#### 2024-2025

# Unit Annual Report Division of Academic Affairs

| Unit: | Crocker | Center |  |  |
|-------|---------|--------|--|--|
|       |         |        |  |  |

Please submit by June 1st to the AVP for Institutional Research & Planning

## I Mission and Goal/Outcomes Statement:

The overall mission for the Crocker Center is to heighten social capital and community cohesion by enriching the lives of neighborhood residents, local entrepreneurs, university students, and greater Fitchburg through evidence-based high-impact educational practices and community and economic development.

The goals for the Crocker Center are as follows:

## **Community Investments**

Affirm, enhance, and maintain a partnership and collaboration between the University and its surrounding neighborhood residents, business owners, faith-based leaders, other community organizations and leaders, public officials, students and educators, for the greater purpose of community and economic development and neighborhood revitalization.

## **University Investments**

Increase student learning and success by engaging students in high-impact educational practices and learning opportunities through community-based <u>internships</u>, research, and civic learning projects.

#### II Personnel:

List all staff and note all personnel changes that occurred during 24-25

Name: Position:

Renee Scapparone, DBA Faculty Coordinator

Grace Soultanian Administrative Assistant II, Student Success (PT for CC)

## III Facilities/Equipment:

List any new facilities/equipment/software etc. acquired during 24-25

None were acquired during 24-25

#### IV Budget Expenditure Analysis:

Was the budget expended as planned? Were additions/changes made, and if so, explain.

During AY 24/25 the budget was expended as planned (as described as follows): *Note: no additions or changes were made to the planned budget.* 

March 27, 2025 – Held informational Meet & Greet with faculty and community partners at Fitchburg Art Museum (30 attendees). Food and beverages served. TOTAL COSTS: \$420.44

March 30 – Apr 2, 2025 - Attended Compact25 – Civic Engagement conference to gain insight to working with faculty, students and community partners on working together on civic engagement projects. Also, was able to network with other Compact partners and began planning a regional/statewide conference to be led by Dr. John Reiff, DHE, on October 17, 2025 at FSU.

TOTAL COSTS: \$2,420.22

September 2024 – Granted Petri Flint a mini grant for expenses incurred by the collaborate efforts with the Fitchburg Arts Festival committee.

TOTAL COSTS: \$1,000

May 2025 – Granted Dr. Denise Simion a mini grant for faculty stipend for her work with the Fitchburg Arts Council; assisting with their survey, data collection and analytics during the AY24/25.

TOTAL COSTS: \$1,000.00

#### V Programs/Activities:

List major campus activities, events etc. that the office participated in/supported; committees served; community outreach; etc. List events provided to current and prospective students. Also, provide professional development of all staff.

**September 2024 – May 2025** - Held monthly meetings for Fitchburg Arts Council (FAC) to assist with their survey collection and data analysis. Note: Dr. Denise along with her students in her data analytical course(s) are analyzing the survey results and communicate this back to FAC.

**February 2025** - Along with John Reiff, Massachusetts DHE Director of Civic Learning and Engagement held a roundtable discussion about ways that our university is working toward the goal of involving every undergraduate in civic learning, and to brainstorm together about possibilities that would make civic learning broader and deeper for our students.

March 2025 – Held Meet & Greet with Community Partners and Faculty (30 attendees) at Fitchburg Art Museum

March 2025 – Assisted Dr. Daniel Welsh in conducting a feasibility study and the execution of a survey to the outside community. As a Presidential Ambassador, Dr. Welsh, is researching the need for co-working space by individuals (business owners) or remote workers in the local [Fitchburg] area.

## VI Action Plan for 2024-25:

(Insert your 23-24 Action Plan from last year's report)

Note: There was no action plan carried forward from 23-24

## VII Assessment Report for 2023-24

Were the Action Plan objectives met? **Provide in list or table format that parallels item VI above**.

N/A

## VIII Other Accomplishments:

List accomplishments not already captured above.

## IX Action Plan 2025-2026:

|   | Associated          |                   |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| Planned Initiatives for 2025-26             | Strategic Plan Goal | Indicate if a DEI |
| Add more rows as needed                     | & Strategy          | initiative        |
|   | Goal # followed by  |                   |
|   | Strategy # ex: 3.2  |                   |
|   | Or NECHE            |                   |
|   | Projection          |                   |
| Establish regular meetings with the Crocker |                     |                   |
| Center Advisory Board to expand             |                     |                   |
| opportunities for academic civic            |                     |                   |
| engagement                                  |                     |                   |
| Meet & Greet w/ faculty & students &        |                     |                   |
| community partners to increase              |                     |                   |
| participation and activities                |                     |                   |

| Host regional/statewide Civic Engagement   |                   |  |
|--|-------------------|--|
| Conference w/DHE to assist in the planning |                   |  |
| and execution of the conference on         |                   |  |
| October 17, 2025 (anticipate over 200      |                   |  |
| attendees)                                 |                   |  |
| Work with the Crocker Center Advisory      | Strategic Plan:   |  |
| Board to increase internships with         | Goal 3 Strategy 4 |  |
| community partners across all disciplines  | &5                |  |
| Work with the Crocker Center Advisory      | Strategic Plan:   |  |
| Board to increase the number of students'  | Goal 3            |  |
| engagement projects                        | Strategy 4 & 5    |  |
| Work with Academic Centers on campus       |                   |  |
| (CFS, CTL, Gen Ed) in collaboration for    |                   |  |
| professional development opportunities     |                   |  |

Updates to the Action Plan may be submitted via a revised Annual Report.

# X Reflection:

Work on increasing attendance to the Meet & Greet events

Work on getting more faculty to apply for mini-grants

Increase internship opportunities with community partners