

June 10, 2021

HEADLINERS

[UMass, Digital Ready Offer Early College STEM Living Learning Lab for Boston Students](#)



UMass Amherst and Digital Ready, a Boston-based non-profit, have launched a groundbreaking new living learning lab to give talented, young Black and Latinx students from Boston Public Schools a no-cost head start to a STEM degree.

[UMass Amherst Joins National COVID-19 College Vaccine Challenge](#)



UMass Amherst is joining with nearly 600 colleges and universities to participate in the COVID-19 College Vaccine Challenge, a new initiative by the White House, the U.S. Department of Education and the American College Health Association.

[Microbiologist Wilmore Webley to be Honored at Springfield Juneteenth Event](#)



Wilmore Webley to receive special award at a community Juneteenth event at the Raymond A. Jordan Senior Center in Springfield.

[Building Access Update](#)



A limited number of buildings will be unlocked during summer 2021. However, buildings will begin to unlock similar to past normal summers as we approach the Aug. 2 workplace return to campus date.

[UMass Amherst Food Scientists Aim To Make Plant-based Protein Cheaper, Tastier and Healthier](#)



As meat-eating continues to increase around the world, food scientists are focusing on ways to create plant-based protein products that mimic meat, fish, milk, cheese and eggs.

[Ethnically Diverse Research Identifies More Genetic Markers of Type 2 Diabetes-related Traits](#)



UMass Amherst genetic epidemiologist Cassandra Spracklen has identified more regions of the genome linked to type 2 diabetes-related traits.

[Massachusetts Economy Outpaces U.S. at the End of 2020, MassBenchmarks Reports](#)



The Massachusetts real gross domestic product increased at a 7.9% annualized rate of growth in the fourth quarter of 2020, according to the UMass Amherst Donahue Institute report, while the U.S. GDP increased at a 4% rate.

[Small Business and University Team Developing a Portable Device to Harvest Drinking Water from the Air Using Smart Moisture Absorbing Foams](#)



Physical Sciences Inc., in collaboration with Cascade Designs Inc. and the University of Massachusetts Amherst, has signed a contract with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to develop a new atmospheric water extraction device that can capture clean drinking water from air.

[UMass Amherst Scientist Among Winners of Prestigious Physics Prize for Work on Sun Energy](#)



Physicist Andrea Pocar is among the international team of scientists recently awarded the European Physical Society's Giuseppe and Vanna Cocconi Prize.

[UMass Amherst Researchers Create Self-Sustaining, Intelligent, Electronic Microsystems from Green Material](#)



A UMass research team has created an electronic microsystem that can intelligently respond to information inputs without any external energy input.

[UMass Amherst's Energy Transition Institute to Partner with Public Utilities on Innovative Grid Design](#)



UMass Amherst's Energy Transition Institute has been awarded a grant of more than \$100,000 from the American Public Power Association to launch Project Groundwork.

PEOPLE

[UMass Hockey Coach Greg Carvel Has Been Extended Through the 2025-26 Season](#)



UMass Amherst hockey head coach Greg Carvel has been extended through the 2025-26 season, Director of Athletics Ryan Bamford announced on Friday.

[Cheung and Wu Cap off Productive Spring with NSF Award](#)



Alice Cheung and Hen-Ming Wu, both from biochemistry and molecular biology, have had a productive spring: publication, in March, of one article in [Science](#) and another, in May, in [Current Biology](#).

[Pearson Named Director of New Student Orientation and Transitions](#)



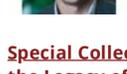
Pearson, who is mononymous, has been named the director of New Student Orientation and Transitions. She brings nearly a decade of progressively responsible experience in orientation, transition and retention in higher education to her new role.

[Simon Neame Departs UMass Libraries for University of Washington](#)



Simon Neame, dean of UMass Amherst libraries, has been appointed the new dean of university libraries at the University of Washington. The move means Neame, a Vancouver native, will be closer to family.

[Special Collections and University Archives to Present "Remembering a Pioneer: Exploring the Legacy of Dr. Lester Grinspoon"](#)



The online event, a conversation among experts and activists mentored and inspired by the late Dr. Grinspoon, will focus on his life, activism and work, including his groundbreaking research on cannabis use, psychedelics and other drugs, in the 50th-anniversary year of his book "Marihuana Reconsidered."

[College of Humanities and Fine Arts Recognizes Two Faculty Members with the Outstanding Teacher Award](#)



The College of Humanities and Fine Arts has announced its 2021 College Outstanding Teaching Award recipients, Milan Dragicevich and Pari Riahi.

[Ciolkowski Receives 2021 Distinguished Community Engagement Award for Teaching](#)



Laura Ciolkowski, senior lecturer of women, gender, sexuality studies, is the recipient of the award, conferred annually by the Provost's Office, which recognizes outstanding contributions to community-engaged scholarship and teaching.

[UMass Amherst Sociology Well Represented in American Sociological Association Elections](#)



One professor, two alumni and a student won their elections to four ASA offices.

[CICS Team Selected for 2021 Amazon Alexa Prize Challenge](#)



A group of researchers led by Hamed Zamani and doctoral student Helia Hashemi is one of 10 teams worldwide selected to receive \$250,000 in funding to compete in an artificial intelligence challenge.

[School of Public Policy Students Named Civic Action Project Fellows](#)



Five School of Public Policy students have been selected for the 2021 Civic Action Project fellowship program, which provides internships, mentoring and training for emerging public service leaders.

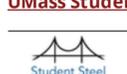
[UMass Student Engineers Place at AISC Student Steel Bridge Competition](#)



The UMass team, competing virtually, placed third in the Public Vote category, and it was the first time a UMass team competed in the national finals of the competition.

WEEKLY BULLETIN

[Findings from UMass Amherst COACHE Faculty Job Satisfaction Survey Now Available](#)



The Office of Faculty Development invites the campus community to explore the UMass Amherst summary and thematic reports from the UMass Amherst-COACHE Faculty Job Satisfaction survey.

[UMass Dining Announces Summer Hours](#)



With more people out and about as pandemic restrictions are being lifted, UMass Dining is being asked, "Are you open this summer?" The answer is "Yes."

[Alice Waters Returns for 2021 Tastes of the World Chef Culinary Conference](#)



For the second time in as many years, the 27th annual Chef Culinary Conference was hosted in a virtual format June 8-10, according to organizers at the University of Massachusetts.

[Alternate Career Pathways from Grad School: Showcasing the Flexibilities and Possibilities Beyond the Tenure Track](#)



On Thursday, June 17, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., the Center for Research on Families will host a workshop for graduate students.

[Over 100 Gather at UMass Amherst Sunwheel for Solar Eclipse](#)



People gathered on Thursday, June 10, around 5:15 a.m. to safely observe an eclipse of the sun. A crescent-shaped sun rose in the northeast and remained partially eclipsed by the moon until 6:33 a.m. Because the eclipse occurred just 10 days before the summer solstice, the Sunwheel's standing stones lent an extra significance to the moment.

[CRF Offering Summer Methodologies Program](#)



The Center for Research on Families Methodology Program offers a series of workshops and seminars during the summer months. The programming is designed to appeal to a broad audience and attract researchers from across many disciplines.

[Campus Fuel Pumps to Close for Final Paving Starting June 14](#)



Renewed access to the fuel pumps is anticipated Wednesday evening, June 23, but the timeline depends on weather.

[Muscle Physiology Lab Seeks Volunteers for Study](#)



The lab is seeking volunteers to participate in a study that examines the cause of muscle fatigue in older adults and determines its impact on mobility. You may qualify if you are a reasonably healthy, non-smoker between the ages of 30-40 or 70-80 years who does not exercise heavily.

©2021 [University of Massachusetts](#).

This newsletter is written and distributed by Inside UMass, part of the [Office of News and Media Relations](#).

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.