

To: UMass Chan Medical School Community
From: David D. McManus, MD'02, ScM'12, MBA, Chancellor, UMass Chan Medical School
Subject: Message from Chancellor David D. McManus
Date: June 29, 2026

Colleagues,

As a proud UMass Chan Medical School alumnus and faculty member, I am honored and humbled to serve as the [next chancellor of UMass Chan Medical School](#). It is a tremendous privilege to lead Massachusetts' first and only public medical school, and to build on the legacy of the students, alumni, faculty and staff who have made UMass Chan a world-class academic health sciences center. I would like to take a moment to thank former Chancellor Michael F. Collins for his remarkable 19 years of service. Please join me in wishing him all the best as he begins a new chapter in his career.

UMass Chan has played an integral role in my life, personally and professionally. Not only did UMass Chan enable me to pursue my dreams of becoming a physician and scientist, but it is also where I met my wife, Diana McManus, in the T.H. Chan School of Medicine Class of 2002. Diana and I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the many mentors and educators here who inspired and empowered us. Much of our success is a testament to the fact that others at UMass Chan have always been here to lift us up. I am committed with every fiber of my being to doing the same as chancellor.

As I assume this important role, I'm reminded of a set of principles that my parents imparted to me: integrity, accountability and humility. I will keep these principles close as I work with you as your chancellor.

Transparency is essential and I am establishing a communications system that ensures that this community stays informed. I have hit the ground running and have already met with more than 200 faculty members and staff. Over the next six months, I plan to continue meeting with members of our community and listening to them so that I can refine our priorities. In addition to town halls, I am excited to meet with the faculty council this fall and welcome other opportunities to connect.

Starting tomorrow, I will be sending a weekly communication keeping you abreast of what is happening on campus. Additionally, I have established a new email, Feedback@umassmed.edu, so that you can easily send me your thoughts, ideas and suggestions. While I may not be able to respond to every message, know that our leadership team wants your engagement and will read and use your feedback.

I am focused on the finances of our academic departments and programs, our business lines, and our administrative core. In an era in which academic medicine and science are facing serious pressures and uncertainties, we must ensure that UMass Chan remains resilient, adaptable and positioned for long-term success. That means enhancing

operations, diversifying revenue sources and supporting a vibrant ecosystem in which our faculty, staff and learners can do their best work.

Lastly, I have been meeting with a transition team for several weeks, and we are well underway in forming a new UMass Chan executive leadership group. There are some key vacancies that we are recruiting for, and I will keep you updated as our leadership team takes shape. We will build on some of the great processes already in place, introduce some new ideas and innovations, and begin laying the foundation for a new strategic plan. I would like to close by saying thank you. Thank you for demonstrating incredible resolve during a challenging time and for sustaining a collaborative, inclusive and supportive community. Finally, thank you for welcoming me as your chancellor.