

ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION



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## **UMass Amherst Alumni Association Says Many Alumni Are Ready For A Career Transition**

June 8, 2008 - Amherst, MA: The U.S. Dept. of Labor has reported that people now change careers 5-7 times in a lifetime. A recent survey of UMass Amherst Alumni Association members supports this statistic; over half the respondents are interested in a career change. In fact, 35% of alumni respondents state they are considering a new profession, and 23% say they are interested in starting their own business.

What's going on? A lot of people change careers because they dislike their job, their boss, their company. But there are other reasons, too. Perhaps they've just lost interest, or have found something that interests them more. Perhaps their company is downsizing. There are numerous reasons people find themselves looking back on their career; feeling that things are crumbling beneath them. However, many UMass Amherst alumni are using personal networking to move their careers forward.

Through the Alumni Association's Alumni Career Services, members attend "networking events" that feature prestigious alumni who have made that transition, such as alumnus Mike Tannenbaum '91, General Manager of the NY Jets. And they learn how to network effectively. For some people that comes naturally – but for those for whom it does not, the programs offered present a unique venue where alumni can meet other professionals – that are also UMass Amherst alumni – and who are there to make contacts as well. Some people come to teach about career transitions, others come to recruit fellow alumni for their company, and some come to meet a helping hand for that career transition to a new job at a new company with a new title.

Of course, you can attend the events if you're not a UMass Amherst alumni. But the goal of the Alumni Association is to keep up with those alumni on the move – and help them make their career transition. "We strive to have a lifelong interactive relationship with our alumni", said (acting) Executive Director Deb Masloski. "This is one way we can play an integral part in their career and professional development, long after they've graduated".

The Amherst Alumni Association is a vibrant organization that promotes the interests of the university and its 214,000 alumni throughout the world. The Alumni Association's mission is to foster a connection between alumni and the campus through programs and services that enlighten, strengthen, and develop alumni loyalty and interests. More information is available at [UMassAlumni.com](http://UMassAlumni.com).

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