

# Fitchburg State University Today

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## In This Issue

DeMoura to receive President's Medal

Davis Foundation grant benefits students

Benefiting Wounded Warriors

Third Thursday Film Series

GCE info session Jan. 7

Lecture series resumes in January

Catch the bus

CenterStage and cultural events

## Quick Links

[www.fitchburgstate.edu](http://www.fitchburgstate.edu)

[Public Relations](#)

[Campus News](#)

[Campus Calendar](#)

[Graduate and Continuing](#)

[Education](#)

[Fitchburg State in the News](#)

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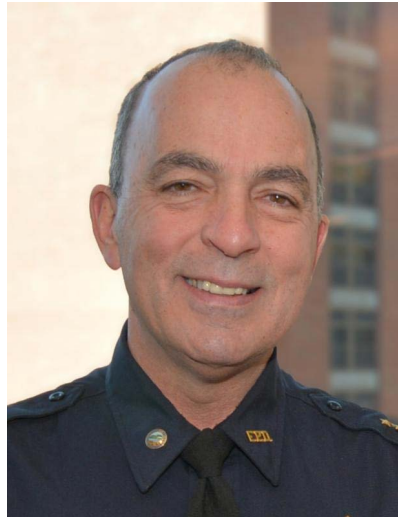


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## Winter Commencement Friday, Dec. 20



Fitchburg Police Chief Robert A. DeMoura.

Fitchburg State University will present the President's Medal to retiring Fitchburg Police Chief Robert A. DeMoura during the university's [winter commencement ceremony](#) on Friday, Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Athletics and Recreation Center, 130 North St.

Chief DeMoura has led the Fitchburg Police Department since 2008, guiding the force through challenging fiscal times while revolutionizing the departmental philosophy of community policing.

"Bob DeMoura has been a visionary leader for the Fitchburg Police Department," said President Antonucci. "He has also been a loyal friend to this campus, working with the university on countless initiatives. He leaves the Fitchburg Police Department in a strong position and we wish him luck on the next chapter of his career."

Chief DeMoura came to Fitchburg after a distinguished career in the Lowell Police Department, where he started as a patrol officer in 1985. In Lowell he worked his way through the ranks to deputy superintendent.

As a leader in Fitchburg, he turned around the organizational culture of the police agency by focusing on changes in customs and internal structure, opening the doors of communication to his officers and the community at large. The chief is responsible for planning, directing, coordinating, controlling and staffing all activities of the department.

Chief DeMoura has been an engaged presence in the community since his arrival in Fitchburg, strengthening ties with community organizations and key strategic partners including Fitchburg State University.

Chief DeMoura and his wife, Debbie, live in Chelmsford with their two shih tzu puppies, Cloie and Coco. They are the parents of two sons, Ryan and Shawn, and have a daughter, Briana.

### Davis Foundation grant secures Degree Works software for university



Fitchburg State students will enjoy a streamlined experience in charting their educational course toward graduation thanks to a \$200,000 grant from the Davis Educational Foundation.

The Davis grant, along with investments by the Fitchburg State University Foundation and the university itself, will pay for the purchase and implementation of Ellucian's Degree Works software.

Degree Works provides a comprehensive set of web-based academic advising, degree audit, and transfer articulation tools to help students and their advisors negotiate institutional curriculum requirements. Robust academic planning tools and real-time counseling capabilities help advisors provide consistent and meaningful direction to students.

The software also makes it easier for students transferring to Fitchburg State to determine how coursework from other institutions can be applied to their new degree requirements. Transfer articulation support helps staff and students determine how coursework from other institutions is assessed and applied at yours. Students will receive the academic advice they need to succeed and advisors gain new capabilities to help them counsel their students more successfully.

"This new software will provide a powerful tool for Fitchburg State students to make sure they are on track to meeting their educational goals," Fitchburg State President Robert V. Antonucci said. "That capability will, in turn, allow students to engage in more meaningful discussions with their faculty advisers each semester. We are grateful to the Davis Educational Foundation for underwriting this significant investment toward improving the student experience."

The cost of the Degree Works purchase and implementation is estimated at \$570,000. The Davis Educational Foundation grant of \$200,000 will be complemented by \$270,000 from the university budget and \$100,000 from the Fitchburg State University Foundation.

The Davis Educational Foundation, established as a public charitable foundation in 1985, supports the undergraduate programs of public and private, regionally accredited, baccalaureate degree granting colleges and universities throughout the six New England states. Elisabeth K. Davis and Stanton W. Davis co-founded the foundation after Mr. Davis' retirement as chairman of Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc. The foundation is an expression of the couple's shared support and value for higher education and has provided close to \$95 million in grants to more than 157 institutions.

### Hockey game to benefit Wounded Warrior Project

Fitchburg State University and the Fitchburg Police Relief Association are joining forces to support the Wounded Warrior Project, organizing a benefit hockey game at the Wallace



Civic Center on **Saturday, Feb. 1 at 7 p.m.** Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from members of the Relief Association, at the Civic Center or online at

<https://support.fitchburgstate.edu/warrior>.

The Fitchburg State Falcons will face off against the UMass Dartmouth Corsairs in the regular season game. The teams already enjoy a strong rivalry and organizers are hopeful the chance to contribute to the Wounded Warrior Project will make a strong event even greater.

"The benefit on February 1 marks a great opportunity for the community to show support for the men and women who have already given so much to protect our country," said President Antonucci. "We're honored to be part of such a meaningful collaboration."

"The Fitchburg Police Relief Association has supported the Wounded Warrior Project since 2011, donating all proceeds from our annual Community 5K to this worthy organization," said Association President and Fitchburg Police Officer Jude Chabot. "We're excited to build on that foundation with another event."

Fitchburg State hockey coach Dean Fuller approached the Wounded Warrior Project with the idea of a benefit hockey game several months ago and said he was happy to receive a warm response.

"I'm excited about this partnership," Coach Fuller said.

Robin Connors, founder of the charitable organization Robin Connors Angels, has been a volunteer fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior project for the past seven years and has worked with the Fitchburg Police Relief Association on numerous other projects. Service to returning veterans is a personal cause that Connors holds dear.

The Wounded Warrior Project's mission is to foster the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded service members in our nation's history. The WWP seeks to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members; to help injured service members aid and assist each other; and to provide unique, direct programs, and services to meet the needs of injured service members.

For more information, contact Robin Connors at [robinconnorsangels@gmail.com](mailto:robinconnorsangels@gmail.com) or 978-846-8665.

### Third Thursday film series continues

The Third Thursday film series - bridging the Fitchburg State University campus and the city - continues this fall. The community is invited to join Fitchburg State faculty and staff members for free monthly film screenings and discussions at the [Fitchburg Public Library](#), 610 Main St.

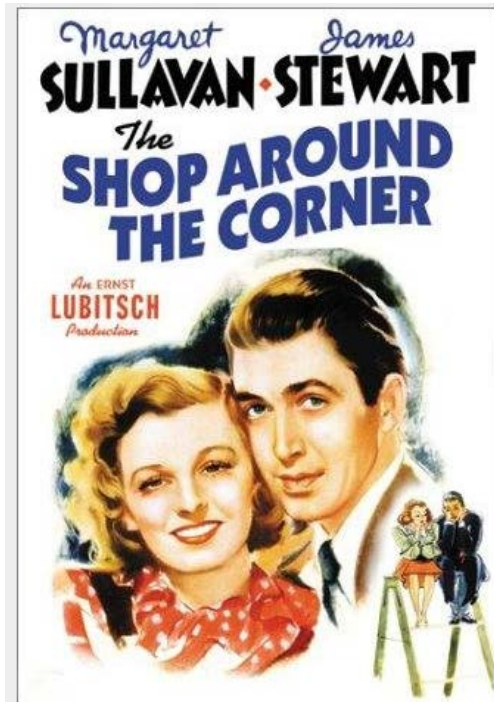
Each film is presented in the library auditorium, introduced by a member of the university's faculty or staff. The films touch on issues or events that will resonate with today's audiences. A discussion

follows each screening.

The final fall semester offering is:

**Dec. 19, 4 p.m.** - Joseph Moser (English Studies) presents *The Shop Around the Corner* (1940). A holiday treat, this film is the story of two employees at a gift shop who can barely stand one another, without realizing that they're falling in love through the post as each other's anonymous pen pal. This holiday treat stars Jimmy Stewart and Margaret Sullavan.

The series will resume in January.



"The Shop around the Corner" screens on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 4 p.m.

#### Graduate and Continuing Education information session on Jan. 7, 2014



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. 7 at 5 p.m.

The free session, where attendees will have the opportunity to speak with advisors, financial aid representatives and register for classes, will take place in Thompson Hall. The snow date for

the event is Wednesday, Jan. 8.

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.

There will be special information sessions beginning at 5 p.m. for the LPN to BS in nursing bridge program, online RN to BSN, online MBA, Master of Science in Nursing, graduate special education, education (early childhood, elementary and middle school) and counseling programs. Drop in anytime between 5 and 6:30 p.m. to meet our director of distance education to learn more about online programs.

Visit <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/gce/infosession/> to register for the information session.

## Communications Media Lecture Series resumes Thursday, Jan. 30

Fitchburg State University's Communications Media Lecture Series continues in January with a presentation by Liz Resnick, chair of the Graphic Design Department at the Massachusetts College of Art, on "Propaganda and Protest Posters: A Select History of Civic Engagement by Artists." Resnick's lecture will be given **Thursday, Jan. 30** at 3:30 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. Admission is free.

As a medium for social change, posters record our struggles for peace, social justice, environmental defense, and liberation from oppression. From the confrontational and political, to the promotional, persuasive and educational, the poster in all its forms has persisted as a vehicle for the public dissemination of ideas, information and opinion. Posters are dissent made visible—they communicate, advocate, instruct, celebrate, and warn, while jarring us to action with their bold messages and striking iconography. Posters also serve as a potent visual manifestation of a designer's commitment to society when non-commissioned posters are created as vehicles to raise money to support political and humanitarian causes.

Ready access to broadband and mobile communications and to digital production technologies has expanded the poster's role well beyond the limitations of the printed surface, and in its wake has created a modern tool for support and protest. These new technologies promote truly global conversations coupled with unprecedented opportunities for changing attitudes or showing defiance or solidarity. With its mix of both low-tech and high-tech, of old and new, the poster, in all its forms, is still a core component of 21st century advocacy. "Propaganda and Protest Posters" showcases 122 empathetic and visually compelling images for our time.

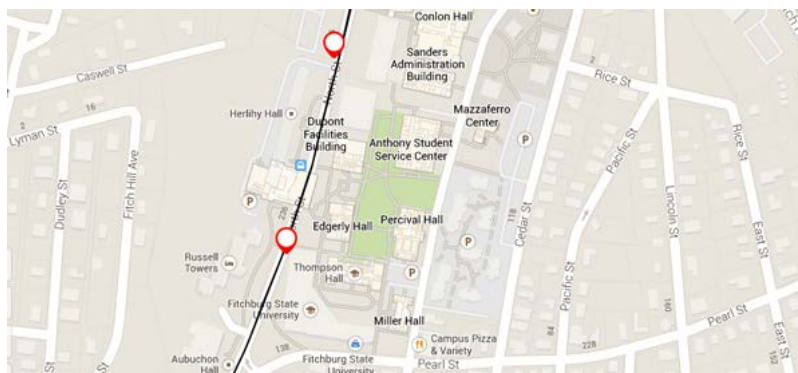
In February, acclaimed New England filmmaker Jay Craven (whose credits include *Where the Rivers Flow North*, *A Stranger in the Kingdom* and the 2004 Emmy-winning public television comedy series *Windy Acres*) who will discuss "Turning Celluloid Dreams into (Digital) Reality." Craven's presentation will be given **Wednesday, Feb. 26** at 3:30 p.m. in Percival Auditorium in Percival Hall, 254 Highland Ave.

The series concludes in April, when photographer Lou Jones presents "Designing Your Creative Life." The profession of photography can be embraced for commercial or aesthetic reasons. A person can take pictures for art or money. But what if you could use photography as a vehicle on which to build your creative life? This talk will tackle the task of giving your life political, social, economic, and personal directions, i.e. how to overcome your fears & initiate diverse and provocative creative projects with photography as the core. Jones' presentation will be given at 3:30 p.m. **Wednesday, April 9** at Ellis White Lecture Hall.

The series, now in its third year, launched in November with a presentation by cyber artist George Fifield, who discussed "The Past and Future of Interactive New Media."

The lecture series, organized by Professor Stephen Goldstein, is presented with support from Fitchburg State's Ruth Butler Grant.

## Mobile website offers real-time shuttle bus tracking



Visitors to campus, and resident students, can now track in real time the location of the shuttle buses that traverse the streets around Fitchburg State University each day.

The shuttle tracking is a feature of the university's mobile web site, visible at <http://m.fitchburgstate.edu>.

Visitors to the mobile site can select "Shuttles" from the menu and will be taken to a real-time feed of the buses' whereabouts on and around campus.

About half of Fitchburg State's undergraduate students commute to campus each day, parking in lots adjacent to campus and at the Wallace Civic Center. The Massachusetts Regional Transit Authority (MART) contracts with the university to provide shuttle service along North Street between the Civic Center, main campus and the intermodal garage on Main Street.

The mobile website was developed for Fitchburg State by Modo Labs of Cambridge, and in partnership with MART.

Fitchburg State's mobile website also features modules allowing visitors to take a virtual tour of the campus, check out course offerings, watch videos, and learn about campus and athletic events.

## CenterStage and cultural events

### Coming in February: Tierney Sutton Band presents The Joni Mitchell Project



CenterStage at Fitchburg State University invites you to experience the music of Joni Mitchell as interpreted by celebrated vocalist Tierney Sutton on Friday, Feb. 7 at 8 p.m. in Weston Auditorium, 353 North St.

Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors and \$7 for children and Fitchburg State students. The Weston Box Office is open Thursday and Friday from 12:30 to

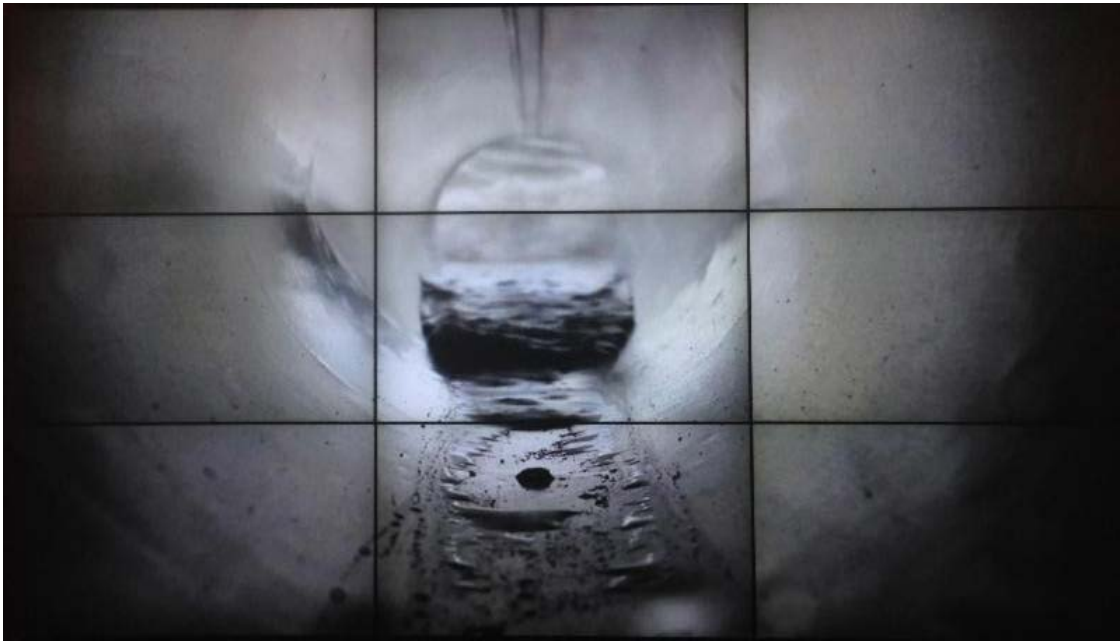
3:30 p.m. and can be reached at 978-665-3347. Tickets can also be ordered [online](#).

Joni Mitchell's lyrics and music were unique, evocative and definitive from their first note. As timely poetry, the songs entwine a universal voice through personal narrative. And as music, there is rich melodic and harmonic movement, plateaus for narrative and unresolved chords that reflect the emotional place of the story.

After spending years immersed in the many hues of Mitchell's music, American Songbook vocalist Tierney Sutton's Joni Mitchell Project aspires to "paint a little 'Blue' portrait." With the band's virtuosi - Christian Jacob on piano, Trey Henry on drums, and Kevin Axt on bass - the evening will be as intimate as a 1960s coffeehouse.

This performance is co-presented by CenterStage at Fitchburg State and WICN-90.7 jazz radio and co-sponsored by Rollstone Bank & Trust and the Sentinel & Enterprise.

**On the Conlon Media Wall: "Arroyo" by Denise Marika**



"Arroyo" is a video landscape by Denise Marika, created by the use of a 10-foot sculptural lens through which the natural phasing of light, water and the horizon line are reflected and recorded. Amplified natural and sonic frequencies were composed as an electronic call and response between the organic and synthesized soundscapes. Music by Tom Fahey and Corey Thompson of *This is Life*.

Marika's work has been presented at MASS MoCa, the Boston Cyber Arts Festival and the ICA. The piece will be displayed on the Conlon Media Wall inside the Conlon Hall, 316 Highland Ave., through Jan. 14, 2014.

#### **In the Gallery at Sanders: "Trees" by Nancy McCarthy**

In the Gallery at Sanders, inside the Sanders Administration Building at 300 Highland Ave., the work of artist Nancy McCarthy will be on display through Wednesday, Dec. 18.

For more information, visit [www.fitchburgstate.edu/cultural](http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/cultural).

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