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## Fitchburg State University Today

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### University recognized for social mobility in U.S. News rankings

For the second consecutive year, Fitchburg State has been recognized for upward social mobility in U.S. News & World Report's annual ranking of colleges and universities.

The ranking among regional universities reflects Fitchburg State's success in enrolling and graduating large numbers of economically disadvantaged students.

"Access and affordability are at the very foundation of our mission," President Lapidus said. "We are proud of our track record of creating opportunities for all students, and for helping them complete their studies and move forward with their lives and careers."

The methodology looked at students who qualified for Pell Grants, who typically come from households whose family incomes are less than \$50,000 annually, though most Pell Grant money goes to students with a total family income below \$20,000.

[Learn more](#)



### Unity Rally carries powerful message

Members of the campus community gathered – six feet apart and wearing face coverings – for a Unity Rally in support of Black Lives Matter on Sept. 22.

The program featured voices from the student body and administration, and included a shared commitment to fostering a safe and equitable university.

The event was organized by Muhammad "Moose" Mahmood (pictured at left), a junior and member of the Falcons football team. He recounted experiences he had with police officers and wondered if their outcome would have been worse if he was Black.

"Our Black community is in danger," he said. "This isn't breaking news, but it should be breaking hearts."

[Read more](#)

## University's role in Fitchburg revitalization plans highlighted

CommonWealth magazine recently published a comprehensive [article](#) outlining the city of Fitchburg's efforts to revitalize itself using arts and culture. The university's role in that effort is prominently featured in the piece.



[Read the article](#)

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## Speakers Series launches for academic year today

The university Speakers Series launches its 2020-21 programming with a talk at 12:30 p.m. today by Professor Christine Devine (Nursing) entitled "Nursing Student Perceptions of Academic and Clinical Integrity."

The talk will be given in Percival Hall, room 208, but can also be viewed [online](#).

The series will continue on Monday, Nov. 2, with a presentation by Professor Ben Levy (Mathematics) on "Modeling the Effect of HIV/AIDs Stigma on HIV Infection Dynamics in Kenya."

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## President hosting open forum for staff on Tuesday, Oct. 13



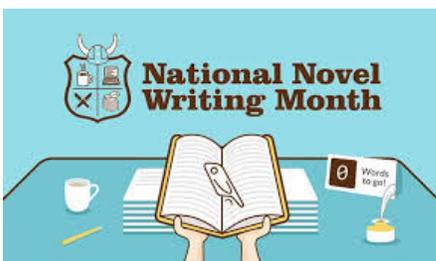
Please join President Lapidus and members of the senior staff for a virtual [open forum](#) for staff from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13.

The session will begin with a brief update about what's happening on campus followed by an opportunity for staff members to express any issues or concerns.

To join the meeting, please go to [meet.google.com/fpz-feio-bqs](https://meet.google.com/fpz-feio-bqs). To join by phone, call 516-417-1138 and enter PIN 445 269 758#. [Click here](#) to view a livestream of the event.

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## Library celebrating National Novel Writing Month



The Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library invites you to be part of National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo), which is a worldwide writing event in which participants challenge themselves to write a 50,000 word novel during the month of November.

Valuing enthusiasm, determination, and a deadline, NaNoWriMo is for anyone who has ever thought about writing a novel.

To prepare for NaNoWriMo, the Library will be hosting a series of 4 noveling workshops in October to help participants reach their 50,000 word goal. All workshops will be held online.

The group's first meeting will be from 7 to 8 p.m. **Thursday, Oct. 8.** All are welcome!

Join the Facebook Group: [www.facebook.com/groups/fitchburgstatewrimos/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/fitchburgstatewrimos/) or email Sherry Packard ([spackard@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:spackard@fitchburgstate.edu)) to be added to the mailing list for the meeting invite and information about upcoming events.

## National Latinx Heritage Month continues

Fitchburg State's National Latinx Heritage Month continue in October with programs featuring Latinx alumni and student voices and a virtual "rep your flag" celebration.

[Learn more](#)



**NATIONAL LATINX HERITAGE MONTH**  
FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

<b>WE ARE HERE:</b> <b>LATINX VOICES AT FITCHBURG STATE</b> Tues. September 15th 5:00PM Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/ctw-jfcv-ahk">meet.google.com/ctw-jfcv-ahk</a>	<b>LASO CAFE:</b> <b>SLAM POETRY NIGHT</b> Wed. September 30th 5:30PM Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/pwu-qwde-bxj">meet.google.com/pwu-qwde-bxj</a>
<b>LASO CERRADO</b> Thurs. September 17th 5:00PM Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/rat-aozd-dft">meet.google.com/rat-aozd-dft</a>	<b>CAFÉ CON LECHE:</b> <b>AN INTRO TO AFRO-LATINIDAD</b> Thurs. October 1st 11:30AM Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/dnq-cuze-gsc">meet.google.com/dnq-cuze-gsc</a>
<b>COOKING WITH LASO</b> Mon. September 21st 5:00PM Instagram Live (Follow @Laso_fitchburg_state)	<b>SÍ SE PUEDE:</b> <b>LATINX ALUMNI &amp; STUDENT VOICES</b> Thurs. October 8th 11:30AM Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/tpz-osno-cgc">meet.google.com/tpz-osno-cgc</a>
<b>JAVIER ÁVILA</b> Wed. September 23rd 5:00PM Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/jay-dfnv-ygg">meet.google.com/jay-dfnv-ygg</a> Livestream: <a href="http://bit.ly/JA_LIVESTREAM">http://bit.ly/JA_LIVESTREAM</a>	<b>REP YOUR FLAG VIRTUAL CELEBRATION</b> Tues. October 13th 4:30PM Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/qui-zjas-etv">meet.google.com/qui-zjas-etv</a>
<b>Marketing Yourself</b> (Co-sponsored w/ Career Services & Advising Center) Thurs. September 24th 6:00PM Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/Marketing_Yourself">https://bit.ly/Marketing_Yourself</a>	<b>CLOSING NLHM DISPLAY</b> Thurs. October 15th

WE ARE HERE ● NOSOTROS ESTAMOS AQUI ● NÓS ESTAMOS AQUI ● NOU ISIT LA

Events Sponsored by: Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness, Latin American Student Organization, National Latinx Heritage Month Committee, Office of the President, Office of the Provost, Office of Student Development, Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs

## CenterStage and cultural events



The work of artist Leslie Schomp (including "Chicken Girl with Fox Fur," at left) is now on display in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery.

Schomp's work consists of figurative drawings and sculptures that utilize botanical and animal references to communicate ideas about various states of human psychology.

Take a virtual tour of Schomp's exhibit in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery by clicking [here](#). The exhibit will be on display through Oct. 9.

Also showing, in the Gallery at the Sanders Administration Building, is the work of alumnus and cinematographer Nathan McGarigal.

The exhibit, on display through the academic year, chronicles his worldwide travels.

Students, faculty and staff are invited to view the exhibit in person, while members of the public may check out the [virtual gallery](#). Photos in McGarigal's exhibit are available for sale for \$130, with proceeds benefiting the Gunther Hoos Scholarship Fund at Fitchburg State. Email [eventmanagement@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:eventmanagement@fitchburgstate.edu) for more information.

## Faculty Notes

Professor Edward Martens (Industrial Technology) was awarded emeriti status this fall.

Martens earned his bachelor's degree, master's degree, and PhD in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He joined the faculty at Fitchburg State College in 1971 after a faculty appointment at Northeastern University and a career as a senior scientist at American Science & Engineering.

Professor Martens was a pioneer for gender equity in STEM education, establishing the University's first technology course that honored the contributions of women in science and technology. Martens was also responsible for developing the first courses in automated manufacturing, digital electronics, engineering experimentation, and microprocessor-based control systems.

He was an active member of the campus and the profession. He served as a member of the National Association of Industrial Technology, the American Physical Society, and the American Society of Engineering Education. On campus, Martens was a leader on the All College Curriculum Committee, the Academic Policies Committee, and the University-wide Promotions Committee. He retired from Fitchburg State in 2008.

**Professor Adem Elveren** (Economics, History and Political Science) was recently published in [Taylor & Francis Online](#) with an article entitled "Informality, Inequality and Profit Rate." The piece's co-authors include Fitchburg State student Joseph Bourgeois, a double major in economics and business administration. Read it [here](#).

**Professor Katherine Rye Jewell** (Economics, History and Political Science) has been appointed co-chair of the College and Community Radio Caucus of the [Library of Congress Radio Preservation Task Force](#), a federally mandated project created to support the preservation of the nation's audiovisual infrastructure. Read more [here](#).

**Professor Kyle Moody** (Communications Media) will give a talk on how to spot "fake news" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15 at the J.V. Fletcher Library in Westford. The presentation is designed to help people determine what is trustworthy news and how knowing the difference makes you a more educated consumer. Learn more at the library [website](#).

**Professor Teresa Fava Thomas** (Economics, History and Political Science) was recently [interviewed](#) by Italian journalist Umberto Mucchi for his website [We the Italians](#).

**Professor Sam Tobin** (Communications Media) and former student Nicholas St. Jacques '19 recently published an academic paper on role-playing games in the Japanese Journal of Analog Role-Playing Game Studies. St. Jacques began the paper in Tobin's research seminar, and Tobin was so impressed with it that they continued to develop it. Read more about the article [here](#).

**Professor Kisha Tracy** (English Studies) has been invited to be a keynote speaker for the CHEurope project's "Critical heritage studies and the future of Europe" conference on Thursday, Oct. 15 and Friday, Oct. 16. Her keynote focuses on the conference theme of heritage and well-being, and the talk will discuss "The Significance of Disability Cultural Heritage." Additional information, including a link to register, can be found [here](#).

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