

FACULTY COORDINATOR

KerryAnn O'Meara, Assistant Professor of Higher Education and Program Coordinator, UMass Amherst

ADVISORY BOARD

- **Alan Bloomgarden**, Director of Faculty Grants and Government/Community Relations, Smith College
- **Cathy Burack**, Senior Research Associate, Higher Education, Center for Youth and Communities, Brandeis University
- **Barbara Canyes**, Executive Director, Massachusetts Campus Compact
- **Sharon Fross**, Vice Provost for Outreach, UMass Amherst
- **Linda Desmond**, Vice President of Community Investment, United Way of Hampshire County
- **Dwight Giles**, Professor, Higher Education, UMass Boston
- **John Reiff**, Director, UMass Office of Community Service Learning at Commonwealth College
- **Karen Lee Roberts**, Assistant Director of Community Outreach, Amherst College
- **Dave Schimmel**, Co-Founder: Citizen Scholars Program
- Representatives from Community Service Learning offices at Smith College, Hampshire College and Mt. Holyoke College

RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

We will make every effort to help students find assistantships in service-learning offices. However, some students may find assistantships in related areas of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Residence Life and obtain an internship or summer position in the five colleges service-learning offices.

We will also assist you in securing a summer practicum in a national or regional service-learning organization, in an institutional type different than the one in which you hold an assistantship, and with colleagues in the field who will act as your mentor for professional development.

We will provide access to both teaching and research opportunities in service-learning and engagement through affiliation with the UMass Faculty Fellows in Service-Learning program, the Citizen Scholars Program, and the UMass Office for Outreach.

We will also encourage networking and attendance at professional conferences related to engagement and assist students with career placement at the conclusion of the program.

For more information...

...about the UMass Masters in Higher Education Service-Learning and Engagement track, please contact

Dr. KerryAnn O'Meara
kerryann@educ.umass.edu
413.545.0871

UMass Amherst, 256 Hills South; Amherst, MA 01003
To apply, please visit www.umass.edu/gradschool
We hope to hear from you soon!



**UMass Amherst
Graduate School of Education
Higher Education Program**

**Masters Track in
SERVICE-LEARNING
AND ENGAGEMENT**

“...a commitment to service was never more needed than now... Higher education has more intellectual talent than any other institution in our culture. Today’s colleges and universities surely must respond to the challenges that confront society.”

- Ernest Boyer (1995)



**UMASS
AMHERST**



UMass AMHERST HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM MASTERS TRACK IN SERVICE-LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

Since the early 1980s higher education has seen an explosion of service-learning and engagement programs, especially in the New England area, and particularly in Massachusetts. Drawing on the rich institutional and professional experience in engagement in New England, the University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School of Education is pleased to announce a masters degree program to prepare and to mentor future directors of service learning and engagement in higher education.

Our faculty bring both professional experience in service-learning as well as scholarship on student and faculty engagement to this program. Likewise, we have brought together an advisory board of leaders in the field to assist us in mentoring, networking, and career placement.

The UMass higher education masters track in community service-learning and engagement is committed to developing leaders of engaged campuses who are critical thinkers and passionate about developing reciprocal university-community partnerships that enhance learning, make better research, and improve our world. Graduates of our program will have a better understanding of how higher education works, its organization and governance; student development theory: how and why service affects students in different ways; and academic culture and reward systems that influence faculty involvement in engagement.

Most importantly, we will nurture the love of learning through service and community-building that attracted you to our program, and we will surround you with a professional learning community committed to your development and growth.

CURRICULUM

Each student will work with the Track Coordinator to develop a masters program that will be individualized, but closely resemble the following list of courses and experiences:

First Year

- Proseminar in Higher Education
- History of American Higher Education
- Introduction to Service-Learning and Engagement in Higher Education
- Proseminar II
- College Student Development Theory or College Impact
- Law in Higher Education

Summer Practicum

With the assistance of the Advisory Board, a practicum following the first year will be developed for each student under the mentorship of a Director of SL or with a national SL organization (e.g. Campus Compact, Learn and Serve America, etc.)

Second Year

- Research Course (the ideal research project will explore a service-learning or engagement topic).
- Race, Class, Gender in Higher Education or Social Justice Elective
- Course outside School of Education (approved by Track Coordinator)
- Student Activism and Civic Engagement
- Academic Profession
- *Integrative Seminar* (emphasis in final portfolio on competencies developed around working with faculty, students, and communities in service-learning and engagement)

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Requirement to present at one engagement conference (e.g. National or Massachusetts Campus Compact conference).

Requirement to engage in service oneself with a community-based organization the student chooses, 2 of the 4 semesters.



UMass Amherst is located in the lovely Pioneer Valley, just 90 miles west of Boston and 3+ hours from New York City.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

- Please state clearly in your graduate student application essay and a cover letter that you wish to be considered for the masters track in Service-Learning and Engagement within the Higher Education program.
- Be sure to list relevant service-learning and engagement or community-based experience in your resume and to ask one of your faculty or administrators writing a letter of recommendation to speak to your experience in this area.
- Applicants for the program may be interviewed by phone, and invited to an orientation if accepted, wherein they will interview for assistantships (if not otherwise employed).

**UMass Amherst
Masters Program Track in
Service Learning and Engagement**

**More About
Our Program Faculty**

Track Coordinator:

KerryAnn O'Meara's research focuses on faculty reward systems for service learning and engagement. Before coming to UMass, KerryAnn was awarded the Howard R. Swearer award for leadership in service learning, coordinated CSL for Otterbein College, the Maryland Governor's Commission on Service, and the College Park Scholars program, University of Maryland. KerryAnn will advise track students, co-teach the Intro to Engagement course with Alan Bloomgarden, co-teach the Academic Profession course with MaryDeane Sorcinelli, and teach History of American Higher Education.

Other Program Faculty:

Benita J. Barnes has examined how graduate students might be better prepared for their service roles as faculty. She teaches College Student Development Theory and the Integrative Seminar.

Joseph B. Berger has studied the impact of college on students, including the impact of community service involvement on student self-concept, and teaches Leadership in Higher Education.

Gary Malaney is interested in how global economic and political issues impact the student affairs mission of educating undergraduates for civic engagement. He teaches the masters Proseminar II class and is developing a course on student activism.

Shederick McClendon has studied the impact of college on students, and is interested in how student racial identity development influences their civic engagement. He teaches College Impact and Race, Class and Gender.

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