

Fitchburg State University Today

Dec. 3, 2012 - Vol 3, Issue 7

In This Issue

Accreditation renewed

Registration open for GCE
winter/spring

Business Society co-sponsors
"Millionaire Business Owner" talk

Rotaract coat drive runs through
Dec. 5

Humanities Speaker Series
continues

Lighting of the Campus

Faculty and Staff appreciation at
Bookstore

Distinguished Speaker Series
continues in March

CenterStage and cultural events

Faculty Notes

Quick Links

www.fitchburgstate.edu

[Public Relations](#)

[Campus News](#)

[Campus Calendar](#)

[Graduate and Continuing](#)

[Education](#)

[Fitchburg State in the News](#)

Find us on Facebook 




Broadcast Yourself



University accreditation renewed through 2022



The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) has renewed Fitchburg State University's accreditation through 2022, describing a forward-looking institution, committed to excellence and investing in its facilities and community under the leadership of President Robert V. Antonucci and a committed board of trustees.

In a letter informing President Antonucci of its decision, NEASC Chair Richard L.

Pattenaude commended Fitchburg State for a "participatory evaluation process that resulted in a candid, well-written self-study. We note with approval that widespread discussions among the campus community became the basis for the university's mission statement, vision statement, core values, and the goals and objectives" of the university's strategic plan.

"We are gratified to learn that the leadership of the president and his team has led to a renewed pride in and excitement about the institution and that a committed and qualified board of trustees and alumni firmly and enthusiastically support the university," Pattenaude continued. "We share the judgment of the team that (Fitchburg State) faculty and staff are devoted to students' needs and success and committed to the vision of the institution as a university."

Off-campus and distance education programs are also overseen effectively, according to NEASC, and the group congratulated the university on its capital projects including the \$57 million science center now under construction.

"With an experienced leadership team, dedicated faculty and staff, and a supportive Board of Trustees, the university is positioned for future success," Pattenaude wrote.

"The NEASC accreditation review was a thorough and demanding process, in which we incorporated all campus constituencies to take a long, hard look at ourselves, chronicling our strengths as well as areas for improvement," President Antonucci said. "I am proud that NEASC has

awarded us their longest term of accreditation. I also appreciate their recognition of all that we do well, even as the report will guide us as we look to create an even stronger institution."

The university will submit a five-year interim report in 2017 and NEASC has scheduled Fitchburg State's next comprehensive evaluation for spring 2022.

The university underwent a comprehensive evaluation visit in March by a team representing NEASC's Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. The site visit followed a year and a half of exhaustive self-study by university faculty, administrators, staff and students. The visiting team gathered evidence that the self-study was thorough and accurate.

The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education is one of seven accrediting commissions in the United States that provide institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Accreditation is voluntary and applies to the institution as a whole. The Commission, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, accredits approximately 240 institutions in the six-state New England region.

Fitchburg State University has been accredited by the Commission since 1953 and was last reviewed in 2002. Its accreditation by the New England Association encompasses the entire institution.

Pattenaude's entire letter to President Antonucci can be viewed on the university's [NEASC web page](#).

Register now for GCE winter/spring sessions

Online registration has begun for [Graduate and Continuing Education's](#) [winter](#) and [spring](#) sessions, and registration by mail/phone/walk-in has begun.

The winter session, which will be run entirely online, runs from Dec. 27 to Jan. 13, 2013.

The spring session runs from Jan. 15 to May 15, 2013.

Business Society co-sponsors "The Millionaire Business Owner" on Dec. 4

What are the factors that distinguish the average business owner from those who make millions? That question will be the focus of a discussion Tuesday, Dec. 4 co-sponsored Fitchburg State University's Business Society, the Career Center and the firm My Virtual CFO.

"The Millionaire Business Owner" talk will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4 in the auditorium at the McKay Complex, 67 Rindge Road, Fitchburg.

The goal of the program is to educate and inspire current and future business owners to see the bigger picture and develop a vision of what their business could become. The university's internship program will also be discussed and there will be a networking opportunity for students and business owners alike.

For more information, contact Dan Paine at dpaine3@student.fitchburgstate.edu.

Rotaract coat drive runs through Dec. 5

The Rotaract Club, working in collaboration with the Volunteer Center, are collecting clean, reusable coats that will be donated to the Hope Center in Fitchburg. The mission of the Hope Center is to respond to the needs of the people in the Central Massachusetts region, through direct assistance support services, advocacy in education to individuals and groups. They are committed to the journey of hope and wholeness, through grief and loss counseling, forgiveness therapy, economic empowerment, mentoring, recovery and more.

There are boxes for donated coats in the Hammond Hall lobby and the McKay Complex. Coats donations will be accepted until Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Humanities Visiting Speaker Series presents "Music Collaboration in Visual Media"

The poster features a grid of images related to music and visual media. At the top, it reads 'Humanities Department Visiting Speaker Series presents'. Below that, the title 'Music Collaboration in Visual Media: An Interactive Lecture/Presentation' is displayed. The central part of the poster includes a portrait of Don Wilkins, a photo of a film camera, and a photo of a hand on a keyboard. Text on the poster includes 'DON Wilkins', 'Film Scoring', 'Media', 'Sound Tech', 'Visual', and the event details: 'Wednesday, December 5, 2012', '11:00 am - 12:15 pm', and 'Conlon Fine Arts, Room 265'.

The Humanities Department's Visiting Speaker Series continues Wednesday, Dec. 5 with "Music Collaboration in Visual Media," an interactive lecture and presentation by Donald Wilkins, chairman emeritus of film scoring at the Berklee College of Music. Wilkins will give his talk from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Conlon Fine Arts Room 265.

A graduate of Berklee (where he studied composition) and trained as a music editor in Hollywood, Wilkins' experience in scoring and supervising music for film/video productions spans over 30 years. Hired to update and expand the original scoring courses at Berklee, he greatly expanded the film scoring program, adding new courses to the curriculum and overseeing the formation of this major field of study, now one of the largest at the college. His professional credits include feature films, documentaries and series work for CBS (*Hometown*) and cable TV (*Breaking Ground*).

He scored the music for the Academy Award nominee *Urge to Build*, and supervised the music on other nominated films including Academy Award winner *Carl Hess: Toward Liberty*. His expressive score for *A City in Bloom*, commissioned for the Rose Kennedy Greenway in Boston, was nominated for a New England Emmy.

Lighting of the campus Dec. 5



The university will ring in the holiday season with the annual lighting of the campus, at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, at Highland Plaza. Refreshments will be served, along with a performance by Dave Binder and horse and carriage rides.

The event is sponsored by the President's Office, Office of Student Development, Student Government Association, Housing and Residential Services, Chartwells Catering, Capital Planning, and the Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness.

Faculty and Staff Appreciation Event at Bookstore, Dec. 6 and 7



The Bookstore is holding its annual Faculty and Staff Appreciation Event next Thursday, Dec. 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The store will be offering a 20 percent total discount on select merchandise during the event.

Refreshments will be served and free gift wrapping will be offered.

Distinguished Speaker Series continues March 13 with Dr. Steven Layne

The self-described "reading arsonist" Dr. Steven L. Layne will address educators on the topic of igniting a passion for reading when he takes the microphone at Fitchburg State University's [Distinguished Speaker Series](#) on Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

With his trademark combination of humor and heart, Layne tackles one of the most significant issues in

reading instruction today: how to engage reluctant readers. Teaching the skill of reading is viewed by many educators as a major objective; teaching the will of reading is too often an afterthought. Layne's charismatic blend of anecdotes and practical suggestions for the classroom are sure to fan the flame of literacy into a raging inferno inspiring teachers as well as their students to keep the bedside lamp on just a little bit later into the night.



Dr. Steven L. Layne

Educators will leave the workshop with

- Increased knowledge of literacy
- Practical strategies to engage reluctant readers
- Efficient real-world suggestions to dramatically impact school culture

Layne serves as full-time professor of literacy education at Judson University in Elgin, Ill. His vast array of experience working at multiple grade levels in the public schools allows him a unique camaraderie with teachers and librarians and his award-winning books for children and young adults add another appealing element to his dynamic presentations. Layne is a frequent keynote speaker at large conferences and gatherings of educators and librarians throughout the world. In addition, Layne continues to do school appearances each year as a guest author and provides in-service for schools throughout the nation.

"Steven Layne is one of the most dynamic keynote speakers I have had the pleasure to listen to," said Fitchburg State University Dean of Education Dr. Pamela Hill. "His warmth, humor, and love of teaching resonate. He made us laugh and made us cry-but most of all, he inspired us."

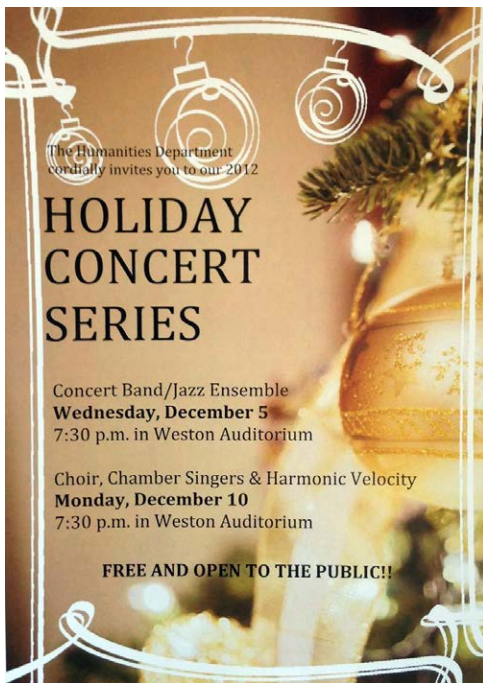
The Distinguished Speaker Series is designed for superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, curriculum directors, special education directors, teachers, graduate students, higher education faculty, and other interested school administrators and educators. Books by Layne will be available for purchase, and checks, credit cards and cash will be accepted.

The registration fee of \$150 includes the workshop, luncheon and continuing education units. This program offers four PDPs for educators. Payment is by check, credit card or purchase order. Teams of three or more within the same school district pay \$125 per person and must register by purchase order. Print the invoice or registration form online to complete and mail or fax in per instructions. Payment is by check, credit card or purchase order. Registration has begun and is open until March 1, 2013. Registrations received by Jan. 31, 2013 will be entered into a raffle for free admission.

For more information or to register, visit <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/academic-offices/gce/distinguished-speaker>.

CenterStage and cultural events at Fitchburg State

The university's musical ensembles will kick off their holiday concert series this week. The Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5 at Weston Auditorium.

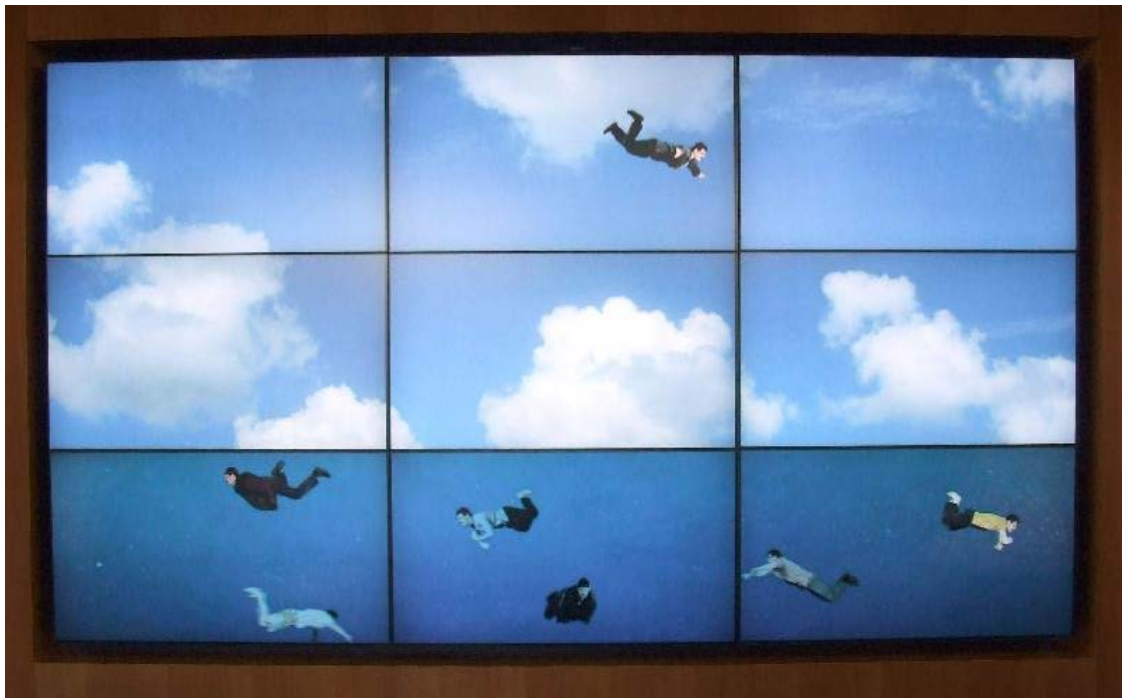


The Choir, Chamber Singers and Harmonic Velocity will perform at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10 at Weston Auditorium.

The performances are free and open to the public.

Jeffu Warmouth

On the Conlon Media Wall: "Nine Gestures" by



Professor Jeff Warmouth (Communications Media) created a new video artwork specifically for the Conlon Media Wall. The display has been extended through Jan. 13, 2013.

Coming in February: Lúnasa

The [CenterStage at Fitchburg State University](#) arts and culture series welcomes [Lunasa](#) on Saturday, Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. in Weston Auditorium, 353 North St.

Lúnasa's melodic lines soar as flutes, fiddles, whistles, and Uilleann



pipe capture the ancient soul of traditional instrumental Irish music- and then surge into the 21st century with the rhythmic drive of the double bass. Experience what the Irish Voice calls "the hottest Irish acoustic group on the planet." No wonder Irish Echo named Lúnasa's CD one of Top Ten Traditional Albums of 2010.

Fancy footwork and high kicks in step-dance performances by the

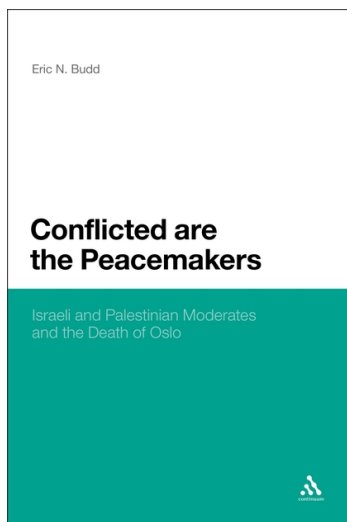
Fitchburg State dance club and Flying Irish Dance Studio will amaze you.

The performance will be preceded by a spotlight talk at 7:15 p.m. While many Celtic bands feature a singer to carry its melodies, Lúnasa has taken a different path. Members of this band discuss how their instrumentation evokes the singer's part.

Tickets for the concert are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors and \$7 for students. The Weston Box Office, located inside Weston Auditorium, is open Thursdays and Fridays from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. and can be reached at 978-665-3347.

Lunasa's performance is co-sponsored by Sentinel & Enterprise, with support from media partner WPKZ and support from from Slattery's Restaurant.

Faculty Notes



Eric Budd (Economics, History and Political Science) had his new volume on the struggle for peace in the Middle East - *Conflicted are the Peacemakers: Israeli and Palestinian Moderates and the Death of Oslo* - published last week by Continuum, an imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing.

The 1993 Oslo Accords were a key attempt to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, whose failure was largely attributed to extremists on both sides. Budd's book challenges this conventional wisdom by examining the role of Israeli and Palestinian peacemakers themselves in derailing the peace process.

"The current conflict over the Gaza Strip shows how far apart the two sides remain," said Budd. "As the Oslo Peace Process has bogged down, the extremists have been empowered. With the moderates too conflicted to make peace, the extremists don't

need to sabotage the peace process because the moderates have already done that for them, so the cycle of violence continues."

Looking at the role of moderates before and after Oslo, the different agreements and peace proposals they negotiated, and their rhetoric, the book shows that these peacemakers retained an inherent ambivalence toward the peace process and one another. This prevented them and their constituents from committing to the process and achieving a lasting peace.

This unique survey shows how the people who drive the peace process can not only undermine it, but also prevent its successful conclusion. By dealing with such an important aspect of negotiation, the book will foster a better understanding of the role of moderates and why peace processes may falter.

Budd, one of the founders of the university's Center for Conflict Studies, is the author of *Democratization, Development and the Patrimonial State in the Age of Globalization* (Lexington Books, 2003) as well as many articles and book reviews.

Budd also attended the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association in Boston from Nov.15-17. He was the chair/discussant for a panel on the Arab Spring, participated in a panel of former presidents of the association on the 2012 elections, and attended the executive committee's meeting. Budd is now the president emeritus of the association.

Robin Dinda (Humanities)'s composition "Casey at the Bat" for organ and narrator won the Kotzschmar Centennial Competition for organ demonstrators. The Kotzschmar organ in the City Hall of Portland, Maine, is one of the last two municipal pipe organs in the U.S. that still has an official municipal organist. In honor of the centennial celebrations of the organ, the Friends of the Kotzschmar Organ held a national competition for a composition written for organ and narrator. Dinda's winning composition uses the famous 1888 poem and is also a set of variations on the 1908 popular song "Take Me out to the Ball Game." The composition was premiered in front of several hundred middle school students and was performed again during the centennial week in August. Wayne Leupold Editions published the work.



Archived editions of Fitchburg State University Today can be found online at <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/administration/public-relations/fitchburg-state-university-today-archive>. For questions about Fitchburg State University Today, contact the Public Relations Office at (978) 665-4694. To submit to Fitchburg State University Today, visit the Public Relations site at www.fitchburgstate.edu/publicrelations and click on [Request for Publicity](#).

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to parentnews@fsc.edu by mbruun@fitchburgstate.edu | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Fitchburg State University | 160 Pearl Street | Fitchburg | MA | 01420