



PRESS RELEASE

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**UMass Dartmouth examining feasibility
of on-campus 55-plus housing**

UMass Dartmouth is working with Campus Continuum, a firm that is developing a network of university -affiliated 55+ active adult communities, to determine whether such a facility would be appropriate and feasible for the campus.

The College is collaborating with Campus Continuum to conduct a feasibility study for the project. “We are inviting our alumni and other members of the community to learn more about the concept and let us know what types of physical and service amenities they would prefer,” said Mary Ellen Defrias, senior outreach coordinator for the university.

An online survey designed to gauge interest in the concept is available at www.campuscontinuum.com/umassd.

“We believe UMass Dartmouth can attract a diverse set of baby boomers to live on campus. Their skills and experience will enrich the academic community,” said Gerard Badler, Managing Director of Campus Continuum, the Newton-based developer which brought the concept to university administrators. Residents could gain access to the programs and facilities of the university, as well as seminars and other programs they organize themselves.

“We are trying to gauge interest and determine whether the concept is a sound public policy,” said Associate Chancellor Laverne Cawthorne. “It will require many conversations with local, regional and statewide officials to fashion a wise course of action that financially and programmatically benefits the university and the region.”

Founded in 1895, UMass Dartmouth is part of the five-campus public University of Massachusetts system. About one-half of the 8,300 students live on campus. The University comprises five colleges—the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Engineering, the Charlton College of Business, the College of Nursing, and the College of Visual & Performing Arts—as well as the School for Marine Sciences and Technology.



Located in southeastern Massachusetts (one hour from Boston, 30 minutes from Providence), the main campus was designed by eminent architect Paul Rudolph and is situated on 710 wooded acres. The University also has satellite campuses in nearby Fall River and New Bedford. For more information see www.umassd.edu.