



## *Board of Trustees Meeting*



*Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.*

**President's Conference Room, Sanders Building  
300 Highland Avenue, Fitchburg, MA 01420**

**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

**Briefing**

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Robert V. Antonucci, President

RE: April 11, 2012

**OVERVIEW**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.** in the President's Conference Room, 300 Highland Avenue.

Parking will be reserved in the Sanders lot.

The new open meeting law, which took effect on July 1, 2010, requires us to include all items to be discussed on the agenda. No longer can we just list old or new business. I will make sure that we adhere to the provisions of the law so that we remain in compliance.

Prior to the start of the Board meeting, Mr. Frank O'Donnell will be sworn in by Representative Steven DiNatale. This will be Mr. O'Donnell's first meeting as a Trustee. Mr. O'Donnell replaces Ms. Beverly Farias who has provided 10 years to the Board of Trustees.

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to order by Chairman Carol Vittorioso
- II. Public Comments
- III. The minutes of the Trustee Meetings on February 7 and March 5, 2012 are presented for consideration and approval.

**February 7, 2012 – VOTE – (09-11/12)**

**March 5, 2012 - VOTE – (10-11/12)**

- IV. Tenure – VOTE (11-11/12)

After extensive review, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Robin Bowen recommended individuals for tenure consideration; I concur with her findings and recommend approval by the Board. Enclosed is a summary of the tenure process for review.

**V. Investment Services Proposal - VOTE – (12-11/12)**

I am recommending a final plan for the university's investments. This is the result of the work of the finance sub-committee's study of the university's investments. Enclosed is the summary of the recommended plan.

**VI. Notifications - (N04-11/12)**

Please refer to the Personnel Notification List enclosed. It includes promotions, new hires, and other changes in accordance with the respective collective bargaining agreements.

**VII. President's Report**

Enclosures:

- Tenure procedures
- Executive Summary
- Quarterlies
- Technology Customer Case Study
- February 22, 2012 letter from Commissioner Freeland
- February 29, 2012 letter from Board of Education in Nursing
- Memo re: Fitchburg State Cheerleading CanAm National Championship
- News articles

**VIII. Adjournment**

If you have any questions or material prior to the meeting please give Carol, Kelli, or me a call.

**Future Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

**MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA****FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES****Wednesday, April 11, 2012****8:00 – 8:30 a.m.****President's Conference Room, Sanders Administration Bldg.****300 Highland Avenue, Fitchburg, MA 01420****AGENDA**

- I.** Call to order by Chairman Carol Vittoriosio
- II.** Public Comments
- III.** Consideration of minutes from previous meetings:
  - a) February 7, 2012 **VOTE (09-11/12)**
  - b) March 5, 2012 **VOTE (10-11/12)**
- IV.** Tenure Consideration – **VOTE (11-11/12)**
- V.** Investment Services Proposal-**VOTE (12-11/12)**
- VI.** Notifications – (**N04-11/12**)
  - a) Personnel Actions – Promotions – (will be distributed to Trustees at the meeting)
- VII.** President's Report
- VIII.** Adjournment

**Future Meeting of the Board of Trustees****Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.**

*Fitchburg State University is committed to excellence in teaching and learning and blends liberal arts and sciences and professional programs within a small college environment. Our comprehensive public university prepares students to lead, serve, and succeed by fostering lifelong learning and civic and global responsibility. A Fitchburg State education extends beyond our classrooms to include residential, professional, and co-curricular opportunities. As a community resource, we provide leadership and support for the economic, environmental, social, and cultural needs of North Central Massachusetts and the Commonwealth.*

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 11, 2012
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  09-11/12
SUBJECT: Minutes	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University accept the minutes from the February 7, 2012 meeting.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FITCHBURG STATE  
UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY  
Presidents' Hall, Guglielmi Mazzaferro Center  
291 Highland Avenue, Fitchburg, MA 01420**

Minutes of Meeting Held on February 7, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.

Trustees Present: Robert Babineau, Martin F. Connors, Jr., Matthew Costello, Beverly Farias, Anthony Mercadante, Robert Pontbriand, Cynthia Stevens, Carol Vittorioso

Trustees Absent: Anna Maria Clementi, David Mullaney, Gladys Rodriguez-Parker

Directors Present: Todd Black, Ronald Colbert, Gina Cuccovia-Simoneau, John Dombrowski, Gordon Edmonds, Barbara Fiske, Richard Healey, Donald Irving, Paul Maguire, Michael Mahan, David Rodgers, Karen Spinelli, Gregory Wheeler

Directors Absent: Cheryl Ansin, Anthony Cali, Steven Duvarney, Scott Foster, Cheryl Gaudreau, Fredrick Healey, William Heitin, Michael Lorden

Also Present: Robert Antonucci, Robin Bowen, Jay Bry, Cathy Canney, John Chetro-Szivos, Cathy Daggett, Gail Doiron, Christopher Hendry, Kelli Lundgren, Jessica Murdoch, Michael Shanley, Steve Swartz, Heidi Swift, Kelly Sylvia, Shirley Wagner, Campus Community

The joint meeting was called to order by Chairman Vittorioso and President Antonucci at 8:06 a.m.

Chairman Vittorioso then opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Ms. Vittorioso welcomed Dr. Robert Babineau, Jr. to his first meeting as the newest member of the Board of Trustees. She also recognized Ms. Beverly Farias for her 10 years of service to the Board as this is Ms. Farias' last Board meeting.

The consideration of the full Board of Trustees minutes from November 29, 2011 was presented.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Pontbriand and seconded by Mr. Connors it was

**Voted:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 29, 2011 as  
**(8-0)** presented.

President Antonucci presented the Foundation Board minutes. Upon a motion duly noted by Mr.

David Rodgers and seconded by Dr. Ronald Colbert the directors voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Foundation Board of Directors meeting held on November 3, 2011.

The President then acknowledged Ms. Farias' service and informed the boards that Mr. Frank O'Donnell will be the alumni representative replacing Ms. Farias.

President Antonucci then talked about the campus being very busy with lots of exciting events happening. Sometimes it feels the campus never sleeps. One of the exciting happenings relates to The Douglas and Isabelle Crocker Center for Civic Engagement. The President then welcomed Dr. John Chetro-Szivos, Professor in the Communications Media department for a brief presentation about the Crocker Center.

Dr. Chetro-Szivos mentioned some of the things the Crocker Center has accomplished along with its goals for the future. He then gave a brief presentation about The Douglas and Isabelle Crocker Center for Civic Engagement. The Crocker Center was established to respond to the needs of the community the university serves. The goals of the Center are to help organizations thrive, develop competencies in best practices, empower people to build a better community and maximize collaboration between Fitchburg State University and the community.

He pointed out that this is the third year the center has been operating and it is going well. He outlined the purpose, mission and reviewed the service areas. It gives students a chance to get out into the community and get real world experience. There are many "salon" style meetings that bring people together to brainstorm on how the university can help the community and several community workshops such as "Juggling it all", which is open to the community.

Dr. Chetro-Szivos then referenced the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center booklet handed out at the meeting. He gave a little background about the Cleghorn neighborhood mentioning it was an old vista project working with the French-Canadian, however now it is generally a Latino population.

For more information about the Crocker Center, please visit [www.ccilonline.com/crockercenter/home.html](http://www.ccilonline.com/crockercenter/home.html)

President Antonucci next explained the Attorney General has approved the use of teleconferencing at Trustee meetings; however he thought it was also good for the Foundation Board to adopt. There are guidelines that must be followed in order to utilize the teleconferencing feature. The Chair of the committee must be present, there must still be a quorum, the Chair must evaluate the reasoning behind the absence, and there must be a roll call vote.

The President asked if there were any questions, and there were none.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Paul Maguire on behalf of the Foundation, it was unanimously voted to accept the motion.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Pontbriand and seconded by Ms. Stevens on behalf of the Board of Trustees, it was

**Voted:** to allow remote teleconferencing according to the guidelines set by the  
**(8-0)** Attorney General.

The President then discussed the transfer of university funds from the Commonfund into locally established institutions. He mentioned the Foundation had already moved funds and the Trustees are doing the same.

Ms. Vittorioso then mentioned there was a temporary sub-committee finance meeting on January 23, which included Ms. Farias, Mr. Pontbriand and herself. The committee met to discuss transferring funds from the Commonfund to locally established institutions. It was voted at the meeting to transfer the \$13 million to 3-5 local institutions; however it has not been determined where the funds will be reallocated.

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Farias and seconded by Mr. Costello it was

**Voted:** to transfer University Funds from the Commonfund to locally established  
**(6-0)** institutions yet to be determined. Mr. Connors and Mr. Mercadante abstained from the vote.

President Antonucci then asked Mr. Jay Bry to give a brief update on the science center and the Hammond buildings.

Mr. Bry began with the science center, which is currently fully en-tented and said the next time we see the area, it will be a building. The work is on time and budget. To date, we are scheduled to move into the new wing in June of 2013. Renovations will then begin on the old building, which will continue for approximately one year.

Mr. Bry then gave a status on the Hammond project. Construction is moving along well. The new serverey will open in a couple weeks and will be located on street level. He mentioned the tower glass was delivered today and within a few weeks, the tower should be enclosed.

When asked to clarify what the serverey was, Mr. Bry stated it used to be called the commuter café. The serverey will offer a Subway, BYOB (Build your own Burger) and Tomatoes (pizzeria) along with the standard deli and salad offerings.

He also explained that the pub was underground and separated from the campus. Now the pub is connected to the serverey and open to the community. It has glass sliding doors, which can be closed for evening events such as dances, comedians, etc. and it has doubled in size.

President Antonucci asked Mr. Bry to comment on the Hammond Building Chiller plant. Mr. Bry mentioned that the Hammond Building was built in 1974 and is outdated. There has been some funding allowing us to instill a chiller/ventilation system which will allow more control in the building with digital access. He also mentioned that DCAM has provided \$1 million dollars, which



will also help with ADA accessibility from outside the building. It has always been difficult to access the quad or the Hammond Building and the new ramp allows easy access to both areas.

Mr. Costello asked for an update on the Conlon roof replacement initiative. Mr. Bry stated that both Conlon buildings are included in the project and the Fine Arts building is complete. Provided the weather continues to cooperate, the project should be complete.

Mr. Connors wanted clarification that the DCAM money is not a loan, but rather a grant. Mr. Bry confirmed that the money is a grant and not a loan we have to pay back. It was noted that the state owns a piece of the dorms and the question was asked whether DCAM now own building shares. Mr. Bry mentioned DCAM does own a piece of the building and that we may be receiving another \$5 Million in deferred revenues.

Mr. Bry also mentioned that Miller Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> floor has been renovated and Economics, History and Political Science moved in, and English is scheduled to move back in August 2012. All four levels should be complete in August.

President Antonucci then made a motion to reappoint Foundation members Anthony Cali, Gordon Edmonds and Cheryl Gaudreau.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Dr. Colbert the directors voted to approve the new directors. Director Edmonds abstained.

The President introduced the slate of offices for reappointment:

- Robert V. Antonucci, President
- Carol Vittorioso, Vice President
- David Rodgers, Treasurer
- Cheryl Gaudreau, Clerk

Upon a motion made by Mr. Maguire and seconded by Ms. Spinelli the directors voted to approve the slate of officers for the 2012-2013 year. Directors Antonucci, Vittorioso and Rodgers abstained.

Audit Committee Chair Ms. Karen Spinelli, then gave an overview of the 990 Tax Forms for the Foundation and Supporting Organization. She mentioned the schedules present information in reference to public support of the organization, contributions, financial statements, fundraising, compensation and related information. She asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none. President Antonucci then mentioned that it is very important to receive and review the 990 tax forms.

Foundation Finance Committee Chair, Mr. David Rodgers, presented the 2013 budget for approval. The budget is set at \$1,416,201. Revenue sources (unrestricted funds) decreased by 33% in part because the Wallace for Performing Arts was not budgeted and the elimination of \$58K for the capital campaign that was completed in FY2012. Restricted funds increased by 50%.

The President then mentioned that the line item for President's Initiative is used for student projects. As an example, students need funding for film projects. As an example, we have provided funding for an English poetry competition in New York City.

Upon a motion duly noted by Dr. Colbert and seconded by Ms. Spinelli, the motion carried unanimously to approve the FY2013 budget as presented.

Development Committee Chair Mr. Paul Maguire then presented the Development Committee report. He mentioned there was a development committee meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>. The Capital Campaign is at \$11.75 Million against a \$12 Million goal. He pointed out that amount is decent. He mentioned the May 5<sup>th</sup> Capital Campaign closing event and asked the President to mention the Challenge Grant. President Antonucci let everyone know that there is a \$100K matching challenge grant that will continue for two months. He is hopeful that this will push us to the \$12 million goal. The donor of this grant wishes to remain anonymous.

Mr. Maguire also spoke about internships of our students. In the past, it has been difficult to find people at the university to speak with about internships; however he has been working closely with the Crocker Center, which will be the hub for building relationships with corporations.

He also wanted to point out that the Development Committee has been asked to participate in the annual golf tournament, which is scheduled for July 16, 2012. He further mentioned that May 5<sup>th</sup> is the Capital Campaign event and more details would be forthcoming.

President Antonucci asked Mr. Hendry to give a brief status. Mr. Hendry said it is nice to be back and although it still feels "new", he feels they are gaining traction and moving forward with initiatives. He also mentioned that ending the capital campaign meeting the \$12 million goal would be fantastic and he believes this will engage more alumni participation. Mr. Hendry mentioned there will be some changes in the Alumni office as they have been approved to hire another person for that area.

The President then moved on to items of mutual interest.

He mentioned that Mr. Frederick Healey and Ms. Cheryl Ansin's terms were expiring and they were not seeking re-election. He thanked them for their service to the Foundation Board.

Mr. Hendry then mentioned if anyone knows of someone from the community that would be a good candidate for the Foundation Board, to please come forward and let him know.

The President then asked if there were any audience questions or comments. There were none.

President Antonucci then made mention of the NEASC visit scheduled in March. He mentioned how much work that has gone into the accreditation process. The 100 page self-study is complete and the President urged everyone to visit the website to read the self-study. It lists what the university does well as well as what we could improve. Our goal is to acquire a 10 year accreditation and the President is confident we will do that.

There are two key dates related to the NEASC visit; March 5<sup>th</sup> the Board of Trustees will be invited to campus from 11:00-12:00 and March 7<sup>th</sup> will be a university only session which will allow us to hear the auditor's comments. This is an open meeting and not required.

President Antonucci then recognized Student Trustee, Mr. Matthew Costello and his partner Sydney Kirsch for placing 1<sup>st</sup> in the national moot court written competition. Mr. Costello then mentioned there were approximately 80 teams that competed nationally and that this was the first national championship for the university. Ms. Vittorioso asked Matt how the written competition is judged. Mr. Costello replied that there is a rubric that must be followed, and that the material is sent to a number of attorneys for judging. Some of the criteria include argument and creativity.

The President then let the audience know that our winter commencement went very well, the weather was good and the recreation center was packed. He also mentioned that we held our open forums on February 6<sup>th</sup> for the university community. The President mentioned that enrollment is good, but asked the foundation board for their continued help with enrollment. Open houses went well, applications are up, but it is competitive. The university continues to have reasonable costs and we hope to keep them reasonable.

President Antonucci then mentioned that we would be in touch with the Supporting Organization within 1-2 weeks to schedule a meeting regarding possible property issues.

Ms. Vittorioso requested a motion for the Board of Trustees to go into Executive Session.

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Vittorioso and seconded by Mr. Costello, it was voted by roll call (8-0) to go into Executive Session at 9:02 a.m. to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements. Open session would not reconvene after the conclusion of Executive Session.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Robert A. Pontbriand, Clerk  
Board of Trustees

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 11, 2012
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  10-11/12
SUBJECT: Minutes	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University accept the minutes from the March 5, 2012 meeting.

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
NEASC MEETING  
Monday, March 5, 2012  
10:30 a.m.  
President's Conference Room  
300 Highland Avenue, Fitchburg, MA 01420  
Sanders Building**

Trustees Present: Robert Babineau, Anna Maria Clementi, Martin F. Connors, Jr., Matthew Costello, Beverly Farias, Anthony Mercadante, Robert Pontbriand, Carol Vittorioso

Trustees Absent: David Mullaney, Gladys Rodriguez-Parker, Cynthia Stevens

Also Present: Robert V. Antonucci, Gail Doiron, Kelli Lundgren

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vittorioso at 10:30 a.m.

President Antonucci stated the purpose of the meeting today is to review the process for the NEASC Accreditation team visit.

President Antonucci said the Board of Trustees will be meeting with two members of the accreditation team. He mentioned that the team may ask the Board questions about the University as a whole as well as the role of the Board of Trustees. He assured the Board that this is not a "test" and to just be themselves.

Some points clarified by the President:

- The Board's responsibilities are governed by statute
- The Board members are appointed by the Governor with the exception of the Alumni representative and the student trustee who are elected members
- The Board is responsible for approving the budget as well as the President's Goals and performance
- The President works for the Board of Trustees
- The Board meets a minimum of four times per year

Mr. Mercadante then asked about the President's annual evaluation by the Board. The President said there are annual goals set and approved by the Board and at the end of the academic year, the Board meets to review the goals set. Some of those goals may be a work in progress, while others are complete. The President then presents his goals to the Board for approval via vote. Usually the approved vote is tied to a salary increase, if feasible.

Dr. Babineau asked whether there is an assessment tool that the Board fills out in regards to the President's goals, to which the President answered no. A question was also raised as to whether the President is present during the review of the goals. The President has always been present during the review; however there could be a recommendation that he not be present if the Board wishes.

Ms. Vittorioso stated that the President's goals are always so specific and evident, that there have never been any issues. The President stated the review is always done in open session, but it is good to review the process to see if changes are relevant.

The President then mentioned the NEASC Accreditation team could mention the strategic plan. Dr. Babineau asked for the top three strategic plan goals. The President answered with the following:

- Academic Plan
- Upgrading the facility
- Manage enrollment
- Clarify what becoming a university means

He further stated that the university strives to be a world class institution. We are not Boston College or Harvard, but our goal is to strive to be best.

Ms. Farias asked the current student/professor ratio. The President answered it is approximately 1/18. There are no classes over 30 students. Ms. Farias then asked how many of our faculty hold Ph.D.s. The President answered that the majority do hold Ph.Ds, with the exception of some professors in the Industrial Technology and Nursing departments.

Chairman Vittorioso then asked whether the Board currently does self-assessments. The President said we do not, but that is something we could consider if the Board agrees. The process would involve a 4-5 page document which members would list responsibilities. The Board would then compile the results and discuss. The only issue with the self-assessments is that everything the Board does is public, so there may not be a need for this process.

The President then mentioned the next scheduled meeting is in May, however there is a need to have a special meeting prior to the May meeting to recommend tenure to the Board for a vote. Some Board members may be able to call in for this meeting, providing there are enough members physically present. We will know more within a day or so.

Dr. Babineau asked if there was a document available that outlines the tenure process. The President gave a brief overview stating that professors are up for tenure after seven years and the process is based on credentials and research. There is a document and Ms. Lundgren will forward to the Board members for review.

Ms. Farias then asked what percentages of classes are held online. Currently the online percentage is 7-8% with the winter session completely online. Undergraduate classes are held on campus, but students are able to take some online classes if they choose.

The President then discussed the orientation of soon to be appointed Mr. Frank O'Donnell as well as current member Ms. Clementi. He also reiterated that Ms. Farias' term expires in March, Mr. Pontbriand's term expires in July, and that Mr. Connors and Mr. Mercadante are up for reappointment this year.

Mr. Costello asked the Board if there has been a new chair assigned for the Student Affairs Committee. Ms. Vittorioso stated a new chair has not been established, and asked if the SGA would like to meet. Mr. Costello thinks a meeting is a good idea and a meeting has been tentatively set for April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mr. Connors asked if the Board would be discussing university investments. The President stated we have notified the Commonfund of the withdrawal, and we should be ready for a recommendation to the Board soon.

The President then let the Board know that we attended a Chamber Congressional Meet and Greet with Congressman Jim McGovern and Congresswoman Niki Tsongas at the Marriott in Fitchburg. The group also toured the campus prior to the Chamber event.

He also noted that we have received another \$5.4 million dollars from DCAM for the Hammond renovation project. This will cover the new roof as well as the chillers. Ms. Farias recognized the President for being proactive in requesting these emergency funds. Mr. Connors asked if the University was responsible for paying back any of the DCAM funding. The President replied there is no obligation for DCAM funds; however we used \$21 million of revenue bonds which do require repayment.

The Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Following the Board meeting, Trustees met with members of the NEASC Accreditation Team.

Respectfully submitted:

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Robert A. Pontbriand, Clerk  
Board of Trustees

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE: April 11, 2012
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  11-11/12
SUBJECT: Tenure	

I am recommending that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University grant the following faculty tenure effective September 1, 2012:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Current Rank</u>
Deon Brock, Ph.D.	Behavioral Sciences	Associate Professor
Christine Dee, Ph.D.	Economics, History & Political Science	Associate Professor
Viera Lorencova, Ph.D.	Communications Media	Assistant Professor
Susan B. Rosa, Ed.D.	Education	Associate Professor
Hildur Schilling, Ph.D.	Behavioral Sciences	Assistant Professor
Peter L. Staab, Ph.D.	Mathematics	Associate Professor
Danielle M. Wigmore, Ph.D.	Exercise & Sports Science	Assistant Professor

I am also recommending tenure and promotion for the following faculty/librarian members effective September 1, 2012:

M. Zachary Lee, M.F.A.	Communications Media	to Associate Professor
Jane Xinxin Zhang, Ph.D.	Geo/Physical Sciences	to Associate Professor



FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY  
Board of Trustees  
**NOTIFICATION**

TO: Board of Trustees	DATE:
FROM: The President	April 11, 2012
SUBJECT: Personnel Actions- Promotion	REQUEST NUMBER: N03-11/12

***Promotions- Effective September 1, 2012***

**Promotion to Full Professor:**

**Department**

**Current Rank**

Robert Dumas, Ph.D.	Nursing	Associate Professor
Gerald Higdon, Ph.D.	Mathematics	Associate Professor
Linda McKay, M.S.	Nursing	Associate Professor
Glenda Ouellette, Ed.D.	Education	Associate Professor
Teresa Thomas, Ph.D.	Economics, History & PS	Associate Professor

**Promotion to Associate Professor:**

Beverly Hollingsworth, Ph.D.	Business Administration	Assistant Professor
Michael Zachary Lee, M.F.A.	Communications Media	Assistant Professor
Nancy L. Murray, Ed.D.	Education	Assistant Professor
Amy Wehe, Ph.D.	Mathematics	Assistant Professor
Wayne Whitfield, Ph.D.	Industrial Technology	Assistant Professor
XinXin (Jane) Zhang, Ph.D.	Geo/Physical Sciences	Assistant Professor

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 11, 2012
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  12-11/12
SUBJECT: Investment Services Proposal	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University accept the investment services proposal attached.

## Fitchburg State University

### Summary of Investment Services Proposals

	Northern Trust	Enterprise Bank & Trust	Rollstone Bank & Trust
<b>Assets Managed by:</b>	<b>Northern Trust</b>	<b>Enterprise Investment Advisors</b>	<b>Congress Asset Management Company</b>
<b>Total Assets Managed:</b>	\$663B	\$500M	\$6.7B
<b>Sample Portfolio Options:</b>	Equities Alternatives Fixed Income	Equities Alternatives Fixed Income	Equities Private Foundations Fixed Income
<b>Account Manager(s):</b>	Charles M. Wright, FFS Vice President – Foundation & Institutional Advisors  David J. Santos <i>Senior Portfolio Manager</i>  Sharon E. Cohen <i>Senior Wealth Advisor</i>	Louis J. Beaulieu, ChFC, CTFA, AEP <i>Managing Director, Sr. Vice President</i> Susan M. Rossini, CFP <i>Vice President and Relationship Manager</i> Joseph R. Lussier, CFA, CPA <i>Sr. Vice President, CIO</i> Robert M. Lawlor, CTFA, CFP <i>Vice President</i>	Melissa Maranda <i>Sr. Vice President</i>  Wayne Carney <i>Vice President</i>
<b>Fee:</b>	0.98% - < \$10M 0.60-0.90% - \$10M	0.90%	0.90%
<b>Performance:</b> 1 year 5 years 10 years		10.77% 2.04% -	25.80% 3.59% 2.10%
<b>Suggested Portfolio Allocation:</b> 25/60/15 Equity/Fixed Income/Cash	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Suggested Amounts:</b> Portfolio MMDT	\$7.2M \$2.8M	\$2M	\$5M \$5M

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

**NOTIFICATION**

<b>TO:</b> Board of Trustees	<b>DATE:</b> April 11, 2012
<b>FROM:</b> The President	<b>REQUEST NUMBER:</b> N03-11/12
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Personnel Actions	

**New Hire**

Mark Melchior, MLS Effective: 3/5/12	Library Associate Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library	\$45,000.00
Jeffrey McMaster, MED Effective: 2/26/12	Director of Student Accounts/Bursar Student Accounts	\$70,000.00
Sean Rollins, Ph.D. Effective: 9/1/12	Assistant Professor Biology/Chemistry	\$56,000.00
Carol Kronopolus, MS Effective: 2/21/12	LPN/BS Coordinator Nursing	\$60,000.00
David Heikkinen, MS Effective: 9/1/12	Assistant Professor Exercise & Sports Science	\$54,600.00
Susan Sheridan, MED Effective: 9/1/12	Instructor Industrial Technology	\$59,000.00

**Rehire**

Mathangi Krishnamurthy, Ph.D. Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Biology/Chemistry	\$60,000.00
Richard DesRoches, MBA Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Business Administration	\$60,123.13
Monica Maldari, MS Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Exercise & Sports Science	\$53,000.00

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Reappointment**

Derwiche Djazaerly, Ph.D. Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Humanities	\$57,000.00
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Nancy Duphily, DNP Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Nursing	\$76,000.00
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David Rice, Ph.D. Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Exercise & Sports Science	\$54,000.00
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Jason Talanian, Ph.D. Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Exercise & Sports Science	\$55,500.00
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Shana Goldwyn, Ph.D. Effective: 9/1/12 Ends: 5/31/13	Assistant Professor Education	\$56,500.00
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**Termination**

Angela Palmer, Ph.D. Effective: 1/31/2012	Dir. of Extended Campus & Prof. Studies Housing & Residential Services	\$79,412.32
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## ARTICLE IX - TENURE

The granting of tenure is the single most important type of decision made in an educational institution. Barring unforeseen circumstances, tenure obligates the institution to employ the recipient of tenure for the balance of his/her professional life. It not only makes a major financial commitment to the individual until retirement, but even beyond. Tenure has its place in the academic community as the principal means through which academic freedom is preserved.

It must be accomplished with the utmost care, concern and searching evaluation by the faculty and the administration of the institution.

The serious decision of granting tenure demands that the President, before making recommendations to the Board, have substantial evidence, determined through professional evaluation, that the candidate will be a constructive and significant contributor to the continuous development of high quality education in the institution. It is the responsibility of the candidate for tenure to produce such substantial evidence based on his/her prior academic and professional work.

For the purposes of this Article, but subject to the provisions hereof, the phrase "faculty member" shall include "librarian."

### A. ENTITLEMENT

1. Only faculty members who hold full-time appointments as Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, Assistant Librarian, Associate Librarian, Librarian or Senior Librarian shall be eligible to be considered for or granted tenure.

The provisions of this Article IX shall be of no application to any person holding a part-time appointment.

2. a. Any faculty member whose tenure-track appointment had effect on or before December 31, 2005, and who serves at a College as a full-time faculty member for four (4) consecutive academic years and is reappointed as such for a fifth (5th) consecutive academic year shall, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII of this Agreement, be evaluated for tenure during such fifth (5th) academic year. This provision shall be of no application to any such faculty member who has been duly notified that he/she will not be reappointed as a full-time faculty member at the completion of his/her fifth (5th) academic year; and this provision shall be of no application to any such faculty member who has been evaluated for tenure prior to his/her fifth (5th) year of consecutive service as a full-time faculty member. The service of librarians shall be measured with reference to consecutive work years.
- b. Any faculty member whose tenure-track appointment had effect on or after January 1, 2006, and who serves at a College as a full-time faculty member for five (5) consecutive academic years and is reappointed as such for a sixth (6th) consecutive academic year shall, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII of this Agreement, be evaluated for tenure during such sixth (6th) year. This provision shall be of no application to any such faculty member who has been duly notified that he/she will not be reappointed as a full-time faculty member at the completion of his/her sixth (6th) academic year; and

## ARTICLE IX - TENURE

this provision shall be of no application to any such faculty member who has been evaluated for tenure prior to his/her sixth (6th) year of consecutive service as a full-time faculty member. The service of librarians shall be measured with reference to consecutive work years.

- c. Any faculty member whose tenure-track appointment is initially granted at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor and who is reappointed as such for a third (3rd) consecutive academic year shall, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII of this Agreement, be evaluated for tenure during such third (3rd) academic year. This provision shall be of no application to any such faculty member who has been duly notified that he/she will not be reappointed as a full-time member of the faculty at the completion of his/her third (3rd) academic year; and this provision shall be of no application to any such faculty member who has been evaluated for tenure prior to his/her third (3rd) year of consecutive service as a full-time faculty member.
3. No member of the faculty shall be a candidate for tenure more than once and, if denied tenure on the occasion of such candidacy, shall thereupon be granted a final appointment for the period of the ensuing academic year; provided only that nothing in this subsection 3 shall bar a member of the bargaining unit from being a candidate for tenure on more than a single occasion if a candidacy for tenure subsequent to the first such candidacy occurs in the circumstances described at Article XX, Section C(9)(b), of the Agreement.
4. If granted, tenure shall first have effect no later than the September 1 next following the date on which the Board of Trustees votes to grant tenure.
5.
  - a. Every faculty member who holds a tenure-track appointment of the kind described in subsection 2(a) and who shall have been evaluated for tenure shall be notified by the President, not later than September 1 of his/her sixth (6th) academic year of service, of the decision of the Board of Trustees to grant or to deny such faculty member tenure. Every such faculty member other than an Instructor who serves the College as a full-time faculty member for more than six (6) consecutive years (exclusive of a seventh (7th) terminal year) shall thereby gain tenure.
  - b. Every faculty member who holds a tenure-track appointment of the kind described in subsection 2(b) and who shall have been evaluated for tenure shall be notified by the President, not later than September 1 of his/her seventh (7th) academic year of service, of the decision of the Board of Trustees to grant or to deny such faculty member tenure. Every such faculty member other than an Instructor who serves the College as a full-time faculty member for more than six (6) consecutive years (exclusive of a seventh (7th) terminal year) shall thereby gain tenure.
6.
  - a. Nothing in this Article IX shall abrogate the right of the Board of Trustees to request that a faculty member who holds an appointment of the kind described in subsection 2(a) be evaluated for tenure prior to such faculty member's fifth (5th) consecutive year of serve as such.

## ARTICLE IX - TENURE

- b. Nothing in this Article IX shall abrogate the right of the Board of Trustees to request that a faculty member who holds an appointment of the kind described in subsection 2(b) be evaluated for tenure prior to such faculty member's sixth (6th) consecutive year of service as such.
  - c. Nothing in this Article IX shall abrogate the right of the Board of Trustees to grant tenure upon appointment to any faculty member without prior service; provided, however, that before the granting of tenure, upon initial appointment or otherwise, the candidate shall be evaluated under the terms of this Agreement.
- 7. Any other provision of this Article IX to the contrary notwithstanding, no faculty member serving pursuant to the terms of a temporary appointment made in accordance with the provisions of Article XX of this Agreement shall be considered for or gain tenure, nor shall service pursuant to the terms of any such temporary appointment be included in any calculation of the number of years of consecutive service rendered by any faculty member prior to such faculty member's being considered for tenure.
  - 8. Tenure, when granted, shall be granted and shall have effect only at the College at which the faculty member to whom tenure is granted holds, or may thereafter hold, his/her appointment.
  - 9. Whether taken on a full-time or part-time basis, leaves of absence for non-tenured persons shall not interrupt service towards tenure. The periods during which full-time or part-time leave is taken shall not be included in the calculation of the number of years of service rendered by any faculty member prior to his/her being considered for tenure.
  - 10. Department Chairs do not have tenure in that capacity but shall hold and retain such tenure, if any, as shall have been granted to them as members of the faculty.
  - 11. Anything in the foregoing to the contrary notwithstanding, any faculty member who shall have been first given a full-time appointment after December 1 but prior to the expiration of the then-current academic year shall, solely for the purpose of calculating such faculty member's eligibility for tenure, be deemed to have been so appointed with effect on the date of commencement of the academic year next following; and any faculty member first given a full-time appointment after the expiration of any academic year but prior to December 1 in the next academic year shall be deemed to have been so appointed on the date of commencement of such next academic year.
  - 12. No member of the bargaining unit who holds an appointment as Library Assistant shall be considered for or gain tenure, nor shall any service as Library Assistant be included in any calculation of the number of years of consecutive service rendered by him/her prior to his/her being considered for tenure.
  - 13. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Section A, the actions required to be taken by a Board of Trustees pursuant to this Article IX may not be delegated.



**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

**Fitchburg State University  
Executive Summary  
Financial Statements for the Six Months Ended  
December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009**

**Statements of Net Assets (pages 1 - 2):**

- Total assets increased by approximately \$23.5 million due primarily to the Hammond Center and new Science building construction projects.
- Capital assets increased to approximately \$84.5 million net of current period depreciation of \$2.1 million.
- Current liabilities decreased slightly due to a decrease in accounts payable that was offset by an increase in the current portion of long term debt relating to the Hammond Center bond issue. Deferred revenue includes \$974,000 in capital appropriations not spent at December 31<sup>th</sup>. There was an overall decrease in total liabilities.
- Invested in capital assets, net of related debt was \$42.7 million. Net assets relative to capital projects was \$26.4 million.
- Total debt from bond issues and capital leases totaled \$25.4 million.

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets (pages 3 - 4):**

- Total revenue for the period was \$54.9 million and includes \$11.5 million in capital grants and appropriations.
- Tuition and fee revenue, exclusive of waivers and exemptions, increased by 2.7%. Scholarship expense increased by 4.4%.
- Auxiliary revenue, which represents operation of the residence halls, increased slightly and does not include fees charged for the student housing facility owned and operated by the FSU Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc.
- State appropriations increased 26.8% over 2010 but is offset by a reduction in stimulus funding. Investment losses totaled \$190,000. Investment income was \$179,000.
- Total expenditures were \$39.9 million.
- There was an overall increase in net assets of \$14.9 million for the first six months of the fiscal year.

**Statements of Cash Flows (page 5):**

- Total cash at December 31, 2011 was \$43.2 million which represents an increase of approximately \$1.5 million over cash balances at June 30, 2011.
- Net cash provided from operations was \$22.5 million.
- Acquisitions of property and equipment totaled \$20.4 million and includes the construction of the new Science building and the Hammond Center renovations.

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2011, 2010 AND 2009**

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS**  
**December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009**

**ASSETS**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 25,284,794	\$ 26,464,256	\$ 14,711,179
Cash and cash equivalents-restricted	4,305,004	1,370,192	2,331,731
Bond proceeds	5,773,930	15,756,777	-
Short-term investments	-	-	1,439,898
Due from other funds	26,721	-	-
Accounts receivable, net	2,277,553	2,438,489	3,844,252
Loans receivable, net	3,614	975	2,964
Other assets	139,215	239,930	240,697
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>37,810,831</u>	<u>46,270,619</u>	<u>22,570,721</u>
<b>Noncurrent Assets</b>			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7,826,628	3,433,936	5,018,775
Investments	10,978,330	10,926,307	10,286,166
Endowment investments	674,154	724,395	666,757
Loans receivable, net	1,922,733	1,969,441	1,913,920
Prepaid expenses	9,487	105,971	318,156
Deferred bond issue costs	159,853	169,518	-
Capital assets, net	84,492,808	56,762,934	53,521,354
<b>Total Noncurrent Assets</b>	<u>106,063,993</u>	<u>74,092,502</u>	<u>71,725,128</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 143,874,824</u>	<u>\$ 120,363,121</u>	<u>\$ 94,295,849</u>

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS**  
**December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009**

**LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Bonds payable-current portion	\$ 1,141,550	\$ 490,774	\$ 469,731
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,495,638	3,670,107	3,369,012
Salaries and benefits payable	1,627,446	1,566,037	1,365,241
Accrued workers compensation-current portion	148,183	130,238	99,242
Compensated absences-current portion	2,726,534	2,322,819	2,323,013
Accrued faculty payroll	2,002,438	1,902,562	1,787,939
Deferred revenue-current portion	6,051,444	6,542,972	6,104,558
Capital lease-current portion	14,428	198,573	808,858
Other liabilities	1,754,475	1,481,957	564,286
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>17,962,136</u>	<u>18,306,039</u>	<u>16,891,880</u>
<b>Noncurrent Liabilities</b>			
Bonds payable	24,323,563	25,516,604	10,081,689
Accrued workers compensation	604,015	530,867	404,526
Compensated absences	1,743,194	1,682,042	1,614,297
Rebate payable	17,993	17,965	17,875
Capital lease	-	297,468	495,919
Due to federal loan programs-Perkins	1,511,287	1,494,282	1,481,720
Due to federal loan programs-Nursing	374,803	364,456	357,257
Deferred revenue	2,318,812	1,028,884	978,377
<b>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</b>	<u>30,893,667</u>	<u>30,932,568</u>	<u>15,431,660</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>48,855,803</u>	<u>49,238,607</u>	<u>32,323,540</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	42,678,212	42,215,669	40,495,269
<b>Restricted for:</b>			
Non-expendable			
Scholarships & fellowships	438,759	466,487	443,774
Expendable			
Scholarships & fellowships	430,416	373,321	337,160
Loans	257,916	253,180	250,961
Capital projects	26,426,427	3,700,866	1,439,757
Debt service	5,179,850	4,784,110	5,193,124
Other	930	930	930
Unrestricted	19,606,511	19,329,951	13,811,334
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>95,019,021</u>	<u>71,124,514</u>	<u>61,972,309</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 143,874,824</u>	<u>\$ 120,363,121</u>	<u>\$ 94,295,849</u>

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**STATEMENTS OF REVENUE, EXPENSES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**For the Six Months Ended DECEMBER 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>			
Student tuition and fees	\$ 20,300,866	\$ 19,774,809	\$ 18,399,171
Waivers and exemptions	(935,060)	(863,307)	(821,594)
<b>Net student tuition and fees</b>	<u>19,365,806</u>	<u>18,911,502</u>	<u>17,577,577</u>
Federal grants and contracts	3,200,866	3,372,179	2,914,572
State and local grants and contracts	65,498	76,000	117,238
Stimulus grants	-	1,110,233	2,767,326
Nongovernmental grants and contracts	98,843	123,132	163,398
Sales and services of educational departments	626,268	775,371	724,067
Auxiliary enterprises:			
Residential life (net of scholarship allowances)	4,216,320	4,170,142	3,995,644
Administrative overhead	44,063	63,030	63,568
Fundraising	47,031	48,417	38,702
Commissions	182,300	206,128	208,949
Miscellaneous	8,560	23,929	25,646
Nursing and Perkins	<u>17,089</u>	<u>12,757</u>	<u>15,413</u>
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u>27,872,644</u>	<u>28,892,820</u>	<u>28,612,100</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
<b>Salaries:</b>			
Faculty	8,009,751	7,610,487	7,151,084
Exempt wages	1,387,760	1,847,246	1,737,900
Non-exempt wages	7,383,717	6,820,963	6,902,744
Benefits	5,147,426	4,828,336	3,956,588
<b>Other Operating Expenses:</b>			
Employee related travel	87,046	92,876	69,873
Administrative expense	992,412	923,403	912,491
Facility operational supplies	707,082	653,988	623,798
Utilities	1,225,138	1,289,077	1,425,011
Consultant services	285,466	306,329	269,754
Operational services	466,540	497,844	440,488
Equipment purchases	430,302	543,675	554,358
Equipment maintenance and repairs	346,548	285,994	283,807
Purchased client services-program	89,000	88,548	181,125
Construction and building improvement	1,029,239	712,558	673,829
Scholarships	4,192,039	4,015,540	3,502,617
Loans & special payments	21,177	75	75
IT expenditures	1,846,808	1,880,436	1,475,019
Other bond issue costs	-	439	-
Depreciation	2,103,442	2,042,066	1,892,737
Bad debt expense	(300)	-	-
Auxiliary enterprises:			
Residential life	<u>4,073,896</u>	<u>3,302,744</u>	<u>2,790,538</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>39,824,489</u>	<u>37,742,624</u>	<u>34,843,836</u>
<b>Operating profit/(loss)</b>	<u>(11,951,845)</u>	<u>(8,849,804)</u>	<u>(6,231,736)</u>

For those charged with governance and internal management use only

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**STATEMENTS OF REVENUE, EXPENSES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**For the Six Months Ended DECEMBER 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009**

	<u><b>2011</b></u>	<u><b>2010</b></u>	<u><b>2009</b></u>
<b>Nonoperating Revenues(Expenses)</b>			
State appropriations	15,493,231	12,219,919	11,010,687
Gifts	-	-	100
Investment income (net of investment expenses)	178,961	128,433	265,447
Interest on capital debt	(142,189)	(154,225)	(212,041)
Unrealized gain/(loss)	<u>(189,926)</u>	<u>568,753</u>	<u>829,298</u>
<b>Net Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)</b>	<u>15,340,077</u>	<u>12,762,880</u>	<u>11,893,491</u>
<b>Income (loss) before Capital and Endowment Additions</b>	3,388,232	3,913,076	5,661,755
Capital appropriations	900,000	-	-
Capital grants and gifts	<u>10,600,818</u>	<u>269,871</u>	<u>72,450</u>
<b>Increase in net assets</b>	14,889,050	4,182,947	5,734,205
<b>Net Assets - beginning of period</b>	<u>80,129,971</u>	<u>66,941,567</u>	<u>56,238,104</u>
<b>Net Assets - end of period</b>	<u><u>\$ 95,019,021</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 71,124,514</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 61,972,309</u></u>

For those charged with governance and internal management use only

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**For the Six Months Ended DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Increase in net assets	\$ 14,889,050	\$ 4,182,947	\$ 5,734,205
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to cash provided by (used by) operating activities:			
(Gain)/Loss on marketable securities	189,926	(568,753)	(829,298)
Depreciation	2,103,442	2,042,066	1,892,737
(Increase) decrease in assets:			
Accounts receivable	1,150,205	(363,540)	(4,043,923)
Loans receivable	15,424	(46,460)	(17,231)
Other assets	142,487	(35,805)	150,274
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,119,736)	2,216,942	2,784,318
Compensated absences	95,928	(10,178)	(16,540)
Accrued faculty payroll	(622,003)	(585,992)	(731,455)
Deferred revenue	4,106,312	5,390,269	4,620,136
Other liabilities	<u>1,572,468</u>	<u>983,008</u>	<u>2,249,874</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u>22,523,503</u>	<u>13,204,504</u>	<u>11,793,097</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Unrealized gain on cash investments	-	-	1,530
Purchase of investments	-	-	(253,465)
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	<u>(20,404,144)</u>	<u>(3,418,751)</u>	<u>(1,098,508)</u>
<b>Net cash (used by) investing activities</b>	<u>(20,404,144)</u>	<u>(3,418,751)</u>	<u>(1,350,443)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from bond issue	-	15,935,657	-
Federal loan program	4,003	7,025	5,230
Payments of capital debt	(234,849)	(194,016)	(194,212)
Payments of capital leases	<u>(383,824)</u>	<u>(399,648)</u>	<u>(1,564,726)</u>
<b>Net cash (used by) financing activities</b>	<u>(614,670)</u>	<u>15,349,018</u>	<u>(1,753,708)</u>
<b>Net increase in cash</b>	1,504,689	25,134,771	8,688,946
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of period</b>	<u>41,685,667</u>	<u>21,890,390</u>	<u>13,372,739</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - end of period</b>	<u>\$ 43,190,356</u>	<u>\$ 47,025,161</u>	<u>\$ 22,061,685</u>
<b>Supplemental Disclosures:</b>			
Cash paid for interest	<u>\$ 411,863</u>	<u>\$ 159,667</u>	<u>\$ 217,857</u>

For those charged with governance and internal management use only

# Fitchburg State University

## PROFILE



Industry  
Education

Corporate Headquarters  
Fitchburg, Massachusetts

Employees  
750

Students  
7,000

Annual Operating Budget  
\$80 million

Web Site  
<http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/>

## THE NUMBERS

- 300 virtual desktops
- 1,100 total desktops (physical and virtual)
- 70 servers (physical and virtual)

## IN BRIEF

### Objective

Fitchburg State University wanted an alternative to its costly, unmanageable desktops—also recognizing it has to prepare for a new generation of students who are gravitating toward consumerized computing devices.

### Solution

A VMware View virtualized desktop environment has improved the manageability and reliability of the university's classroom and library computers. And in the future, the technology will allow Fitchburg to offer device-independent desktops to students.

### Business Impact

- Virtualized desktops easier to manage; cannot be infected by malware or loaded with unauthorized software
- University will avoid as much as \$1.2 million in future desktop hardware costs
- Boot times reduced from minutes to 10 seconds or less
- University prepared to deliver device-independent application environment

## Fitchburg State University Demonstrates Technology Leadership with VMware View Desktop Virtualization

*"Our goal is to give students whatever it takes to earn their degrees and not let technology get in the way. With VMware View technology, our desktops are not only more reliable and less costly, but we have a desktop platform that works across the wide range of devices brought on campus."*

— Steve Swartz, CIO, Fitchburg State University

"With any technology, somebody has to go first," notes Steve Swartz, CIO, Fitchburg State University.

Within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts public university system, that "somebody" is often Fitchburg. Founded in 1894, Fitchburg is no newcomer to higher education, but that doesn't mean it's looking backward. Fitchburg recognizes that the future belongs to its students. And the future means technology—specifically, technology that enables and enhances student learning.

The challenge, of course, is to embrace forward-thinking technology without overcommitting support resources or incurring runaway costs. Take student computing, for example. More than 7,000 full- and part-time students are enrolled in Fitchburg, working toward degrees in liberal arts and the sciences or completing professional development programs. And Fitchburg offers end-to-end support for those students' computers—all 7,000 of them. "If students have problems, they can bring their computers to our help desk, and we'll take care of it free-of-charge," Swartz says. Fitchburg's IT staff loads software, repairs hardware and even performs operating system upgrades.

Swartz is proud of Fitchburg's vigorous commitment to student computing, and rightly so. But he's also concerned that unless Fitchburg makes some major changes, that commitment could become increasingly expensive. "We need to be prepared for students who don't use conventional computers at all," Swartz says. "They're already coming to us with devices like tablets and smart phones that don't run standard operating systems."

And then there are the other desktop computers Fitchburg manages, including those systems professors use in classrooms, as well as campus computer labs—around 1,100 desktops in all.

Fitchburg needed a way to more effectively provision and upgrade those systems as well. So the university turned to VMware View™ desktop virtualization technology.

### Desktop Virtualization Pilot a Resounding Success

The university adopted VMware in its server environment long before it considered virtualizing its desktops. "We started virtualizing our servers about five years ago," notes Joe Turner, director of technology, Fitchburg State University. Fitchburg's goal was to halve its server footprint. "Our datacenter had grown, over the years, until we had about 80 physical servers," Turner says. "Today we are down to 40."



*"Focus was great to work with. They have knowledgeable staff, and experience in the field. They were forthright and very good with knowledge transfer after the implementation."*

— Joe Turner, Director of Technology,  
Fitchburg State University

Virtualizing its servers allowed Fitchburg to reduce its power and cooling costs, and relieve the strain on its datacenter's universal power supply. But what the school really needed was a way to extend virtualization's manageability and flexibility into the desktop environment.

The school decided to run a VMware View virtualization pilot, and after a false start with one vendor, engaged VMware channel partner Focus Technology Solutions to help. "Focus was awesome," Swartz says. "Within minutes, we could tell they knew what they were doing. Within two days, they had a VMware View pilot program set up and ready to run."

The approach the team took, under the guidance of the Focus engineers, was to architect a dedicated server environment to host the VMware View environment. "We wanted to make sure we had a clean environment with no unknown variables that might affect the performance of the virtualized desktops," explains Turner.

The pilot was a resounding success: The VMware View virtualized desktops loaded quickly, ran the required applications without a hitch and were easy to manage. Provisioning the desktops was also easier and faster. Desktop imaging and prep has been reduced from an hour to just minutes. "The slowest part of deploying a new desktop, now, is unboxing the monitor," says Swartz.

### No More Malware, Plus 10-Second Boot-Ups

So Fitchburg decided to move forward and implement an initial deployment of 200 virtual desktops, focusing on what Turner calls "low hanging fruit": systems with relatively simple configurations that got a lot of use—and for which virtualization would deliver immediate benefits.

The deployment didn't take long to complete. Within a month, Focus had replaced all of the university's main library desktops with thin clients running VMware View. It also virtualized 80 percent of Fitchburg's classroom podium computers—the systems professors use to lead their classes.

The university began benefiting immediately. It's no longer possible for library computers to become infected with malware, for instance, and users can no longer install unauthorized applications on public systems. This has reduced the amount of troubleshooting the IT staff has to perform. It has also eliminated a major source of user headaches. "Our desktops used to get bogged down with all the software people installed on them," Swartz says. Over time, this would drag down performance and boot times—issues that never affect the VMware View virtualized desktops. "Our virtual computers never take more than 10 seconds to boot."

The virtualized desktops are also easier to maintain. University IT staff can schedule upgrades and patching during the evening when systems aren't even turned on. They also don't have to worry about whether a system updates properly or is powered down.

Then there are the podium computers. "Before, professors were always nervous about whether their classroom computers would work," Swartz says. Even routine operations—such as installing new Microsoft Windows updates—could cause delays of 10 minutes or more. "Instructors would be down to using shadow puppets to teach while they waited for their computers to boot."

Today professors have no such worries. "Our faculty loves the reliability of our VMware View desktops," says Swartz. "They love that they always know that the podium computers are ready to go."

### Prepared for Consumerized Compute Devices

Since the initial deployment, Fitchburg has added another 100 desktops to its VMware View infrastructure. The university offers nonpersistent desktops to adjunct professors, for instance, which allows them to run applications they can't otherwise access.

*"When you consider the cost savings, the system stability, the control, and the performance it delivers, VMware View is something all academic institutions should seriously explore."*

— Steve Swartz, CIO,  
Fitchburg State University

*"We installed thin clients running VMware View in our classrooms, and members of our faculty no longer worry that their computers won't work. From a reliability standpoint, you can't beat it."*

— Joe Turner, Director of Technology,  
Fitchburg State University

This is only the beginning. Eventually, Swartz wants every campus desktop replaced by a thin client—a goal that will ultimately reduce the college's IT costs. "Thin clients last 12 years," he says, "So instead of buying new devices every four years, our refresh will consist of us giving people a new keyboard and mouse if they need it, or maybe a new monitor. This technology will pay for itself." Swartz estimates that once he reaches that goal, Fitchburg will be positioned to avoid as much as \$1.2 million in desktop hardware costs over the following decade.

Fitchburg is also testing VMware ThinApp®, which it will use to deploy specialized software for use in specific computer labs.

Eventually, Swartz envisions offering VMware View desktops to the entire student body. "We're seeing the consumerization of student computing devices," Swartz notes. "The day the Apple iPad came out, we had someone at our help desk asking how to get it onto the network. We need to offer device-independent personal computing services so that our students and faculty can run the applications they need, no matter what devices they bring to school."

Fitchburg State also hopes soon to offer online classes in subjects that they couldn't previously teach. Many of their courses depend on specialized software and configurations, and there wasn't a good way to ensure remote students could be successful before VMware View.

Embracing VMware View technology is a cost-effective way to accommodate this shift. "We haven't even scratched the surface," Swartz says. "There is so much we can do with this technology."

#### IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW

**VMware Products:**  
VMware View  
VMware vSphere 4

**Applications:**  
Microsoft Office  
Microsoft Project  
Acrobat Pro 10  
Browsers including  
Microsoft Internet  
Explorer and Firefox  
Academic software  
applications

**Partner**  
Focus Technology  
  
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Thin clients







## Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

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*Massachusetts Board of Higher Education*

February 22, 2012

Dr. Robert Antonucci  
Fitchburg State University  
160 Pearl Street  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear President Antonucci:

I have now had an opportunity to read through the evaluation of your leadership during AY2011 sent me by Board chair Lisciotti on September 12, 2011. I was pleased to learn from the Board that you "met and exceeded" its expectations for the year under review. I also appreciated the opportunity to read the self-evaluation that you prepared for the Board and to learn about your work across a number of fronts, including the science building and the reaccreditation process. Your report reflects a year of continued, energetic leadership of Fitchburg State and your manifest dedication to the college.

I must also observe that the Board's communication does not include any real evaluation of your work during the year under review, only its overall conclusions. It would be helpful in future years for the Board to send the Department its actual written evaluation.

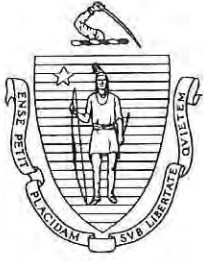
With regard to your participation in system-level activities, I was pleased to see in your report the priority you attached to work on the Vision Project. I have especially appreciated your leadership role with respect to the PARCC initiative, which has become the major vehicle through which to address issues related to our interactions with the K-12 system. More recently I also appreciated your constructive leadership with respect to the LEAP initiative; I am aware that there are mixed views of this effort within the faculty so I especially welcome your commitment on behalf of the University to participate in this work. Finally, I note that Fitchburg's proposal for support of Vision Project initiatives through the Performance Incentive Fund was not funded in FY12; I hope the university will submit a new proposal for FY13 as the Governor has included continuation funding for this program in his budget proposal. Your submission of graduation rate goals with the support plan for future improvements is appreciated. I look forward to receiving your PARCC designee as soon as possible.

Congratulations, Bob, on a successful review and a successful year.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Freeland  
Commissioner

Cc: Board Chair Lisciotti



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Division of Health Professions Licensure  
**Board of Registration in Nursing**

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February 29, 2012

Robert V. Antonucci, EdD  
President  
Fitchburg State University  
160 Pearl Street  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Dr. Antonucci:

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (Board), at their meeting of February 8, 2012, has continued the Full Approval status of the Fitchburg State University Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Program (Program). This approval status represents legal recognition by the Board that this Program has provided satisfactory evidence of its ongoing compliance with Board regulations, *244 CMR 6.04: Standards for Nursing Education Program Approval*, and is based on the Board's review of the Program's 2010 Annual Report to the Board. Annual continuation of the Program's Full Approval status is contingent on the Board's finding of compliance with 244 CMR 6.04 by the Program, and will be based on the Board's review of the Program's 2011 Annual Report to the Board, due November 1, 2012.

Board members commend you and your nursing faculty for your efforts to promote safe nursing practice. Please feel free to contact me at (617) 973-0922 or at [Judith.Pelletier@state.ma.us](mailto:Judith.Pelletier@state.ma.us) if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith M. Pelletier".

Judith M. Pelletier, MSN, RN  
Nursing Education Coordinator

c: Linda J. McKay, RN, MS  
Chairperson

## Kelli Lundgren

---

**From:** Gail Doiron  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2012 12:16 PM  
**To:** Kelli Lundgren  
**Subject:** FW: Fitchburg State Cheerleaders win CanAm National Championship

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**From:** Bradley Cohrs  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2012 3:17 PM  
**To:** students@student.fitchburgstate.edu; Staff  
**Subject:** Fitchburg State Cheerleaders win CanAm National Championship

Over the weekend, the Fitchburg State cheerleading squad captured the CanAm national championship! Congratulations go out to the entire squad. What follows is the press release from the event:

The Fitchburg State University cheerleading team competed in the CanAm National Championship in Myrtle Beach, SC, on March 16, winning first place in the Small Coed Collegiate division. In addition to beating the 16 teams in their division, they also captured the collegiate high score, beating out 28 total teams in all collegiate divisions including All Girl Small, Medium, Large, and Large Coed. Every year in March, Cheer Ltd., founded in 1988, hosts the prestigious Nationals at CANAM in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. During the fall and winter season, Cheer Ltd holds Regional Competitions throughout the country, which allow competitors to qualify for CANAM.

This is the squad's second year as a competitive team and their first-ever national competition. The cheerleaders are coached by Jacki D'Innocenzo, who is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> season with the Falcons and the former coach of St. Bernard's High School, two-time State and National Champions, and a current coach at Cheer Central Stormz All Star Gym in Lancaster. "This team has been working incredibly hard over the past two months. We've got a broad range of talent and experience, and it has somehow magically "jelled" to form a team that works together perfectly."

Coach D'Innocenzo made special note of the hard work of Sports Club President Stephanie White and Team Captain Erin Killam. "Stephanie has been instrumental in making our trip a reality. She is very organized and spearheaded the team's fundraising efforts, which included working at Gillette Stadium special events and Patriot's games

starting last summer and ending in January. Without Steph's efforts, the kids would not have been able to afford the trip, which cost approximately \$600 per athlete. Additionally, Captain Erin Killam, proved herself to be a true team leader. She's an extremely hard worker and very dedicated and expects the same of her team mates. We are also indebted to Rosalie & Robin Allain of Cheer Central Stormz, for the use of their gym. Practice space at FSU is at a premium and without their generosity, the team would never have reached their competitive goals."

The team competed in Providence, RI, in February and will continue its competitive schedule through mid-April, ending with the Jamfest Nationals, a 2-day competition held in Lowell, MA. In addition to competitions, the team cheers for the FSU Football and Basketball teams and appears at various community service events. In April, they will work the University's Special Olympics, and in May, they will appear at the Worcester Regional Association of REALTORS® American Dream House event to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Team members include Hope Bagdasarian, Waltham; Felicia Baiardi, Westfield; Rachel Bartlett and Corey Robideau, Hudson; Ashley Bugden and Stephanie White, Littleton; Kaila Camillerri, Burlington; Dustin DelleChiaie, Worcester; Allison DeMoranville, Dartmouth; Megan Fisher, Enfield, CT; David Hill and Christina Kosmidis, Fitchburg; Rebecca Jackson, Boston; Erin Killam, Mendon; Lea Lafond, Lancaster; and Alyssa Prentiss, Hubbardston.

Brad Cohrs  
Director of Recreation Services  
Fitchburg State University  
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978.665.3677



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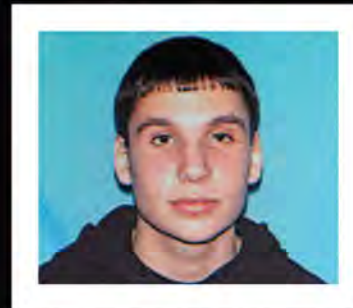
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## FSU takes stand against domestic violence



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / BRETT CRAWFORD



FACEBOOK

COURTESY PHOTO

FSU students Kevin Delano and Cara Iadonisi in "Drawing the Shades," a play incoming freshmen and transfer students watch as part of the FAVE program. It features stories of sexual assault within both heterosexual and homosexual relationships and scenarios with both men and women as aggressors. Inset, Robert Gulla, 19, left, of Shirley, who was charged with the murder of Allison Myrick, 19, of Groton who is pictured at right

## University takes proactive action to help keep students safe

**By Alana Melanson**  
[amelanson@sentinelandenterprise.com](mailto:amelanson@sentinelandenterprise.com)

FITCHBURG — In September 2009, 22-year-old Alexander Skowran, a Maryland man who had transferred to Fitchburg State University, killed his ex-girlfriend, Giselle Rodriguez, 23, of Clinton.

Days later, he was found dead in a Virginia hotel room after an apparent suicide.

It was just around that time that Allison Myrick, 19, of Groton, then a first-year student at FSU, began dating Robert Gulla, 19, of Shirley.

In January 2010, Gulla was

charged with first-degree murder and violating a restraining order in connection with the fatal stabbing of Myrick, who had broken off their brief yet tumultuous relationship about a month earlier after two occasions in which he'd been arrested on charges he assaulted her. Gulla

attempted suicide but survived.

Myrick had taken the restraining order out against Gulla four days before she was killed.

In light of these events, FSU officials decided it was necessary to take a proactive approach in making the

Please see **ABUSE/4**



# FSU fights domestic violence

**ABUSE**/From Page 1

college community safer and raising awareness about dating violence, the signs that someone may be in an abusive relationship and how to appropriately address such issues.

Fitchburg Anti-Violence Education, or FAVE, was officially launched in October 2010 and became mandatory for all incoming freshmen and transfer students as of January 2011.

Since then, other groups, such as athletic teams, have also completed the training, which focuses on issues of interpersonal and relationship violence, sexual assault and stalking. So far, according to Matthew Bruun, director of public relations for FSU and a FAVE trainer, 1,262 students have completed the training.

According to co-director Jannette McMenemy, a professor of psychological science at FSU, the program is based on one at the University of New Hampshire but modified to make it relevant to students here. Similar programs exist at schools all over the country and there are many different models that work, McMenemy said, but what makes FAVE so special is that nearly every department on campus is represented among the trainers involved.

"The most novel aspect of our program is our way of coordinating it," McMenemy said. "Our 51 trainers represent all the different aspects of our campus community, from art to math to business to athletics to the different administrative



Giselle Rodriguez, 23, of Clinton, who was killed by her ex-boyfriend Alexander Skowran, 22, of Maryland in September 2009.



FACEBOOK PHOTO

Alexander Skowran, 22, of Maryland, who killed his ex-girlfriend Giselle Rodriguez, 23, of Clinton in September 2009,

offices to maintenance staff."

"When I approached the different departments about getting involved, the response was overwhelmingly positive," said Erin Travia, assistant director of FAVE and a university counselor. "It's exciting to see that kind of response. It iterated that we have a community that wants to support and take care of each other."

"We all play a role in keeping our community safe," McMenemy said.

FAVE training consists of a play titled "Drawing the Shades," which tells the true stories of four students at Virginia Commonwealth University, played by current FSU students, each story unique and told from the perspective of the survivor. It highlights sexual-assault scenarios between both heterosexual and same-sex couples, featuring both men and women as the aggressors.

According to Travia, the rates between heterosexual and same-sex couples are nearly equal, and women can be the aggressors in heterosexual relationships more often than most people would tend to expect.

The play also presents some rather sobering national statistics. According to a 2000 special report from the Bureau of Justice:

- Women ages 16 to 24 experienced the highest per-capita rates of intimate violence — nearly 20 per 1,000 women.
- 20 to 25 percent of college

women experienced attempted or completed rape during their college careers. In 90 percent of those cases, the perpetrator is known to the victim.

A 2008 study by UNH professors determined that 25 to 30 percent of men and women in college dating relationships experience violence.

Another aspect of the training that tends to surprise people is when the students are asked to stand if they or anyone they know has ever been affected by dating violence, according to senior psychology student Saralyn Byler, 21, of Belleville, Pa., who works as McMenemy's research assistant.

"A lot more people stood up than I thought would," Byler said. "It was nearly everyone."

## Intervention training

Students also participate in a 75-minute bystander training to help them recognize various forms of violence and abuse and to develop the skills to effectively and safely intervene, Travia said.

They are given different scenarios, and discuss what to do in situations ranging from the drunk girl at a party whom you're sure is going to make a bad decision to noticing a friend has bruises after the friend has seen his or her significant other.

FAVE also tackles what Travia called lower level, more frequently seen disrespectful behavior such as sexist jokes and making fun of others' body types.

"We also teach students how to intervene in these situations, so that these lower level things don't create a culture that allows more tolerance of these situations, so we

ultimately have a safer campus where people are respected and violence is not tolerated as a whole," Travia said.

So far, the FAVE initiatives seem to be working, those involved say.

McMenemy said she hears the word "bystander" more often than she ever did prior to FAVE's existence and overall hears more discussion of related matters among students and staff, who in general seem interested in taking the proper actions to keep one another safe.

All of the students who complete the training are given FAVE keychains and ribbons, which are being proudly displayed on backpacks all over campus, according to junior political science major Matthew Costello of Raynham, an orientation leader for FSU.

Byler said she has seen some of her friends make jokes about others' bodies less frequently or they've stopped doing so altogether, and she herself is more conscious of friends' behavior at parties, especially if they are intoxicated and talking to strangers.

Byler also tabulates the surveys given to students after FAVE training, and said many take the open-ended questions seriously, and she said she thinks they are getting something positive out of it.

Though the 2011 crime statistics report from Campus Police showed only a single forcible sex offense on campus from 2008 to 2010, Bruun said this only includes reported incidents on campus and does not account for any that were not reported or happened off campus.

Though the effects of FAVE are largely anecdotal as of now, when numbers do come in for the current school year, however, McMenemy said to not be surprised if they have actually increased, because raising awareness of an issue tends to lead to increased incident reporting.

"In that situation, the numbers tend to spike shortly after awareness is raised, so the goal is to ultimately have them go back down afterward," she said.

Follow Alana Melanson at [facebook.com/alanasentinel](https://www.facebook.com/alanasentinel) or [twitter.com/alanamelanson](https://twitter.com/alanamelanson).





SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / CONNOR GLEASON

Amanda Couturier, of Ashburnham, waits to receive her diploma before Fitchburg State University's 116th Annual Winter Commencement Ceremony at FSU's Recreation Center on Friday evening.

## FSU grads earn diplomas, look forward to the future

By Michael Hartwell

mhartwell@sentinelandenterprise.com

FITCHBURG — For Ronald Nii Nortey Hansen of Leominster, Friday night couldn't come soon enough.

"It's a big day, it's been a long road," Hansen said. He was one 229 undergraduates who flipped their tassels this week at Fitchburg State University's 116th annual graduation ceremony in the school's recreation center on North Street.

Hansen, who earned a bachelor of science in computer information systems, has been applying for jobs and feels he has a good shot at a few of them.

Undergraduates and graduates have separate ceremonies in the spring, but Friday's winter commencement exercises also included the graduation of 250 graduate students.

During the ceremony, History Professor Sean Goodlett read a quote from Machiavelli's *The Prince*:

"Let him act like the clever archers who, designing to hit the mark which yet appears too far distant, and knowing the limits to which the strength of their bow attains, take aim much higher than the mark, not to reach by their

Please see **FSU/4**



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / CONNOR GLEASON

Graduates gather for Fitchburg State University's Winter Commencement on Friday. The University awarded 229 diplomas to undergraduates during the ceremony.

## University holds commencement

FSU/From Page 1

strength or arrow to so great a height, but to be able with the aid of so high an aim to hit the mark they wish to reach."

Goodlett added that if graduates aim high they will do more than they think possible.

FSU President Robert V. Antonucci delivered the commencement address, urging the families and friends gathered to cherish the moment when their loved one is on stage. He told the new graduates to let this ceremony be only the start of their journeys.

"We want you to do something with your life," said Antonucci. "And we want you to contribute something to our society."

During his speech Antonucci recognized Paul Zbikowski, Ashburnham's fire chief, who was graduating with a master of business administration.

Also appearing on stage were Fitchburg Mayor Lisa Wong, state Rep. Stephen

***"We want you to do something with your life and we want you to contribute something to our society."***

FSU President  
Robert V. Antonucci

DiNatale, D-Fitchburg, state Rep. Rich Bastien D-Gardner and state Sen. Jennifer Flanagan.

Mohammed Khan, administrator of the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority, was awarded the President's Medal. Khan, 74, is a former Fullbright Scholar who helped create Interstate 190 and brought the commuter rail line to the area.

"It's a relief, finally!" exclaimed Leslie Baron, 44, of Chelmsford. She received a bachelors of science in

occupational/vocational education and currently works as a substitute teacher in Chelmsford public schools. She hopes the degree will allow her to become a full teacher.

"This means a lot, it's incredible," said Chris Chouinard, 34, of Gardner. He received his masters of science in applied communication and already works as an audio-visual technician.

Kim James, 22, of Wilmington said she's already accepted an engineering job. She's been interested in engineering since high school and received a bachelor of science in industrial technology.

Kathy and Russ Starling of Tewksbury said they were "thrilled" to see their son Stephen, 23, graduate magna cum laude with a bachelor of science in business administration.

"Now if he can just find work," added Russ Starling.

Follow Michael Hartwell at [Twitter.com/SEHartwell](https://twitter.com/SEHartwell) or [Facebook.com/Michael-Hartwell](https://facebook.com/Michael-Hartwell).



## Economy's up? So are gas prices

### Locals resigned to idea of fuel costing \$4 a gallon

By Jack Minch  
jminch@sentinelandenterprise.com

Camilla Babin of Westminster pumped gas in her Buick LeSabre and wondered if she will be able to afford to drive it by the spring.

"I'm going to have to stay home more, I guess," she said.

It's a cruel irony that, as the economy shows improvement and the unemployment rate falls, the price of gasoline is expected to rise, analyst Sander Cohan of Energy Security Analysis in Wakefield, said Tuesday.

The supply along the East Coast is dwindling while demand from people returning to the workforce is expected to rise, he said.

AAA Southern New England's Feb. 6 survey indicates the average price of regular unleaded self-serve gasoline in Massachusetts is \$3.49 a gallon, up 2 cents in the past week

Please see **GAS/5**



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / BRETT CRAWFORD

Tom Shea of Leominster, owner of Tom's Limousine Service, pumps gas into his Chrysler minivan at Unified Petroleum on Route 12 in Leominster on Tuesday. Shea says the rising price of gas affects his business. "If the price goes up out of control, I have to raise my prices. People will find an alternate way to the airport. They will take a train or get a family member to take them."

## Folks seem resigned to the idea of \$4-a-gallon gas

**GAS/From Page 1**

and 12 cents in the past month, spokeswoman Mary Maguire said.

"That was the seventh consecutive week of increases," she said of the jump to \$3.49.

The average price of gasoline was just \$3.11 a gallon at this time a year ago, peaking at \$3.99 a gallon last May, Maguire said. It's expected to go higher this year.

The wholesale price for gas stations was up another 2 cents Tuesday, said Khalid Banizugireh, owner of Unified Petroleum on Route 12 in Leominster.

"What's going to happen in the spring and summer? It's ridiculous," Banizugireh said.

Massachusetts hit its all-time high at \$4.08 a gallon July 7, 2008, but it started falling the next week and slid all the way to \$2.28 a gallon by November of that year.

The political uncertainty in Iran is contributing to the rising costs, Maguire said.

"I think the continued tensions with Iran are a major factor in the rising price of both oil and gasoline because the concern among analysts is, because of the threats being made against the U.S. by Iran, there may be limited access through the Strait of Hormuz, through which about 30 percent of the world's oil passes," she said.

Eric Budd, a political-science professor at Fitchburg State University, agreed that Iran could have a huge impact on oil prices this summer if it carries out its threat to close the strait, but he is increasingly optimistic that will not happen.

"In some ways, we are starting to have success pres-

suring Iran," Budd said. "Several countries that get oil from Iran agreed to find alternatives. I'm actually more optimistic than the past to have some influence on Iran."

There are domestic issues at play in the rising price of gasoline, too, said Cohan, the energy analyst.

The Department of Energy says the demand is at historic lows, but the supply is even weaker, he said.

"Unfortunately, there are a lot of things pushing the price up and not a lot keeping it down for the time being," Cohan said.

There are two refineries in Philadelphia that have already closed, and a third is slated to close, Cohan said. Another in the U.S. Virgin Islands has also shut down.

That means the East Coast must get its gasoline through a congested gas line coming from the Gulf Coast of Texas, or from Europe's more expensive North Sea, Cohan said.

Gasoline companies will be switching from their heavier winter fuel to the lighter warm-weather fuel during the April-May time frame, which adds cost.

Motorists say they will try to alter their driving habits to mitigate the pain at the pump, but often there is little they can do.

Errands, shuttling children and going to work have to be done, they say.

"Our basic is to go back and forth to school," said Deb Royka of Lunenburg as she bought fuel at AL Prime on Route 12 in Leominster for \$3.49 a gallon. "There is nothing you can do."

Royka said when she gets gasoline, she uses a credit



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE PHOTOS / BRETT CRAWFORD

Several views on news that gas could eclipse the \$4-per-gallon mark this summer.

**Above:** "I'll just have to shell out the money. I drive mostly to job sites and customers." Enrique De Los Reyes of Wayland, at AL Prime Energy on Route 12 in Leominster.

**Top right:** "I've accepted it because you have to pay it. You don't really have a choice. You need to get where you have to go." Shauna Lapoint of Leominster, at Unified Petroleum on Route 12 in Leominster.

**Bottom right:** "I'm going to have to stay home more, I guess." Camilla Babin of Westminster, at AL Prime Energy on Route 12 in Leominster.

card that gives cash back.

Joe Diamond of Wendell drives a tractor-trailer for a living and said those costs are making it difficult for truckers.

"Your costs are increased dramatically," said Diamond, who drives about 3,000 miles a week.

Those costs are passed on to the consumers, he added.

Babin has a summer home in New Brunswick, Canada, and said the gasoline prices are higher north of the border and she may not be able to afford to visit this year.

"I'm glad it's not as expen-

sive as in Canada," she said optimistically.

Enrique De Los Reyes of Wayland is an engineering consultant who was in Leominster filling the gas tank on his Toyota Avalon on Tuesday.

"I'll just have to shell out the money," he said. "I drive mostly to job sites and customers."

The rising prices may have a good environmental effect, he said.

"It's too bad we have to pay it, but it's good because it makes people more conscious of what they use and get more efficient



cars," De Los Reyes said.

Tom Shea of Leominster was at Unified Petroleum, pumping fuel into his Chrysler minivan. He owns Tom's Limousine Service and uses an estimated 150-170 gallons of gasoline a week.

"If the price goes up out of control, I have to raise my prices," Shea said. "People will find an alternate way to the airport. They will take a train or get a family member to take them."

Shauna Lapoint of Leominster said consumers on tight budgets will be more conscious

of their driving habits and look for one-stop shopping venues, such as BJ's Wholesale Club, rather than running around town to different stores.

Lapoint drives a Kia Optima, which gets about 32 miles per gallon on the highway, and she is resigned to paying more to fill up.

"I've accepted it because you have to pay it," she said. "You don't really have a choice. You need to get where you have to go."

Follow Jack Minch on twitter.com/jackminch.



Wednesday, February 8, 2012

# Fitchburg State students ace contest in moot court competition



Fitchburg State University students Matthew Costello, left, and Sydney Kirsch pose with their first-place brief-writing award won at the American Collegiate Moot Court Association's National Championship in Orange County, Calif. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

**Fitchburg** State University students Sydney Kirsch and Matthew Costello recently finished first in the nation in the brief-writing contest at the American Collegiate Moot Court Association's National Championship at Chapman University School of Law, Orange County, Calif.

Ms. Kirsch of Lunenburg and Mr. Costello of Raynham helped **Fitchburg** State maintain its standing as the only school in the nation to have teams advance to day two of every national tournament for 12 consecutive years.

Both students advanced to the national tournament in all three years they competed, part of teams that won 17 of 18 preliminary rounds and made it to the second day of all three national tournaments.

Ms. Kirsch graduated on Jan. 27 and Mr. Costello is expected to return for one more season.

"The continued success of our Moot Court teams is a great source of pride for this institution," **Fitchburg** State President Robert V. Antonucci said. "I congratulate the students, faculty and staff who have worked so hard to achieve this distinction."

The national competition, held in January, featured students engaging in written and oral arguments concerning a hypothetical Supreme Court case. This year's exercise involved threats against the president made in an online chat room.

The questions for the litigants in the Moot Court program concerned whether the federal government had the right to order an Internet service provider to provide a subscriber's chat-room dialogue and whether the chat room administrator had the rights to facilitate such a discussion under the First Amendment.

Students had to prepare arguments for both sides of the issue.

"Sydney and Matt are among the best teams that **Fitchburg** has ever fielded," said professor Paul Weizer, chairman of the university's department of Economics, History and Political Science, and the adviser to the Moot Court team. "The competition gets tougher every year. This year had both the largest field ever and the highest scores were needed just to get in. Yet Matt and Sydney demonstrated that they were the best in the nation. To have success in both written and oral advocacy shows just how special they are."



# Fitchburg State hosts graphic design lecture series

**FITCHBURG** — Award-winning designers who have helped shape and articulate how graphic design defines our culture will be featured when the communications media department at **Fitchburg** State University presents a new lecture series this spring.

The Graphic Design Lecture Series will present Clifford Stoltze in March, Richard Doubleday in April and Alston Purvis in May. The series is free.

The series opens at 3:30 p.m. March 1 in the Condiike Science Lecture Hall at 333 North St. with the presentation “Music Graphics: LP2CD+” by Clifford Stoltze, the principal and creative director of Stoltze Design in Boston. The presentation is a survey of more than 40 years of high notes in design for music featuring favorites from Mr. Stoltze's own LP, CD and poster collections as well as some of Stoltze Design's own projects for the music industry.

Mr. Stoltze has taught at Rhode Island School of Design and Massachusetts College of Art, and frequently lectures at schools and design organizations around the country. He has served as AIGA Boston vice president and was honored as the recipient of the design association's 2005 Fellow Award. Reflecting his love of music and album art, Mr. Stoltze's book, “1000 Music Graphics,” was published in May 2008. He is also curator of POSTGIG, a traveling exhibit of contemporary music posters.

The series continues in April with Richard Doubleday, assistant professor at the School of Visual Arts at Boston University. Mr. Doubleday, author of “Jan Tschichold, Designer: The Penguin Years” and co-author of “Jan Tschichold — Master Typographer,” will present “Cultural Identity in Graphic Design” at 3:30 p.m. April 5 in the Condiike Science Lecture Hall.

The series concludes in May with Alston Purvis, chairman of the graphic design department at the School of Visual Arts at Boston University. Mr. Purvis, author and editor of “Meggs' History of Graphic Design,” will present “Dutch Poster Design: A Century of Innovation” at 3:30 p.m. May 3 in the Condiike Science Lecture Hall. The talk will address the unique influence of Dutch poster design over the last 100 years.

The lecture series is supported by the Ruth Butler Grant at **Fitchburg** State University.



## Two at FSU win writing contest

Students continue school's streak in national moot court competition

FITCHBURG — Fitchburg State University students Sydney Kirsch and Matthew Costello recently finished first in the nation in the brief-writing contest at the American Collegiate Moot Court Association's National Championship at Chapman University School of Law in Orange County, Calif.

Kirsch, of Lunenburg, and Costello, of Raynham, helped

FSU maintain its standing as the only school in the nation to have teams advance to day two of every national tournament for 12 consecutive years. Both students advanced to the national tournament in all three years they competed, part of teams which won 17 of 18 preliminary rounds and made it to the second day of all three national tournaments.

Kirsch graduated on Jan.

27 and Costello is expected to return for one more season.

"The continued success of our moot court teams is a great source of pride for this institution," FSU President Robert Antonucci said. "I congratulate the students, faculty and staff who have worked so hard to achieve this distinction."

The national competition,

Please see **WRITING/18**



PHOTO COURTESY OF FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Matthew Costello and Sydney Kirsch with the award they won at the American Collegiate Moot Court Association's national tournament in January.

## FSU students win writing competition

**WRITING/**From Page 17

held in January, featured students engaging in written and oral arguments concerning a hypothetical Supreme Court case. This year's exercise involved threats against the president made in an online chat room. The questions for the litigants in the moot court program concerned whether the federal government had the right to order an Internet service provider to provide a subscriber's chat room dialogue and whether the chat room administrator had the rights to facilitate such a discussion under the First Amendment.

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LOCAL & REGIONAL NEWS

Local updates throughout the day

telegram.com

# US reps explore their new territories

By Paula J. Owen  
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

FITCHBURG — Small business owner Russell W. Moore said he was glad he had the chance to meet U.S. Reps. Niki Tsongas, D-Lowell, and James P. McGovern, D-Worcester, yesterday at a “meet and greet” at the Courtyard by Marriott. Congressional redistricting caused drastic changes to the politicians’ districts that include Mrs. Tsongas gaining Gardner and Fitchburg in the 3rd Congressional District and Mr. McGovern gaining Leominster in the 2nd Congressional District, among other major changes.

The politicians were in the area visiting local business owners, organiza-

## Redistricting prompts meet and greet

### FITCHBURG

tions and schools including, Fitchburg State University.

“They are doing the right thing coming out and learning more about the districts they will represent, if they get re-elected.”

Mr. Moore, an independent who said he votes for politicians in both parties, said he is undecided about who he will vote for in the upcoming election. He is most interested in what the politicians have to say about rising health care costs, he said. If not for skyrocketing health care costs, he said he could have expanded his Townsend-based business

of 10 employees and created more jobs.

“I have provided medical coverage for my employees from day one,” he said. “This is the first year in 10 years they (health care costs) haven’t gone up by double digits.”

When questioned by Mr. Moore about “ObamaCare,” speaking in favor of national healthcare reform, Mrs. Tsongas said Massachusetts already has a healthcare system put in place by former Governor Mitt Romney that is “essen-

tially the architecture of what is being done at the federal level.”

The system in Massachusetts is successful, she said, and premiums are starting to come down.

“If we don’t bring down costs of care, it is not going to be affordable to anyone,” Mrs. Tsongas said.

Mr. McGovern said healthcare reforms in Massachusetts have brought more federal money into the state. Healthcare should be accessible and affordable for everyone, he said, and the federal healthcare bill is a step in the right direction.

“There are a large number of unin-

Turn to **Visiting**/Page A5



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fitchburg State University President Robert V. Antonucci points out a feature of the renovation going on at the Hammond Campus Center at the university to, from left, university vice president Jay D. Bly, state Sen. Jennifer L. Flanagan, D-Leominster, U.S. Rep. James P. McGovern, D-Worcester, and U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas, D-Lowell. The two U.S. reps visited the area yesterday to help themselves get acquainted with new areas of their districts.

## Visiting

From **Page A3**

sured in this country who get their care from the emergency room and we all pay for that,” he said. “The healthcare bill is not perfect, but it is a step in the right direction.”

After the event, Mr. Moore said he didn’t feel any better about rising healthcare costs.

“They came up with a lot of facts, but I’m still not sure,” Mr. Moore said. “They answered what they could.”

The audience that included

local leaders, non-profit heads and business owners also asked about the pair’s stance on education funding and job creation.

Both said visiting their new territory was a good way to find out what issues were important to people in this area. Mrs. Tsongas said post-industrialized Fitchburg was similar to her current constituencies of Lowell and Haverhill in that not a lot of state and federal resources were allocated for the city’s recovery when manufacturers closed down.

She acknowledged that she will have to work to earn every vote in the new municipalities in her district.

Mr. McGovern said he and Mrs. Tsongas routinely agree on most issues, but joked they will now disagree on at least one — who will win the rival football game between Leominster and Fitchburg.

He also announced a new \$4 million federal initiative for retraining the unemployed on needed job skills to get them back to work.



Wednesday, March 7, 2012

# Long journey for salmon begins at Leominster Boys & Girls Club

By Amanda Roberge  
CORRESPONDENT



Pablo Araujo, 9, helps Dan Marchand, left, and Mike Scherer of the state Department of Environmental Protection empty salmon eggs into an aquarium at the Boys & Girls Club in Leominster. (T&G Staff/ED COLLIER)

**LEOMINSTER** — The journey of the Atlantic salmon lasts many years and will take them to the coast of Greenland and back again before they are fully mature.

But these days, their voyage begins in some unlikely places — such as the Boys & Girls Club of Fitchburg and Leominster. About 200 salmon eggs are calling the newly renovated facility on Lindell Avenue home.



Under the guidance of educator Mike Scherer, club members are getting a hands-on, comprehensive education about the ecological issues involving the species of anadromous fish, which is endangered in other parts of New England and has long been dwindling in population along the Connecticut River.

In fact, they will have the chance to be a part of the solution as they nurture the eggs into small fry that they personally will release later this spring.

"It's a pretty big deal for these kids," said Mr. Scherer, an environmental analyst with the state Department of Environmental Protection, who volunteers his time to offer extracurricular science education at the club through a state-run program called State Employees Responding as Volunteers. "They get to be a part of something really interesting and important."

The Atlantic Salmon Egg-Rearing Program is a cooperative environmental education program designed to promote an understanding of fisheries' restoration and management, and hands-on watershed stewardship through experiential learning in the classroom.

The program, launched in Massachusetts in 1997 by Trout Unlimited, parallels similar initiatives in other states, including New Hampshire, Vermont and Connecticut. Students hatch and raise young Atlantic salmon in the classroom and later release the fish in streams within their community.

The Boys & Girls' Club is only one of about 40 hosts to the program in Massachusetts this winter, all of which will be releasing their inch-long friends into various locations within the Connecticut River watershed come spring.

"What we're trying to do is a restore a population that no longer exists in this river," said Dan Marchand, a volunteer from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, who delivered the salmon eggs to the group of temporary caretakers Feb. 24.

Mr. Marchand explained how to care for the eggs, what to feed them and what methods to use for observing and studying them. They will feed krill and brine shrimp to their new charges, which they will also raise themselves. They will watch for the eggs to drop to the aquarium's rocky floor as they reach their next stage of development as sac fry. And they can take each specimen out from time to time to place it under an observation scope to see their internal biology.

But as expected, the kids had a few questions: Do you think they look disgusting? Who takes care of them on the weekend?

Club Director Donata Martin stays busy making sure that the science-minded kids have access to the supplies and equipment that is essential to their learning, and said she is thankful to all of the local businesses that have contributed to this effort.

In addition to donations from Wal-Mart and the Leominster Sportsmen's Association, Fitchburg State University and the San Diego Foundation played major roles in making the project possible.

According to Mr. Scherer, this learning opportunity will involve three separate field trips this spring as the kids visit a hatchery in Northern Connecticut, a fish ladder and wildlife museum in Turners Falls and finally, a place to release their salmon fry.

"So far this year we've been doing a lot of nature walks and learning about wetlands and wildlife," he said. "But this is a step up from that — much more intensive."



Emilie Arel, 12, looks through the aquarium glass at salmon eggs at the Boys & Girls Club in Leominster. (T&G Staff/ED COLLIER) [Enlarge photo](#)



Dan Marchand of the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife talks to students on Friday afternoon at the Boys & Girls Club in Leominster. (T&G Staff/ED COLLIER) [Enlarge photo](#)

# FSU speaker to explore climate change and health

FITCHBURG — Health, conflict and climate change will be the topic of the keynote address when the Fitchburg State University Center for Conflict Studies and the International Studies Minor Program present Dr. Aaron Bernstein, associate director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School.

The talk will be delivered at 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 26, at the Fitchburg State University Presidents Hall in the Mazzaferro Center,

291 Highland Ave. The event is free and open to the public.

In addition to his role with the Center for Health and Global Environment, Bernstein is a pediatric hospitalist at Children's Hospital Boston. His work examines the human health effects of global environmental changes, such as climate change and the loss of biodiversity, with the aim of promoting a deeper understanding of these subjects among students, educators, policy makers and the public.



## WEEKEND BEST BETS

# Fiddling, family anchor Natalie MacMaster

By **Bonnie J. Toomey**  
Correspondent

FITCHBURG — Fiddling virtuoso Natalie MacMaster, welcomed by Fitchburg State University's arts and culture series, will take the stage at the Weston Auditorium at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

MacMaster can't remember a time when she wasn't playing the fiddle. She remembers being paid \$20 to play as a child. At 10, she was already becoming a pro and, with a long bloodline deep and rich with musicians like uncle Buddy MacMaster and cousin Ashley MacIsaac, she was destined to become a Cape Breton star.

"My uncle had a huge influence on me for sure. He's influenced my style," she says with a chipper singsongy twang hinting of Celtic roots.

MacMaster says she was also shaped by her strong upbringing by her parents and by her community, which remain an important part of who she is today as a person and a performer.

"I believe in the morals and values that they lived — they didn't just teach it. Preach always, use words if necessary, comes to mind," says MacMaster, paraphrasing St. Francis of Assisi.

MacMaster, 40, says she carries those values with her to this day.

"(That's why) I sometimes bring the kids with me on the road and also why I home school," she says.

The oldest three of MacMaster's four children, ages 5, 4, and 2, even took the stage dancing in the Christmas show last year.

MacMaster grew up the youngest of three, with two brothers.

"Once the baby, always the baby," she says lightly, "but I didn't notice that I was."

She began playing the fiddle at 9 years old and gave her first paid performance at Glencoe Mills at



Natalie MacMaster plays Fitchburg State University on Wednesday.

Please see **BEST/19**

**BEST/**From Page 18

around 10 years old.

"I remember a concert in Glendale Hall. I played some marches and my feet weren't even touching the floor. At 11, I went to Boston to play a performance."

MacMaster says there were not any challenges even at the tender age of 16 when she released her first album.

"It was a good age; I had a bit of a fairy-tale upbringing," she says.

Though she was playing traditional music it was something her peers in Canada praised her for and it added up to the best of experiences.

She has received a number of Canadian music awards, including several "Artist of the Year" awards from The East Coast Music Association, two Juno awards for best instrumental album and "Fiddler of the Year" from Canadian Country Music Association.

A graduate of Nova Scotia Teachers College, she looks back on her early studies.

"I'm really happy that I finished," she says. "I'm so happy I did that, even though at times I considered quitting."

"Everybody has a different path. I really believe a degree isn't for everyone; you just have to do what's right in your heart."

MacMaster's pivotal mentors include two performers, Eileen Ivers, a fiddler from the Bronx, and Mark O'Connor, a classical violinist/fiddler from Washington state.

"I had all of Mark O'Connor's music — I went through a Mark O'Connor craze and ended up meeting both, playing with both and befriending both."

MacMaster describes herself as religious, devoted and "in love." She met her husband, Donnell, also a fiddler, when she was 19. He called her for a blind date, saying, "I don't know what you look like but bring your fiddle."

MacMaster explains they were both young, and after a 10-year breakup, Donnell called her again and they reunited.

"We get along really well. We're well suited to each other, and have similar likes," says MacMaster. They are expecting their fifth child.

MacMaster is eager to fiddle and dance a jig while performing but is hesitant to single out a favorite venue.

"There are too many," she says of the places that she has loved and appreciated in her long career, but if she had to

pick a memorable one, it would be Carnegie Hall.

Being a mother and a professional performer doesn't afford many moments to chill out. MacMaster finds peace in being at home with her family.

MacMaster wants her family and husband to remember that she tried her best and as an artist that she did what she wanted to do by being true to herself.

MacMaster says she's not trying to be popular, although she likes her popularity; it's not what she's seeking.

"My driving force is making great music," she says. "I love traditional folk music, but I'm not scared to put on a little AC/DC. I think everybody needs that!"

Tickets are \$32 for adults and \$10 for students and children under 18. They're available at the Weston box office or by calling 978-665-3347.

The box office, inside the auditorium at 353 North St., is open Wednesday through Friday, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tickets can also be ordered online at [www.fitchburgstate.edu/cultural](http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/cultural).

Experience the arts and make your community richer. Get up and get out, and get in the know. Let's go!



# FSU students present update of classic comedy

FITCHBURG – An updated take on a classic play will grace the stage at Fitchburg State University when the English and Industrial Technology departments present “Arsenic and ODD Lace” as their spring production.

In this timely reimaging of Joseph Kesselring’s classic satire, two sweet old ladies combine the Internet with poisoned elderberry wine to deliver lonely old men from their misery and suffering. The pair are helped by their nephew, Richie, who believes he is President Nixon re-fighting the battles of Watergate. When a second nephew, a drama critic, discovers his aunts’ “little secret,” the two are forced to halt their hobby, at least until their prodigal niece, an underworld entrepreneur, arrives home with a body to dump and a willingness to help her aunts go back into business.

Sanity does somersaults in this hilarious exploration of the unintended consequences of good intentions. This play was written by Peter Anderegg and the production is directed by Kelly Morgan. Admission is free.

“Arsenic and ODD Lace” will be performed in the McKay Theater in the McKay Campus School, 67 Rindge Road. Preview performances will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, March 27 and 28. The show will also be performed at 7:30 p.m. March 29 through March 31, with a final matinee performance at 2 p.m. April 1.

# FSU events mark Women's History Month

FITCHBURG — As it part of its ongoing observances of Women's History Month, Fitchburg State University will hold a panel discussion titled "Cinderella Ate My Daughter" at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Hammond Lounge.

The discussion, which focuses on Peggy Orenstein's controversial new book, will feature Fitchburg State faculty members Joe Moser, Laura Garofoli and Viera Lorencova, as well as parent Tracey Sarefield.

On Monday, March 26,

there will be a screening of the Disney film *The Princess and the Frog*, and attendees will be invited to dress in costume. The screening, sponsored by the Fitchburg State Alumni Association, starts at 6:30 p.m. in Ellis White Auditorium in the Hammond Campus Center.

The month's observances will close with a Women's History Month Tea on 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, in Presidents' Hall. This year's event will honor the 100th year of Girl Scouts with local scouts of all ages.

# \$80,000 grant will strengthen bond between FSU and MWCC

FITCHBURG — Fitchburg State University and Mount Wachusett Community College have been selected by the state Board of Higher Education to examine the transfer path between the two schools as part of an initiative to improve college graduation rates.

The two institutions jointly received an \$80,000 grant sponsored by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and funded by the Lumina Foundation for Education.

The partnership is part of a larger, \$2.2 million national project funded in nine states. Middlesex Community College and the University of Massachusetts Lowell, were selected as the state's second partnership. Transfer from a two-year institution to a four-year institution represents an important pathway to a baccalaureate degree for many students, including those from traditionally underrepresented groups.

Over the next two years, faculty and assessment experts at MWCC and FSU, along with leaders in the state Department of Public Higher Education, will examine the methods in which learning is measured to ensure that students are able to transfer seamlessly from a two-year to four-year college or university.

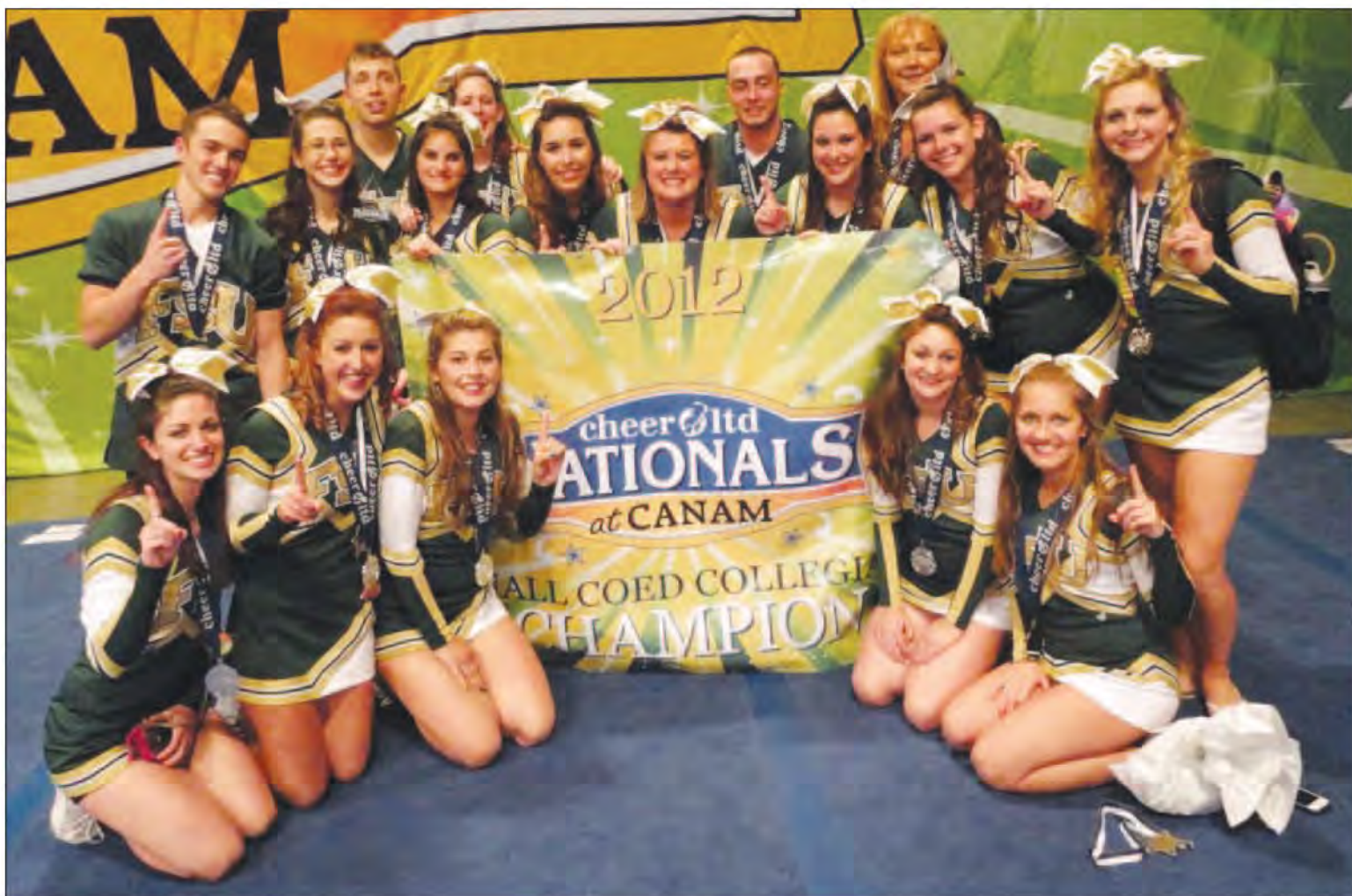
On Monday, the AAC&U and the Board of Higher Education announced that Massachusetts has been selected as the country's eighth state partner in AAC&U's initiative, "Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP): Excellence for Everyone as a Nation Goes to College."

"This grant provides us an opportunity to forge another partnership with Mount Wachusett Community College and to focus on the pathways students can use to achieve their academic goals through coursework and transfer," FSU President Robert V. Antonucci said.

"We are delighted to partner with Fitchburg State University on this innovative, significant work to ensure that students have the requisite knowledge and applicable skills necessary to successfully navigate a pathway to the baccalaureate degree or a direct route into the workforce," MWCC President Daniel M. Asquino said.

A challenge of maintaining strong transfer agreements is the constant re-evaluation of course credit through discussions with faculty to determine the transferability of courses. The program will allow representatives from both schools to discuss course content and curriculum planning.





COURTESY PHOTO

The FSU cheerleading team placed first in the recent CanAm National Championship Small Coed Collegiate division in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Kneeling, from left, are Kaila Camilleri (Burlington), Alyssa Prentiss (Hubbardston), Rachel Bartlett (Hudson), Megan Fisher (Enfield, Conn.) and Rebecca Jackson (Boston). Standing, from left, are Corey Robideau (Hudson), Hope Bagdasarian (Waltham), Dustin DelleChiaie (Worcester), Ashley Bugden (Littleton), Erin Killam (Mendon), Christina Kosmidis (Fitchburg), Stephanie White (Littleton), David Hill (Fitchburg), Felicia Baiardi (Westfield), coach Jacki D'Innocenzo, Allison DeMoranville (Dartmouth) and Lea Lafond (Lancaster).

## FSU cheerleaders win national competition

FITCHBURG — The Fitchburg State University cheerleading team competed in the CanAm National Championship in Myrtle Beach, S.C., last Friday, winning first place in the Small Coed Collegiate division.

In addition to beating the 16 teams in their division, the team also captured the collegiate high score, beating out 28 total teams in all collegiate divisions, including All Girl Small, Medium, Large and Large Coed.

Every year in March, Cheer Ltd., founded in 1988, hosts the prestigious Nationals at CANAM in Myrtle Beach. During the fall and winter season, Cheer Ltd holds Regional Competitions throughout the country, which allow competitors to qualify for CanAm.

This is the squad's second year as a com-

petitive team and its first-ever national competition. The cheerleaders are coached by Jacki D'Innocenzo, who is in her third season with the Falcons and is the former coach of St. Bernard's Central Catholic High School, two-time state and national champions, and a current coach at Cheer Central Stormz All Star Gym in Lancaster.

"This team has been working incredibly hard over the past two months," D'Innocenzo said. "We've got a broad range of talent and experience, and it has somehow magically jelled to form a team that works together perfectly."

D'Innocenzo made special note of the hard work of Sports Club president Stephanie White and team captain Erin Killam.

"Stephanie has been instrumental in mak-

ing our trip a reality," D'Innocenzo said. "She is very organized and spearheaded the team's fundraising efforts, which included working at Gillette Stadium special events and Patriots games starting last summer and ending in January. Without Steph's efforts, the kids would not have been able to afford the trip, which cost approximately \$600 per athlete."

"Captain Erin Killam proved herself to be a true team leader," she added. "She's an extremely hard worker and very dedicated, and expects the same of her teammates."

The team competed in Providence, R.I., in February and will continue its competitive schedule through mid-April, ending with the Jamfest Nationals, a two-day competition held in Lowell.



## GOOD FOR GIRLS?

FORUM EXPLORES DISNEY'S PRINCESS CULTURE  
LOCAL — PAGE 3



## MUSICAL STEW SERVED AT FSU

SEGAPOOL TO DELIVER  
KLEZMER, SKA AND MORE  
WEEKENDER — PAGE 7



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## MATCH GRANT

# Lisciotti boosts FSU campaign with \$100G

### Staff report

FITCHBURG —  
Leominster developer  
Gregg P. Lisciotti has given  
the Fitchburg State University  
Foundation's five-year  
capital campaign a significant  
boost as it enters its final  
months: a \$100,000 challenge  
grant.



Lisciotti  
... a challenge  
to others

The  
donation from Lisciotti —  
who in 2011 completed a  
10-year term on FSU's  
board of trustees, the last  
three

years as its chairman — will  
match any new gifts and  
pledges received by the  
foundation between now and  
June 30 up to \$100,000, the  
university told the *Sentinel & Enterprise*, ahead of a  
formal announcement today.

Lisciotti, president and  
founder of Lisciotti Development  
Corp. of Leominster, became a  
strong advocate for the  
university and trusted adviser  
to President Robert Antonucci  
as a board member, university  
officials said. He received an  
honorary degree from FSU in  
2011.

"Gregg has been an  
invaluable asset to this  
institution, from his service as  
trustee and chairman of the  
board to the work he did with  
our students," Antonucci  
said. "This extraordinary gift  
marks a milestone in our  
capital campaign and further



COURTESY PHOTO

Leominster developer Gregg Lisciotti, right, receives  
an honorary degree from Fitchburg State University  
President Robert V. Antonucci during the university's  
spring commencement last year.

## Lisciotti aids FSU campaign

### GRANT/From Page 1

demonstrates Gregg's ongoing  
commitment to Fitchburg  
State. I applaud his generosity  
and look forward to seeing  
others step forward to meet  
his challenge."

Lisciotti said his gift  
serves two purposes.

"The first is to encourage  
faculty, friends and alumni of  
Fitchburg State to give back  
to an institution that has  
provided opportunity to  
generations of students," he  
said. "The second is to raise  
awareness about the need for  
private support of public  
higher education.

"We now receive only  
about a third of our operating  
budget from the state," Lisciotti  
added. "Without these  
private donations we could  
not maintain the access to a  
quality education that has so  
long been our hallmark."

The university is celebrating  
the close of its largest-ever  
fundraising effort —  
Honoring Our Past: Celebrating  
Our Future — with a  
celebration May 5 at the  
Recreation Center. The  
campaign goal was \$10 million,  
and the closing event will  
include the unveiling of the  
final total.



# 'Cinderella' bad influence on girls?

Discussion at FSU centers on princess culture pushed by Disney

By Alana Melanson

amelanson@sentinelandenterprise.com

FITCHBURG — Have you ever wondered what sort of effect Disney princesses have on young girls?

What about the impact they, and other aspects of the "girlie-girl" culture, may have on them throughout the rest of their lives?

Are girls being set up from a young age to unknowingly put too much stock in appearances and to walk in the well-laid-out cultural footsteps of those before them? Are they unwitting victims of early sexualization?

On Wednesday afternoon, Fitchburg State University held a panel discussion relating to Peggy Orenstein's controversial book "Cinderella Ate My Daughter," which explores some of those questions. The event was one of a series in celebration of Women's History Month.

Assistant English professor Joe Moser said he believes Disney's "Cinderella" is a patriarchal, cautionary tale warning American women against being too independent. Released in 1950, the movie came shortly after World War II, a time when many women took jobs outside the home because the men were away. Moser thinks some of the aspects of the film were a push to put women back into



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / BRETT CRAWFORD

Laura Garofoli, associate professor of psychological science, holds up two toys that her son plays with, one a pink car and the other a red firetruck, during a panel discussion based on the best-selling book, "Cinderella Ate My Daughter," Wednesday at Fitchburg State University.

their supposed place.

"Cinderella is remarkably passive throughout the entire movie," Moser said, adding that Prince Charming didn't take much of his life into his own hands either and relied greatly on his father.

Rather than make her own dreams come true, he said, Cinderella waits for others, such as her fairy godmother, to do the work for her, and trusts that things will turn out right. The message it sends is that it is best to buy into the status quo and that one's dreams can be achieved by following the rules set by previous generations, Moser said.

He also argued that the evil stepmother bears a close resemblance to two actresses of the time who were known for playing independent

women — Joan Crawford and Bette Davis.

While Cinderella's dress was blue in the movie, today, in Cinderella merchandise, her outfit is always pink, said associate professor of psychological science Laura Garofoli.

She brought up the obsession with pink that her 2-year-old son has recently developed, mainly due to a lack of exposure to the color — Garofoli is not a fan — so pink is a novelty to him.

When he wanted a pink toy vehicle, she allowed him to have it and compared its functionality with that of a similar toy aimed at boys. While both toys had blocks that could be stacked on top of the vehicle, only those of the firetruck toy had more than one shape and function. This, Garofoli said, was playing into

the notion that boys are more interested in object manipulation than girls, and bolstering it at a rather young age.

"It's not that girls don't have shape-sorting activities, but if you look at the shape-sorting activities that are out there, I really think Fisher Price and other toy companies miss opportunities," she said.

The way those companies market items for girls, she said, is to layer on the pink and superficial.

"They'll take traditional games, and they'll place them on a pink board, and then the goal, instead of staying out of jail, like in Monopoly, you get to go shopping," Garofoli said. "Everything is shopping and pink and pretty, and there's so much emphasis on having things and improving your appearance."



## GOOD FOR GIRLS?

FORUM EXPLORES DISNEY'S PRINCESS CULTURE

LOCAL — PAGE 3



## MUSICAL STEW SERVED AT FSU

SEGAPOOL TO DELIVER  
KLEZMER, SKA AND MORE  
WEEKENDER — PAGE 7



# Sentinel & Enterprise

2011 New England Newspaper of the Year

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THURSDAY, March 22, 2012

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## Weekender

### WEEKEND BEST BETS



**THE WORLD IS THEIR MUSIC:** Sagapool, a world music band based in Montreal, will play the Weston Auditorium at Fitchburg State University at 2 and 4 p.m. Saturday, March 31.

# FROM THE REGION

## Fitchburg

### **FSU receives boost in \$100K challenge grant**

FITCHBURG — The Fitchburg State University Foundation's five-year capital campaign has received a major boost as it enters its final months: a \$100,000 challenge grant from Gregg P. Lisciotti, president and founder of Lisciotti Development Corp. of Leominster.

Mr. Lisciotti last year completed a 10-year term on the university's board of trustees, when he became an advocate for the institution and an adviser to President Robert V. Antonucci.

Mr. Lisciotti's \$100,000 challenge grant will match any new gifts and pledges received by the foundation between now and June 30.

A website devoted to the grant is at [www.fitchburgstate.edu/challenge](http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/challenge).

Mr. Lisciotti said the gift serves two purposes — to encourage faculty, friends and alumni of FSU to give back to the university and to raise awareness about the need for private support of public higher education.

The university is celebrating the close of its largest-ever fundraising effort — Honoring Our Past: Celebrating Our Future — with a celebration on May 5 at the Recreation Center. The campaign goal was \$10 million, and the closing event will include the unveiling of the final total.

## Lisciotti Gives \$100K To Fitchburg State

By Livia Gershon

Worcester Business Journal Staff Writer

Today

Gregg P. Lisciotti, president and founder of Lisciotti Development Corp. of Leominster, has pledged \$100,000 as a [challenge grant](#) to match other gifts to the [Fitchburg State University](#) Foundation.

The foundation is in the final months of a five-year capital campaign, and the grant will match any new gifts and pledges received between now and June 30.

Lisciotti is a long-time supporter of Fitchburg State and last year finished a 10-year term on its board of trustees.

In a statement, Lisciotti said the gift is intended both to encourage others to support Fitchburg State and raise awareness about the need for private support of public higher education. He noted that the university receives only about a third of its budget from the state.

The goal for the capital campaign is \$10 million. The college will reveal the amount it has received at a celebration on May 5.

<http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/challenge>

## **FSU, MWCC get grant to improve intra-transfers**

Fitchburg State University and Mount Wachusett Community College have received an \$80,000 grant to make it easier for students to transfer between the two schools. The grant is sponsored by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and funded by the Lumina Foundation for Education.

The pair of colleges is one of two "quality collaborative dyads" in the state that received such a grant. The other is Middlesex Community College and the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

One of the challenges of strong transfer agreements is the need for faculty to constantly re-evaluate course credits to determine a course's transferability, according to Ruth Slotnick, director of articulation and learning assessment at the Mount.





SUBMITTED PHOTO

FSU students David Robinson, Brianna Payos, Paige Meyette and Brian Costello cut wood with a table saw during their spring break spent building homes with Habitat for Humanity in Laredo, Texas.

# FSU students build homes for Habitat for Humanity during spring break

By Alana Melanson

amelanson@sentinelandenterprise.com

FITCHBURG — During spring break, some college students travel to exotic locales. Many of them just stay home, use it as an excuse to party locally or pick up extra hours at work.

For 22 Fitchburg State University students, their spring break was a little bit different. They spent it rebuilding homes for Habitat for Humanity.

FSU's Alternate Spring Break, a completely student-run program, saw these young men and women off to Laredo, Texas, from March 10-17, where they cut wood, installed windows, siding and baseboard, finished cabinets and countertops and did landscaping for homes in a neighborhood called Tierra Prometida, or "the promised land."

The 22 students were chosen from about 65 applicants through an interview process early in the fall, and then spent their school year fundraising and seeking donations from local businesses for their own transportation and hotel costs for the week.

"For spring breaks the first two years I'd always just sat around and did nothing at home, so why not?" said Brian Costello, 22, a senior accounting manager from Agawam, from the FSU campus Friday. This trip was actually Costello's second Alternate Spring Break; last year he went to Foley, Ala., to do similar work.

For first-time participant Christopher Thibodeau, 20, a sophomore education major from Fitchburg, he just "wanted to do something different over spring break."

"I wasn't really 100 percent sure what it was going to be like when we were down there, but it was like the best experience," Thibodeau said. "I made so many new friends."

One of the best parts of the experience though, was actually getting to meet the families that would be mov-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

FSU students Christopher Thibodeau and Mary Pacino stop working and have some fun kayaking down the Rio Grande during their spring break spent building homes with Habitat for Humanity in Laredo, Texas.

ing into the houses they were building, he said.

"So you're working with the owners of the houses and you're seeing their children and their families, and you're seeing how excited they are to actually move into their new house and have it finished," Thibodeau said. "To help them along in that process is just so much fun and just so good."

Neighbors from the other Habitat houses would also make them lunch every day, he said.

"It was such a good community to work with, and the people that we met there were so great and so dedicated to what they do," he said.

Thibodeau explained that the families were able to get homes there by applying for a Habitat for Humanity house, and once selected, they pay back their mortgages at zero interest.

"It just kind of gives them better opportunities to live," he said. "So it's kind of cool to be a part of something bigger than just a spring break."

Costello said the homes were fully furnished for the families as well.

"They don't just get a house, too; they have to put in 500 hours of their own into their house, and also

other people's houses in the neighborhood," he said, or work in Habitat's Re-Store, which takes appliance and furniture donations and sells them at low prices.

Participating in this program has taught Costello and Thibodeau teamwork, patience, the importance of giving and to be thankful for what they have.

"I think you definitely realize how fortunate you are growing up, what you've been given," he said. "I think it makes you feel more aware of your surroundings. Now, I can build a house, I can put in windows and side a house."

"You never think when you're looking at the baseboards of your house, how complicated it is to put them in, and how long it takes," Thibodeau said. "But after the week, when you're putting in baseboards, and putting in doors, and you're getting frustrated over it, you realize how much how much you have and how much you've taken for granted."

No prior carpentry experience was necessary in order to participate, and they are grateful to have learned these skills.

"There were a lot of us leaving, that just felt like, I just want to build my own

house because I can now," Costello said.

The FSU students were also recognized for their work by Laredo Mayor Raul Salinas, who personally came to thank them. They were also interviewed by a local television station.

It wasn't all work, however — the students did get to have some fun, kayaking down the Rio Grande and breaking into spontaneous dance parties wherever they went, they said with a laugh.

Would they do it again? "Absolutely," Thibodeau said.

Follow Alana Melanson at [facebook.com/alanasentinel](https://www.facebook.com/alanasentinel) or at [twitter.com/alanamelanson](https://twitter.com/alanamelanson).



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TUESDAY, March 27, 2012

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## FSU CREW PLANS REWORKING OF CLASSIC PLAY



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE PHOTOS / BRETT CRAWFORD

Actor Vince LaRue, 79, of Fitchburg gets kisses from FSU senior Samantha Demanbey, 21, of Sandisfield, left, and freshman Erika Haynes, 19, of Hardwick, while practicing a scene during a dress rehearsal Saturday for the upcoming performances of "Arsenic and Old Lace." **Below:** FSU junior Kim Connor, 20, of Auburn, left, and senior CJ Mulhern, 22, of Leominster, right, look on as sophomore Tommy Karner, 19, of Hopkinton reacts in horror over the prone body of sophomore Marc Lawrence, 19, of East Bridgewater.

## 'Lace' gets new face? Now, that's 'ODD'

By Michael Hartwell  
mhartwell@sentinelandenterprise.com

**F**ITCHBURG — Cameo appearances by several local officials may cause audience members to do a double take at a Fitchburg State University play this week.

Director Kelly Morgan, a theater professor at Fitchburg State University, said the production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" is a satire of satire.

"It lampoons the political atmosphere in general," Morgan said.

The script for "Arsenic and Old Lace" was updated for a modern audience by Peter

Anderegg, head librarian at the Fitchburg Law Library and an occasional playwright.

The walk-on role for a respected official caught in a compromising situation will rotate each night between Leominster Mayor Dean Mozzarella, state Rep.

Stephen DiNatale of Fitchburg, Fitchburg Chief of Police Robert DeMoura, FSU Chief of Police James Hamel and FSU Dean of Student and Academic Life Stanley Bucholz.

Joseph Byrne, a business administration major and the school's oldest freshman at age 69, secured the cameos from respected officials in his role as marketing director. He also has a part on stage and described his role as a "dirty old man."

Morgan said the original play's dated references wouldn't ring true with a younger audience, and brought in Anderegg to switch them for modern references. Gone are Teddy Roosevelt

***"It lampoons the political atmosphere in general."***

Director Kelly Morgan



Please see **ARSENIC/8**





SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / BRETT CRAWFORD

From left, junior Kim Connor, 20, of Auburn, and sophomores Paige Beaudoin, 20, of Georgetown, and Marc Lawrence, 19, of East Bridgewater rehearse a scene from Fitchburg State University's production of "Arsenic and ODD Lace."

# FSU actors plan reworking of classic satire 'Arsenic'

**ARSENIC**/From Page 1

and the Panama Canal. After initially trying to replace it with Boston's Big Dig, planners settled on Nixon and the Watergate scandal.

"It still needs to have the idea of a historical context," said Morgan, adding that while college students (other than Byrne) are too young to have witnessed Watergate, it's something they've been taught and it's still relevant.

He said the play does not have a political message but spoofs politics itself.

Kimberlee Connor, 20, is a junior theater major and plays Jaqueline Brewster, whom she referred to as a poison-wielding "hit lady."

"This has been probably the best production I've ever been on," Connor said.

She said the script and the cast have combined really well to make a great show.

Sophomore film major Ian Vincent, 20, is playing Richie Brewster, a character convinced he is former President Richard Nixon.

"It's a lot of fun," said Vincent, adding that the script is challenging and caused him to do a lot of research on Nixon to perfect his role.

"Arsenic and ODD Lace" will be performed in the McKay Theater in the second floor of the McKay Campus School at 67 Rindge Road. Performances will be held at Tuesday and Wednesday at 6 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday at 2 p.m. Admission is free.

Follow Michael Hartwell at [Twitter.com / SEHartwell](https://twitter.com/SEHartwell) or [Facebook.com / MichaelHartwell](https://facebook.com/MichaelHartwell).



ENTERTAINMENT  
& LIFESTYLE

# Musical melange



SUBMITTED PHOTO

French-Canadian  
instrumental band  
expects to drum up  
more fans on US tour

By Richard Duckett  
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

**S**agapool would like to make a name for itself down south.

It doesn't have to be *that* far south. "We're only one hour from the border," said Alexis Dumais, pianist and double bass player for the evocative-sounding French-Canadian instrumental band.

In 2008 the Montreal group changed its name from Manouche, reflecting a musical shift from gypsy/klezmer to a more all-embracing world music style. Most recently Sagapool really has been down south, renting a house near Asheville, N.C., for four days of intense rehearsal to get a show on the road that has included five dates in North Carolina before the band heads back north on an itinerary bringing it to Fitchburg State University Saturday night. The show at Weston Auditorium is part of FSU's CenterStage arts and culture series.

Manouche/Sagapool has played stateside before, but the total of 10 U.S. stops before the six-member band heads to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on its current tour seems to reflect a desire for more of a following across the Canadian border. With a new album — "Sagapool" — just out, now might be the perfect time.

"It would be wonderful. I would hope the response would be good," said Dumais during a recent pre-tour telephone interview from Montreal. "I'm sure there's a public for instrumental music."

He was talking just post-release of "Sagapool" in Canada (the album was officially released here last Tuesday) and the initial reception had been great, Dumais reported in his thick but charming French-Canadian accent. "People that have followed us from the beginning are really happy and like it a lot," he said.

The band was formed in 1999 by students at the Conservatoire de Musique de Montreal. Among the founders was violinist Zoé Dumais, Alexis' sister. He was a pianist and not a student at the conservatory but liked listening to the music the band was playing. Two years later they needed a double bass player — not (at that time) a pianist, but Alexis could play the instrument and volunteered.

Manouche soon won a reputation in Montreal and elsewhere in Quebec for its joie-de-vivre, vibrant music and original and dazzling repertoire.

In its early years it was a "gypsy-, klezmer-oriented band," Dumais said, although he added with some pride that Manouche/Sagapool has always been difficult to definitively categorize. Folk, jazz, and what one critic has called "the rich

## Sagapool

■ **When:** 8 p.m. March 31

■ **Where:** Weston Auditorium, Fitchburg State University

**How much:** \$15; \$12 seniors; \$5 students (978) 665-3347; [www.fitchburgstate.edu/cultural](http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/cultural)

Sagapool, originally called Manouche, was formed in 1999 by students at the Conservatoire de Musique de Montreal.

Turn to **Sagapool**/Page B7

## Sagapool

From **Page B6**

cultural mosaic of Montreal" have been other influences. The band has played many times at the Montreal International Jazz Festival and won "Instrumental Album of the Year" at the Canadian Folk Music Awards in 2008 for "Episode Trois" (appropriately, its third album).

The album "Sagapool," its fourth, comes across with quite a haunting introspection. It's a sort of meditative folk landscape and also an often beautiful one, although there is plenty of energy to the musicianship.

Sagapool clarinetist and co-founder Guillaume Bourque has said "Early on, we were bringing heat to the cold winter, but now we're assuming our northernness."

Besides Bourque, and Zoé and Alexis Dumais, the rest of the

current line-up is Luzio Altobelli (accordion, drum, double bass), Dany Nicolas (guitar, banjo, double bass) and Marton Maderspach (drum, double bass).

Dumais said that when Manouche started with gypsy/klezmer, the music "was new to us. We said 'Let's try this, it's fun.' I believe we're living this again with our new style." After a while, "we got to the end of what we felt was pertinent." Plus, a number of other bands had followed in the same direction. "We started to do something more pertinent."

The fans have stuck around. "Yeah, I believe because exactly like us their musical tastes changed," Dumais said.

Fourteen years constitutes longevity. Nevertheless, Sagapool is not a full-time job.

"Everybody has other bands,"

Dumais noted. A graduate of the University of Montreal with a BA in jazz piano, he has performed George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" for the Symphony of Winds of Montreal, and performed with Loco Locass, Polémilbazar, and Fanfare Pourpour. He also teaches jazz piano at the Music School of St. Lawrence.

Still, he keeps on jumping back into Sagapool along with his fellow band members to record, perform and tour, spreading the word and music.

Dumais said he has never performed in Massachusetts before. In Fitchburg, a French-Canadian shouldn't feel like a stranger, even though it is south of the border.

"In New England there are a lot of French names. I've noticed that," Dumais said.





**LOG ON?**

STATE MAY CUT BACK ON  
TREE-CUTTING LIMITS

LOCAL — PAGE 3



**PASSOVER PERFECT**

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SACRIFICE FLAVOR THIS HOLIDAY

LIFESTYLE — PAGE 7

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SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / BRETT CRAWFORD

State Sen. Jennifer Flanagan talks with Jeffrey Anderson, left, of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission and Fitchburg State senior Matthew Gordon of Fitchburg, a REDI intern, about their project on the Wachusett Station Corridor on Tuesday at the Fay Club on Main Street.

## Local businesses aid students in a REDI-made partnership

By Michael Hartwell

[mhartwell@sentinelandenterprise.com](mailto:mhartwell@sentinelandenterprise.com)

FITCHBURG — Between the wainscoting and hors d'oeuvres, a gathering at the Fay Club in downtown Fitchburg on Tuesday night allowed Fitchburg State University students involved with the school's Regional Economic Development Institute a chance to present their research projects to members of the local business community.

"The idea is to provide information to the business community," said Martin Connors Jr., chairman of the REDI Advisory Board.

He said the business community sponsors REDI and, in return, interns with REDI research information about the area that businesses can use as a public good, and members of the business community recommend research projects.

Connors is the president and CEO of Rollstone Bank & Trust, which provided \$50,000 in seed money to start REDI.

Joshua Spero, the director of REDI, said Tuesday evening was also a chance for

Please see **REDI/9**



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / BRETT CRAWFORD

Fitchburg State University sophomore Emma Weisman, 21, of Lunenburg, left, a REDI intern, talks with Paul Maguire of Intellisource International Inc., as Mary Leger of Ruel Electric chats with Luis Rosero, right, an assistant professor at FSU in front of an economic-development indicators matrix chart of North Central Massachusetts on Tuesday at the Fay Club on Main Street in Fitchburg.

## Local businesses aid students in a REDI-made partnership

**REDI/**From Page 1

members of the business community to interact with the REDI interns and see what some of the projects have unearthed.

Emma Weisman presented her project, the Economic Development Indicators Matrix, which provides monthly reports and raw data for the region, such as the unemployment rate for a given municipality, the number of new residential building permits, and changes in population.

Weisman said that though the nation has an 8.5 percent unemployment rate, the state has a 6.5 percent unemployment rate. Unfortunately, she said, North Central Massachusetts has an unemployment rate of 7.1 percent.

"It's important to keep that in mind," she said, adding that all of New England is seeing a gradual population decline.

Her information is updated monthly on the REDI website.

Matthew Gordon had preliminary results on the smart-growth project surrounding the upcoming new commuter-rail station in west Fitchburg.

Gordon said the future Wachusett Station is right in the middle of an industrial zone. He

displayed a color-coded map of the land use and municipal projects within 2 1/2 miles of the station that covered parts of Fitchburg, Leominster and Westminster.

He said the area will benefit the community if commuters have a transportation system ready to take them places or make a day trip to the area.

"You'd want to have a bus that can take you to Wachusett Mountain and then the Leominster State Forest," Gordon said.

He said he has been aided on the project by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.

Patrick O'Brien had a map of the area comparing population density, locations of businesses and connection to high-bandwidth broadband Internet.

"Broadband is becoming incredibly important to health care, education and small businesses," O'Brien said.

He added that some businesses already need reliable high-speed Internet access, and others may be unaware of how broadband can help them reach their full potential.

Follow Michael Hartwell at

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## What would you do — help others ... or dive into cash?

We asked the *Sentinel & Enterprise's* Facebook fans what they would do if they won the Mega Millions jackpot of \$540 million. What they had to say:

**Judy Perla:** "I always said, if I won, I would invite everyone I was giving money to a party and surprise them by giving them envelopes with the money in them ... To see their expressions would be priceless!!"

**James Burger:** "I'd give \$50 million to REDI (the Regional Economic Development Institute) to try to get some good done in Central Mass."

**Michelle Renee Walker:** "I would pay off my debt

and then pay for my special needs daughter to go to whatever school she needs to be in, so that I don't have to keep fighting public school about her placement."

**Steve T. Picone:** "Build a vault, fill it with singles and dive in, a la Scrooge McDuck."

**Jackie Davis:** "I would absolutely start an animal sanctuary for dogs. I would take in those that are not able to be adopted due to aggression issues, or who are on death row and

Please see **DREAMS/5**

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

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# Community *Sunday*

SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2012 17

## Experts to share insights into 'sandwich generation'

FITCHBURG — The struggles of the so-called "sandwich generation," who must balance raising children, caring for their aging parents and their own work lives will be explored at a free seminar this spring sponsored by the Coalition for Communication and Intercultural Leadership, Fitchburg State University and Mount Wachusett Community College.

According to the Pew Research Center, over one in every eight Americans age 40 to 60 is both raising a child and caring for a parent. In addition, 7 million to 10 million adults are caring for their aging parents from a long distance. This discussion about how to manage the demands of caring for children and

aging parents will include a panel of experts who will share insights, ideas and practical advice on meeting this growing challenge.

"The Sandwich Generation" will be discussed on Wednesday, April 4, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Fitchburg State University. The Fitchburg State program will be held in Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St.

Mount Wachusett Community College recently held a similar program.

Featured speakers include Mary Ellen Bartlett, parish nurse at St. Michael's Parish in Hudson; Dr. John Chetro-Szivos, professor of communications media at Fitchburg State University; Robin Frkal, assistant vice presi-

dent at UNUM Corporation; Margaret Jaillet, assistant dean at the School of Health Sciences and Community Service at Mount Wachusett Community College; and Maryann Kane, professor of early childhood education at Mount Wachusett Community College.

Attendees are asked to RSVP to [gluo@student.fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:gluo@student.fitchburgstate.edu) or to call Taryn Holley at 978-665-3675. Certificates and professional development points are available.

The program is supported by the Douglas and Isabelle Crocker Center for Civic Engagement at Fitchburg State University and the Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement at Mount Wachusett Community College.



## MR. SPEAKER

FSU TAPS ALUM FOR COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS  
LOCAL — PAGE 3



## SOX TUNE UP

AARON COOK LOOKS SHARP  
SPORTS — PAGE 9



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## FSU has commencement speaker



COURTESY PHOTO

Ethan Becker, a 1993 graduate of Fitchburg State University, will be this year's undergraduate commencement speaker.

### Ethan Becker, '93, is published author, speech coach

FITCHBURG — Fitchburg State University will welcome published author, international speech coach and developer of communication training and coaching programs Ethan F. Becker as the 2012 undergraduate commencement speaker on May 19.

"Ethan Becker is a successful and engaged alumnus whose insights and advice will be of great benefit to our graduates and their guests," FSU President Robert V. Antonucci said in Monday press release. "We are delighted that he will be sharing his wisdom with the campus community."

Becker, a 1993 graduate of the university's communications media program, will follow in a recent tradition of welcoming accomplished alumni back to campus to deliver commencement addresses. He will also receive an honorary degree at the ceremony.

President of the Boston-based The Speech Improvement Company, Inc. and co-author of the best-selling book "Mastering Communication at Work," Becker has developed customized motivational training programs on a vari-

ety of communication-related topics. Through his career he has traveled all over the world, including Japan, Singapore, Australia, and most recently, Malaysia. He has worked with organizations across many industries, from Harvard University to Apple Computer to the New York Giants to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Becker lives in Marlboro with his wife, 1994 FSU graduate Kelly Durkin Becker, and their three children.

Aside from his bachelor of science from FSU, Becker also earned a master of business administration at Capella University in Minneapolis and is working on his doctorate.

The Speech Improvement Company offers professional speech coaches who help people with formal public speaking, fear of speaking, speech mechanics and accent reduction through group training, workshops and individualized coaching. Their clients include politicians, executives, managers, celebrities and individuals from across the globe.

Minutes of Meeting Held on April 11, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 11, 2012**

**8:00 a.m.**

**President's Conference Room**

**300 Highland Avenue, Fitchburg, MA 01420**

**Sanders Building**

Trustees Present: Robert Babineau, Anna Maria Clementi, Martin F. Connors, Jr., Matthew Costello, Anthony Mercadante, Frank O'Donnell, Robert Pontbriand, Cynthia Stevens, Carol Vittorioso,

Trustees Absent: David Mullaney, Gladys Rodriguez-Parker

Also Present: Robert V. Antonucci, Robin Bowen, Jay Bry, Cathy Daggett, Gail Doiron, Nathan Gregoire, Chris Hendry, Kelli Lundgren, Jessica Murdoch, Michael Shanley, Paul Weizer

Prior to the start of the Board meeting, Mr. Frank O'Donnell was sworn in by Representative Stephen L. DiNatale as the new Alumni Representative of the Board of Trustees. Mr. O'Donnell replaces Ms. Beverly Farias after her 10 years of service to the Board.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vittorioso at 8:10 a.m.

President Antonucci started the meeting by introducing Dr. Paul Weizer. Dr. Weizer has accepted the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs currently held by Dr. Shirley Wagner. The Board welcomed and congratulated him.

The President then introduced and welcomed Mr. Frank O'Donnell as the newest member of the Board.

The consideration of the Board of Trustees minutes from February 7 and March 5, 2012 were presented.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Pontbriand and seconded by Mr. Connors it was

**Voted:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 7, 2012 as  
**(9-0)** presented.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Pontbriand and seconded by Mr. Costello it was

**Voted:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 5, 2012 as  
**(9-0)** presented.

The Board then discussed tenure recommendations from Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Robin Bowen. President Antonucci commended Dr. Bowen for conducting a very extensive review of the tenure candidates.



Ms. Vittorioso asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Pontbriand and seconded by Ms. Clementi it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation of the tenure candidates as presented.  
**(9-0)**

The President then referenced the promotion notifications handed out at the meeting. He and Dr. Bowen felt these were good recommendations for promotion. He further mentioned the promoted faculty will be recognized at the April convocation ceremony and the newly tenured faculty will be recognized at the May 8 Trustee dinner.

President Antonucci then discussed the investment proposals. He made note that Mr. Connors and Mr. Mercadante would refrain from this discussion to avoid any conflict and neither has influenced the decisions in this matter. He stated it had already been voted to approve moving the funds out of the Commonfund and at this point he was requesting a vote to move investments into the funds as outlined in the investment services proposal in the Board packet.

There are three institutions in the summary sheet, Northern Trust, Enterprise Bank & Trust and Rollstone Bank & Trust. The President noted that Mr. Jay Bry and Ms. Cathy Daggett were instrumental in this process. Ms. Daggett said the institutions gave informative presentations, with Northern Trust being the most detailed and comprehensive.

The President noted this has been a 3-4 month process and investments will be reviewed annually. He is pleased to have two local institutions involved.

Ms. Vittorioso asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Pontbriand and seconded by Mr. Costello it was

**Voted:** to accept the investment services proposal as presented.  
**(7-0)**

*Mr. Connors and Mr. Mercadante abstained from the vote.*

Ms. Anna Maria Clementi then gave an overview from the Student Government Association (SGA) meeting held on April 2, 2012. Ms. Clementi and Ms. Vittorioso were in attendance. Ms. Clementi was impressed by the students' sophistication and ability to communicate their concerns openly. She felt the students were very comfortable with both Board members. Some issues discussed were:

- Parking – With the capital projects happening on campus, there are slightly more problems with parking, but parking seems to be an issue at most campuses.
- Fee increases – Students are concerned with the possibility of fee increases. Ms. Clementi and Ms. Vittorioso let the students know that the Board is sensitive about increases as well.
- Safety – Ms. Clementi asked the students if they feel safe on campus. The students don't seem to be overly concerned and they believe the university bike patrol has helped to make them feel like there is an officer close by at all times. When asked if students tend

to go off campus, they replied they feel safe traveling downtown; however, they are a bit concerned about outsiders coming onto campus.

- Scholarship money – Ms. Clementi let the students know there were scholarships available, however, it seems as though students are unaware of how to acquire this funding. Ms. Clementi feels we need to have a better process of relaying the information to students and getting the applications completed.
- Campus meals – There is a concern that there are not adequate healthy choices in the dining hall. Grilled vs. fried chicken as an example. Students also stated they would like to see the dining hall open later than the current 7pm closing time. They state if you are at a university-sponsored event and arrive back to campus late, they are unable to obtain a meal. It was stated that the Commuter Café is open until 10pm, which should be a viable option to the dining hall. President Antonucci stated we have done studies on this, and it very costly to have the dining hall remain open late. Mr. Connors suggested giving a voucher to a local dining establishment in the case of a late night.

President Antonucci then presented his report. He informed the Board that Mr. Costello's term expires on June 30, 2012 and he will not seek re-election. He has decided run for SGA President next year. There will be a student election for his seat, which will be either Nathan Gregoire or Phil Sandy.

The President said this is a very busy time on campus. He noted the enclosures in the book are:

- Tenure procedures
- Executive Summary
- Quarterlies
- Technology Customer Case Study
- February 22, 2012 letter from Commissioner Freeland
- February 29, 2012 letter from Board of Education in Nursing
- Memo re: Fitchburg State Cheerleading CanAm National Championship
- News articles

Mr. Connors congratulated university staff for a very well written report for the NEASC Accreditation process. He was present during the final report and there were only minor issues. President Antonucci stated he will share the final report with the Board when available.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Robert A. Pontbriand, Clerk  
Board of Trustees