

Dear Transfer Student,

**Undergraduate Student Success** and Student Transitions jointly create a monthly transfer student newsletter to keep you in-the-know about important opportunities, details that make UMass a smoother ride, and success strategies tailored to transfer students. Be sure to read about upcoming events below.

## Resources

### W.E.B. Du Bois Library

- **Annette Vadnais, Student Success & Outreach Librarian**  
Annette is a valuable, easy-to-use resource to help you navigate the library and get the most out of its dozens of services. You can email Annette your library questions at [avadnais@umass.edu](mailto:avadnais@umass.edu) or stop by the library to say hello (you can't miss her signature purple hair!)
- **Learning Resource Center**  
With drop-in tutoring hours and tutoring appointments, supplemental instruction for your classes, and help finding research opportunities, the LRC (Learning Resource Center) is the central academic support unit for all undergrads at UMass.



### FAFSA Help Days & Extra Hours

- **Help Days: Thursdays 2:30 – 4:30 p.m., Wilder Hall room 005**  
If you have a question about Financial Aid, you don't need to figure it out yourself. All students, families, and community members can come in to meet with a Financial Aid Counselor for advice and FAFSA help.
- **Extra Hours: Thursdays 4:30 – 7:30 p.m., Wilder Hall room 005**  
Extra hours will be held on one Thursday of each month to assist students, families, and community members with FAFSA renewals and other concerns. No RSVP required! Just walk in!

#### Be proactive

It may seem early in the semester, but now -- as you're moving along in your coursework and activities -- is a great time to start thinking about some longer-term next steps: registering for classes and online room selection, applying for summer jobs and internships, and considering a semester or year abroad. Spend some time thinking and writing down the types of personal, professional, and academic goals you'd like to achieve along with the steps you'll take to get there. We'll continue sending you relevant resources to help you along the way!

## February Reflections

- What steps have you taken this semester to build a sense of community where you live? In what ways have you reached out to others to connect?  
*Examples: connecting with your PM and/or RA in your residence hall, or utilizing the Off-Campus Student Center if you're living off-campus.*
- What topics have you most enjoyed learning about so far this semester? Why did you enjoy learning about those topics? Where did you learn about them?  
*Examples: the classroom, my residence hall, an extra-curricular activity, etc.*
- Have you connected with anyone on campus who you might ask to be your mentor?  
*Did you know that, in order to get a mentor, sometimes all you have to do is ask? If you want more guidance on finding a mentor, email us!*

#### Get outside

UMass has plenty of green space to explore, but did you know that the town of Amherst boasts dozens of walking and hiking trails? You can ride the PVTA bus system right to the Bare Mountain and Mount Norwottuck trailheads, or hop in a car and drive to the Summit House on top of Mount Holyoke!

## Upcoming Events

### Dignity and Respect in Action: Community Conversation

**Thursday, March 5, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m., Campus Center Amherst Room**

- Dignity and Respect in Action: Community Conversations (DARIA) are a series of events for students, faculty, and staff to come together and build skills to overcome division while talking about real issues affecting the campus and society at large. Themes explored so far include respectful dialogue and inclusion, feelings that arise when controversial speakers and topics are brought to campus, and difficult conversations in the classroom.

### Off Campus Housing Advising Session

**Monday, March 6, 12 p.m. – 2 p.m., Bartlett Hall room 103**

- Looking for off campus housing? Need help with your housing situation? Have general off campus housing questions? Come to the next off campus housing advising session!

### Library Workshop Series Spring 2020

**Did you know that the W.E.B. Du Bois Library offers free workshops for students, staff and faculty? We've highlighted a couple of relevant options below, but be sure to click the link and scroll through all of the offerings this semester!**

- **Creative Commons 101: How to Find Images, Media and More For Your Projects**  
Wednesday March 18, 1 – 2 p.m. or Wednesday April 8, 1 – 2 p.m.  
Science and Engineering Library Classroom  
Are you looking for images, audio, video, or text to include in your projects? Do you wonder about the copyright and whether or not you can use that perfect image that you found? Come join us to learn about Creative Commons (CC)! CC licenses allow people to share their work for you to use with minimal restrictions. Learn about the different licenses, how to find things with CC licenses and how you can use those items in your work!
- **Archives 101**  
Thursday March 21, 2 – 3 p.m.  
Location TBD  
Are you an undergrad or grad student who is interested in conducting research in an archive or special collection, but aren't sure how to find resources or plan your visit? Are you curious about archives and how they work? Come to this workshop to learn more!

#### Drop in, save big

**Smart About Money (SAM)** offers weekly drop-in hours with two Peer Financial Educators from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays in the W.E.B Du Bois Library's Learning Commons! Stop in for quick and informal budgeting, saving or personal finance expertise.

We'd love to hear from you! Let us know what you're curious about and up to, and how we can be of help. Email us at [studentsuccess@umass.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@umass.edu).

All best,  
Carolyn Bassett  
Associate Provost for Student Success

Laura Bourque  
New Student Transitions Coordinator