



## Fitchburg State University Today

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### Phillips joins Board of Trustees

Fitchburg attorney C. Deborah Phillips was recently sworn in to the Fitchburg State University Board of Trustees. Governor Charlie Baker appointed Phillips to the five-year post and the oath of office was administered by State Rep. Stephen L. DiNatale.

Phillips, a founding partner of the Fitchburg law firm Nickless, Phillips and O'Connor, has been representing current and former government officials, towns, cities and those doing business with them for over 25 years. She has extensive experience in negotiating and drafting dedicated documents such as agreements for payment in lieu of taxes, solar and other specialized leases, complex agreements with governmental agencies, and all land use documents. She also represents businesses and consumers in class action litigation, business transactions and civil litigation.



C. Deborah Phillips

"Deborah Phillips has built an impressive legal career and a legacy of public service," President Lapidus said. "She will be an asset to the university's board of trustees."

Phillips completed her bachelor's degree in history at Trinity College in Washington, D.C. and her law degree from New England Law in 1981. A former member of the Board of Directors of the Fitchburg State University Foundation Inc., Phillips is a longtime supporter of the university. She is a director at Family Federal Savings Bank, and is a trustee of the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts.

## Police outreach center unites campus, Fitchburg departments

Continuing efforts to link the Fitchburg State campus with its host city, the university's police force and the Fitchburg Police Department have opened a shared community outreach center at the intermodal transportation center on Main Street.

The center is located in the West Building of the intermodal center at 150 Main St. among a suite of university offices.

"This space will benefit the Fitchburg State campus as well as our neighbors in the city," President Lapidus said.

"It is a fitting demonstration of the productive collaboration between our Campus Police and the Fitchburg Police Department. Working together, our entire community grows stronger."

"This center is the result of a strong collaboration between the university and the city," Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest F. Martineau said. "Its location demonstrates our continued effort to make Main Street in downtown Fitchburg a place people want to be. This space will show the Fitchburg State community and other city residents that we are committed to the lower Main Street initiative. And while the signs in the windows reflect law enforcement, the real purpose of this space is community engagement. The possibilities are endless."

Chief Martineau added the productive relationship between his department and the university police has grown dramatically in recent year. "It's never been like this before," he said. "We're partners in this. This collaboration can only be good for the city."



At the dedication of the outreach center, from left, Fitchburg Police Lt. Jeffrey Howe, Deputy Campus Police Chief Michael J. Cloutier, Fitchburg State President Richard Lapidus, Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest Martineau, State Rep. and Mayor-Elect Stephan L. DiNatale, and Campus Police Chief Karen J. Leary.

State Rep. and Mayor-Elect Stephen DiNatale also attended the ceremony.

"This is just one more demonstration of the partnership between the city and the university," he said. "I'm happy to see this happening I support it whole-heartedly."

The Fitchburg Police Department will be hosting a coat drive at the center on **Saturday, Dec. 19** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fitchburg Public Schools Superintendent also announced the medication collection drive during those same hours.

"This is a good time to look in your medicine cabinets to see what you want to dispose of to make your home safer," said Ravenelle. Parents of public school students will be getting letters this week informing them of the medication drive.

The outreach center will provide space for community education programming such as car seat fittings and CPR training for babysitters and first responders, as well as an area for residents to meet with officers.

## Mayor Wong to receive President's Medal at commencement

Fitchburg Mayor Lisa A. Wong will be awarded the President's Medal at Fitchburg State University's 119th commencement exercises [winter ceremony](#) at 6:30 p.m. **Friday, Dec. 18**, in recognition of her many contributions to the community.

The ceremony will be held at the university's Athletics and Recreation Center, 130 North St. The university will award more than 350 undergraduate and graduate degrees this winter.

"We are honored to recognize Mayor Wong's accomplishments and legacy during our winter commencement ceremony," President Lapidus said. "Among her many achievements, the mayor has been a strong force in bringing the university and city closer together."



Mayor Wong

Lisa A. Wong is completing her fourth term as mayor of the city of Fitchburg. She was elected to that office in November 2007 at the age of 28, and is the first minority mayor in Fitchburg and the first female Asian American mayor in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

As a strong fiscal manager, Mayor Wong built up the city's stabilization fund from \$20,000 to over \$5 million, lowered crime through innovative partnerships, improved the schools and redeveloped the city by attracting investments back into mills and the downtown. She is a leader in conservation efforts, setting aside over 1,700 acres for permanent conservation and building parks and trails along the Nashua River, allowing for more tourism, as well as enjoyment by the citizens of Fitchburg.

Mayor Wong grew up in Massachusetts and attended Boston University where she received a dual bachelor's degree in international relations and economics, and a master's degree in economics. She began working for the Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority in 2001 and became the agency's executive director in 2004. In that role, she managed several urban renewal projects to revitalize Fitchburg, such as the redevelopment of a former General Electric facility into a modern business complex.

Mayor Wong has become known throughout the state as one of the most effective leaders in economic restructuring, environmental affairs, and redevelopment projects and was recently asked to head the Gateway Cities Initiative statewide. She is married to Anthony Soto and stepmother of four children, including two who are currently serving in the Marines.

## Campus hosts emergency management training

The campus hosted more than 40 visitors from multiple agencies across four states last week for a three-day training session on managing critical incidents for higher education institutions. The course, developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and taught by the Texas Engineering Extension Service, helps institutions prepare, prevent, respond to and recover from incidents that can significantly impact campus communities.

Participants worked through numerous exercises to discuss realistic scenarios and cross-disciplinary responses to a variety of emergency situations. Many members of the university's emergency management team took part in the training.

That team, led by Police Chief Karen J. Leary, includes representatives from across campus as well as public safety officials from the city of Fitchburg and other agencies. The team has been meeting for more than a year to refine a comprehensive [emergency management plan](#).

The university plan includes a broad communications section in which Campus Police, already

equipped with the latest training and technology, will deliver multimedia notification to the campus within minutes of an emergency. The [Rave Alert](#) system was used earlier this fall to alert the campus to the evacuation of the McKay Complex after a reported bomb threat. The notification system proved effective as did the interdepartmental incident response. The situation was resolved and inspired some valuable adjustments to the existing plans.

The alert software sends emails, telephone calls and text messages to thousands of active users, and can also post to the university's website and social media channels. The system can also deliver messages via public address speakers around the campus. The emergency management plan also outlines roles and responsibilities for a number of campus offices.



Even before last week's training, the university's emergency management team had conducted tabletop drills concerning the response to an active shooter on campus, and additional exercises incorporating off-campus personnel are in development.

Using guidelines developed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Campus Police has prepared [a training regimen](#) on what to do in an active shooter situation. Training is available on request through Chief Leary or Deputy Chief Michael Cloutier at Campus Police, 978-665-3111. Several campus offices have already received location-specific training, with more such training in the works. The training empowers members of our community with options in the event of such an emergency.

## **GCE hosts information session Tuesday, Jan. 5**

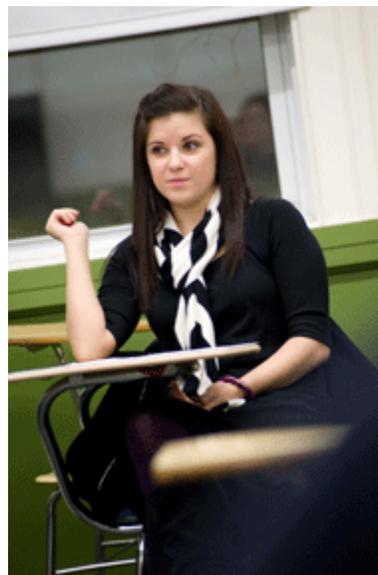
Learn about the educational opportunities available at Fitchburg State University when the Office of Graduate and Continuing Education ([GCE](#)) hosts an [information session](#) on **Tuesday, Jan. 5** at 5 p.m. The snow date for the event will be Thursday, Jan. 7.

The free session, where attendees will have the opportunity to speak with advisors, program

chairs, financial aid representatives and register for classes, will take place in Hammond Hall on the Fitchburg State campus.

GCE at Fitchburg State offers more than 45 graduate and undergraduate degree and certificate programs. Take the first steps toward achieving your educational goals and register for the information session today. Course offerings for the spring semester can be found [online](#).

There will be special information sessions beginning at 5:30 p.m. for the LPN to BS in nursing bridge program (a new military LPN to BSN starts in fall 2016), online RN to BSN, online MBA, Master of Science in Nursing (forensic); graduate special education (dyslexia specialist, moderate, severe, guided studies, reading specialist and BCBA), now delivered as an online hybrid; education (early childhood, elementary and middle school); counseling; educational leadership and management; and BS in early childhood education (birth to 8 concentration, non-licensure).



Those who attend the information session who haven't yet applied for admission to Fitchburg State can have their \$40 admissions application fee waived for their spring or summer 2016 applications. Applications must be received by **Jan. 14**, 2016 for the spring and Feb. 5 for the summer.

Visit [fitchburgstate.edu/gce/infosession](http://fitchburgstate.edu/gce/infosession) to register for the information session or call (978) 665-3182 for more details.

## Internship scholarships available

The university has once again received funding designed to increase internship opportunities for our students. [Scholarships](#) are now available for the upcoming academic year. The deadline to apply for the summer is **Friday, April 8**, 2016.

The State University Internship Incentive Program (SUIIP), operated through the university's financial aid office, is funded by the Fitchburg State University Foundation and the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The scholarship is available to current full-time day undergraduate students who are Massachusetts residents, have earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 and have a valid 2015-2016 FAFSA on file with the Financial Aid Office.

All majors will be considered but priority will be given to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and business/finance majors. Scholarships are available for 3-12 credit internships and amounts will range from \$500-\$5,000.

For more information and a link to the application, visit [www.fitchburgstate.edu/scholarintern](http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/scholarintern).

## Hockey Coach Fuller scores 500th win

Dean Fuller picked up his 500th win at the helm of Fitchburg State [ice hockey](#) as his team had plenty of offense to defeat the visiting Ravens of Franklin Pierce, scoring their second-highest goal total of the season in the 6-2 victory at the Wallace Civic Center on Dec. 5.

"500 is a nice number. It really is," Fuller said with relief following his team's third attempt at the 500 mark. "Now we can really focus on league play."

Serving 32 seasons as the school's coach, Fuller has enjoyed success at Fitchburg State, but not without a little help along the way,

"When you surround yourself with good players, a good staff, great things like this can happen," he said.



Hockey Coach Dean Fuller

## CenterStage at Fitchburg State

### In the Galleries

The Conlon Hall Media Wall inside 316 Highland Ave. will feature an exhibition of old and new work by faculty member Sally B. Moore. The work will be on display through **Friday, Dec. 18**.

Vulnerability: situations sitting on edges, beings pushed to the brink of non-being, architecture falling through in search of a more possible place. Assistant Professor Sally Moore uses her work to sort through obstacles and anxieties in her own life and, by extension, situations in the world.

### Faculty Show

Art and Communications Media faculty have been creating new works in photography, sculpture, design, painting, drawing, film, video and mixed media. The biennial exhibition highlighting some of their best and recent works will run through **Wednesday, Dec. 16** at the Hammond Hall Art Gallery.



"Remember" by Sally Moore

### In memoriam: Dr. Gin Sgan

Dr. Mabel L. Sgan ("Gin"), long-time professor of psychology at Fitchburg State, died Friday, November 27, 2015.

Dr. Sgan earned a B.A. and an M.A. in Psychology from the University of Hawaii followed by a PhD. in Developmental Psychology from Cornell University. Following a postdoctoral research fellowship at Brandeis University, she taught at Wellesley College and Boston University before joining the faculty at the former Fitchburg State College (now FSU) in 1978. At Fitchburg State, she taught courses in child and adolescent psychology, research methods, personality, and

social psychology. She also served as an advisor for the Psychology Club and she mentored many students in individual research projects. At her retirement in 1998, in recognition of her devotion to her students, her name was included on an award (now the Roder/Sgan Award) given to an outstanding student majoring in psychology.

Dr. Sgan served as an invited reviewer for Child Development and published her own research on children and adolescents in major peer-reviewed journals such as Child Development, Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, and Journal of Educational Psychology. She was a member of the Association for Psychological Science, Society for Research in Child Development, and Society for Research in Adolescence.

In 2000, shortly after being named Professor Emerita, Dr. Sgan and her husband, Mat, moved to the Nu'uuanu Valley on the island of O'ahu, Hawai'i. There she began a ten-year collaboration with Dr. Beverly Roder in the writing and editing of *Infants to Adolescents: Research Update*, a digest addressing current research on development from birth through adolescence. During these years, she also contributed pro bono work for the Legal Aid Society and Public Defenders in Hawaii with work involving critical evaluations of research on the reliability of eyewitness testimony, the long-term effects of child abuse, and the validity of personality tests.

Dr. Sgan will be remembered by those who knew her for her warmth, her integrity, her dedication to her students, and her many contributions to the department and the college. Donations in her memory may be sent to ThreadED (a non-profit established by Dr. Sgan's daughter, Laurel, to assist needy college students (<http://www.threadedma.org/>) or to Sof Ma'arav's Hebrew Education Program(<http://sofmaarav.org/>).

## Faculty Notes

**Michael Hoberman** (English Studies) has had three articles accepted for publication. "Home of the Jewish Nation: London Jews in the Eighteenth Century Anglo American Imagination" will be published in *Eighteenth-Century Studies* (forthcoming 2016). "God Loves the Hebrews": Exodus typologies, Jewish slaveholding, and black peoplehood in antebellum America" will appear in the *American Jewish Archives Journal* (forthcoming 2016); and "How it Will End, the Blessed God Knows": A reading of Jewish correspondence during the Revolutionary War era" will be published in *American Jewish History* 99.4.

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