



FITCHBURG STATE
UNIVERSITY

Contact

WINTER 2019



**TO SERVE
AND PROTECT**

Law and order disciplines
are adapting to the times—pp 6-23

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“THIS PROGRAM GIVES US THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS, WITH POLICE OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT ONLY HIGHLY TRAINED TO SERVE AND PROTECT, BUT ALSO HIGHLY EDUCATED AND EXPOSED TO MANY PHILOSOPHICAL AND STRATEGIC ELEMENTS OF POLICING.”

—Municipal Police Training Committee Executive Director Daniel Zivkovich, addressing the first recruit officer class of the university’s police program. See story, page 6.

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“CHALLENGING THE STATUS QUO”

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Fitchburg State has a long, distinguished history of producing many of the state’s teachers, nurses, media and business professionals. Yet less well known is the work we do to support police, probation, judicial, law, human services and cybersecurity careers.

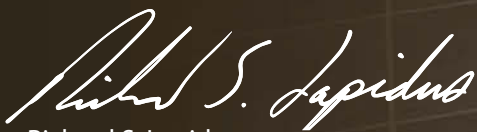
Many alumni featured in this issue came up through our criminal justice program while others took a more interdisciplinary approach. All reflect the unique “applied learning” aspects of a Fitchburg State education.

For example, our groundbreaking 4+1 Police Program—believed to be the first of its kind—sets a new standard for police education. It combines a 4-year bachelor’s and 1-year master’s degree, as well as certification to work full-time in municipal police departments across Massachusetts. By integrating classroom learning with hands-on training, graduates hone critical thinking and problem solving skills and can begin work immediately, saving cities time and expense.

In November, the university once again hosted the American Collegiate Moot Court Regional Tournament, where students obtain first-hand experience presenting legal arguments. Many alumni cite how the program inspired them to go to law school and become attorneys.

In addition, the university announced a partnership with the Worcester District Attorney’s Office on a new approach to fight the state’s opioid epidemic. Faculty will collect and review local data correlated with overdose deaths to pinpoint neighborhoods of concern, allowing law enforcement to identify larger-scale drug dealing networks. All of this made possible through the DA’s securing six-figure federal grants received, in part, because of the expert scholarship our researchers bring to the cause.

As a public institution, we seek opportunities like these to integrate ourselves into our communities. Not just in criminal justice, but across all fields. I invite you to read these stories of personal growth, discovery and hope. I think you will be pleased to learn just how far our impact extends.



Richard S. Lapidus
President

REPRESENTATIVE



CAMPUS NEWS



ONLINE OFFERINGS GO NATIONAL

This fall, Fitchburg State became the first public, four-year institution in Massachusetts to gain approval to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), allowing students from across the country to enroll in the university's online programs.

"Participation in SARA presents a great opportunity for students from across the U.S. to take advantage of Fitchburg State's robust online offerings," President Lapidus said.

The university offers several completely online graduate and undergraduate degrees, including three different MBA programs (accounting, management, and human resources management), a Master of Science in nursing (forensic) and Master of Education programs in curriculum and teaching and educational leadership and management. To learn more about Fitchburg State's online offerings, visit fitchburgstate.edu/academics/100-online.

UNIVERSITY LAUDED FOR EQUITY

A national study published this fall placed Fitchburg State in the top 10 public institutions in the nation for serving black students.

The report card from the University of Southern California's Race and Equity Center weighed a series of benchmarks to determine individual institutional scores, including representation, gender, completion, and student-faculty ratios.

President Lapidus said the recognition comes as the university continues its intentional campaign to increase diversity among the student body. Efforts like targeted student recruitment to investment in programs to support students and foster an inclusive campus climate are succeeding. "We are definitely moving in the right direction," he said.

ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity is an issue for college students across the country, and Fitchburg State has stepped up with a community response.

Several initiatives launched this fall to address the issue, led by the new Food and Necessities Insecurity Committee.

The Falcon Bazaar Necessities and Food Pantry in Hammond Hall is a place for community members to pick up food items including canned goods, milk, eggs, cheese and bread, along with personal care items such as deodorant and feminine hygiene products. There have already been dozens of visits to the space.

The Green Bag Program is letting all members of the campus community contribute. The committee distributed 250 canvas bags to offices across campus so members could purchase items for the Bazaar when out shopping. Filled bags are brought to the Bazaar to keep the shelves stocked. More than 1,600 pounds of food were donated by members of the university community in just its first month of operation.

Swipe It Forward lets students donate from their meal plans into a bank for students in need (by stepping forward for assistance or being referred by a third party). Once approved, a block of meals will be moved to the student's OneCard and can be used at any meal in the dining hall. The first Swipe It Forward campaign garnered 230 meals for the bank.



CLOUTIER HONORED

University Police Chief Michael J. Cloutier was named a 2018 recipient of the Manuel Carballo Governor’s Award for Excellence in Public Service. This award, named for the late secretary of human services and selected by the governor, is presented to just 10 state employees each year who exemplify the highest standards of public service.

The statewide distinction recognizes exceptional accomplishments; exemplary leadership; creativity and innovation; and achievement of significant improvements in productivity or cost savings in agency operations.

“Chief Cloutier, a member of our campus community since 2014, certainly embodies those attributes,” President Lapidus said. “As a first-generation college student, his drive and perseverance helped him achieve career success by overcoming some of the same early challenges many of today’s students experience.”

The chief is also credited with transforming the university’s emergency management operations and planning with proactive strategies and tactics. He also has demonstrated an unfailing commitment to creating and delivering new awareness and violence prevention programming.

“In short,” President Lapidus said, “he exemplifies all that makes our university so unique.”

The chief was recognized along with other recipients at the State House in December.



A GREAT IDEA

More than 30 members of the campus community and local political and business leaders gathered at the ideaLab in November to brainstorm about the future of the university’s investment in the heart of the city. The cross section of faculty, staff, students and community members took part.

“We went into this project listening to the community,” President Lapidus told the gathering. “We’re thinking about programming and the opportunities to bring groups together in meaningful ways.”

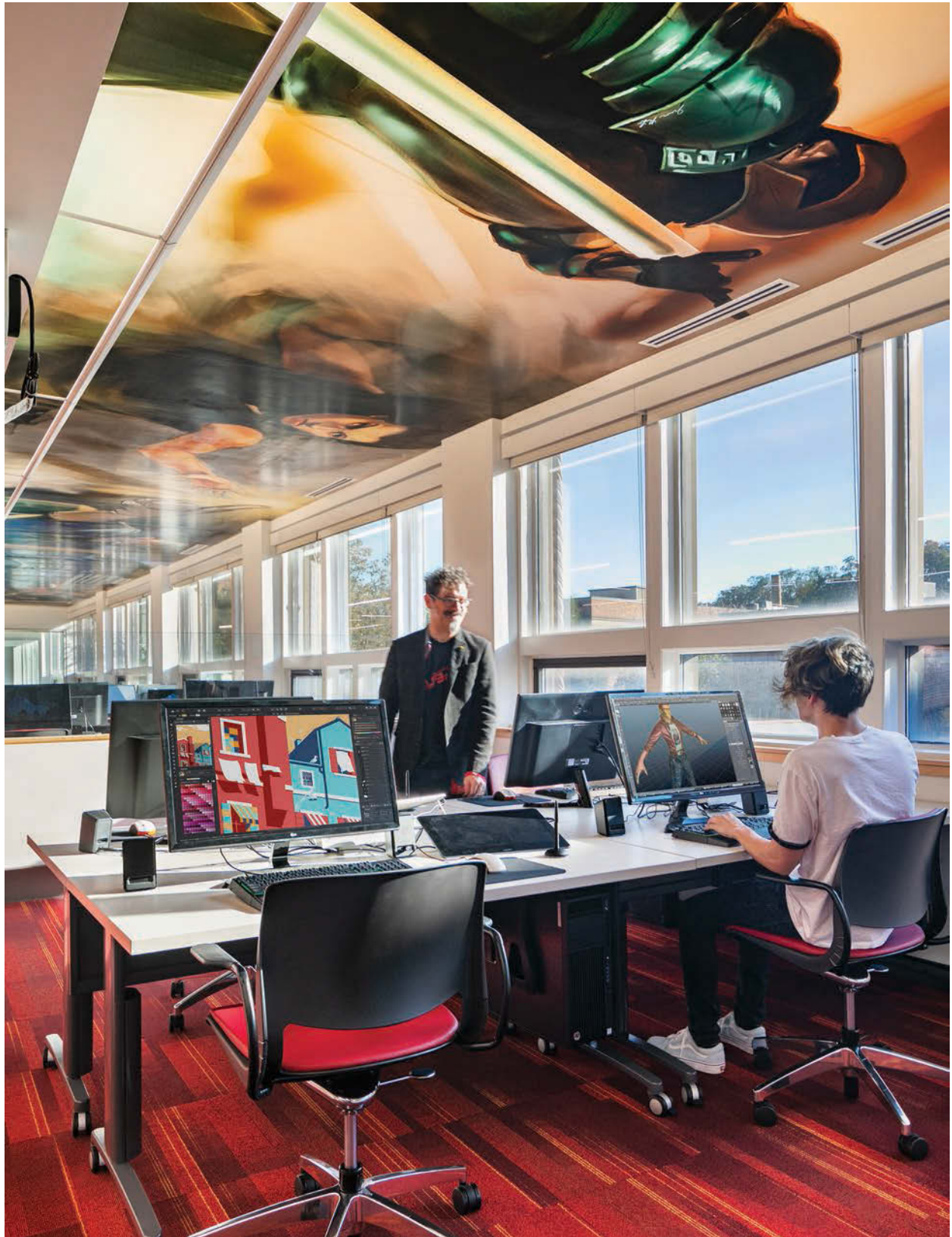
The ideaLab is on the second floor of the Main Street Theater Block and includes a state-of-the-art game design studio as well as multidisciplinary space that will be accessible to the wider public. The brainstorming “think tank” was designed to collect input from a variety of stakeholders about the potential future uses of the space, as well as insights on how to make downtown Fitchburg more inviting. The feedback gathered at the session will be distilled into a report for future strategizing by university and community groups.

The first academic classes in the game design studio will be held this spring.



ABOVE: Communications Media students Jonathan Stewart ‘18, Brandon Voek ‘18, Nick Cazmay ‘19, and Joshua Rife ‘19 designed the large mural that adorns the ceiling of the game studio in the ideaLab as seen on facing page. The completely original artwork represents the history and increasing sophistication of video games.

RIGHT: Communications Media Professor Jeffrey Warmouth and student Jules Stackhouse ‘19 are shown in the game studio at the ideaLab. Students in the university’s game design program will begin taking classes in the space in the spring semester.



TO SERVE AND PROTECT

Fitchburg State has a long and proud history of preparing citizens for careers and service that supports the public good.

That commitment is echoed in Fitchburg State's programs that support public safety, especially our new 4+1 Police Program that serves as an innovative model for police training not only in the state, but also across the world.

Our continually evolving academic programs prepare students for careers in criminal justice and the law, as well as for other fields that increasingly intersect with law enforcement like human services, nursing, computer science and geographic information systems.

Through our Center for Professional Studies, the campus regularly hosts trainings and conferences that help advance the skills of those in public safety. And our University Police Department offers a variety of community education courses that help students, faculty and staff stay vigilant and prepared.

In the pages that follow, you will learn more about some of our institutional efforts in these areas and the accomplished alumni who are making a difference in their communities.

Tyler Frati '18, '19 receives instruction at the shooting range from Millis Police Sgt. Corey Volpicelli.

TO SERVE AND PROTECT



READY FOR DUTY

The first recruit officer class of our groundbreaking police program has completed their training. Now they're ready to change the world.

On a warm fall afternoon, the first recruit officer class of Fitchburg State University's 4+1 Police Program took the oath of honor as badges were pinned to their chest. These nine students represent a bold experiment in police training, products of a program believed to be the first of its kind in the nation, if not in the world.

The five-year police program graduates police officers with both a bachelor's and master's degree, plus certification to work full-time in municipal police departments across Massachusetts. It combines academic classroom preparation with a rigorous, 17-week physical and tactical police academy that took place this summer.

The new 4+1 concept was attractive to many other local state universities, but only Fitchburg State was selected by the Commonwealth's Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) for its development and implementation.

"I'm extremely proud of this inaugural cohort and what they've accomplished," said Academy Director Lisa Lane McCarty. "This is the future of police training. These graduates have learned how to think critically to make better decisions, whether they're responding to a dangerous incident or working to resolve differences in the community. Law enforcement is evolving to work better with all people, remove unconscious biases and prevent adversarial scenarios."

"The training paradigm in policing is changing," said MPTC Executive Director Daniel Zivkovich. "This program gives us the best of both worlds, with police officers who are not only highly trained to serve and protect, but also highly educated and exposed to many philosophical and strategic elements of policing. Police chiefs are enthusiastic, too, because it saves their cities and towns the expense of sending new hires to police academies. These graduates can hit the streets and begin work immediately."

Daily academy workouts were complemented by firearms certification and emergency vehicle operations. The recruits practiced water rescue techniques and took an eye-opening tour of the state medical examiner's office. Their physical training included taking a blast of pepper spray to the face to see if they could function under stress.

"As a class, we have experienced blood, lots of sweat, and tears," said Class Leader Ryan J. Richard '18 of Shirley, who addressed his classmates at the graduation ceremony. "We learned that we are not nine individuals anymore, but we are a team. I would walk into any situation with you not knowing the outcome. We are a family born not from bloodline, but bonded in life by a blue one."

Tyler Frati '18 said, "I had an idea what I was in for, but all the practical training is pretty impressive," he said. "Prior to this I was never presented with something where I really questioned myself. To be able to go through this is something I'm definitely proud of."

Jami S. Parker '18 said she always dreamed of being a police officer. "I'm so happy I could be a part of it," she said. She even found joy from the rigors of physical training. "The program just builds you up. It automatically makes you a better person."

MPTC Executive Director Zivkovich said the graduates of the program have demonstrated a commitment to a demanding code of conduct. "I tell any chief that asks about the program that if you hire one of these men and women, you will get someone who has demonstrated persistence, dedication and commitment to the profession that other candidates have not had to do."

Several members of the recruit class have already been hired for full-time jobs in local police departments. To see the 2018 police program recruits in action, visit fitchburgstate.edu/criminaljustice.

TO SERVE AND PROTECT





The police program students honed their tactical skills during an exhaustive 17-week academy this summer.

OUR JOB IS HELPING PEOPLE

Harvard Police Chief Edward Denmark '98 has been a police professional for 28 years. In addition to his work in local departments, Chief Denmark has taught criminal justice courses at Fitchburg State and has consulted internationally on the topic.

IS THE POLICE PROFESSION CHANGING?

People have more expectations of police today, especially as the population becomes less homogeneous. Police are often scrutinized for use of force or treatment of minority groups, and those are behaviors that can be overcome by exposing yourself to people who aren't like you. You start to understand that, for the most part, people are the same.

WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION IN POLICING?

The whole premise of policing has transformed. It used to be the main focus was law enforcement, but now we realize it's more about overall safety and security. Education helps provide people with greater critical thinking skills, and that means police don't have to rely strictly on the law to try to maintain peace.

Police education today includes exposure to different cultures and psychological and sociological issues that can make officers better understand people's circumstances.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR EXPERIENCE TEACHING?

I've found the students to be very introspective. They ask a lot of questions, and their responses to the questions I pose show a level of deep thinking that is essential to becoming a successful police officer.

In the past, police officers have gone to school and later went to the academy, or vice versa. Those two experiences weren't necessarily tied together. The new Fitchburg State police program ties academic learning to vocational learning. I think that provides a better opportunity to take theory and put it into practice.

PLEASE TALK ABOUT A BENEFIT OF TYING POLICE TRAINING THEORY TO PRACTICE.

As a police officer, approximately 10 percent

or less of your job is actually law enforcement, even in the big cities. The reality is 90 percent of our calls are for service and helping people. That's one of the things that sticks in my head: Has police training ingrained in officers' minds that they're in constant danger? If that becomes the embedded belief, that impacts the way they respond to people. If someone reaches for a cell phone, you think they're reaching for a gun. You have to teach police recruits preparedness, but at the same time, you have to teach them that putting that skill into practice is rare. Most officers never pull their weapons. In training, recruits need to succeed through their patrol procedures or situational training without having to resort to force.

HOW IS FITCHBURG STATE'S PROGRAM PART OF THAT SOLUTION?

This focus on applied learning and critical thinking gets more deeply incorporated early on in someone's career. Anthropology, psychology, economics—all these areas of academic study intersect into what makes a society run and what makes people tick.

My crusade is getting people to understand the brain science and the human limitations under stress. How do you get someone who doesn't agree to see the other side of the story? It's hard to get people to recognize that we're more alike than we are different, and a difference of opinion doesn't necessarily make someone evil, nor is it a sign of mental or ethical deficiency.





COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Probation officers like Lynn Clifford '90 look for alternatives to incarceration.

Lynn Clifford '90 had her eyes opened by an undergraduate internship, working with drug-dependent adolescents in New Hampshire. "There were prep school kids as well as inner city kids, all with drug problems," she said. "I saw that substance

abuse doesn't discriminate.

"SUBSTANCE ABUSE DOESN'T
DISCRIMINATE"

And we found we could bring everyone together and create a community so they would have supports when they got home."

Seeing the person beyond their infraction has informed Clifford's practice for 23 years working for Massachusetts Probation Services. In the community corrections model, offenders take part in training and programming designed to help them address underlying issues.

"We show them there is a road to recovery without their going to jail," Clifford said.

That includes responding to the opioid crisis, which Clifford describes as "off the charts. We have people being revived with Narcan three times a day. The disease of addiction used to have a stereotype, and it doesn't anymore."

The solution, she said, lies in holistic thinking. "We have to look at alternative means to address this problem," she said. "Programs like drug courts can provide those supports."

Clifford is able to pass along what she's learned in her career as an adjunct member of Fitchburg State's criminal justice faculty, where she teaches on topics including community corrections and also supervises interns. "It's a good balance for me to see the enthusiasm of young people who want to enter the field," she said. "The foundation of the academics is excellent, but practical experience working with professionals in the field is also essential."

That balance of coursework and skills training has her excited about the potential of the new police program.

"What Fitchburg State is doing is amazing," Clifford said. "It's progressive, and the students I've been working with are exceptional."

ORDER IN THE COURT

Judge Anthony J. Marotta '81 has served as a defense lawyer, prosecutor and now a judge in the Worcester Juvenile Court.

In his seven years on the bench in the Worcester Juvenile Court, Judge Anthony J. Marotta '81 has seen the rising impact of the opioid crisis on the state's most vulnerable population: children.

Marotta worked in private practice and was an assistant district attorney prosecuting child abuse, sexual abuse and homicide before being appointed to the juvenile court judgeship. In his current role, Marotta hears cases involving delinquency, children requiring assistance, truancy, runaways and those who have been sexually exploited. He sees harrowing cases, but also gets to play a role in hopefully giving children a brighter future.

"There's a big push for diversion and keeping kids out of the court," he said, crediting the office of Worcester District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. for taking that approach to first-offense cases. "We can prevent them from having a record and they can get the help they need."

But he has also seen a rise in more serious cases involving juveniles, such as gang and weapons-related infractions. The public may not be aware of that rise as the juvenile court is closed to public view.

Still, Marotta finds the work joyful. "It's the greatest job. At times it is difficult because you have someone's

liberty or someone's kids at stake, but we're about helping and doing the right thing for children," he said.

Marotta has worked alongside police officers throughout his career, and said education has improved the caliber of police work. "It's absolutely critical," he said. "I think police need specialized training to deal with kids, especially. Often it takes a greater degree of patience, a higher level of tolerance and more empathy."

The value of education for police extends to all populations, he added. As the times and the issues have evolved, so too have the training needs for police professionals. "The more education police have, it can only help."



Professor Deborah Stone '06 in the nursing lab with student Johnna Roy '21



LOOKING FOR CLUES



Ranee' Maree' Wright '17

Fitchburg State's online forensic nursing program builds careers spanning the disciplines of health care and public safety.

For Ranee' Maree' Wright '17, a book about serial killers inspired an evolution in her nursing career. She was working in a medium security correctional institution when she found *The Serial Killer Whisperer* by Pete Earley, a book about a man who befriends murderers. She grew fascinated by the topic of forensic psychiatry, so she enrolled in Fitchburg State's online Master of Science in nursing (forensic) program.

"Forensic nursing is the practice of nursing where the health and legal systems intersect," Wright said. "Recognizing violence as a health care issue is the first step. We can see

the impact that less nurturing environments have had over the generations. The environments in which children are raised affect their genes."

Wright, who was presented the university's Graduate Student Leadership Award at the winter commencement ceremony in 2017, works at the Wisconsin Resource Center, where her patients are prisoners receiving psychiatric treatment.

It can be stressful work, but Wright is motivated by her core belief that everyone – even criminals – deserve to be fair treatment.

"Working in a correctional setting with individuals who have been influenced by their environment can be challenging," she said. "My continued desire to advocate for an underserved population that needs a nurse looking out for their health care needs keeps me motivated."

That motivation is familiar to Professor Deborah Stone, who chairs the forensic nursing program at Fitchburg State. She graduated from the program herself and has been a member of its faculty since 2007. She said the online delivery model has allowed Fitchburg State to serve nurses across the United States and internationally.

While nursing students have traditionally had their practical training overseen by practicing nurses, Stone said many of the forensic nursing students work with preceptors in law enforcement.

"Most of our students end up creating new jobs for themselves," she said, noting the rarity of such programs nationwide. "We're privileged to do the work we do."

Since graduation, Wright has had articles published and presented at national conferences. She works as a forensic nurse examiner at Aurora Medical Center-Oshkosh where she cares for patients and collects evidence for law enforcement from victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, strangulation, child abuse, drug endangered children and perpetrators of violence. She has also completed training as an intimate partner violence interviewer and working towards becoming a certified Green Dot Trainer on bystander intervention.

She is also continuing her education, enrolled in a post-master's psychiatric nurse practitioner certificate with hopes of graduating in spring 2021.



A HELPING HAND

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) volunteers give children in the justice system a voice.

Lynn Tesconi Barrieau '92 had an epiphany that changed her life 18 years ago. "I was at a crossroads, both personally and professionally," and ready to pursue new opportunities, she recalled. It was then that she saw an ad in the paper for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), an organization she had read about during a psychology class at Fitchburg State.

The organization was founded to provide advocates for children who have been removed from their homes for abuse or neglect. While attorneys represent other participants in court proceedings, from parents to state agencies, Barrieau said CASA's sole responsibility is to the children.

"You're doing what a judge could do if he could leave the bench and see how a child is living," she said. "The child is the only one that's never in the courtroom in these cases."

CASA volunteers, then, fill an important void. Volunteers undergo 30 hours of training before taking a case, and will typically work with one child at a time, meeting with the child monthly over the course of a foster care case. Those cases can last 12 to 18 months, Barrieau said. Some CASA volunteers stick with the program for multiple years and multiple children, others may serve just one.

"In the early years it was mostly retirees who volunteered," Barrieau said. "Our base has really changed in the last five or six years. They're younger and more diverse. I'm in awe of this generation that really does want to give back. To be a CASA volunteer, you don't need anything other than a commitment to serve a child."

Barrieau, a member of the Fitchburg State Board of Trustees, said local police officers – like the future officers who just graduated from the university's new program – are key resources for CASA. "The police really understand what's happening at ground level," she said. "They understand the activity happening at an address beyond the incident that led to a child being removed from the home."

As the first recruit officer class members were told during their graduation ceremony, Barrieau said it's important for them to appreciate the difference between law enforcement and policing. "It's about extending relationships with the community you're serving," she said. "It's about a life well-lived."

To learn more about CASA, visit casaworcestercounty.org.

CYBERSECURITY TIPS FROM FRANK O'DONNELL '93

- Keep in mind that whether you are banking online or engaging in social media activities – you are vulnerable. As a result, reduce potential vulnerabilities and have a plan in the event your accounts are compromised.
- Keep your software current and complete all system and security updates immediately.
- Limit the amount of personal information you share online, particularly your mobile number, physical address, email address or mother's maiden name. Also, publicly displaying your date of birth can make you more vulnerable to identity fraud, so try and keep this private as well. Remember, whatever you post lasts forever (keep this in mind with regards to future employers).
- Create complex passwords and nonsensical or false answers to personal security questions.
- Be wary of requests to connect from people you do not know (particularly if they seem too good to be true).
- Browse safely and think before you click or download! The padlock symbol or 'https' at the beginning of a web address is a good sign, because it means your connection is more secure.



A WATCHFUL EYE

Law and order are necessary in a civilized society, but not sufficient. Keeping a watchful eye online is just as important to hold bad actors accountable. Two alumni have spent decades honing their cybersecurity skills.

Mark Fearer '93 '99 leads an information technology auditing team at the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC). His group examines stock exchange infrastructure (think DJIA and NASDAQ) to keep them available and secure. Fearer, who lives just outside Washington, D.C., says that trust in our nation's financial systems is key to their effectiveness.

"Our mandate is to monitor the exchanges for compliance and make sure your financial orders are treated fairly and processed efficiently," he states.

Fearer is a double Falcon in computer science. He holds several industry certifications, is currently pursuing a doctorate in cybersecurity, and has taught classes in wireless tech.

Fearer says that when he was an undergraduate, online security often was a bolted-on afterthought, something that inconvenienced users and did little to generate revenue. "That's all changed," he

explains. "Today, many corporations have board members who are experts in information security and bake it into the process of doing business."

Frank O'Donnell '93 is the president and co-founder of Mission First Consulting, which provides solutions that support the full lifecycle of preparing for, protecting against, detecting, and actively responding to the full range of threats facing U.S. interests here and abroad. He agreed that cybersecurity has become a front-burner issue.

"Technology is advancing at a pace never seen before in our history," O'Donnell said. "As a result, the risks presented by our use of technology has far outpaced the ability to protect ourselves. Cybersecurity affects everyone. The cell phone user, small business owner, healthcare provider, Fortune 500 companies and the government. We are all vulnerable on some level. Those who have a risk mitigation plan, as well as a response plan are best suited to survive long term."

Fearer recalls, "I did my master's thesis on a Windows NT firewall. I fondly remember a fellow Fitchburg State student shout, 'Get a laptop!' as I toted workstation towers under each arm to the computer lab. That was 1997. Now everything is connected, including planes, traffic lights, cars, homes, wristbands, and refrigerators. Then as now, the common denominator is connectedness. Good and repeatable practices must be employed in access control." Learn more about our cybersecurity concentration by visiting fitchburgstate.edu/cybersecurity.



A MOOT POINT

Fitchburg State's long history of success in the American Collegiate Moot Court Tournament has prepared several alumni for careers in law.

Opposing counsel take their places and make concise, pointed arguments on the legal issues at hand before a panel of judges. This dynamic plays out in appellate courts every day, and is modeled with great accuracy at the American Collegiate Moot Court Tournament, in which Fitchburg State has been excelling for years. The campus hosted the regional tournament again this November.

Past participants have gone on to complete their own law degrees and returned to campus to serve as coaches and judges, preparing another generation of attorneys and jurists.

Christine Brigham '08, an associate attorney at Gelinas & Ward in Leominster, took the moot court class in her senior year. It was a major time commitment, complicated by the fact she was an older student balancing raising a family with her studies. But it was worth it.

"The benefits I received from taking the class and competing far outweighed the time investment," she said. "You learn how to digest a lot of material, think critically, think on your feet, and answer questions thoughtfully and succinctly. You practice how to fashion an argument and support it. All are necessary skills to get through the madness that is law school."

Matthew Costello '13 agreed. He had his sights set on law school even as an undergraduate and the Moot Court program



helped convince him to enroll at Fitchburg State. He took part in the competition as a freshman, despite warnings that he could be getting in over his head. "My greatest challenge was the steep learning curve attached to the course," he said. "Fresh out of high school, I had to learn to sort through, and make sense of, several complex Supreme Court cases, replete with legalese. Beyond studying the law, which at first can seem like a foreign language, learning to craft and articulate cogent arguments before a simulated Supreme Court bench also proved challenging."

But the experience paid off. At Suffolk University Law School, Costello finished his first year at the head of his class. "Moot Court allowed me to achieve that success," he said.

After law school, Costello clerked for judges on the state and federal benches in Rhode Island and began working this fall as

a litigation associate at the law firm WilmerHale.

"Coaching the moot court team is my favorite part of my job," said Professor Paul I. Weizer. "I get to work with a self-selecting group of motivated students who really commit to the material and the other student competitors. Each year, many of those students return to campus to stay involved with the program as a coach, a judge, or a resource for our current students. There have been so many success stories from this student population which is very inspiring to our current students who will someday repay the kindness shown to them and provide help for the next generation."

Fitchburg State's moot court teams at the regional tournament in November. From left to right, front row: Crystal Aneke, Theresa Klobucher, Kajahna Matos, Samantha Beauchamp, Riley Grinkis, and Lauren Poirier; back row: Matthew Badagliacca, Benjamin Butkus, Webster Bokoo, William Travers, William Cooney, Alexander Ramos, Shaughn O'Halloran-Ciccolo, and Matthew Murphy.



A COMMUNITY PROBLEM

Faculty members are working with the Worcester District Attorney's office on innovative projects to combat the opioid epidemic.

Worcester District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. has a saying when it comes to dealing with the opioid crisis affecting communities across the country: "We can't arrest our way out of this problem."

Instead, Early—who was re-elected in November to another four-year term as the county's top prosecutor—has engaged Fitchburg State and other community partners to come up with a multi-pronged response to the health and safety crisis. University faculty members will work prosecutors on a pair of federal grant-funded projects that address the scourge head-on: a \$360,000 project on innovative prosecution solutions for combating crime and illegal opioids, and a \$500,000 grant for a comprehensive opioid abuse site-based program to support the county's drug diversion initiatives.

"We will be mapping crime and overdose data, and gathering and analyzing other relevant data to assess the effectiveness of the program," said retired Professor Beth Walsh (Behavioral Sciences), who will play a leading role in the effort. "We hope that this collaboration will result in programs that reduce the numbers of opioid overdose deaths and provide a better method for prosecuting drug dealers and treating drug users who commit crimes."

Other faculty members involved in the project include Professors Jane Huang (Earth and Geographic Sciences), Hildur Schilling (Psychological Science), Thomas Schilling (Psychological Science), and Richard Wiebe (Behavioral Sciences).

"You're great partners," Early told faculty members involved in the project. "Fitchburg State does great work and has a great criminal justice program. We can count on you."

Worcester District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr., second from left, discusses approaches to the opioid epidemic with Professors Jane Huang, Hildur Schilling, Beth Walsh and Thomas Schilling. Not pictured is Professor Richard Wiebe.



FROM LAWMAKER TO REGULATOR

Jennifer L. Flanagan '04 was an outspoken opponent of the Massachusetts law to legalize recreational marijuana. Now she is serving on the commission that will regulate this new industry.

During her 13 years serving in the Massachusetts Legislature – first as a state representative from her native Leominster and then as state senator – Jennifer L. Flanagan '04 used her platform to support treatment for substance abuse and mental health.

When a ballot question in 2017 asked Massachusetts voters if they wanted to legalize recreational marijuana use, Flanagan was against it. “This is a body-altering substance,” she said. The law was passed, however, and Gov. Charlie Baker asked then-Sen. Flanagan to serve on the Cannabis Control Commission that would be tasked to draft regulations governing the new industry.

“It was totally unsolicited,” said Flanagan. But she accepted the appointment, resigning her seat in the state Senate, knowing the importance of the task before the new commission. “I realized there is a very big public health component to legalizing cannabis.”

Flanagan completed a master’s degree in counseling with a concentration in children and adolescents at Fitchburg State in 2004, and said her academic training informed her work as a legislator. “My classes gave me insights into risky behaviors and family issues, and that was helpful in many of the bills I crafted,” she said.

And it’s protecting young people that informs Flanagan’s perspective as a member of the Cannabis Control Commission. “A big part of what I’m doing is making sure these products aren’t designed to appeal to kids,” she said, likening the regulatory process to regulations governing alcohol sales. “I want these operators to have responsible public impact plans.”

The rollout of recreational cannabis dispensaries has been criticized in some quarters for going slow, but Flanagan is unapologetic. “We only have one chance to get this right,” she said. “Our actions have consequences.”



A CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

The 2nd annual Go Falcons Challenge this fall raised more than \$13,500 for the university's athletic programs, with 344 donors stepping forward to offer support for their favorite teams. The three teams with the most donors were softball, baseball and field hockey.

Other students got into the fun by finding six toy falcons that were hidden around campus. Students who found falcons could direct \$50 donations to their favorite teams, resulting in gifts to the women's track and cross country team, the men's track and cross country team, field hockey, softball, volleyball, and women's soccer.



BEST IN CLASS

During Homecoming Weekend, the university recognized a series of stellar alumni student-athletes at the Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony. The 2018 inductees included:

Debra A. Cassinelli '84 of Marlboro, named outstanding student athlete for women's indoor/outdoor track & field and cross country.

Beth A. (Long) Deneen '85 of South Yarmouth, named outstanding student athlete for field hockey and softball

Christopher M. Kibler '12, '15 of Amherst, named outstanding student athlete for men's indoor/outdoor track & field and cross country.

Malcom J. MacPherson of Easthampton, named outstanding contributor as head men's soccer coach from 1983-1991 and assistant/associate head ice hockey coach, 1989-2017.

Matthew F. Muolo '12 of Stoneham, named outstanding student athlete for men's indoor/outdoor track & field.

The 1957 men's soccer team, named outstanding team in recognition of a season that included winning the New England Teachers College Conference Championship. Team members in attendance for the induction ceremony included Thomas Collins '59 of Westfield; Rolland Rochon '59 of Winchendon; John Bicknell '58 of Essex Junction, Vt.; James Fotopulos '58 of Greenfield; Gordon Haggerty '58 of Somerset; James Sweeney '60 of Roslindale; William Walsh '61 of Canton; Frank Worthley '60, '75 of Fitchburg; and Charles Vars '60 of Amherst, N.H. Irene Hopkins '59, '62 of Westboro accepted on behalf of her late husband, James Hopkins '59; Barbara Campbell '59 of Rutland accepted on behalf of her late husband, Charles Campbell '59; and Carol Walsh '59 of Pawcatuck, Conn., accepted on behalf of her late husband, John Walsh '58.



NEW SHOT-CALLER

Matthew J. Burke is ready to take Falcon Athletics to the next level as Fitchburg State's new athletic director.

He arrived this fall following a lengthy tenure at Mount Ida College, which like Fitchburg State competed in the NCAA's Division III.

"My philosophy is grounded in what Division III is all about," he said. "The number one priority is to be a student, and earn a degree. I also believe that athletics provides a lot of valuable life lessons. I want every student-athlete to represent the department with pride, wherever they are."

Burke has been impressed by the dedication of his coaching staff to help students improve academically, athletically and socially. "I'm also amazed by the work ethic and dedication our students have for Fitchburg State," he said.

Burke came to Fitchburg State following the retirement of longtime Athletic Director Sue Lauder, whose 22-year tenure included the addition of women's varsity lacrosse and volleyball.

"I am excited about the leadership and vision that Matt Burke brings to Falcon athletics," said Vice President for Student Affairs Laura Bayless. "I know that Matt's strong experience has prepared him well to lead the department to new heights."

At Fitchburg State, Burke hopes to support the university's student-athletes with passion. "I believe in an individualized approach, and I want to see improvement for students academically as well as on the field," he said.



The 2018 inductees to Fitchburg State's Athletics Hall of Fame.

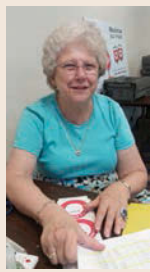
CLASS NOTES

This Class Notes section includes news that was received between May 1, 2018 and November 19, 2018. 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.

1960S



PATRICK J. MURPHY '69, '73 retired from the court sidelines after 40 years of coaching the North Middlesex girls' basketball team and 20 years of softball and cross-country. Murphy began his career while attending his final semester at Fitchburg State, coaching the men's freshman basketball team for four years.



BETTY MAE TENNEY '69 was this year's honoree of the 2018 William E. May Endowment Award, given to outstanding individuals in the Townsend community

who have given of himself or herself to the growth and betterment of the town. Tenney has spent countless hours managing the Townsend Military Band concerts (starting in 1969), the Christmas Eve Santa visits to children's homes all over Townsend, and has demonstrated tireless support for veterans, the military and their families. A member of the VFW Auxiliary to Townsend Post No. 6538 for 39 years and its current president, Tenney was recently named as the 2018 VFW Auxiliary Member of the Year at the Department of Massachusetts VFW. She has served and continues to serve on numerous statewide VFW programs promoting Americanism, hospital, legislative, scholarships, veterans and family support, and youth activities. A retired educator, Tenney currently works at the Fitchburg State Bookstore.

1970S

FRANK G. STEFFANIDES '70, '74 was inducted into the Leominster High School Athletic Hall of Fame this fall for his 10 years coaching the varsity softball team (1986-96) with a career coaching record of 176-72. During his tenure he coached Mid-Wach Division 1 championships (1987, 1988, 1990, 1991), Central Massachusetts Division 1 championships (1987, 1988), Division 1 state championships (1987, 1988), and was elected into the Massachusetts State Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1995.

MICHAEL FIORENTINO '71, who has served as president of Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania since July 2011, retired on March 16, 2018.



JOAN M. (WALSH) '71, '75 AND RICHARD FREEDMAN '68 visited campus this fall to present the University Archives the inaugural Neasylon Club (Phi Omega Psi) Banner to commemorate the club's founder's day 50 years ago. The banner is given in memory of Joan's parents, Rose and John Walsh, who designed, cut and sewed the banner for the first pledge class in 1968, of which she was a part. The club used the banners at meetings and functions. The Neasylons were established as a service sorority, always doing a project for the town, city and state. Many members were commuters and the club helped them to gain a sense of the "college life."

WAYNE D. ANDREWS '74

was inducted into the Ohio Valley Conference Hall of Fame. Andrews served as Morehead State's president for 12 years. Andrews also served the OVC Board of Presidents twice as chair. During his tenure, MSU won 16 OVC Championships and made 11 NCAA Tournament appearances in addition to 21 Universal Cheerleading Association (UCA) National Championships. Academically, 12 MSU student-athletes were named Academic All-Americans, and Morehead State claimed seven OVC Institutional Academic Achievement Awards over an eight-year period. Additionally, over 200 student-athletes earned the OVC Academic Medal of Honor and 15 programs earned OVC Team Sportsmanship Awards. Andrews was instrumental in helping build the EAGLE (Eagle Athletics Guided Learning and Enhancement) Center, hailed as one of the finest academic-oriented facilities in the nation.

SUSAN (LYNCH) VICCARO '79, 13th Regional School District superintendent in Connecticut, retired after serving 29 years in education.

1980S

ANTHONY A. ABRUZZESE '80, '92 recently completed his doctoral degree at New Jersey City University in Civil Security Leadership, Management and Policy. Abruzzese has worked in higher education for more than 37 years, beginning his career as the Nursing Department's audiovisual specialist at Fitchburg State from 1980 to 1987. Abruzzese has been a professional staff member at Boston University for the past 21 years filling a variety of technical support positions in the Division of Graduate Medical Sciences at the School of Medicine.



ROBERT J. QUINN '81 was promoted from provisional fire chief to permanent fire chief for the town of Watertown this September.

COLLEEN (MASON) BEDARD '82

was inducted into the Leominster High School Athletic Hall of Fame this fall for her outstanding indoor and outdoor track records in the 45-yard dash, 50-yard dash, mile relay, distance medley, high jump medley, 100-yard dash, 4x100-yard relay, 440-yard, and 4x440-yard relay. She was state champion and school record-holder in 100-yard dash (1978) and placed fifth in New England in the 100-yard dash (1978). Bedard received varsity letters all four years, was senior-year captain, was MVP in track (1979) and MVP in cross country (1977). Bedard was inducted to the Fitchburg State Athletics Hall of Fame in 1999.

ALLEN S. BEER '83 retired from Oak Middle School in Shrewsbury. Beer was a technology education/engineering teacher and spent his entire 35-year career with the district.



MAUREEN E. NOONE '85 was honored at the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association Awards

Banquet as the Field Hockey Coach of the Year. For 20 years, Noone has been the Andover field hockey coach and a special needs teacher in Wilmington. Noone has a 312-50-50 record and three Division 1 state titles.

THOMAS J. PERRINO '86 was nominated for the position of associate justice of the Commonwealth's Superior Court. Perrino had been first assistant clerk magistrate for the Barnstable Superior Court.



KATHLEEN A. (FLYNN) BURNHAM '87, '00, a former teacher and assistant superintendent, was selected as

superintendent for the Lunenburg Public Schools.



DENNIS P. SARGENT '87, a Clinton native, was promoted from associate justice to the first justice of the Clinton District Court. Sargent served the Air Force for four years as a JAG officer in Germany and Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, Va. before returning to Clinton to practice private law, and serve as the town lawyer and assistant clerk magistrate.



SELVIN L. CHAMBERS III '89 was named to the Montserrat College of Art Board of Trustees.

1990s



KELLY A. NOVAK '90 was promoted to director of volunteer programs at Nanticoke Health Services.

Novak has worked at Nanticoke Health Services for three years and began as a support specialist for the foundation.



ANN M. CHARLAND '92 and her team at Ecast Productions won an Emmy for a video production on the 2017 holidays in Boston. This is the team's second Emmy.

STEPHEN R. KENDALL '92 left Nashoba Regional School District after 20 years of teaching and coaching to join the Ayer-Shirley Regional School District as the athletic director and supervisor of physical education and wellness.



CHARLOTTE E. Y. (DAMMERS) BELL '93

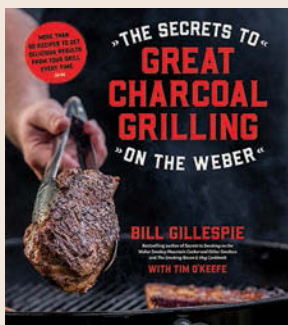
assumed the role of minister for

the congregation of the First Congregational Church of Kennebunkport, Maine.



SALLY A. (MCADAMS) SIRIANI '94 was named the Chelsea Rotary Teacher of the Year. Siriani has been teaching math and science at Clark Avenue Middle school for 20 years.

CAISSIE L. ST. ONGE '94, a writer and producer known for working on "The Late Show with David Letterman," "The Rosie O'Donnell Show," and "Watch What Happens Live! with Andy Cohen," is the showrunner for "Busy Tonight," a late-night talk show with host Busy Phillips on E!



TIMOTHY J. O'KEEFE '95 co-wrote his second cookbook, "The Secrets to Great Charcoal Grilling on the Weber," which was nominated for a People's Choice Award earlier this year.

TRACEY L. (TOWLE) WYKOFF '95 was inducted into the Leominster High School Athletic Hall of Fame this fall for her many contributions to basketball and softball. In basketball, Wykoff was most-improved player in 1988 and the Central Massachusetts district finalist in 1987 and 1988. In softball, Wykoff was the team co-captain and team co-MVP in 1988. In 1987 and 1988 she

and her team won the Central Massachusetts district titles and she was the winning pitcher in the state championship games. In just these two years, Wykoff earned a softball pitching record of 45-5 with 267 strikeouts, and was a team leader with 45 assists in 1987 and 51 assists in 1988. Wykoff was named the Montachusett Times all-star in 1987, and the Central Massachusetts Conference all-star and the *Telegram & Gazette* all-star in both 1987 and 1988.



STEPHEN D. BALDASSARE '96 was inducted into the Bridgton Academy Hall of Fame in Maine this past April. Baldassare has served the Danvers community as a police officer for 20 years. He is the head hockey coach at Danvers High School and its freshman baseball coach.



CATHERINE CANNEY '98, associate vice president for academic affairs at Fitchburg State, was honored with the Leadership

Award by the Massachusetts National Network of Women Leaders, for her support of women in the field of higher education. Canney has been with the university for over 30 years.

DAVID J. CONTE '98, '05 will lead the Central Catholic High School Boys Hockey team as the head coach. At Fitchburg State, Conte was a defenseman with a career record of 15 goals and 55 points. He was also a New England Hockey Writers All-Star his senior year. After graduating, Conte played in the minor leagues for three seasons.

GARY S. REESE '98 was named superintendent for the Westport Community Schools and began his tenure in July. Previously, Reese served as the superintendent for the Amesbury Schools.



KRISTEN (PETERSON) ST. GEORGE '98 was named the principal of Lincoln Elementary School in July.

St. George brings with her, experience as a principal from serving middle schools in Belmont, Braintree, Lincoln and Natick.



KEVIN T. CAREY '99 was promoted from assistant football coach to head coach for Quincy High School.

2000s

JANET A. DUPUIS '01, an artist and teacher who uses acrylics and mixed media, was the Leominster Art Association's guest demonstrator in May.

BRENT T. CONWAY '02, a former teacher and principal, assumed the role of assistant superintendent of the Pentucket Regional School District.

HEIDI T. RICCIO '03 was named superintendent of Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School. Riccio has over 20 years of experience in education and was the director for career and technical education programs at Essex North.



SARA-MARIA L. (LEONARDO) GOGUEN '04, '09 was presented the Joel D. Miller Award

by the Fitchburg State Alumni Association. Goguen is a science teacher at Goodrich Academy in Fitchburg, a school that serves struggling non-traditional students. With more than 10 years of teaching experience and her exemplary leadership, Goguen was instrumental in obtaining a grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center to fund a \$105,000 state-of-the-art science lab at Goodrich. Pictured is Sara-Maria with Principal **ALEXIS XARRAS-CURRY '89**.



CARLOS MALDONADO '04 joined Kennebunk Savings Bank in Portsmouth, N.H. as the vice president, a branch manager and a mortgage lender.

GARRETT L. ZECKER '04, '09 completed his thesis, "The Party's Poet," for his Master of Fine Arts in Fiction from Southern New Hampshire University's Mountainview MFA program.

JAMES M. BUNNELL '05, '12 assumed the athletic director position for Lunenburg High School. Bunnell has experience as an athletic director from Saugus and North Middlesex Regional.

JENNIFER J. KIRKLAND '05 was recently named the new recreation director for the town of Westborough.

ZACHARY WADDICOR '05 of Somerset was appointed assistant superintendent of the Seekonk Public Schools.

ELIZABETH A. GILMAN '06 was named the director of finance for the city of Greenfield. Gilman has years of experience as an associate controller of Worcester State University and as a town accountant for Winchendon.

KORRY B. (DESLAURIERS) DOW '07 was named the interim president of Nashoba Valley Medical Center. Previously, Dow served as the hospital's chief financial officer.



MICHAEL J. JANUARIO '08, better known to hip-hop fans as M-Dot, performed a 28-day/10-country tour of Europe that included a featured performing spot before 80,000 music fans at Hip Hop Kemp, a festival in the Czech Republic. His current project "KEMPilation" was just released to coincide with the Czech tour. Last year, Januario's album "egO anD The eneMy" finished number one in sales at UGHH, the biggest outlet for underground hip-hop. The *Boston Herald* named it as one of 2017's

best releases. In the past, he's worked with noted producer Pete Rock, Wu Tang, MC Method Man, and other heavyweights. His song "True Lies" was played on the NBC drama, "The Blacklist," and he earned much positive press and praise from fans for his innovative 360-degree "Give it to Me" video. This September Januario also performed at Hempfest, a three-day party on Boston Common that draws some 100,000 visitors annually.

DANIEL C. DALY '09 designed the scenery for Fitchburg State's fall theater production of "The Diviners".



SANDRA E. (WARONEN) HARRISON '09 is a new member of the SV Design team for Siemasko + Verbridge in Chatham.

2010S

MARIA VERONICA (ANTICH AZPURUA) ANTICH-FJELD '11 recently joined The Forte Group at Century 21 North East as a real estate agent.

JILLIAN P. (BURDICK) ROSS '11 was hired as the program manager at David's House, a "home-away-from-home" for families of children receiving care from the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth in Lebanon, N.H.

LIZIA R. (OLIVEIRA) SANTOS '11, of Kissimmee, Fla., co-founded City Catt, a platform where locals can work by helping travelers to find the best places to go in their cities, and also by guiding them on outings.

JESUS MOORE '13, a physical education teacher for Oliver Middle School and a former basketball all-star for Lawrence High School, was recently hired as the high school's basketball coach.

PATIENCE E. MORROW '13 recently joined McLane Middleton, the largest law firm in the state of New Hampshire, as an associate trust and estates attorney.



MATTHEW E. MYERS '13 was recognized by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation for graduating from the Institute for Organization Management. Myers began as a marketing intern for the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce and is now the marketing and communications manager.

AARON K. FITZPATRICK '14, a U.S. Air Force National Guard Airman 1st Class, completed and graduated from basic military training, an eight-week program, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.



JAMY GAYNOR '14 was appointed to the Mount Wachusett Community College board of trustees.



ALEXANDER R. MORSE '14 was sworn in as an Adams Police Department reserve officer in August.



NATHAN A. GREGOIRE '15 was hired the beginning of 2018 as an advancement services specialist for Clark University. He and his wife, **MELISSA A. (MCGOVERN) GREGOIRE '16** were married this September and welcomed their first child, James Alan, in July. Pictured, L-R, **ERIC GREGOIRE '11** (brother), mom, Nathan and Melissa holding James.

DAVID T. OSTER '15 founded a video production company with four fellow Communications Media graduates. The company, TDO Video Productions, is based in Fitchburg but has acquired work all over the state. Their work

expands from aerial to full video production; from commercial advertising and real estate video tours to event and sports coverage and documentaries.

MEGAN A. PROVENCIAL '15 received the Publications Competition Award from the New England Museum Association for designing the marketing/PR materials for the Fitchburg Historical Society's "Iver Johnson: Designed to Last" annual exhibition last year.

MOSES K. MAXI '16 co-founded Never Off Schedule, a trendy fitness/casual apparel line designed to help kids and adults feel good about what they wear on the outside and how they feel on the inside.

KELLI J. ROONEY '16 joined Leominster Credit Union as the new vice president of marketing after serving more than 11 years at HealthAlliance Hospital.

SAMUEL E. ARONSON '17 was featured in *Cape Cod Today* for his experience at Rogers & Gray Insurance as a marketing intern. Aronson is currently pursuing a Master's in Professional Writing and Communication and working as a Teaching Fellow at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.



of its sister facility, North Shore Medical Center in Miami, Fla.

LINDSEY V. ENGLISH '18 founded the non-profit, Fostering Change, Inc., in March. Fostering Change provides children in foster care with resources and support to help them succeed.

NICHOLAS TROTTO '18 joined the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce after a full-time summer internship. Trotto will serve as the marketing and communications assistant.

IN MEMORIAM

FACULTY



PROFESSOR EMERITUS JOSEPH C. FARIAS '53, '61, of Fitchburg, on June 21, 2018. Professor Farias enlisted in the Seabees in WWII serving in the 35th Battalion, Company C in

the Pacific Islands. After the war, he graduated from Fitchburg State Teachers College with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Education. Subsequently, Professor Farias taught Industrial Arts at the college for 28 years and was awarded Professor Emeritus after retirement. He was the first All-American Soccer Player from the college selected by the Intercollegiate Soccer Football Association of America, and in the first group of athletes inducted into the Fitchburg State Hall of Fame. Professor Farias continued playing and coaching soccer after college for many years. Professor Farias is survived by his wife **BEVERLY (SHERWIN) FARIAS '52**. They would have been married 66 years on June 30, just 9 days after his passing. Above, Beverly and Joe pictured on Ash Wednesday 2018.



PROFESSOR EMERITA KATHERINE "KAY" E. FLYNN '57, '60, of Fitchburg, on July 30, 2018. Professor Flynn was a towering figure in Fitchburg State's education program, a mentor and role model to thousands of students who went on to become teachers. In her 45-year career, she was instrumental in shaping Fitchburg State's special education program, the oldest in the state. She embraced learning and teaching and had an intuitive

understanding of how to reach her students and help them excel. Professor Flynn received numerous awards and recognitions during her distinguished career, including the university's Joel D. Miller Award that recognizes outstanding contributions to the teaching profession. She also received the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award and was given an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at the university's 2002 commencement. At the university's 100th anniversary she was presented the Centennial Award, representing teaching excellence at the university. Kay is pictured above at her 100th birthday party at Fitchburg State in April 2016.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN GOLDSTEIN, of Cambridge, on November 10, 2018. Professor Goldstein taught graphic design in the Communications Media Department for 14 years.

1940S

JOHN F. MURPHY '40, '74, of South Windsor, Conn., on August 1, 2018.

VINCENT J. DISSA '49, of Weymouth, on August 22, 2018.

1950S

MARY A. (O'KEEFE) NELSON '54, of Sterling, on July 3, 2018.

ANN L. CHENERY '55, of Milo, Maine, on April 15, 2018.

ROBERT J. COSCIA '58, of Revere, on May 9, 2018.

1960S

DONALD E. SULLIVAN '61, of North Chelmsford, on October 24, 2018.

JOAN A. (LESAGE) ROCHE '63, of Norton, on June 2, 2018.

PATRICE (GEARAN) RIVAL '63, of Hubbardston, on October 7, 2018.

ROBERTA (FITZMAURICE) CONNORS '63, of Darnestown, Md., on November 2, 2018. Connors was a dedicated alumna, whom, with her husband Bill, established the Roberta Fitzmaurice Connors '63 Endowed Scholarship in Early Childhood Education in 1997. She served on the Fitchburg State Foundation's development committee and was the annual fund chair for nearly a decade. She and Bill were an integral part of planning and creating the Foundation's annual golf tournament, which recently celebrated its 20th anniversary and has raised over \$1 million. In 2001 both Roberta and Bill received the Alumni Booster Award from the Alumni Association for their loyalty and support of the institution and its students through scholarship. In addition, Roberta was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2006.

KENT H. DUMAS '64, '70, of Port Saint Lucie, Fla., on May 19, 2018.

FREDERICK D. SULLIVAN '64, of Fitchburg, on August 30, 2018.

BRUCE M. GOYETTE '65, '70, of Townsend, on July 4, 2018. After formally retiring, Goyette returned to Fitchburg State as a teacher and executive committee member of the ALFA program.

ROBERT C. MANNING '65, of Falmouth, on October 9, 2018. He is survived by his wife, **JOAN (MCCARTHY) MANNING '66**.

ROY A. DUDDY '66, of Hampton, N.H., on May 6, 2018.

JOHANNA M. (COYLE) LEWIS '66, of Shrewsbury, on July 27, 2018.

PAMELA J. (CUNNINGHAM) SMITH '68, of Fitchburg, on June 25, 2018.

1970S

NORMAN J. CAMPANA '73, '78, of Haverhill, on June 29, 2018.

RICHARD E. THORNTON '76, of Wilmington, N.C., on July 21, 2018.

1980S

DONNA M. (VAUGHAN) BRODY '82, of Dracut, on October 3, 2018.

RACHEL A. (CHRISTIE) LYONS '87, of Fitchburg, on February 27, 2018.

GERALDINE L. (ROBERTS) BLAIS '89, of Haverhill, on September 10, 2018.

SHIRLEY A. SAPIENZA '89, of Tewksbury, on October 6, 2018.

1990S

EILEEN H. (HAYDOCK) MERULLO '92, of Revere, on June 21, 2018.

MICHAEL D. LIMA '94, of Belmont, N.H., on July 4, 2018.

AIME D. BOUCHER '97, of Grafton, on September 28, 2018.

MET & MARRIED

JOANN E. (TRZCINSKI) MARION '71, '83 MET JOHN M. MARION '69, '73 when she was 17 years old, a freshman in 1967. In those days, freshman initiation was the norm involving the wearing of a beanie and a sign that gave away your name, hometown, and high school. It could be awkward trying to find new classes, carrying books and notebooks, while wearing the cumbersome sign around one's neck. As Trzcinski sat down in her first class, her sign knocked over her books and when she went to pick them up, everything else fell on the floor. Much to her embarrassment, the instructor, Mr. Cassasa then welcomed Trzcinski to class. That was the first time she laid eyes on John Marion, who was a junior. During that semester they got to know each other and, on occasion, Marion would sit behind Trzcinski and flirt.

The following semester, in April, the two met again at a Mohawk party and Marion offered to walk her back to the dorm. That walk has lasted for 50 years and is still going on. Even though they were married two years later, they still celebrate April 8, 1968 even more so than their wedding anniversary. In their minds, Fitchburg State will always be the place where they had so many happy times with great friends and the place where they fell in love.



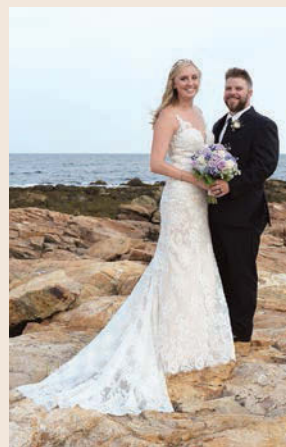
REGINA M. (PERLAK) EGAN '79 MET CHARLES E. EGAN '79 at an off-campus party a few weeks before graduation. The party got loud and state police showed up ushering out everyone who did not live at the house. Perlak and Egan had just struck up a conversation when the police approached them asking her to leave. Egan grabbed her hand and fibbed to the officers that she also lived there; the conversation continued. Even though they were both graduating, it didn't stop Egan from asking her out. He got a summer job an hour away from where she lived. In the fall they both found teaching jobs, he in Natick, she in Chicopee. After about six months, they started talking marriage and in 1981 they tied the knot. They have been married for 37 years, have two children, and are enjoying life in Brewster.

KATHLEEN I. (HUFF) DOHERTY '88, '09 AND DAVID M. DOHERTY '88 met in September 1984 and had an instant connection. They dated for three years before their paths led them in different directions. They both married other people and started families of

their own. Their time at Fitchburg State was never far from their minds and Huff even returned in 2009 to pursue her master's degree as a reading specialist, which eventually led her to take an adjunct faculty position in the university's education department. After trying to reconnect through a variety of ways, an online search finally led Doherty to Huff's faculty email address. After 28 years apart, they fell in love all over again and married in July 2017. Both now reside in Conway, N.H. Doherty is the president of Varsity Beverage/Pepsi Cola and Huff is a kindergarten teacher in Bridgton, Maine.

MARIA E. (WINCHENBACH) FARRAGHER '90 FIRST HEARD OF DAVID J. FARRAGHER '90 at freshman orientation, thanks to Farragher's brother who was vice president of student affairs at the time. One day while visiting friends in Russell Towers, Winchenbach noticed the posters hanging in a vacant room next door and admired the one featuring Van Halen, one of her favorite bands. She wrote as much on the occupant's dry erase board and was surprised to learn that it was Farragher's room when they met the following week. A little over a year after graduating, Farragher surprised Winchenbach by having her uncle fly them over Fitchburg State in his Cessna plane at which time Farragher proposed. They were married seven years to the day after they met. While she no longer refers to him as "Van Halen poster guy," both have been married for more than 25 years and have three kids, one of whom is studying at Fitchburg State.

ANDREW J. CARTER '95 AND CHRISTIE CRAIGIE-CARTER '95 met freshman year in 1991. They began dating the following year and married in 1997. They now live in Catskill, N.Y. with their three children.



ALLISON (COUSINS) ALVES '12 AND JACOB ALVES '13 married August 25, 2018. The couple met through athletics—Cousins played four years on the softball team, while Alves played baseball. Cousins is a proud third-generation Falcon, as her grandparents, **ALDRICH V. '41, '47** and **THELMA '43, '63 COUSINS**, also met at Fitchburg State in the 1940s. Both grandparents became teachers and her grandfather served as principal of Leominster High School for many years. **WILLIAM A. COUSINS, JR. '97** is her father.

SARALYN (BYLER) MASCIANGIOLI '12 MET LENNY MASCIANGIOLI '12 their freshman year in 2008, during athletic pre-season, before classes even started. He played football and she played field hockey. They met in the Russell Towers common area and after playing pool and cards they went to an off-campus party together and danced all night. From that moment, it was countless dates in the dining hall, study sessions in the library, and a history of theater class they both took with Professor Richard McElvain, which was a highlight

for them. The Masciangiolis graduated in 2012 and married in 2014. They currently live in Allentown, Pa. where she works as a personnel coordinator for a staffing agency, while he is an operations manager for a local oil company.



TESSA F. (COOPER) DETOUR '13 AND BENJAMIN J. DETOUR '13 were married on September 15, 2018 in Windsor, Conn. They now live in Virginia where DeTour is a film editor for National Geographic Channel and Cooper is a registered nurse.

MICAELA G. (BEMIS) COSTA '15 AND JOSHUA J. COSTA '15 started their friendship junior year during Rock the Block while recruiting for the Student Nurses Association; Costa was the treasurer and Bemis was the vice president. From that moment their relationship rapidly grew into a love neither

one of them expected. They survived nursing school together, faced the “real world” together and were married May 26, 2018.

SAMANTHA C. (BERGSTROM-CARVALHO) WILLIAMS '17 AND DARREN J. WILLIAMS '16 were married this September and are expecting their first child.

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 2019 consideration is March 1, 2019.

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

PHOTO REQUIREMENTS

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.

EVENTS



Dianna (Poole) Peterson '79 hosted her **Philodemic Society** sisters at a reunion on campus last summer in celebration of the club's 70th anniversary.



Tim '65 and Veronica (Sullivan) '67 Carroll hosted a mini-reunion of the **Mohawk Club** for alumni from the 1960s at their Berkshire home this summer.



These friends from the Classes of 1958-1960 enjoyed their time together at the **Retired Educators' Luncheon** at Hammond Hall in June.



Alumni took a ride down memory lane at the **Heritage Museum & Gardens** in Sandwich when the Falcons gathered on Cape Cod in July.



Alumni participated in **new student orientation** in June. Clockwise from top left, Matt Myers '13; Chris Maher '15, Nathan Gregoire '15 and Heather Rotti '16; Stephen Hogue '16; Adam Hoeg '14, Lewis Howe '13 and Theo Demosthenes '16. Not pictured is Mark Monahan '10.





Lifelong learners listened intently to vintner Dr. Frank Puzio when he talked about his award-winning wine at the **First Crush Winery**, Harwich in July.



Alumnae played under a rainbow at this year's **Alumnae Lacrosse Game** in October. Skies finally cleared in time to hit the field.



Homecoming concluded with the **Alumnae Field Hockey Game** in September.

Find out more at fitchburgstate.edu/alumni, and keep an eye on your inbox and mailbox for invitations to these and other activities. *If your workplace employs a lot of Fitchburg State alumni, let us know, and we will come and throw an appreciation event for you too!



LEFT: Alumni awaited their turn on the field at the annual **Alumni Men's Soccer Game** in August.

BELOW: Back in the dugout, Falcons returned for the **Alumni Baseball Game** in September.



The **Class of 1963** celebrated its **55th Reunion** in September at DiMillo's On the Water Restaurant in Portland, Maine.



Our third **Sesuit Harbor Sunset Dinner Cruise** in July was another sell-out. An evening of great conversation and great food was finished by watching a pod of dolphins swim off into the sunset.



Members of the **Class of 1968** celebrated their **50th reunion** to start Homecoming Weekend in September and returned the following morning for breakfast, where they received a warm welcome into the **Gold Key Society** by the 50th reunion classes that came before them. A tour of campus followed.



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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.



Do you know alumni whose accomplishments deserve to be recognized?



Please take a few minutes and tell us about him or her. We will be accepting nominations for the 2019 Alumni Awards through March 1, 2019. Nominations may be submitted online, or you may contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@fitchburgstate.edu or (978) 665-4555 to request a hard copy.

Current employees of the university and Alumni Association board members are not eligible, and self-nominations will not be considered.

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