Dear Colleagues,

The beautiful days and crisp nights make a New England autumn special … and there’s plenty going on this month to get out and involved with. Stock up on fresh, organic produce and meet the students who grow it every Friday afternoon at the Student Farmers’ Market on the Goodell lawn. Pick your own apples or grab favorites from the farm stand at Cold Spring Orchard. Or, get your family and friends together for the 107th annual Metawampe hike and dinner, Sunday, Oct. 12; tickets are on sale now. It’s a great segue to the Columbus Day holiday – relax and enjoy!

Best wishes,
The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Campus Life

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**Campus events**

**Student Legal Services Office 40th anniversary gala**
*Registration deadline: Fri., Oct. 10 • Celebration: Friday, October 17*
5:30 – 10 p.m., Marriott Center, 11th floor, Campus Center • Tickets $30 per person
Celebrate four decades of lawyers advocating for students’ rights at UMass Amherst. There’ll be student musical performances, guest speakers and a buffet dinner. A social hour begins at 5:30 p.m.; dinner and the program start at 7 p.m. Register online at the Alumni Association website.

**Thu., October 2: CMASS open house**
4 – 6 p.m., Wilder Hall, room 201
Stop by The Center for Multicultural Advancement and Student Success (CMASS) and discover activities and events coming up this year. There’ll be refreshments, games, prizes and surprises.

**Mon., October 6: “Birds of Paradise: How I Became Latina”**
6 – 7:30 p.m., Student Union ballroom
Author, journalist and filmmaker Raquel Cepeda shares her story of discovery, Latina cultural identity and redemption. The free event, sponsored by CMASS, is part of National Hispanic Heritage Month observances.

**Tue., October 7: International Coffee Hour**
4 – 5 p.m., The Spot, Student Union
The Student Legal Services Office hosts the informal social hour, with free coffee, tea and snacks. Relax with others from the international community.

**Wed., October 15: Networking night for liberal arts majors**
5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Wilder Hall, room 201
Let your students know about this opportunity to meet employers from a variety of industries who are seeking liberal arts majors for internships and full-time positions. Co-sponsored by Career Services, CMASS and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**Wed., October 29: Five College graduate and professional schools info day**
11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Student Union ballroom
Are you or someone you know, thinking about furthering their education? This event, sponsored by Career Services, brings together admission representatives from more than 150 graduate and professional programs.

**Fri., October 31: Discussion: “Costumes and Cultural Appropriation”**
2 – 4 p.m., Wilder Hall, room 201
Join CMASS for a thought-provoking discussion that might get you thinking about Halloween in a new way.
Announcements

Reorganization update
Work on the Student Affairs and Campus Life divisional reorganization continues. For an overview of what’s been accomplished to date and what’s to come in the months ahead, visit the Student Life website to view the September update PowerPoint presentation.

Campus flu vaccinations
Flu season is right around the corner! If your primary care provider is at University Health Services (UHS), you can get vaccinated at one of many walk-in flu clinics taking place at UHS and sites across campus during October and November. Maxim Health Systems is also conducting public flu clinics Oct. 14 and Nov. 13 at the Campus Center. Visit the UHS website for schedules and important information.

CWC receives grant funding
The CWC will receive more than $102,000 in grant funding over the next three years as part of the Rural Sexual and Domestic Violence Project coordinated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH). The project serves rural communities in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties, as well as three agencies: Safe Passages, the New England Learning Center for Women in Transition and the Elizabeth Freeman Center. CWC provides crisis intervention and counseling to survivors of sexual assault and teen dating violence at outreach sites in western Hampden and Hampshire counties, as well as prevention education around child sexual abuse, sexual assault and relationship violence for parents, first responders, service providers, students and area residents. The CWC and DPH have partnered in the project since its 1997 launch.

Empowerment and support groups
The Center for Women and Community (CWC) hosts a series of women’s groups this semester. Empowerment topics include: “Mindfulness and Mood”; “Surviving the Dissertation”; and an international discussion group for Latina women. Support groups for survivors of sexual violence include: “Support, Connect, Heal”; and “Artistic Expression as a Tool for Healing.” Contact the CWC for details and to register.

Campus Sustainability Day 2014 – Wed., October 22
UMass Amherst joins campuses nationwide in recognizing the successes, challenges and innovations of sustainability; this year’s theme is “Empowering Change on Campus and in the Community.” Visit the Sustainable UMass website to find out about what we’re doing to make the world a healthier, greener place to be.

Parent drop-in group
The CWC and the Gateway Family Center are co-sponsoring “Baby Steps,” a free, weekly drop-in group for parents with infants up to one year old. Meetings are Thursdays, 10 – 11:30 a.m. at the family center, 9 Russell Rd., Huntington; siblings are welcome. For more information, call Kim at (413) 667-2203, ext. 3 or email ksavery@hchcweb.org.

Staff news

Correction:
In last month’s message, Koni Denham’s title was misidentified. She joined the division this fall as director of the Center for Educational Policy and Advocacy. We regret the error.