



124TH ANNUAL  
**COMMENCEMENT**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2020

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School of Business and Technology

VIRTUAL WINTER CEREMONY



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to Fitchburg State University and the winter ceremony of our 124th commencement. The celebration today is the second of two commencements we are conducting this week for the Class of 2020. The traditional undergraduate and graduate spring commencements were postponed to yesterday and were also held virtually, because the pandemic restrictions made it impossible to gather in person last May.

Unfortunately, global conditions have not improved this winter, so we must celebrate student accomplishments virtually.

Your ceremony may be virtual, but I know the hard work and sacrifices made to get to this day were very real. This is your day to shine!

Our graduates exemplify the university motto, *perseverantia*—perseverance. Commencement signals the successful completion of an important goal, as well as the beginning of new chapters and challenges. I encourage graduates to savor their accomplishments and their memories of life spent in this academic community.

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, the diploma you earn tonight represents your completion of a course of study, as well as your commitment to pursuing your personal and career goals. Your story is just beginning and we are honored that Fitchburg State will forever stand as a key chapter.

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 Winter 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

Ms. Caroline Anderson

B.S., Environmental & Earth Science, Minor in Chemistry

### Graduate Student Leadership Award

Ms. Michelle A. Tilden

Master of Occupational Education

### 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. Keith Williamson

Dean of the School of Business and Technology

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 Winter Ceremony

### Fitchburg State University Board of Trustees

Ms. C. Deborah Phillips, Chair  
Ms. Lynn M. Barrieau, Vice Chair  
Mr. David C. Tiernan, Clerk  
Mr. Donald R. Irving  
Ms. Martha Nicholson  
Ms. Delfi L. Nieto  
Mr. Frank M. O'Donnell  
Mr. Steven Olson, Student Trustee  
Ms. Karen Spinelli  
Ms. Carolyn E. Crowley Stimpson

### 2020 Honors Theses / Performances

Kurtis M. Kendall  
*The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Journalists*  
Rebecca Ann Rouleau  
*The Benefits of Hands-on Learning*

*The following list of graduating students was prepared before final grades were reported and inclusion herein does not constitute evidence of graduation. Conversely, the absence of a student's name from this list does not mean that the person will not be awarded a degree.*

## GRADUATE DEGREES

### Master of Business Administration

**Michael A. Abrahamian**  
NORTH HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

**Kwame Addo-Gyasi**  
ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA

**Elizabeth Olufunmilola Adeniyi**  
COLUMBUS, NEW JERSEY

**Andrea Pamela Aichele**  
RENO, NEVADA

**Lekan Rahman Akeju**  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Noor Al Shammari**  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

**Noorhan Alkhamisi**  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

**Alycia M. Allard**  
WEST BOYLSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Amanda Marie Maron Allen**  
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**Kenny Wayne Allen**  
BEAUMONT, TEXAS

**Roger Mark Allen**  
WEST PARK, FLORIDA

**Jordan David Almore**  
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Richard I. Amenorvi**  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Tricia C. Andriski**  
BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS

**Brian J. Appel**  
PITTSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

**Srinivas Reddy Arra**  
ISELIN, NEW JERSEY

**Shanice Artwell-McCaulay**  
TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Monique C. Ashton**  
DRACUT, MASSACHUSETTS

**Patricia Lynn Barbosa**  
ASSONET, MASSACHUSETTS

**Craig William Berndt**  
REXFORD, NEW YORK

**Stephen Michael Bertoni**  
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**Samantha Elizabeth Black**  
HANOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Ashley E. Bletzer**  
NEWTONVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

**Sasha Bogdanovich**  
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI

**Amy Nakanishi Boone**  
MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Madeleine A. Bossou**  
QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Conan Michael Bouchard**  
BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT

**Teresa Marshall Bradbury**  
TOWNSEND, MASSACHUSETTS

**Michelle A Bradford**  
PLAINSBORO, NEW JERSEY

**Sadie Ruth Brehio**  
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Mark K. Brillon**  
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Amanda Lea Brown**  
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Michael Kevin Brown**  
SHIRLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Monwell J. Brown**  
MANCHESTER, NEW JERSEY

**Jennifer Leah Burke**  
PLAINVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

**Leyla Cassandra Cadet**  
SAUGUS, MASSACHUSETTS

**Ashley Justine Calcagni**  
MOHNTON, PENNSYLVANIA

**Cameron Campbell**  
MARIETTA, GEORGIA

**Alexandra Canavan**  
BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS

**Craig Capodilupo**  
SUDBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Jessica Tsien Carrajola**  
MONROE, NEW JERSEY

**Michael R. Chea**  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

**Richard Joseph Christian**  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Joseph Cianciarulo**  
SHREWSBURY, NEW JERSEY

**Melanie Lee Clary**  
WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Russell Lance Coleman**  
RUTHERFORDTON, NORTH CAROLINA

**Madeline Y. Colón**  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

**Marcella Speranza Consiglio**  
DORCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Brian Keith Conway Jr.**  
PROSPECT, CONNECTICUT

**Christina Rose Corso**  
COMMACK, NEW YORK

**Graham Martin Cox**  
STONEHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**Taylor Eugene Dacus**  
NIPOMO, CALIFORNIA

**Tara Marie D'Andrea**  
PAXTON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Seamus Sean Darcey**  
SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT

**Scott Dart**  
LUCAN, CANADA

**Cynquetta Dean**  
NORTH LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

**Kami M. Dean**  
FENTON, MICHIGAN

**Vivian Alejandra Altieri De Jesus**  
BOQUERON, PUERTO RICO

**Patrick Daniel Delaney**  
AMESBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Christian E. Delgado**  
JEFFERSON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Briana DiDonato**  
SEWELL, NEW JERSEY

**Tiffany Lynn Dilling**  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

**Michael S. DiTroia**  
QUEENSBURY, NEW YORK

**Patrick Anthony Dolan**  
SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Megan J. Drummond**  
ASHBY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Hayden Lawrence Dublois**  
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

**Colleen J. Dugan**  
HOLBROOK, MASSACHUSETTS

**Marissa Fernandes Abreu Dugan**  
WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Charles C. Eaton**  
SOUTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Macvies Chidera Ekeanyanwu**  
DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**Matthew Joseph Ellis**  
BOXBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

**Robert Nathaniel Ely**  
SOUTH HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Nicole E Eutiquio**  
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Michael F. Falite**  
SALISBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Stephen Alexander Ferreira**  
AYER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Maria Rose Feuerstein**  
FEEDING HILLS, MASSACHUSETTS

**Sheryl M. Ficorilli**  
HOLDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

**Megan Elyse Fisher**  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT

**Priscilla Elayne Fitch**  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

**Susan Prentice Foley**  
DOUGLAS, 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

Jessica Rose Ford  
WINTHROP, MASSACHUSETTS

Tammy Ann Fox  
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

William J. Funaro  
WEST ISLIP, NEW YORK

Tiago Gadens  
FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Constance L. Garcia  
CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Taytum Elizabeth Geary  
BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS

Cynthia Gebler  
HOPKINTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Constandeno G. Gellepes  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Jijo George  
BENSALEM, PENNSYLVANIA

Anna Maria Gikas  
NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

Joseph Michael Gonzalez  
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Marlene I. Gonzalez  
BRONX, NEW YORK

Jereesha Sonique Goode  
HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

Nicholas David Green  
COLUMBUS, OHIO

Atlanta Guay  
SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS

Mabel D. Guicho  
METHUEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Frank Kwame Gyasi  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Melissa Katherine Haight  
BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

Marisa Ann Halpin  
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Joshua Payton Harding  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

Michele D. Harrington  
FLORENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

Tyler John Harris  
WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Sehba Midhat Hasan  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Zachary Warren Hastings  
NORTH READING, MASSACHUSETTS

Jennifer Leah Hayden  
NORTH EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Jeffery A. Hayes  
DELAWARE, CANADA

Danielle M. Hebert  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Meghan Elizabeth Heighton  
DRACUT, MASSACHUSETTS

Alec Austin Hendry  
EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

Kyle John Hermenegildo  
REHOBOTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Veronica Libier Hernandez  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Kaylee A. Hill  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Andrew Stephens Hiller  
PEMBROKE, MASSACHUSETTS

Heather S. Hodges  
CALLAHAN, FLORIDA

Kathleen Hong  
BURLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Leah Marie Hooley  
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

Sonya Lynn Houle  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Courtney M. Houston  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Brittany Ann Hovsepian  
NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA

Geoffrey David Howard  
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Colin Aaron Igarta  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Breanna Shante Ivy  
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Juan Sebastian Contreras Jaimes  
BOGOTA D.C., COLUMBIA

Fleuvio Jean  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Orthelande Jean  
HYDE PARK, MASSACHUSETTS

Jennifer Lynn Jones  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Anil Rajan Joseph  
DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS

Keri A. Jung  
EASTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Mustafa Jawed Kazi  
NORTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Michael Kelley  
BRIMFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Sandra Kerolos  
CORONA, CALIFORNIA

John Stephen Kiley  
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Gi Su Kim  
LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Brian Alexander King  
MILFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Terry M. Koslek  
MARNE, MICHIGAN

Jessica Lynn Kozak  
BELCHERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Jonathan Martin Kuell  
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

Cassandra Gretta Laine  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Cathy Jean Larino  
CAPE CORAL, FLORIDA

Sheryl Ann Leary  
NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Marie de Medicis LeBlanc  
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Samantha Lee  
BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS

Stefanie L. Loebertman  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jair Dias Lopes  
BELLEVILLE, CANADA

Homayoun Louie  
BEAVERTON, OREGON

Benlee Louis  
QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS

Emma Kim Ly  
EL SOBRANTE, CALIFORNIA

Debra A. Marquis  
SOUTH HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

William Robert Martin, III  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Karilyn Lisa Masters  
DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Stephanie A. Mathewson  
SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

Maseka Matia  
DULUTH, GEORGIA

Elizabeth Mary Matson  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Morkos Matta  
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

Ryan T. Mayou  
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Paige K. McAleney  
WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Ashley Eileen McCallister  
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA

Stephen P. McCue  
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

John Michael McElaney  
HOLLISTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Jill Ann McKiernan  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

John Scribner Meyers  
HOLDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Selene Millan  
NEWMAN, CALIFORNIA

Andre Luiz Santos Miranda  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

Rajiv Kumar Mishra  
HIGHLANDS RANCH, COLORADO

Rachel Sara Misner  
LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

Eugene T. Molisso  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Nathan J. Monat  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jennifer Lynne Moore  
SOUTH GRAFTON, 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

**Svitlana S. Moran**  
SLIDELL, LOUISIANA

**William Orion Morgan**  
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Jennifer Jacqueline Francis Mosier**  
PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND

**Holly Marie Beal Muldoon**  
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Sugeith Naguleswaran**  
MONTREAL, CANADA

**Julie Nguyen**  
THORNTON, COLORADO

**Reth Katarina Nop**  
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

**Colby J. O'Brien**  
FITZWILLIAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Catherine Elizabeth O'Malley**  
SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS

**Jose Luis Opio**  
OCALA, FLORIDA

**Elizabeth Ordway**  
MALVERN, PENNSYLVANIA

**Juan Ramon Orta**  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

**David T. Oster**  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

**Scott Paquette**  
FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Stacey Lynn Peek**  
JOPLIN, MISSOURI

**Briana Marie Pelton**  
FITZWILLIAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Elizabeth H. Pennypacker**  
PETERSHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**Vernon James Peterson**  
WINDERMERE, FLORIDA

**Nickolas Petrick**  
FOREST, VIRGINIA

**Yves Phaeton**  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Douglas Paul Phillips**  
PATASKALA, OHIO

**Jared Taylor Picco**  
JEWETT CITY, CONNECTICUT

**Brian J. Pichnarcik**  
CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

**Kelley Pierce**  
ASHLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

**Jared Madison Pineault**  
ASSONET, MASSACHUSETTS

**Mitchel Marc Plamondon**  
ASHBY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Thomas Poe**  
FLOWER MOUND, TEXAS

**Alberto M. Puma**  
FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**Hayley N. Remillard**  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

**Kayla Altagracia Reyes**  
WEST ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Jason M. Reynolds**  
WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Karlee Richard**  
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, COLORADO

**Joseph James Richardson**  
NORWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

**Cherie L. Ritchie**  
LOUISVILLE, OHIO

**Robert Rizzari Jr.**  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Breighanna Elizabeth Roberts**  
SOUTH HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Molli J. Robey**  
CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA

**Ashley Jewett Rodgers**  
STERLING, MASSACHUSETTS

**Alex Vladimir Rodriguez**  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

**Christopher Joseph Romeo**  
SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Shelley Ann Rowe**  
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

**Wallace Chester Rucki, III**  
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Renaee Runnels**  
MIDDLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

**Daniel Salkov**  
OWINGS MILLS, MARYLAND

**Frances L. Santos**  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Alan Donald Scardapane**  
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Edwin Miguel Scharff**  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

**Lisa Marie Schlegel**  
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Erin Rebecca Schlomach**  
BRYAN, TEXAS

**Judith M. Schofield**  
SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Taylor Laura Scholefield**  
HOLLIS, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Gabriella Scippa**  
WHITMAN, MASSACHUSETTS

**Anthony Servidio**  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Nancy Claire Silva**  
CUMBERLAND, RHODE ISLAND

**Rebecca Clare Simms**  
MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Blake John Simonsen**  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

**Michael Paul Skiados**  
SUNDERLAND, MARYLAND

**Patricia A. Smith**  
MANSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

**Cecilia Perpetua Somes**  
SHIRLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Sauna Maire Soroka**  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**PeSaPi Spoonhunter**  
BIG PINE, CALIFORNIA

**Dustin A. Stargel**  
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA

**Taylor Marie Stokowski**  
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Farhat A. Sumra**  
MILFORD, CONNECTICUT

**Zachary Alexander Tatro**  
MILLBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Justin Poomoottil Thomas**  
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

**Daphne R. Thompson**  
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

**Sara Christine Tindall**  
JEFFERSON, MASSACHUSETTS

**Sara Torres**  
REVERE, MASSACHUSETTS

**Matthew Allen Tougas**  
PAWTUCKET, RHODE ISLAND

**Kelsie Lynn Twombly**  
ASHBY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Christian James Ulicny**  
NEW BOSTON, PENNSYLVANIA

**Ashley Eva Utrup**  
DERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Chekube Philip Uzoka**  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

**Matthew David Valeri**  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

**Liji Susan Varghese**  
MIRDIF, DUBAI

**Grace Marie Marciano Vega**  
AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**Juan R. Villa**  
FONTANA, CALIFORNIA

**Kelly M. Waller**  
ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

**Brandon J. Walsh**  
PETERBOROUGH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Michelle Lea Ward**  
QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Cameron Michael Wardley**  
NEW CARLISLE, OHIO

**Erica Rene Washington**  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

**Gia G. Washington**  
RANDOLPH, MASSACHUSETTS

**Steven Jamal Wason**  
NORFOLK, MASSACHUSETTS

**Nancy Wassif**  
SYOSSET, NEW YORK

**Tameika Y. Way**  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

**Wesley Roderick Wilkes**  
TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA

★★★ 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

Joshua Ryan Williams  
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

Tracy Elisabeth Williams  
WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Toni Wilson  
LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

Jasmine L. Yang  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Kendrick H. Yeung  
DULLES, VIRGINIA

Danae Young  
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

## Master of Education

### OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION

Melissa Ann Andrade  
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Corey Paul Bourassa  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Michelle A. Tilden  
WEST WAREHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

## Master of Science

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Venkata Ramesh Aribolu  
EAST GODAVARI DISTRICT, INDIA

Kyathi Priya Boppana  
ELURU, INDIA

Navya Inampudi  
TELANGANA, INDIA

Komal Isampelliwar  
TELANGANA, INDIA

Poorani Jagadeesan  
TRICHY, INDIA

Laxminandan Reddy Jaini  
HYDERABAD, INDIA

Chandralekha Reddy Kesireddy  
HANAMKONDA, INDIA

Abha Kumari  
JHARKHAND, INDIA

Zi Lin  
GUANGXI, CHINA

Akhila Lolam  
NIRMAL, INDIA

Shanmuga Priya Ramakrishnan  
WEST EXTENSION CHENNAI, INDIA

Sri Venkata Hema Harika Reddy  
ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

Tamjid Afshan Banu Shaik  
HYDERABAD, INDIA

Shruti Basarkar Sirwal  
DEWAS, INDIA

Srinivasan Sundaramani  
CHENNAI TAMIL NADU, INDIA

Sravani Veerapureddy  
ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

Vineela Vemula  
TELANGANA, INDIA

## UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

### Bachelor of Science

#### APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Christopher D. Lach ★  
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

### Bachelor of Science

#### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Orlando P. Acero ★  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Elba Stephanie Algarin ★★  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Natalie E. Arsenault ★  
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Kristina Marie Baker  
ASHBY, MASSACHUSETTS

Jessica Ashley Baron ★★★  
LITTLETON, MASSACHUSETTS

David R. Barry  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Glen Butler ★  
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

Kevin Anthony Chabot  
STERLING, MASSACHUSETTS

Gabriela Sousa Chagas ★  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Leonard A. Chauca  
REVERE, MASSACHUSETTS

John Edward Coleman  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Gianna Marie Cordio  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Brennan E. Cuddahy  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Guelmari Alvarado Cumbas ★★★  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Richard Dalton ★★  
CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Haley L. DeCarlo  
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Troy A Duarte Jr.  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Kianna M. Dutton  
TOWNSEND, MASSACHUSETTS

Jake Fiori Feraco  
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Tyler D. Fougere  
RINDGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Cheyenne Lea Frost  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Adam Richard Goguen  
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Brian Anthony Greene ★★  
WASHINGTONVILLE, NEW YORK

Alvaro Arnaldo Gudiel Jr.  
LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

Zachary R. Haas ★  
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Cole Richard Johnson  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Matilda Kola ★★★  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Cameron C. Lacouture  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Jeremy Donald Landucci  
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Demetrio Leonardo, III  
METHUEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Matthew Tyler Mason ★  
LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Alyssa Marie Fay Matseas ★  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Elizabeth Mary McNiff  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Mark Edward Morava  
DANVILLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Tami Marie Morin ★★  
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

Derek W. Morris  
GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Sophia Marie Napoli  
LITTLETON, 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



Joseph Pham  
SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Jamie Marie Rosenfeld \*\*  
OGDENSBURG, NEW JERSEY

Sofia M. Selme \*  
LUNENBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Allayne L. Swaby  
MATTAPAN, MASSACHUSETTS

Kwasi Fosu Tabiri \*\*\*  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicole Renée Thomas  
CLARKSVILLE, TENNESSEE

Nelson J. Valerio  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Pithy Vann \*  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Christopher James Vicario  
NARRAGANSETT, RHODE ISLAND

Tyler J. Warila \*  
SHIRLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

## COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Michael Douglas Desmarais \*\*  
TEMPLETON, MASSACHUSETTS

Andrew Martinez \*\*  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Iddriss Mutari \*\*  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Brian Mwangi Ngari \*  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Jayson Paul Dylingowski  
NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

Gerald James Lane \*  
WASHINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Joseph Alexander Rand \*\*\*  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Samuel J. Arcikowski  
OAKHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Ramon Antonio Montas Arias  
LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

Cooper John Arnold \*  
WESTBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

Stephen Richard Burris \*  
BOXBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Carissa Emma Ciccone  
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Nicholas G. Cormier \*  
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

Marcos A. Germosen  
LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

Ibrahim Assad Hamad \*  
WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Johnathan A. Levesque  
ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Samuel James Nickerson  
HOLBROOK, MASSACHUSETTS

Renzo E. Pappaterra  
PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS

Connor M. Puchol  
GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

## OCCUPATIONAL/VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Leonard Robert Gauvin \*\*  
SOUTH DARTMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Sharon M. Gemme-Fitzpatrick \*\*\*  
OXFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Alan F. Libby \*\*\*  
MIDDLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Robert B. MacGregor \*\*\*  
MIDDLETON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Bachelor of Science in Education

## TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Rebecca Ann Rouleau ♦\*\*  
ATHOL, 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

### Caroline Anderson

Caroline Anderson is graduating with a perfect 4.0 grade point average and a record of significant scholarship and academic achievement at Fitchburg State University.

Anderson's passion for the world around her is reflected in her major of environmental and earth science with a minor in chemistry. She has a deep interest in climate change and its impacts on the ocean.

As an undergraduate, Anderson was among the first cohort of students to participate in a grant-funded summer research program in which she worked with peers and faculty members on projects related to the local environmental and community health. The following summer, Anderson returned to the program as a peer mentor.

She has presented original research at conferences across the U.S. and in Puerto Rico, and interned with Professor Jane Huang on a project for the Worcester County Overdose Death Response Initiative Project, an effort begun by the Worcester District Attorney's Office in response to the opioid crisis.

Anderson was also the valedictorian of her graduating class at St. Bernard's Catholic High School in Fitchburg, where she was awarded the Rensselaer Medal for excellence in math and science.

Following graduation, Anderson is pursuing graduate school to continue her studies in oceanography.



## GRADUATE STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

### Michelle A. Tilden

Michelle Tilden is a career educator, having worked with diverse learners for nearly 30 years. Since 2002, she has taught early education at Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School in Franklin, where her students are training for employment in the field of human services.

Like many graduate students, Tilden had to balance personal and professional challenges with her scholastic demands. She overcame these hardships to complete her degree and graduates with a Master of Education in Occupational Education.

In being nominated for this award, Tilden's advisor cited numerous contributions to her field, including bringing students to the national SkillsUSA conference where they won 4th place. The experience led her to be one of the lead advisors for many years. She continues to coach individuals and teams of students from the early education program.

At her school, Tilden has shown herself to be a leader through service on numerous committees and training projects. She is the vocational representative for a team of teachers and administrators who work together on improving the educator evaluation process in their district. The vision for this evaluation process is to embrace a collaborative coaching model of evaluation with an emphasis on reflective practices to promote individual and school development and growth, recognizing individual strengths and contributions consistent with continuous school improvement and the school's core values.

## 2020 FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### **Dr. Vincent J. Mara Award for Excellence in Teaching**



#### **Dr. Paul I. Weizer**

Dr. Weizer of the Department of Economics, History and Political Science received the Vincent J. Mara Excellence in Teaching Award, established in 1989 to honor former university President Mara (1976-1995). He founded the Fitchburg State's

Moot Court program that enables students to compete in regional and national Moot Court Competitions where they consistently place at the top alongside students from some of the country's most prominent universities. Weizer has held many senior administrative roles, too, including interim provost, dean, department chair, and graduate program chair.

### **Contributions to the Graduate Program Award**



#### **Dr. Daneen Deptula**

Dr. Deptula is a professor in the Psychological Science Department and chair of the Graduate Counseling Program in the Behavioral Sciences Department. Her numerous contributions to the graduate program include curriculum

development, such as developing an accelerated program of study, and the introduction of hybrid courses and certificates. She advises students and teaches at both the undergraduate and graduate level. Her research in the newly emerging field of cyber aggression involves collaborations with both undergraduate and graduate students.

## Faculty Award for Research and Scholarship



### Dr. Catherine Buell

Dr. Buell is a professor in the Mathematics Department. Her research interests stretch from orbit decompositions of matrix groups, a sub-field of algebraic group theory, to visual stylometry which integrates mathematics, philosophy,

computer science, and art to classify artwork. Other interdisciplinary projects she initiated include creating a statistics course for social justice and writing a computer program to assist her science colleagues and their students studying silver-nanoparticles and their impacts on plants. Her newest research thread studies ethics in math, a controversial new topic in her field.

## Faculty Award for Service



### Dr. jenn berg

Dr. berg is a professor and former chair of the Mathematics Department. A large investment of her volunteer time has gone to her faculty colleagues, state and national educational administrators, parents and students (at all academic levels) to establish

institutional learning goals and assessing their effectiveness. She also developed “Team Accountability” sessions to help faculty discuss, gather and compose their re-appointment materials and continued making herself available over time as a resource and confidant. berg has held many faculty union positions, too, both on boards and as a member of the bargaining team.

(Her preference is for lower case letters. She is currently on a leave of absence.)

## Dr. Vincent J. Mara Excellence in Teaching Award

### PAST RECIPIENTS

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2019	Randy P. Howe
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

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2019	Eric N. Budd
2018	Megan M. Krell
2017	Elizabeth S. Gordon

## Contributions to the Graduate Program Award

### PAST RECIPIENTS

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2019	Joseph E. McAloon (awarded posthumously)
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

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2019	Kisha G. Tracy
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. McMenamy
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.



