be the world’s tiniest Web server. Roughly the size of a match head, it costs less than a dollar to construct yet might be used to operate home appliances from remote Web sites.

A Threat Defused? UMass Amherst Chemistry Professor Vincent Rotello may hold a key to finding and eventually neutralizing the landmines that daily threaten the lives of civilians in countries like Kosovo. He is fashioning supersensitive chemical sensors to hone in on a specific molecule to positively identify landmines. Used to pinpoint the location of buried explosives, such technology could spare countless lives.



Top Scholars UMass faculty members Jane A. Baran, Communication Disorders, and Deirdre A. Royster, Sociology, were among 40 Carnegie Scholars recently named by the Pew National Fellowship Program, a part of the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

Cello Fame Internationally acclaimed cellist Matt Haimovitz (right) has joined the Department of Music and Dance at UMass. Not yet 30 years old, he has performed with such luminaries as Isaac Stern, Yo-Yo Ma, and Seiji Ozawa, and been hailed by critics as “an amazing virtuoso” and “a new star in the cello firmament.”



Light on Clouds The Microwave Remote Sensing Lab at UMass Amherst is creating a specialized radar system for NASA’s CloudSat satellite imaging program. Drawing data from a ground station and a space-borne platform, it will create never-before-possible three-dimensional images of clouds. Meteorologists will be able to “dissect” these images to better understand the forces that create our weather.

Hot House The University's top-ranked Department of Computer Science recently moved into a state-of-the-art facility (below) for conducting research in such hot topics as computer vision, robotics, machine learning, artificial neural networks, intelligent tutoring systems, cognitive science, and computational neuroscience.



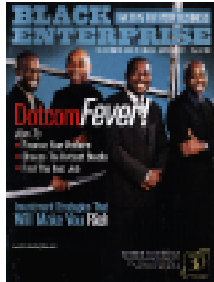
Cool Idea Working in conjunction with the Federal Aviation Administration under the auspices of the Center for UMass/Industry Research on Polymers, UMass Amherst chemical engineers and polymer scientists have created plastics that are “fire-smart”— when exposed to flame, they break down to a nearly nonflammable residue and a small amount of water vapor. Produced by environmentally friendly “green chemistry” processes, they may be used in aircraft components ranging from seat cushions to cabin molding. The 10 or 15 minutes such materials might delay a full-fledged fire after an airplane crash or forced landing could allow all passengers to be evacuated.

Jump Start Students at UMass Amherst and area colleges who aspire to launch their own businesses can get help doing it (and a chance to win up to \$10,000) from the UMass/Five College Entrepreneur Program. The program creates teams of students, alumni mentors, and faculty for a series of practical seminars on business startups.

Peace Work The New England Regional Peace Corps Office recently announced that UMass is the region's second-leading source of volunteers for the Corps. More than 1,000 UMass alumni have stepped forward since President John F. Kennedy launched the program in 1961.

Family-Biz Wizards Lauded in 1999 by *Yahoo! Internet Life* magazine for having the Web's most comprehensive family-business site, the Family Business Center at UMass continues to garner national recognition. It was recently voted “most innovative program of its type in the country” by the International Family Business Program Association.

Genre Busting Four recent graduates of the Master of Fine Arts Program in Creative Writing have established *jubilat*, a new international literary journal. Created to explore the realm of writing between poetry and fiction, it has gained notice in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Poets and Writers* magazine. The first issue featured work by UMass M.F.A. professors Dara Wier and James Tate and other internationally acclaimed poets. (Wier also recently landed a prestigious appearance on the cover of *The American Poetry Review*.)



Venturesome *Black Enterprise* magazine's March 2000 cover included two UMass alumni— Electrical Engineering graduate Charles Sheffield '89 and Computer Science graduate Anthony Gee '90. They manage African American-owned Carthage Venture Partners, a private-equity firm that targets minority-owned technology companies and seeks to invest between \$500,000 and \$5 million in chosen startups.



Blastaways Sounding off on everything from tubas to didgeridoos, seven UMass students and alumni of the Minuteman Marching Band were among the 68-member cast in last spring's London production of the hit musical *Blast!* Associate director Thom Hannum '84G led the UMass delegation to the innovative show, which has no story line but draws musical inspiration from the classics, blues, jazz, rock and roll, and Broadway.

The Big, Big Plan As part of an effort to provide a scholarly understanding of the moral and spiritual dimension of the universe, UMass physicist John Donoghue has been selected by the Templeton Foundation to undertake studies seeking evidence of universal purpose in the cosmos.

Bridge Builders School of Education Associate Professor Maurianne Adams, who is Jewish, and Afro-American Studies Professor John Bracey, who is black, co-edited the much-praised anthology *Strangers and Neighbors: Relations Between Blacks and Jews in the United States*. Drawing on their own experiences, they team-taught an innovative course on the subject. They helped bring to UMass from the Jewish Museum in New York a major art exhibition on black/Jewish relations. And they co-wrote an article on the subject for *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.



Road Odes The UMass M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing is coordinating and hosting the new, nationally acclaimed Poetry in Motion project. Sponsored by the New York-based Poetry Society of America, the project arranges to have handsomely designed poem posters (above) hung in buses in cities across the U.S. In and around Amherst, more than 1,200 posters will be displayed throughout the year.



Going for the Gold In April 2000, Laurence Shumway, a junior double-majoring in Mathematics and the joint Biochemistry and Molecular Biology program, became UMass Amherst's second Goldwater Scholar in three years. The prestigious national award, given on the basis of academic merit, covers \$7,500 in academic expenses. Shumway's research uses advanced math to help explain biological processes on the cellular and molecular levels.

Logan Runs UMass Amherst Engineering Professor Donald Fisher wants to make it easier to find each of the terminals at Boston's Logan International Airport. He heads a team that has created a virtual "Loganscape," a computer-generated roadway on which researchers can assess the relative efficiency of various signage schemes without ever going offscreen.

Monster Talent UMass Amherst's Jeffrey C. Taylor '82 (right) is the founder of Monster.com, the Web site most favored by young professionals seeking jobs. With a database of more than 2 million résumés, it is widely considered to be one of the most successful on-line career and recruitment services.



De-babelizing After developing ultra-powerful search engines for the Library of Congress and the White House, UMass computer scientists keep pushing the envelope in search-engine performance. One exciting idea they're working on, "translingual retrieval," allows researchers to electronically cull information from many foreign languages. The work is being done under the aegis of the UMass Center for Intelligent Information Retrieval.

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