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## Fitchburg State University Today

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 - Volume 9, Issue 15

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### Steven D. Borges '90 to deliver commencement address

Steven D. Borges, executive vice president and chief executive officer of Nypro Healthcare and a 1990 graduate of Fitchburg State University, will deliver the address at the university's [undergraduate commencement](#) ceremony on **Saturday, May 18** on the main quadrangle.

Nypro Healthcare is a division of Jabil Circuit, Inc., providing comprehensive design, manufacturing and product management services to a wide range of healthcare companies. The \$2.5 billion division spans numerous healthcare markets with manufacturing locations across Asia, Europe, Mexico, and the U.S., with more than 20 dedicated Nypro manufacturing sites.

Borges was executive vice president for Jabil's industrial division before taking on its healthcare functions. He joined Jabil in 1993 as a manufacturing line supervisor and advanced into increasingly senior operational and business development roles. He lives in Florida with his wife, Ericka, and their two children.

"Steve Borges has built an accomplished career and we are honored that he will share some of the wisdom and life lessons he has acquired with our graduates and guests this May," President Lapidus said. "Steve has previously enlightened our students and faculty as an entrepreneur-in-residence in our business administration program, and we look forward to hearing his remarks on our largest stage of the year."

Additional commencement honorees will be announced in the coming weeks.



Steven D. Borges '90

### Reminder: Undergraduate Conference on Research and Creative Practice and Honors Convocation this Thursday

The 10th annual [Undergraduate Conference on Research and Creative Practice](#) will be held **8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, April 18** throughout Hammond Hall. The event is sponsored by Academic Affairs and the

Student Government Association.

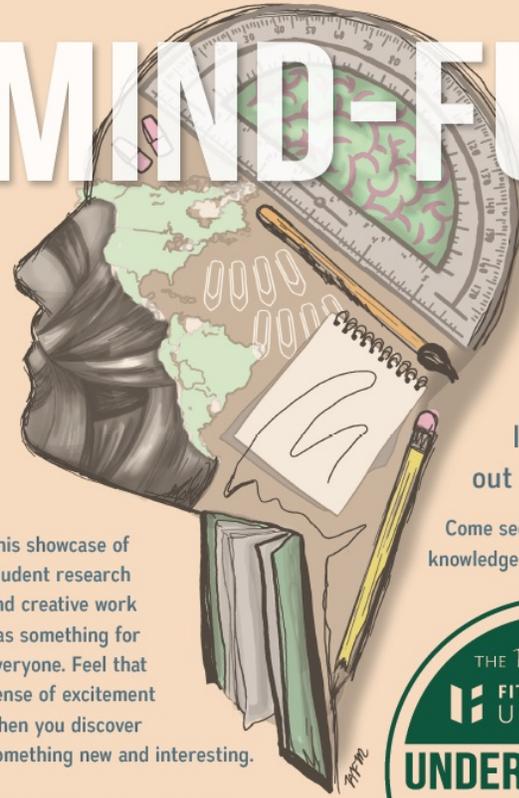
Students from across the university will make presentations promoting creativity and scholarship, shaped with significant involvement by university faculty as sponsors and judges.

That afternoon, the annual Honors Convocation will be held in Weston Auditorium.

Day classes are canceled so that all members of the university community can take part in this celebration of student accomplishment.

The poster for this year's event was designed by student Arianna Martinez '19.

# MIND-FULL



Higher education today is full of opportunities for students to learn—both in and out of the classroom.

Come see how our students apply knowledge to real-world challenges.

This showcase of student research and creative work has something for everyone. Feel that sense of excitement when you discover something new and interesting.

FREE EVENT — OPEN TO ALL AGES



Hammond Hall | 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM  
Fitchburg State University

LEARN MORE AT [fitchburgstate.edu/studentresearch](http://fitchburgstate.edu/studentresearch)

## Share your ideas for 125th anniversary

This coming academic year, Fitchburg State will celebrate the institution's 125th anniversary. This is an opportunity to celebrate our history and to share the accomplishments of our students, alumni, faculty and staff.

The campus community is invited to help highlight the robust array of programming and exhibitions that the university hosts each year. To that end, members of the campus are invited to [submit proposals](#) for events they would like included under the 125th anniversary label, as well as suggestions for new events to observe this landmark. Every submission will be reviewed by the 125th Anniversary Committee, which includes representatives from across the campus, including students and alumni.

As with the inauguration week celebrations in 2016, we will be looking for proposals that are diverse in representation and philosophy; will engage members of the wider community; engage students; reflect and appeal to our alumni; and are unique and creative in thought and presentation. If you are interested in making a programming proposal for the anniversary year, please fill out [this survey](#) by **Friday, May 3**.

## Trivia Night raises funds for Falcon Bazaar

"The Book Drops," representing the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library, took top honors at the



trivia night earlier this month that raised hundreds of dollars in cash and six bags of food for the Falcon Bazaar food pantry in Hammond Hall.

Second place went to "E=MC Hammer" (also known as the Biology Department) while third place went to "The Department of Mathletics" (from Mathematics).

Capital Planning and Maintenance, Student Development, Chartwells, HR/Payroll, Technology, Student Affairs and Housing also fielded teams at the event, which organizers promise will return each semester.



## Campus hosts teens from St. Stephen's Youth Programs

Fitchburg State was part of a week-long visit to colleges and universities across the Northeast by students in [St. Stephen's Youth Programs](#) second annual college and career bridge trip.

The cohort visited Fitchburg State on a trip that also included UMass Amherst, Williams College, Temple University, Howard University, and Georgetown University. The visit was facilitated by the [Crocker Center for Civic Engagement](#).



St. Stephen's exposes teens to the options available to them and provides the tools they need to achieve their goals, with supports including mentoring, academic tutoring, one-on-one counseling, career panels, college visits, and test preparation.

## Graham talks women in politics at Nancy Kelly Lecture

*Boston Globe* contributing editor and columnist Renée Graham delivered the Nancy Kelly Memorial Lecture on April 11 in Presidents' Hall, discussing the rising influence of women in national politics.

"Politics have never felt as personal as they do at this moment in our history," Graham said. Noting the the number of women elected to Congress in 2018, Graham said the Trump presidency has been a galvanizing force.

Still, she lamented what she described as a double standard, as the dialogue about potential Democratic rivals to Trump in 2020 still focuses on white men like Joe Biden, Beto O'Rourke



Renée Graham

and Pete Buttigieg.

"This isn't a time to sit on the sidelines," she said. "More than ever, women are heeding the call. I believe that the future is female."

The talk was the culminating event in the university's observance of Women's History Month.

## ALFA closes out year with Russian programs on April 30

[Adult Learning in the Fitchburg Area](#) (ALFA) will present the grand finale of its Shirley Pick Spring Series with a talk on Russian icons at **11 a.m.**

**Tuesday, April 30** in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. The talk will be followed that afternoon by a discussion with author Neville Frankel, whose novel *On the Sickle's Edge* is partly set in Russia and Latvia.



Laura Garrity-Arquitt from the [Museum of Russian Icons](#) in Clinton will give the talk at 11 a.m. that will be presented in concert with performances of Ukrainian operatic arias and folk songs sung by noted soprano Olga Lisovskaya. This program will complement the afternoon program, where Frankel will talk about his multigenerational thriller, love story and coming-of-age tale that takes readers to Eastern Europe, South Africa and the U.S.

Admission is free and lunch can be ordered for \$11. Guests are asked to register online at [marketplace.fitchburgstate.edu/alfa](http://marketplace.fitchburgstate.edu/alfa), or to contact the ALFA office at 978-665-3706. Space is limited.

## Students to discuss European trip at May 1 forum

Fitchburg State students who spent their spring break in Europe for a political science class will discuss their experiences at a public forum **Wednesday, May 1** in Miller Oval. The evening will begin with refreshments at **6 p.m.** followed by the students' presentation from **7 to 8:30 p.m.** Admission is free.

The students were part of Professor Joshua Spero's political science class "Europe Today." In March they visited the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, and Poland.

Students in the course have been studying the roots of contemporary Europe, particularly the post-Communist era with the fall of the Berlin Wall, collapse of the Soviet Union, re-emergence of democracy in Central-East Europe, and subsequent challenges post-9/11.



Professor Joshua Spero and his students underground in Poland's Wieliczka Salt Mine, just outside Kraków.

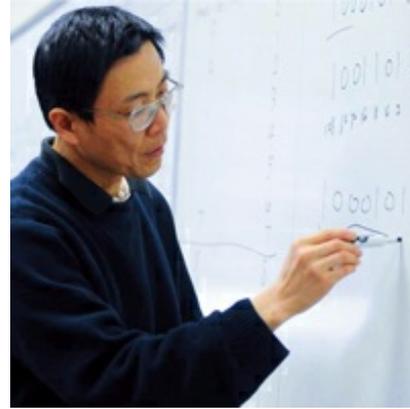
## Reminder: GCE webinar on computer science tomorrow

Learn about the graduate-level computer science programs offered by Graduate and Continuing Education at Fitchburg State at a free [webinar tomorrow at 2 p.m.](#) The program will include a look at the university's computer science graduate program as well as its concentration in data science.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the job outlook for computer scientists is growing much faster than average, and most jobs for data scientists require a master's degree in computer science or a related field. Fitchburg State's programs will help maximize your options for employment in this vibrant field.

The webinar will discuss requirements and curriculum, admissions and application requirements. Participants will also have their admissions application fees waived.

To learn more or to register, visit <http://info.fitchburgstate.edu/computersciencewebinar>.



## CenterStage and cultural events

### On the Conlon Hall Media Wall: Lina Maria Giraldo video works

Artist Lina Maria Giraldo will discuss the short video works on display at the Conlon Hall Media Wall at a talk and reception **tomorrow at 3:30 p.m.** in the lobby of Conlon Hall. Refreshments will be served.

Giraldo creates screen-based computer-generated work using video, photography, physical computing, and data. It incorporates contemporary languages such as video games, advertising, repetition, and massiveness. Crucial for the development of her pieces is the community's role and the information it generates. Her work has been the focus on creating messages where she depicts the fragility of our environment, immigration, and community equality. She explores how art can help us understand the challenges of our society.



"Rain" by Lina Maria Giraldo

The Colombian-born, Boston-based artist focuses on interactive storytelling towards social change, with a diverse body of work ranging from digital educational tools, public installations, and screen-based computer-generated work. She holds a Master of Professional Studies on Interactive Telecommunications from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University where she was the recipient of both the Paulette Goddard and the Tisch School Scholarships. She has exhibited her work in galleries, shows, and public spaces throughout Massachusetts, New York, New Mexico, and her native Colombia. Her work has been covered in media including The Boston Globe, ABC News, The Artery, Artlink, WBUR, and WGBH.

Learn more about the artist [here](#).

### Main Stage theater production "Dead Mad" runs through April 20

A new play that explores how we respond when we're suddenly forced to wake up, take stock, and chart a new course is Fitchburg State's main stage theater production this April. "Dead Mad," written by Peter Anderegg and directed by Denise Alexander, will be performed at the Wallace Theatre for the Performing Arts in the McKay Complex, 67 Rindge Road, **through April 20.**

The play tells the story of Jason Brooks, who must write an obituary to avoid being haunted by his mother after she escapes Charon the Ferryman in Hades. In so doing, he confronts the fact that he knows almost nothing about her that is 100 percent true. The play uses a non-linear structure to whipsaw between time periods as characters try to figure out what's real and what's imaginary.

Remaining performances will be at **6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 17** and **Thursday, April 18; 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 19; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 20.**

The Department of Communications Media Proudly Presents  
a Main Stage Production of

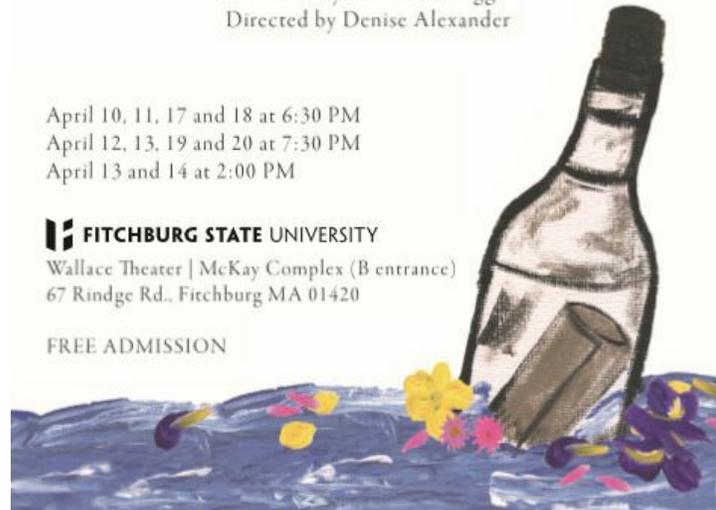
# DEAD MAD

Written by Peter Andereg  
Directed by Denise Alexander

April 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 6:30 PM  
April 12, 13, 19 and 20 at 7:30 PM  
April 13 and 14 at 2:00 PM

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Wallace Theater | McKay Complex (B entrance)  
67 Rindge Rd., Fitchburg MA 01420

FREE ADMISSION



## Faculty/staff housing opportunity for 2019-20

Unit #3 at the university-owned faculty/staff housing at 132 Highland Ave. will be available for rent starting **September 1, 2019**. This apartment is within walking distance of campus (two blocks) making it possible to engage in the entire spectrum of academic and co-curricular activities that occur at Fitchburg State.

Unit 3 (2nd/3rd Floor, Left)



2nd Floor - Living Room



2nd Floor - Kitchen



2nd Floor - Bathroom



2nd Floor - Bedroom



3rd Floor - Master Bathroom

This recently renovated two-floor unit includes two bedrooms, two bathrooms, full kitchen with stainless steel appliances, laundry area with washer and dryer, separate living and dining areas, and one off-street parking space. The apartment is unfurnished.

The monthly rent will be \$1,300, which includes water/sewer and city trash collection. Tenant is responsible for heating/cooling, electricity, and hot water.

Those interested in renting this unit should contact Beth Keene at extension 4795 or by email at [bkeene1@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:bkeene1@fitchburgstate.edu).

## Faculty notes

**Robin Dinda (Humanities)** had the first performance in France of his Nocturne for Brass Quintet and Organ, in Dijon, Burgundy, on December 14, 2018. The performance was by faculty members of the Conservatoire de Dijon. The score of the composition and a professional recording may be found by clicking [here](#).

**Charles H. Sides (Communications Media)** was the invited speaker at the University of Tennessee Rhetoric, Writing, and Linguistics Series this month. His plenary address focused on "Free Speech in a Post-Truth Era." He also provided several additional presentations during the two-day symposium: "Have We Really Become Coarser? Political Rhetoric in the Presidential Elections of 1800 and 2016"; "Rhetoric and Ethnographic Research in Technical Communication"; "Technical Documentation Style in Hi-Tech Environments"; "Jungian Typology and Team-Building in Technical Communication"; and "Careers in Technical Communication and Rhetoric."

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