

## **VII. Other Resources and Organizations**

### **A. Cultural Resources**

#### **1. Fine Arts Center**

Since its founding in 1975, the UMass Fine Arts Center has been a central force in the cultural, social and academic life of the University, the Five College campuses, and the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts. The Fine Arts Center's combination of Performing, Visual and Educational arts programs not only makes us distinctive, but it also secures a very vital and necessary position for us to meet the diverse needs of artists, scholars, faculty, students, alumni and the broader community.

The Performing Arts programs of the Fine Arts Center engage and inspire the campus and regional communities and reflect a wide range of styles and cultures in order to foster an awareness of and respect for the diversity of the world in which we live. While our audiences come from all over Western Massachusetts, Five College students comprise 40% of our audience, one of the highest percentages of student audiences in the country. The Performing Arts programs of the Fine Arts Center include:

Asian Arts and Culture – devoted to the performing and visual arts of Asian countries.

Center Series – an international performing arts series offering dance, jazz, chamber music, orchestras, popular events, and Broadway.

Magic Triangle Series – a jazz series that focuses on the intimate music experience and educates students through workshops, classes and open forums.

New WORLD Theater – a first-voice multiracial theater dedicated to theater work by artists of color.

Residential Arts – presenting the Off-Center Series of experimental performance art and artists residencies.

Performances Plus! – a performance series for elementary and middle school students.

The Visual Arts programs promote a standard of excellence in the contemporary visual arts and provide a forum for dialogue about art that probes aesthetic, political, and social issues. Home to a major gallery, the University Gallery, and three additional galleries, the Augusta Savage, Hampden and Central Galleries, the Fine Arts Center serves an audience of over 15, 000 students, faculty, staff and the general public with a variety of exhibits and public art. In addition, the galleries provide internships and arts training experience for 50 students each year and provide venues for Bachelors and Master of Fine Arts exhibitions for 70 undergraduate and 20 graduate students of the Department of Art. The Visual Arts programs of the Fine Arts Center include:

August Savage Gallery – a multiracial, multi-arts facility for visual arts and performances by people of color.

Hampden and Central Galleries – located in residence halls, showcasing student artworks and exposing students to contemporary art in an accessible and comfortable setting.

University Gallery – an exhibition and education resource, which houses the region's largest collection of contemporary art works on paper.

The Education programs are designed to deepen appreciation, understanding and knowledge of the arts. The Fine Arts Center is a rich resource for the academic departments of the University as a critical site for experiential student learning in the arts. A model of inclusiveness and diversity, the Fine Arts Center employs artistic exploration, educational collaborations and creative community engagement to advance a broad awareness and appreciation of a full range of artistic experiences. We ensure that the arts are an integral part of student life by offering low-priced student tickets, workshops by visiting artists, artists-in-residence programs. The Education programs include:

Jazz in July – an intensive performance-oriented study of jazz improvisation with master musicians.

The Lively Arts – an arts appreciation course offered each semester and open to students and the general public.

UMass Arts Council – provides grant support, financial resource networking, and arts information services to student organizations and academic departments.

## **2. Campus Art Galleries**

The University of Massachusetts houses six galleries that offer a highly selective schedule of exhibitions and programs. The exhibition choices are refreshingly diverse, and range from innovative sound installations to realistic renderings that employ traditional methods. All six galleries also offer an exciting array of complementary programming, including performing arts events, literary readings, film screenings, and artist talks.

Augusta Savage Gallery, a program of the Fine Arts Center, is a multicultural facility offering exhibits which range from the traditional to contemporary works by emerging and established artists, as well as by students. The gallery serves as a dynamic format for raising issues such as race, ethnicity, class, and cultural identity through the arts. Each year the gallery offers an outstanding series of educational performances designed to extend its mission to explore cultural diversity through artistic expression.

Central Gallery, a program of the Fine Arts Center, is an intimately scaled venue that holds the distinction of being the only major campus gallery located within a student residence hall. Central Gallery exhibits University student thesis works, as well as the work of area emerging artists.

Hampden Gallery, a program of the Fine Arts Center, is located in the Southwest Residential Area, the most populated student residence area on campus. The gallery displays works by emerging and established artists, and reserves a portion of its schedule for thesis exhibitions. The gallery is noted for its challenging and diverse visual art exhibitions that speak to contemporary issues. Experimental media and interdisciplinary exhibits are a hallmark of this space.

Herter Art Gallery, a program of the Art Department, exhibits work by established and emerging artists as well as by students and faculty of the Art Department. The gallery

frequently offers artist residencies, gallery talks, workshops, and other programming in conjunction with its exhibitions. The principal aim of the gallery is to explore and encourage experimental approaches in the presentation of contemporary visual art, particularly those approaches that reflect the gallery's commitment to the multidisciplinary study of art and culture.

Student Union Gallery, a program of the Student Affairs Office, is the only student-run gallery on campus, and is a registered student organization. The gallery is committed to showcasing student talent, and usually sets aside a significant portion of its exhibition schedule for bachelor of fine arts (BFA) and master of fine arts (MFA) thesis shows at the end of each semester.

University Gallery, a program of the Fine Arts Center, is the largest gallery on campus, and has one of the most ambitious exhibition programs of contemporary art in the region. The gallery houses a notable permanent collection of 20<sup>th</sup>-century prints, drawings, and photographs. The collection also includes an impressive group of public sculptures, artists' books, WPA prints, and Southwest American Indian pottery. The gallery is charged to collect, preserve, and interpret the University Art Collection and to organize and host temporary exhibitions of national and international significance. The gallery presents exhibitions that engage social, political, and aesthetic issues and reflects a range of styles and cultures in order to foster an awareness of and respect for a diversity of expressions.

### **3. Residential Arts Program**

The Residential Arts Program provides cultural programs in unique spaces throughout the University's residence hall system. Facilities used include Hampden Theater, Hampden Gallery, and Wheeler Gallery, in addition to non-traditional spaces such as dining commons, lounges, and snack bars. The emphasis of Residential Arts Programming has been on showcasing new and experimental works while maintaining programming dedicated to arts of historical, ethnic, social, and multicultural significance. Residential Arts also has a commitment to provide students with workshops and residencies by professional artists with a wide range of experience.

## **B. Institutional Support and Services**

### **1. Ombuds Office**

The Ombuds Office was established to provide assistance with the resolution of University –related problems or grievances not being resolved through normal channels. Among the problems the Ombuds Office handles are academic disputes (including academic dishonesty), administrative matters, personnel issues, interpersonal disputes, and ethical concerns.

The Ombuds Office can frequently secure needed information and a reasonable outcome where delay or disagreement is a problem. A member of the Ombuds staff can also function as a neutral intermediary in disputes and can often facilitate an informal settlement where formal procedures fail. In addition, the Ombuds Office can answer

general questions about the University or provide referrals to the appropriate person or agency for further information.

Records, contacts and communications with the office are normally confidential; in unusual circumstances, rare exceptions are made if required by law. Although appointments are not required, it is best to call (545-0867) to arrange a convenient time to meet with a member of the Ombuds Office staff.

## **2. Office of Institutional Research (OIR)**

The Office of Institutional Research (OIR) conducts a systematic and on-going analysis of academic processes and outcomes and the factors influencing them. OIR provides information to assist with the internal allocation of academic resources, to support planning processes, and to fulfill reporting requirements to various external agencies. In addition, OIR responds, on an on-going basis, to a large number of ad hoc requests for information regarding institutional characteristics submitted by individuals and agencies both on and off the Amherst campus.

OIR publications include:

The Factbook (annual). A reference document for the campus including enrollment, faculty, finances, degrees granted, and other aspects of institutional activity.

Comparisons over time are presented when possible.

Admissions and Enrollment Report (each semester). A descriptive report offering both a profile of admitted students by school and college and a detailed listing of student majors and course enrollments by departments.

UMass At a Glance (annual). One page document specifying basic student faculty and staff, and finance data.

Miscellaneous factsheets (annual/semesterly). One page documents covering a range of topics.

Members of the campus community with research, evaluation, and analysis needs relevant to OIR's mission are invited to visit OIR at 237 Whitmore Administration Building or [www.umass.edu/oapa](http://www.umass.edu/oapa) or contact the office at 545-0941 or [oir@oirp.umass.edu](mailto:oir@oirp.umass.edu).

## **3. Office of Academic Planning and Assessment**

The Office of Academic Planning and Assessment (OAPA) provides services to Academic Affairs and the campus in several areas:

managing the strategic planning process within Academic Affairs, and working with planning processes at the campus and system levels;

organizing institutional and comparative data to support decision making on the part of the Provost and other senior administrators; and

leading a comprehensive student assessment program, providing insight into the factors related to student success and underpinning student choices.

The Office works with faculty and academic departments in a variety of ways. Together with the Office of Institutional Research, OAPA provides information and analysis in

response to individual inquires, and can offer assistance in locating sources of off-campus information. The Office works with departments in developing specific assessment strategies as needed (for example, to respond to requirements of disciplinary accrediting agencies). The Office also publishes a series of assessment bulletins highlighting results of campus research. Any faculty member will be added to the mailing list upon request.

#### **4. Conference Services**

Conference Services is the sole agency on the Amherst campus charged with planning, coordinating, and maximizing the use of campus facilities for conferences. Faculty are encouraged to use Conference Services for all their conference needs.

#### **5. Campus Mail Services**

Mail Services provides distribution of incoming US mail; delivery of Campus Mail between departments, students, faculty, staff, and the Five Colleges, and preparation of outgoing mail and packages, including the application of postage recharged to the mailing department. Daily mail pick-up and delivery is provided to most buildings and departments on campus. Mail Services also provides full mailing preparation services including folding, tabbing, inserting, addressing, business reply and bulk mail preparation, on a fee basis. Full coordination with Print Services is provided to ensure compliance with postal regulations and minimize costs. University departments are encouraged to contact Mail Services for consultation and services in the Goodell Building or by phone at 545-2488.

#### **6. Campus Parking System**

The University's Amherst campus parking system provides surface permit parking, metered parking, and garage parking. On campus parking regulations are strictly enforced Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., although some parking lots are enforced 24 hours a day. All employees' vehicles must be registered with Parking Services to park on campus. The only exceptions are parking at meters or on levels 2-6 of the Campus Garage. For more information on parking, please contact Parking Services at 413/545-0065, or visit the Parking Services web site at [www.parking.admin.umass.edu/](http://www.parking.admin.umass.edu/).

### **C. Personal Services and Resources**

#### **1. Everywoman's Center**

Everywoman's Center (EWC) is a multicultural women's Center based at the University of Massachusetts, providing a range of services to the diverse cultural and linguistic populations of Hampshire County. All services are free and confidential.

#### **a. Information and Support Services:**

Resource/Referral Program: offers specialized information and referral with a particular focus on issues of concern to women, including childcare, employment, housing, legal services, and support groups. Maintains a lending library, resource materials, access to a computerized database, and a comfortable drop-in space.

Women of Color Leadership Network (WOCLN): offers cultural, educational and social programming, information and support services for women of color, and works to build and strengthen relationships between relevant university and community groups and organizations.

Counseling Services: offers short-term personal counseling for women, call-in and walk-in services, assessment, referrals, and support groups.

#### **b. Rape Crisis and Violence Prevention Services:**

Counselor/Advocate Program: offers 24-hour comprehensive services for victims/survivors of rape, battering, incest, sexual assault and sexual harassment, including crisis intervention, legal and medical advocacy, short-term counseling, and support groups for victim/survivors. Call the 24-hour hotline at (413) 545-0883 or toll free in Hampshire County at 1-888-337-0800. Specialized Teen Services offers services designed to meet the needs of teen survivors of sexual assault and dating violence.

Educator/Advocate Program: offers educational workshops, training, and community organizing on issues of violence against women and women's empowerment. The Hilltown Project offers educational workshops, training, community organizing and referrals on issues of domestic violence to the six towns of west Hampshire County. The Teen Education Project is a collaboration with the Hampshire Educational Collaborative to provide workshops for HEC students and training for HEC school personnel on issues of child sexual assault, dating violence and sexual assault.

Everywoman's Center is open year round. Services can be accessed by calling (413) 545-0883 (TTY) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Wednesday from noon to 4:00 p.m. EWC is located on the ground floor of Wilder Hall on Stockbridge Road, and in Nelson House on East Pleasant Street. Access EWC on the web at: [www.umass.edu/ewc/](http://www.umass.edu/ewc/)

### **2. University Women's Network**

The University Women's Network (UWN) is a network of professional, classified and faculty women on the Amherst campus. The two major aims of the group are: to share information and provide support among members through professional development, employment leads, resources, work-related referrals, informal information exchange; and to promote a more thorough understanding of the function and operation of the University. UWN holds six one-hour luncheons at the UMass Campus Center featuring guest speakers. Previous topics have included: Women in Higher Education; Successful Financial Investing; Networking; Mentoring; and Life Coaching. The goal of the organization is to provide support for all University women employees who believe they can benefit from and contribute to the network. UWN is committed to promoting racial and cultural diversity both within the organization and within the larger University community. Faculty women should consider this organization a forum in which to increase their professional development and offer support towards the advancement of women, in particular, to fellow women employees at the University.

### **3. University Health Services**

University Health Services (UHS) is an ambulatory care center, accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations. UHS provides or arranges for comprehensive health care for students, faculty, staff, and community members through several of the health insurance plans offered to University community members. In addition, UHS provides health services to students enrolled at Hampshire and Amherst Colleges as part of contractual agreement. Located near Franklin Dining Commons in the Central Residential Area on campus, UHS is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the academic year for urgent and routine health problems. Services include medical, eye care, mental health, surgical and orthopedic specialty services, obstetrics/gynecology, and health education services. Physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other health professionals specialize in college health issues, as well as pediatrics and family medicine. Physical therapy, radiology, laboratory, optical, and pharmacy services are available on site.

Urgent Care is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week during the academic semesters for the initial treatment of work-related injury or for a medical crisis that occurs on campus.

Immunizations for both foreign travel and to comply with domestic requirements are available through the UHS Immunization Clinic.

#### **4. Faculty and Staff Assistance Program**

The Faculty and Staff Assistance Program (FSAP) is a resource for all faculty, staff, and immediate family members. The program provides free, confidential assessment/referral and brief counseling services for a wide range of personal problems which may affect an individual's life and work. Problems may include couple and family relationships, eldercare, substance abuse, medical, grief, work, stress, and emotional concerns. All contacts with the FSAP are confidential and no information will be disclosed without written permission.

The FSAP also serves as a consultation resource for supervisors and managers when addressing an employee's work performance. FSAP counselors are available if a work unit experiences a trauma, loss, or significant change that threatens to disrupt the functioning of the group.

The FSAP co-sponsors an annual tenure preparation seminar with the Provost's Office, and provides other seminars for faculty.

For more information about the Faculty and Staff Assistance Program or to make an appointment, call 545-0350 or visit [www.umass.edu/fsap](http://www.umass.edu/fsap). The FSAP is located at University Health Services.

#### **5. Disability Services**

The staff of Disability Services work with the entire campus community: those who have disabilities and those who do not. A documented disability falls under the following

categories: blind, visually impaired, deaf, hard-of-hearing, mobility, speech, medical disabilities, head injuries, or multiple disabilities. Additionally, we work with faculty and staff who have learning disabilities or Attention Deficit Disorder and Hyperactivity. Faculty, employees, and students who work with people with disabilities are highly encouraged to contact Disability Services to ensure that you are making the appropriate accommodations to your classroom, office or events. For further information call 545-0892

## **6. Psychological Services Center**

The Psychological Services Center, 123 Tobin Hall, is part of an accredited program for the training of graduate clinical psychologists and is the primary resource for their clinical and community experiences. The program is approved by the American Psychological Association. Members of the Psychology Department's Clinical Psychology Program are actively involved in the center. The center offers psychological services to adults, children, and families without age or residence restrictions and with fees based on ability to pay. Many forms of psychotherapy are available, including individual, couples, family, and group therapy. Psychological and educational assessments are also available. The center responds to direct requests for services from prospective clients as well as to referrals from agencies and other professionals. In all cases, strict confidentiality is maintained. Consultation and educational services are also provided to other agencies and institutions in the community.

## **7. Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinical Services**

Speech, language, and hearing clinical services are provided by the Communication Disorders Department, Arnold House. Services are available to University students with speech, language, and hearing problems which may affect their professional performance and social adjustment. As a contribution to the needs of the community and surrounding areas, speech therapy services are offered to children and adults with the following disorders: severe articulation defects, delayed speech, stuttering, voice problems, cleft palate, cerebral palsy, laryngectomy, aphasia, and language and hearing impairments. Audiological assessment of both children and adults with impaired hearing, including hearing aid counseling, is available, as is rehabilitation in auditory training speech (lip) reading.

## **8. University Child Care**

The University provides child care services on a sliding-fee basis to approximately 78 children of students, faculty, and staff. Services are provided through two child care centers, with one single program. The centers have a parent advisory board. The Child Care Office is located in 112 Berkshire House.

## **9. Commuter Services and Housing Resources Center**

The Commuter Services and Housing Resources Center (CSHRC), located at 428 Student Union, is a student-initiated and supported housing and community resource center. Services are extensive and open to all members of the University community. \* The Rental Listing Service is the largest such service in Amherst and the towns surrounding the campus. Descriptions of available listings are posted on-line at [www.cshrc.org](http://www.cshrc.org).

Customized renter packages may be sent to incoming faculty and staff upon request. Additionally, faculty and staff offering sabbatical and other rental property may also take advantage of our on-line rental application forms, customized leases and other forms necessary for renting property in Massachusetts. Additional services of interest to faculty and staff include:

- Homes for Sale. Faculty and staff may advertise private house sales on line.
- Education, Mediation and Advocacy. CSHRC offers a wide variety of brochures and web-based information materials on landlord-tenant rights and responsibilities. CSHRC can also provide information, mediation, advocacy and referrals on a wide variety of housing related issues for those who utilize its housing listing services.
- Pioneer Valley Oil Cooperative (PVOC ) and Green Watts. Reduced-cost home heating oil and home energy conservation materials for members across much of the 3 county area ; join on line or stop by the office. This program is so-sponsored with the Center for Ecological Technology, a local non profit energy organization .
- HomeSharing Program. Program matches householders seeking at home assistance services in lieu of rent (such as caring for elderly or disabled adults or children, or performing household chores or errands) are matched with renters seeking such housing arrangements. Applications may be completed on line. For assistance with elder care call Match Coordinator Paulie Sicard @ (413)773-5555, Monday-Thursday mornings. All other inquiries may be directed to CSHRC.
- Family programs. CSHRC sponsors a variety of weekly and monthly educational, support and cultural programs for families with young children. These include a monthly Special Saturday Mornings Arts Performance Program in the Campus Center and a weekly Monday evening Dinner on Us Program that includes family style dinners followed by parenting workshops with supervised play activities for attending children. Week day mornings, Tuesday-Thursday, CSHRC operates the Amherst Family Center, a free drop-in program in Amherst Center with services, childcare and activities for parents and young children.
- Informational and Referral Services
- Voter Registration. CSHRC works with other student agencies to register voters, and coordinates efforts to establish a polling site on campus. Voter registration forms are available at the front desk.

For more information about these and other services offered by CSHRC, call 545-0865 or go to [www.cshrc.org](http://www.cshrc.org), or drop by 428 Student Union.

## **10. Training and Development Unit/Division of Human Resources**

For information, please contact the Division of Human Resources at 545-0360.

### **D. Other Resources**

#### **1. Campus Center/Student Union**

The Campus Center/Student Union Building is the "community center" of the Amherst campus. It houses services and amenities for the student body, University community, and guests. The Campus Center includes a hotel, meeting rooms for student

organizations, study lounges, automatic teller machines and check cashing facilities, barber shop, travel agency, Peter Pan bus ticket office, catering services, and a vending program. The University Store on the main concourse carries a full line of school supplies, personal computers, clothing, gifts, tradebooks, and stationery. Located in the Student Union Building are a Post Office Substation, Student Credit Union, Mini-Store, Game Room, and Art Gallery. In addition, there are key services for students which include the Commuter Services and Housing Resource Center, Crafts Shop with photo darkrooms, offices for Registered Student Organizations (RSO), and the Student Activities Office (SAO).

## **2. Faculty Club**

The Faculty Club is housed in two colonial houses which are among the oldest structures in Amherst. The Club consists of several dining rooms open for breakfast and lunch and a fully stocked bar open during lunch and in the later afternoon. The Club has a number of private meeting rooms and two recreational rooms for bridge, pool, and ping-pong. Members may reserve rooms for meetings, seminars, and private or semi-private functions. Membership in the Club is open to faculty and professional staff, and benefits include charge accounts (billed monthly), and a fifteen percent discount on all food purchases at the Club. Members are also entitled to special parking permits which allow them to park in one of the largest parking lots near the Faculty Club during designated hours. The Club is governed by an elected group of officers and a governing board, and is managed by Auxiliary Services through a management agreement with the Club's board of directors.

## **3. Bus Services**

The University of Massachusetts Transit Service operates a no-fare transit systems with twenty-hour-a-day service. Bus routes provide service to the eight communities within a 15-mile radius of the University, as well as to Amherst, Mount Holyoke, Smith, and Hampshire colleges, and a campus shuttle route. Bus schedules are available at the Campus Center Information Desk, at [www.umass.edu/bus](http://www.umass.edu/bus), or by calling UMASS Transit at 545-0056.

Transit Services also provides a lift-equipped van service for both permanently and temporarily disabled students, faculty and staff. Rides are scheduled throughout the day and evening through reservations by telephone. Contact 545-0056. Field Trip bus service is also provided by Transit Services to off campus sites within New England. Contact 545-0056 or the Transit Services web site [www.umass.edu/campus\\_services/transit](http://www.umass.edu/campus_services/transit) for scheduling and cost information.

## **4. UMass/Five College Federal Credit Union**

The UMass Five College Federal Credit Union is an independent, non-profit financial cooperative owned and operated for the benefit of its members. It is a full service financial institution and is open to the faculty and staff at all five University of Massachusetts campuses, and the other schools in the Five College Community as well as other select employee groups. Branches are located in Hadley, at the Amherst campus,

and at the Worcester campus. For the latest information on services, products and rates see us on the web at [umassfive.org](http://umassfive.org) or call 1800-852-5886.

### **5. Five College Radio (WFCR 88.5 FM)**

WFCR is a National Public Radio (NPR) member station, and an affiliate of Public Radio International (PRI). Every week its signal, covering four states, reaches over 140,000 listeners, who set their dials to 88.5FM for a wide-range of news and cultural programs. Now in its fourth decade, WFCR broadcasts diverse award-winning programming not found on commercial radio stations including: local, national and internationally produced news, information and entertainment programs; the only active news reporting team in western Massachusetts; locally produced classical, jazz, folk and international music programs; additional public radio news and talk programs on a second broadcast frequency for listeners in the Pioneer Valley. Nearly 50 percent of WFCR's broadcast schedule is locally produced. WFCR streams its broadcast schedule through its website: [wfcf.org](http://wfcf.org), where listeners can also find more program and station information and informative links. WFCR also sponsors cultural trips as well as numerous regional arts and music events in the belief that live performance is a vital part of its mission to educate, inform and entertain the public. The station is licensed to the University of Massachusetts and operates with the advice and support of Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke and Smith Colleges as Five College Radio.

### **6. Student-Organized Radio (WMUA 91.1 FM)**

This student-funded and student-organized radio station with an office in Room 102, Campus Center, tel. 545-2876, transmits a variety of programs of interest to the campus and surrounding communities. The types of music programs on WMUA include folk, gospel, rock, polish, jazz, and blues. Most major University basketball games, football games, and other sporting events are broadcast live, both home and away.

### **7. *The Massachusetts Daily Collegian***

New England's largest college daily newspaper, the *Massachusetts Daily Collegian* was founded in 1890 and has been published daily during the academic year since 1967. The newspaper is independent from the University, and is run entirely by students.

### **8. Use of Athletic Facilities**

As a faculty member you may use a number of the University's athletic facilities (e.g., swimming pools, racquetball courts, weight rooms) during specified hours. A validation sticker, which is affixed to your faculty identification card, is available on a fee-per-semester basis at the Intramural Office in Boyden Building. For further information please contact the Intramural Office, tel. 545-0022. Spouses and domestic partners are eligible to use some of the athletic facilities by purchasing a pass on a fee-per-semester basis.

### **9. Mullins Center**

The Mullins Center is a multipurpose facility. Faculty members may receive discounts for some events at the center. The Mullins Center Ice Rink has three regulation

racquetball courts available for use by University faculty, staff, and students. The olympic-size ice rink is open year round for public skating at designated hours.

## **10. Group Buying Power**

### **a. Mass Buying Power**

The University of Massachusetts participates in the Mass Buying Power Program which enables University faculty members and staff to receive a discount on items such as automobiles, home furnishings, appliances, electronics, and travel services. For further information contact MassBuying Power, visit their web site at <http://www.massbuy.com/guest.htm>.

### **b. MHEC**

There are also many contracts available through the Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium (MHEC) that offer contract pricing to faculty and students of member organizations. You can review the contracts at <http://www.mhec.net/>

## **11. University Procard Program:**

The University offers a purchase card (Procard) that can be utilized to purchase approved commodities and a limit selection of services. This card is a major credit card, currently Mastercard, that is University managed and guaranteed but is assigned to individuals for their use when purchasing approved commodities and a limited selection of services. This card allows purchases that fit within the parameters of the program to be obtained without the use of a purchase order. This is a great time saving measure. Cards can only be issued to current faculty and staff.

This program is managed by the Procard Manager within the Procurement. Please call the Procurement Department at (413) 545-0361 for more information.

## **12. Corporate Travel Card Program**

The University offers a corporate travel card as a payment method for approved reimbursable travel expenses to employees who travel on university business. To qualify for a corporate travel card, the applicant must travel on university business at least twice a year with one overnight stay, and the applicant must be a current, permanent employee of the university. Applications from other types of employees are evaluated on a case-by-case basis and require the approval of the applicant's Department Head as well as the Corporate Travel Card Program Administrator. The corporate travel card is an individual liability account. Applications are available from the departmental travel preparer or through the Travel Services Office at 545-0776.

## **E. Town of Amherst**

Founded in 1658, the Town of Amherst can be described as "rural-cosmopolitan." Situated 90 miles west of Boston, 150 miles north of New York City, and 25 miles south of Vermont and New Hampshire, Amherst residents enjoy a rich cultural life, while the traditional New England environment of nearby farms, orchards, and winding hill roads reflects a warm country setting. Amherst, with its neighboring towns and cities in the Pioneer Valley, is known nationally as an excellent center for higher education. The population of Amherst in the 2000 census was 34,874.