

## Fitchburg State University Today

### Unitil sponsorship supports Engineering Technology

[Engineering Technology](#) program seniors will get support in the development of capstone projects thanks to a new [Unitil Corporation](#) sponsorship that will also help them to participate in the national Solar Decathlon competition.

The sponsorship program will also support the Engineering Technology efforts to meet Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) standards.

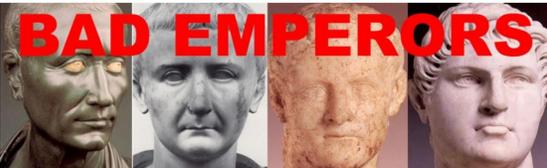
“Applied learning is central to Fitchburg State’s philosophy, and this sponsored program will open doors of opportunity for our Engineering Technology students,” said President Richard S. Lapidus. “We are grateful for Unitil’s support of our students and their endorsement of our vision for experiential opportunities that transcend the classroom.”

[Learn more](#)



The Center for Italian Culture presents  
 Thursday, October 22, 2020, 3:00-4:00 pm  
*How to Be a Bad Emperor: An Ancient Guide to Truly Terrible Leaders*  
Hosted by Professor Daniel Sarefield

**BAD EMPERORS**



[Join with Google Meet](#)  
meet.google.com/oyr-tydv-pdt  
[Join by phone](#)  
(US) +1 321-586-2493 PIN: 111 777 099#

### CIC launches virtual book club

The Center for Italian Culture will host a virtual book club for the 2020-21 academic year, with faculty members leading community discussions.

The year’s programs begin at **3 p.m. Thursday** with a discussion of some of history’s worst leaders led by **Professor Daniel Sarefield** (Economics, History and Political Science).

Sarefield will talk about *How to Be a Bad Emperor: An Ancient Guide to Truly Terrible Leaders* by Suetonius, edited by Josiah Osgood.

Join the discussion at <https://meet.google.com/oyr-tydv-pdt> or by calling in to 1-321-586-2493 and entering PIN 111 777 099#.

## Commencement updates

We recently notified the Class of 2020 graduates - including those who finished their degrees in May as well as those expecting to finish in December - that because of ongoing challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be hosting virtual commencement ceremonies this year.



There will be two virtual commencement ceremonies.

- The spring 2020 graduates will be recognized at **6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17.**
- The winter 2020 graduates will be recognized at **6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18.**

Additional details will be posted to the [Commencement web page](#) as they are developed.

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## International Pronouns Day to be observed Wednesday

The campus will observe [International Pronouns Day](#) on **Wednesday, Oct. 21**. While supplies last, stop by the Hammond Hall Information Desk to pick up your pronoun pin and wear it with the community on Wednesday.

The program seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns commonplace.

Referring to people by the pronouns they determine for themselves is basic to human dignity. Being referred to by the wrong pronouns particularly affects transgender and gender nonconforming people. Together, we can transform society to celebrate people's multiple, intersecting identities.

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## Webinar on Oct. 28 will highlight on-campus MBA programs

Learn about Fitchburg State's in-person Master of Business Administration programs at a free virtual [webinar](#) at **1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28**.

The session will focus on the in-person offerings, including concentrations in accounting, management, and human resources management.

To register, go to <https://admissions.fitchburgstate.edu/register/MBAwebinar2020>.

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## Falcon Talks: Cybersecurity

The Alumni Association is happy to resume its Falcon Talks series at **7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28** with a panel of cybersecurity experts sharing their perspectives in media, financial markets

and innovating solutions.

Chief Information Security Officer Sherry Horeanopoulos will moderate the panel, that features Mark Fearer '93, '99, Jim Geary '78, and John Honeycutt '91.

Join by Google Meet at [meet.google.com/dci-rrij-osi](https://meet.google.com/dci-rrij-osi) or by phone at +1 617-675-4444 PIN: 465 918 795 9136#.

A promotional poster for 'FALCON TALKS'. The title 'FALCON TALKS' is in large, bold, yellow letters at the top. Below it, in smaller white text, it says 'ALUMNI PANEL FEATURING MARK FEARER '93, '99 JIM GEARY '78 JOHN HONEYCUTT '91'. Below that, it says 'MODERATED BY SHERRY HOREANOPOULOS, CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER'. The main theme is 'Cybersecurity: perspectives in media, financial markets & innovating solutions'. The date and time are 'Wednesday, October 28 @ 7 p.m. (EST)'. On the right side, there are four circular portraits of the panelists. At the bottom right, it provides contact information: 'Via Google Meet meet.google.com/dci-rrij-osi' and 'or join by phone +1 617-675-4444 PIN: 465 918 795 9136#'.

**FALCON TALKS**

ALUMNI PANEL FEATURING  
MARK FEARER '93, '99 JIM GEARY '78 JOHN HONEYCUTT '91  
MODERATED BY SHERRY HOREANOPOULOS,  
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*"Cybersecurity:  
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## Save the date: Restored footage of Fitchburg in 1941 to be screened on Nov. 10

In November 1941, a film crew came to the city of Fitchburg to capture local faces and places for a "slice of life" film designed to be shown in local cinemas.

The footage went unseen for years but has now been digitized and is in the midst of a meticulous restoration under the auspices of **Professor Charles Roberts** (Communications Media).

The public is invited to take a look at a curated selection of clips from the footage introduced by Professor Roberts and take part in a discussion led by Fitchburg Historical Society Executive Director Susan Navarre in a virtual event at 7 p.m. **Tuesday, Nov. 10**. Go to [meet.google.com/ujn-otbf-tat](https://meet.google.com/ujn-otbf-tat) to take part.

The program is part of the Alumni Association's Falcon Talks series.

## CenterStage and cultural events

The Communications Media Department will host an online presentation featuring the photography of alumnus **Nate McGarigal '09** at 3:30 p.m. **Wednesday, Oct. 21** [on Zoom](https://zoom.us).

McGarigal's photography exhibit is on display in the Sanders Administration Building and can also be [viewed online](#).



## Faculty Notes

**Professor Lilian Bobea** (Behavioral Sciences) published an analytical article in Foreign Affairs Latinoamerica, about the recent appointment of the director of the Inter-American Development Bank (a Cuban/American for the first time since the creation of that entity in 1959) and its implication for Latin America and the Caribbean. Read it [here](#).

**Professor Adem Elveren** (Economics, History and Political Science) recently coauthored "Is informality a barrier to sustainable development?", published in Sustainable Development. Read it [here](#).

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