

Fitchburg State University Today

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Welcome Back



The renovated Hammond Campus Center provides a striking entrance to the campus.

The fall semester has begun and the campus - transformed by construction projects during the summer months - is again abuzz with students, faculty and staff. Last week the university welcomed more than 1,000 students and more than a dozen new faculty members.

President Antonucci launched the year with "welcome back" programs at Percival Auditorium, where the campus acknowledged employees for their years of service to the institution and recognized other milestones.

"With your enthusiasm and with your hard work, we have been able to accomplish a lot at this institution," President Antonucci

said. "It's a place that makes a difference in the community. When we graduate our students, we are contributing to our economy and a workforce which is second to none. It's all about the students we serve."



Shirley Wagner was honored as *professor emerita* by President Antonucci.

Special tribute was paid to Shirley Wagner, who retired in June as associate vice president for academic affairs. Wagner has since been named *professor emerita* for Economics, History and Political Science.

Among the projects that have kept the campus humming with activity:

The Hammond Campus Center boasts a dramatic new look, with a striking glass entryway that will further connect the campus and the city. Comprehensive renovations to Hammond also include new meeting spaces for students,

faculty and staff. A formal ribbon-cutting on the remodeled building will be held in October.

- A new, handicapped-accessible entrance - and an outdoor seating area - has been installed on the quad side of Edgerly Hall.
- Faculty offices in Miller Hall have been completely renovated.
- Work on the new Science Center continues unabated, on track to open by fall 2013.

This fall the university looks forward to the release of its accreditation report from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which conducted a comprehensive review of the institution in the spring.

Constitution Day observances Monday, Sept. 17 to focus on immigration

The rights, responsibilities and privileges of U.S. citizenship will be explored when Fitchburg State University hosts a panel discussion on Monday, Sept. 17 in honor of Constitution Day.

The discussion, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Ellis White Lecture Hall in the Hammond Campus Center, 160 Pearl St.

The panelists include:

- U.S. District Judge Timothy S. Hillman,



who administered the oath of citizenship to 299 new Americans during a ceremony this month at Weston Auditorium, will speak on the citizenship process, and the rights and responsibilities associated with it.

- Ammad Sheikh, director of Fitchburg State's Expanding Horizons Program, will discuss his own experiences as a naturalized citizen and how gaining citizenship changed his life.
- Fitchburg State Associate Professor Teresa Fava Thomas will discuss naturalization, citizenship and Italian-Americans.

Nearly 300 new U.S. citizens were sworn in Sept. 6 at Weston Auditorium.

"The naturalization ceremony at Weston Auditorium afforded us a look at the powerful experience of becoming a U.S. citizen," said Fitchburg State Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Weizer, who coordinates the Constitution Day observances each year. "Citizenship is something too many of us take for granted, and occasions like this inspire us to reflect on what it means to be a member of this community."

Constitution Day celebrates the anniversary of the government-defining document's signing on Sept. 17, 1787.

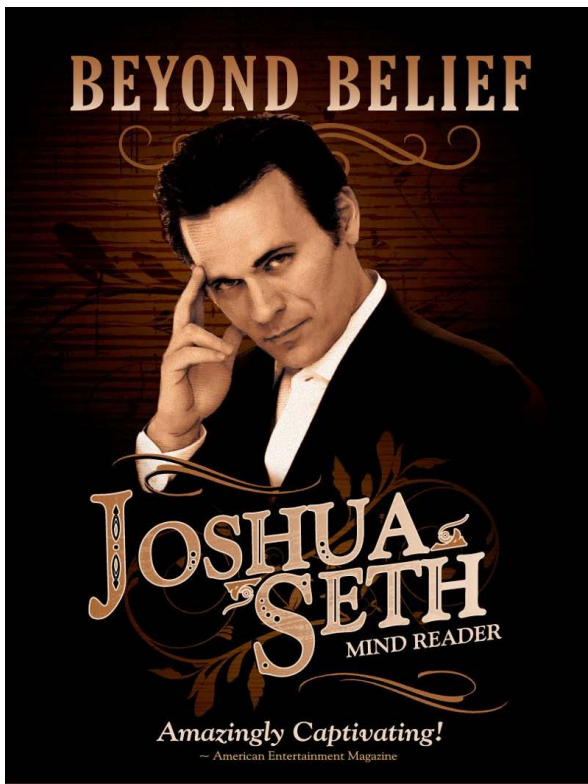
Celebrate Family Weekend Sept. 21-23

Fitchburg State celebrates [Family Weekend](#) Friday, Sept. 21, through Sunday, Sept. 23 with mind reading, magic, games and activities that highlight all aspects of campus life.

[Ticket](#) and registration information for all the Family Weekend events can be found [online](#).

The festivities begin Friday, Sept. 21, with comedic mind reader Joshua Seth at 7 p.m. in Weston Auditorium. This show features total audience participation. Joshua Seth has been called "amazingly captivating" by American Entertainment Magazine, dubbed "the rock star of hypnosis" by Campus Activities Magazine, and with five television specials in Japan, Korea and New Zealand, he's among the most in-demand psychological illusionists in the world today. Admission is free.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, Family Weekend continues with the family fun fair at Elliot Field from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Student clubs and organizations will be hosting a



www.JoshuaSeth.com

balloon animals, food, Joshua the Camel, and more. Goodie baskets, survival baskets - all sorts of baskets will be available for bidding. All proceeds from the auction will benefit the students of Alternative Spring Break as they help a needy family build a home with Habitat for Humanity in March during Spring Break. The auction winners will be announced on Saturday at 5 p.m.

Also on Saturday, cheer on the Fitchburg State football when the Falcons host Maine Maritime at Elliot Field at noon. Admission is free for students and family members with tickets (which can be ordered [online](#)).

Also at noon, the Hammond Campus Center will be open for tours until 5 p.m. After a year's worth of renovation, the Campus Center is back up and running. Tours will leave from the Information Desk located on the main floor and will leave on the hour.

Also Saturday, Bring your skates to the Wallace Civic Center's Gaetz Arena for the family skate and movie from 2 to 5 p.m. Watch the animated summer hit Brave while on the ice! Skate rental is free but quantities are limited - visitors are encouraged to bring skates if they own them. University students will host a bevy of activities in the civic center lobby during the film.

The Holmes Dining Commons will be home to the Autumn Buffet from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Parents, Parents, families and guests are invited to join Fitchburg State's faculty and staff for music, entertainment and dinner. Admission is \$9.50 per person (free for students on the meal plan). Pay by check with the registration form or pay by cash/check at the door.

Elliot Field will see more sports action Saturday when the Falcons face Westfield State in women's soccer at 5 p.m.

The fun continues Saturday night when juggler and comedian Nick Pike performs at Weston Auditorium at 8 p.m., with an opening performance by magician Peter Bioe. Tickets, available at the door, are \$15 for the public, \$10 for Fitchburg State faculty, staff and alumni and \$5 for Fitchburg State students and children under 10.

variety of fundraising booths with giveaways and activities like cotton candy, fried dough, popcorn, a traveling magician,

WXPL, the student-run radio station, will welcome past and present members for a reunion at the Falcon Hub in the Hammond Campus Center from 8 p.m. to midnight. Join the students for an evening of reminiscing and storytelling. This event will mark the first large scale WXPL reunion in years. Refreshments will be served with a cash bar.

On Sunday, Sept. 23, the festivities wrap up with the family brunch at the Holmes Dining Commons from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets are \$7.95 per person (or free for students on a meal plan).

O'Connor gets \$10,000 grant to expand Science Club for Girls

Fitchburg State University faculty member Aisling O'Connor and her partner agencies have received a \$10,000 grant from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) for their work with girls in grades 2-7 to increase their self-confidence and literacy in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

O'Connor, partnering with the Cambridge-based non-profit [Science Club for Girls](#), has been working on the project since January 2010. The program provides free 10-week after-school programs in science in the fall and spring semesters at the McKay Campus School in Fitchburg as well as the Boys & Girls Club of Fitchburg and Leominster.

Women enrolled in science undergraduate degree programs at Fitchburg State University are recruited to volunteer as mentor scientists, teaching, mentoring and guiding the grade-school aged girls. The undergraduate students are encouraged to assume leadership roles and be positive role models for the younger girls. O'Connor is the program manager for the Fitchburg area clubs, with curriculum, material and training are provided by Science Club for Girls.

"Science Club for Girls has a very positive impact on both the participants and the mentors and greatly increases their enthusiasm for science," O'Connor said. "I am delighted that this grant will allow us to offer clubs at additional locations in the Fitchburg-Leominster area."

The grant will be used to fund part-time clerical support and for additional materials to expand the program two other Fitchburg Public Schools: Memorial Middle School and South Street Elementary School. The partners in the project are the Science Club for Girls, the Boys and Girls Club of Fitchburg & Leominster, and the Fitchburg Public Schools.

The Science Club for Girls resumes in October.

Since 1972, the AAUW's Community Action Grants program have provided funding to individuals, AAUW branches and state organizations, and local, community-based nonprofit organizations for innovative programs that promote education and equality for women and girls. Special consideration is given to projects that focus on girls' and young women's achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Projects must be collaborative and female-focused and bring together AAUW branches, schools, and local community groups and nonprofits. They range from all-girl summer science camps to computer classes for homeless women to trainings on how to run for elected office.

"AAUW Community Action Grants empower recipients to be leaders in their communities and in the lives of women and girls through innovative ideas and programs," said Gloria Blackwell, AAUW director of fellowships, grants, and international programs. "AAUW understands the power of local community impact to break through barriers for women and girls, and we put our money toward initiatives that align with our mission to advance equality for women and girls."

Since 1888, AAUW has provided more than \$90 million to 11,000 fellows and grantees. Read our press release about this year's awards on our website.

To find out more about this year's exceptional class of awardees, visit the online directory. To reach an award recipient, call 202/728-7602 or e-mail fellowships@aauw.org.

Foundation Music Lessons begin this week

The Humanities Department will launch its fall 2012 Foundation Music Lesson program on Friday, Sept. 14. Private lessons in voice, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trombone, guitar, banjo, mandolin, ukulele, strings (including bass), piano and drums will be offered by artist-teachers in the department. Requests for other instruments may also be accommodated.

To learn more, visit <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/academics/academic-departments/humanities-dept/music/foundation-music-lesson-program/> or visit <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/music> for updated information on ensembles and concerts.

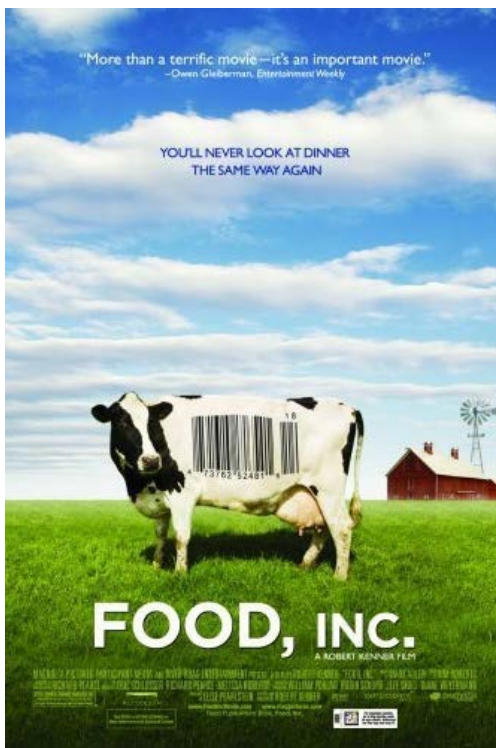
The music lesson faculty members will perform a varied program at Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St., on **Wednesday, Sept. 26** at 7 p.m. The recital is free and open to the public.

Teaching opportunities in Graduate and Continuing Education

The office of [Graduate and Continuing Education](#) is currently accepting requests from faculty to teach for the upcoming 2013 winter session and spring semester. Faculty members interested in teaching should contact the appropriate department chair for approval. All courses offered in the 2013 winter session will again be offered totally online in order to eliminate the challenges of winter weather in an accelerated session, save commuting expenses, reduce energy costs on campus, and provide access to winter session courses for students unable to travel to campus during the winter break.

The deadline for submitting course schedules to GCE is Friday, Sept. 28. Please feel free to contact [Brian Bercier](#), Associate Dean, with any questions.

Third Thursday Film Series presents "Food Inc." on Sept. 20 at Fitchburg Public Library



The Third Thursday film series, bringing Fitchburg State University faculty and staff to the [Fitchburg Public Library](#) for free screenings and discussion, resumes in September for the 2012-13 season with the acclaimed 2008 documentary "Food Inc."

At the screening, the library will accept donations non-perishable canned or boxed goods for donation to the [Cleghorn Neighborhood Center's](#) food pantry.

"Food Inc." reveals surprising truths about what we eat, how it's produced, who we have become as a nation and where we are going. When we eat we make personal choices that either promote a corporate-controlled, unsustainable industry or promote an agriculture that can sustain the long-term demands of a crowded planet. More importantly, what policies created our current agricultural problems, and what policies can help us shift to a more sustainable, healthier society?

Fitchburg State University Biology/Chemistry Professor Chris Picone will introduce the documentary and lead a short discussion following

the showing. Bring non-perishable canned or boxed goods to donate to the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center's food pantry.

The free films will typically screen the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the library's auditorium and will be followed by a discussion (in November the screening will be held Nov. 14 to avoid conflict with the Thanksgiving holiday).

Fitchburg State political science professor Eric Budd and English professor Joseph Moser initiated the series last year with library Director Sharon Bernard. The series is designed to highlight films that carry a timely narrative or theme that would resonate with the community and launch meaningful discussions.

The series continues on Oct. 18 with a screening of Francois Truffaut's "Fahrenheit 451," based on Ray Bradbury's acclaimed novel. It will be introduced by Fitchburg State history professor Daniel Sarefield.

Upcoming films in the series will be advertised on the library's website, at www.fitchburgpubliclibrary.org.

Theater students shone in Scotland



Fitchburg State theater students drew rave reviews for their production of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* at the [Edinburgh Festival Fringe](#) in Scotland. The production was adapted from the version presented on campus to great acclaim last fall.

The players, accompanied by Professor Richard McElvain (who directed the production), Director of Cultural Affairs Mary Chapin Durling and librarian Jenny Fielding, flew to Scotland on Aug. 10.

The website Broadway Baby, which reviews fringe festival productions, raved about the Fitchburg State production. "*Romeo and Juliet* is a story that has been told countless times on stage and screen, in almost every guise under the sun," wrote Broadway Baby reviewer Sam Waddicor. "It is therefore very difficult to create a performance that feels fresh and original. Yet that is exactly what Fitchburg State University (has) managed to do. ... The acting is polished and smooth, with scene changes happening almost instantaneously - a skill that is not only essential for the Fringe in order to keep running time down, but also helps to keep the dialogue feeling fresh. This is a highly polished production with skillful sword fights and acrobatics."

Jessica Reid, reviewing for Edfringe Review.com, touted the university's production as "highly physical, bawdy, vibrant and loud. To me, its robustness seems greatly American." She also praised the performances of Tommy Karner and Kim Connor as the titular star-crossed lovers.

The cast and crew also includes Jameson Kebba, Derek Bousquet, Brendan Wilkins, CJ Mulhern, Eric Oliveira, Justin Nelson, Shannon Gugarty, Ken Clancy, Rachel Ide, Sam Reynolds, Tom Ryan, Dominique Bertel, Ian Vincent, McKegg Collins, Davis Bannister, Jamie Hayes, Veronica Morales, Krystal Dawson, Chris Gonsalves and Morgan Butler.

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe is the largest arts festival in the world and takes place every August for three weeks in Scotland's capital city.

Every year thousands of performers take to a multitude of stages all over Edinburgh to present shows for every taste. From big names in the world of entertainment to unknown artists looking to build their careers, the festival caters for everyone and includes theatre, comedy, dance,

physical theatre, musicals, operas, music, exhibitions and events.

CenterStage and cultural events at Fitchburg State

CenterStage at Fitchburg State University invites you to explore "The Paradigm of Power" with celebrated illustrator Peter O. Zierlein when his work is presented in the art gallery in the Sanders Administration Building, 300 Highland Ave., from Sept. 12 through Oct. 9. There will be an artist talk with Zierlein at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Condike Science Lecture Hall adjacent to the gallery. Admission is free and ASL interpreters will be available during the artist talk.

Zierlein investigates and explores power through his work in social activist posters, op-ed illustrations and other formats. As the French philosopher Michel Foucault once said, "Power is everywhere; not because it embraces everything, but because it comes from everywhere."

Powers are constantly shifting. Power is ephemeral-like the newspaper article on the Op-Ed page and like the paper Zierlein uses to graphically explore the paradigm of power - the struggles for, or loss of it, the use and abuse of it, the shifts in the distribution of power.

This exhibition encompasses illustrative images, posters and paper cuts focused on the same theme.

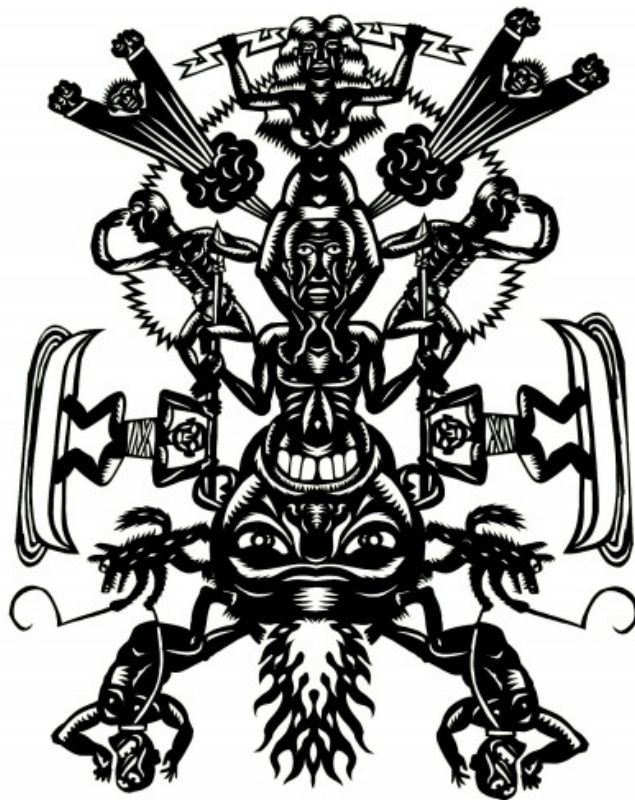
Zierlein is an illustrator, with a Master of Fine Arts from the Art Institute of Boston and a bachelor's in fine arts in communication design from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N.Y. Born and raised in Germany, Zierlein got his start creating posters for local clubs and illustrations in small hometown publications, and painting designs on German carnival parade floats. Upon his arrival in the U.S. Zierlein began designing T-shirts, and during his studies at the Pratt Institute was commissioned to produce illustrations for major publications including the Village Voice and New York Magazine. Today his clients include The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The Boston Globe, The Chicago Tribune, The Los Angeles Times, The San Francisco Chronicle, The Nation, Print, Die Zeit, Berliner Zeitung, Stern, Spiegel, FSB Magazine, Harvard Business Magazine, New York Magazine, Premiere Magazine, and others.

Theatre Artisan

Also in September, the Conlon Media Wall in the lobby of the Conlon Industrial Technology Building at 316 Highland Ave. will feature "Theatre Artisan," chronicling the many contributions of faculty member Cap Corduan. Corduan has worked behind the scenes on university theater productions for more than a decade. This exhibit, running through Oct. 3, will feature images of the productions she has helped bring to life on campus stages.

Film: "The Colors of the Mountain"

On Wednesday, Sept. 19, Fitchburg State will present the 2010 film "The Colors of the



"Powerplay" by Peter Zierlein.

Mountain" at 3:30 and 7 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall in the Hammond Campus Center.

The debut film of Carlos César Arbeláez immediately garnered international recognition and awards. A modern-day portrayal of daily life in a remote part of the mountainous Colombian countryside is set around the friendship between Manuel and Julián. One day, while playing a game of football, they kick the ball into a minefield. Accompanied by Poca Luz, they do everything they can to recover their prized belonging, an essential part of their everyday lives and dreams. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and will be available at the door.

University collaborates on Blacksmith Art & Music Festival Saturday, Sept. 29



The Fitchburg Art Museum, ACHLA Designs, Fitchburg State University, and the City of Fitchburg have joined forces to expand the Forge-In festival by integrating the drama of blacksmithing, public art, music, and food. Situated at Riverfront Park along the beautiful Nashua River, this extraordinary free festival will feature live musical performances, broad arrays of art, activities for children, tents filled with arts and crafts vendors, and much more!



Fitchburg State University and the [Fitchburg Art Museum](#) are teaming up to present the Blacksmith, Art & Music Festival at Riverfront Park of Boulder Drive on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The festival, formerly known as the Fitchburg Forge-In, is celebrating its ninth anniversary this year. The 2012 event will be wildly creative and a much bigger festival, partnering with co-organizers Fitchburg Art Museum and Fitchburg State University, who are bringing a new dynamic to the day's events. In fact, the expanded festival has so much to offer for 2012 that the event has a new name: The Blacksmith, Art & Music Festival.

Fitchburg's Riverfront Park, situated along the beautiful Nashua River, will host the festival, turning the park into a village of color, excitement, music, and drama. The art of blacksmithing spans over three thousand years, from simple tools to armor made for medieval knights to dramatic Victorian gates. The Blacksmithing Forge-In component of the festival will feature some of the region's

top blacksmiths flexing their artistic and metalworking skills as they compete for prize money.

"For those who think blacksmithing is little more than horse shoes and branding irons, the Blacksmith, Art & Music Festival will really open their eyes to the skill and creativity of these amazing craftspeople," said Achla Madan, founder of the festival.

"The city of Fitchburg is proud to play a role in this festival. We know that the arts can inspire and bring people together," said Fitchburg Mayor Lisa A. Wong. "This festival has historical, social and cultural meanings and can be a great economic engine."

Fitchburg Art Museum and Fitchburg State University are joining in the festivities, adding such attractions as a youth and family arts area, live performances from New England's favorite jazz, rock, and ethnic bands, a broad array of art displays, and rows of tents filled with arts & crafts vendors.

Music and Art Complement the Blacksmithing Experience

For years, Fitchburg State University has been producing its own local music festival. A team of

Fitchburg State University students, faculty and staff will select several regional bands and singer-songwriters to perform live in Riverfront Park from 5 pm - 9 pm. Bands and performers include: Big OL Dirty Bucket, Everett Mckee, One Step Further, Cara Brindisi, Zachary Zapierre, Bynars, and Bonda Criolla.

Similarly, the Fitchburg Art Museum is proud to add its artistic resources to the festival. It will bring in a talented group of public artists who will provide free hands-on-art activities, encouraging children and families to create their own art and contribute to public artworks. In addition, festival visitors will be able to enjoy appearances by some favorite pieces in the Fitchburg Art Museum's collection, given new life and character by local actors. The museum is also inviting a selection of regional vendors to display and sell their handmade arts and crafts during the day.

"The Fitchburg Art Museum inspires the public through our wonderful and diverse collections, educational programs, and new community engagement initiatives. This festival highlights our commitment to bringing the power of art, creativity, and community celebration to the public," said Museum Director Peter Timms.

Get Involved

Blacksmiths can register free of charge until September 21st; visit www.fitchburgforgein.com for details. Arts & crafts vendors, plus general event sponsors, are also being accepted; Interested parties should contact Jerry Beck at the Fitchburg Art Museum 978-345-4207 ext. 312 or by [email](#) for more information.

Faculty Notes



Laurie DeRosa (Education) has been elected vice president of the Kappa Delta Pi Executive Council. Kappa Delta Pi is the international honor society in education, supporting the professional growth and teaching practices of educators throughout all phases and levels of their careers. The organization has more than 600 chapters and an active membership of 43,000 worldwide.

DeRosa has been an active educator at Fitchburg State for 23 years and is currently a professor in the education department. Her interests include researching the integration of the arts into the curriculum and development of interdisciplinary curriculums. She accepted the nomination to serve on the Executive Council for the 2012-2014 term, along with other elected officers of that KDP legislative body, to help guide the strategic vision and initiatives for the international association and oversee its financial resources.

Walter Jeffko (Humanities) will have the third edition of his book *Contemporary Ethical Issues: A Personalist Perspective* published by Humanity Books (an imprint of Prometheus Books) by August 2013. In addition to its numerous revisions and updates, the book has a new chapter on the moral treatment of civilians in war, which is an expanded version of his Harrod Lecture delivered in October 2010.

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