

---

## Fitchburg State University Today

Monday, Oct. 16, 2017 - Volume 8, Issue 4

---

### University hosts fundraiser for Puerto Rico recovery

Fitchburg State student organizations will raise funds for hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico during a night of dancing, music and games that will celebrate the local community's ties to the battered island.

The fundraiser will be held 7 to 10 p.m. **Wednesday, Oct. 18** at the Fitchburg Armory, 14 Wallace Ave. Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$5 for those bringing donated necessities; and free for children under 10. Tickets may be purchased at the information desk at Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St., or at the Armory door the night of the event.

Donations of diapers, baby food, batteries, first aid supplies, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, wet wipes, and waterless shampoo will be collected at the door.

[Learn more](#)



Come support Fitchburg State University and the City of Fitchburg to raise money and supply necessities.

October 18th  
7pm-10pm  
Fitchburg Armory  
14 Wallace Ave, Fitchburg

There will be a raffle, basket auction, face painting, and a live DJ.

Tickets \$10  
\$5 with necessity item donation  
Children under 10 get in free

Tickets can be purchased at the following locations:  
Fitchburg State information desk, City Hall,  
and at the door the night of the event.

All proceeds go to Puerto Rico Relief Programs.  
Free transportation for Fitchburg State students.

### Athletics Day of Giving coming Tuesday

On **Tuesday, Oct. 17**, over 80 athletes, representing all 17 varsity teams, will participate in the university's first-ever Day of Giving.

Student athletes will be reaching out to alumni as part of the [Go Falcons Challenge](#). By phone, email and social media, the Day of Giving offers everyone the opportunity to give back to their favorite sport or sports. Gifts of any amount are welcome.



The team with the most individual donors by midnight will win \$1,000 toward their program.

So, if you are a past or present athlete, family, friend or fan, call the Office of Alumni and

Development at 978-665-4555, stop by (Sanders, Suite 203) or go online to [falconsgive](http://falconsgive.com) and make a gift. Support your sport! Go Falcons!

## Taking the Lead

Fitchburg State faculty and staff are continuing to drive the conversation on signature issues in higher education. Some recent highlights:

Associate Dean of Student Development **Hank Parkinson** and Executive Director of Student Success **Sean Goodlett** will be presenting at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Region I Conference in November. They will discuss the university's revamped programs for onboarding new students from the summer through the days before classes begin.



Director of Housing and Residential Services **Kristin Murphy** serves on the board of the Northeast Association of College and University Housing Officers and was one of the driving forces behind their recent annual conference in Maine that hosted over 200 professionals and exhibitors. She also helped organize a successful residential operations conference for the organization during the winter, where she developed programs for new professionals.

Assistant Director for Compliance & Student Welfare **Merry MacDonald** was selected to attend the 2017 NCAA Division III Senior Women Administrator program in conjunction with the Women Leaders in Collegiate Sports convention in Dallas. The program focuses on engaging and empowering senior woman administrators and assisting them in gaining professional development to advance their careers.

## Spotlight on Giving - Fisk Scholarship to help student nurses

Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Fisk '58 loved earning her degree at Fitchburg State, and later, returning to campus as a faculty member for 20 years.

After her death seven years ago, her husband, Richard Fisk decided the best way to honor her memory was through one of the largest stock gifts ever given to the Fitchburg State University Foundation, Inc. That gift has now taken the form of the Richard P. and Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Fisk Nursing Scholarship.



Richard Fisk, second from left, during a recent tour of the nursing labs in Thompson Hall.

The endowed scholarship will give a rising junior nursing student a \$5,000 scholarship based on academic merit and leadership that also is renewable for their senior year.

Fisk recently visited the campus to tour the nursing labs in Thompson Hall, which have evolved considerably since his wife's teaching days. He also met with students who expressed gratitude for his family's generosity and admiration for the quality education they are receiving.

"She would have loved this," Fisk said. "This was a special place for her, and my kids are elated. She was teaching 24/7, and she absolutely loved it. She took a personal interest in all of her students."

Students may apply for the Richard P. and Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Fisk Nursing Scholarship-and hundreds of others-by visiting [fitchburgstate.academicworks.com](http://fitchburgstate.academicworks.com).

For more information on giving, please contact the Office of Alumni and Development at 978-665-4555.

## New grant will support dozens of students in math and science

Thanks to a five-year, \$257,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Fitchburg State will be able to provide academics and college readiness support services to 60 Fitchburg and Leominster high school students through its [Upward Bound](#) Math and Science program.



Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science programs are part of a cluster of federal programs referred to as TRIO that provide opportunities for participants to succeed in their pre-college performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits.

For 28 years, Fitchburg State has hosted Upward Bound, a year-round college preparatory program serving 87 low-income, academically motivated, first generation prospective college students with great success. Pushing this model further, Upward Bound Math and Science focuses the curriculum to prepare similar students for postsecondary education programs that lead to careers in math and science.

Students meet weekly during the academic year and spend a 6-week residential summer component on campus. Throughout it all, programming includes tutoring services, rigorous coursework, cultural and educational trips, academic counseling, and career planning activities.

Fitchburg State is honored to host Upward Bound Math and Science programming to help these students improve their academic performance and get an early start in pursuit of a rewarding STEM education.

[Learn more](#)

## Campus launching student success portal

This week the campus launches a new Student Success Collaborative platform that will let students make appointments with offices and services across campus at the click of a button.

The platform - which students may access by logging into [fitchburg.campus.eab.com](http://fitchburg.campus.eab.com) - will launch with financial aid, disability services, career counseling and advising, housing and residential services, academic deans, and some faculty advisors.

Additional offices and services will be added to the module in the future, with the ultimate aim of creating a one-stop shop for university appointments.



## Community Read continues this month

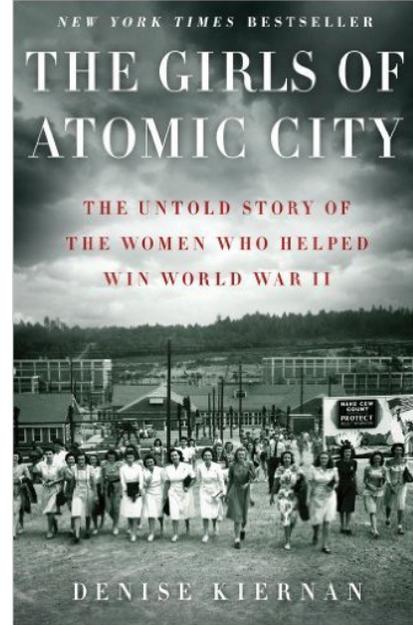
Fitchburg State's year-long Community Read of *The Girls of Atomic City* by Denise Kiernan continues this month with an inter-generational discussion at 6:30 p.m. **Tuesday, Oct. 17** at the [Fitchburg Public Library](#), 610 Main St., featuring Professor Robert Carr and his students.

The best-selling book tells the story of the young women of Oak Ridge, Tenn., who unwittingly played a crucial role in one of the most significant moments in U.S. history: the development of the atomic bomb.

Community Read events will enable a broad examination of Kiernan's work through lectures, film screenings and discussions over the next several months, culminating in March with a presentation and book signing featuring the author.

The series opened in September with a panel talk on the atomic bomb's development and legacy, as well as a look at the science behind its operation.

[Learn More](#)



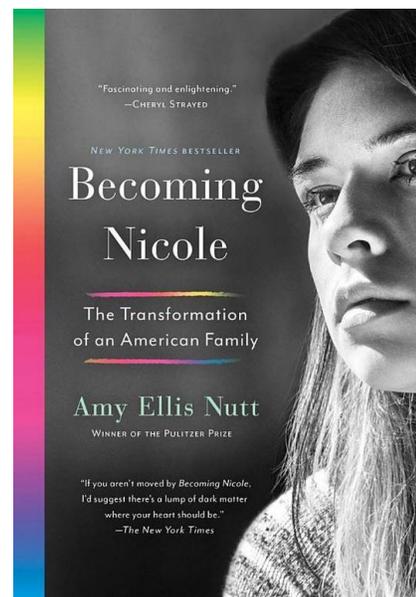
## Equity & Diversity series spotlights LGBTQ issues

The Equity & Diversity Committee presents a series of art exhibits, film screenings and discussions this fall exploring gender and equality, including a keynote presentation by Nicole Maines, subject of the best-selling book *Becoming Nicole - A Transformation of an American Family*.

The library is hosting two related art exhibits that will be on display throughout the fall. "Journey to Equality: The History of the LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement" chronicles the crusade from World War II to the present, while "Acting Up to Fight AIDS: Remembering the ACT UP Movement 30 Years Later" examines the epidemic in the 1980s and efforts to bring awareness to the crisis.

The documentary film "Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric" will screen twice on **Tuesday, Oct. 17** in Hammond Hall. In the two-hour film, Couric sets out to explore the rapidly evolving complexities of gender identity from birth to death. The film will screen at 12:30 p.m. in the Falcon Hub (where visitors are encouraged to bring a lunch or snack on popcorn) and at 7 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall, where popcorn and soda will be provided.

[Learn More](#)



## Campus offering free help filling out FAFSA on Oct. 29

Once again, Fitchburg State is joining more than 30 other institutions offering free help on the free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) for college-bound students on FAFSA Day Massachusetts. Fitchburg State's financial aid professionals will offer assistance starting at 1 p.m. **Sunday, Oct. 29** at the Antonucci Science Complex.



Every high school senior, college student, and adult-student who will be attending college during the 2018-2019 academic year needs to complete the FAFSA in order to apply for federal, state and institutional financial aid. FAFSA Day Massachusetts, a College Goal Sunday program, provides free help statewide to students and families looking to complete the FAFSA.

## Teaching opportunities in Graduate & Continuing Education

The [Office of Graduate and Continuing Education](#), as part of the university-wide course scheduling process for 2018-2019, is currently accepting requests from faculty to teach for the Summer 2018, Fall 2018, Winter 2019, and Spring 2019 semesters.

Faculty members interested in teaching should contact the appropriate department chair to express their interest and to obtain the chair's approval. The call for courses for the year is issued by the registrar, and the deadline for departments to submit course schedules in EMS is **Dec. 1, 2017**.

## CenterStage and cultural events

### In the Hammond Hall Art Gallery: Community Snapshot

The campus community is invited to take over the Hammond Hall Art Gallery through Wednesday, Oct. 25. Anyone and everyone is welcome to pin up one or two 4 x 6 photographs at the gallery. Even if you don't submit any works, check it out.

### Visions of the moon and beyond at the Conlon Hall Media Wall

Cosmic Vision: NASA On the Moon and Beyond is now on display at the Conlon Hall Media Wall.

Through photography we can preserve the past but might we also imagine the future? Since its inception, photography has provided images of the frontier. NASA's missions explore our extraterrestrial frontier. The images of the moon, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn record a moment in proximate space and immediate time. The images of galaxies record light that has traveled for many millions of years to arrive at the camera's sensor.



## Faculty Notes

**Rob Carr, Randy Howe and Charles Sides** (Communications Media) presented at the annual conference of the Council of Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC) in Savannah, Ga. Their session focused on "User-Centered Program Design and the First-Generation College Student," which was proposed by Sides. Carr's presentation, "National Student Advertising Contest (NSAC) Plans Book Production as a User-Centered Pedagogy," addressed the challenges and rewards of preparing professional communications students to compete successfully. Howe's presentation, "Pedagogy in Transition: Changing Tools to the Max," addressed the use of new and emerging technologies in a communication curriculum. Sides' presentation, "Internships and the First-Generation Student," analyzed the Communications Media Internship program as a successful pedagogical experience for transitioning students to rewarding careers in communication industries.

**Sides** also was invited to participate in the Editors' Roundtable, representing his roles as Executive Editor of the Journal of Technical Writing and Communication and as co-editor of the Routledge Series on Technical Communication, Rhetoric, and Culture.

Join Our Mailing List

STAY CONNECTED:

