



## Office of the Chancellor

To: Brandman University Students

From: Chancellor Gary Brahm

Re: Update on the Strategic Partnership with the University of Massachusetts

I hope the new Fall Trimester is going well and that you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy. Our strategic partnership with the University of Massachusetts is making tremendous progress, and I want to update you on a major new development.

You may recall, in June of this year, Chapman University joined the University of Massachusetts in [announcing](#) a strategic partnership between Brandman and UMass. Since June, we have been busy refining our plans to achieve our collective goals. I am thrilled to [share](#) that, upon receiving regulatory approval, Brandman University will change its name to UMass Global. We are optimistic that we will have the necessary permissions to do so by the end of the year.

Since its founding in 1863, UMass has built a reputation as a premier university. UMass is known throughout the world for its quality and innovation in higher education. Brandman is a recognized leader in helping adults and displaced workers complete college. As UMass Global, we can provide a powerful offering at a critical moment.

When our name change is approved, we will remain the institution you know and love with the same leadership, faculty, and staff. Our care and concern for your welfare would not change. We would continue to do everything in our power to help those of you who are managing such responsibilities as work, caring for children or parents, and military service.

As UMass Global, we will offer the same academic programs with the same great faculty. You will also continue to receive seamless assistance from your Academic Advisors, One Stops, and other university providers of student support services. Although we have been affiliated with the Chapman University System for the past ten years, once approved, we would shift our affiliation to UMass, who will elect our Board of Regents.

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As we move forward, I can assure the continuity of our mission and academic programs. As UMass Global, Brandman's operation would continue according to existing employee processes, policies, and procedures. Our university's shared governance processes, including curriculum and faculty development, would proceed as usual. Brandman's campuses, on-base sites, and offices throughout California, Oregon, and Washington would stay in place. Our relationships with military bases, community colleges, school districts, nonprofits, and U.S. businesses would surely be enhanced. We will remain dedicated to providing exemplary student support in serving current and newly enrolled students. Most importantly, we do not anticipate any changes to our faculty and staff. They are the ones who have made Brandman so special.

Around the end of the year, after we have received approval for changing our name from Brandman University to UMass Global, future graduates may request either a UMass Global or Brandman University diploma. All Brandman alumni would also be provided the opportunity to request a new UMass Global diploma. In preparation, we are developing a process for managing any such requests. We will provide further details when UMass Global is official.

This is an exciting time for Brandman University. A Brandman degree is already a signifier of a motivated and highly skilled individual. By renaming ourselves UMass Global, we would elevate our profile and be in an even stronger position to help our students and alumni flourish.

I hope you are as pleased as I am about our pending name change to UMass Global. Anticipating that you may have questions, we have prepared an FAQ that you can read [here](#). This FAQ should be considered a planning document until UMass Global is fully approved. I have also recorded a special message to Brandman students that can be viewed [here](#). Please note, our secure technology will prompt you to enter your Brandman student credentials to view the FAQ and my video message.