



FITCHBURG STATE
UNIVERSITY

Contact

WINTER 2018

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The university has proved a fertile ground
for sprouting new opportunities—pp 6-21

IN THIS ISSUE

Campus News 3
Faculty Notes 22
Alumni News 24





A tradition was restored when Fitchburg State brought Homecoming back to campus. Events included a color run, spirit rally and bonfire, and then a thrilling win for the Falcons football team. Awards were also presented to notable alumni, and we welcomed the Class of 1967 into the Gold Key Society. More photos from Homecoming weekend can be found in Alumni News.

Executive Editor | Marilyn Siderwicz
| Executive Director of Marketing and
Integrated Communications |
msiderwicz@fitchburgstate.edu

Editor | Matthew Bruun | Director of
Public Relations |
mbruun@fitchburgstate.edu

Office of Alumni & Development
| Christopher Hendry '91, '07 |
Vice President for Institutional
Advancement |
chendry@fitchburgstate.edu

Director of Alumni Relations |
Emily Austin-Bruns |
eaustinb@fitchburgstate.edu

Director of Annual Giving |
Tanya Hoos Crowley |
tcrowle7@fitchburgstate.edu

Printing | DS Graphics

Design | Michele Italiano Perla

Cover Illustration | Justin Keohane '17

Photography | Matthew Bruun
| Ed Collier | Kristin Knukowski '18
| Madeline Mitchell '18 | Gustavo
Quiros '16 | Photo of Hope Marian
Redinger on page 13 by Tatjana
Hansen Photography | Photo of
Victoria Hall on page 18 by *The Herald
News*



Contact is published by the offices of Marketing and Integrated Communications and Alumni & Development, and is mailed to alumni and other select supporters of Fitchburg State University. Please send correspondence to *Contact* Magazine, Office of Alumni & Development, Fitchburg State University, 160 Pearl St., Fitchburg, MA 01420, or to contact@fitchburgstate.edu. Visit *Contact* online at fitchburgstate.edu/alumni



INSIDE

6 PLANTING THE SEEDS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP | Feature

Fitchburg State students are creative problem-solvers, and a new ideaLab being developed in the former theater block we purchased last year will be a space to unleash their imaginations. Learn about some of the many enterprising alumni who have taken the leap to make their dreams into realities.

- 8 Choose Freedom | **Sean Devereaux '99**
- 10 Multiple Intelligences | **Ken Berry '00**
- 11 Looking for Solutions | **Jamie Nonni '95**
- 11 Follow Your Dreams | **Karen Brann '90**
- 12 A Rollercoaster Ride | **Jason Kimball '95**
- 13 Something to Believe In | **Hope Marian Redinger '14, '17**
- 14 Vision, Excellence and Timing | **Paul Maguire '81**
- 15 Don't Be Afraid to Fail | **Bradd Morse '92**
- 16 Putting Everything on the Line | **Don Irving '72, '79**
- 17 Achieve Your Dreams | **Tuan Nguyen '91**
- 18 The Perennial Student | **Victoria Hall '07**
- 18 Something Bigger than Yourself | **Rose Cardarelli '81**
- 19 Take Risks | **Christopher Lord '88**
- 21 A Family Business | **Nicholas DiNinno '75**

Departments

2 From the President

The entrepreneurial spirit of our students and alumni is reflected in this issue's centerpiece section, and will be nourished by the ideaLab we are creating on Main Street.

3 Campus News

The campus community explores the history of the LGBTQ movement and welcomes a motivational transgender speaker. Faculty members explore myths and misconceptions about mass shootings. And the curtain rises on our first musical production in more than a decade.

22 Faculty Notes

Never-before-recorded music from the Italian Renaissance can now be heard widely thanks to a project by Humanities Professor Jonathan Harvey, while Communications Media Professor Peter Laytin continues his lifelong exploration of infrared photography.

24 Alumni News

Met & Married
Class Notes
Alumni Events

“THESE ARE EXCITING TIMES AT YOUR
ALMA MATER AND WE WELCOME YOUR
CONTINUED PARTICIPATION”

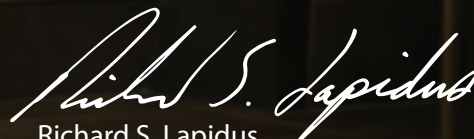
Dear Alumni and Friends,

We hear many of you read *Contact* magazine back to front, so you can see right away in Alumni News what your peers are up to. You'll be pleased that more of the magazine this time is devoted to alumni, specifically people following entrepreneurial paths. Whether they have started a business, created a product, or launched a non-profit, Fitchburg State graduates everywhere are creating economic and social value in surprisingly new ways.

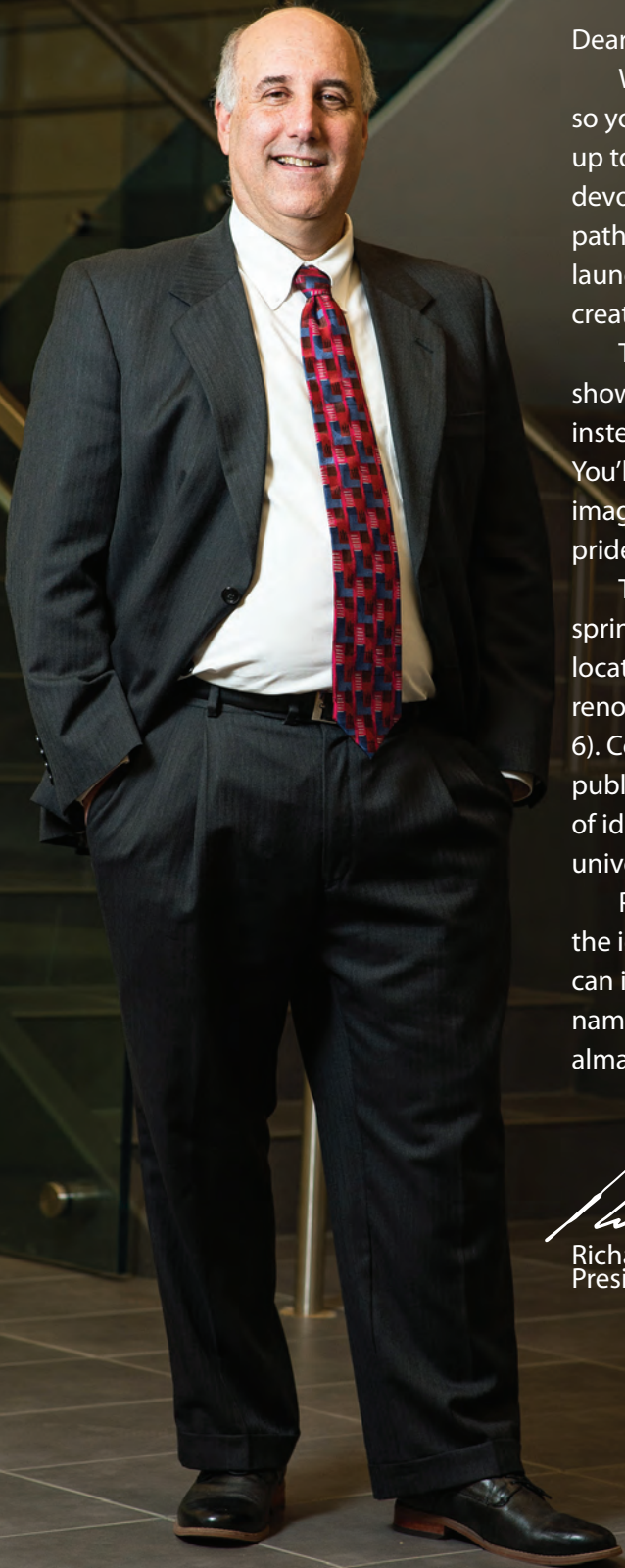
The feature section, Planting the Seeds of Entrepreneurship, showcases those who aren't satisfied with the status quo and instead explore opportunities, often outside their comfort zones. You'll notice a thread of passion, perseverance, and pride as they imagine: what could be? I hope their stories inspire you and instill pride in the quality of your own Fitchburg State education.

The special section also is timely, because the university this spring will open its ideaLab in our new downtown Fitchburg location. The ideaLab is the first phase of a multi-faceted renovation of the Main Street Theater Block (read more on page 6). Conceived as a convening space for both the campus and public community, its goal is to foster interdisciplinary sharing of ideas, knowledge and skills. Collaboration is key, and the university is an ideal, safe place to learn and try new things.

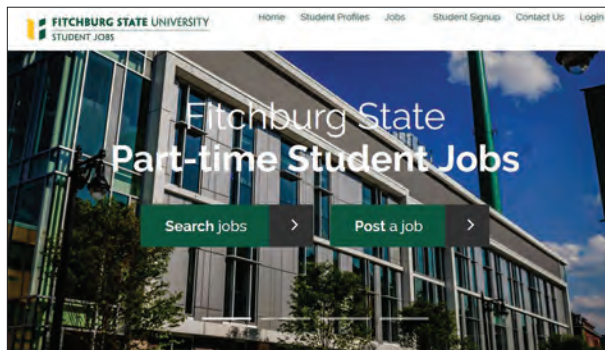
Please let me know how you might want to get involved with the ideaLab. Perhaps you can volunteer some mentoring time? Or can identify groups to bring to the table? Maybe even lend your name to the facility as a sponsor? These are exciting times at your alma mater and we welcome your continued participation.



Richard S. Lapidus
President



CAMPUS NEWS



LINKING STUDENTS AND JOBS

The university recently launched a new portal that will connect local businesses looking for part-time help with Fitchburg State's educated and motivated students.

The service will be free for students as well as businesses, and local employers are invited to submit their open positions by visiting studentjobs.fitchburgstate.edu and creating free profiles.

"Many of our students balance their studies with part-time jobs, and we've found that a large number of them go home on the weekends to work," President Lapidus said. "We wanted to create a resource that would let them earn money while still taking part in the fullness of campus life. The portal will also give local businesses the opportunity to benefit from our talented and hard-working students."

PARTNERSHIPS CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

President Lapidus recently signed two articulation agreements with area community colleges that will open doors of opportunity for students in health care and disability services.

At Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner, a new guaranteed admission agreement will let students in their registered nurse (RN) program move seamlessly into Fitchburg State's online RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. Admitted students will be able to register for classes at Fitchburg State during their final semester at Mount Wachusett, and will also be invited to participate in all health and nursing-related special events on the Fitchburg State campus.

Another articulation agreement will provide additional opportunities for students who complete their associate degrees in deaf studies at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester. Those graduates will be able to transfer their credits to Fitchburg State for a major in interdisciplinary studies. These students may also choose to pursue the university's new deaf studies minor, which promotes the understanding of deaf people as a linguistic and cultural group. The program encourages students to analyze existing stereotypes and policies relating to deaf and hard-of-hearing people in order to engage and effect change in the community at-large.



MUSICAL TOOK THEATERGOERS INTO THE WOODS

Equipped with a talented cast of powerful voices, Fitchburg State presented its first musical theater production in more than a decade when it mounted Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods* in November.

The Tony Award-winning show counts fairy tale favorites Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, Cinderella, a very wicked witch and two charming princes among its characters. It was the final student production mounted by Professor Richard McElvain (Communications Media), who retired at the close of the semester.

McElvain's curtain call at Fitchburg State came days after the closing of *Into the Woods*, when he delivered a one-night-only performance of *The Chess Player*, a one-man adaptation of a story by Stefan Zweig. The play chronicles the struggle inside a prisoner's mind as he battles insanity while held in solitary confinement in a Nazi jail.

McElvain debuted the play in summer 2017 at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, where it was among the 50 best-reviewed productions in a field of thousands.

Proceeds from McElvain's performance will defray costs for university students mounting a production at the 2018 Edinburgh festival. McElvain has commitments to bring *The Chess Player* to theaters around the world.



THE WOMEN WHO HELPED BUILD THE BOMB

Our year-long Community Read of Denise Kiernan's *The Girls of Atomic City* has explored the unheralded history of the young women who unwittingly played a crucial role in the development of the atomic bomb. Through panel talks, book club-style discussions and film screenings, the campus and wider community has been invited to consider an important chapter in human history from a variety of perspectives and disciplines.

The events kicked off with a panel talk that brought together historians and scientists from the faculty for a wide-ranging discussion on the development and consequences of the bomb. Book discussions and film screenings at local libraries have brought students into the mix, and the wartime contributions of women in Fitchburg and Leominster is the topic of an exhibit on display in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library.

The series will be capped off this spring with a reception and book signing by author Denise Kiernan on Thursday, March 29.

To keep up with all the Community Read events, visit fitchburgstate.edu/communityread.

HOMECOMING 2017

This year's Alumni Association Awards Ceremony celebrated the achievements of alumni whose impact is known not only at the university, but also throughout the state, region and world. In the photograph, L-R: Mark J. Coughlan '77 (Alumni Booster Award), Eric A. Gregoire '11 (Alumni Association president), Dr. Rosaline Cardarelli '81 (Alumni Achievement Award), Christopher J. Seidlich '07, '11 (Young Alumni Recognition Award), and John M. Cosenze '82 (Alumni Leadership Award).



“MYTHBUSTING” MASS SHOOTINGS

There are no simple answers about the psychology behind mass shootings, and misconceptions abound, according to members of the Behavioral Sciences faculty who spoke at a packed panel talk in Hammond Hall this fall.

“We’re seeking a simple answer for what is a very complex problem,” Assistant Professor Kori Ryan said. “Violence is not a diagnosis. Mental illness and violence and dangerousness are not the same thing.”

She said predicting future behavior is impossible, yet stigmatizing the mentally ill only fuels their sense of isolation and stigma.

Assistant Professor Zachary Miner noted that additional research on the topic was essential, but that it was compromised by a longstanding ban on federal funding for such study.

“We’re never going to have predictive ability,” he said.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP SOCIETY

The Fitchburg State Entrepreneurship Society recently launched its first “Pitch Tank” competition, offering cash prizes and professional services for students looking to launch their own business ventures.

“The idea is to give students an opportunity to imagine, believe and achieve their vision,” said Gabriel Gavrilov ’19, president of the student Entrepreneurship Society and chairman of the Pitch Tank steering committee.

“Entrepreneurship is a mentality,” said Gavrilov, who started his first business—detailing cars out of his garage—just after graduating high school. “When opportunity doesn’t knock on the door, build the door and then open it.”

That mindset will serve budding entrepreneurs at the pitch tank, where competitors will be judged on factors including originality, revenue opportunity, market impact and presentation quality. Competitors, who will make 90-second elevator pitches along with 10-minute presentations to judges, will be judged on factors including originality, revenue opportunity and market impact. Judges will include professionals from local businesses as well as alumni.

First-round submissions are due Friday, Feb. 16, with the final competition round held Saturday, April 14. Prizes will include cash and in-kind professional services.

For additional information on eligibility and prizes, including instructions on entering the competition, visit fitchburgstate.edu/pitchtank.



MEETING NICOLE

Nicole Maines, whose battle for transgender rights led to landmark legislation, spoke this fall at Hammond Hall.

Nicole was a teenager in Maine when she went to court for the right to use the girls’ bathroom in accordance with her gender identity. The court battle went on for years, culminating with a ruling in 2014 that the school had violated anti-discrimination law.

“What we have right now is the outdated system of a gender binary,” Maines said. “One size does not fit all in gender. We’re saying we have two boxes. That’s not going to cut it for 7 billion people. It’s not.”

She likened the campaign for transgender rights to past civil rights struggles. “In 30 states, transgender people don’t count as people,” she said. “That didn’t work in the ‘60s. Why do we think it’s going to work now?”

The presentation was part of the university’s ongoing series of events exploring gender and equality, including exhibits installed in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library in Hammond Hall. “Journey to Equality: The History of the LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement” chronicles the crusade from World War II to the present, while “Acting Up to Fight AIDS: Remembering the ACT UP Movement 30 Years Later” examines the epidemic in the 1980s and efforts to bring awareness to the crisis. The exhibit is composed of 25 information panels, each measuring 4 feet by 6 feet.

The ongoing “Journey to Equality” series is funded in part by Mass Humanities, which receives support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



PLANTING THE SEEDS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The university's purchase of the theater block on Main Street in downtown Fitchburg has generated a lot of buzz about the transformation and revitalization of our host city. The first phase of the multi-year renovation has begun, and promises to make an immediate impact.

In addition to the theater and seven street-level retail storefronts, the building has thousands of square feet of vacant office space on its second floor. And that's where we are beginning our work.

What we are calling the ideaLab will have two components. A state of the art game design studio will host the capstone experience for seniors completing the university's popular major.

The ideaLab will also include an open, reconfigurable space that will serve as an intellectual playground for students, faculty and community members. It will be a place for people of different disciplines to meet and tackle problems together, free from the traditional boundaries of academic silos. Creativity will be unleashed.

We know the possibilities for this brainstorming or incubator space are boundless, because Fitchburg State students have always been creative and enterprising. In the pages that follow, you will read about the successful alumni they have become. They come from the business world as well as the arts and sciences, and include non-profit visionaries interested in social justice and public health.





“I CHOSE FREEDOM”

SEAN DEVEREAUX '99

Sean Devereaux broke into the visual-effects business with elbow grease. He was two weeks into an unpaid internship at an Oscar-winning visual-effects firm in Los Angeles and noticed the sink in the company's break room was dirty. Taking it upon himself to clean it, he was offered a job on the spot.

That initiative and work ethic would continue to pay dividends. “The doctorate of your profession is your first four years after college,” he said.

After 12 years in visual-effects, he was ready to chart his own course. “I wanted to work in Boston, but since no one in Boston did what we do, three of us got started in my basement in Newton.”

Zero VFX was born with small jobs at first and with organic growth that brought larger and more high profile projects. He and his co-founders agreed not to incur debt as they grew the company, even if it meant some lean periods. “We didn't pay ourselves for a long time,” he said. “We invested in technology and talent.”

Today the company is the largest effects house in New England, capitalizing on a solid reputation and a still thriving motion picture economy in the state. Recent Zero VFX credits include “American Hustle,” “The Equalizer,” “Patriots Day” and “Daddy's Home 2.”

Devereaux said the decision to blaze his own trail rather than sticking with his first job was crucial to his success. “I chose freedom,” he said. “If you choose money over your passion, you're never going to have it. Now I have the freedom to live where I want and work on the projects that I want.” (zerovfx.com)





Forward Thinking

“YOU HAVE TO HAVE MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES, AND YOU CAN’T STOP LEARNING.”

—KEN BERRY '00

Ken Berry programmed himself out of a job as a young computer engineer. Hired by a Boston-area firm after graduating with a degree in computer science, he wrote software that did his job for him. “They didn’t have any other work for me to do,” he said. After a short stint with an online startup, Berry started his own company.

That business started as a custom software designer for small businesses, but evolved into Jibunu, a market research firm that now has 20 employees. “We’re often the technology behind a (larger) market research company’s products,” he said. “Every single product you’ve ever seen had research done before it was released.”

Jibunu’s portfolio covers everything from consumer packaged goods to pharmaceuticals to disease treatments, and has worked for companies large and small across the globe. Surveys, focus groups and proprietary technology are employed for a wide range of customized data generation and analysis. “There’s no market vertical we haven’t touched in our 14 years,” he said.

Berry said starting his own business was a lot of work, but hundred-hour weeks as an undergraduate working his way through school prepared him well for that grind. “The work ethic and the understanding of technology were two things I got during my years at Fitchburg State.”

The ability to keep learning is also essential to a successful entrepreneur. “You can’t just be good at one thing,” he said. “You have to have multiple intelligences, and you can’t stop learning.”
(jibunu.com)



“ALWAYS LOOKING FOR SOLUTIONS”

— JAMIE NONNI '95



At the dawn of the commercial cell phone era, Jamie Nonni was an undergraduate studying manufacturing technology and working on the side installing car stereos and cell phones for a company in Marlborough.

“Another employee and I ended up buying the company while I was still a student,” he said. “We financed the company on our credit cards, and we managed to get by for about a year that way.”

His business was picked up by another fledgling cell provider who put Nonni in a retail location. His life changed when an antiques dealer was looking for a way to link her cell phone to a credit card reader, so she could have instantaneous confirmation of a card’s validity. At the time it was a novel idea, but Nonni realized there was existing technology that could be configured to do the job.

“When you see an opportunity, if you’re not going to act on it, someone else will,” Nonni said. “I’m always looking for solutions.”

That led to more customers, and eventually his decision to leave the cellular industry. In 2002 he formed Nationwide Payment Solutions, now a \$50 million enterprise with more than 50 employees located in Portland, Maine. From that company he spun off a side venture, Municipay, which provides online payment solutions for 1,400 municipalities in 20 states.

Nonni credits his experiences at Fitchburg State—including serving as president of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity—with developing his leadership abilities.

He advises up and coming entrepreneurs not to be afraid to fail, and to learn from their mistakes.

“Very rarely do I meet someone who’s had success the first time out of the gate,” he said. “It’s typically within one’s failures that success can be found.” (getnationwide.com, municipay.com)

“MAKE A PLAN AND FOLLOW YOUR DREAM”

—KAREN BRANN '90



Karen Brann has enjoyed a rewarding career in special education, first as a teacher and then as an administrator in a public school system. But when she encountered a parent who could not find an appropriate placement for her child in her community, she realized

there was a void. The area needed a school for students with complex needs, where life skills training would complement academic learning.

“My co-founder had a business plan, and I was looking for a change,” Brann said. And so Merrimac Heights Academy was born.

“The first year it was all about finding properties and applying to the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education,” said Brann. After an arduous two-year process, the school was ultimately approved with a cap of 13 students.

The school opened in September 2013 with one pupil; a second arrived the following spring. “The first year was pretty challenging,” Brann said. By last year, however, they had 10 students. “Parents are happy and teachers are happy,” she said. “It’s a beautiful thing to see all of the buses lined up at the end of the day.”

Brann said Fitchburg State forged her passion for special needs, and showed her the importance of hard work and tenacity. Those qualities were critical to creating a new school from the ground up, and adapting to the assorted challenges that came along the way.

“It was challenging, but it was worth it,” she said. “If you have a dream, you’ll achieve it if you stick with it and follow your plan.” (merrimacheightsacademy.org)



“IT’S A ROLLERCOASTER”

—JASON KIMBALL '95

Jason Kimball tried to go the traditional route, but it didn't take. Right after graduating from Fitchburg State with a degree in psychology (and a minor in business), Kimball was hired as a quality control manager for a fiber-optic component company. He worked there for 11 years.

“I didn't care for the 9 to 5 monotony,” he said. “My family took me aside and said, ‘If you're not enjoying your work, do something else.’ This was something else.”

“This” was The Angler Fish Market & Chowder Co. in Westminster, which he opened in 2007.

Entrepreneurship was in his blood. His parents owned the former Kimball's Clothing on Main Street in Fitchburg, and his father also owned a fishing boat. Kimball had experience scalloping and clam digging in his youth, and wanted to parlay his appreciation for good seafood into a new venture. “I didn't go to culinary school,” he said. “I just cook the way I do at home.”

He knew he'd need to hit the books to run his own business, however. “I started to research the business for two years before we opened,” he said. “I went to the local authorities and asked questions. I had a lot to figure out.”

From the design of the restaurant's interior to building relationships with responsible vendors and finding good staff, there was a lot for Kimball to learn. “The cost of doing business was three times as much as I expected,” he said. “It was six or seven years before we felt like we were going to make it.”

But Kimball saw no alternative, and with the support of his wife, Christina (Wagg) Kimball '95, persevered.

“It's easy to say, ‘I give up,’” Kimball said. “We just kept fighting. It's a rollercoaster.”

The business is thriving now, with a solid base of loyal customers.

Kimball has even been able to cut back on the 100-hour weeks that he put in to get the business going (though 50-hour weeks are typical).

“I learn something new every day,” he said.

“I compare running this business to having another child, and you want it to succeed.”
(theangler-westminster.com)

“YOU NEED TO HAVE THE DRIVE BEHIND SOMETHING YOU TRULY BELIEVE IN.”

—HOPE MARIAN REDINGER '14, '17

Hope Marian Redinger was diagnosed with debilitating migraines at an early age, and found no comfort from traditional medicine.

“I’ve been on 30 prescription medications and they were not working at all,” she said. “I wanted to live a fulfilled life, so I became my own advocate.”

Redinger moved to California, where she hoped the climate would be better for her condition. She also found relief through marijuana, which has been legalized for medicinal use in nearly 30 states.

Redinger’s journey led her to found MigraineHope, which helps patients like her access whole-body approaches to relief, including cannabis. She has presented at conferences across the country about the benefits of medical marijuana and is seeing growth in her client base.

She’s also continued her education, complementing her bachelor’s degree in business administration with an MBA she completed in 2017. She credits a caring faculty whose connection transcended the classroom. “Everyone went above and beyond at Fitchburg State,” she said.

Building her business – which is still in its infancy with just three employees – has been a challenging endeavor, complicated by navigating the state-to-state regulation of medical marijuana. She manages the difficulty by drawing on her personal commitment to the cause of pain relief.

“It’s important to do something that inspires you,” she said. “You need to have the drive behind something you truly believe in.” (migrainehope.org, hopemarian.com)



“YOU NEED VISION, PRODUCT EXCELLENCE, AND TIMING”

—PAUL MAGUIRE '81

Paul Maguire was ready for a change of scenery. After finishing his business degree at Fitchburg State, the Massachusetts native wanted a new experience, so he pounced when he was offered a job on an oil rig in Alaska.

“After a year of freezing temperatures and 50-foot seas I thought, ‘There’s more to life than this,’” he recalled. During his downtime on the Bering Sea, Maguire read Tom Hopkins’ seminal *How to Master the Art of Selling*. “This was my ticket off this rig.”

Returning to Massachusetts, Maguire was hired by a Gardner company where he received valuable sales training. The company enrolled him in their sales training program and within two years he became the top ranked salesperson out of 226 reps. “I started to learn more and more that sales was a science and there was a definite formula for both success and failure,” he said.

He put that formula to work when he joined his first venture capital-backed startup software company. Within

nine months the venture capitalists cut their funding and let the company go into bankruptcy. Maguire and his fellow 13 employees assumed the debt and kept the operation moving, developing prototype applications to demonstrate the capabilities of their software. They broke even in three months, were profitable within six months, and ended up selling the company for \$10 million within three years. “Now I get it,” he recalled thinking. “Let’s do it again.” As one of his business partners put it at the time, “It’s not how often you shoot yourself in the foot that matters, it’s how quickly you can reload,” Maguire recalled. “Those words have stuck with me throughout my career and I would encourage every entrepreneur to memorize them as well.”

Maguire had found his passion, and in the ensuing years would be part of seven more startup companies and navigate through two initial public offerings and numerous mergers and acquisitions. He saw what worked, and what didn’t.

He founded IntelliSource International in 2002, a corporate strategy and brand development firm that specializes in helping companies define and dominate their unique markets. “It is a formula,” he said. “If you define your category, you’re also defining your competitors. What is your promise of a result to customers? It’s got to be something they’ll want. My very first client said, ‘The battlefield is a poor place for preparation.’ In my world, the battlefield is the boardroom.”

Maguire enjoys helping his clients build their success, and has also enjoyed building a hospitality side business with his wife, Terry. The Maguire House Bed & Breakfast is located on 44 acres in Ashburnham, with views of Wachusett Mountain.

Part of his success has been knowing when to strike, he said.

“They’re called windows of opportunity for a reason. They open and close very quickly,” Maguire said. “Timing is not in the entrepreneur’s control. You need vision, product excellence, and timing. As an entrepreneur, you can only control the first two.” (intellisourcecorp.com)



“DON'T BE AFRAID TO FAIL. IT'S ABOUT BELIEVING IN WHAT YOU'RE DOING.”

—BRADD MORSE '92

Bradd Morse found his niche early in life and has built upon it to create a rewarding career. Even before he enrolled at Fitchburg State, Morse was working for a company that installed outdoor ropes courses for corporate team-building exercises.

“It's all about people,” Morse said, describing how the shared navigating ropes courses can boost community. “It has to do with interaction between individuals, good communication and respect for each other.”

He kept up with the work while he was studying economics at Fitchburg State, and was hired to teach a course on team development at MIT.

“My frat brothers at Fitchburg State thought that was pretty amazing,” Morse said with a self-deprecating chuckle. “I wasn't an A student.”

What he lacked in classroom skills,

however, Morse made up for in passion. After a disappointing detour into corporate work, Morse focused on Canopy Tours Inc., designing zipline courses, treetop walkways and other adventure attractions all over the world, from Bora Bora to Atlantic City. His focus is on quality ecotourism installations that take the ecological and social footprints of their host areas into account.

This October, the United Nations honored him with his second consecutive Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements Award at the 2017 Global Forum on Human Settlements & Sustainable Cities.

“I love my job,” he said. “My job has evolved and I've had to evolve with it. I'm a team-building specialist, and I've learned

that by making a lot of mistakes. My advice is: go for it. Don't be afraid to fail. It's about believing in what you're doing.” (canopytourdesign.com)





“PUTTING EVERYTHING ON THE LINE” —DON IRVING '72, '79

Don Irving began his working life as an industrial arts teacher, but found himself exploring alternatives after having children. “I couldn’t afford to raise a family, so I went into the tech industry,” he said.

He went to work for a wire and cable manufacturer that was soon purchased by a venture capitalist and found his company folded into a larger corporate portfolio. Irving saw that his classroom skills were transferable helping him move up the ladder. “The biggest skill you need is communication, the ability to get ideas across to people. Whether it’s pupils or stock analysts, it’s the same skill.”

He also had an engineering mindset -- inventing products and analyzing processes and procedures -- and a desire to create long-term economic and social value. “A conglomerate’s short-term capitalist ethos had no appeal to me.”

So he took a gamble, with his wife Karen’s (Lindroth ’90) support. “We mortgaged the house, the kids, and the dog. We put everything on the line,” he quipped. “I had the right tools, and I had a great preparation at Fitchburg State.”

Data Guide Cable was born in 1984, manufacturing specialty electronic and electrical cable products. “I wanted to create a place where people could work and be comfortable and make a career. And I did,” he said.

It wasn’t always easy. When times were tight after the recession of 2008, Irving and his senior leadership team agreed to pay cuts to keep their employees on the payroll. As the business regained its footing, everyone who had taken a cut was paid back.

After 30 years in business, Irving was ready to move on. He found a buyer for Data Guide Cable, one that would preserve its culture and keep its 60 employees. He remains proud the team he built is intact.

“Learn everything you possibly can about the business or industry you’re going into,” he said. “Then you can hire the best people who will stay committed.”

Irving remains involved in real estate development and philanthropy. With his wife he endowed the Donald R. Irving ’72, ’79 and Karen A. Irving ’90 “Pay It Forward” Scholarship that helps deserving students with the understanding they will want to give back later in their professional lives.

“WHATEVER THEIR DREAMS ARE, WE WANT TO HELP THEM ACHIEVE THEM, ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS WHAT WE’RE ALL ABOUT.”

—TUAN D. NGUYEN '91

Tuan D. Nguyen does not believe in failure. “If you’re not successful at one time, it just might not be the right idea at the right time. You must never, never give up. With intelligent work and strong resolve, you will prevail!”

Nguyen was a teenager when his family fled war-ravaged Vietnam in the late 1970s and came to the U.S. as political refugees. They settled in Massachusetts and found a welcoming community. After high school, Nguyen wanted to give back to his adopted country and enlisted in the U.S. Army’s 82nd Airborne Division as a paratrooper. His service was followed by enrollment at Fitchburg State, where his passion for helping others was forged. The psychology major credits faculty members for inviting him to think beyond himself and to embrace altruism. Fitchburg State recognized his contributions with an Alumni Leadership Award in 2013.

Having lived the American dream himself, Nguyen is committed to helping others achieve it. He serves on numerous national boards of directors across the U.S., and in 2000 founded the nonprofit Asian-American National Committee, where he serves as chairman and chief executive officer. The nonprofit organization provides educational, business and legal services and referrals for Asian Americans looking to grow their businesses and enterprises.

“Whatever their dreams are, we want to help them achieve them,” he said. “Entrepreneurship is what we’re all about.” (aancinc.org)



Tuan D. Nguyen with his mother, Hoa Pham, when he was presented the Alumni Leadership Award in 2013

“THE PERENNIAL STUDENT”

—VICTORIA HALL '07

For Victoria Hall, inspiration struck while she was bogged down by bags on her commute into Boston. She needed a single bag that would accommodate all of her needs without sacrificing a sense of style. So she decided to invent one.

Hall studied English at Fitchburg State, and put her degree to work in her day job in arts administration. She found her talent with the written word would also be helpful as she developed the business plan for what would become Workingurl.

“All of the jobs I had, being able to articulate and convey an organization’s mission and work through writing was very important,” she said. “My degree served me very well.”

When she decided to embark on the business venture, she went back to school. “I would be a perennial student,” she said. “I love learning new things.”

She entered a pitch contest put on by an entrepreneurial accelerator program and took second place. “I felt validated,” she said. That led to a crowd-funding campaign that netted \$20,000, enough to start building prototype bags.

“I consider myself a startup, because I do see a pathway to scaling quickly over the next several years,” Hall said. “It’ll take some time, but I’m passionate about it.” (workingurlco.com)



“LOOK AT YOUR LIFE PATH, AND DO SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF.”

—ROSE CARDARELLI '81

Rose Cardarelli’s military service began even before she enrolled at Fitchburg State, where she completed a degree in human services and discovered the value of education. Returning to the U.S. Army upon graduation, she became a medical service corps officer, providing health services all around the world. She eventually commanded the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Brigade where she was responsible for 3,000 personnel, including hundreds of wounded warriors who had recently returned from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. After completing advanced degrees in education, she followed up her military service with senior-level roles at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University, where she led strategic development forums in Jordan, Italy, Thailand and Algeria, as well as the U.S.

Her travels let her see first-hand the importance of education and how it can create opportunities for all, especially children with challenging backgrounds.

In 2017 she founded the Amal Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting literacy and mindfulness in child refugee populations. The organization has already served refugee populations in the Middle East and Greece.

“I think in my small way I can make a small difference,” said Cardarelli, who was recognized last fall with a Fitchburg State Alumni Award. In keeping with the Alliance’s premise that we are all global citizens with a social and moral responsibility to children, she encourages others to find a way to promote a greater good through education.

“Look at your life path, and do something bigger than yourself.” (amalalliance.org)



“YOU NEED TO TAKE AS MANY RISKS AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN”

—CHRISTOPHER LORD '88

Computer Science major Christopher Lord was only a Fitchburg State junior when he broke into the rising computer industry working part-time at Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) in Maynard. That stint began his 25-year career in technology, including most recently executive positions in cybersecurity companies Bit9 and Carbon Black.

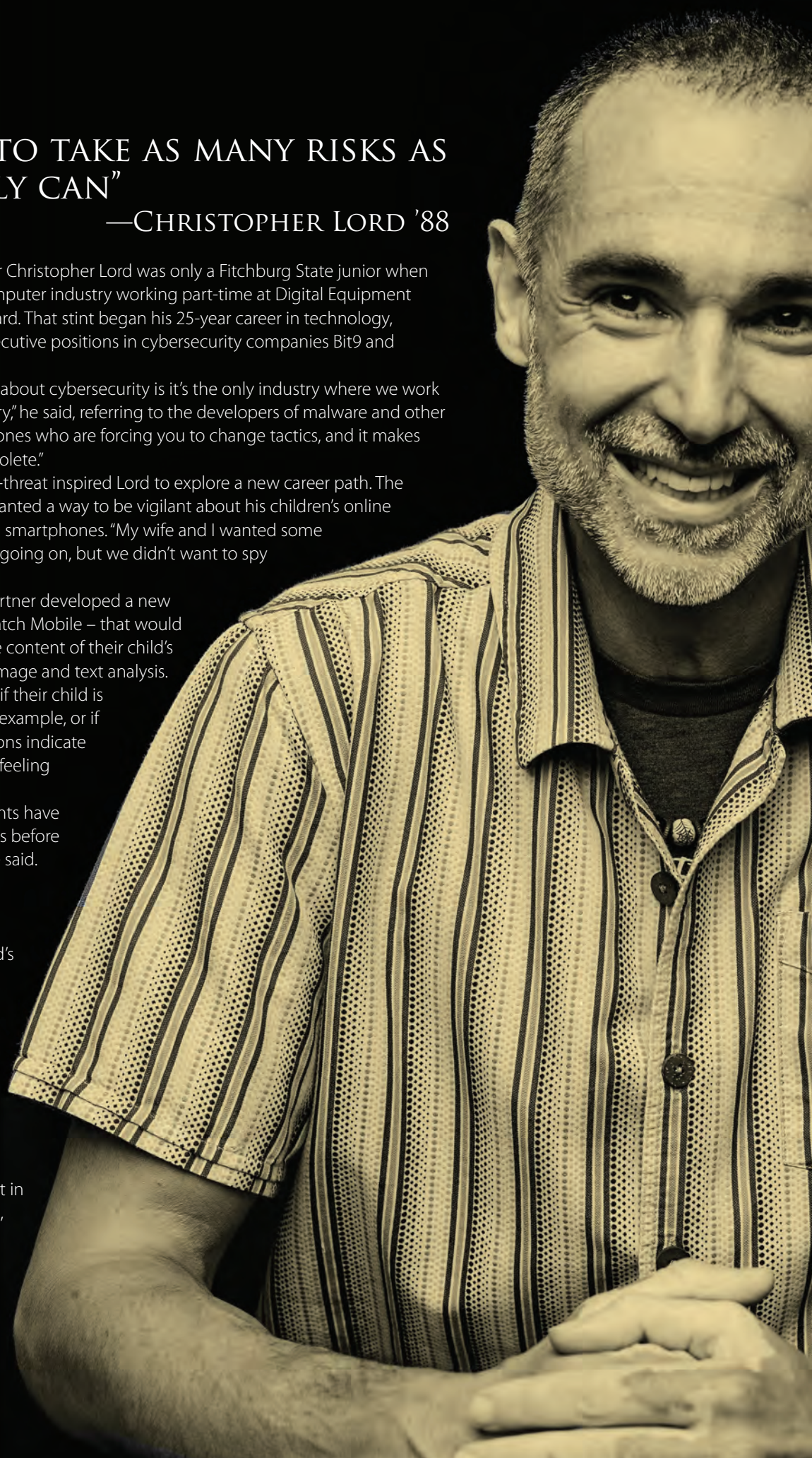
“One of the things I love about cybersecurity is it’s the only industry where we work against an external adversary,” he said, referring to the developers of malware and other digital threats. “They’re the ones who are forcing you to change tactics, and it makes what you did yesterday obsolete.”

A different type of cyber-threat inspired Lord to explore a new career path. The father of two young sons wanted a way to be vigilant about his children’s online experiences, especially with smartphones. “My wife and I wanted some way to keep track of what’s going on, but we didn’t want to spy on them,” he said.

Lord and his business partner developed a new product – now known as Latch Mobile – that would let parents keep track of the content of their child’s web experiences through image and text analysis. Latch Mobile alerts parents if their child is viewing sexual content, for example, or if children’s online conversations indicate they’re being bullied or are feeling depressed.

“Our goal is to help parents have conversations with their kids before there are consequences,” he said.

Latch Mobile took form through MassChallenge, an entrepreneurial accelerator program that accepted Lord’s pitch and is helping him operationalize and expand. “I love that I’m still learning. You develop a whole new appreciation for areas of expertise that aren’t yours,” he said. “Starting out, you need to take as many risks as you possibly can. But in the grand scheme of things, if it all goes south, it’s all recoverable.” (latchmobile.com)





A FAMILY BUSINESS

—NICHOLAS DININNO '75

Nicholas DiNinno knew his professional calling from a young age. "I remember in seventh grade, teachers would ask what I wanted to do, and I'd always tell them, 'I want to be a dentist.' And they'd always laugh."

But he wasn't kidding. He'd always enjoyed visiting his dentist's office in Fitchburg as a child, and could imagine it as a rewarding career. To help save money for dental school, he enrolled at Fitchburg State. He worked three off-campus jobs while a student, and spent by his own admission too much time playing basketball and ping pong on campus. He had a 2.7 grade point average.

"My faculty advisor said, 'You want to go to dental school? You've got a snowball's chance in hell,'" DiNinno recalled. "From then on I studied and got good grades."

The wakeup call worked. DiNinno earned a 4.0 grade point average the rest of his time at Fitchburg State, and scored in the 90th percentile on his dental school admissions exam, and continued his high performance in Tufts University's dental program.

After graduating from dental school, DiNinno secured a business loan and took over office space in downtown Fitchburg from a retiring dentist. "For \$1,400, I bought her old chair and she gave me a list of 150 patients," he recalled. "I wrote handwritten notes to 150 people."

"There were two dentists in Fitchburg that went bankrupt that year. I went to their auction and it scared the hell out of me," DiNinno said. "I was petrified every day going in that first year."

But he was persistent, worked hard and sought the help of mentors to learn new skills. With administrative support provided by his wife, Donna (Geneva) '75, whom he met at Fitchburg State, the practice grew and thrived for nearly four decades.

"For me, going to Fitchburg State was the best thing," he said. "I had excellent professors in a small college environment. I was able to form lifelong relationships with many of them. I received an excellent education at a very reasonable cost that allowed me to compete on a high level with my peers that attended more prestigious colleges."

DiNinno admitted he was thinking of retiring a few years ago, but when his son Nicholas followed in his professional footsteps, the family built and moved to a new, state-of-the-art dental practice on South Street.

He concluded with satisfaction, "This is everything I've ever wanted."
(dininnofamilydental.com)

FACULTY NOTES



BRINGING LOST MUSIC TO LIFE

Professor Jonathan Harvey (Humanities), who joined the Fitchburg State faculty in 2016, has long held a research interest in the music of the Italian Renaissance, specifically its context and social function. When he came upon a trove of unrecorded works by celebrated Italian composer Adrian Willaert, he knew he had found something special.

"Willaert is the person more famous Renaissance composers looked up to," Harvey explained. "His work is cited in treatises and textbooks as a model."

But some of the works Harvey found in his research had received less attention, as they were composed in Latin but not intended for the liturgy. One piece, for example, was commissioned by Prince Ferdinand I of Austria, who had fought off an invasion in 1529 and sought a choral piece to commemorate the achievement. Willaert found a worthy Latin text and set it to music, Harvey said, but the piece – and the others Harvey found – endure only in scholarly compilations. "This is the sort of thing you'd find in the basement of a music library," he said.

Harvey prepared five of Willaert's pieces for performance by professional Boston singers, which was recorded in Weston Auditorium and Conlon Fine Arts Building classrooms in June 2017. Hearing the music brought to life was "thrilling," said Harvey, who also conducts the university's choral ensembles.

Harvey worked with an engineer in the months after the recording session to edit the performances into their final shape, with the professional reference recordings now part of his Fitchburg State curriculum. The works refute some popular notions about the Renaissance "motets" (specifically that they were only for religious purposes), and also demonstrate music composition complexities of 16th century Italy.

The recording project was supported by a grant from the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Endowment, established through a \$1 million donation from the 1938 alumna to support activities and projects that promote the study of Italian language, culture and Western civilization.

The finished recordings soon will be available in the university's Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library.

SEEING BEYOND THE VISIBLE

Professor Peter Laytin's (Communications Media) training in photography was very formal. Under the tutelage of celebrated mentors like Minor White, Laytin was encouraged to “previsualize” every aspect of the images he created, from composition to film processing to printing. “You always know what you’re going to get,” Laytin said.

His discovery of infrared photography inspired a detour. “With infrared film, you never know what you’re going to get,” he said. “I found the unknown aspects fascinating.”

In infrared photography, filters block out most wavelengths of visible light, lending the resulting images a somewhat dreamlike quality. Chlorophyll and deciduous trees when hit by the sun can take on a snowy glow, for example, and striking contrasts can emerge between elements in images.

Laytin – who joined the Fitchburg State faculty in 1977 – spent his spring sabbatical indulging his lifelong interest in infrared photography. The format was

developed for scientific applications, such as peering through haze in aerial photography, or determining the health of crops.

Laytin was interested in the aesthetic potential of the medium. He’s shot infrared all over the globe, and has begun reviewing his life’s work for possible publication. Some of his recent work is included here.



Portnacroish #1, Scotland, 2017 by Peter Laytin



Isle of Skye #1, Scotland, 2017 by Peter Laytin

MET & MARRIED

RUTH (CLARK) '53 AND ALBERT '52 RUSSO met the summer before her junior year at Fitchburg State and his senior year. Al had been working (and living) at the Hotel Raymond on Day Street for three years to put himself through school. Conveniently, Ruth also lived on Day Street. They were introduced by a mutual neighborhood friend. Their first few dates were babysitting for Ruth's neighbors.

After graduating, Al went to teach in Connecticut. Ruth taught in Townsend for a year before they married. They moved from Connecticut to Marlborough in 1960. Al passed away in 2010 after their being together for many happy years. They have four children and nine grandchildren.

DAVID '72, '92 AND MARYBARBARA (GILREIN) '72 HUGHES were introduced by a Fenwick brother, Tim Stewart '72, at the Black Horse restaurant/bar. They celebrated 42 years of marriage in April.



RIK '72 AND JANET (HUNT) '72 LAVOIE met in February of 1969. Miller Hall was a women's dormitory and was balanced on the front lawn by the now-demolished Palmer Hall. "The High Rise" was new, bright and shiny. Mohawks, Gaveleers, Fenwicks and Esoterics roamed the campus. They were the days of Tater and Quigley ... Fitzgibbons and Mazeika ... Davis and Schmidt ... Cunningham and Battinelli ... Browning and Thomas ... Fritz

and Arsenault ... May and Flynn. There were snow sculptures and the Campus Spa and Slattery's. There were Neasylons, Adelphians and Philodemics. There were concerts in Weston, skating at the Wallace Rink, and the Commuters' Lounge and peace rallies. The campus ended at Pearl Street and the area between Highland Avenue and Cedar Street was undeveloped woods.

And "Hammond" wasn't a Library ... he was a man.

Apartment parties were the social coin of the realm then. Rick was a newly pledged Mohawk and Janet was a freshman majoring in elementary ed. They met at one of those parties and Rick walked her to her dorm. The next weekend was Valentine's Day. He called her and asked if she wanted to go to the afternoon Sam and Dave concert at Parkinson Gymnasium. The date went well, so he asked if she wanted to see Tom Rush that evening at Leominster High, and once again, she agreed.

They would be inseparable from then on. They attended Mohawk functions, school events, winter carnivals and peace demonstrations. "The more time we spent together, the more I became convinced that I was on the adventure of a lifetime," Rick says. "I proposed to her on Christmas Day and she accepted."

The campus was in turmoil then. The war in Vietnam had divided the FSC community in a significant way. Much like today, everyone chose a side. Your political beliefs were clearly identified by your choice of haircut, your mode of dress and the bumper stickers on your car. Relationships ended. Friendships dissolved. Faculty

factions and disputes disrupted the daily business of the college. In addition, many of the students had ongoing disagreements with their parents regarding the divisive war.

Rick cites a wise man's remark: "You become like the five people you spend the most time with ... choose wisely." "That was the path that the two of us chose," he writes. "We invested ourselves in each other and in a small group of friends and fraternity brothers. We all took care of each other and provided the unconditional support that we each needed. When we reflect on our years on Pearl Street, those relationships form our richest memories."

They married in June of 1972, on her birthday. They skipped their graduation ceremony.

"We have worked together since then. We both toiled in the 'vineyards' of residential schools for special needs kids," he writes. "The hours were long and the duties were intense. But we were able to better understand the pervasive nature of learning disorders. The perceptual problems that 'our' kids faced impacted on all aspects of their lives: academic, social, behavioral and psychological. We, quite literally, woke the kids up in the morning ... and put them to bed at night. We were able to apply all the skills and knowledge we gained on Pearl Street. We did this work for 30 years."

Along the way, the couple completed some advanced degrees, moved five times, wrote a couple of books and toured the country on speaking tours in all 50 states. "We did all this together — as a team — constantly exchanging the roles of 'mentor' and 'protégé,' 'leader' and 'follower,'" Rick writes.

"But far more importantly, we have brought two amazing sons into the world ... and opened our hearts and our home to our daughter forever. They constantly amaze. They spend their days trying to make our government and our world a better, safer place ... and now we are basking in the greatest joy of 'life's back nine': grandkids. We don't LOVE those kids ... we are IN LOVE with them. Life is good."

Last year, Rick did some work for the Alumni Association. In appreciation, he was given a 15-by-15 marble plaque from a now-demolished building from the old campus. It is the dedication plaque for Parkinson Gymnasium -- the place where their great adventure began. It holds an honored place in their home.

"Fitchburg State gave Janet and me the knowledge and skills to carve out a productive career assisting struggling kids. But, more importantly, our years at FSC built in us a belief in fairness, loyalty and kindness that we have tried to pass on to countless children ... including our kids and their kids," Rick writes.

Rick recalls walking the halls of school one day and being stopped by a student. "I noticed, Mr. Lavoie," he began, "that you always open the car door for Mrs. Lavoie. Every time."

"Yes," he replied. "And she says, 'Thank You' -- every time."

The Lavoies' affection for the college runs deep. "Beyond teaching us how to make a living ... FSC taught us how to make a life," Rick says.

TODD '76, '09 AND REV. LAURA (BISHOP) '77 GOODWIN met at FSC in the fall of 1976 and much to their amazement were married two years later. Todd sang in the Concert Choir for all his undergraduate years and later was invited back to continue singing with the group. Members of the choir were invited to sing in the

chorus of the Drama Club's fall musical, "Brigadoon." It was there that a lovely lass with long blonde hair and a winsome smile caught his eye. The director had placed Laura in the front row and Todd, a lowly tenor, was in the back. Though a loud singer, he was a bit shy, but they finally spoke after a cast party on Highland Avenue when they noticed they had parked their cars next to each other. By coincidence they each drove convertibles; his was a 1967 Buick and hers a 1969 Plymouth. As they say, the rest is history. They started dating, then got engaged and wed in August of 1978. They have lived in Fitchburg all these years, raised a family and look forward to their 40th anniversary.

PATRICIA (O'BRIEN) '77 AND MICHAEL '78 JOUBERT met in Patricia's parents' basement while she was looking for spiders for an early childhood education class and Michael was making paddles with her brother David; they were both Fenwicks. Patricia and Michael celebrated 39 years of marriage last July.



MARY (MCDONOUGH) '78 AND ROGER '78 BODDIE met at Fitchburg State in 1974. They enjoyed classes together and had great times with many mutual friends. They dated for most of their college years and married weeks after receiving their degrees. During almost 40 years together, they have raised a family, taught at various levels, continued their education, built their own home and flipped a multi-family house. Mary and Roger both have their master's degrees from Bridgewater State

and Roger earned his Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study there as well. Roger retired as a middle school principal and is busy with a new career as a school construction manager. To stay active, they spend time working towards their next 5K race. They always have a couple of ocean cruises scheduled for vacations. But their greatest joy comes from their family, two sons, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

JOSEPH '79 AND SHARON (HAVERTY) '79 HEHN were married by Father Jim Houston (former Newman Center chaplain) in 1983. They were the 1979 King and Queen of the Winter Carnival, held at the now defunct Chateau de Ville in Framingham. They still keep in close contact with many friends from Fitchburg State, especially the Fenwicks, Adelphians, basketball and soccer teams, and attend the many alumni parties organized by Bob Quinn and the Alumni Association.

RICK '81 AND CARLENE (WYCKSTROM) '83 NORTON met in September 1979 after a Fenwick Society event at the civic center. Their first date was lunch at Slattery's followed by frisbee on the athletic field.

Rick, a member and former president of the Fenwick Society, and Carlene, a self-proclaimed "Pearl Street Girl," enjoyed many events with friends from Fitchburg State College, eventually marrying in May of 1985. They still see many of the Fenwicks and Pearl Street Girls socially for golf and weekends away.

They now have two grown children and have been lifelong educators (elementary school principal and middle school teacher, respectively) in Manchester, N.H. For them, life is good, and it all started on the wall in front of Aubuchon Hall.

CAROLANN (GERRIOR) '82 AND MICHAEL '83 MONOPOLI met junior year and had their first date at the Winter Carnival. She was a Tokalon and he a Mohawk. They've been married for 33 years.



PAUL '82 AND DEBRA (PARLENGAS) '81 TAAFE met at a party, not at the Newman Center as they've been telling their kids all these years. It was a house party on Myrtle Avenue, September 9, 1979, soon after the fall semester had started. Paul noticed the pretty blond girl with sparkly green eyes right away but was too shy

to actually talk to her. At the party, the group began playing frisbee with his hat, but the pretty blond girl wouldn't toss it back so, finally, Paul had to go talk to her. A week or so later, he noticed the same pretty girl as he was walking home, and he quickened his pace so he could "accidentally" bump into her. That was the first time he walked Deb home, but not the last. Their first formal dance was Winter Carnival, February 6, 1981. This year they will be dancing at their son's wedding.



MICHELLE (BLEAU) '84 AND DANIEL '84 ARONSON met at Fitchburg State and just had the pleasure of seeing their son Samuel graduate in May as the Professional Communications Student of the Year. This year marks Michelle and Daniel's 30th anniversary. She is a secondary special education teacher and has a master's degree in counseling psychology from Anna Maria College and an educational specialist degree from Bay

Path University. Daniel is the director of business development for Nokia. Samuel is attending UMass Dartmouth for a graduate degree in professional writing and was awarded a teaching fellowship in writing.

BETH (LONG) '85 AND DANIEL '85 DENEEN met in a classroom at McKay Campus School. They have two daughters and still are best friends.

MARK '85 AND MARY-ANN (CONNOLLY) '85 WIDENER met briefly in the spring of 1981 during their freshman year through a mutual friend. A week later Mark had to read Mary-Ann a "bedtime story" as part of his Gaveleer pledging. During this time, she pledged Tokalon.



It wasn't until after this that they actually had a conversation. It was at a pretzel-making party, and to this day they can't remember making pretzels. They have been together ever since.

Mark and Mary-Ann have been married 31 years, have two children, and are awaiting their first grandchild. Through all the good and bad times, there have been lots of love and laughter, and best of all, he still makes her smile.

GARY '86 AND DEB (TOR) '85 CLARK married in August 1987. They met in G-lobby of the campus student center on Labor Day 1983.

MICHELLE (CARON) '88 AND JOHN '87, '90 KING met at an off-campus party in 1986 while they were attending Fitchburg State. They married in August 1989. They have twin boys, Devin and Tyler, who are 22 years old, and a daughter, Lilly, who is 17. They say they find it hard to believe so much time has gone by, but those college days still stand out in their minds and shaped the path of their adult lives.



SHELLEY (SMITH) '88 AND ROBERT '89 SNIDER never had a class together, despite being in the same department, but noticed each other from afar from the editing rooms inside the tech building. By chance, they both had work-study jobs at the campus center. Shelley was a shift manager and Robert needed training on the phone switchboard. That is how their story began, back in the fall of 1987.

After graduation, Shelley moved back home to figure out a career plan, while Robert had one more year of college

to finish. Truly always a romantic at heart, Robert proposed on New Year's Eve 1988, precisely at midnight when the fireworks celebration lit up the Boston skyline. They married the following year. Fast forward to today: they have three children, fulfilling their dreams of building a family together, achieving successful careers, living in the suburbs and getting that little house with a white picket fence. Their eldest child is now a junior at Fitchburg State, and they have enjoyed coming back to the campus and reminiscing.

KELLY (FITZSIMMONS) '88 AND JOEL '87 WETHERELL married in October 1988. Three kids, two grandchildren and 29 years later, they are still going strong. Joel proposed to Kelly in the Townhouses in September 1987.

BRAD '91 AND COURTNEY (PHANEUF) '92 EISENHAURE met at Fitchburg State and are happy to report that their daughter Zoe just started her first semester as a Falcon in fall 2017.

MARY BETH (BROHEL) '91 AND JUSTIN '91 PALLIS met and started dating on February 14, 1988. They met through a mutual friend at Fitchburg State, Lori (O'Donnell) Alcock '91. In January 1992 they were engaged, and they married on October 17, 1992. Mary Beth and Justin celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this October. Their first born, Kate Ellen, graduated from Bridgewater State in 2016 with her BA, and then received her master's from Trinity University Dublin in 2017. Their youngest, Meg Elizabeth, attends UMass Lowell. They say they feel very blessed to be a very committed couple not only to each other, but also to their alma mater.

PAM (RYER) '93 AND JIM '94 DEVENY met at a Greek social event. Chris Manfredi '93 helped make it happen. They have two boys.



KEITH '93 AND CARRIE (VALETTA) '94 GENTILI met on the steps of 30 Gage Street in the fall of 1991. They crossed paths a few times that semester before becoming a couple on November 23. The following fall, Keith took an internship with the United State Luge Association in Lake Placid, leaving Carrie in Fitchburg to continue her course work. In January he decided to make a surprise trip to Fitchburg, in a snowstorm nonetheless, only to find out that she had had the same idea and headed north to see him in Lake Placid. Fortunately, she waited for him while he made the trek back. It was during this long final slice of a road trip that he knew they would spend their lives together.

They were married in November 1998, but those five years between the snowstorm and their wedding day were filled with long-distance commutes. In total, he made 81 round-trips from Virginia to Massachusetts before moving back to complete their wedding plans.

MICHAEL '95 AND LAURA (HEALY) '91 HERTER met in 1991 at Slattery's. Twenty-five years and four adult children later, they are still happily married.



JAMES '95 AND PENNY (EATON) '96 MCCABE met late in the summer of 1992 as they were moving into off-campus apartments before the start of classes. She was working at a mall kiosk and he hung back while a fraternity brother flirted with her. Fortunately for James, there wasn't a connection between them. The next night, he and Penny started talking at a pre-semester party on Gage Street.

They were together every single day for the rest of the semester, and dated through graduation.

Penny and James moved to Townsend and married in 1999, having their first child in 2003 and a second in 2005. They moved to their current home in Littleton in 2008. Penny is a teacher in Acton-Boxborough schools, and James is a marketing manager at MathWorks, with a growing photography business on the side.

PAULA (FERAZZI) '95 AND CHRISTOPHER '96 SWIFT met at Fitchburg State in 1993 and married in 1999. Coincidentally, they each have cousins who met their spouses at Fitchburg State in the 2000s.

BRANDY '02 AND LYNNE (FITZGERALD) '03 SALES met through mutual friends who lived where she did, in Herlihy. He was an RA in Aubuchon. On May 21, 2004, Brandy proposed to Lynne on the Quad. They were married in 2005 in Fitchburg and had their rehearsal dinner in the Underground in the campus student center.

JENA MARIE (PAOLILLI) '03 AND DAVE '04 DIPINTO met in Mara 425 17 years ago and have been married for 10 years.

HEATHER (MCKEOWN) '03 AND BRIAN '03 WILLIAMS met in Mara building 7 in 1998. They have been together since 1999 and were married in 2004. They have three children.



JAMES '07 AND ELIZABETH (DUNLAVEY) '07

WADDINGTON met in their spring 2006 classic-mythology class, but they never spoke to each other. That September they were both invited by different friends to the same Townhouse party, but neither wanted to go. Coincidentally, they later changed their minds, spoke with each other at the party, and

the rest is history. A few days later, on September 29, 2006, they had their first date at Asian Imperial Garden restaurant in Lunenburg. After dating for five years, they were married on August 13, 2011, in Andover. Their first son, Logan, was born in 2013 and their second son, Jackson, in 2017. Libby works in the Andover Public Schools and Jay works for WhiteWater out of Charlton. They live in Andover.



PAIGE (THERIAULT) '13 AND JONATHAN '10 CARUSO met in September of her freshman year; he was a junior. They started dating that October and have been together ever since. He proposed while she was still a student, and three months after her graduation they were married, on August 18, 2012.

This year they celebrate five years of marriage, and in that time, they have experienced the birth of their first son, who passed away at 6 months old from a heart defect in 2015. They were blessed with another little boy, who just turned 1. The couple has been through more grief than some couples experience in a lifetime, but through it all, they have only grown stronger.

ERIN (KILLAM) '13 AND TAYLOR '13 TOOLEY met their sophomore year at Fitchburg state in 2009. Erin was a tour guide, and Taylor was on one of her tours, looking to transfer from Quinsigamond Community College. After the tour she invited him to join her and

her friends to experience the night life at Fitchburg, and they hit it off. The couple have been together for seven years, and married for two.

SARAH (KOWALSKY) '14 AND ANDREW '14 JABLONSKI met at Fitchburg State in the fall of 2011. They were in global issues class together, but didn't really speak. Sarah began to notice that Andrew was frequently missing class and later learned that this was due to his grandfather's passing. The semester ended, and they figured they would never see each other again. Then in the spring of 2012, they both had an education class together, and the moment Andrew walked into the room, Sarah knew he was the one. A few classes later she decided to drum up conversation, and from that moment on, they began to talk more and more. They worked together on a class project, and after about three months, they finally went on their first date to the movies. A month after graduation, Andrew asked Sarah to marry him. They were wed three months later in September 2014.

ARE YOU A LEADER?

JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

We're looking for a few good alumni to join the Alumni Association Board! Contact alumni@fitchburgstate.edu for more information or to nominate someone. Nominations may be submitted at any time, but the deadline for July consideration is March 1.

OFFICERS

Eric Gregoire '11, President
Nicholas Smith '11, President-Elect
Jim Walsh '75, Treasurer
Nancy Foss Yasko '11, '13, Secretary

DIRECTORS

John Caron '65
Rob Comeau '93
Eric Commodore '90
Monica Cuccovia '12
David Demosthenes '17
Mary Dennen '62, '76
Beverly Farias '52
John Garten '89
Ian James '09
Amanda Kelly '07
William Mahoney '65
Donna May '04, '09
Serena-Rose McVickar '11
Mark Monahan '10
Dawn Morton '90
Tuan Nguyen, A.L.M. '91
Frank O'Donnell '93 (alumni trustee)
Robert "Biff" Quinn '81
Joshua Rosenthal '18, Student Representative
Petr Soustal '16

CLASS NOTES

This Class Notes section includes news that was received between June 21, 2017, and Oct. 31, 2017. Because of the nature of a bi-annual publication and the volume of notes we receive, you should expect to see your note about six months after you submit your information.

1970S

JOHN W. KUSEK '71 retired from the Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., after nearly 34 years of service. Kusek specialized in clinical research studies, including clinical trials, of chronic kidney disease and non-malignant urologic conditions. He published over 300 scientific papers and presented research findings nationally and internationally.

PATRICK W. MEAGHER '75 retired from Carver Public Schools as assistant superintendent for business and finance.

JAMES R. JELLISON '77 led the Falcons to claim the MASCAC men's cross-country championship for the second time in three years. He was named the 2017 Champion's Choice Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year as voted on by his peers for leading the Falcons to this year's crown.

ELLEN M. (WHITNEY) SHARPE '79 was named maternal and child health program manager for Home Health VNA. Sharpe will lead a staff of 17 registered nurses who provide prenatal and postpartum services to mothers and newborns, and complex, technologically advanced medical care to infants and children.

1980S

ROBERT A. HALL '80 started work in July as a part-time writer-editor for the "My Life, My Story" project at the Madison, Wis., VA Hospital, interviewing veterans and writing their life stories for their medical records, with copies for the family. MLMS started in Madison, but is being replicated at other VAs, including in Boston.

DEBRA A. DUNNE '82 left her post as superintendent of schools in York, Maine, to assume the role as principal at Long Lots Elementary School in Westport, Conn.

KEITH J. LANZILOTTI '82 is the owner and CEO of Well Being Total Home Care, a private home care agency based in Leominster that cares for seniors in their homes. For more than five years he has built a business that caters to the personal needs of families wishing to keep their loved ones at home. After nearly 30 years in high-tech, marketing, sales and management positions, Lanzilotti sought a change and all roads led to starting his own business.

KEVIN M. BLUTE '83 retired from Mashpee High School as its applied technology teacher after being there since 2001. The MHS senior class asked him to speak at graduation this year. Before coming to Mashpee, he taught at East Bridgewater High and Rockland Junior High. He devoted 34 years to the education profession.

LIZA J. MCFADDEN '83, of Tallahassee, Fla has been appointed to the board of directors of K12 Inc., a technology-based education company and provider of online curriculum and school programs for students in pre-K through high school. McFadden is president and CEO of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.

LISA M. (SAWYER) REDMOND '83 retired from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts after 32 years of service. Lisa held various positions within the Department of Correction for 20 years, and then with the Parole Board for 12 years.

PETER H. REYNOLDS '83, children's book author and illustrator, received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award by the Boy Scouts of America and the National Eagle Scout Association at a ceremony in November.

KAREN S. (LEBLANC) MORAN '85 published a three-book romantic suspense series through Kensington Publishing Corp., under the pen name Kari Lemor.

LISA A. FORGET '88, of Westminster, is part owner and vice president of Bedford Specialty Sales in Shirley.

BRIAN J. CROSSMAN '89, who has been the coach of Acton-Boxborough's indoor and outdoor boys track teams since 2006, recently learned he earned a spot in the Massachusetts State Track Coaches Association's Athletes Hall of Fame.



LOUIS J. FALCONE '89 threw out the first pitch at the Cotuit Kettleers' Cape Cod Baseball League game this summer, representing Fitchburg State, who sponsored the game. As a student, Falcone played four years for the Falcons men's baseball team. A longtime resident of Cape Cod, Falcone has been an educator in the Falmouth Public Schools for the last 28 years and currently teaches fifth grade at the Morse Pond School. (Photo below courtesy kettleers.org)



CATHERINE F. SILVER '89 retired this summer from Winnacunnet High School in Hampton, N.H., where she taught marine biology for 28 years. Throughout her 36-year teaching career, Silver received several awards. In 2009 she received the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Teacher at Sea Award. She was named New Hampshire Biology Teacher of the Year in 2007

and National Marine Educators' Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 2005. In 2000 she received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching. She is perhaps most proud of the opportunity in 2005 to christen a ship, the Henry B. Bigelow, which now makes its home in Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Falmouth. In her retirement, Silver will serve as director of the Blue Ocean Discovery Center on Hampton Beach throughout the summer, and then travel to all of the national parks as well as Niagara Falls and the Caribbean.



1990S

DAVID T. GECOYA '92, a lieutenant detective in the Saugus Police Department, has had a police horse named in his honor by The Horses and Heroes Foundation, a Revere-based foundation that honors men and women of law enforcement who have distinguished themselves with bravery and exemplary service to their job. The 1,400-pound horse will be called L.T., but his legal name will be Lt. Det. David Gecoya. Lt. Gecoya had received the Medal of Honor for his role in a police chase in the pursuit of a bank robbery and carjacking suspect in 2012. Lt. Gecoya played a crucial role in the detainment of the suspect and in bringing others involved to safety. In 2013 Lt. Gecoya was awarded Massachusetts' highest honor for bravery, the Trooper George L. Hanna Award, for his role in the chase. Lt. Gecoya has been with the Saugus Police Department since 1996.



JOSEPH P. TRAVERSO '92 was recently promoted to manager of IT security and compliance for ScerLS Inc., a software developer in Sudbury.

KEITH D. BOISSONEAU '93 joined the Mount Wachusett Community College Foundation board of directors. Boissoneau has been with Sterilite Corp. in Townsend since 1997, serving as vice president of finance since 2001.



JASON R. KOIVU '95 released his first novel, *Beyond Barlow*, this September.

MICHAEL S. ALBA '98 and **MICHAEL F. POLETTO '99** are both proud Sigma Pi fraternity brothers who work for the New York Police Department. Poletto, on the job since 1999, is an officer in Disorder Control, a group specialized in combating large-scale riots and maintaining order and control. Alba started his career in the NYPD in 2007 after several years of persuading by Poletto. He works in the NYC Housing Authority, the city's low-income projects, and has worked in both the South Bronx and Brooklyn North.

Every year these two work the U.S. Open with the hopes of seeing each other, which gets more difficult every year as the detail grows with more police presence and units protecting the public. Coincidentally, their work partners are both Sigma Pi brothers from other chapters. (Photo was taken during U.S. Open Detail outside Arthur Ashe Stadium)

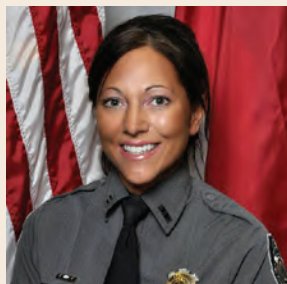


DAVID A. ANWAR '98 was named New Mexico State University's men's basketball assistant coach. Anwar comes to NMSU after spending the past five seasons at North Texas, where he served as the team's lead recruiter. Before that he spent six years at Nebraska, where he worked mainly with the guards and forwards. The Philadelphia, Pa., native began his coaching at the prep level, where he saw over 40 of his players continue their careers at the Division I or II levels.

2000s

MARIA M. VAZQUEZ '01 published her first book, *Super Sparkly Everything*. Vazquez says her mission is to help others by sharing her life lessons and knowledge.

KELLY A. TRANTER '02 was selected by the Greensboro Police Department (North Carolina) to lead its Forensic Services Division. Ms. Tranter was a crime scene investigator before this promotion. Tranter joined GPD in 2004.



JOHN D. WHITTEMORE '03, of Merrimac, was named as day services director to manage the Day Habitation and Community Based Day Services programs, at CLASS Inc., in Lawrence. He will be responsible for the two programs supporting people with developmental or intellectual disabilities in employment, community inclusion and life skills development and support. Whittemore spent eight years at the Institute of Professional Practice in Fitchburg, most recently as the assistant director of adult services, managing 11 programs and 50 direct-care employees. For six years before that, he worked at Eliot Community Services in Dorchester and Worcester, facilitating the day-to-day operations of a detention unit for high-risk adolescent males being held for criminal behavior. Whittemore earned a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice at Fitchburg State.



GO FALCONS CHALLENGE

Our first ever Go Falcons Challenge was a huge success this fall. Nearly 600 donors, many of them giving for the first time, pledged more than \$15,000 to support our student athletes.

Ninety-one players, representing every Falcons team, joined forces with cheerleaders and other students to engage with alumni for a fun-filled event that spanned the campus. Freddy the Falcon also got involved, helping spread the word that the Challenge was on. The women's softball team won the day, with the most donations received, and while the Go Falcons Challenge is over, you can still make a gift to your favorite sport today or any day by visiting www.fitchburgstate.edu/falconsgive.

FISK NURSING SCHOLARSHIP CREATED

Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Fisk '58 loved earning her degree at Fitchburg State, and later, returning to campus as a faculty member for 20 years. After her death seven years ago, her husband, Richard Fisk decided the best way to honor her memory was through one of the largest stock gifts ever given to the Fitchburg State University Foundation, Inc. That gift has now taken the form of the Richard P. and Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Fisk Nursing Scholarship.

The endowed scholarship will give a rising junior nursing student a \$5,000 scholarship based on academic merit and leadership that also is renewable for their senior year. Fisk visited the campus in the fall to tour the nursing labs in Thompson Hall, which have evolved considerably since his wife's teaching days. He also met with students who expressed gratitude for his family's generosity and admiration for the quality education they are receiving.

"She would have loved this," Fisk said. "This was a special place for her, and my kids are elated. She was teaching 24/7, and she absolutely loved it. She took a personal interest in all of her students."

Students may apply for the Richard P. and Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Fisk Nursing Scholarship—and hundreds of others—by visiting fitchburgstate.academicworks.com.

UPWARD BOUND

Thanks to a five-year, \$257,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Fitchburg State will be able to provide academics and college readiness support services to 60 Fitchburg and Leominster high school students through its Upward Bound Math and Science program.

Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science programs are part of a cluster of federal programs referred to as TRIO that provide opportunities for participants to succeed in their pre-college performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits.

For 28 years, Fitchburg State has hosted Upward Bound, a year-round college preparatory program serving 87 low-income, academically motivated, first generation prospective college students with great success. Pushing this model further, Upward Bound Math and Science focuses the curriculum to prepare similar students for postsecondary education programs that lead to careers in math and science.

Participants receive supports including tutoring services, rigorous coursework, and a six-week residential summer component.

JENNIFER L. FLANAGAN '04, of Leominster, resigned her state senate seat effective Aug. 31 to become Gov. Charlie Baker's appointee to the state's Cannabis Control Commission. Flanagan had worked at the Statehouse since the mid-1990s and served in the Legislature for 13 years. She was elected to the House representing Leominster in 2004 and served two terms before being elected to the Senate in the Worcester and Middlesex District in 2008. Before being elected to the Legislature, she was an aide for state Rep. Mary Jane Simmons.

RAY D. PELECKAS '04 is the owner of BodyBurn by Ray, a group fitness studio in Belmont.

JAMES M. BUNNELL '05, '11 was named athletic director for the Saugus Public Schools. Bunnell has served as an athletic director for 15 years. Before the position in Saugus he served in the same capacity at the North Middlesex Regional School District and Marian High School. At St. Peter-Marian in Worcester, where he began his academic career, he served as assistant athletic director, social studies/science teacher and varsity boys soccer coach. Two years ago, Bunnell received the Ted Damko Award for District E. This award is given to athletic directors within their first five years who make significant contributions to their school athletic department and the MIAA.

CHRISTINE V. HOOGASIAN '05 completed her doctor of nursing practice degree in May. She has been working as a nurse practitioner since 2008 and will begin teaching MSN students online this fall as a nursing professor.

TIMOTHY B. VERNON '06 is a top performer in Eversource Energy's Westwood call center. Vernon, who is blind, credits his success to the accommodations Eversource provides to ensure he reaches his full potential. The company's and his accomplishments were celebrated by UMass Medical School's Work Without Limits at the 2017 Raise the Bar Hire! Conference this October. Vernon was presented the Exemplary Employee Award, given annually to a person who provides top-notch service in a team environment. The Mansfield resident has earned exceptional customer satisfaction scores

during his eight years on the job, and was promoted earlier this year to senior customer service representative. He uses Braille and adaptive technology to handle phone and e-mail inquiries from customers.

RICHARD C. ROCHE '07 exhibited his "plein air" landscape paintings during the month of June at the 1717 Shoppe in Westborough.

SHAWN P. CORRIGAN '09 was promoted to the rank of sergeant in the Maynard Police Department. Corrigan is a military veteran and joined the police force in 2009.

BIANCA F. LAW '09 joined Mayhew Steel Products' marketing department.

2010S



MARCIO J. CIRINO '10 has been promoted to the position of retail lending officer at Rollstone Bank &

Trust, where he began as a teller in 2011. Cirino moved to the lending division in 2014.

GIORDANA M. COTE '11 began this summer as the new assistant principal of the Kenneth C. Coombs School in Mashpee. Cote is a native of Winnipeg, Saskatchewan, Canada, and moved to Dennis in 2002, after vacationing on Cape Cod years earlier. She previously worked as an instructional coach, training teachers and other staff over the past five years at the three elementary schools in the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District.



BENJAMIN T. SMOLSKI '11 was named head football coach at his alma mater, Newburyport High School. Smolski spent the past two seasons as a defensive coordinator at NHS and was the assistant head coach in 2016 as well.

LAUREN A. CARCHIDI '12 was hired this fall as the new prekindergarten teacher at the Hildreth Elementary School in Harvard.

THOMAS C. HART '12 has served as a school resource police officer for the Walpole school district since January 2017. Before joining the police department in 2013, Hart worked in the Walpole school district for four years as an aide and later as a behavioral specialist in the special education department.



KASEY M. (GREEN) QUINN '14 is one of the newest members of the Framingham Police Department. Quinn was hired after graduating from the Reading Police Academy.

ILENE S. BLOOM '15, of Revere, earned a master's degree in health care administration at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

PATRICK L. GENDRON '15 was promoted to head football coach at his alma mater, Westford Academy. Gendron had been on the Grey Ghosts' staff since 2009 in assistant roles. He has been a phys-ed teacher at the school since 2010.

DAVID T. LIU '15 graduated from the Rhode Island Police Academy this August and has joined the Providence Police Department. He has served in the Massachusetts Army National Guard for the past seven years as an infantryman and served one tour in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

ERIC N. BERGQUIST '16 wrote and directed the film *Analogic*, which tells the story of the challenges of a college student struggling with interpersonal skills related to having an autism spectrum disorder, Asperger's syndrome. Bergquist's latest endeavor, *The Chronic Adventure Story*, will feature many of the returning cast and crew from *Analogic*.

JOSHUA A. BREWSTER '16 was tapped to play for the Eastern Football League's Bay State Bucs as a wide receiver.



KEVIN R. DAGGETT '16, will produce a documentary film for North TV (North Attleboro Community Television) focusing on people on the autism spectrum and how the disability affects their lives and the lives of those close to them. Daggett, who previously produced a short video featuring friends on the autism spectrum, hopes to expand the documentary to give others an opportunity to express their own points of view and promote understanding.

KEVIN F. DE CARVALHO '17 graduated from the Northern Essex Community College/ Methuen Police Academy in July. He is currently a police officer in Haverhill.



KRISTIN L. JACOBS '17 will serve as Roger Williams University's new director

of athletics, intramurals and recreation. Since 2010, Jacobs has held the position of associate athletics director at Springfield College, and from 2006–2010 she was associate athletics director at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. Before that, she worked as aquatics director and head woman's swimming coach at Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Va. Jacobs has been named coach of the year 11 times: five times in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference and six times in the Atlantic States Championship. She earned a master's of business administration from Fitchburg State University in 2017.

SUBMIT
A
CLASS NOTE

To place a Class Note, Celebration, Introduction, or In Memoriam in *Contact*, please visit <https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/alumni/resources/alumni-updates-and-requests-form/> and fill out the form online. *Contact* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

Photos should be at least 3.5 inches wide and have a resolution of at least 300 dpi. If you mail a glossy print to us, please make sure to include your contact information and the names of any people in the photo.

IN MEMORIAM

In Memoriam honors alumni and current or retired employees who have passed away. Space limitations may compel us to alter and edit submissions.



**FITCHBURG STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Notes can also be mailed to Contact magazine, Fitchburg State University, 160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420.

IN MEMORIAM

FACULTY

JOSEPH ANGELINI, of Leominster, retired Fitchburg State University mathematics professor and former head dean of admissions, on August 5, 2017.

DR. THOMAS BATTINELLI, of Somerville, on July 12, 2017. Battinelli served in the Army during the Korean War, returning home to earn a B.A. from Boston University, an M.A. from Boston College and a D.Ed. from Boston University. He was a well-loved and respected professor at Fitchburg State University from 1960-2004. He published three books on a variety of topics in physical education and health and was working on a fourth manuscript at the time of his death.

DR. GEORGE W. BOND, of Lunenburg, professor of biology from 1973 until his retirement in 2004, on September 25, 2017.

1940S

LILLIAN S. (SZOCIK) GRIFFITHS '41, of Lunenburg, on September 30, 2017.

LUCY (FRATICELLI) SCARAMUZZI '47, of Leominster, on June 4, 2017.

1950S

GERALD H. RICHARDSON '50, of Greenville, S.C., on July 29, 2017.

DONALD B. KEEFE '52, of Townsend, on August 25, 2017.

MARTHA (FOUGSTEDT) MCKENNA '55, of Rye, N.H., on June 11, 2017.

MARGARET L. (BAKER) KENT '56, of Wells, Maine, on September 5, 2017.

JOHN P. WALSH '58, of Pawtucket, R.I., on September 4, 2017.

1960S

JUDITH G. (DUNCKLEE) LANZA '60, of Leominster, on June 14, 2017.

FRANK S. LENTINE '60, of Danvers, on August 8, 2017.

JOYCE M. (HALPIN) MILLER '63, of Shrewsbury, on July 12, 2017.

JOSEPH ALPERT '66, of Manchester, Conn., on September 12, 2017.

SALLY A. BELK '68, of Leominster, on August 5, 2017.

1970S

CHARLES D. SAMARDELIS '74, of Haverhill, on September 17, 2017.

GALE B. YOUNG-RODRIGUE '78, of Fairfield, Maine, on July 10, 2017.

1980S

CHARLES "CHUCK" KRYSIENIEL, '82, of Seattle, Wash., on August 22, 2017.

1990S

MARILYN J. SCHREINER '83, of Lunenburg, on July 21, 2017.

SHANNA D. ZIDE '95, of Chestnut Hill, on July 19, 2017.

CHRISTINE J. KOWACKI '98, '01, of Orange, on July 24, 2017.

CHARLES "CHUCK" KRYSIENIEL, '82, of Seattle, Wash., on August 22, 2017.

GEORGIA A. PASQUALONE '99, of Arlington, on June 12, 2017.

2010S

JOHN HENDRICKSON '12, of Gardner, on August 16, 2017.

**What's
your
story?
We want
to know!**

**What
was your
internship,
clinical, or
practicum
experience
like?**

**SEND US
YOUR STORY
alumni@
fitchburgstate.edu**



**FITCHBURG STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

EVENTS



Falcons at Cape Cod – The Alumni Association made its annual trek to Cape Cod in July, where alumni enjoyed a first-time event at the First Crush Winery in Harwich.



Varnum Brook Elementary School (Pepperell) Alumni Appreciation Event in September



Alumni Men's Soccer Game, August 2017



Gold Key Society Breakfast at Homecoming



Class of 1967's 50th Reunion at Homecoming



Criminal Justice Alumni Reunion at Homecoming

 **FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



**10-DAY BRITISH
LANDSCAPES TOUR**
featuring England, Scotland and Wales
June 9 -18, 2018

For more information
and to reserve your seat,
contact Whitcomb Travel
at **978-537-0751**.



Or visit: gateway.gocollette.com/link/794794



The alumni office makes its best effort to notify alumni of upcoming events through its Contact magazine, monthly e-newsletters, e-mails, postcards and personal invitations. If you miss us too, make sure we have your most current contact information on file by calling or emailing us.

 **FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
978-665-4555 | alumni@fitchburgstate.edu



FITCHBURG STATE ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Do you remember that stellar athlete from your college days? That superstar you looked forward to cheering on each week? Nominate him/her for the next Hall of Fame induction class of student athletes, teams and contributors in 2018. Nominations will be accepted through March 1, 2018.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, VISIT: fitchburgfalcons.com/InsideAthletics/Alumni

Join us for a **GRADUATE EDUCATION FAIR**
February 20, 2018 / 1 – 5:30 PM / Hammond Main Lounge

 **FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**
GRADUATE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

fitchburgstate.edu/graduatefair
978-665-3182



Alumni Association
160 Pearl Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Change Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit 8
North Reading MA



125th Anniversary CELEBRATION

Details coming soon!

