



UMass Hillel Brief History

Jewish life at UMass has grown and transformed over the decades, as UMass itself has. We have a rich history at UMass - from the “Menorah Club” in the 1930s which became associated with Hillel in 1942, to the days of Rabbi Perlmutter’s office in the campus center, to incorporation into a 501©3 and transformation of a notorious frat house into the Harold Grinspoon Hillel House in 1990, to our multi-faceted vibrant Jewish community of today. UMass Hillel now engages over 1200 students annually, hosts 11 Jewish student groups, and supports a diverse range of student opportunities ranging from cultural to educational, religious, social and social justice related.



Professor Max Goldberg, 1928 Grad,
Advisor to Jewish students in the 1930's



Students at the
"JewMass" Bar Mitzvah Themed Party, 2019

For nearly 80 years, Hillel at UMass has empowered students to explore and express their roots, supported them with caring community, and contributed value to the campus at large with award winning programming. Students face unique challenges in each generation, and with the help of our stakeholders, we will ensure Hillel is there to help students thrive over the *next 80 years*.