



124TH ANNUAL
COMMENCEMENT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

School of Arts and Sciences

VIRTUAL SPRING CEREMONY

Celebrating our May 2020 Graduates



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to Fitchburg State University and the 124th annual spring commencement ceremony of the Class of 2020. This year due to the global pandemic and for safety reasons, we are celebrating student accomplishments virtually along with friends and family wherever they may be. The ceremony is delayed from the spring, because we held out hope that an in-person event eventually would be possible. Even though the event is now virtual, I know the hard work and sacrifices made to get to this day were very real. This is your day to shine!

As graduates you embody our university motto, *perseverantia*—perseverance. Commencement may signal a temporary end of your academic career, as you begin new chapters and meet new life challenges, but today I encourage you to take a moment and savor not only your accomplishment, but also the memories of all your time at Fitchburg State.

The graduates have not reached this milestone on their own. Let us also recognize the spouses, parents, family members, friends and loved ones who have provided the support and encouragement that made the graduates' success possible. If you are one of these participants today, I hope these exceptional students are inspiring a great deal of joy and family pride.

Graduates, your diploma represents your completion of a course of study, as well as a commitment to pursuing life and career goals. Your story is just beginning and we are honored that Fitchburg State provided you the path to this achievement.

In the years to come, I hope you will remain actively engaged with the university and help to shape the direction for future generations to come. As alumni, you are now part of our extended family worldwide. In times of crisis and times of triumph, we will find a way to be together, to be stronger despite any physical distances. Fitchburg State will always be your home.

Richard S. Lapidus
President

124TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

Virtual Spring Ceremony

Fitchburg State University Chamber Choir

“America the Beautiful”

This song was composed by the Canadian-American Black composer
R. Nathaniel Dett in 1918, during the midst of another pandemic.

Words by Katherine Lee Bates (1893); Conducted by Dr. Jonathan Harvey

Welcome to Convene the Ceremony

Dr. Alberto J.F. Cardelle

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Commencement Remarks

Dr. Richard S. Lapidus

Undergraduate Valedictorian

Mr. Stanley L. Choruzek, B.S. in Computer Science

Graduate Student Leadership Award

Mr. Paul A. Thibodeau, M.S. in Counseling

Dr. Robert V. and Jeanne S. Antonucci

Student Leadership Award

Ms. Victoria L. Weisenhorn, B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies

Congratulations and Well Wishes

Students, faculty, staff and alumni

Congratulations from the Board of Trustees

Ms. C. Deborah Phillips, Chair

Message from the Deans

Dr. Franca Barricelli

Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Becky Copper-Glenz

Dean of the School of Graduate, Online and Continuing Education

Congratulations and Well Wishes

Department and Program Chairs

Acknowledgement of Degree Recipients

Congratulations and Welcome to the Alumni Family

Mr. James Walsh, Class of 1975

124TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

Virtual Spring Ceremony

Fitchburg State University Board of Trustees as of May 2020

Mr. Donald R. Irving, Chairman
Ms. C. Deborah Phillips, Vice Chairman
Ms. Lynn M. Barrieau, Clerk
Ms. Crystal N. Aneke, Student Trustee
Ms. Anna Maria Clementi
Ms. Delfi L. Nieto
Mr. Frank M. O'Donnell
Ms. Carolyn E. Crowley Stimpson
Ms. Martha Nicholson
Mr. David C. Tiernan

2020 Honors Theses / Performances

Alyssa Ann Anderson, *Tax Cuts for the Rich: An Analysis of Trickle Down Economics*
Sean P. Carney, *Inclusive Pedagogy*
Olivia Rose Dolitka, *The Over and Under-Identification of ELL Students in Special Education*
Heather Amy Ferguson, *The Importance of Representation of Diversity in Secondary English Classrooms*
John Weston Gifford, Jr., *Audio Identities*
Aidan B. King, *Writing A Pilot Script*
Jonathan Gregory Medlin, *Playing by Ear*
Abigail Kathryn Robinson, *Justice and Fairness Through the Lens of Jury Selection*
Rachel Louise Sazonick, *Make Accounting Ethics Great (Again?)*
Kelly P. Wilhide, *Preventing Sudden Cardiac Death in Athletes*

GRADUATE DEGREES

Master of Arts

ENGLISH

Maura Bridget Bailey
LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Francesca Joelle Lewis
DUNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Jennifer A. Panarelli
BOLTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Master of Arts in Teaching

ENGLISH

Sarah Ashley Allard
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Cassandra Carol Cook
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Anastacia Rose Lowe
PEPPERELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Master of Education

ARTS EDUCATION

Natasha Marie Blouin
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Master of Science

APPLIED COMMUNICATION

Fagan Rose Forhan
LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kara Foley Goodier
SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Silvana Valenca e Silva
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

COUNSELING

Savannah Danielle Alansky
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Lindsay Olivia Albert
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Allison Berkeley Brann
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Michael Luke Brennan
NORTH GRAFTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Karli Buel
AUBURN, MASSACHUSETTS

Christina Marie Bullard
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jillian Lee Ehnstrom
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jessica Elliott
WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Jamie P. Goodgion
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Noelle Laurette Grudziecki
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jeanette Anita Hall
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Ariana M. LeBlanc
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Naly Meng
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Celeste April Price-Reyes
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Courtney Elise Roberts
SUTTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Sarah J. Tate
HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS

Paul Andrew Thibodeau
ROYALSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Abigail Mieke Vargus
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Alexis Nicole Rodriguez
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Claritza L. Taylor
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

Bachelor of Arts

ENGLISH STUDIES

Sean P. Carney ♦♦♦
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Heather Amy Ferguson ♦♦♦
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Zariyah Naomi Greene
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Olivia Jean Koravos ***
DRACUT, MASSACHUSETTS

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Amanda J. Loebelenz **
ESSEX, MASSACHUSETTS

Victoria Louise Weisenhorn ***
MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Bachelor of Science

COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA

** Thomas C. Alden
WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Christopher Joseph Astuti
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Shannon Lee Creedon Axtell
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

** Cameron David Barrington
FEEDING HILLS, MASSACHUSETTS

** Tyler John Barrington
FEEDING HILLS, MASSACHUSETTS

John Francis Xavier Bernard *
DANVERS, MASSACHUSETTS

Lauren E. Blair *
STODDARD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Emily L. Bodkin **
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Taylor Morgan Bourgeois **
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kathryn M. Bromley **
ABINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Tara P. Burke
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Benjamin Adam Butkus
ASHLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Meaghan L. Campbell *
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Romaine Delmar-Gary Campbell
SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Yuri Ivanildo Lopes Carvalho
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Emily Ann Celona ***
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Jacob Robert Champagne **
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND

Cameron Robert Chausse *
DRACUT, MASSACHUSETTS

*** Summa cum laude—3.8 or higher

** Magna cum laude—3.5 or higher

* Cum laude—3.2 or higher

❖ Double major

♦ Commonwealth Scholar / Honors Program

Brian Chhom **
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Zachary W. Connell *
AYER, MASSACHUSETTS

David Gardner DeLise *
BOXBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Ava Rae Desautels
BOYLSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Kathleen Michelle Duncan *
FOXBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Brodie Gregory Earle *
BALDWINVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Zoë Elizabeth Eisenhaure ***
SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

Connor V. Finn
CANTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Eduardo A. Freitas **
MILLBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

John Charles Gallant *
CHEZZETCOOK, CANADA

Benny Alexis Garcia
KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA

Emmanuel R. Gardner **
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

John Weston Gifford Jr. ♦ **
MAYNARD, MASSACHUSETTS

Earl James Gillis
WINTHROP, MASSACHUSETTS

Kristin A. Goodwin
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Olivia Hope Grant *
PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Kaitlyn A. Gregoire *
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Walton A. Hall *
KINGSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Ethan K. Ham **
WENHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Daniel A. Harris **
WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

John R. Hayes **
METHUEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Martin Ernest Heffler Jr.
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Derek J. Holbrook *
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Riley Howland ***
STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

John Joseph Hughes III ***
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Kenzie Ash Jacobsen
WOBURN, MASSACHUSETTS

Kendrah Moesha Jean-Baptiste *
DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Kaleala Bernadette Kadish-Ferriter
NORTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Nathaniel Reed Kay
FRANKLIN, MASSACHUSETTS

Aidan B. King ♦ **
DOUGLAS, MASSACHUSETTS

Jarrold R. Kingsley **
CHARLTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Garrett A. Klausner **
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Samuel M. Kupperstein
LINCOLN, MASSACHUSETTS

Justin Alex Laflamme *
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Rebecca Lynn Landry **
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jaquelyn Mary Manyak
BOLTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Sonia Jessica Marks *
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Corey Jonathan McKearney **
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Camden D. McLaughlin
WEST CHESTERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Eric J. McMahon **
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Joshua E. Miller *
MELROSE, MASSACHUSETTS

Nathanael Richard Molnár **
GEORGETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Ryan Otis Moore
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Jaleem Efrain Alicea Morales *
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Shane Donald Muir **
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Nolan Finbarr Murphy
NORTH FALMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Andrew J. Nunes *
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Alex Stephen O'Neil
HOLDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Amanda Ruth Pierre
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Megan Claire Ptak **
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Mark Anthony Ramos
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kevin Stephen Reidy *
DANVERS, MASSACHUSETTS

Kathleen V. Ricard *
SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS

Zachary Francis Robbins *
THORNDIKE, MASSACHUSETTS

Dean Normand Roussel II **
STERLING, CONNECTICUT

Rachel Marie Rudsit *
NORTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew J. Servideo *
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

Douglas Ryan Sheehan **
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Kaitlin Marie Smith **
PAXTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Kelina Smith
PRINCETON, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew Darnell Smith *
PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS

Allison Rae St. Peter *
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Andrew Sullivan *
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Brooke Teves **
FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS

Emma Claire Thomson ***
YORK, MAINE

Sarah Grace Trudeau
RUTLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Kevin R. Ward *
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Michael Joseph Winn
BURLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Der Yang **
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Madison Ashley Yeomans **
REVERE, MASSACHUSETTS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Carter James Amadon
ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS

Cameron Austin Amaral *
MIDDLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Carolina Amaya *
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

Emmanuel Nk Asante
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Nadezhda L. Badenhausem *
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Tatiana Marie Maldonado Barreto
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

William D. Bento **
MEDFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Amanda Sierra Bergh
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Phillip Manuel Borges
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Connor J. Briggs *
EAST TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Michael J. Brito *
SAGAMORE BEACH, MASSACHUSETTS

Patrick M. Brophy
LISBON, CONNECTICUT

Nicholas John Bryant ***
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Moise Calypso II
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Ryan Anthony Carter *
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Charles David Clark **
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicholas James Coddington **
WINCHENDON, MASSACHUSETTS

*** Summa cum laude—3.8 or higher
 ** Magna cum laude—3.5 or higher
 * Cum laude—3.2 or higher
 ❖ Double major
 ♦ Commonwealth Scholar / Honors Program

Shannon Elizabeth Dawson ★
HUDSON, MASSACHUSETTS

Christopher C. Dickey ★★
SOUTH YARMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Colin William Fagan ★★
BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS

Neil J. Fairbrother ★
CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Joshua R. Folmer-LaFleur
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Luke A. Freehoff
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

John P. Gardiner
DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

Bevin J. Gatlin
SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Nicholas B. Girard ★★
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jarrold Mark Haas ★★
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Larry Fouche Janvier
MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Grant Hayden Jensen ★
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Alyssa Lynn King ★★
GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew Ryan Krikorian
GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Brielle Lynn Lepkowski ★
TEMPLETON, MASSACHUSETTS

Janaye Erin Linton ★
TYNGSBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Sean Timothy Malone ★
DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Gabriell Michael Marquez ★★
MONSON, MASSACHUSETTS

Desiree Marie Martin
SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew J. Maxim
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Allison Kaisa McCann ★★
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kelly Breanna McCusker-Brown ★
WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Michael Gordon McIntosh
HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS

Jolie Vilmeli Medrano
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Jacob Vincent Morin
RAYNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Darius J. Morkeski
METHUEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Cody M. Normandin
UXBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Kristi Marie Norton ★★
WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

David Michael Nuzzo ★
MADISON, CONNECTICUT

Sean Patrick O'Connor ★★
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Keegan Carney O'Donnell ★★
DANVERS, MASSACHUSETTS

Perry Ofori ★★★
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Emily Martha O'Neill ★
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Kristen Elizabeth Palmer
SUTTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew Robert Pingitore ★★
RUTLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Cameron John Pitts
TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

David R. Pratt Jr. ★
SOUTH HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

Abigail Kathryn Robinson ◆★★
WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Cesar Herrera Ruiz ★
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

Harriet Princess Saydee ★
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Gianna Josephine Slack
BALDWINVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Courtney A. Soares ★★
DARTMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Lauren Olivia-Lee Souza ★★★
FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jared Michael Taje ★★
TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Brendan Clinton Tarmey ★
STONEHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Josenny Tavarez
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Benjamin Davis Torrence
BRADFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Emma Paige Tosca
MONUMENT BEACH, MASSACHUSETTS

Steven Charles Tully ★
DUNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Daniel J. Valera
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Giana Rose Visconti
WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Cody Tyler Walter ★★
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

ECONOMICS

Kimberly Tatiana Ramirez
SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

ENGLISH STUDIES

Muriel Ann Baillie
NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

Autumn Marie Battista
BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS

Tenzin Dhakpa ★★★
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicholas R. Elliott ★★
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Savanah Michele Hippert ★★
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Courtney Allison Jensen ★★
❖ *BSE Middle School Education*
WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Alyssa Marie Mackinnon ★
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Zachary E. Martin ★★
ORANGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew Timothy McCann ★★
SOUTH GRAFTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Diandra Paige Moorhead ★
BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS

Alexa Concetta Nogueira ★★★
TOWNSEND, MASSACHUSETTS

Molly Theresa Potter ★★
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Sanya Thaiesha Sum ★
❖ *BSE Middle School Education*
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Michaela Elizabeth Vick ★
BURLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Alexandros Christos Voyiatzis ★★
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jake Michael Warnock ★
❖ *BSE Middle School Education*
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

GAME DESIGN

Luis Geovanny Calderon ★
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicholas R. Cazmay ★★★
MERRIMAC, MASSACHUSETTS

Quintin Jacob Connell
TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Colin M. Everton★
STOW, MASSACHUSETTS

Ryley Michael Forwood ★
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Maxim Frolov ★★
ABINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Domenic John-Anthony Garafano
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Michael L. Gauthier ★
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Korey C. Kinney ★★
SURRY, MAINE

Zachary David Lapidus
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Riley J. Legere ★★
❖ *Communications Media*
SANFORD, MAINE

Catherine E. Leprohon ★★
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Eli Maurice Lord
WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Daimee C.B. MacIsaac ★
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

★★★ Summa cum laude—3.8 or higher

★★ Magna cum laude—3.5 or higher

★ Cum laude—3.2 or higher

❖ Double major

◆ Commonwealth Scholar / Honors Program

Megan Elizabeth McLaughlin ***
BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS

Jonathan Gregory Medlin ♦***
RUTLAND, VERMONT

Daniel Joseph Melcher **
SOUTH ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Tiffany Lichelle Pedroza **
❖ *Communications Media*
ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS

Spencer Paul Roccapriore
GROVELAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Jacob William Sidilau **
ORANGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Benjamin J. Silverthorn
NUTTING LAKE, MASSACHUSETTS

Andrew Thomas Tricker
WAREHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Brendan Matthew Winston *
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Emily Brooks Wirth **
❖ *Computer Science*
PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND

HISTORY

Zachary Dana Berard
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Iain Thomas Graham Brouwer
NORTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Sadé Monique Comiska *
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Zachary Michael Gull
RUTLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Timothy R. Horton **
NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Emily Kadushin
NORTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Christi Elizabeth Pike ***
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicholas Scott Platt
MERRIMAC, MASSACHUSETTS

Mary Remillard ***
SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS

Christian James Ward **
HOLDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

HUMAN SERVICES

Nicole Joy Beatrice *
❖ *Interdisciplinary Studies*
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Lisa Michele Blais **
NEW IPSWICH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Bianca Alliyah Brunache
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Karilyn Marie Burgess *
GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Daniel Patrick Clifford ***
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Gynariss Gianne Colon-Morales *
SOUTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicole Jane Dancause **
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Erin E. Doolin **
NORFOLK, MASSACHUSETTS

Brittney Alexis Dube *
SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kerryn Shea Fitzpatrick **
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Emma Mae Foley **
SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Xiomara Yamileth Fuentes
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

Julia Katelyn Gouveia **
DUNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Zachary Paul Grautski
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jennifer A. Greenwich *
LEICESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Bryanna Nicholle Hache **
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Bridget Marie Harrington **
WINCHENDON, MASSACHUSETTS

Yahaira Herrarte **
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Amy Eileen Lamoureux ***
TOWNSEND, MASSACHUSETTS

Timothy Martin Landry *
TEMPLETON, MASSACHUSETTS

Emily K. LaPan **
SOUTH YARMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Mckenna Leigh Leonard **
NORTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Angelina Anita Marazzi *
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Anaida Ovalles
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

Catherine Marie Puskas
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Amanda R. Rieser **
BETHANY, CONNECTICUT

Eva Marie Robichaud-Serrano *
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Natasha M. Rodriguez
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Mary Shea
BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS

Sarah Ania Smialek
HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS

Marie Thierianne Vante
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Isabelle R. Warren
MARSHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Evelyn Estelle Zimmerman ***
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Marisa Alexandra Amato *
NORTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Tess Angelosanto
STONEHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Seth Ross Baigelman
PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS

Marckdonard Bastien
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicole Joy Beatrice *
❖ *Human Services*
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Daniel T. Bertini
WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Nolan J. Brassard
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Christopher Paul Buscanera
WINCHENDON, MASSACHUSETTS

Sarah Ann Chatigny *
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

Ashley Renee Cournoyer *
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Raniesha Denise Gay
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Erin Laura Gibbons
AMESBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Darien Rene Giovannella *
BLACKSTONE, MASSACHUSETTS

Michelle Elizabeth Hand *
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Kayla A. Hunderup
BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Leah Bridget Ingalls
METHUEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Kyle Charles Johnson
NORTH EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Jarrold M. Kattau
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kodey LaBombard
SHELburne FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS

McKenzie R. Lambert **
LONGMEADOW, MASSACHUSETTS

Riley Ann LaPierre
ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS

Rebecca L. LeBlanc **
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Lindsey Mae Luksha **
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicole M. Maille
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Brianna R. Marsh *
ORANGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Jamie Elizabeth McKenna ***
SHIRLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

Dana S. Meyer ***
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

John D. Nelson Jr. **
MARSHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

*** Summa cum laude—3.8 or higher

** Magna cum laude—3.5 or higher

* Cum laude—3.2 or higher

❖ Double major

♦ Commonwealth Scholar / Honors Program

J. Alexander Nikolaidis
LONDONDERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Kallie J. O’Flaherty
TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Katelyn Rose Robbins
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Glenn E. Rossi **
❖ *Middle School Education*
STERLING, MASSACHUSETTS

Alex F. Sampson **
MILLBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Civia Rebecca Schneider
ASHLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

James T. Schneider
SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS

Brittany Monica Sequeiros
DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

Bethany Mariah Silveroli
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Ryan Joseph Szum *
PEPPERELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Jannia D. Thomas *
WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Ashley Marie Tousignant
WINCHENDON, MASSACHUSETTS

William M. Travers *
METHUEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Gabrielle Trimberger **
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Cyrick Michael Watford
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Bridie Wolejko ***
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Reanna Tori Young ***
PEPPERELL, MASSACHUSETTS

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Matthew James Badagliacca ***
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Connor P. Boland
SOUTH HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK

Andrew W. Harrington *
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Theresa Marie Klobucher ***
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Joshua P. Mandaglio *
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kajahna C. Matos ***
LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

Sharie Ann Melendez **
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew Paul Murphy ***
MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Hannah Lee Pollan *
NORTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Luis X. Reveron
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kai J. Wilson ***
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

SOCIOLOGY

Cassidy Elaine Caouette ***
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Eyee Y. Darwulo
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kameron David Jimenez-Fox
NATICK, MASSACHUSETTS

Faith A. Latwis
NEW SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

Elton Lopesvaz
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Timothy Edward Sheridan **
RUTLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

*** Summa cum laude—3.8 or higher

** Magna cum laude—3.5 or higher

* Cum laude—3.2 or higher

❖ Double major

◆ Commonwealth Scholar / Honors Program



VALEDICTORIAN OF THE CLASS OF 2020

Stanley L. Choruzek

Stanley L. Choruzek is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who enlisted as soon as he was old enough in order to join the War on Terror. When an injury during training kept him from being deployed, he turned his attention to being a full-time father while earning a college degree. He began studying liberal

arts and appreciated the foundation of critical thinking it fostered.

The Worcester native graduated from Mount Wachusett Community College in 2017 and then attended Fitchburg State. In addition to his studies, he worked on campus for Information Technology. He also appreciated the diversity of students he met on campus, including fellow veterans.

Looking ahead, Choruzek sees parallels in the computer networks he helped support and the human networks that sustain all of us.

Choruzek hopes to transfer his new degree into a career in cybersecurity. His drive to serve and protect his fellow citizens has led him to the virtual front lines, where hackers try to interfere with social networks or elections.



GRADUATE STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Paul A. Thibodeau

Paul A. Thibodeau has faced many challenges in his life but still considers himself blessed. After years of drug and alcohol addiction, Thibodeau got sober 25 years ago and is committed to helping others overcome their own challenges.

After completing his undergraduate degree in human services from Fitchburg State in 2015, Thibodeau continued his studies at the graduate level in the hopes of building a career in counseling. Those plans were interrupted after a horrific car crash in 2017 that shattered his femur and left him with a traumatic brain injury.

Despite those challenges, Thibodeau considers himself lucky. He believes he has survived so that he can help others overcome their own adversities.

In nominating Thibodeau for the graduate award, faculty members saluted his resilience and his commitment to continuing his studies, despite the challenges created by the accident – including delaying his graduation by a full year.

Thibodeau now works as a counselor for the Montachusett Opportunity Council and looks forward to getting his own license to practice.



ROBERT V. & JEANNE S. ANTONUCCI STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Victoria L. Weisenhorn 2020 Recipient

This award recognizes outstanding leadership, strong academic performance and overall contributions to Fitchburg State University by one student.

PAST RECIPIENTS

2019	Hailey R. O'Brien
2018	Seferine A. Baez
2017	Jairo M. Hernandez
2016	Megan E. Pierce
2015	Nathan A. Gregoire
2014	Joseph Flanagan
2013	Matthew Costello
2012	Julie A. Fontana

2019 FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Dr. Vincent J. Mara Award for Excellence in Teaching

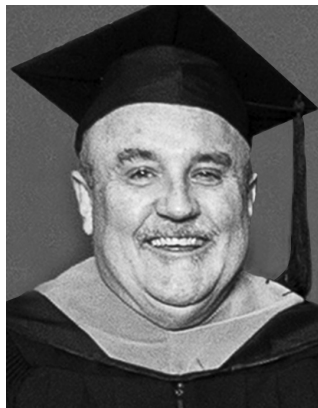


Dr. Randy P. Howe

Dr. Howe, Professor of Communications Media, received the Vincent J. Mara Excellence in Teaching Award, established in 1989 to honor former university President Mara (1976-1995). Howe is a previous department chair and

a “double falcon,” having earned both his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from Fitchburg State before acquiring his EdD. He has taught graphic design, interface design, communication theory, educational leadership, and professional communications programs here for the last 21 years, and most recently led a unique inaugural marketing course onsite at the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland to help promote our students’ global theater performances.

Contributions to the Graduate Program Award



Mr. Joseph E. McAloon (awarded posthumously)

Professor “Joe” McAloon, who died suddenly in April 2019, is the recipient of the Contributions to the Graduate Program Award. He retired in 2018 after 35 years at Fitchburg State teaching business, advising students and

evolving curriculum. He stayed on after his official retirement to teach part-time in the online MBA program and continue as its department chair, a position he held since 2008. Professor McAloon was committed to fostering students’ intellectual, creative, scholarly and professional growth. An eponymous full scholarship for the online MBA program was created this fall in his honor.

Faculty Award for Research and Scholarship



Dr. Kisha G. Tracy

Dr. Tracy, Associate Professor of English Studies, is the recipient of the Faculty Research and Scholarship Award. Tracy's research often examines why the Middle Ages are significant and makes important connections between the present and the past,

particularly focusing on helping students explore these ideas. She is a published book author (*Memory and Confession in Middle English Literature*, Springer International Publishing AG, 2017), a co-founder of the online community The Lone Medievalist and a leader and global lecturer on cultural heritage and medieval disability studies.

Faculty Award for Service



Dr. Eric N. Budd

Dr. Budd, the Faculty Service Award recipient, is a Professor in the Economics, History and Political Science Department and a previous department chair. A PhD graduate of the University of Chicago, he has taught international politics here for 25

years. His service projects include helping found and direct multiple campus organizations, including Model U.N., the FSU Speaker Series and the Center for Conflict Studies. He also volunteers in his community and looks forward to leading one of our student study abroad programs this spring in Ireland. With this Service Award, Budd is the only professor to have earned three of the four faculty awards.

Dr. Vincent J. Mara Excellence in Teaching Award

PAST RECIPIENTS

2018	Elizabeth (Beth) R. Walsh
2017	Kelly C. Morgan
2016	Meledath Govindan
2015	Benjamin A. Railton
2014	Sean C. Goodlett
2013	Joshua B. Spero
2012	George F. Bohrer
2011	Howard H. Thomas
2010	Jane A. Fiske
2009	Christine Cosgrove
2008	Peter Laytin
2007	John J. Paul
2006	Eric N. Budd
2005	Gerald M. Higdon
2004	Louis J. Zivic
2003	Barbara S. Cammuso
2002	Thomas Battinelli
2001	Maria M. Jaramillo
2000	Andrea J. Wallen
1999	Edmund B. Thomas
1998	Lee N. Cunningham
1997	Robert F. Champlin
1996	Colin E. Bourn
1995	Pasquale E. Micciche
1994	Rosemarie S. Giovino
1993	Helen O'Flaherty
1992	Caroline A. Murphy
1991	Donald J. Schmidt

Faculty Award for Service

PAST RECIPIENTS

2018	Megan M. Krell
2017	Elizabeth S. Gordon

Contributions to the Graduate Program Award

PAST RECIPIENTS

2018	John M. Hancock
2017	Chola Chisunka
2016	Nancy L. Murray
2015	Harry Semerjian
2014	Anne M. Howard
2013	Richard J. Spencer
2012	Elaine E. Francis
2011	Michele M. Zide
2010	Rosemarie S. Giovino

Faculty Award for Research and Scholarship

PAST RECIPIENTS

2018	Katherine R. Jewell
2017	Teresa Fava Thomas
2016	Eric N. Budd
2015	Jeffrey E. Warmouth
2014	Benjamin A. Railton
2013	Michael B. Hoberman
2012	Susan R. Williams
2011	Joshua B. Spero
2010	Jannette M. McMenemy
2009	Susan M. Wadsworth
2008	Maria M. Jaramillo
2007	Christopher K. Cratsley
2006	Robert J. Wellman
2005	Benjamin D. Lieberman
2004	Paul I. Weizer
2003	Robin D. Dinda
2002	Cynthia Crosson
2001	Nan Wiegersma
2000	Howard H. Thomas

UNIVERSITY SYMBOLS

The university's colors are white, gold and green. White and gold were formally adopted in June 1900, and green was added in 1979. They signify wisdom, inspiration, purity and perfection. The school motto, also adopted in 1900, is Perseverantia. This Latin word was freely translated to mean "achievements brought about by quiet will."



The university flower, the saxifrage, exemplifies the motto. The saxifrage, a small white flower with a golden center, was often found growing through cracks of rocks in early spring. Tiny as the flower is, it appeared to be so strong it could break rocks, through its gentle perseverance, its ability to overcome difficulties in its growth from seed to fruition, from lower to higher, from darkness to light.

These triumphs parallel each individual's growth through education.

In 1900, the saxifrage was adopted as the original college seal. Its white flower petals were surrounded by a golden wreath of saxifrage leaves.

The seal has evolved along with the institution, most recently in 2010 with the attainment of university status. The saxifrage and the motto remain prominent in the design, though they are depicted with a clean, elegant, contemporary look. The current academic logo incorporates a multitude of visual symbols: a shield, a book, an abstract set of wings, and, finally, a subtle "F" in the negative space.

PRESIDENTIAL COLLAR

At formal academic occasions, the president of Fitchburg State University also wears the Presidential Collar. The links in the collar are engraved with the names of Fitchburg State's eleven presidents and years of service. The Presidential Medal, which incorporates the university seal, is suspended from the collar.

Principals / Presidents

2015–Present	Richard S. Lapidus
2003–2015	Robert V. Antonucci
2002–2003	Michael T. Rivard (Interim)
1995–2002	Michael P. Riccards
1975–1995	Vincent J. Mara
1963–1975	James J. Hammond
1953–1963	Ralph F. Weston
1950–1953	Ellis F. White
1945–1950	William J. Sanders
1927–1945	Charles M. Herlihy
1920–1927	William J. Parkinson
1895–1920	John G. Thompson

REGALIA

The origins of academic dress lie uncertainly in 13th century England, when Edward III granted a charter to the University of Oxford. A close connection between the university and the church (the chancellor was the bishop's representative) may explain why illustrations depict the members of Oxford wearing gowns resembling clerical cassocks—closed in front and reaching the ground all around. Like the more lavishly trimmed ecclesiastical vestments, costume for advanced degrees was more elaborate.

A more practical reason than religious concurrence may have also prompted the adoption of long gowns. The buildings frequented by medieval scholars were cold and often damp, and so robes (particularly with hoods to protect tonsured heads) may have been worn more for warmth than fashion. The distinctive gown nevertheless set the student apart from his fellow citizens. As late as the Civil War, students at American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. Whatever the origin, academic regalia grew in diversity and splendor, with scholars displaying distinctive costumes for different occasions and achievements. The result was a bewildering variety of designs.

An intercollegiate commission met at Columbia University in 1894 to establish a standard academic costume code, and over the years it has been revised by an official committee of the American Council on Education. The committee's prescriptions, while regulating, still allow for great pageantry at formal academic events.

From the cap, gown and hood it is possible to distinguish the institution from which the wearer was graduated, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of the degree—bachelor, master, or doctoral.

The distinguishing feature of the black mortarboard cap, standard at most colleges and universities in the United States, is the color of the tassel—black for the holder of a bachelor's or master's degree, gold for a doctor's degree or the governing officers

of educational institutions. A few institutions have soft velvet tams instead.

The gown is normally black, and the gown's cut and trim indicate the level of the degree held. The bachelor's has long, pointed sleeves, while the master's has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, with the front part cut in an arc. The doctor's sleeves are bell-shaped, with three bars of velvet, and the gown is trimmed with velvet down the front as well.

The hood tells the most about the wearer. The length of the hood and width of the binding vary according to degree. The hood is lined with the official colors of the college (Fitchburg State University's colors are white, gold, and green). The color of the hood's binding indicates the area of study in which the degree was granted.

ARTS & SCIENCES

- Communications Media – White
- Criminal Justice – White
- Economics – Copper
- English Studies – White
- Game Design – White
- History – White
- Human Services – White
- Interdisciplinary Studies – White
- Political Science – Light Gold
- Sociology – White

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

- Business Administration – Drab
- Computer Information Systems – Golden Yellow
- Computer Science – Golden Yellow
- Industrial Technology – Golden Yellow
- Occupational/Vocational Education – Light Blue
- Technology Education – Light Blue

EDUCATION

- Education – Light Blue

HEALTH & NATURAL SCIENCES

- Biology – Golden Yellow
- Chemistry – Golden Yellow
- Earth Systems Science – Golden Yellow
- Exercise & Sports Science – Golden Yellow
- Geographic Science & Technology – Golden Yellow
- Mathematics – Golden Yellow
- Nursing – Apricot
- Psychological Science – Golden Yellow

HISTORY

Established in 1894 by an act of the Massachusetts Legislature, the State Normal School in Fitchburg opened in temporary quarters in the old high school building on Academy Street. Principal John G. Thompson, aided by a teaching staff of three, implemented a two-year teacher training program

for women that had forty-six participants. In December 1896, the school expanded into a new building, known as Thompson Hall, and set up the State Schools of Observation and Practice in city buildings on Day Street and Highland Avenue.

In the next decade the school was a trendsetter for programs in Education. The Edgerly School opened, originally as an eighth-grade model and practice school, and then in 1910, it became one of the first junior high schools in the United States. The following year the school initiated the first practical arts teacher training course in the country for men.

In 1930, the State Normal School was authorized to offer a bachelor's degree in practical arts, and in 1932, when it became the State Teachers College at Fitchburg, four-year degrees were offered in all areas of education.

Under the auspices of the State Division of University Extension, summer courses were first offered in 1915, marking the beginning of the college's commitment to Continuing Education programs. In 1935, the college was also authorized to establish graduate programs and in 1954 the first evening courses were offered.

In 1960, the college changed its name and expanded its mission. The State College at Fitchburg diversified its programs to include degrees in disciplines other than education. In 1965, its name was officially changed to Fitchburg State College, which today offers forty-nine undergraduate degree programs in eighteen academic departments, twenty Masters Degree programs, five Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study programs, and seven Graduate Certificate programs. Enrollment is up to 3,100 full-time and 4,000 part-time students, which include 1,100 matriculated graduate students. The campus has expanded from a single structure on High Street to thirty-two buildings on ninety acres, becoming the educational center for the Montachusett region. The college proudly offers traditional and nontraditional programs to serve the educational needs of its students as undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education students.

On July 28, 2010, Gov. Deval L. Patrick signed legislation establishing a State University system in Massachusetts, and the institution's current name—Fitchburg State University—was enacted.

