

Fitchburg State University Today

April 29, 2013 - Vol 3, Issue 16

In This Issue

Deitemeyer to deliver commencement address

Costello among 29 Who Shine

Honors bestowed at Convocation

Graphic Design Lecture Series concludes April 30

Campus reduces food waste

ALFA "Food for Thought" lecture on April 30

Special Olympics a success

Center for Conflict Studies events

Visions is open

ALFA offers spring lectures

Chemical society to meet

CTL seeking fall proposals

CenterStage and cultural events

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



Michael Deitemeyer '86 named commencement speaker



Michael J. Deitemeyer '86

Michael J. Deitemeyer, president of Omni Hotels and Resorts and a 1986 graduate of Fitchburg State University, will deliver the address at his alma mater's 117th Commencement Exercises undergraduate ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 18 on the main quadrangle.

Deitemeyer, who studied business and accounting at Fitchburg State, has said it was an internship during his college years that set

him on a successful career path.

"Mike Deitemeyer has an amazing story to tell, and he embodies the values of hard work and determination that have served generations of our students so well," President Robert V. Antonucci said. "We are honored he will be sharing his insights and wisdom with our graduating students and their families."

Omni Hotels & Resorts offers luxury accommodations at 50 hotels and resorts in leading business gateways and leisure destinations across North America. Since his appointment in July 2004, Deitemeyer has established the company as a leading hotel brand known for delivering superior quality, award-winning service and exceptional guest experiences. He is responsible for establishing the vision for the company and ensuring that all areas are effectively driving together towards those goals.

Under his leadership, Omni Hotels & Resorts has been ranked "Highest in Guest Satisfaction Among Upscale Hotel Chains" in the J.D. Power and Associates North America Hotel Guest Satisfaction Study(SM) five times in the last twelve years, including last year's study. The brand has also been noted as a top luxury brand by Consumer Reports and Entrepreneur

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

magazine during his tenure, as well as being named Harris Interactive's EquiTrends 2011 Luxury Brand of the Year.

He also serves on the board of directors for the Global Hotel Alliance and the Global Hotel Network Advisory Board.

Prior to becoming president, Deitemeyer served as chief operating officer, a position he held from 1999 to 2004. Previously, he was the senior vice president of finance. Prior to joining Omni Hotels, Deitemeyer served as controller for TRT Development Company (Omni's parent company) and its hotel management company, Shoreline Operating Company. He joined TRT Development Company and Shoreline Operating Company in 1992. Deitemeyer began his career in the hospitality industry with Interstate Hotels Corporation in 1985. While there, he was involved in the opening and acquisition of several hotel properties.

Deitemeyer lives in Dallas, Texas with his wife and children.

Costello to represent Fitchburg State at "29 Who Shine" at Statehouse, May 2



Matt Costello

Fitchburg State senior Matthew W. Costello will represent the institution when the Commonwealth of Massachusetts celebrates students from every public higher education campus at the "[29 Who Shine](#)" student recognition ceremony on **Thursday, May 2** at the Grand Staircase of the Statehouse.

The ceremony will be followed by a special luncheon, cosponsored by the Massachusetts Teachers Association and the Department of Higher Education, to celebrate the student honorees and the faculty or staff member whom each of them felt had the greatest impact on their college education and experience. Costello selected Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Weizer.

"Since enrolling at Fitchburg State, Dr. Weizer has been someone I've admired and looked up to greatly, as a teacher, mentor, and friend," Costello said. "His guidance, expertise and willingness to help me succeed both in and out of the classroom have truly impacted my experience as a student for the better."

Costello, a native of Raynham, has been an engaged student leader since his earliest days on the Fitchburg State campus. His academic accomplishments have brought national recognition to the institution and his spirit of civic engagement has helped strengthen the bonds between the university and the city in which it resides.

A five-time Dean's List honoree, Costello took his written and rhetorical skills to the nationwide stage with through four years in the American Collegiate Moot Court Association national tournament. Costello competed with distinction against much larger institutions, winning brief-writing awards in his final two years of competition.

On campus, Costello has woven himself into the fabric of the institution and the city. He was elected president of his class as freshman and the next year chaired a major university committee on student affairs that included faculty and administrators. In his sophomore year he was elected by his peers to serve as the student representative to the university's board of trustees, where he held full voting powers. He was re-elected to the post in his junior year.

As a senior, Costello was elected president of the Student Government Association, where he represents his peers as a liaison to the university's senior administration and plays an active role in advocating on their behalf in the formulation of policies and procedures. From this post he has also been working to raise the university's profile in the city, initiating meetings with municipal leaders and neighborhood groups, including planned monthly sessions with the mayor. These efforts have created productive dialogue and generated positive publicity for the institution and its mission.

Costello graduates in May with a bachelor of science in political science and interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in pre-law. This fall he plans to enroll at Suffolk University School of Law. He hopes to continue to give back to the community through a career in law and public service, putting his passions and knowledge gained through law school to serve as an advocate for those in need. He also envisions someday serving his peers through elective office.

In May 2011, the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education launched "29 Who Shine," a program to recognize outstanding students representing each of the 29 public campuses. The honorees, chosen because of their academic achievements and record of student leadership and community service, stand poised to contribute greatly to the civic life and economic well-being of the state. Whether furthering their education or entering careers here in Massachusetts in fields as diverse as education, public policy, medicine, creative arts, and engineering, they truly embody the vibrant future that we all envision for the Commonwealth.

Accolades shared at Convocation



The undergraduate research conference last Tuesday showcased the highest-caliber work performed by Fitchburg State students. Classes were canceled for the day and Hammond Hall was abuzz as students, faculty, staff and visitors attended discussions, watched musical and theater showcases and visited poster sessions.

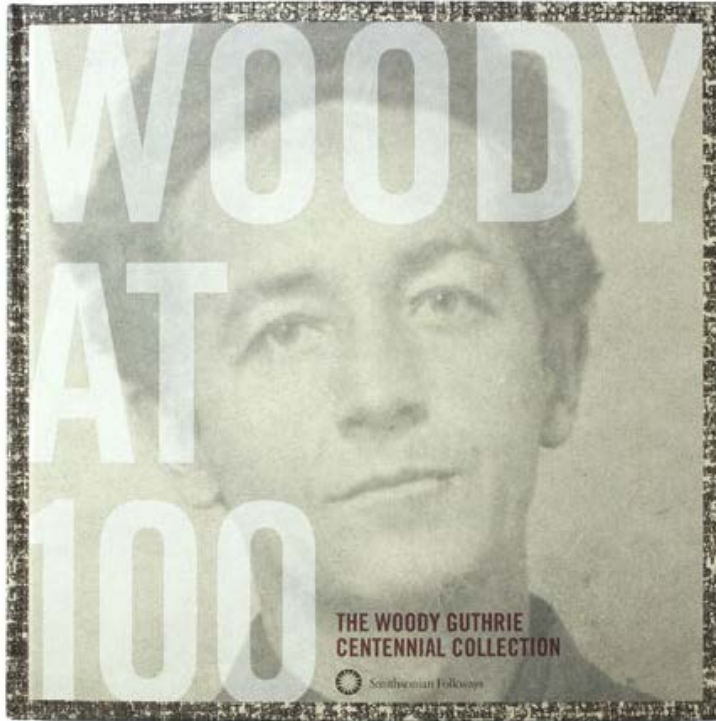
The afternoon was devoted to the Honors Convocation, where students were lauded and faculty were recognized for promotion, tenure and retirement. For the first time, the convocation featured the presentation of two major faculty awards. The Faculty Award for Research and Scholarship was presented to Associate Professor **Michael Hoberman** (English) and the Vincent J. Mara Award for Excellence in Teaching was presented to Associate Professor **Joshua Spero** (Economics, History and Political Science). The professors will be recognized again at Commencement.

Graphic Design Lecture Series continues with Grammy winner Fritz Klaetke, April 30

The Communications Media Department Graphic Design Lecture Series concludes **Tuesday, April 30**, with a talk by Grammy-winning artist Fritz Klaetke.

Klaetke, creative director and designer of Visual Dialogue in Boston, will present "10 Rules to Design and/or Live By" at 3:30 p.m. April 30 at the Condike Science Lecture Hall, 333 North St.

Klaetke won a Grammy Award in February for best boxed or limited edition package design for Woody at 100, a celebration of the music of Woody Guthrie produced for the Smithsonian Institution. His work bested designs for Paul McCartney and the Rolling Stones, among others. A 10-page feature on Klaetke is featured in the current issue of *Communication Arts* magazine.



Designer Fritz Klaetke's Grammy-winning packaging for the "Woody at 100" collection of Woody Guthrie's music.

He will show work that involves conceptual solutions for graphic design and interactive design, with photography, illustration and collage art. The lecture will be of great interest to designers, of course, and photographers, illustrators, artists and design history students and the entire campus community.

The lecture series is coordinated by Professor Stephen Goldstein with generous support from the university's Ruth Butler Grant.

Campus reduces food waste

The Sustainability Advisory Committee's food waste challenge was issued and the campus responded! As part of the campus' Earth Week observances, Chartwells weighed food waste generated each day at the dining hall last week. The 775-pound total logged Monday counted only food that people put on their plates but decided not to eat (kitchen scraps are sent to a local pig farm, but these "post-consumer" scraps go into the trash).



With Chartwells' support, posters were set up in the Holmes Dining Commons all week urging visitors to take what they eat, and eat what they take. The message was heard. There was a net reduction of 233 pounds in food waste entered into the trash stream, so Chartwells will be donating 233 pounds of food to Our Father's Table, a local food pantry.

Thank you to the campus community for meeting this challenge. This is a sustainable

effort in which we can all participate, day in and day out.

ALFA presents "Food for Thought" lecture on April 30

Changes in American food culture during the 19th century will be the topic of Fitchburg State University's Adult Learners in the Fitchburg Area (ALFA) lecture on **Tuesday, April 30** at 3:30 p.m. in Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St. Admission is free.

Professor Susan Williams will present the Food for Thought lecture entitled "Eating History: The Transformation of American Foodways." Dramatic changes in the country developed into the use of new tools and ingredients for cookery. New ideas about health, diet, ethnicity and social reform changed the American scene. Food for Thought ALFA events are free and open to the public.

More information about ALFA and this lecture series is available [online](#).

Special Olympics brings crowd to Elliot Field

On Friday, April 26, the university hosted the 6th annual Special Olympics North Central School Day Games

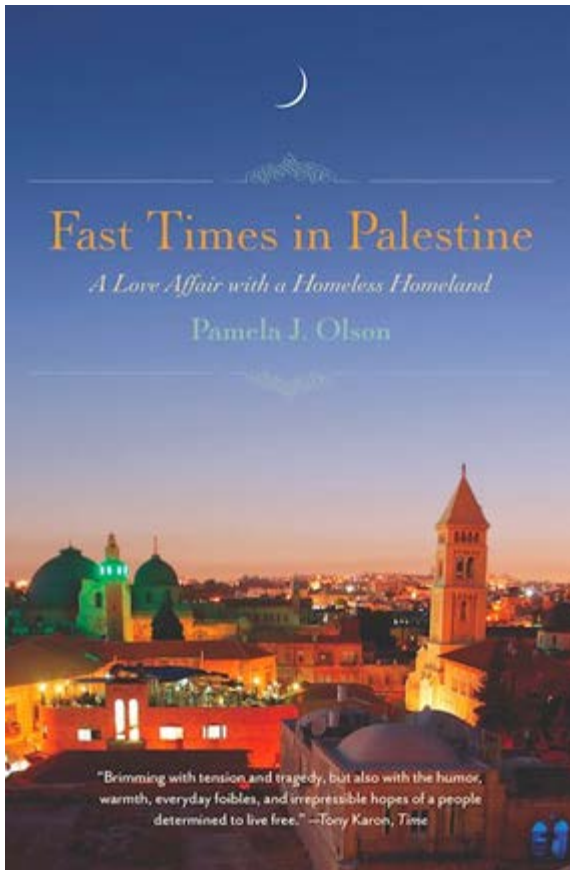
The event brought together more than 450 special athletes, local schools, community members, Fitchburg

State students, faculty, staff, and alumni. More than 160 volunteers helped coordinate the event, with parents and other visitors filling the stands at Elliot Field.



The local games were organized by the university's international honor society, Kappa Delta Pi, along with members from the Education and Exercise and Sports Science departments.

Center for Conflict Studies completes exploration of violence



The Center for Conflict Studies at Fitchburg State University will finish its semester-long exploration of violence with a talk May 1 by a doctor at the Harvard School of Public Health on reducing gun violence, followed by a scholar's talk May 2 about living in Palestine.

On **Wednesday, May 1**, from 7 to 9 pm., Dr. David Hemenway from the Harvard School of Public Health will discuss reducing gun violence. The talk, free and open to the public, will be held at Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St.

"Dr. Hemenway is one of the nation's leading experts on gun violence," said Fitchburg State Professor Eric Budd, one of the founders of the university's Center for Conflict Studies. "Over the semester we have explored whether anything will change after the shootings in Connecticut, and whether violence in the media causes mass shootings, so Dr. Hemenway's talk will explore ways to reduce gun violence.

On **Thursday, May 2**, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., the center will welcome Pamela Olson, who will discuss her experiences living in

Palestine and read from her book "Fast Times in Palestine." Admission is free.

Richard Falk, the United Nation's special rapporteur on human rights in the Palestinian territories, praised Olson's work, writing "no other book has conveyed such an authentic, penetrating, and enchanting sense of the Palestinian people and their long struggle for rights and security."

Visions opens with panel discussion featuring Communications Media alumni

Visions, the annual juried honors showcase of the year's best original student work from Fitchburg State University's Communications Media department, opened last week with an alumni panel discussion.

The panel featured Brittany Durgin, editor of Worcester Magazine; Jean Levasseur, project manager and developer at Spartan Systems; David Shilale, general manager and executive producer at Viewpoint Creative; and Erik Weiker, graphic and web designer for Pilot and EGW.



Brittany Durgin, left, and Jean Levasseur were part of the panel.

The alumni panel was followed by a theater forum, also at Ellis White Lecture Hall. This is the first year of the theater program operating as part of the communications media department. A gallery opening and reception took place at the Sanders Administration Building, followed by a film and video screening at Weston Auditorium.

The gallery exhibition will remain in the Sanders Administration Building through July.

ALFA presents Shirley Pick Lecture Series

The centennial of Woody Guthrie's birth, an exploration of civil and women's rights and a storyteller's take on how women contributed to the war effort in the 1940s will be among the offerings at Fitchburg State University's Adult Learners in the Fitchburg Area (ALFA) spring programs.

The ALFA programs, free and open to the public, are being offered through the Shirley Pick Spring 2013 lecture series.

The lecture series begins **Wednesday, May 8**, with "This Land is Your Land." In honor of the 100th anniversary of Woody Guthrie's birth, his granddaughter, Anna Canoni, will present this program highlighting the remarkable life and musical legacy of an American original. The talk will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St.

The series continues **Wednesday, May 15**, with "A Century of Change," a talk by Fitchburg State philosophy professor David Svolba, who will examine the pivotal issues of civil rights, women's rights and species rights in an exploration of the philosophical and moral dilemmas of the past 100 years. The talk will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St.

The spring series concludes on **Wednesday, May 22**, with a presentation by acclaimed storyteller Judith Black, who will bring history alive through her presentation of "The Home Front," a tale that celebrates the women who contributed to the war effort in preparation for D-Day and features songs of the era. The talk will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St.

Originally begun as a program for local seniors, ALFA has since expanded to include participants from over 15 surrounding communities. It is a lifelong learning that offers non-credit daytime courses and special activities - designed and implemented by the members of ALFA in coordination with the professional staff at Fitchburg State University.

The ALFA program provides an opportunity for lifelong learners with similar interests to meet in an informal setting and pursue learning for enrichment and personal growth. ALFA is sponsored by the Center for Professional Studies and the Office of Graduate and Continuing Education at Fitchburg State University, in collaboration with volunteer representatives of the community.

For more information, visit <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/community-outreach/alfa/> or email alfa@fitchburgstate.edu.

Campus hosting chemical society meeting, May 4



Fitchburg State will host the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers (NEACT) Central Division meeting on **Saturday, May 4**, at Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center. The meeting will be highlighted by a presentation and workshop on chemistry in art by Drs. Cheryl Coolidge and Shari Litch Gray.

The event opens with a light breakfast at 9:30 a.m. At 10 a.m., there will be a presentation of winners of the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day Illustrated Poem contest,

sponsored by the Central Massachusetts section of the American Chemical Society.

From 10:15 a.m. to noon will be a presentation and workshop on guided inquiry materials for a course for non-science majors in college or an advanced high school course.

A light lunch will follow, sponsored by the Central Massachusetts section of the American Chemical Society. The NEACT annual meeting will be held from 1 to 2 p.m.

The event is open to the campus. Please RSVP to Professor Mel Govindan by [email](#) or phone (978-660-8831).

Call for Proposals: Center for Teaching and Learning Fall 2013

The Center for Teaching and Learning is seeking [proposals](#) for fall 2013 sessions. In recent years, volunteers from the campus have presented on topics ranging from pedagogy, curriculum, and assessment to publishing and academia in general. The center looks to continue this tradition in the fall and is now accepting proposals for fall 2013 sessions from any faculty, librarian, or staff member.

Any and all proposals will be considered, formal or informal: presentation, workshop, discussion, panel, etc. While their primary interest is on topics related to the center's mission of promoting teaching and learning, any other topics of interest to our faculty, librarians, and staff will be considered.

Ideas might include (but are by no means limited to): scholarship of teaching and learning (particularly any work faculty or staff are doing that is leading to or could lead to a publication), classroom practices, issues of curriculum, addressing student needs and populations (through

advising, teaching, etc.)

In addition, the center would appreciate suggestions for sessions that faculty or staff would be interested in attending, even if not leading them.

Please submit proposals - which need only be short descriptions - to [Kisha Tracy](#) by Aug. 15.

CenterStage and cultural events

Jazz and Concert Bands perform Wednesday, May 1



Upcoming Performances

Monday, MAY 6th — Spring Choral Concert @ 7:30 pm in Weston Auditorium

The Humanities Department at Fitchburg State University presents the spring concert featuring the Jazz Band and Concert Band at 7:30 p.m. **Wednesday, May 1** in Weston Auditorium, 353 North St. Admission is free and open to the public.

The bands will present an evening of jazz classics, originals, marches and concert band hits by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Jamie Swearingen and others.

Professor Michele Caniato will direct the Jazz Band and Michael LaCava will direct the Concert Band.

Spring Choral Concert Monday, May 6

Fitchburg State's choral ensembles will present their spring concert on **Monday, May 6** at 7:30 p.m. in Weston

Auditorium, 353 North St. Admission is free and open to the public.

The concert will feature the 37-voice university choir, 11-voice chamber singers and various soloists from Maria Ferante's campus vocal studio. The student ensemble Harmonic Velocity, led by Jillian Bailey and Theo Demosthenes, will also perform. Faculty member Robin Dinda's original composition "Perseverantia," written in honor of President Antonucci's inauguration, will also be presented. Choral director Marjorie Ness will lead the ensembles.

"These students possess the ability to grasp a variety of styles of music and convey both text and the musical setting with conviction," said Ness. "I love working with this age group whose pop tastes are pretty sophisticated. To watch them meet music from many generations before and embrace it is wonderful. This concert is balanced with our student-led group Harmonic Velocity who perform in an exciting new way."

On the Conlon Media Wall: *The Red Series* by Ellen Wetmore



Ellen Wetmore's artworks inspire a blend of humor and horror. Her work focuses on lived experience blended with well-honed paranoia, using her body as the primary vehicle. Wetmore's video projects have been featured in screenings at the Sandwell Arts Trust in the West Midlands, UK, Ciné Lumière in London, the Dorsky Gallery in Long Island, N.Y., Currents, Santa Fe, New Mexico, CologneOff, Cologne, Germany. Her most recent show is on the 80-foot tall marquee at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. She is a 2012 School of the Museum of Fine Arts Traveling Fellow. Her work can be found online at www.ellenwetmore.iwarp.com, and on Vimeo. She lives and works in Groton.

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](#)



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

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