

# SOME OF OUR Points OF OUR of Pride

2001-2002

## the University of Massachusetts Amherst



*U.S. News & World Report's 2002 ratings count UMass among the*

*nation's "Top National Public Universities" and as a "Best Value" among*

*national universities. UMass is also among the magazine's "Best National Universities" and top 50 public doctoral institutions. Meanwhile, *Technology Review* has proclaimed UMass a source of "hot new technologies" and the only public university in New England to make the top 50 in the *Review's* tally of technologically strong schools.*

Among the recipients of prestigious **Guggenheim fellowships** in 2001 was Kevin Boyle, UMass associate professor of history, in support of the writing of his book *The People v. Sweet: A Story of Race, Rights, and Murder in Jazz-Age America*. A dozen UMass faculty received Guggenheims in the last 15 years.

Under a new UMass School of Education initiative, 26 teachers from nine public schools are joining with 26 UMass students to find ways to help students make the best use of computers and **computer-mediated instruction**.

By virtue of the many awards it has won, the UMass faculty has earned the University a place among the nation's **top 40 public institutions**, according to The Center, a University of Florida research center on higher education. UMass faculty members have received every major honor from MacArthur "genius" grants to Fulbrights, Guggenheims, Pulitzers, and a wide range of presidential awards.

UMass ranks first among New England public research institutions for the number of its faculty—12—who are members of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Arts and Sciences, or the National Academy of Engineering. **National Academy membership** recognizes highly distinguished professional achievement, and is one of academia's greatest honors.

*The Princeton Review* says that the Isenberg School of Management offers one of the nation's **best undergraduate business programs**. The *Review* especially lauds Isenberg's personalized programs, its access to UMass resources, and its customized career counseling for every student, the last of which helped 94 percent of the Class of 2000 land jobs within three months of graduating.

On January 20, 2001, the nationally recognized University of Massachusetts Minuteman Marching Band performed in the **Inaugural Parade** for President George W. Bush in Washington, D.C. (see picture below). The band includes 300 students from 17 states and more than 90 Massachusetts cities and towns.



The Kaplan/Newsweek *College Catalog 2002* includes UMass Amherst in two major categories: "schools that offer the best value for your tuition dollar" and "schools that **support diversity**." The catalog, which rates more than 1,000 colleges and universities nationwide, is based on polls of high school guidance counselors.

The Pioneer Valley Life Sciences Initiative, a UMass/Baystate Medical Center collaboration to construct and renovate research facilities on each campus, has received an \$850,000 federal appropriation—one that University President William M. Bulger says will help allow UMass “to participate fully in the age of **biomedical discovery**.”

With 200,000 volumes, the Pauline P. Collins **Latin American Collection** at the W. E. B. Du Bois Library is the third-largest of its kind in New England and the largest on any public campus in the Northeast.



Its nine team titles in 2001 garnered UMass the **Atlantic 10** Commissioner’s Cup as well as the conference’s men’s and women’s cups—a sweep unprecedented in Atlantic 10 history. UMass women’s teams won titles in field hockey (team pictured above), rowing, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, and outdoor track and field; the men earned titles in baseball and swimming and diving, and shared top honors in soccer.

*U.S. News & World Report*’s year 2002 **graduate-school rankings** put the UMass Psychology department and College of Engineering in 45th place, the English department and School of Education in 39th, Sociology in 38th, and Clinical Psychology in 28th.

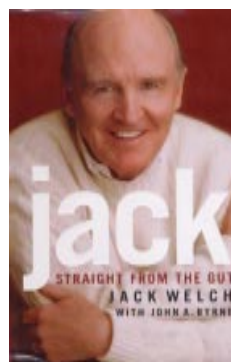
The Center for **Student Businesses** at UMass was chosen in 2001 by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators as one of 10 exemplary programs of its kind from among 200 nationwide. The center has 150 employees and supports eight campus enterprises.

“Grassroots Community Development,” a UMass honors course offered through Commonwealth College and the Anthropology department, focuses on **solutions to rural poverty** and political disenfranchisement, with an emphasis on the rural South. Class members spent Spring Break 2001 working in five Virginia communities and, closer to home, in Holyoke, Mass.

Florida’s infamous “butterfly ballot,” which some say skewed the results of the 2000 U.S. presidential election, is a key topic in a new UMass honors course on **information design**. The election prompted enormous public awareness of the subject, says Copper Giloth, associate professor of art and director of academic computing at UMass, who heads the team of instructors offering the course.

In February 2001, UMass Professor of History Leonard L. Richards took second place in Gettysburg College’s prestigious **Lincoln Prize** competition for his book *The Slave Power: The Free North and Southern Domination, 1780-1860*.

With the assistance of a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, a team of UMass scientists is testing ways to use common pond plants to stabilize and **decontaminate polluted areas** of the historic Blackstone River watershed. The project involves the University’s Department of Microbiology, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, and Environmental Sciences Program.



*The Christian Science Monitor* recently reported that most **Fortune 500 CEOs** attended public institutions as undergraduates—and that

two of the top five are UMass grads: GM’s John F. Smith Jr. (’60 management), and John Welch Jr. (’57 chemical engineering), who recently retired from GE and is widely considered the most admired, studied, and imitated CEO of our time. Meanwhile, Standard & Poor’s, in its list of New England public universities that have produced top corporate executives, put UMass first, with 95.

Out of 159 college and university applicants across the nation, UMass was one of 10 honored in the September 2000 *Pew Learning and Technology Newsletter* for its **innovative digital-learning** efforts.

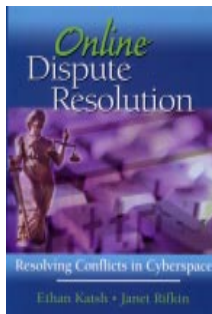
UMass and Baystate Medical Center (BMC) are collaborating on a three-year pilot project on **workforce issues in nursing**. The project aims to counteract the declining number of highly educated nurses in western Massachusetts and throughout the country. It enables UMass nursing students to gain clinical experience at BMC facilities.

An international team of scientists led by Sigfrid Yngvesson, UMass electrical engineering professor, has received nearly \$1.8 million in federal grants to conduct research at the South Pole on the **formation of the Milky Way**. The team was awarded two NASA grants totaling \$1.1 million, and a \$684,000 National Science Foundation grant.

Professor Lisa Pike Masteralexis, who chairs the UMass Department of Sport Studies and is a lawyer, co-wrote a legal brief on behalf of nine disability sport organizations in the much-publicized **U.S. Supreme Court** case involving professional golfer Casey Martin, who wanted—and was ultimately permitted—to use a golf cart while playing in Professional Golfers' Association (PGA) tours. Working for three weeks under intense time pressure, Masteralexis joined with Anita Moorman, a sport-law professor at the University of Louisville, to research and co-author an amicus brief that Martin's legal team presented before the court in January 2001.

The Department of Food Science at UMass has been awarded \$238,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct a safe-seafood project. The data from the project will aid government agencies charged with developing scientifically based **seafood standards**.

UMass Legal Studies professors Ethan Katsh and Janet Rifkin have written a groundbreaking book on **legal issues in cyberspace**.



Titled *Online Dispute Resolution: Resolving Conflicts in Cyberspace*, it deals with everything from Web ownership to intellectual-property and privacy rights.

The city of Worcester, Mass., has commissioned the University's Center for Spectator Sport Research to identify regional and national amateur **sporting events** that might be held in the city's public and private arenas.

Massachusetts small-business owners, entrepreneurs, and public officials now have access to timely, accurate, carefully reviewed **business and financial information** through MassBedrock, a continually updated digital library developed at the W. E. B. Du Bois Library at UMass. The free Web portal ([www.massbedrock.org](http://www.massbedrock.org)) offers reliable, relevant data and referrals.

UMass student and alumni athletes shone at the 2000 **Olympic Games** in Sydney, Australia. UMass softball coach Danielle Henderson '99 was a member of the women's softball team that won the gold medal, and goalkeeper Briana Scurry '96 was on the silver-medal women's soccer team. The U.S. equestrian team included four participants with UMass ties, including former staffer Sue Blinks, who led the team to a bronze medal. The women's crew team, which placed sixth, included alumna Sarah Jones '97, and UMass women's crew head coach Jim Dietz served as a technical consultant to the Olympic team's coach.

UMass claimed three of *Down Beat* magazine's **Student Music Awards** for 2001. The Studio Orchestra, led by Professor Jeff Holmes, for the third consecutive year was named the nation's Best Collegiate Studio Orchestra. Rockestra, also led by Holmes, was named Best Collegiate Blues/Pop/Rock Ensemble. Guitarist Brian Leccese, a first-year jazz studies graduate student, took top honors as Best Collegiate Blues/Pop/Rock Soloist.

Anna Nagurny, John F. Smith Memorial Professor at the Isenberg School of Management, has received three National Science Foundation grants worth a total of nearly \$470,000 to research the processes by which travelers and consumers make **telecommuting and teleshopping** decisions.

Joseph Goldstein, dean of the College of Engineering at UMass and an engineer specializing in metallography, has had an **asteroid**—"Joegoldstein"—named after him. Ever since his graduate-school days, Goldstein has studied meteorites and the pure metals they contain. Much of his research has been NASA-supported.

Two teams of UMass researchers have received National Science Foundation grants for work in **nanotechnology**, the creation of specialized new materials or devices using building blocks as small as a billionth of a meter. One team hopes to form materials with molecule-sized pores for use in chemical processes; the other is developing nanowires for ultra-fine resolution on computer screens.

Two UMass students were among the 10 "**Massachusetts Whiz Kids**" chosen this year by the popular technology journal *Massachusetts High Tech*. Graduating seniors Brian Woodward, electrical engineering and computer science, and Kristin Screen, computer systems engineering, made the cut, winning UMass a place on the list for the third consecutive year. Students are chosen based on their GPA, their commitment to a career in a technology field, and faculty recommendations.

The Drama Garage in Hollywood each year presents for movie-industry executives readings of a select few **screenplays by new talents**. Among those chosen for this honor in 2001 was *Anthony*, by UMass Professor of Theatre Julian Olf. The works undergo a process the Drama Garage calls "part audition, part workshop, and part industry debut."



Under a \$460,000 U.S. Agency for International Development grant, the UMass Amherst and Worcester campuses are assisting the Medical University of **Southern Africa** in providing teaching, research, and community services in the health professions.

*America's Best Colleges 2002*, published by *U.S. News & World Report*, includes UMass among the nation's **top 50 undergraduate engineering programs**.

*General Finance* magazine recently ranked the Isenberg School of Management seventh among business schools nationwide for the number of articles by its faculty published in **16 leading finance journals**. The School was also ranked 28th nationally for producing articles on general finance judged to be especially influential on the basis of how often they were cited elsewhere.

*The Princeton Review* has ranked UMass's *Massachusetts Daily Collegian* among the nation's **15 best-read student newspapers**.



UMass journalism major Kori Chambers (above, right) was one of five college students chosen from among more than a thousand across the nation to **co-host *Regis Live***, the popular morning television show. The 19-year-old's self-effacing style while trading quips with Regis Philbin and interviewing celebrity guests won him high praise.



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