

September 30, 2021

HEADLINERS

[UMass Launches Comprehensive Investigation into Racist Emails, Hires Leading Cyber Security Firm to Assist](#)



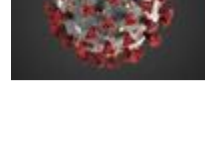
Following the recent disturbing, racist emails sent to Black student organizations on campus, Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy announced that the campus will launch a full-scale investigation into the source of the emails and that the university has secured the services of Stroz Friedberg Digital Forensics, a leading national firm in cyber security.

[Campus Details Specific Steps to Help Prevent Sexual Assault, Support Survivors](#)



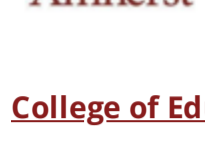
Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy announced three concrete steps that UMass Amherst is taking to address the intense campus concerns regarding sexual assault on campus. He and senior members of his administration met with hundreds of students at a community meeting Sept. 28 in the Student Union ballroom.

[COVID-19 Update: Positive Cases Continue to Decline](#)



The Public Health Promotion Center (PHPC) is closely monitoring the results of the UMass Amherst COVID-19 testing program. The PHPC notes that it is extremely encouraged with the reduction in positive cases the past two weeks.

[UMass Amherst Announces Creation of Seed Fund to Support Quantum Information Systems Research](#)



UMass Amherst is pleased to announce the creation of a seed fund by anonymous donors to support research of quantum information systems, including an anonymous lead gift in the amount of \$5 million.

[College of Education Faculty Awarded \\$1.25 Million Grant](#)



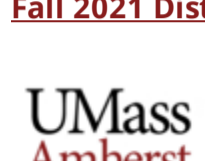
Two professors in the College of Education have received a five-year, \$1.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to prepare the next generation of special education administrators to be culturally responsive leaders.

[UMass Amherst Team Receives \\$129,000 NSF Grant to Develop Digital Infrastructure for Monitoring Racially Targeted Misinformation](#)



An interdisciplinary team of researchers has received a \$129,000 National Science Foundation Convergence Accelerator grant for their work on a multi-institutional project that will investigate racially targeted misinformation.

[Fall 2021 Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series Announced](#)



The University of Massachusetts is pleased to announce the Fall 2021 Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series and recipients of the Chancellor's Medallion: Nicholas G. Reich, Jennifer Lundquist, Erik Learned-Miller and Kristen M. DeAngelis.

[Four 2021 Public Service Endowment Grants Awarded](#)



Four projects proposed by faculty members have been awarded Public Service Endowment Grants from a special campus fund designed to boost outreach, extend the campus resources into the surrounding community and enhance the public service mission of the university.

PEOPLE

[A Solution for 'Zoom Burnout': Sitaraman and Zink to Build an Augmented Reality System for Virtual Meetings](#)



A team of researchers, including the College of Computer and Information Science's Ramesh Sitaraman, and Michael Zink, College of Engineering, are working on the next generation of teleconferencing, thanks to a \$1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

[Xia Receives \\$499,998 NSF Grant to Develop Sensors That Combine Memory and Computing Power](#)



Qiangfei Xia, electrical and computer engineering, has received a three-year, \$499,998 grant from the National Science Foundation to combine on-chip sensing and computing functions for next-generation smart, energy-efficient wearable electronics.

[DiFulvio Named 2021 Riegelman Award Winner for Excellence in Undergraduate Public Health Education](#)



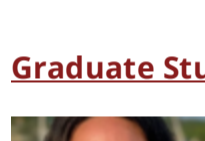
Gloria DiFulvio, senior lecturer in health promotion and policy and undergraduate program director for the Public Health Sciences program at the School of Public Health and Health Sciences, has been selected by the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health as the winner of the 2021 Riegelman Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Public Health Education.

[Collins Wins American Political Science Association Best Book Award](#)



Paul Collins, professor of legal studies and political science, received the 2021 Richard E. Neustadt Book Award from the Presidents and Executive Politics Section of the American Political Science Association for the best book on executive politics.

[Graduate Student Receives NIH Grant to Study Brain Systems](#)



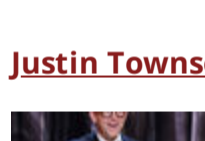
Natasha M. de la Rosa-Rivera, a fourth-year Ph.D. candidate in the neuroscience and behavior program and 2019 CRF Graduate Student Grant Writers Program member, was recently named as a recipient of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) dissertation award to complete and further her research.

[Timme-Laragy to Investigate Effects of Environmental Toxicants on Pancreatic Development](#)



Associate professor of environmental health sciences Alicia Timme-Laragy has received a two-year, \$421,400 grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to study the effects of environmental toxicants on pancreatic development.

[Justin Townsend '97 Wins Tony Award for Lighting Design in 'Moulin Rouge'](#)



Lighting designer Justin Townsend '97 became the first UMass theater design alum ever to win a Tony. It was one of ten awards for "Moulin Rouge."

[Evans Develops Free Online Course on Mixed Methods Research Design for JCOIN Training and Engagement Center](#)



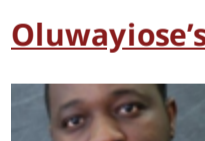
Associate professor of health promotion and policy Elizabeth Evans has developed a new online course on mixed methods research design for the newly launched Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN) Training and Engagement Center.

[Torrey Trust and Co-authors' Article Wins an APEX 2021 Award for Publication Excellence in the 'COVID-19 Media' category](#)



The article, "The Difference Between Emergency Remote Teaching and Online Learning," co-authored by Torrey Trust, associate professor of learning technology, has become the most viewed EduCAUSE article of all time.

[Oluwayiose's Publication Selected as NIEHS Extramural Paper of the Month](#)



A new publication from Environmental Health Sciences doctoral student Oladele "Amos" Oluwayiose has been selected as an extramural paper of the month for September by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS).

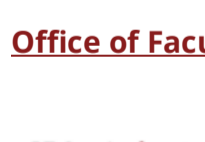
WEEKLY BULLETIN

[Open Access Week at the UMass Amherst Libraries: Building Open Knowledge and Equity](#)



The UMass Amherst Libraries are hosting this year's Open Access Week from Oct. 25 to 29, with the theme, "It Matters How We Open Knowledge: Building Structural Equity."

[Office of Faculty Development Launches Fall Workshop Series for Mid-career Faculty](#)



The Office of Faculty Development (OFD) is pleased to announce a fall workshop series for mid-career faculty. The series aims to support faculty as they navigate the mid-career transition and draws upon OFD's research targeted at improving the job satisfaction of mid-career faculty.

['UMass Magazine' Recognized for Excellence](#)



"UMass Magazine" received three Gold awards and a Judge's Choice award at the 2021 Creative Awards given by the Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts on Sept. 14.

[Annual Distinguished Scientist and Engineer Seminar Series Welcomes Ekundayo Shittu](#)



As part of the Annual Distinguished Scientist and Engineer Seminar Series, the College of Natural Sciences and the College of Engineering are pleased to bring Ekundayo Shittu to campus to address the topic of equitable accessibility in sustainability transitions.

[Athletics Hosts Wednesday Sports Luncheons](#)



UMass Athletics is hosting sports luncheons on Wednesdays at noon at Berkshire Dining Commons, where coaches speak and the athletes of the week are recognized. Members of the campus community are welcome to attend these events.

[Centered on Change: Celebrating SCUA's Past and Looking to the Future](#)



Celebrate with the UMass Amherst Libraries and the department of Special Collections and the University Archives (SCUA) as they share current news and announce an exciting change on the horizon.

[Retired Faculty Association Meeting Scheduled for Oct. 13](#)



The Retired Faculty Association will host a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 13, featuring a panel discussion of "Economic Inequality, Labor, and the COVID Epidemic."

[Researchers Seeking New Moms to Join Breast Cancer Prevention Study](#)



Researchers in the School of Public Health and Health Sciences are seeking volunteers for the New Moms on the Move Pilot Study.

[Participants Needed for Study on Civic Engagement in the Digital Age](#)



The HCI-VIS Lab and the Initiative for Digital Public Infrastructure at UMass Amherst are looking for participants in a research study exploring local civic engagement in the digital age.

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