



Morning Muses

Early-bird parents catch campus art and culture while waiting for offspring to rise and shine

Twenty-seven years ago, we were UMass Amherst freshman living in Greenough Hall. Back then, we were the ones experiencing this exciting campus by staying up all night and sleeping until noon on weekends. Now, as parents visiting our sons, we have become creative with how we spend our morning hours while waiting for them to get out of bed. We've learned you don't need to leave campus in order to enjoy time in Amherst.

In our roles as charter members of the newly formed UMass Amherst Parent and Family Council, we helped plan and staff a scavenger hunt during Family Weekend last spring; many parents told us it was a fun way to fill those morning hours sans student! You don't need a scavenger hunt to take a tour of campus. For starters, you might plan your visit around a sporting event or Fine Arts Center performance. Find a calendar of events in this issue and online at umass.edu. Little did we know (or appreciate) as students that art galleries exist in every residential area on campus with exhibits on display at all times. Find out more about these at umass.edu/fac/. Every day on campus there are new buildings to see (such as the new Studio Arts Building and state-of-the-art nursing training facilities in renovated Skinner Hall, both newly opened this fall), notable trees and gardens to find among the campus's Waugh Arboretum holdings (download a map at umassmag.com/treemap/), and first-class food in the dining commons (parents eat for free on their child's plan).

Returning to campus as parents after all of these years has given us a new perspective on college life. Wouldn't it be fun to do it all again now? From undergrads to Parent Council members, we have shared many wonderful times at UMass Amherst and hope that you and your family will too.

—Rosemary Scully Johnson '81
and Kathleen McEwen Morel '81



Then & Now: Rosemary Scully Johnson, right, and Kathleen McEwen Morel, left, graduated from UMass Amherst in 1981. The friends return regularly to campus to visit their sons (Ryan Johnson '11 and Timothy Morel '09) and as Parent and Family Council members.