

WASHINGTON, D.C. , Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has approved a bill that provides \$4 million for the University of Massachusetts (UMass).

The bill includes \$2.5 million for The Center for Advanced Sensor and Communication Antennas, a partnership between UMass Lowell and the U.S. Army Research Office-Durham.

"UMass continues to be a leader in innovative research that produces enormous benefits for Massachusetts and the nation," Olver said.

Olver secured the funding in the FY07 Defense Appropriations bill, which the House approved on June 20. The Senate must still approve its appropriations bill and then both chambers will have to approve a reconciliation bill.

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The Center for Advanced Sensor and Communication Antennas is a partnership between the UMass Lowell and the U.S. Army Research Office-Durham.

The demand for instant access to information and communication anywhere, anytime has become an important part of our lives. The center develops advanced antenna technology for national defense, homeland security, wireless communications, and other applications.

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Scientists at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst have discovered and cultivated novel microorganisms that can generate energy from light. UMass scientists want to build off this previous research to study the possibility of engineering "microbial fuel cells" that can generate energy from light.

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For more information about this project, contact Derek Lovley UMass Department of Microbiology, at 413-552-3100. ###

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