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## Fitchburg State University Today

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### Commencement Ceremonies to be celebrated this week

This weeks marks the end of the semester and the arrival of our in-person spring [commencement exercises](#).

The [Graduate Commencement](#) ceremony will be held at **6:30 p.m. Thursday** in the Athletics and Recreation Center. Face coverings are strongly encouraged, and all attendees will be asked to attest they are free of COVID symptoms. Face coverings will also be recommended (and attestation forms required) at satellite viewing locations on campus.



The [Undergraduate Commencement](#) ceremony will be held at **10 a.m. Saturday** on the main quadrangle (or at the Athletics and Recreation Center in the unlikely event of inclement weather).

The commencement address on Saturday will be given by Dr. Rosaline Cardarelli '81, who will also be presented the President's Medal.

[Read about additional honorees](#)

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### New partnership establishes pathways for future educators



A newly expanded partnership between the university and the Fitchburg Public Schools is designed to increase the number of teacher candidates who are representative of the local community demographics, with a mixture of scholarship and experiential support and guaranteed jobs with the school district following completion of their college degrees.

President Lapidus, Fitchburg Public Schools Superintendent Robert M. Jokela and

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale signed the new memorandum of agreement for the pathway program on Thursday, during an event featuring future educators.

[Learn more](#)

## See the new Welcome Center on Wednesday

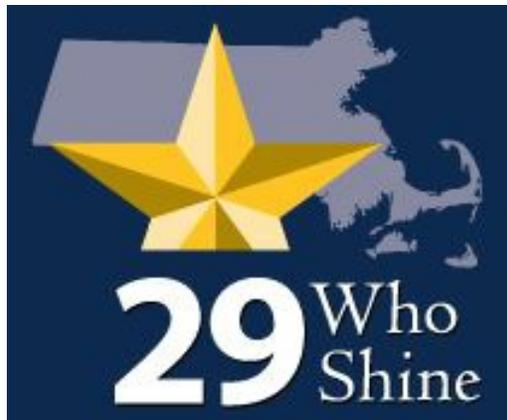
Members of the campus community are invited to check out the newly renovated Welcome Center in the Anthony Student Service Center between 2:30 and 4 p.m. Wednesday.

The reimagined Welcome Center, with a new focus upon service, is designed to offer a space in which total attention is provided to campus visitors in a warm, personal and welcoming environment.



The [Office of Admissions](#) will continue to be housed within the University Welcome Center, but is hoped to become a destination for all campus guests.

## Nominate a graduating student as one of state's 29 Who Shine



Once again, the state Department of Higher Education is looking to celebrate standout graduating students from Massachusetts' public colleges and universities through the [29 Who Shine](#) awards. We are seeking nominations from faculty, librarians, staff and administration for Fitchburg State's honoree for this recognition.

The 29 Who Shine award is designed to recognize graduating students who show exceptional promise as future leaders in civic affairs or in business or professional activity in Massachusetts, having already demonstrated

an ability to contribute to the civic and economic well-being of the Commonwealth.

[Nominees](#) must be Massachusetts residents, graduating in the 2021-22 academic year (so students who graduated in December 2021 are eligible for consideration), with a strong record of academic achievement and civic engagement. Other factors that may be considered are the student's intent to pursue a career track or interest for which there is a demonstrated need in the Commonwealth, such as a high-demand STEM-related career (health care, life sciences, information technology), or a start-up business that will produce jobs, or a community service role to better the lives of fellow Massachusetts citizens (such as teaching, working in a social service agency, or community organization, etc.).

To nominate a graduating senior you believe is worthy of consideration, please [fill out this form](#) before 5 p.m. Wednesday.

## Nursing students practice public health in Costa Rica



University nursing students headed to warmer climes for Spring Break, but it wasn't to go to the beach.

Instead, these students were abroad for college credit, engaged in public health programming with local populations in Costa Rica.

For Genevieve Casucci, a junior from Malden, the trip was a long-awaited experience. Casucci had heard from upperclassmen about previous nursing trips to Ghana, but international travel had been curtailed for the past two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Read more](#)

## Massachusetts Senate President Spilka tours Theater Block

State Sen. President Karen Spilka was in Fitchburg on April 26 to tour the city's downtown corridor, culminating in a visit to the Main Street Theater Block and ideaLab where she discussed the project with President Lapidus and other leaders.

In addition to learning more about the theater project, Spilka was shown the planned artist community at the former B.F. Brown School, reviewed redevelopment in Moran Square and learned about the impending two-way traffic pattern on Main Street.



## Keep up with campus happenings on The Burg Blog

The [Burg Blog](#) continues to offer timely updates of campus life.

Recent articles and slideshows include peeks at CDI's "grab and go" [ice cream social](#), Student Development's [commuter appreciation fair](#), students enjoying hot dogs and ice cream on the [first day of final exams](#), our students [engaging with ALFA classes](#), and a [variety](#) of student [projects](#).



## Sustainability Snapshot

Here's another snapshot from our [Sustainability Advisory Committee](#): Agriculture and our food systems have more impact on the environment than any other human activity, and contribute the largest amount of greenhouse gases. Because food is so important, two simple strategies can dramatically reduce our footprint. First, cutting down on meat and dairy, especially red meat, can reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from food by as much as 61%. And a healthier diet is a bonus! Second, 30-40% of the food supply in the US is simply thrown away. The simple act of reducing food waste has a huge environmental benefit and it will also benefit your wallet.



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## Center for Italian Culture gala will support scholarships

The [Center for Italian Culture](#) will celebrate more than 20 years of supporting scholarships and programming with a fundraising gala at the [Fitchburg Art Museum](#) at 5

Celebrating over 20 years and supporting scholarships for the next student generation to study in Verona!







Join us for an evening of fine food curated by Ristorante Spiga chef Marisa Iocco, Finicky Fork catering, music, signature cocktails, Asta di Fortuna Italian raffles, and Italian conviviality!

Special gallery exhibits for the occasion will include Camera Obscura, works of the photographer Abelardo Morell and Verona Photography by Fitchburg State University students

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 11 at 5 PM**  
Fitchburg Art Museum  
185 Elm Street, Fitchburg, MA



p.m. Saturday, June 11.

The CIC, founded with a major gift by the late Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio of Fitchburg State's Class of 1938, has been a fixture on the university campus for over 20 years.

The celebration on June 11 will include food catered by The Finicky Fork. Guests will enjoy signature cocktails, music by noted soprano Maria Ferrante, and Asta

della Fortuna Italian raffles.

Special gallery exhibits for the gala will include *camera obscura* works by photographer Abelardo Morell and images made by Fitchburg State students during university-sponsored travel to Verona, Italy.

Tickets may be [purchased online](#).

## Faculty Notes

**Associate Professor DeMisty Bellinger-Delfeld** (English Studies), who recently celebrated the publication of her novel *New to Liberty*, was [featured on WBUR](#). A novel told in three parts, *New to Liberty* showcases the growth and strength of three unforgettable women as they evolve in a society that refuses to.

**Associate Professor Andrew Chan** (Business Administration) saw the publication of [his paper](#) "An Analytical Model Of Audits In Disclosure Of Pro Forma Earnings" in the *Journal of Applied Business Research*, Vol. 37, No. 5 (2021) .

**Professor Joshua Spero** (Economics, History and Political Science) published [a piece](#) on the Russian invasion of Ukraine in the online journal [19fortyfive.com](#). In the piece, Spero puts the invasion into historical context.

**Assistant Professor J.J. Sylvia IV** (Communications Media) recently published an article in the *Deleuze and Guattari Studies Journal*. The [article](#), titled "From Form to In-formation: A Spinozan Link between Deleuzian and Simondonian Ontologies" appeared in a special collection focused on connections between the philosophers Gilles Deleuze and Baruch Spinoza that grew out of a Boston Area Deleuze Reading Group conference in 2019.

## The campus newsletter returns this fall

This is the final edition of Fitchburg State University Today for the 2021-22 academic year. To keep up with campus news during the summer months, visit [fitchburgstate.edu/news](#) and follow our social media channels.

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