

From: Jennifer Page <bekind291@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 8:45 AM
To: Griesemer, Lynn <GriesemerL@amherstma.gov>
Cc: Dumont, Darcy A. <DumontD@amherstma.gov>
Subject: Support statement on behalf of UMass workers

Dear Lynn,

On behalf of UMass Amherst Unions United, a coalition of faculty, staff, student, and post-grad employee unions, I am asking the Amherst Town Council to support/endorse the letter attached. This matter is time-sensitive, as the UMass administration is pressuring the staff unions to accept an unreasonable and damaging proposal. If it could get on the agenda for next week's Town Council meeting, that would be greatly appreciated! Councilor Dumont is on board to sponsor the request.

I would be happy to attend the meeting to speak to the statement, and could rally other Amherst residents as well.

Jennifer Page, Amherst
Secretary, UMass Amherst Professional Staff Union (PSU)

Dear Chancellor Subbaswamy,

UMass Amherst is a vital part of our community. As we hear that the campus administration is considering massive layoffs and furloughs, we are very concerned. Such actions would hurt local businesses, negatively impact our towns, and have negative ripple effects across the entire region.

We understand that workers on campus are attempting to negotiate voluntary cost-saving measures to minimize the need for staff cuts. We ask that you cooperate in this effort, supply them with all relevant financial data, and bargain in good faith.

We depend on you, and urge you to consider the needs of the community in this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Lynn Griesemer, Amherst Town Council president, on behalf of the Amherst Town Council

We have received a letter from a coalition of unions at UMass Amherst asking for a letter of support. (see attached.) Darcy has already been in touch with the group asking for the letter and has volunteered to be a sponsor of the letter. As President I view this as similar to a resolution and feel it should be referred to GOL (usually done automatically). However, because it is written as a letter, and our ROPs does not speak to that form of request, I am adding it to the agenda and asking for a motion to refer it to GOL.

Meantime, I will do the following:

- Ask Paul to determine if this puts the Council or the Town in any legal jeopardy.
- Ask that all Councilors with a connection to UMass be prepared to make sure they have filed their non-disclosures and are prepared to state that
- Communicate with the with the person making the request that if they wish to make public comment it will be during Public Comment and be limited to 3 minutes.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Lynn