

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Leadership Profile
2023–2024



Executive Summary

The University of Massachusetts Amherst (“UMass Amherst”), the land-grant, flagship university of the University of Massachusetts System, seeks an experienced and exceptional academic leader and administrator to serve as its next provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs.

In close partnership with newly appointed Chancellor Javier A. Reyes, the next provost will have an exciting opportunity to build upon the University’s remarkable trajectory to distinguish itself as one of the world’s pre-eminent public universities. The provost will inform and help implement a new strategic plan, uniting the UMass Amherst community around a shared vision for the University’s future.

The next provost and senior vice chancellor will be a champion for academic excellence and faculty, staff, and student success; help generate new resources and steward their strategic allocation; strengthen infrastructure to support institutional effectiveness; and build community while advancing an institutional commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

A thriving, engaged, diverse institution, UMass Amherst enrolls approximately 32,000 students, including more than 24,000 undergraduates and over 7,000 graduate students, across 12 schools and colleges. The University has approximately 1,800 faculty. Almost 1,100 are tenured or tenure-track; nearly 400 additional faculty and lecturers are on full-time appointments. Nearly 4,500 staff support the day-to-day work of the University, playing critical roles in teaching, research, discovery, and learning at UMass Amherst. Eleven collective bargaining units represent University employees, including faculty/librarians, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students. UMass Amherst has nearly 300,000 alumni worldwide, the majority of whom live and work in Massachusetts, one of the most expansive, knowledge-intensive economic engines in the world.

Central to UMass Amherst’s core values are a drive for inclusive excellence, a reverence for diverse perspectives, and a deep commitment to social progress and social justice. It actively works to build a community of dignity and respect where every individual feels they belong. As a public land-grant institution, the University has a responsibility to provide access and opportunities for all people. UMass Amherst believes that a culturally diverse campus is integral to academic excellence and that diverse experiences strengthen the learning community and the University’s pursuit of a more just society.

A Research 1 institution, UMass Amherst secured \$287 million in sponsored research in FY21. Last year, total R&D expenditures exceeded \$245 million. The University has a \$1.4 billion budget. Over the last decade, with support from the state and private philanthropy, it has invested \$1.8 billion in its 13 million square feet of space and plans to invest an additional \$1.8 billion in the next four years. UMass Amherst has pledged to be carbon-zero—100% powered by renewable energy—by 2032.

The University is located in the heart of the Pioneer Valley, offering a rich cultural environment in a rural setting close to major urban centers. UMass Amherst is among the largest employers in the region and a key driver of the local economy.

The University seeks in its next provost a strategic academic leader, proven collaborator, and dedicated institutional steward. An earned doctorate or equivalent terminal degree is required, along with a record of scholarship commensurate with an appointment as a tenured full professor at UMass Amherst.

To submit a nomination, express confidential interest in or apply for the position, please see “Procedure for Candidacy” on page 18.

Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

Reporting to Chancellor Javier A. Reyes, the provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs is UMass Amherst's chief academic officer and stewards the university's academic mission. The provost has ultimate responsibility for the University's 12 schools and colleges as well as units charged with teaching and learning, faculty development, student success, enrollment management, civic engagement and service learning, international programs, and academic personnel, space, and facilities.

The incoming provost and senior vice chancellor will join the University amid a new strategic planning process that will chart a course for the next phase of UMass Amherst's history. The provost will have the opportunity to inform the process and champion the role of Academic Affairs in this blueprint for the future. Once finalized, the provost will play a leading role in operationalizing the plan, uniting a diverse and engaged community of faculty, staff, and students across schools, colleges, and disciplines in pursuit of a shared vision for the future.

In addition, the University will look to the next provost to:

- **Strengthen UMass Amherst and enhance its impact as a pre-eminent global public research university.**
As the University's chief academic officer, the next provost will inspire, catalyze, and facilitate academic and research excellence, marshaling resources and support to enable and fuel exceptional research, scholarship, and teaching. The provost will foster interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary collaboration across UMass Amherst, with fellow UMass campuses and the UMass Chan Medical School, and with strategic academic partners around the globe.
- **Champion faculty excellence and success.**
To help UMass Amherst realize its highest aspirations, the provost must be a resolute advocate for faculty. The next provost will model and promote investment in faculty excellence and success, prioritizing institutional resources to support faculty research and scholarship, pedagogical innovation, and professional development while ensuring an inclusive framework that allows all faculty and instructional staff to succeed.
- **Ensure accessible and innovative educational experiences and champion student success.**
The provost will champion both equity and excellence in education, ensuring that all UMass Amherst students have the holistic support they need to succeed, including resources to support their mental health, wellness, well-being, and safety. The provost will also promote and expand innovative programs and initiatives such as UMass FLEX and University Without Walls to reach greater numbers of students throughout the state and leverage the Mount Ida campus to connect with learners and the business community in Greater Boston.
- **Build community and advance an institutional commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.**
The next provost will cultivate an inclusive community and an environment of trust and transparency where all faculty, staff and students are respected, supported, and empowered. The provost will model and promote the essential roles that diversity, equity, and inclusion play in UMass Amherst's mission, its relationships with the Amherst community, and in all its activities and pursuits, and champion the University's ongoing efforts to work towards a more just society.
- **Foster the generation of new resources and their strategic allocation.**
Along with fellow University leaders and the deans, the provost will advocate compellingly for additional investments from the UMass System and Massachusetts Legislature. The provost will foster and encourage the diversification and generation of new revenue, including through philanthropic support and innovative programs and partnerships. As the chief academic officer, the provost will advocate for strategic allocation of resources that advance UMass Amherst's academic and research mission.
- **Strengthen infrastructure to support institutional effectiveness.**
The next provost will champion efforts to recruit, develop and retain an outstanding workforce while strengthening the framework of policies and procedures that enable them to thrive. Working in collaboration with Finance and Human Resources, the provost will advocate for investment and improvements in both staffing and systems to ensure faculty, staff, and students are positioned for success.

Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

UMass Amherst seeks a strategic academic leader, proven collaborator, and dedicated institutional steward to serve as its next provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs. The successful candidate will possess intellectual curiosity and absolute integrity, the ability to foster community, a deep commitment to undergraduate and graduate education, and an optimistic vision of the possibilities and potential impact of a dynamic, diverse public research university.

The University seeks a provost with a sophisticated understanding of issues facing an institution such as UMass Amherst, including opportunities for interdisciplinary and interprofessional collaboration; strategic enrollment management; the value of the arts and humanities; the distinct needs of undergraduate and graduate education; the rising cost of attendance for students amid limited financial aid resources; the rising cost of living for students, staff, and non-tenured instructors; the power of innovation and entrepreneurship; and the changing landscape of workforce needs and student learning preferences.

An earned doctorate or equivalent terminal degree and a record of scholarship commensurate with an appointment as a tenured full professor at UMass Amherst are required. In addition, the ideal candidate will have the following qualities:

- **A record of scholarly achievement and commitment to academic excellence.** A distinguished record of achievement as a scholar and educator with the highest standards for academic excellence. A broad intellect and ability to articulate the value of and advocate for the University and each of its programmatic areas.
- **Vision, strategic thinking, and administrative sophistication.** The ability to articulate a compelling vision and inspire and unite a diverse community around it, and an equivalent capacity to implement and operationalize strategic initiatives.
- **Collaboration, commitment to shared governance and transparency.** A consultative, inclusive approach and the capacity to build consensus. An appreciation and respect for shared governance. Willingness and capacity to partner effectively with faculty, staff, students, deans, senior leaders, collective bargaining units, and all constituents.
- **Commitment to public education.** A deep appreciation for and ability to champion UMass Amherst's mission as a land-grant public university. A commitment to research and scholarly excellence that serves the state, nation, and world, and a deep dedication to providing access for students from all backgrounds and communities.
- **Commitment to institutional diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice.** A demonstrable commitment to and record of leadership in advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice at a systemic level. Exemplary skill in communicating and collaborating with diverse groups. Proven ability to remove barriers to inclusion and in affirming diversity in all its forms.
- **Multidisciplinary perspective and leadership.** The inclination and ability to work creatively across silos and to harness the potential of collaborative activities across disciplinary and organizational boundaries. A deep understanding of the centrality of strong disciplines to interdisciplinary research and teaching, including the value and importance of the arts and humanities.
- **Experience supporting faculty, staff, and student success.** Successful experience recruiting and retaining exceptional, diverse faculty and staff and supporting their professional development. Demonstrable commitment to student wellness and well-being and experience with a holistic approach to student formation.
- **Commitment to community-engaged scholarship.** An appreciation and understanding of the role of a land-grant institution in community engagement and the value of community-engaged research, teaching, and service to the advancement of faculty, staff, and students, to the institution, and to the Commonwealth it serves.

(continued)

- **Entrepreneurial and innovative spirit.** An appreciation and understanding of sponsored research in an academic enterprise, and an understanding of the dynamic landscape of extramural research funding. An orientation towards innovation and desire to support faculty and students in their entrepreneurial endeavors.
- **Academic administration experience.** Experience planning, developing, and/or managing academic programs at both the undergraduate and graduate level. A commitment to and success fostering interdisciplinary programs.
- **Operational and administrative expertise.** Advanced management, planning, and financial acumen. A sophisticated understanding of university finances and the relationships between academic priorities, budgeting, revenue generation, and development. The ability to build and lead a high-performing team.
- **External relationship management.** Experience building and sustaining effective partnerships locally, statewide, nationally, and globally. Ability to build a strong external presence for the institution and generate excitement about UMass Amherst's vision for and accomplishments in research, scholarship, and teaching.
- **Communication and interpersonal skills and qualities.** Ability to build trust and consensus among diverse audiences, constituents, and colleagues. The inclination and ability to listen to and learn from others. Self-awareness, emotional intelligence, and self-confidence without self-importance. An optimism and openness to new ideas, a balance of persistence and flexibility, and a collegial and accessible approach.

Office of the Provost

The provost and senior vice chancellor oversees the Office of the Provost. Direct reports include:

- Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- Senior Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion
- Senior Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs
- Senior Vice Provost for Lifelong Learning
- Senior Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education

In addition to the [schools and colleges](#), the following teams and units report to the provost:

- Academic Administration and Finance
- Academic Personnel
- Academic Space and Facilities
- Analytics and Assessment
- Career Development & Professional Connections
- Center for Teaching and Learning
- Civic Engagement & Service-Learning
- Enrollment Management
- Faculty Development
- Faculty Diversity
- Fine Arts Center
- IDEAS — Instructional Design, Engagement, and Support
- International Programs Office
- Learning Resource Center
- Registrar
- Student Success
- UMass ROTC: Aerospace Studies and Military Leadership
- Undergraduate Research
- University Libraries
- University Without Walls

About the University of Massachusetts Amherst

Founded in 1863, UMass Amherst was originally established as Massachusetts Agricultural College under the Federal Morrill Land-Grant Colleges Act. Today, it is the flagship and largest campus in the University of Massachusetts System.

UMass Amherst serves its community, its state, and the nation. It is estimated that the University's impact on the Massachusetts economy is \$2.5 billion. UMass Amherst is constantly identifying new ways to prepare students for lives as citizens and leaders in the state: in the past five years alone, the University has launched new degree programs in biomedical engineering, data analytics and computational social science, finance, informatics, interdisciplinary studies, managerial economics, materials science and engineering, public policy, and veterinary technology, in anticipation of or in response to the needs of the state and society.

Public service and civic engagement is at the core of UMass Amherst's purpose; so too is a commitment to social change and social justice. The University is home to the papers and memoirs of W. E. B. DuBois as well as the papers of Horace Mann Bond, Irma McClaurin Black Feminist Archive, Daniel Ellsberg, Kenneth R. Feinberg, and hundreds of other collections documenting the lives and work of innovators, activists, political figures, and spiritual leaders.

In 2020, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education ranked the University seventh among U.S. doctorate-granting institutions in recognition of its commitment to achieving a more just, healthy, and sustainable world. In 2022, the University unveiled **UMass Carbon Zero**, an ambitious vision to limit the dangers of climate change and power its 1,500-acre campus with 100% renewable energy by 2032.

UMass Amherst accounts for 40% of the University of Massachusetts System's annual revenue and expenses. Despite the perennial uncertainties of state funding, the University is financially sound, due in part to its ability to make internal allocations and reallocations that have improved quality and service despite minimal increases in state appropriation.





In FY22, the campus operating budget was over \$1.4 billion. UMass Amherst generates over \$213 million R&D expenditures, with 60% coming from the life sciences and engineering. In FY21, it received more than \$287 million in sponsored research awards including 455 federal awards totaling \$221 million. In FY24, the campus attained its largest-ever federal award. Supported by the National Science Foundation's Science and Technology Centers Program, the **Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science** will examine how to effectively and ethically braid Western and Indigenous science research, education and practice related to the urgent and interconnected challenges of climate change, cultural places and food security.

The University is located in the historic Pioneer Valley of western Massachusetts, about an hour from the scenic Berkshires, two hours from Boston and three hours from New York City. The campus includes more than 13 million square feet of buildings. The University's transformational investment of \$1.8 billion in facilities during the past decade has created a revitalized learning and living environment. This decade of renewal has focused on **new and renovated facilities**, including classroom and learning buildings, administrative offices, laboratories for the life sciences, a student union, and athletics facilities, among other impressive projects. The current Capital Plan calls for \$1.86 billion to be spent between FY22 and FY26 to refurbish existing buildings and invest in new facilities.

Just eight miles from Boston, the **Mount Ida Campus** serves as a center for student experiential learning, professional development, and industry collaboration. **Acquired** in 2018, the campus will enable UMass Amherst to address the growing need for talent in areas that drive the state economy, including business, computer science, life sciences, and other STEM specialties, amplifying the University's impact across the Commonwealth.

Mission

The University of Massachusetts Amherst was founded as a land-grant university dedicated to educating its citizens, generating new knowledge, and applying discoveries to the betterment of society. Through the generations, the original "agricultural and mechanical" focus has broadened into nearly every aspect of modern life and into a larger obligation to the community the University serves. The University's mission is to provide an affordable and accessible education of high quality and to conduct programs of research and public service that advance knowledge and improve the lives of the people of the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world.

Commitment to the Success and Wellbeing of Every Individual

A long-standing commitment to social progress and social justice, a reverence for varied perspectives, and a drive for inclusive excellence are central to UMass Amherst's values. As a public land-grant institution, the University has a responsibility to provide access and opportunities for all people. UMass Amherst fosters a community of mutual respect by striving for a safe, progressive, and understanding campus for everyone. It believes that a culturally diverse campus is integral to academic excellence and that students, faculty, and staff should reflect the diverse world in which we live. UMass Amherst draws from and supports diverse experiences as an essential strength of the learning community, and it accepts and instills an ongoing commitment to a more just world. The [Office of Equity and Inclusion](#), led by a vice chancellor, guides UMass Amherst's efforts related to diversity, equity, and inclusion through programming and resources for students, faculty, staff, and the community.

Belonging at UMass. UMass Amherst has reiterated expectations for, and reaffirmed its commitment to, [building a community of dignity and respect](#). Together, UMass Amherst will ensure a safe and welcoming living-learning-working environment that honors differences, encourages thoughtful interactions, and allows the humanity of every person to be seen.

Full and Equal Access. UMass Amherst embraces disability as a natural part of diversity and seeks to build capacity to appreciate and value individual differences, including differences in ability, to create an inclusive community. The University is committed to providing [full and equal access](#) to information and services for all current and potential community members.

Advancing Faculty Equity. Through UMass ADVANCE, the University harnesses the power of collaboration to drive discovery and generate knowledge and solutions to advance [faculty equity](#). It cultivates faculty equity, inclusion, and success by providing the resources, recognition, and relationships critical for equitable and successful collaboration in today's academy.

Celebrating Black Presence. The [Black Presence Project](#) documents and honors the contributions of Black students, faculty, and staff to UMass Amherst, thanks in large part to the leadership of the late professor John H. Bracey Jr., a founder of the W. E. B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies and preeminent scholar of Black history and the Black arts movement.

LGBTQ+ History. As the flagship campus in the first state to legalize same-sex marriage, UMass Amherst's past is infused with important events that were driven by or have affected the lives of LGBTQ+ people on campus—a community that has grown to be inclusive, safe, supportive, welcoming, and deeply informed by the lessons of history.





Community Engagement and Service Learning

UMass Amherst and its host communities of Amherst and Hadley have shared a rich history for more than 150 years. Community engagement is central to the University's mission of cooperative and collaborative work. In addition to the University's positive impact on the local economy, UMass Amherst adds to the cultural richness, intellectual depth, and ethnic diversity of the Amherst area and surrounding region. Community partnerships provide unique educational opportunities, support community and civic organizations, and enhance the region's quality of life. They are built on a shared desire to make UMass Amherst and its surrounding communities great places to live, work, play, and learn.

The University promotes democratic engagement and lifelong learning, partnering with communities on and off campus to work collectively for a more just society. Faculty teach courses integrating service-learning as a text for student learning, integrating service into the academic experience. Students engage in curricula that include significant public work, deepening their education and preparing them for lives of active engagement. Through **Civic Engagement & Service-Learning**, UMass Amherst provides the resources to activate the creative energy of students and faculty, enabling them to improve lives and make a positive impact on communities locally, nationally, and globally.

Strategic Planning

The University's current [2018–2023 Strategic Plan](#), *Be Revolutionary: A Vision for the Future*, outlines three overarching objectives, which call for UMass Amherst to be:

- A destination of choice where academically accomplished, socially responsible seekers of a world-class education succeed
- A partner of choice in advancing and applying knowledge and innovation for the betterment of society
- A community of choice for students, staff, and faculty that exemplifies the power of diverse perspectives and mutual respect.

Strengthening diversity, equity, and inclusion is a prominent theme in the strategic plan and one of six key strategic areas that is woven throughout the others. In addition, a [Diversity Strategic Plan](#) articulates several major goals to realize the promise of a culturally diverse campus:

- Making UMass Amherst a destination of choice for students of color and underrepresented groups
- Improving the campus climate of inclusion
- Enhancing the effectiveness of curriculum and educational programs with regard to diversity and inclusion
- Increasing focus on recruiting, retention, and promotion of a diverse corps of faculty and staff
- Increasing outreach and engagement with external communities/schools with large proportions of underrepresented minorities.

In September 2023, Chancellor Javier Reyes launched a process to develop the University's next strategic plan. The process will create opportunities to identify synergies between and within UMass Amherst's diverse academic, administrative, and operational areas and coalesce around a shared vision for the campus. The provost is expected to actively participate in the process to finalize the details, directions, goals, and early-stage implementation.





Faculty

UMass Amherst faculty are creative and passionate researchers, teachers, and mentors striving to improve the world and empower the next generation through the pursuit of knowledge and innovation. The University is home to approximately 1,800 instructional faculty members. Almost 1,100 tenured or tenure-track faculty; nearly 400 additional faculty and lecturers are on full-time appointments. More than 58% of instructional faculty are women and approximately 29% are people of color.

Among the faculty are recipients of the Pulitzer Prize, National Book Award for Poetry, National Medal of Science, Draper Award in Engineering, and National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award. Faculty have been recognized by the Fulbright Scholars Program, MacArthur Foundation, Guggenheim Foundation, Sloan Foundation, and Woodrow Wilson Foundation, as well as the National Endowment for the Arts. They include elected members of the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Medicine, and American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Staff

Professional clerical and trade staff—nearly 4,500 in number—are critical to the mission and work of UMass Amherst. They facilitate the day-to-day exchanges and connections that define the UMass Amherst student experience; are critical to teaching, research, discovery, and learning; and play an integral role in establishing and maintaining positive and productive community partnerships and collaborations.

UMass Amherst employees, including faculty/librarians, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students, are represented by 11 [collective bargaining units](#).

Students

UMass Amherst has one of the largest residential life systems in the nation, with more than 14,000 students on campus. Among students and their families, the University has an excellent reputation for offering high value, a student-centered approach, and attention to the whole student. Over the last decade, first-year undergraduate applications have increased by 30%. The six-year graduation rate has increased steadily to 84%. In FY21, UMass Amherst awarded \$187 million in campus funded financial aid.

UMass Amherst accounts for 43% of the systemwide student headcount and attracts a higher proportion than other campuses of out-of-state and international students. Approximately 30% of the 2022–2023 entering class identify as students of color, compared with 21% just 10 years ago.

To meet students' rapidly changing needs, the [UMass Flex](#) program is exploring ways to present the entire university experience—from classes to career services—to students and instructors, both on and off campus. This is an expansion of UMass Amherst's pioneering degree completion program, [University Without Walls](#), now celebrating its 50th year.

UMass Amherst has a rich history of student expression and activism. For generations, students have been involved with national and campus activism on a wide variety of political and social issues. UMass Amherst students are motivated and empowered to create and run clubs and organizations of their choosing. There are currently more than 400 active student groups on campus.

UMass Amherst athletes compete in nine men's and 10 women's NCAA Division I sanctioned sports, primarily in the Atlantic 10 Conference. UMass is one of only 16 universities in the nation that plays Division I football and Division I men's ice hockey. UMass Amherst won its first National Hockey Championship in the 2021 NCAA Tournament.





Schools and Colleges

UMass Amherst comprises 12 schools and colleges that collectively encompass 110 undergraduate majors from accounting to women, gender, sexuality studies and nearly 80 master's and 48 doctoral programs ranging from MBAs and MPHs to MEds and PhDs.

- College of Education
- College of Engineering
- College of Humanities and Fine Arts
- Robert and Donna Manning College of Information & Computer Sciences
- College of Natural Sciences
- Elaine Marieb College of Nursing
- College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Commonwealth Honors College
- Isenberg School of Management
- School of Public Health and Health Sciences
- Stockbridge School of Agriculture
- Graduate School



Research

As the Commonwealth's flagship public research university, UMass Amherst is dedicated to educating the public, generating new knowledge, and applying discoveries to the betterment of society. Research at UMass Amherst is a major contributor to the Massachusetts economy through leadership in advanced materials and manufacturing, applied life and health sciences, data and computational science, the arts and creative economy, climate science and sustainability, and equity and inclusion. Learn more about UMass Amherst's innovation and impact and see FY2023 research statistics [here](#).

The [Office of Research and Engagement](#) administers the campus' research enterprise, working in conjunction with academic, government, and private partners to translate new knowledge and scientific discoveries into technical innovations and scholarly works that benefit society and create opportunity for students, faculty, and the public.

The [UMass Innovation Institute](#) expedites research partnerships with industry to move university discoveries and technologies forward into society. The [Technology Transfer Office](#) spurs the commercialization of university research for public benefit while protecting intellectual property and ensuring recognition for researchers and inventors.

Undergraduate Research

At UMass Amherst, undergraduates have many opportunities to participate in research, scholarship, and creative activity. Student researchers apply their intellectual curiosity and grit to solving challenging problems and sharing their talents for the benefit of society. The University offers students unparalleled support, top facilities, and opportunities for meaningful research collaborations with leading faculty, multi-industry companies, and technology clusters in the Greater Boston area and beyond. In addition to research through courses, students can also work in faculty labs and participate in research and scholarly opportunities on and off campus throughout the year, international programs, internships and co-ops, and more.

Centers and Institutes

The University's more than 60 campus-based research centers and institutes are hubs for collaboration and innovation where interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research and graduate training spans, combines, and builds on the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering.

Advanced Materials and Manufacturing

- MassNanoTech Institute
- Center for Hierarchical Manufacturing
- Center for UMass — Industry Research on Polymers
- Center for e-Design

Applied Life Sciences and Health

- Institute for Applied Life Sciences
- Center for Bioactive Delivery
- Center for Personalized Health Monitoring
- Models to Medicine Center
- Center for Biological Physics
- Center for Community Health Equity Research
- Center for Evolutionary Materials
- Center for Research on Families
- Center for Neuroendocrine Studies
- Elaine Marieb Center for Nursing & Engineering Innovation
- Fergus M. Clydesdale Center for Foods
- Institute for Global Health
- New England Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases
- Northeast Regional Environmental Public Health Center
- UManage Center
- Center for Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
- Center for Resilient Metro-regions
- Climate System Research Center
- Energy Transition Institute
- Family Forest Research Center
- Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center
- UMass Transportation Center
- Water Resources Research Center
- Wind Energy Center
- WINSSS: National Center for Innovative Small Drinking Water Systems

Governance and Society/Equity and Inclusion

- Center for Economic Development
- Center for Education Policy
- Center for Employment Equity
- Center for International Education
- Center for International Securities & Derivatives Markets
- Center for Justice, Law & Societies
- Center for Youth Engagement
- Ronald H. Fredrickson Center for School Counseling Outcome Research & Evaluation

- Center for Student Success Research
- Institute for Social Science Research
- Institute of Diversity Sciences
- Language Acquisition Research Center
- Political Economy Research Institute
- National Center for Technology & Dispute Resolution

Energy, Climate, Water, and Sustainability

- Center for Agriculture, Food & the Environment
- Paros Center for Atmospheric Research
- Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges & Science

Identity and Culture/Arts and the Creative Economy

- Arthur F. Kinney Center for Interdisciplinary Renaissance Studies
- Center for Heritage & Society
- Center for the Study of African American Language
- Center for Latin American, Caribbean & Latino Studies
- Center of Racial Justice & Youth Engaged Research
- McCormack Center for Sport Research & Education
- Institute for Holocaust, Genocide & Memory Studies
- Interdisciplinary Studies Institute
- Massachusetts Center for Renaissance Studies
- W. E. B. Du Bois Center

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

- Berthiaume Center for Entrepreneurship

Science, Data, and Computation

- Amherst Center for Fundamental Interactions
- Center for Applied Mathematics & Computation
- Center for Data Science
- Center for Intelligent Information Retrieval
- Center for Knowledge Communication
- Computational Social Science Institute
- Cybersecurity Institute
- Virtual Center for Supernetworks

Service Centers and Institutes

- Arts Extension Service
- Springfield Design Center
- Translation Center
- UMass Donahue Institute



The Arts

From high-caliber theater, music, and dance performances to museum exhibitions and a robust visiting artists program, the University of Massachusetts Amherst is renowned for its commitment to the arts.

The **Fine Arts Center** — including the Randolph W. Bromery Center for the Arts and Frederick C. Tillis Performance Hall — is a revolutionary celebration of the arts at UMass Amherst, comprising not only performance venues but also multidisciplinary teaching spaces for the arts, including a gallery, design studio, rehearsal space, recording studio, animation studio and lab, and music classroom. As the University's teaching museum, the **University Museum of Contemporary Art** is a multidisciplinary laboratory for the exploration of contemporary art where emerging artists and diverse audiences are empowered to pursue new artistic possibilities through exhibitions, a permanent collection, educational programming, and a visiting artists program.

Art through the ages—from traditional to contemporary, from student exhibits to storied artists—is on display at the **Augusta Savage Gallery** where art explores issues of race, class, and power; at the **Hampden Gallery** for new and emerging artists; at the **Herter Art Gallery** where science meets art; and at the student-run **Student Union Art Gallery** where students explore new, unconventional ideas in an inclusive space.

The **Arts Extension Service** helps to connect the community and the arts through its online certificates in arts management, online arts administration bachelor's degree, publications, research services, and training programs for state, regional, and local arts agencies.

Students who seek to embrace the diversity of visual art can pursue courses of study through the University's **Department of Art**, **Department of Music and Dance**, **Department of Theater**, or **Film Studies** program.

Leadership

Javier A. Reyes, Ph.D., became the 31st leader of the University of Massachusetts Amherst on July 1, 2023, following his selection as chancellor of the Commonwealth's flagship campus by the UMass Board of Trustees.

Reyes is an economist who has devoted his career to the cause of public higher education, holding leadership positions at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), West Virginia University, and the University of Arkansas. He most recently served as interim chancellor of UIC, Chicago's largest university campus. Born and raised in Mexico, Reyes is the first Hispanic person to serve as chancellor of UMass Amherst.

Before coming to UMass, Reyes served as interim chancellor of UIC, Chicago's largest university campus, with more than 33,000 students and \$440 million in research awards. Previously, he served as UIC's provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, joining the campus in 2021. Leading UIC, first as provost and later as interim chancellor, Reyes initiated a redesign of UIC's budget model and a restructuring of teaching innovation environments to position UIC for success amid a new era of innovative and accessible education.

Committed to the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion, Reyes outlined a bold vision to address critical gaps in racial equity across the institution, with a specific focus on increasing Black student enrollment, retention, and graduation rates. Reyes served as dean of West Virginia University's John Chambers College of Business and Economics from 2016–2021 and vice president for StartUp West Virginia from 2018–2021. He built impactful corporate partnerships to strengthen student placement and serve West Virginia's land-grant mission. He spearheaded the transformation of the college into a pillar of inclusive entrepreneurship, innovation, and economic development for the university and the state.

Prior to moving to West Virginia, Reyes served as vice provost for online and distance education at the University of Arkansas and as the associate dean for undergraduate studies and executive education in the Sam M. Walton College of Business. He initially joined the economics faculty of the University of Arkansas in 2003.

Reyes has been a National Science Foundation proposal reviewer, invited lecturer, and visiting scholar at a number of institutions internationally, including the Clinton School of Public Service and the International Monetary Fund. He also has served as an academic scholar in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London, as a research analyst for the investment firm Value Casa de Bolsa, headquartered in Mexico.

He has served on the Board of Directors for the Field Museum, the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago, Miller Industries (NYSE: MLR), and City Holding Company (NASDAQ: CHCO). He is actively engaged with the TIAA Diversity Council and the Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA).

Reyes received his bachelor's degree in economics from the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Campus Estado de Mexico, in 1998, and his doctorate in economics from Texas A&M University in 2003. He is actively engaged with the TIAA Diversity Council and the Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA).



Amherst, Hadley, and the Pioneer Valley

Amherst

The proud birthplace of Emily Dickinson and perennially considered one of the best college towns in the nation, Amherst, Massachusetts is home to Amherst College, Hampshire College, and the University of Massachusetts. Spotting a resident rock star, famous writer, or Nobel laureate in a downtown cafe is a fairly regular occurrence, due in part to the influence of UMass Amherst and the colleges, which creates a vibrant and dynamic intellectual atmosphere that attracts world-class faculty.

With approximately 38,000 residents, Amherst is the largest community in Hampshire County. The epitome of town and country, Amherst's bustling downtown is complemented by four village centers and dozens of cultural attractions, including eight museums, an independent art house cinema, and performing arts and music venues. The town has permanently conserved nearly one-third of its land and is home to more than 50 working farms. Amherst is an ethnically diverse community with strong schools, an excellent bus system, and close proximity to major cities.

Hadley

For more than 350 years, Hadley has been known for the richness of its soils and the quality of its crops, having earned the distinction of Asparagus Capital of the World. Bordering the Connecticut River and home to UMass Rowing, Hadley has a burgeoning tourism market, attracted to the area's farms and scenic byways.

Hadley is home to approximately 5,000 residents, including hundreds of UMass employees. It is a regional hub for commerce where national retailers complement ethnically diverse, locally owned small businesses to meet the needs of the ever-growing UMass Amherst community.

The Pioneer Valley

Comprising Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties, the Pioneer Valley is a stunningly beautiful mosaic of rolling hills, unspoiled forest, winding rivers, rich farmland, and urban centers. The Valley is home to the college towns of Amherst, Northampton, and South Hadley and the [Five Colleges Consortium](#)—Amherst College, Smith College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, and UMass Amherst—as well as the emerging arts communities of Greenfield, Turners Falls, and Easthampton, and the resurgent cities of Holyoke and Springfield.

UMass Amherst plays a vital, leading role in the Pioneer Valley where the University's influence, imprint, and economic impact extend well beyond its host communities. Staff, faculty, and students live throughout the Valley and engage with community groups and non-profit boards. UMass Amherst is actively involved in the economic development of Holyoke and Springfield and has deep relationships with the school districts of the region's gateway cities.

Hampden County, anchored by the state's third largest city, is home to major corporations and is a hub for health care and innovation. The UMass system has invested in the Springfield Center, home to courses from all five system branches. In Holyoke, UMass is a partner in the Green High-Speed Computing Center. The Hampshire County economy is driven by tourism, arts, agriculture, and education. Franklin County, with more than 70,000 residents, is the most rural county in Massachusetts, yet more than 15% of its economic activity is based in manufacturing.

In July 2023, CNN Travel named the [Pioneer Valley](#) one of America's most underrated destinations.

Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV and letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile.

WittKieffer is assisting University of Massachusetts Amherst in this search. Candidates will be considered until an appointment is made. Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Lucy Leske, Philip Tang, and Luis Bertot
UMassAmherstProvost@wittkieffer.com

UMass Amherst is committed to a policy of equal opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, age, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability, military status, or genetic information in employment, admission to and participation in academic programs, activities, and services, and the selection of vendors who provide services or products to the University. To fulfill that policy, UMass Amherst is further committed to a program of affirmative action to eliminate or mitigate artificial barriers and to increase opportunities for the recruitment and advancement of qualified minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and covered veterans. It is the policy of the UMass Amherst to comply with the applicable federal and state statutes, rules, and regulations concerning equal opportunity and affirmative action.