



## ***Board of Trustees Meeting***

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.  
Leominster Credit Union Meeting Room, Hammond Hall  
160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA

**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

**Briefing**

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Robert V. Antonucci, President

RE: April 29, 2014

**OVERVIEW**

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, at 4:00 p.m. in the Leominster Credit Union Meeting Room (214) in Hammond Hall. Prior to the meeting, the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee will meet. We will have a recognition dinner at 5:30 p.m. at the Falcon Hub. At the dinner, we will recognize faculty who were granted tenure at the last meeting. I also invited the Department Chairs, the Alumni Board, the Student Government Association, the Executive Committee, the University Deans and Union leaders.

Parking will be reserved in the Sanders lot and on Highland Avenue in front of the Admissions building. An officer will be available to assist.

The schedule is as follows:

3:00 p.m.	Finance Committee	LCU Meeting Room (214) Hammond Hall
3:50 p.m.	Executive Committee	Conference Room (215) Hammond Hall
4:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting	LCU Meeting Room (214)
5:30 p.m.	Dinner	Falcon Hub

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to order by Chairman Carol Vittorioso**
- II. Public Comments**
- III. The minutes of the Trustee Meeting on March 25, 2014, are presented for consideration and approval. VOTE – (10-13/14)**

**IV. Discussion with Louis Ricciardi, State University Trustee Representative to the Board of Higher Education**

**V. Trustee Email Retention Policy**

Steve Swartz will review the email account that has been set up as a “receive only” email account for the Trustees.

**VI. Finance and Administration Committee – Carol Vittorioso, Chairman, ex-officio (Votes Required)**

The Finance and Administration Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, to review the FY2015 budget. The agenda and budget materials for the meeting were sent to all members. The Committee will make a report to the full Board and the votes to be considered are included. The major budget item is to approve the FY15 State Budget. Due to the uncertainty of the state fiscal condition and the lack of specific allocations it is difficult to agree on a final bottom-line budget. We do not anticipate a final state budget until the end of June. This is the typical time line each year. That being said, we need to move ahead and will be making recommendations to consider. Included in the packet you will find the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget report.

- a) Capital Fee Increase – **VOTE (11-13/14)**
- b) GCE Undergraduate & Graduate Student and Capital Fee Increases – **VOTE (12-13/14)**
- c) Approve FY2015 Draft Budget – **VOTE (13-13/14)**
- d) Roll Forward of Funds to FY2015 Budget – **VOTE (14-13/14)**

**VII. Votes Required**

Carol Vittorioso will chair the Executive Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, and will ask the committee to make recommendations for Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk. The Executive Committee also serves as the Nominating Committee.

Act on Board officers for the term beginning July 1, 2014 – **VOTE (15-13/14)**.

**VIII. Notifications - (N06-13/14)**

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

**IX. President’s Report**

I want to call your attention to activities involving Commencement. We will be holding two ceremonies, one for Graduates scheduled for Thursday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. and one for Undergraduates on Saturday, May 17, at 9:50 a.m. All Trustees are invited to attend both events. Mary will check with you regarding your intentions.

I will also bring you up-to-date on a variety of issues including the end-of-the-year activities.

- Commencements
- Nursing Pinning

- Nursing Program
- End-of-Year Activities
- News articles

**X. Adjournment**

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

## Agenda

**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING****Tuesday, April 29, 2014****4:00 p.m.****Leominster Credit Union Meeting Room (214)****Hammond Hall****160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420****AGENDA**

- I.** Call to Order by Chairman Carol Vittorioso
- II.** Public Comments
- III.** Consideration of minutes from previous meeting
  - a)** March 25, 2014 **VOTE (10-13/14)**
- IV.** Discussion with Louis Ricciardi, State University Trustee Representative to the Board of Higher Education
- V.** Trustee “receive only” email account
- VI.** Finance and Administration Committee - Carol Vittorioso Chairman, ex-officio (Votes Required)
  - a)** Capital Fee Increase – **VOTE (11-13/14)**
  - b)** GCE Undergraduate & Graduate Student and Capital Fee Increases – **VOTE (12-13/14)**
  - c)** Approve FY2015 Draft Budget – **VOTE (13-13/14)**
  - d)** Roll Forward of Funds to FY2015 Budget – **VOTE (14-13/14)**
- VII.** Votes Required
  - a)** Act on Board officers for the term beginning July 1, 2014 – **VOTE (15-13/14)**
- VIII.** Notifications
  - a)** Personnel Actions – **(N06-13/14)**
- IX.** President’s Report – Dr. Robert V. Antonucci
  - a)** Commencements
  - b)** Nursing Pinning
  - c)** Nursing Program
  - d)** End-of-year Activities
  - e)** News Articles
- X.** Adjournment

Minutes

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 29, 2014
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  10-13/14
SUBJECT: Minutes from March 25, 2014	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University approve the minutes from the March 25, 2014 meeting.



Minutes of Meeting Held on March 25, 2014 at 8:00 a.m.

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES &  
FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Tuesday, March 25, 2014 8:00 a.m.  
Presidents' Hall, Guglielmi Mazzaferro Center  
291 Highland Avenue, Fitchburg, MA 01420**

Trustees present: Robert Babineau, Jr., Anna Maria Clementi, Nathan Gregoire, Donald Irving, Michael Mahan, Anthony Mercadante, Frank O'Donnell, Carol Vittorioso

Trustees absent: Martin F. Connors, Jr., Gladys Rodriguez-Parker, Cynthia Stevens

Board of Directors present: President Robert V. Antonucci, Todd Black, Cathy Daggett, John Dombrowski, David Rodgers, Karen Spinelli, Gregory Wheeler

Board of Directors via phone: Marc Bingham

Board of Directors absent: Gina Cuccovia-Simoneau, Cheryl Gaudreau, William Heitin, Paul Maguire, John O'Brien, Joseph Sova, David Celuzza, Scott Foster, Richard Healey

Also Present: Jessica Augat, Robin Bowen, Jay Bry, Stanley Bucholc, Cathy Canney, Gail Doiron, Carolyn Garrahan, Christopher Hendry, Mary Landi, Kelli Lundgren, Lisa Moison, Jessica Murdoch, Andre Ravenelle, Linda Richelson, Annette Sullivan, Steven Swartz, Paul Weizer

The Foundation Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Antonucci at 8:01 a.m.  
The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Chairman Carol Vittorioso at 8:01 a.m.

Chairman Vittorioso opened the meeting requesting any public comments. President Antonucci took the opportunity to welcome Andre Ravenelle, Superintendent of the Fitchburg Public Schools, to the meeting. Everyone then introduced themselves.

The consideration of the Board of Trustees minutes from January 30, 2014, was presented. Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Mercadante and seconded by Mr. Gregoire, it was

**Voted:** via roll call to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 30, 2014 as presented.  
**(8-0)**

The consideration of the Foundation Board of Directors minutes from October 9, 2013, was presented. Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Ms. Spinelli, it was

**Voted:** via roll call to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 9, 2013, as presented.  
**(8-0)**

Mr. Steven Swartz, Chief Information Officer for Fitchburg State University, addressed the group. He began a presentation on BoardDocs. Mr. Swartz explained that we are looking to move forward electronically for the board books. BoardDocs will allow us to pre-publish the board packet online so board members won't get a paper version. The software will contain an archive of all the documents. It is web-based, so the information is accessible from anywhere. There is a private section and a public section. Mr. Swartz introduced Laura Vautour, BoardDocs representative, who had joined the meeting via the web and was going to give everyone a high level look at the program. She demonstrated how the board member would access the board packet, beginning with the agenda, and then the attachments which are the other parts of the packet. You can make notes ahead of time and access them later, because the information is in the cloud. Searching for information is easy and attachments are searched as well. Mr. Swartz informed the group that someone from BoardDocs will come to FSU to train, and we will have a train-the-trainer model as well. Mr. O'Donnell asked if BoardDocs syncs with Outlook. Ms. Vautour responded that currently it does not; however, later this year it will. The information was well received by the trustees.

Mr. Swartz reviewed the laws pertaining to the email retention policy and procedures for the trustees. Fitchburg State email is archived automatically on the university-owned system. If a trustee uses another email system to communicate during the course of their university duties, however, the trustee must retain those pertinent emails. Mr. Swartz gave further details and examples of emails that need to be saved in order to be in compliance with the Massachusetts archive law. There was some discussion and Mr. Swartz answered questions from board members.

Mr. Swartz presented the state university system commercials for everyone to view. Each university contributed funds to buy time for the commercials to air on television and radio. The consensus is that it has worked out well.

Carol Vittorioso introduced Nathan Gregoire and Kelli Lundgren to talk about their alternative spring break experience. The group of 23 students and 2 advisors went to Mississippi for a Habitat for Humanity project. Mr. Gregoire had a PowerPoint presentation that showed the group helping to restore existing housing. After the work day, the group had time for some fun. ASB raises money through fundraisers throughout the year to fund the trip. In addition, each student has to raise \$400 themselves. Mr. Gregoire said it was a very rewarding trip. Dr. Antonucci thanked the advisors for their dedication to the students and the great job they did.

Cathy Canney, Dean of Graduate and Continuing Education, gave some background on the Graduate and Continuing Education Program. She then introduced Linda Richelson, Director of the Center for Professional Studies, and Lisa Moison, Assistant Director of Extended Campus & Professional Studies, who began the presentation on the center for professional studies and extended campus. The presentation included information on partnerships across the Commonwealth; GCE enrollment and revenue, including contributors to FY14 revenue; institutes and workshops; sheltered English immersion course enrollments; degree partners; extended campus professional development partners; extended campus enrollment and revenue; new partners; grants; university collaborations; adult learning in the Fitchburg area (ALFA); community members who use our facility; and what is on the horizon moving forward. There was some discussion on the ALFA program and the growth it has seen since its inception in 2004 (57 students) to 2014 (1222 students). ALFA offered 80 courses over last fall and this spring; each course is only \$25.00. It was also noted that the GCE facility, which is located on Main Street in downtown Fitchburg, hosted 322 meetings last year. The facility is used by many organizations. Andre Ravenelle, Superintendent of the Fitchburg Public Schools, expressed his appreciation to FSU for hosting the area superintendents' monthly breakfast meetings.

Audit Committee Chair Ms. Karen Spinelli, addressed the joint boards to provide an informational review of the 990 Tax Reviews for the FSU Foundation, as well as the FSU Foundation Supporting Organization. Ms. Spinelli gave a

brief overview of the content contained within the documents and then opened the floor for questions. President Antonucci noted that it is important to review this information each year.

President Antonucci pointed out the personnel notifications section in the book, which included new hires, a rehire, a promotion, a leave, a retirement, resignations, reappointments, and the sabbaticals that were voted on at the previous meeting. He also noted that there were two non-tenure notifications. The president mentioned that Jenny Fielding has accepted a position with another institution and will be leaving FSU.

President Antonucci then announced that there were twelve faculty members for whom he was recommending tenure.

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

**Voted:** via roll call to approve tenure for the faculty members recommended by President Antonucci.  
**(8-0)**

President Antonucci directed everyone's attention to the documents at the end of their book. Those documents included:

- Fitchburg State University financial statements
- A memorandum from Commissioner Freeland regarding the nursing and allied health initiative grant
- A letter from a Family First participant
- Article IX – Tenure
- Non-FSU owned E-mail retention policy and procedure
- Top 10 ways technology can help you flyer
- Various newspaper articles

President Antonucci announced that Susan Wornick will not be this year's commencement speaker, as she discovered that she has a conflict on that date. While not yet confirmed, it is anticipated we will have an alumnus as our speaker.

The President's Reception is scheduled for this coming Saturday, March 26, for all accepted students.

President Antonucci discussed the Landry Arena issue. The feasibility study is currently underway. The university has put a lot of money into the arena since it acquired the Civic Center. There is still a lot that needs to be done to make it fully usable and handicapped accessible. The president stated that Landry won't close, but it may be used as an inside recreational facility or other alternate use.

The president reported that the university's NEASC response has been submitted.

The Student Government Association has a new structure. Mr. Gregoire will not be the student trustee representative next year. There are two other students running for that position.

Ms. Vittorioso commented on the visit from Representative Warren and said she felt the students asked excellent questions.

Ms. Clementi stated that she would like to see the university offer more programs off campus with travel opportunities, perhaps pairing students with teachers. Dr. Weizer gave information on the recent passport scholarship program.

Ms. Clementi thanked Dr. Bowen for instituting the Family First Program, which has been very successful and offers a wonderful opportunity for the community.

Mr. Rodgers thanked the president and everyone at the university for all their hard work on behalf of the students and the community.

President Antonucci introduced Ms. Jessica Augat to the committee. Ms. Augat is the Interim Director of Special Events.

With no further business before the Boards, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Anna Maria Clementi, Clerk  
Board of Trustees

*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.*

Trustee Email



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**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

For any university business conducted via email, trustees should CC: or BCC: [Trustee@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:Trustee@fitchburgstate.edu). This email account isn't monitored and instead just ensures a copy of the message is archived according to state law.

Finance & Administration



*Fiscal Year 2015 Budget*

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**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Finance and Administration Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 29, 2014****3:00 p.m.****Leominster Credit Union Meeting Room (214)****Hammond Hall****160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420****AGENDA**

- I.** Call to order by Chairman Carol Vittoriosio
- II.** Discuss the FY2015 Budget
  - a)** Vote on the FY2015 budget recommendations to the Board of Trustees
- III.** Adjournment

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**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

April 29, 2014

Board of Trustees  
Fitchburg State University  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

**SUBJECT: FY2015 BUDGET NARRATIVE**

Dear board members:

Throughout the turbulent economic times, Fitchburg State continues to embrace and support our strategic goals: high-caliber classroom instruction, extensive co-curricular student programming, ambitious capital and technology improvement plans, and well-reasoned operational practices—the sum of which keeps us vital and dynamic.

As the budget process moves through the legislature and budget deliberations continue, state funding levels remain undetermined. We are putting forward, for your consideration, two FY2015 Operating Budget scenarios reflecting the minimum and maximum state funding levels that are anticipated at this time. Budget debates will continue between now and the end of June; however, we do not anticipate any significant alterations to the proposed appropriation levels.

Cumulative effects of the national fiscal slowdown continue to present us with challenges. We must, therefore, take measures to ensure our solvency and success, preserve our core mission, and make the best possible use of our resources.

What follows is an overview of our economic plans for Fiscal 2015.

## ***Budget in Brief***

### **FY2015 Operating Budget**

#### **Highlights**

This proposal includes a recommendation for a capital fee increase, a move that cannot be avoided but one we have attempted to minimize. Additionally, we will have to dip into our reserves, intensify cost containment strategies, and continue to pursue contract consolidations.

The amount of the total fee increase will be determined at the Finance and Administration Committee meeting. For discussion purposes, the numbers in this outline are based on a \$275 annual capital fee increase, and the *FY15 Proposed Budget Highlights and Graphs* reflects that assumption. Once the fee level is finalized, the proposed budget will be adjusted as necessary.

At this time I am recommending no increase to the University fee for the day undergraduate division. Once the state budgeting process has been completed and enrollment numbers are finalized, if it is deemed to be necessary, we will come back with a mid-year proposal.

#### **FY2015 Operating Budget Scenarios (Page 6)**

The first scenario depicts our minimum state funding forecast with the state appropriation of \$28,240,823 and total revenue of \$89,339,440 (column D, line 18) with a proposed \$275 annual capital fee increase. Even with this increase, we will be left with a deficit of \$3,167,466. The second scenario depicts our maximum state funding forecast with the state appropriation of \$28,942,574 and total revenue of \$89,148,073 (column E, line 18) with a proposed \$275 annual capital fee increase. Even with this increase, we will be left with a deficit of \$2,274,348. Current savings will be used to address the deficit. Our overall goal is to strike a balance between fee increases and maintaining adequate cash reserves to fund future capital investments and potential deficits. We are able to balance the budget under either scenario with unrestricted assets and still maintain adequate reserves.

#### **Staffing**

During my presidency, I have worked hard to maintain staffing patterns conducive to high-quality service. We continue to carefully analyze each position that becomes vacant. It is important to note that our state appropriation of \$28.2 – \$28.9 million falls well short of the \$34.7 million needed to fully fund our payroll. This shortfall is a further drain on the budget because every payroll dollar not covered by the state appropriation adds an additional 28.86 percent to cover employee fringe benefits – or another \$1.7 - \$1.9 million.

### Summary of Revenue Sources

(Page 6, Column D/E, Line 18)

As noted, total revenue from all sources is projected to be \$89,339,440 - \$89,148,073, with state appropriations and student fees far-and-away the largest segments.

#### FY2015 Revenue Sources

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
State Appropriation	28,240,823	28,942,574
Financial Aid	5,500,000	5,500,000
Grants	2,034,513	2,034,513
Auxiliary Services	9,280,078	9,280,078
Tuition and Fees	38,608,469	38,608,469
Investment Income	567,506	567,506
Sales and Service	1,940,585	1,940,585
Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>3,167,466</u>	<u>2,274,348</u>
Total	<u>89,339,440</u>	<u>89,148,073</u>

### Summary of Operating Expenses

(Page 6, Column D/E, Line 34)

Total operating expenses are projected to be \$89,339,440 - \$89,148,073. The bulk of these expenses are directed toward faculty and staff salaries and benefits, student aid and scholarships, physical plant expenditures, technology costs, operation and maintenance, and expenses associated with the continued major renovation of the Hammond Campus Center and Library.

#### FY2015 Operating Expenses

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Salaries and Benefits	42,872,263	42,680,896
Financial Aid	5,500,000	5,500,000
Grants	2,034,513	2,034,513
Auxiliary Services	9,279,293	9,279,293
Utilities/Space	3,661,307	3,661,307
Scholarships/Insurance	2,873,142	2,873,142
Information Technology	3,591,668	3,591,668
Capital	5,000,000	5,000,000
Operation & Maintenance	10,186,443	10,186,443
Debt Service	<u>4,340,811</u>	<u>4,340,811</u>
Total	<u>89,339,440</u>	<u>89,148,073</u>

### University Investments

The university investments have grown from an initial investment of \$17 million to \$19.5 million. The portfolios returned 8.59% for the period July 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

#### Investment Portfolios as of March 31, 2014

**Total Portfolio Value: \$19,527,438**

	<u>Market Value</u>
Fixed Income	7,181,583
Equities	10,064,634
Other Assets	1,490,744
Short Term Funds	<u>790,477</u>
Total	<u>19,527,438</u>
<b>Year to date investment gains</b>	<b>1,327,278</b>
<b>Year to date interest/dividends</b>	<b>305,541</b>

### Facilities Improvement Program

An ambitious facility improvement program continues to transform the campus, and helps ensure our long-term viability. These funds have allowed us to address the majority of new facilities and building modernizations targeted in our master plan. Among the actions: the completion of the new Science Center, the Campus Center portion of the Hammond Hall renovation project and the first phase of Conlon to create new Gaming Design labs. Ongoing renovations to the Hammond Campus Center and Library continue as well as renovations to Percival and Conlon.

Moreover, the university, primarily through the efforts of our Foundation, has acquired additional properties including the last remaining property on North 2 – Ms. Rhodes, immeasurably improving our landscape with new and improved parking, additional green space, and facilities upgrades. Last year the Foundation acquisitions, along with MSCBA revenue bonds, allowed for the single largest parking expansion in history with over 300 on-campus spaces added.

### Technology Improvement Program

Our goal of providing campus-wide, state-of-the-art technology continues, as illustrated by the establishment of a wireless campus, upgrades to computer laboratories and the creation of dozens of smart classrooms that allow faculty to access the latest technologies. Furthermore, the University is implementing Starfish Retention Systems and Blackboard Analytics software to analyze student performance in an effort to increase retention rates and improve student success. These efforts place us among the most technologically advanced campuses in the Massachusetts university sector.

### Cost Containment/Savings

#### /Avoidance Initiatives

While our goals and objectives remain focused on the three-pronged mission of teaching, learning, and service, we know it is imperative that our spending patterns be set with an eye toward containing costs. We have intensified efforts to realize appreciable

savings and are continually enacting new strategies. A partial list of recent initiatives includes: system-wide (community colleges, state universities and UMass campuses) procurement initiatives, contract consolidations, a new credit card processing system, and major cost avoidance via purchases through the Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium (MHEC).

#### Cost Containment/Savings/Avoidance Initiatives

Credit Card Processing	50,000
Utilities	454,337
Insurance Review Savings	100,000
PCard Rebate	19,803
MHEC Cost Avoidance	<u>1,440,728</u>
Total	<u>2,064,868</u>

### Summary

This budget plan represents an operational sketch outlining how best to address our current and future economic needs. There is little doubt that budget challenges will linger, which means we must intensify our efforts to enhance current revenue, protect operating dollars, increase assets, and contain costs.

At the same time, we must continue to operate as a first-rate university. I am optimistic that this fiscal plan positions the institution for a viable, progressive, and successful future.

Sincerely,

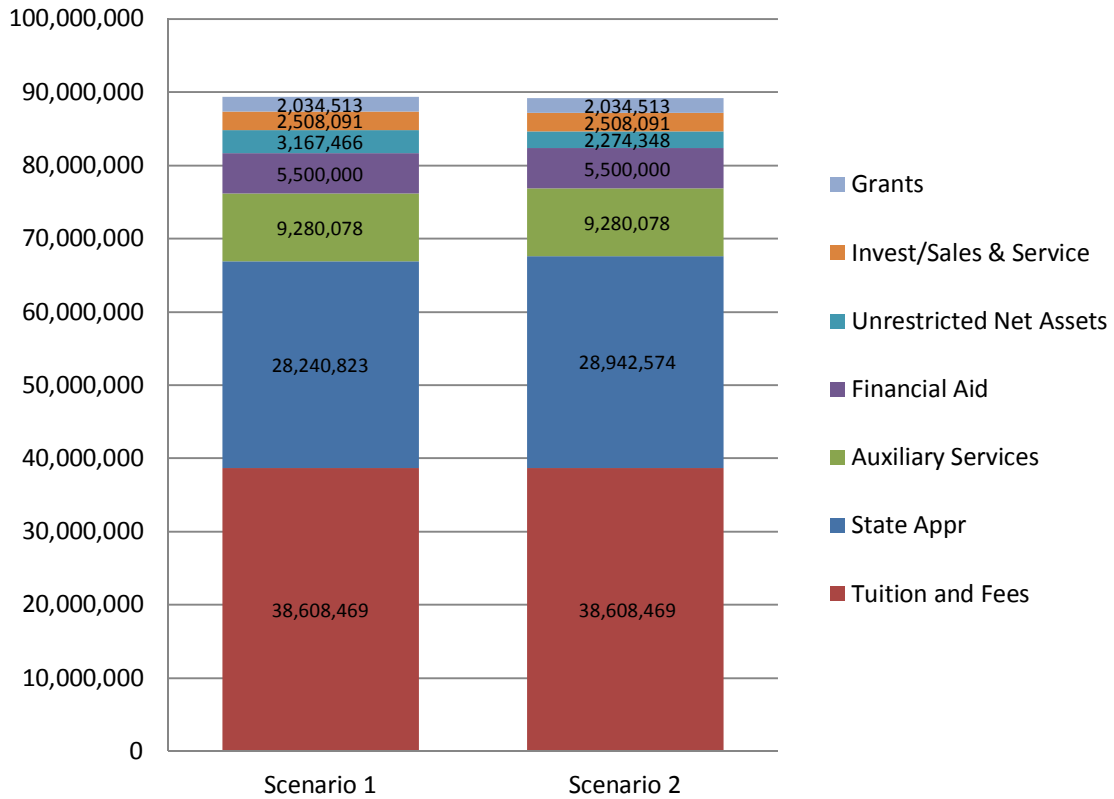


Robert V. Antonucci  
President

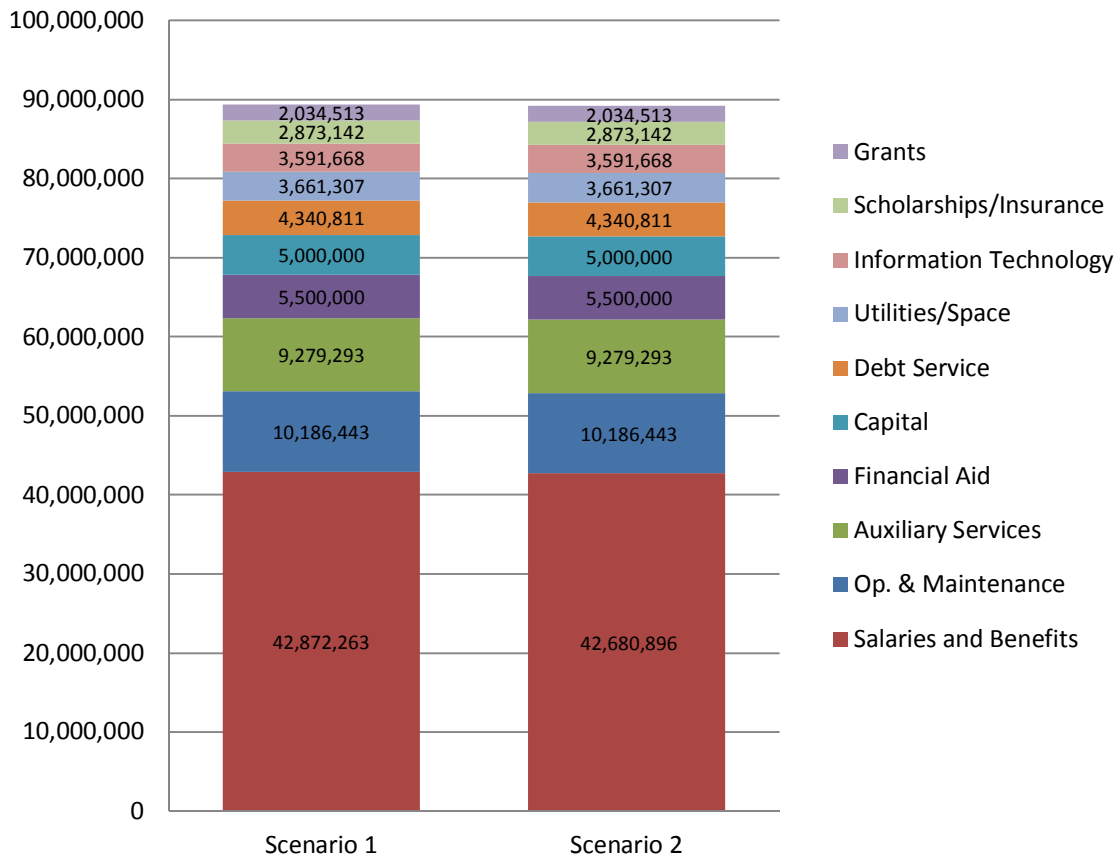
	A	B	C	D	E
	<b>Annual Operating Budgets FY13 - FY15</b>	<b>FY2013 Budget</b> \$410 annual fee increase 3400 FTE No Stimulus	<b>FY2014 Budget</b> \$275 capital annual fee increase 3400/3200 FTE	<b>FY2015 Budget Forecast</b> \$275 capital annual fee increase 3350/3175 FTE Addtl 8.1 Mil distribution \$810,000	<b>FY2015 Budget Forecast</b> \$275 capital annual fee increase 3350/3175 FTE Addtl 15 Mil distribution \$1,511,751
1					
2					
3	<b>Revenue Sources</b>				
4	State Appropriation	23,467,647	24,947,847	28,240,823	28,942,574
5	Collective Bargaining	1,462,955	2,451,425	-	-
6	Estimated Stimulus / Other State Appr	203,098	-	-	-
7	DCAM	500,000	-	-	-
8	Financial Aid	5,500,000	5,500,000	5,500,000	5,500,000
9	Grants	1,614,835	2,034,513	2,034,513	2,034,513
10	Auxiliary Services	9,139,704	9,215,217	9,280,078	9,280,078
11	Tuition and Fees				
12	Tuition and Fees	35,381,345	36,330,841	36,208,469	36,208,469
13	Retained Out of State Tuition	1,400,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
14	Non State Supported Tuition	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000
15	Investment Income	500,463	567,506	567,506	567,506
16	Sales & Service	1,866,787	1,940,585	1,940,585	1,940,585
17	Unrestricted Assets	1,500,000	986,803	3,167,466	2,274,348
18	<b>Total Revenue Sources</b>	<b>83,336,834</b>	<b>86,374,737</b>	<b>89,339,440</b>	<b>89,148,073</b>
19					
20	<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
21	Regular Employee Compensation	32,478,532	34,064,926	34,792,357	34,792,357
22	Pension and Ins-Related Exp.	2,772,638	2,001,617	2,047,970	1,856,603
23	Part-Time Salaries	5,112,847	5,498,502	6,031,936	6,031,936
24	Financial Aid	5,500,000	5,500,000	5,500,000	5,500,000
25	Grants	1,614,835	2,034,513	2,034,513	2,034,513
26	Auxiliary Services	9,141,462	9,182,564	9,279,293	9,279,293
27	Department Budgets:		-		
28	Utilities' Expenses Space Costs	4,000,592	3,580,037	3,661,307	3,661,307
29	Scholarship Expenses Insurance Costs	2,972,642	2,873,142	2,873,142	2,873,142
30	Information Technology	3,124,788	3,444,299	3,591,668	3,591,668
31	Capital	5,500,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
32	Operation & Maintenance	8,528,114	9,761,294	10,186,443	10,186,443
33	Debt Service	2,590,384	3,433,843	4,340,811	4,340,811
34	<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>83,336,834</b>	<b>86,374,737</b>	<b>89,339,440</b>	<b>89,148,073</b>



### FY2015 Revenue Sources



### FY2015 Operating Expenses



**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 29, 2014
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  11-13/14
SUBJECT: Capital Fee Increase	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University increase the following annual Capital fee, effective for the fall semester 2014.

Day School Capital Fee Increase

Capital Fee:           \$275.00 for FY2015

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 29, 2014
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  12-13/14
SUBJECT: GCE Undergraduate & Graduate Student and Capital Fee Increases	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University increase the following annual student fees, effective for the fall semester 2014.

GCE Undergraduate Student Fee Increase

\$5.00 per Credit Tuition Increase for FY2015

\$9.00 per Credit Capital Fee Increase for FY2015

GCE Graduate Student Fee Increase

\$7.00 per Credit Tuition Increase for FY2015

\$8.00 per Credit Capital Fee Increase for FY2015

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 29, 2014
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  13-13/14
SUBJECT: FY2015 Draft Budget	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University approve the FY2015 Draft Budget as presented by the President.

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE:  April 29, 2014
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  14-13/14
SUBJECT: Roll Forward of Funds to FY2015 Budget	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University vote to approve that on-going capital projects roll forward into the FY2015 University Budget.

## Board Officers - 2015

**Robert V. Antonucci**

PRESIDENT

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Executive Committee  
Tuesday, April 29, 2014  
3:50 p.m.  
Room 215, Hammond Hall  
160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420**

**AGENDA**

- I.** Call to Order, Carol Vittorioso, Chairman
- II.** Nominations for Board Officers for FY2015 – **VOTE – (01-13/14)**
- III.** Adjournment

**Fitchburg State University  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

TO: <b>Board of Trustees</b>	DATE: April 29, 2014
FROM: The President	REQUEST NUMBER:  15-13/14
SUBJECT: Board Officers	

It is requested that the Board of Trustees of Fitchburg State University vote to approve the following slate of officers effective July 1, 2014:

Chairman -  
Vice Chairman -  
Clerk -



## Notifications

# FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

## Board of Trustees

### NOTIFICATIONS

<b>TO:</b> Board of Trustees	<b>DATE:</b> April 29, 2014
<b>FROM:</b> The President	<b>REQUEST NUMBER:</b> N06-13/14
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Personnel Actions	

#### **New Hire**

Billy Samulak, PhD Effective: 9/1/14 End Date: 5/31/15	Assistant Professor Biology/Chemistry Department	\$62,000.00
Steven Fiedler, PhD Effective: 9/1/14 End Date: 5/31/15	Assistant Professor Biology/Chemistry Department	\$62,000.00
Karen Leary, MS Effective: 4/14/14	Chief of Campus Police Campus Police	\$104,000.00
Catherine Buell, PhD Effective: 9/1/14 End Date: 5/31/15	Assistant Professor Mathematics Department	\$59,000.00

#### **Rehire/ One Year Temporary**

Kevin Wall, MBA, JD Effective: 9/1/14 End Date: 5/31/15	Instructor Business Administration	\$65,628.75
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#### **Change in Salary (adjustment)**

Nancy McLaughlin, MA Effective: 1/1/2014	Staff Assistant Enrollment Management	From: \$63,826.95 To: \$65,826.95
Leah Fernandes, MA Effective: 1/1/2014	Staff Assistant Environmental Health & Safety/CPM	From: \$66,562.45 To: \$68,000.00

\*Additional one time stipend of \$1500.00 for interim work

**Retirement**

Michael Turk, PhD	Professor	\$97,827.38
Effective: 5/31/15	Economics, History & Political Science	

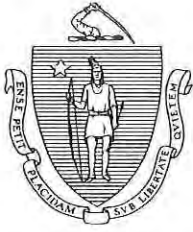
Claire McAndrew, EdD	Professor	\$98,517.58
Effective: 12/31/14	Mathematics Department	

**Resignation**

Daryl Lawrence	Staff Assistant/Resident Director	\$34,446.07
Effective: 4/26/14	Housing and Residential Services	

Robert Lipset	Associate Professor	\$79,365.00
Effective: 5/31/14	Industrial Technology Department	

Enclosures



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Division of Health Professions Licensure  
Board of Registration in Nursing  
239 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114

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March 14, 2014

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

Dear Dr. Antonucci:

Members of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (Board), at their meeting of February 12, 2014, 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 compliance with Board regulations, 244 CMR 6.04: *Standards for Nursing Education Program Approval* and is therefore authorized to operate under M.G.L. c. 112, s. 81A. It is based on the Board's review of the Program's 2013 Annual Report to the Board for the 2012/2013 academic year (September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013).

Annual continuation of the Program's Full Approval status is contingent on the Board's yearly review, conducted in accordance with regulation, 244 CMR 6.05(3)(b), of the Program's compliance with 244 CMR 6.04. This review includes, but may not be limited to, the Program's Annual Report to the Board, due November 1<sup>st</sup>, other reports, correspondence and, as deemed necessary by the Board, site visits.

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 [Sarah.Varghese2@MassMail.state.ma.us](mailto:Sarah.Varghese2@MassMail.state.ma.us) if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Varghese".

Sarah Varghese, MS, RN  
Nursing Education Coordinator

cc: Linda J. McKay, RN, MS  
Chairperson

# Chief probation officer for Mass. to address grads

## FSU commencement set for May 17

FITCHBURG — Christopher Maloney, a 1989 graduate of Fitchburg State University and the chief U.S. probation officer for the District of Massachusetts, will deliver the address at Fitchburg State's commencement exercises next month.

The school's 118th spring commencement exercises will be held at 10 a.m. May 17 on the main quadrangle, and Maloney will also receive an honorary doctorate at the ceremony, the university announced in a statement Thursday.

"Christopher Maloney has enjoyed a distinguished career in community corrections, working to create a safer country by strengthening probation and pretrial services in the federal court system in Massachusetts and elsewhere," Fitchburg State President Robert V. Antonucci said in the statement. "His work has changed how offenders on probation or parole and defendants awaiting trial are treated, motivated by the desire for better outcomes and enhanced security."

In selecting Maloney, Fitchburg State is continuing a recent tradition of welcoming back an accomplished Fitchburg State alumnus as commencement speaker. Recent speakers included Michael J. Deitemeyer '86, president of Omni Hotels & Resorts; R.A. Salvatore '81, '91, best-selling author; and Dr. Patrice Nicholas '77, director of global health and academic partnerships at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston.

Maloney was born and raised in Dedham and completed a bachelor's degree in sociology at Fitchburg State in 1989. He worked as an inpatient substance abuse counselor for two years before beginning his career in community corrections as a probation officer with the



Christopher Maloney, a 1989 Fitchburg State graduate and the chief U.S. probation officer for the District of Massachusetts, will deliver the address at FSU's commencement next month.

COURTESY PHOTO

Florida Department of Corrections. He returned to Massachusetts in 1992 to work in the federal system as a probation officer for the District of Massachusetts.

After five years in Massachusetts, Maloney became a regional administrator for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in Washington from 1997 to 2002. That December he was named Chief of the Office of Probation and Pretrial Services' program services branch.

In 2004, Maloney was named Chief U.S. Probation Officer for the District of New Jersey, where he served until his appointment in Massachusetts in 2011.

Maloney has helped develop financial literacy and workforce development programs for probationers, established a program for offenders with a history of domestic violence and oversaw the development of programs to help female offenders, among many other accomplishments.

Maloney and his wife, Heather, live in Duxbury with their two children, Quinn and Rowan.



## SUNDAY SIT-DOWN

## Karen J. Leary

By Scott J. Croteau

TELEGRAM &amp; GAZETTE STAFF

As she leaves her role as deputy chief of police and deputy director of public safety at Simmons College in Boston, Karen J. Leary brings excitement and a diverse background in law enforcement to Fitchburg State University, where she takes over as the campus police chief Monday. From conducting autopsies for the Sacramento District Attorney's office to working as an investigator for the Massachusetts attorney general's office, Ms. Leary believes in one simple theory: Working hard breeds success.

### Are you excited to begin your new role?

"I think this is such a great environment to be in. Every day you come to work the energy is palpable. The students are just fantastic. The force, I've met the majority of the officers so far and they are very talented individuals. I think we are looking for a great opportunity to progress, move forward and come up with some creative new ideas."

### What ideas do you have?

"Probably too many to think about right now. I would love to be able to enhance our website. We're talking about a population of students who are very social media-based. You need to be able to communicate in that way. We need to enhance our Facebook, our website. That is where we are going to engage with students the most."

**Many campus police chiefs talk about developing relationships with students as an important role of campus police. Do you follow in this belief?**

"It's not necessarily just building relationships with the students; I think you build relationships with the faculty and staff as well. We learn a lot about the students through their professors and through interactions with other staff members. If we open up those lines of communication and truly want to learn about what the needs are of our students, we're going to have to look at it from a global perspective, not just a myopic perspective."

### What drew you to Fitchburg State University?

"I've always enjoyed campus law enforcement. I love the energy that's around here, the ability to interact with the students, the faculty, the staff. I think you have many more opportunities to affect someone's life and let them see this is real enforcement."

### What do you like to do in



T&amp;G Staff/CHRISTINE PETERSON

Karen Leary is the new Fitchburg State University police chief.

**Karen J. Leary**  
Fitchburg State University chief of campus police

**Age:** 54

**Hometown:** Ludlow

**Single**

**Sworn officers in the department:** 15, with three dispatchers

### your free time?

"I don't have any free time. I love going to the gym, I love working out. I love spending time with my grandson."

**Do you feel added pressure being a woman in this position or do you believe that in 2014 it is an antiquated thought?**

"I think that it is over, and we have far more opportunities than we had in the past. Rosemary Naughton (the former Worcester State University police chief) was one of the first female chiefs I had met coming into the industry. I'll never forget she came up to me, shook my hand and said 'stick with me.' It's been how many years later and we're still good friends, and she definitely showed me the doors are open, you just have to put the effort in and work hard. I think everyone has something

to bring to the table."

**Do you ever get lost getting to campus?**

"That's why I have a GPS. I know how to get here; the getting home part is another story."

**I'm told being a mentor is part of law enforcement officials' way of helping one another. Is this something you practice as well?**

"That's one of the things I have done throughout my career. That's what we are here for. We cultivate the next generation."

**And Fitchburg State University has a criminal justice program.**

"And why would we not use that resource? These are students who are hungry and eager to get out there and look for leadership and development. Obviously the faculty and staff provide them with that, but we can provide them that as a department as well."

**What is one thing you need to have in your office?**

"My coffee pot. There are going to be some long days."

# Sentinel & Enterprise

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## Study-abroad gains popularity at FSU

Participation increases 50 percent this year

By Alana Melanson

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

FITCHBURG — Before Fitchburg State University student Sarah Marshall studied abroad in London in fall 2012, she had been following a career path similar to that of many in her family.

Having grown up in a family of educators, Marshall, 22, of Lunenburg, had chosen to become a special-education teacher. As a college junior, she was well on her way to the degree that would get her there.

Those four months in Lon-

Please see **ABROAD/6**



FSU student Sarah Marshall studied in London but traveled to eight countries, including France. COURTESY PHOTO



# FSU pushes for more study-abroad participation

**ABROAD/**From Page 1

don, however, changed her life.

"Going away made me realize I could do something different, and so I'm really thankful for the opportunity that I had, because it did change me, and kind of made me grow into the person that I am," said Marshall, now a senior interdisciplinary studies major with a minor in international studies.

The transformative power of studying abroad is one that Fitchburg State University is hoping to bring to more students than ever before.

"When you study abroad, it's going to change your perspective in life," said Papa Sarr, FSU's new director of international education. "You go abroad and you may find something that you did not know about yourself, and it was just triggered while abroad, while in a different environment, while in contact with other kinds of people."

Sarr said many students who go abroad find that the experience sparks previously untapped and dormant potential, and gives them a different way of seeing things — which can change their lives for the better in many ways. Students often come back more mature, independent

and responsible, he said.

At Regents American College in London, Marshall lived in an American student dorm, but was in close proximity to a large number of international students.

"I took a History of Islam class with students who were Muslim and from the Middle East, and I took a History of England class with people from all over the world," she said. "So it wasn't just getting to know the people in London, it was getting to know people from all over the world."

With three airports nearby, traveling was easy, Marshall said. She took advantage of it, visiting 13 other major cities in more than eight countries.

"I became completely fascinated with communication and language and how people who are from all these different parts of the world can meet each other and find different ways to communicate, even if they don't speak the same language," Marshall said. "You find ways to talk to each other."

She is studying Arabic and plans to go for a master's degree in speech pathology, with the ultimate goal of becoming a bilingual speech pathologist — and traveling and working with as many different people as she can.



Fitchburg State University student David Farland, 22, of Burlington, skydives near Cairns, Australia, during his semester abroad in 2012.

COURTESY PHOTO

FSU recently signed a pledge and received a grant from the Institute of International Education to significantly increase the number of students the university sends abroad over the next five years as part of IIE's Generation Study Abroad initiative. Sarr said the partnership will provide a financial incentive of up to \$10,000 over that time period.

Last year, FSU sent about 40 students abroad and will send about 60 this year, he said. He's hoping to see 100 FSU students participate in study-abroad programs next academic year.

Sarr said studying abroad provides distinct advantages for students, making them "global citizens" in an increasingly globalized work market with multinational companies.

"They are looking for that cross-cultural communication, that cross-cultural competency," he said.

FSU offers a number of long- and short-term study-abroad programs, from the traditional semester and yearlong stays to shorter one- to four-week trips, according to Study Abroad Advisor Tracey Betts Sarefield. These shorter-term, more cost-effective programs open up opportunities to many more students, she said, and are usually taught by FSU faculty.

"Most of the students here, cost is their number-one issue," Sarefield said. "We do everything we can to get them connected to as many scholarships as possible."

That includes on-campus scholarships, such as grants from the Center for Italian Culture for students going to Italy, she said, or federal scholarships when possible.

The weeklong study-abroad options are usually part of a spring-semester course that will bring a class abroad for spring break to London or Costa Rica, Sarefield said.

For instance, a medieval literature class studied the literature of the era throughout the semester, then went to London during spring break and traveled around to the different sites they had read about in class.

For the Costa Rica trip, it was a not-for-profit management class, which studied the topic and then traveled to the country over break to visit different health organizations and other nonprofits, as well as the beach and the rain forest.

Another popular short-term option is the four-week Verona, Italy, program, which occurs during summer session.

When it comes to semester programs, however, students are often not paying much more than they would pay to attend a normal semester at FSU, especially when it comes to universities FSU has exchange agreements with.

"Basically, the idea is, pay your Fitchburg State tuition and fees, and go study abroad," Sarr said.

Senior history education major Timothy Michalak, 21, tried to stay in Spain as much as he could during his semester in Seville last spring. Michalak's experience, while as eye-opening as Marshall's, benefited him in other, very different ways.

He said he chose Spain because of the opportunity to strengthen his Spanish skills, as well as explore a culture celebrated by one of his favorite authors, Ernest Hem-

ingway, in "The Sun Also Rises."

"Just the way he described the culture and the people, there was something special there that needed to be experienced," Michalak said.

While studying Spanish language and culture at the University of Seville, Michalak was placed with a host family that spoke only a few words of English, allowing him to truly integrate into the culture.

"One thing that sticks out is walking into that host family for the first time, just being sort of near tears, lost for words — being able to understand that experience that people have everywhere in America and other countries of not being able to express yourself because of a barrier, whether it's linguistic or mental," he said. "People with disabilities experience that often, and for a time, I was able to experience that for myself."

David Farland, 22, of Burlington, describes himself as an active and outdoorsy type. He felt Australia would be a good fit for him, and he was right.

From July to November 2012, the senior electrical engineering major studied in Rockhampton, Queensland, taking classes in environmental science, Australian history and conservation — and an "outdoor pursuits" class that included surfing, canoeing, kayaking and sailing lessons.

"It was awesome — best class ever," Farland said.

He lived in an international dorm with a students from all over the world and made lots of friends from near and far. His international friends, having heard that the 21st birthday is a big deal for Americans, threw him a sur-

prise birthday party he said he'll never forget.

Farland found Australians to be very hospitable, with local friends' families welcoming him and other international students into their homes for dinner and conversation.

"It literally felt like we knew them for years," he said of one family. "It was really interesting, because I feel like that wouldn't happen here."

Farland called his spring break in Cairns "the craziest week of my life."

He went skydiving, bungee jumping, got his scuba-diving license and dove on the Great Barrier Reef for four days — and discovered his love of the adrenaline rush.

"The skydiving and bungee jumping, those are two things I said I would never do, ever, and I did them on back-to-back days," Farland said.

He spent four weeks traveling around Australia with friends, including a 10-day surfing trip to Caloundra, on the Sunshine Coast.

"The lifestyle there is so different, people are so much more laid back," Farland said.

He also spent a week in Sydney, and found the people there would go out to bars on their lunch breaks and hang out in the sun for an hour or two before returning to work.

"People were never in a rush," Farland said. "I feel like, here, people are always stressed out, and they're always just in a rush to get places — and there, it's just, go with it."

Farland came out of his shell while in Australia, and discovered he loves meeting people. Friends abroad and family and friends at home noticed how much more social he'd become.

"Which was funny, because I hadn't realized how much I'd changed at the time," he said.

To any student who may be considering studying abroad, Farland says, "Just do it."

"Once you get past the paperwork, once you're there, you forget about it all," he said. "I'll never forget when I first stepped off the plane and took a whiff of that Australian air."

Sarr urged any interested students to come to the International Education office to explore travel and funding opportunities. The office, open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., is located in room 316 of the Hammond Campus Center and may be reached by calling 978-665-3089.

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



# FSU newcomers get President's Reception

By Jack Minch

jminch@sentinelandenterprise.com

FITCHBURG — Saturday's President's Reception for prospective students who have been accepted to next fall's class at Fitchburg State University was one of the largest in memory, said President Robert Antonucci.

About 1,000 people attended, including 450 prospective freshmen, said Director of Admissions Elaine Lapomardo.

The school had 4,919 applications this year and has accepted 2,564.

Not all the students at Saturday's reception have committed to attending FSU in the fall.

"Today is a celebration here at Fitchburg State," Antonucci told the crowd. "Many of our staff say it's the best day of the year; it's the best day of the year because we're looking ahead, we're looking to next September, we're looking to have people join our family, join our community."

Students need to be prepared to work and take their studies seriously in all the majors, and if they do, they will succeed, he said.

"The energy, the enthusiasm that we have is going to be contagious, it's going to make you succeed in that classroom, it's going to make sure you're the number one student in that English class," Antonucci said. "You're never going to want to skip a class, you always want to go there; you don't mind taking an 8 o'clock class in the morning — we'll see how long that lasts — but we really want you to come here as an academic student."

Afterward, Antonucci said new majors such as game design and chemistry are helping draw from a new pool of potential students.

The school won't forget its mission to be affordable and accessible to students, but it's not an easy education either.

"We're now becoming a school of choice rather than a backup school and we've been working on that for years," he said.

Leominster High School senior Elena Baron is considering the univer-



Kyle Wyke, who attends Westford Academy and plans to study secondary education with a focus on history, attended Saturday's President's Reception at Fitchburg State University. He's deciding among Fitchburg, Westfield and Framingham state universities.

SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE/JACK MINCH

sity for the fall, along with Framingham State University and Salem State University, to study education.

She likes the way Fitchburg State students can get into the Fitchburg Public Schools classrooms.

"I like the education department in the McKay Building and how you can get involved with the students right away," Baron said.

Kyle Wyke, who attends Westford Academy, plans to study secondary education with a focus on history. He's deciding among Fitchburg, Westfield and Framingham state universities.

"I like having a small classroom environment where the professor knows me as a person, not just a face in the crowd," he said.

Kailey Sumner, of Chelmsford High School, has her list of schools narrowed to Fitchburg, UMass Amherst and Salem State.

She liked how well organized Saturday's open house was compared to other

schools such as Middlesex Community College.

Sumner hasn't made up her mind but said FSU is competitive.

"It was a pretty good pitch," she said.

Hanna Deane, of Wakefield High School, expects to attend Fitchburg to study psychology in the fall.

"The people here are so welcoming and nice, and the buildings are nice. They are old and homey."

Sabrina Herstedt, of Westboro High School, wasn't enthused about the school initially but is looking at it as her first option now after finding the people on campus so open and welcoming.

Her uncle, former men's basketball assistant coach Jeff Kozik, and his family gave her a tour that changed her mind.

"After I took the tour with them, I was blown away," Herstedt said.

Follow Jack Minch on Facebook, *Tbut* and Twitter @JackMinch.



# Steep Canyon Rangers bring bluegrass to FSU

By Richard Duckett

TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

Mike Guggino comes from the mountains of western North Carolina — a place where you can hear a lot of bluegrass music.

Up until college, however, Guggino wasn't really paying a lot of attention.

"I grew up playing music, but not bluegrass, even though I grew up in North Carolina in the heart of bluegrass country," Guggino recalled.

He was a music major for a while at Brevard College in Brevard, N.C., studying classical music and jazz on guitar.

But two years later Guggino was a mandolin player in a budding new bluegrass band comprising college friends called the Steep Canyon Rangers.

"You don't think of winning a Grammy when you start a band at college with a few friends for fun," Guggino said.

It was a gradual but steep climb, but that's exactly what Steep Canyon Rangers did last year when their "Nobody Knows You" won the Grammy award for Best Bluegrass Album.

A lot of people know them now (with a nice assist from Steve Martin), and Steep Canyon Rangers come to Weston Auditorium at Fitchburg State University for a show at 8 p.m. March 29.

Della Mae, an all-woman bluegrass band from Boston, opens. The show is part of the CenterStage at Fitchburg State University arts and culture series.

"Every time we come up there people like the music," Guggino said of performing in these parts.

"There's a rich bluegrass tradition in New England." Immediately prior to coming to Fitchburg, the band has dates in South Burlington, Vt., and Plymouth, N.H.

Back at Brevard College, Guggino was having a case of the classical blues.

"I had played that kind of music my whole life," he said. "I was starting to get a little bit tired of classical music. I thought, 'What am I going to do with this as a career?'"

Meanwhile, he met a couple

of guys from Kentucky who were avid banjo players. They had instrumental jams, and Guggino was introduced to the bluegrass sounds of Hot Rize, the Seldom Scene, Tony Rice, New Grass Revival and John Hartford.

"I thought it was so cool the jamming aspect of bluegrass. It's folk music; it's not so stuffy like 'this is the way you've got to play and you must read it off a sheet of music.'"

It wasn't long before Guggino also discovered the music of mandolin playing bluegrass legend Bill Monroe.

"I fell in love with the mandolin. It just stood out for me," he said.

Subsequently, Guggino dropped music studies, transferred from Brevard College to the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and decided to major in history although he had no idea what he was going to do with that kind of degree, either.

But a friend he grew up with, Woody Platt, was at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and getting involved with a bluegrass band with some fellow students there, including Graham Sharp and Charles R. Humphrey III. It's a bit of a drive, but Guggino started to go over to Chapel Hill to play with them in bars and pubs.

After graduating from their respective universities, "We all looked at each other and said, 'What are we gonna do now?'" Guggino said. They all moved into a big house together in Asheville. The Steep Canyon Rangers were about to hit the bluegrass trail.

That was 15 years ago. "We actually started at a perfect time in our lives," Guggino said. "We were just out of college and we didn't have a lot of overhead."

Still, "It was hard at first," Guggino said. On the other hand, "It was fun."

Bluegrass has been called American roots music, historically drawing from the Scots-

Irish immigrants in Appalachia.

It is distinctively acoustic with lots of virtuosity in the treatment of melody and improvisation.

The Steep Canyon Rangers have rounded up fans with a wide array of well-played original material that's not afraid to push bluegrass boundaries, including recently adding a drummer.

The line-up is Platt (guitar and vocals), Sharp (banjo and harmony vocals), Guggino (mandolin and harmony vocals), Humphrey (bass and harmony vocals), Nicky

Sanders (fiddle and harmony vocals), and Michael Ashworth (Cajun drums).

The two main songwriters are Sharp and Humphrey. "It's very democratic once they present it to the band," Guggino said of the creative process. Steep Canyon Rangers recordings usually include at least one instrumental piece by Guggino.

The albums steadily climbed up the charts. "It's all worked out for us," Guggino said.

Along the way the Steep Canyon Rangers have picked up a very good friend — comedian and banjo player Steve Martin. Martin and the band have played a number of concerts together in recent years, released an album titled "Rare Bird Alert" in 2011, and have a live CD/DVD also featuring singer songwriter Edie Brickell coming out this month.

The band, Martin and Brickell will have a number of concert dates this summer.

"It doesn't hurt to have Steve's exposure to TV and big concert venues," Guggino said.

Welcome to the clan.

Steep Canyon Rangers members still live in the Asheville/Brevard area, but there are now more people in the picture.

"It's a big Steep Canyon family. Wives and kids. It's great," Guggino said.

Contact Richard Duckett at [Richard.Duckett@telegram.com](mailto:Richard.Duckett@telegram.com).



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Steep Canyon Rangers will perform March 29 in Weston Auditorium, Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg.



# Push on to expand state's bottle bill

## FSU students, faculty lead local campaign

By Alana Melanson

amelanson@sentinelandenterprise.com

FITCHBURG — Fitchburg State University students and faculty are hoping to clean up the city and the state and encourage recycling by advocating for the proposed expansion of the state bottle bill to include non-carbonated beverages.

Students involved with the FSU chapter of the Massachusetts Public Interest Group, or MASSPIRG, held a press conference Wednesday morning as part of a MASSPIRG statewide day of action to urge legislators to approve the expanded bottle deposit law for a ballot question this November.

“The updated version that we’re pushing for expands that coverage to include water bottles, sports drinks and juice containers,” said Chapter Chairman Ted Foster, 29, of Lunenburg.

He said current studies show the five-cent initiative to recycle “works very well,” with about 70 percent of bottles covered by the deposit law getting recycled.

Last year, Foster said, more than 130,000 petition signatures in favor of the expanded bottle bill were collected across the state, 30,000 of them collected by MASSPIRG volunteers, and more than 1,000 of them coming from FSU. This semester alone, the FSU chapter has collected more than 270 photo petitions of FSU students showing their



From left, Fitchburg State University students Ali Griffin, Brooke Dutton and Ted Foster, and MASSPIRG volunteer Kevin Smith, are pushing to expand the state bottle bill to include non-carbonated beverages.

COURTESY PHOTO

support for the updated bill, he said.

“The bottle bill is not just about recycling,” Foster said. “Everyone understands the importance of recycling, but it’s about being an engaged citizen, and taking democracy into our own hands.”

Biology Professor Chris Picone said the next step is to get people to question bottled water itself. He said the three fundamental reasons why people should object to bottled water are issues of sustainability, health and social justice.

With plentiful access to fresh, clean tap water, Picone said it doesn’t make any sense to use fossil fuels — and

increase carbon emissions, leading to climate change — to ship water from hundreds of miles away or further when it’s already readily available.

While a great deal of people assume bottled water is safer than tap water, he said, tap water is actually more heavily regulated than bottled water, and regularly tested.

“It’s false to assume tap water is dirty and bottled water is safe,” Picone said. “It’s actually more likely the opposite.”

Follow Alana Melanson at [facebook.com/alanasentinel](https://facebook.com/alanasentinel) or on Twitter @alanamelanson.





Jonathan Hobbs, a senior history major at Fitchburg State University, spoke about the devastation of his spinal injury, and his subsequent love for academics, particularly history.

COURTESY PHOTO / MATTHEW BRUUN

# FSU hosts TEDx event

Community leaders and others reveal their 'ideas worth spreading'

By Cillea Houghton  
Correspondent

FITCHBURG — It was a day of inspiration and passion at Fitchburg State University, as community figures and others spoke Saturday about issues, ideas and the value of perseverance during the university's first TEDx event.

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to "ideas worth spreading," usually by way of short, powerful talks. According to its website, the organization began in 1984 as a conference where technology, entertainment and design — whose first letters together spell "Ted" — converged.

At a TEDx event, speakers spark discussion and connections with one another at a local level.

Topics ranging from eating disorders to overcoming adversity were all on the table, as speakers presented insightful and in-depth discussions about matters of significant importance in their life.

Mayor Lisa Wong brought to light the city's "Fun in Fitchburg" initiative, which addresses childhood obesity by bringing farmers markets, gardens and other beneficial activities into schools and the community.

"We want people to have

fun and let their imaginations go wild. It's inspired a whole city to address serious issues in a fun way," Wong said, adding that 20 percent less children are affected by obesity than when the project started.

Leominster High School English teacher David Lane has traveled around New England exploring what he calls "smiling schools," or as he describes as "places where people are always smiling and enjoying school."

Lane observed this sense of joy not only in the staff, but in students as well.

"The students had a deep sense of ownership in the school," he said. "Everything going on in this school was based on the trust of young people. These students were given the freedom to fail; they were figuring out mistakes, learning how to fix it, and persevering. I want a smiling school here. We need one, and we're going to build one."

Similar to Lane, Rose Pavlov, founder and president of the nonprofit Ivy Child International, said children deserve every opportunity to succeed.

"Our mission is to enhance the social and emotional well-being of children; we teach our children the power of embrace," she said. She explained the ABCs of

mindfulness as attention, balance and compassion, and discussed how she and her own children write in a visioning and gratitude journal each day to remind themselves of what is important in life.

"It's a way to renew our daily attention to our larger mission," she said. "We focus on things that aren't material, but about people, experiences and the environment."

The idea of empowering young people was also demonstrated by Nicole Lucia, an English studies major at FSU who is passionate about lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. She discussed the role the media plays in gay culture and how it contributes to the presence of abuse within the gay community.

"Abuse is a learned behavior and it is partially learned through the media. Prevention must become a priority," she said. She also explored the differences between gay couples and heterosexual relationships as they're captured in the media.

"Representation is important, but it must be accurate and it must be varied," she said.

Jonathan Hobbs, a senior history major at FSU, revealed how we all have the ability to change our lives for the better, even if we don't realize it.

After an active life that included wrestling, surfing and skateboarding, Hobbs experienced a severe diving accident in which he suffered a spinal-chord injury that caused him to be paralyzed from the neck down.

"When I realized what happened, I was completely devastated," he said. "It created this huge void in my life that I thought I'd never fill again."

But Hobbs proved himself wrong when he enrolled at Mount Wachusett Community College and began taking history courses, ultimately ending up at FSU.

Hobbs discovered he had a strong passion for history and academics, and believes the subject has enriched his life.

"I feel a part of this academic community like the community I felt with the surfers and skaters," he said. "I developed a new passion, one I never thought I'd be passionate about. This passion is going to stay with me my entire life."



# Helping others to survive

## Domestic-violence victim keynote speaker at FSU forum on Friday

By Alana Melanson

amelanson@sentinelandenterprise.com

FITCHBURG — Lisa Regina will forever remember April 2, 2005, as the day that changed her life.

The actress, acting coach, educator and filmmaker from South Jersey had previously met "The Sopranos" star Vincent Pastore when the two were working on a New York play. She became his private coach, traveling extensively with him as she helped him prepare for movie and television roles, and their relationship went from business to intimate. They ultimately became engaged and were to be married on June 10, 2005, Regina said.

But in April of that year, as they were on their way to see her family for their engagement dinner, Regina said her professional and personal life "came to a crashing halt."

"I had always been able to play the role of partner in his life who kept him calm and was able to defuse him when he would get anxious and have a bad temper over things," she said in a telephone interview. "But, unfortunately, this day I was unable to defuse his temper, and it became physical. He beat me up and threw me out of the SUV."

After Regina was released from the hospital, where she was treated for physical injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder, she said she barricaded herself in her New York City apartment, hiding away from the paparazzi outside.

During the year after the assault, Regina said, she used writing — and later performance — to help her heal. "The pad and the pen was my lifeline, so to speak," she said.

Regina took those fragmented thoughts and sen-

tences and later shaped them into a monologue she will share at Fitchburg State University on Friday as the keynote speaker of a Fitchburg Anti-Violence Education forum.

According to Janette McMenemy, co-director of FAVE and a professor of psychological science at FSU, the educational forum is meant to bring the community together to discuss and offer workshops focused on the prevention of interpersonal and relationship violence and sexual assault, as well as provide resources to navigate support services for survivors.

It is also the culminating experience for the \$300,000, three-year, U.S. Department of Justice grant awarded to FSU to create FAVE in 2010, McMenemy said.

Workshops focus on a wide range of topics, including men and masculinity; domestic violence in same-sex relationships; recognizing and responding to abuse; intervention skills for college educators to incorporate information on interpersonal violence into the classroom; and the history and evolution of the sexual-assault nurse examiner, among others.

Panels include a number of distinguished speakers across a variety of sectors, from many of FSU's own faculty to doctors, educators and social workers from across the region.

"Our goal was to really try to have a diverse set of offerings so that there's something for everybody," McMenemy said.

The program will also include FSU's mandatory educational program for incoming students, "Drawing the Shades," focused on the experience of sexual-assault survivors, and the school's bystander intervention training, she said.

While the workshops —



Jannette M. McMenemy, co-director of Fitchburg Anti-Violence Education and a member of the FSU Behavioral Sciences Department faculty, talks about Friday's anti-dating-violence forum at which keynote speaker Lisa Regina, inset, will talk about her experiences.

SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE / JOHN LOVE; INSET: COURTESY PHOTO

which will be attended by students and representatives from several other higher-education institutions — are already full, Regina's keynote speech, scheduled for 1:30 to 3 p.m., at Kent Recital Hall, 367 North St., is open to the public.

Regina will share her experience of domestic violence, the creation of her nonprofit organization, A Write to Heal, and her continuing advocacy work.

Pastore, who was charged with assault in the attack, later settled out of court with Regina.

She said she never mentions his name now because she doesn't want to give him power. Instead, she focuses on education and advocacy, and helping to change the lives of others.

Regina said she does between 12 and 20 speaking engagements each year across the country, and while the settings and faces change, the stories she hears are similar.

She said she feels grateful when she can help others in "horrific situations" to find

their way out and become survivors, especially those unfortunate to start unhealthy relationships at a young age.

Regina said it's not easy to relive the assault each time she speaks about it, but it helps her to continue to heal, knowing that she has been able to turn something terrible into something positive.

"It does evoke old pain, old wounds," she said. "Sometimes I don't want to do it. Then I remind myself of the last person I helped, and it gives me that courage and inspiration to do it again."

Regina has also written an anti-bullying and anti-domestic-violence film, "Shooters Nail," starring Eric Roberts, currently in preproduction.

For more information on Regina and her work, visit [lisaregina.com](http://lisaregina.com) and [awritetoheal.com](http://awritetoheal.com). For more information on the forum and FAVE, visit [fitchburgstate.edu/fave](http://fitchburgstate.edu/fave).

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



# With some help, Habitat houses in Fitchburg almost on schedule

By Jack Minch

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FITCHBURG — Kristy Collins poked her head out a window to watch Kelli Lundgren swing her legs over scaffolding on the side of the house and climb down from the roof Friday.

Fitchburg State University students had to go to class but advisers like Collins and Lundgren went to Oakland Street as volunteer labor building two homes for Habitat for Humanity North Central Massachusetts Friday.

Habitat broke ground on the homes in December and plans to be done by the end of June, said Project Manager Vincent Benincasa.

Volunteers Friday were installing windows and roofing work is expected to begin today.

"Maybe by next Tuesday all the roofing will be done and it's watertight," Benincasa said.

Pace of construction has been determined by the weather and availability of volunteers.

The project had fallen well behind schedule until Clinton-based Nipro sent six to eight volunteers every day a week ago, Benincasa said.

"That helped us to almost catch up," he said.

There were a handful of university advisers helping Friday and even though the students couldn't make it, there was hope that students from Northeastern University



Kristy Collins, a Fitchburg State University employee, helps project manager Vincent Benincasa with work on the Habitat for Humanity house in Fitchburg on Friday morning. Volunteers Johanna Castillo and Heather Thomas help frame a window.

SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE PHOTOS/JOHN LOVE

would arrive on the train to help.

Habitat is building two attached Cape-style homes, including one that is handicapped-accessible.

"It's pretty basic. It's pretty small," Benincasa said.

The organization plans to start two more homes on adjacent property when the current homes are finished.

Joanna Castillo, of Lancaster,

was teaching Heather Thomas, in enrollment management at the university, how to prepare the house for installation of a window.

"She helps out tremendously," Benincasa said.

Volunteer Mike Sullivan was working with Doug Thomas, the director of capital and construction at Fitchburg State, who's a union carpenter.

Thomas, no relation to Heather

Thomas, said he joined the university in 2012 and eagerly volunteered when officials asked for help.

"I'm a big, super fan of karma" Doug Thomas said. "You do something nice and it's going to come back to you."

Lundgren, a staff assistant in President Robert Antonucci's office, said she's volunteered to help on Habitat for Humanity missions to



Mississippi and Florida during spring break the last two years.

Collins went on a mission with students to Texas as an adviser three years ago.

"It's rewarding to know you're helping somebody who wouldn't be able to own a house otherwise," Lundgren said.

Follow Jack Minch on Facebook, Tout and Twitter @JackMinch.

Minutes of Meeting Held on April 29, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Finance and Administration Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, April 29, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.  
Leominster Credit Union Meeting Room (214), Hammond Hall  
160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420

Committee Members Present: Donald Irving, Michael Mahan, Anthony Mercadante, Carol Vittorioso

Committee Members Absent: Martin F. Connors, Jr., Cynthia Stevens

Also Present: Robert V. Antonucci, Robin Bowen, Jay Bry, Cathy Daggett, Gail Doiron, Chris Hendry, Mary Landi

At 3:06 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Finance Committee Chairman, Mr. Mercadante.

President Antonucci began the discussion of the FY15 budget by reviewing the financial documents that were included in the Board book. He stated that we are in the same situation we were a year ago. We will know parameters this week. The president informed the committee that union contracts are currently in negotiations; therefore, blank spaces are the placeholders for amounts that will be determined at a later date. Fees, collective bargaining, and capital expenditures are in front of us. President Antonucci explained that the capital fee increase of \$275 annually is for debt service. Even with this increase, we will need to also use funds from our reserves. There was some discussion on the capital fee and the reserve funds. The president stated that we have sufficient liquid assets if we need them. There was further discussion on reserve, endowment, portfolios, donations and explanations and clarifications.

President Antonucci directed everyone to page 5 of the book to review cost containment and savings initiatives. He gave a brief description of PACE (Partnership to Advance Collaboration and Efficiencies), which is a partnership of the Massachusetts state colleges and universities that focuses on looking at costs across the system and finding efficiencies. FSU has always looked for cost savings. Some of our efficiencies include credit card processing, utilities, insurance review savings, PCard rebate and cost avoidance via purchases through the Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium. Mr. Bry explained each and gave details and specifics on how they work, as well as how much we save with each one. There was some discussion on bids and pre-approved vendors so you don't have to go out to bid.

The president presented the summary of the FY15 budget. He reviewed the data and pointed out two different scenarios for review, one with an additional \$810K and one with an additional \$1.5M from the state. He talked about full-time equivalent number in terms of students. President Antonucci stated that we will need to use funds from the university's unrestricted assets. The amount will be either \$3.1M or \$2.2M, depending on the amount received from the state. The president also provided information about the collective bargaining lines.



President Antonucci next reviewed the FY15 operating expenses, which are projected to be between \$89,339,440 and \$89,148,073. The president touched on the various lines, including salaries and benefits, student aid and scholarships, physical plant expenditures, technology costs, operation and maintenance, and expenses associated with the continued major renovation of the Hammond Campus Center and Library. There was some discussion about scholarships and the Foundation. Also discussed were the reserve funds and the possibility of allocating a specific percentage of those funds for use each year. This could be beneficial now as well as in the future – using funds for students that currently attend FSU. A policy to address this issue would need to be put in place.

President Antonucci then moved on to the vote recommendations. The votes will be brought forward to the full Board at its meeting later today.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Mahan and seconded by Ms. Vittorioso, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation of a \$275 capital fee increase as presented.  
**4-0**

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Irving and seconded by Mr. Mahan, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation of graduate and continuing education undergraduate and graduate student tuition increase and capital fee increases as presented.  
**4-0**

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Mahan and seconded by Mr. Irving, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation to approve the FY2015 budget as presented.  
**4-0**

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Vittorioso and seconded by Mr. Irving, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation to approve that ongoing capital projects roll forward into the FY2015 university budget as presented.  
**4-0**

President Antonucci thanked the Board.

With no further business before the board, and upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Mahan and seconded by Ms. Vittorioso, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m. Vote: unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Anthony Mercadante, Chairman  
Finance Committee

Minutes of Meeting Held on April 29, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 29, 2014**

**3:50 p.m.**

**Hammond Hall, Room 215**

**160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420**

Committee Members Present: Anna Maria Clementi, Carol Vittorioso

Committee Members Absent: Martin F. Connors, Jr.

Also Present: Robert V. Antonucci, Gail Doiron, Mary Landi

Chairman Carol Vittorioso called the meeting to order at 3:57 p.m.

President Antonucci presented the recommendations for the FY2015 Board of Trustees slate of officers. It was recommended that current officers continue in their roles for FY2015 as follows:

- Chairman – Carol T. Vittorioso
- Vice Chairman – Martin F. Connors, Jr.
- Clerk – Anna Maria Clementi

Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Clementi and seconded by Ms. Vittorioso, it was

**Voted:** to approve the FY2015 Board of Trustees slate of officers as presented.  
**(2-0)**

With no further business before the executive committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Anna Maria Clementi, Clerk  
Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting Held on April 29, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 29, 2014**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Leominster Credit Union Meeting Room (214)**

**Hammond Hall**

**160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420**

Trustees Present:

Robert Babineau, Jr., Anna Maria Clementi, Nathan Gregoire, Donald Irving, Michael Mahan, Anthony Mercadante, Carol Vittorioso

Trustees via phone:

Frank O'Donnell, Gladys Rodriguez-Parker

Trustees Absent:

Martin F. Connors, Jr., Cynthia Stevens

Also Present:

Robert V. Antonucci, Robin Bowen, Jennifer Berg, Jay Bry, Stanley Bucholc, Cathy Canney, Cathy Daggett, Gail Doiron, Gail Feckley, Chris Hendry, Mary Landi, Jessica Murdoch, Hank Parkinson, Megan Pierce, Louis Ricciardi, Steven Swartz, Paul Weizer

Chairman Carol Vittorioso called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Mr. Nathan Gregoire introduced Ms. Megan Pierce as the Student Government Association representative to the Board of Trustees for next year. Mr. Gregoire will be president of SGA next year.

The consideration of the Board of Trustees minutes from March 25, 2014, was presented. Upon a motion duly noted by Ms. Clementi and seconded by Mr. Gregoire, it

**Voted:** via roll call to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 25, 2014, as  
**(9-0)** presented. **Roll Call Vote: unanimous.**

President Antonucci introduced Louis Ricciardi, State University Trustee Representative to the Board of Higher Education. He asked everyone to introduce themselves to Mr. Ricciardi. The president noted that Mr. Ricciardi is very active at the state and local level and that he was elected by fellow trustees to this position. Mr. Ricciardi gave a brief synopsis of his work within the system. He has been on the Board of Higher Education for five years. Mr. Ricciardi visits

with the various state universities and has conversations about defining measurable outcomes – internships, externships, and community involvement are all very important. Mr. Ricciardi stated that FSU plays a key role in the nursing program, especially the RN to BSN program. Mr. Ricciardi said he is honored and humbled to represent FSU. He said people should not overlook public higher education. In his position, Mr. Ricciardi is constantly trying to protect the state universities' authority and autonomy. Regarding tuition and fees, Mr. Ricciardi said it is important to let your state representatives know your thoughts. They are very aware and grateful for the job the trustees do on a regular basis in behalf of the university. Ms. Vittoriosio asked about the challenges Mr. Ricciardi encountered on the recent presidential search. He responded that he is pushing back on the commissioner's role with regard to presidential candidates. The commissioner reviews candidates prior to interviews beginning. He can add additional candidates if he thinks the pool is not deep enough. Based on the guidelines, he can review the potential candidates, but not approve them. The guidelines are written one way but interpreted another way. Mr. Ricciardi said new guidelines came out a couple of years ago and he will be reviewing them in late June. He advised the board to be vigilant on the attacks on its autonomy.

Mr. Swartz addressed the Board to talk about the trustee "receive only" email account. He reviewed the dummy email account that has been created for the trustees. They need to cc or bcc [trustee@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:trustee@fitchburgstate.edu) and the email will be archived at FSU forever. There was some discussion on when this should be used. Mr. Swartz informed the committee that voicemail messages are discoverable as well because they go to our email. Executive Cabinet and trustee emails are kept forever; emails for everyone else are kept for five years.

Mr. Swartz informed the Board that he received the iPads that were ordered for them, but they were not the right ones. Therefore, new ones have been ordered. Mr. Swartz said we will contact the trustees when the new iPads come in and offer training if anyone wants or needs it. If a trustee already has an iPad and doesn't want a new one, it is okay to use the old one.

Mr. Mercadante gave a brief overview of what was discussed at the finance committee meeting. He noted that the budget is level funded with a couple of options depending on what the state comes back with (\$800K to \$1.5M). Either way, we will still have a shortfall of between 2.2 to 3.3 million dollars and will have to go into the reserves to meet next year's budget. There is an increase in expense, which is for the debt service for the Hammond building. There was discussion about where we have saved money. Currently, tuition and fees are \$9,260 per year.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Irving and seconded by Mr. Mahan, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation of a \$275 capital fee increase as presented.

**9-0** Roll Call Vote: unanimous.

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Mahan and seconded by Mr. Irving, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation of graduate and continuing education undergraduate  
**9-0** and graduate student tuition increase and capital fee increases as presented.  
**Roll Call Vote: unanimous.**

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Mahan and seconded by Mr. Irving, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation to approve the FY2015 budget as presented.  
**9-0** **Roll Call Vote: unanimous.**

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Gregoire and seconded by Mr. Mahan, it was

**Voted:** to accept the recommendation to approve that ongoing capital projects roll  
**9-0** forward into the FY2015 university budget as presented.  
**Roll Call Vote: unanimous.**

The President then presented the recommendations for the FY2015 Board of Trustees slate of officers. Recommended are:

- Chairman – Carol T. Vittorioso
- Vice Chairman – Martin F. Connors, Jr.
- Clerk – Anna Maria Clementi

Upon a motion duly noted by Mr. Mercadante and seconded by Mr. Irving, it was

**Voted:** to approve the FY2015 Board of Trustees slate of officers as presented.  
**(9-0)** **Roll call vote: unanimous.**

President Antonucci expressed his sincere appreciation to Dr. Robin Bowen for her three years of exemplary service to Fitchburg State University. He offered Dr. Bowen congratulations for a job well done.

President Antonucci mentioned the personnel notifications at the back of the book. These included new hires/rehire, adjustments to salaries, retirements and resignations. He then talked about the many end-of-year activities, including:

- Commencements – Graduate commencement is on May 15 and Undergraduate commencement is on the May 17. Pinning ceremonies are also coming up. Convocation was held last week and awards were given out.
- A naturalization ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 1.

- The annual dinner to recognize newly-tenured faculty will be held tonight. Department chairs will also be attending.

Other documents in the book included a letter from the Commonwealth regarding FSU's nursing program and many recent news articles.

President Antonucci briefly touched on the issue of Landry Arena, and stated that the report is being worked on and it will hopefully be done soon.

The president stated that due to Dr. Bowen's impending departure, he is working on interim appointments. He said we will cover all our bases and additional interim appointments will be forthcoming. It is too late to go out for a search for next year.

President Antonucci informed the board that an additional meeting may be needed in June to discuss the budget and the president's evaluation.

The president highlighted the summer capital operations, which will begin after graduation. These include Percival Hall, Hammond Hall, Conlon Fine Arts, and Aubuchon Hall. The move into the science building will be during the last week of June. We should be fully teaching in there session two.

President Antonucci thanked Mr. Ricciardi for attending the meeting. With no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m. Roll call vote: unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Anna Maria Clementi, Clerk  
Board of Trustees