

Fitchburg State University Today

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Mahan named to Board of Trustees



Michael Mahan

Michael A. Mahan, an operations manager with Staples Inc. and an accomplished business and technology consultant, was recently sworn in as a member of the Fitchburg State University Board of Trustees.

Mahan's duties at Staples include responsibility, within the information technology organization, for a multimillion-dollar program to streamline

operations and profitability for Staples.com.

Prior to that post, Mahan worked as a principal of real estate and operations for CA Technologies in Framingham, where he was responsible for the real estate and mergers & acquisitions needs of the R&D organization. He also served as a department manager for PCI/Wolters Kluwer Financial Services in Boston and worked as a management and technology consultant for Accenture and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Mahan earned a bachelor of science in industrial engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 2001 and a master of business administration from Boston College's Carroll School of Management in 2008.

His civic involvement includes serving on the board of directors of the Thayer Symphony Orchestra, having previously served as its president, and as a member of the city of Leominster's water and sewer commission. He has already lent his talents to Fitchburg State as a member of the board of directors for the Fitchburg State University Foundation, Inc., where he was a member of its finance committee.

Mahan, his wife Heather, and their daughter live in Leominster.

Speakers Series continues Nov. 5 with "Motion Graphic Design" at CTL

The university's fall 2012 Speakers Series continues Monday, Nov. 5 at 12:30 p.m. with a talk by Jon Krasner (Communications Media) entitled "Motion Graphic Design: Applied History and Aesthetics."

The talk will be held at the Center for Teaching and Learning in the library from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.

Office of International Education offers open house Nov. 5, and passport help Nov. 13

The Office of International Education will hold an open house Monday, Nov. 5 at 3:30 p.m. in Hammond room 314. The event will provide students an opportunity to learn about studying abroad, meet other students who have studied overseas, meet current international students and the Office of International Education staff. Attendees are asked to RSVP to rpjanta@fitchburgstate.edu.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 3:30 p.m. in Miller Oval, the office is co-sponsoring a passport application party. The event is open to all American students who would like a passport, and a representative from the U.S. Postal Service will be present to help make sure applications are correctly filled out. The passport party is co-sponsored by the Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness and the International Studies minor.

REDI forum Nov. 5 to explore broadband Internet access



The [Regional Economic Development Institute](#) (REDI) at Fitchburg State University will hold a public research forum Monday, Nov. 5 on the state of broadband internet access to North Central Massachusetts. The discussion, featuring the REDI researchers behind the report, will be held at Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center, 291 Highland Ave. Admission is free.

The report was completed by REDI faculty researchers Jane Zhang (Geo/Physical Sciences) and Beverly Hollingsworth (Business Administration) and builds on earlier work conducted at the institute.

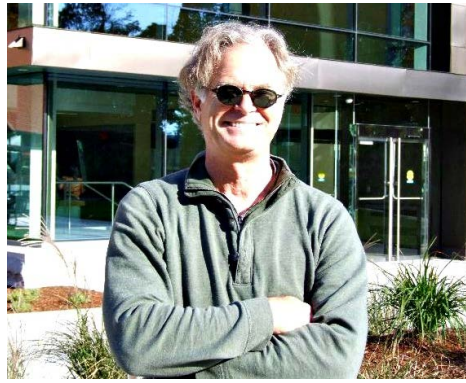
"This REDI study shows that the availability of broadband to the targeted areas of North Central Massachusetts is significant to the region's economic sectors, especially for potentially aiding employment, improving business growth, and advancing economic development," said Joshua Spero, REDI director and a member of the university's Economics, History and Political Science faculty.

The complete report can be found [online](#).

Filmmaker Antonelli returns to Fitchburg State

Filmmaker John Antonelli, who made headlines in 1969 as a student when he took on the Fitchburg State College administration in a landmark free speech case, recently returned to campus to screen one of his films and discuss his work with students.

Antonelli was back in the region for a celebration of the life of celebrated author - and Lowell native - Jack Kerouac. While in the region, Antonelli visited



John Antonelli

Fitchburg State to screen "Jack Kerouac: King of the Beats" at Ellis White Lecture Hall.

Following the screening, Antonelli spoke with students and faculty about his work and his path to accomplished filmmaker.

"There's a lot of strength in following the conviction of what you're trying to do," he said, recalling instances where his passion for a subject translated into favors that helped him realize his film projects.

It was a lesson he said was forged during his free speech fight at Fitchburg State, when he was editor of the student newspaper *The Cycle*. The newspaper had sought to publish a piece by controversial figure Eldridge Cleaver but their efforts were stymied by then-President James Hammond. When Hammond installed an advisory panel that would have the right to review any *Cycle* content before publication, the students balked. The case went to federal court and Antonelli and his peers were victorious.

Many of the participants in that case returned to campus a year ago to discuss their experiences for the university's observation of Constitution Day. One of Antonelli's fellow plaintiffs was Dave Celluzza, now the owner of Slattery's Restaurant, who also attended the "Kerouac" screening.

Alumna Sarah Leonard '00 describes journey from Fitchburg State to physician



Dr. Sarah Leonard and Professor Mel Govindan

Dr. Sarah Leonard '00, D.O., returned to her alma mater last week to speak to the university's biology club about the road from Fitchburg State to being a practicing physician.

Leonard's talk in Presidents' Hall described the process of medical school admission to students, and also covered the philosophical questions they should consider before embarking on the long, expensive and difficult road to a career in medicine.

"It's not a hobby," she said. "You really have to want to do it. It's a lot more studying than you thought was possible. There's a really high burnout rate."

Leonard described studying in the shower and while brushing her teeth as examples of the regimen she had to maintain to get through medical school.

And while physicians tend to be well paid, studies have shown that a plumber may make more money in the course of their lifetime than a physician, when factoring in the number of hours worked and the debt incurred along the way to employment. Leonard noted she'll be paying more than \$1,000 a month for the next 30 years to pay off her loans.

But the end result of that hard work is a rewarding career making a profound a positive impact on people's lives, she said.

Leonard is board-certified in family medicine and practices in Gardner.

Reading on Nov. 7 to raise funds for military nurses memorial

Fitchburg State's Communications Media Department's Theater Program will be presenting a one-hour reading of "A Piece of My Heart," by Shirley Lauro and directed by Fitchburg State Professor Kelly Morgan on at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Fitchburg Public Library to assist in raising additional funds for the Clara Barton Military Nurses Memorial.

The suggested donation for admission is \$5. Refreshments will be served and a brief post-reading discussion will take place.

The characters in Lauro's play are based upon interviews with real-life veterans, many of which are profiled in a book "A Piece of My Heart" by Keith Walker. Lauro uses fast-moving vignettes to tell the larger story of American women serving as nurses in Vietnam. The six women characters represent varied backgrounds, roles and attitudes. These characters range from stalwart Martha to sweet young Sissy to flower child Leeann. There's the aristocratic Red Cross "donut dolly" Whitney.

There's the hard-nosed intelligence officer Steele and the playful, soulful USO trouper MaryJo. Whether sewing sutures, spreading cheer or performing on stage, they are angels of mercy for soldiers trapped in a hellish nightmare.

The women cope with laughter, tears, alcohol and smoking joints. Some build "the wall." Others play around. When their service is comes to an end, they return home as forgotten as the soldiers they nursed, wanting to put the war behind them but finding they cannot.



Clara Barton

About the Clara Barton Military Nurses Memorial

The Clara Barton Military Nurses Memorial was dedicated on Sept. 16. The event is to help raise the additional \$1,200 needed to add a new stone and plaque to explain the relocation of the Clara Barton memorial. The Clara Barton stone and plaque was originally placed in front of a tree planted in her honor at the former Academy Street School in 1924. When the city of Fitchburg sold the property in 2011, Stephen Twining recovered the monument from the purchaser and got permission to move it to Monument Park and plant a new tree. Its purpose has been expanded to include a memorial to all military nurses.

Commemorative bricks to honor those who serve or have served in our military as nurses are being sold for \$30 apiece and will be placed along the walkway in front of the Memorial. Forms to order the engraved bricks are available in the mayor's office, from the Veterans' Service Agent in the Senior Center and at the Public Library.

"Go Public" event Nov. 8 highlights public higher education



Massachusetts community colleges, state universities and UMass campuses are uniting in a statewide bid to promote the academic excellence and value of public higher education.

"Go Public," coordinated by the state Department of Higher Education, will feature a series of free events for students and families at local high schools, as well as a special Boston area event for prospective students who are military veterans.

Each event will be hosted by a leading member of the legislature and will feature student speakers who tell of their experiences at a community college, UMass or state university campus. Governor Deval L. Patrick has videotaped a personal message to high school students, urging them to complete four years of high school math and three years of lab sciences in preparation for college-level work.

The next "Go Public" event will be held at Mahar Regional High School in Orange on Thursday, Nov. 8 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The evening will be hosted by state Sen. Stephen Brewer, D-Barre, and state Sen. Stan Rosenberg, D-Amherst.

"Massachusetts' institutions of public higher education are second to none, and we welcome this opportunity to educate prospective students and their families about the scope and quality of our academic programs and campus amenities," Fitchburg State University President Robert V. Antonucci said.

Campuses plan to run financial aid and career planning seminars for students and their families. Admissions officers from many of the state's public colleges and universities will be on site at each event to answer questions.

"We're launching 'Go Public' at a time when many of our campuses are seeing record enrollment gains," said Higher Education Commissioner Richard M. Freeland. "Our goal with this effort is to make sure that students who look to public higher education are ready for the academic rigor of our programs and are excited about the many opportunities that await them at our campuses across the Commonwealth."

"Go Public" kicked off in October at the new Plymouth North High School with a program hosted by Senate President Therese Murray, D-Plymouth. Students from Massasoit Community College, UMass Dartmouth and Bridgewater State University spoke of their experiences; regional campus leaders will also attend and meet with prospective students and their families. All local middle and high school students and their families are invited to attend the Plymouth North "Go Public" event, which is free.

For more information, please visit www.mass.edu/gopublic.

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 begins Tuesday, Nov. 6.

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.

CenterStage and cultural events at Fitchburg State

Falcon Players present "44 Plays for 44 Presidents," Nov. 5 and 6

Celebrate the end of election season - and be part of a record-breaking national event - with a comedic look at the presidency, courtesy of the Falcon Players at Fitchburg State.

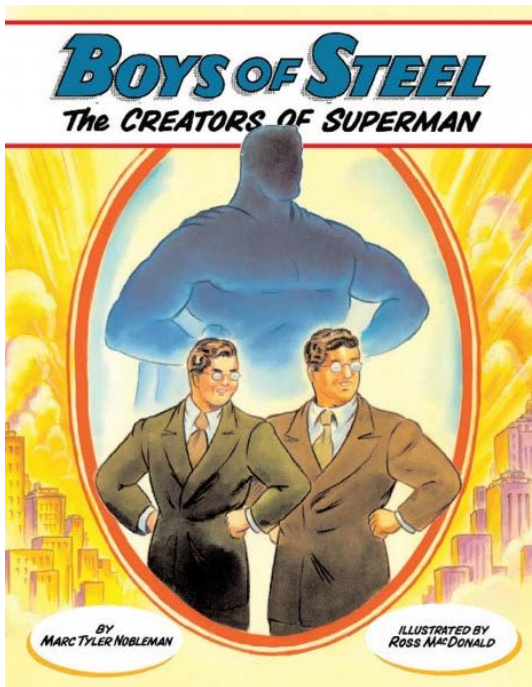
"44 Plays for 44 Presidents" will be performed at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5 and Tuesday, Nov. 6 at Percival Auditorium, 254 Highland Ave., Fitchburg. Admission is free.

Written by Fitchburg State alumnus Andy Bayiates,



the play is a romping evening of comedy sketches, each skewering one of the American presidents. The Fitchburg sketch portraying Millard Fillmore will be filmed and put on the Internet alongside episodes from the other 43 productions-all performed simultaneously nationwide. Join the Falcon Players and the university's theater program as they participate in a national record-breaking theater event.

Robert Cormier Lecture Nov. 7: "Heroes With and Without Capes"



Author Marc Tyler Nobleman will present the Robert Cormier Lecture "Heroes With and Without Capes" on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. in Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St.

Nobleman turned a childhood passion for superheroes into an adult passion for superheroes, then turned that into two critically-acclaimed nonfiction picture books about superhero creators (*Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman* and *Bill the Boy Wonder: The Secret Co-Creator of Batman*). That turned into a lively presentation revealing the stories (at once inspirational and heartbreaking) behind these books. But as listeners will hear, Nobleman is interested in more than just fictional heroes. Tickets for the lecture are \$7 for the public and \$5 for students and will be available at the door. Admission is free with a CenterStage membership card.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the Leominster Champion. Nobleman's classroom visits will be supported by the Roberta Fitzmaurice Connors Endowment of Fitchburg State University, with additional support from Unitil.

Theater production - *August: Osage County*, Nov. 13-18

Fitchburg State University invites you to meet an unforgettable American family when it presents Tracy Letts' Broadway sensation *August: Osage County* in November.

The drama, set in Oklahoma, traces the story of one of the most dysfunctional families ever brought together for a family reunion. Drugs, alcohol, vicious family rivalry, infidelity and incest are among some of the nicer ingredients in this family get-together.



August: Osage County won the Pulitzer Prize in 2007 as well as the Drama Desk award for best play and Tony awards for writing, directing and acting. The university production is directed by Richard McElvain.

The play will be performed at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13 and Wednesday, Nov. 14; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15 through Saturday, Nov. 17; and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18 at the McKay Theater in the McKay Arts Academy, 67 Rindge Road, Fitchburg. Admission is free.

Musical performance: "L'Infinito" on Nov. 15



Maria Ferrante

"L'Infinito," a new work for voice and piano by Fitchburg State faculty member Michele Caniato based on a text by Giacomo Leopardi will be discussed and performed together with other Italian songs about love, wonder, and the universal plight of existence on Thursday, Nov. 15 at the university's Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St. These fall programs are free and open to the public.

Caniato's composition will be performed (along with a variety of works by Italian composers) at 7:30 p.m., with a pre-concert panel discussion at 6:30 p.m. featuring the composer and performers.

Caniato's composition will be sung in Italian by celebrated soprano Maria Ferrante with Pei-yeh Tsai accompanying on piano. Ferrante will also perform songs and arias by Donizetti, Rossini and Puccini.

The talks and performance are sponsored by the Center for Italian Culture at Fitchburg State University.

In the Gallery at Sanders: "Astronaut" by Scott

Listfield

The [CenterStage](#) at Fitchburg State University arts and culture series invites you to take an outsider's look at the pop culture world around you with artist Scott Listfield's otherworldly gallery exhibit "Astronaut."

Listfield's paintings feature a lone exploratory astronaut lost in a landscape cluttered with pop-culture icons, corporate logos, and tongue-in-cheek science-fiction references. Raised on cartoons, movies, and comic books, Listfield expected he'd be living on the moon with his robot best friend by now. But the future he grew up into wasn't the one he envisioned. So the artist has sent an astronaut from the fictional 21st century of his youth to explore our present world-a place that's stranger than one might think.



"Coke Machine" by Scott Listfield.

"Astronaut" will be featured in the art gallery in the Sanders Administration Building, 300 Highland Ave., through Nov. 27.

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