

Gregory S Thomas

University of Massachusetts Amherst
The Berthiaume Center for Entrepreneurship
140 Hicks Way
Amherst, MA 01003

Last Updated: June 2026
Email: thomasgs68@gmail.com
Phone: (413)-230-4510
<https://www.isenberg.umass.edu/people/gregory-thomas>

Academic and Executive Positions

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA, USA

Executive Director: Berthiaume Center for Entrepreneurship, October 2018 - Present.

Isenberg School of Management, UMass Amherst: Lecturer, January 2019 - Present.

National Science Foundation, USA

I-Corps Site Faculty at UMass Amherst & Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), January 2019 - Present.

I-Corps Industry Mentor (National) (FogKicker), 2016.

Greenfield Savings Bank, Greenfield, MA, USA

Trustee, June 2022 - Present (Nominating, Governance & Bylaws, and Assets & Liabilities Committee - ALCO)

Corporator, March 2022 - Present

Chairperson, Asset & Liabilities Committee - ALCO December 2024 - Present

Unlocking Potential, Alexandria, VA, USA

Strategic Advisor / Leadership Coach, September 2019 - 2021

Harold Grinspoon Foundation: Entrepreneurship Initiative, Agawam, MA, USA

Faculty Advisor, August 2019 - 2022

Education

Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA, USA

Master of Business Administration, Finance & Decision Science, 1993

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA, USA

Bachelor's Degree with Individual Concentration, Computers and Education, preferred 1991

Certificates & Programs

Harvard University Executive Education, Massachusetts Hall, Cambridge, MA, USA

Technology Entrepreneurship: Lab to Market, 2020

Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies, 2020

Financials & Leadership, 2020.

Center For Creative Leadership, Greensboro, NC, USA

Leadership Development Program, 2006

University of Phoenix, Thunderbird School of Global Management, Phoenix, AZ, USA

Certificate, Global Finance, 2001

Babson College, Wellesley, MA, USA

Price-Babson Symposium (SEE) on Entrepreneurship Educators #44

University of Tampa, Sykes College of Business, Lowth Entrepreneurship Center, Tampa, FL, USA

The Experiential Classroom XX: Becoming a Great Entrepreneurship Educator, 2019

Entrepreneurial Mindset, Global

Certified Entrepreneurship Mindset Practitioner

Teaching Experience

Isenberg School of Management, University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA, USA

Jan 2019- Present

Management 344 Corporate Entrepreneurship

Management 341 New Ventures

BDIC 391T Design Thinking

Management 344 New Ventures Next Steps Independent Study

UNIV 120 Introduction to Innovation & Entrepreneurship

I-Corp Site Faculty University of Massachusetts Amherst & Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jan 2019- Present

SPARK

Nationals

Springfield Technical Community College Summer High School Class

July 2021

Entrepreneurship for Smart Kids

Professional Experience

Corning Incorporated, Corning, NY, USA

Emerging Innovations Group, Manufacturing Strategist, February 2011 - December 2018

Optical Fiber Division, Global Cable Manufacturing Strategy Manager, September 2008 - March 2011

Optical Fiber Division, Product Line Manager, Drop Cable, May 2007 - September 2008

Display Technologies Division, Manufacturing Strategy Manager, January 2004 - May 2007

Display Technologies Division, Manufacturing & Capital Controller, March 2001 - December 2004

Specialty Materials Division, Plant Controller, February 1998 - March 2001

Union Pacific Railroad, Omaha, NE, USA

Project Manager, 1994 - 1998

The Coca-Cola Company, Atlanta, GA, USA

Operations Analyst, 1992 - 1994

Service, Community, and Volunteer Roles

MassChallenge, Judge and Mentor: Equipping bold entrepreneurs to disrupt the status quo and create meaningful change. MassChallenge connects startups, experts, corporations, and communities to grow and transform businesses and economies. We do this work because entrepreneurship is a uniquely vigorous force in driving progress against humanity's most significant challenges, creating opportunities for individuals, and generating jobs for our economy. We work across sectors to drive a more substantial future through collaborative innovation and support all founders, whether they fit or break the traditional venture mold.

VentureWell, Application Evaluator: Envision a world in which science and technology innovators have the support, training, and access to networks and resources they need to solve the world's most complex problems. We foster collaboration among the best minds from research labs, classrooms, and beyond to advance innovation and entrepreneurship education, providing unique opportunities for STEM students and researchers to realize their potential and contribute to a more comprehensive improvement of the world.

Global Consortium for Entrepreneurship Centers, Advisory Board Member: Provide strategic input and direction for the GCEC to carry out the organization's mission to promote the sharing of best practices and information about university entrepreneurship programs and networking among its members.

The UMass Energy Transition Institute, founding steering committee member: Envision a US energy transition that confronts and repairs inequities and injustices in the energy system and contributes to economic inclusion, equality, and justice while achieving the rapid and effective decarbonization essential to protect human and environmental well-being. We envision a system of scholarship, debate, and public and private decision-making about energy that promotes justice and shared prosperity.

UMass Chancellor Appointed Economic Development Task Force: The task force's charge is to identify, quantify, and develop recommendations for a UMass Amherst economic development strategy that increases coordination with institutions, organizations, businesses, and municipalities and addresses opportunities for greater partnership and collaboration to promote a prosperous and thriving Pioneer Valley.

UMass Faculty Senate, Campus Physical Planning Council Member: Advises the administration on issues relating to the physical environment of all campuses and properties of UMass Amherst as they contribute to and affect the mission, goals, and quality of academic life at the University.

UMass Faculty Senate, Academic Programs and Budget Council Member: Reviews all proposals for new academic programs and provides advice to the Administration on matters of academic planning and priority, as well as relating to the growth, stabilization, reduction, merger, or closure of academic programs.

Community Music School of Springfield, Board of Directors and Treasurer: Community Music School of Springfield, founded in 1983, is a non-profit community arts school in Western Massachusetts. Our mission is to provide an equitable and inclusive center of excellence in music education, arts learning, and cultural engagement that empowers individuals, inspires creative passion, and promotes well-being in our community. We serve more than 2,000 students weekly at our 127 State Street location and in our community partnership programs.

Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, Trustee, Chair Philanthropic Service Committee, and Executive Committee Member: Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire counties are driven by local generosity. When you give to us, you know your gift will be invested, stewarded, and shared with people in need. As a director, committee chair, and member of the executive committee, I serve to ensure the foundation lives its mission, vision, and values.

UMass Chancellor Appointed Strategic Planning Group, Translation and Knowledge Transfer Team

Member: The Strategic Planning Group, tasked with developing a Campus Strategic Plan - *Imagining 2034*, was comprised of 6 teams focused on specific projects. The charge for the Translation and Knowledge Transfer (TRAKT) Team was to improve the transfer of research from UMass Amherst to the world. This initiative strives to discover the best paths for faculty and students to share their work and advance the on-campus, local, and global research communities.

The Kappa Foundation, Director: The foundation identifies and invests in opportunities that engage today's generation of young people in leading the social, economic, and educational transformation of underserved and underrepresented communities throughout the nation and the global community. The foundation is built upon the fundamental premise that a world that celebrates individual achievement and vital communities of color can only be realized when humankind makes an unwavering commitment to promoting equality and ending poverty.

Other Boards and Organizations Past and Present

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated, Northern Province, Province Polemarch

United Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliated, Grand Inspectors General 33rd degree, Utica Consistory #45

Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine, NOBLE, Aleppo Temple #88

Master Mason, Past Master, Prince Hall Affiliate, Mt. Nebo Lodge #82

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity Incorporated (The Boulé) - Beta Sigma Boulé, Sire Archon Elect (Past Treasurer)

Greater Northampton Chamber Council, Board of Directors, Finance Committee Member

Valley Venture Mentors, Board of Directors

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Leadership Pioneer Valley, Board of Directors

FORGE, Massachusetts Advisory Council

Lever, Advisor

Corning Children's Center, Board of Directors, Treasurer, President

United Way of the Southern Tier, Board of Directors, Finance Committee

Chemung Valley Montessori School, Board of Trustees, Treasurer, Vice President

Ada Jenkins Center, Board of Directors, Chair Strategic Planning, Board Chairperson