

Fitchburg State University Today

Monday, Sept. 23, 2019 - Volume 10, Issue 2

125th celebration begins

Our [125th anniversary](#) celebration has begun. Thousands gathered at Rock the Block and enjoyed our birthday bash earlier this month, and last week we welcomed back the student journalists who 50 years ago challenged college administrators in a federal court fight over their right to publish.

The [Constitution Day](#) discussion centered on the events surrounding Antonelli v. Hammond, wherein the staff of the student paper *The Cycle* found themselves at loggerheads with college leadership in the fall of 1969. The former students presented in Hammond Hall and visited several classrooms during their stay. [Click here](#) to read coverage of their talk in the *Telegram & Gazette*.



Fifty years after their landmark court case, participants from Antonelli v. Hammond returned to campus. From left, Mark Rice, Joan Sweeney, Jay Sampson, and John Antonelli, pose in front of a display in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library containing artifacts from the court case and the politically charged era.

- The anniversary observances continue this week with the launch of an augmented reality tour of some of the oldest buildings on our campus. At **2 p.m. Wednesday** in Ellis White Lecture Hall, hear from some of the students and faculty who helped create "When We Were Normal." Digital tour stops have been installed in Thompson, Miller, Ederly, Percival, Anthony, Sanders, and Hammond Halls. The project was created by students in our English Studies and graphic design programs.
- Also this week, our yearlong [Community Read](#) of Art Spiegelman's acclaimed graphic novel *Maus* kicks off with a panel discussion at **3:30 p.m. Thursday** at Ellis White Lecture Hall.

[125th Anniversary Events](#)

Education writer Jeffrey Selingo speaks Oct. 3

Trends impacting the future of higher education will be discussed when Fitchburg State welcomes author Jeffrey J. Selingo to campus for a talk at **5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3** in the main lounge at Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. Admission is free and

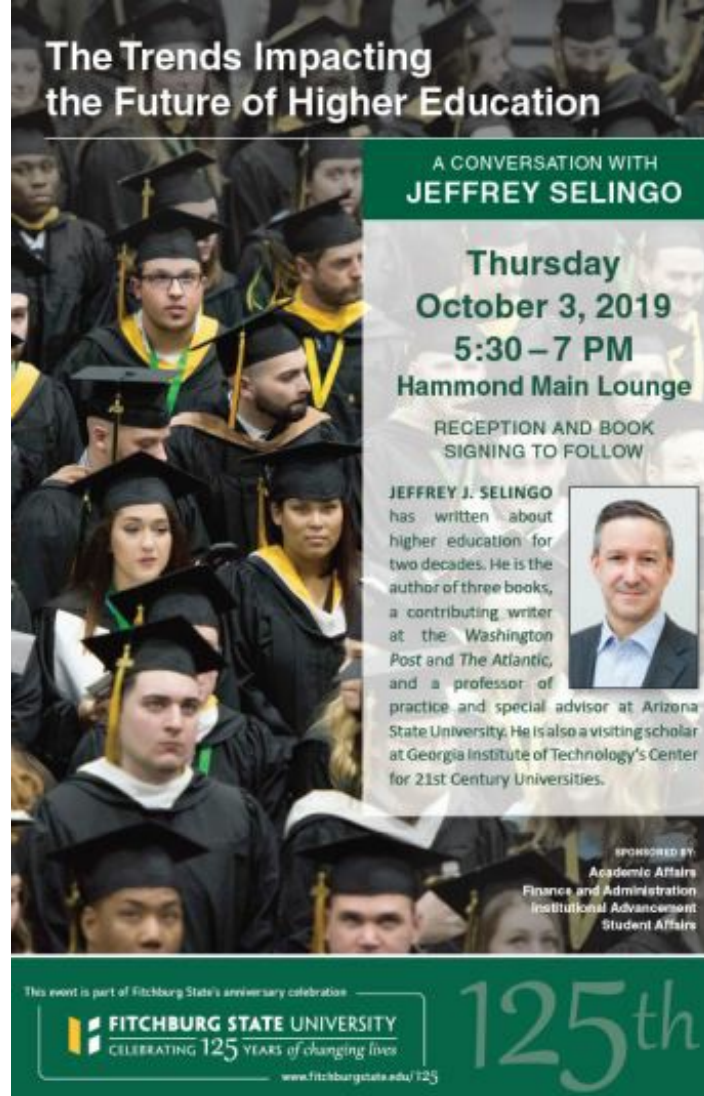
open to the public for this event, which is part of our [125th anniversary](#) celebration.

With parents, students, and politicians increasingly focused on the return on investment of a college degree, Selingo offers a hopeful, inspiring blueprint for how students can make the most of their undergraduate years and how colleges and universities will evolve to better meet the needs of society in the 21st Century.

Selingo has written about higher education for two decades. He is the author of three books, a contributing writer at the *Washington Post* and *The Atlantic*, and a professor of practice and special advisor at Arizona State University. He is also a visiting scholar at Georgia Tech's Center for 21st Century Universities.

The event is collectively sponsored by the Divisions of Student Affairs, Finance and Administration, Institutional Advancement and Academic Affairs.

[Learn more](#)



The Trends Impacting the Future of Higher Education

A CONVERSATION WITH
JEFFREY SELINGO

Thursday
October 3, 2019
5:30 – 7 PM
Hammond Main Lounge

RECEPTION AND BOOK
SIGNING TO FOLLOW

JEFFREY J. SELINGO has written about higher education for two decades. He is the author of three books, a contributing writer at the *Washington Post* and *The Atlantic*, and a professor of practice and special advisor at Arizona State University. He is also a visiting scholar at Georgia Institute of Technology's Center for 21st Century Universities.

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This event is part of Fitchburg State's anniversary celebration

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS of changing lives
www.fitchburgstate.edu/125

125th

Legendary journalist Carl Bernstein speaks on Oct. 6

Few journalists in America have had the impact on history and their craft as legendary investigative reporter Carl Bernstein. From uncovering the Watergate scandal to writing about national and international affairs for more than 40 years, Bernstein's books, reporting and commentary have revealed the inner-workings of government and politics, and told the hidden stories of Washington and its leaders.

On **Sunday, Oct. 6**, Bernstein will address the topic of fake news in the current media landscape in his remarks and interview with WGBH Senior Political Reporter Adam Reilly at The Bull Run Restaurant in Shirley. The event is part of the ongoing Bull Run Speaker Series. Doors open for Sunday brunch and seating at 10 a.m. The speaking program will begin at noon. For tickets and information, [click here](#).

The program, which will be introduced by faculty members **Kyle Moody** (Communications Media) and **Wafa Unus** (English Studies), is part of our [125th anniversary](#) celebration.

[Learn more](#)



Carl Bernstein speaks at the Bull Run on Sunday, Oct. 6.

2nd police program recruit class graduates

The second recruit officer class of our groundbreaking [police program](#) recently completed their certification to work as police officers in municipal departments across Massachusetts. The graduation ceremony was held Friday, Sept. 13 at Weston Auditorium on the Fitchburg State campus.

"This is an extraordinary accomplishment," President Lapidus told the graduates and guests at the ceremony, acknowledging years of diligence in academic and physical training. "I know it will serve them well as they serve the communities that employ them."

Municipal Police Training
Committee Interim Executive

Director Robert Ferullo Jr. saluted the graduates as well as the university for the vision to create the program. "You are about to embark on a profession that is second to none," he told the graduates, adding that the university has created a "cutting edge" program.

Academy Director Lisa Lane McCarty had warm words for the graduates as well as the training staff who supervised the 17-week academy the graduates completed this summer. "There is nothing you all cannot achieve," she said.

Of the nine graduates, four have already secured full-time work as police officers in Massachusetts. The *Sentinel & Enterprise* [covered the event](#) and posted an online photo gallery.

[Learn more](#)



Graduates from our second recruit officer class, from left: Jayson Urato, Tyler Brabham, Jessica Ferreira, Matthew Beal, Adam Hyde, Madison Medina, Alaina Socrat, Ryan Manganelli, and Andrew Gower. All completed bachelor's degrees in May and have begun their master's degrees.

University recognized for social mobility in US News rankings

The latest *U.S. News & World Report* college rankings were published recently with a new element: social mobility. Because of its service to disadvantaged students, Fitchburg State was named a Top Performer on Social Mobility in the magazine's Best Colleges 2020 rankings.

The issue reports that economically disadvantaged students are less likely than others to finish college, even when controlling for other characteristics. But some colleges are more successful than others at advancing social mobility by enrolling and graduating large proportions of disadvantaged students awarded with Pell Grants. The vast majority of these federal grants are awarded to students whose adjusted gross family incomes are under \$50,000.



[Learn more](#)

Reminder: web site town halls planned

The Marketing and Integrated Communications Department is working with a professional

consultant to rebuild the university web site. Students, staff and faculty are invited to one of two "town hall"-type sessions to preview the new design on **Thursday, Sept. 26 at 10 a.m. or 3:30 p.m.** in Kent Recital Hall.

For those unable to make either of those times, there will be two additional sessions at **10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2** in Percival Hall, room 108.

No registration is required to attend any of the sessions.

The new site will launch in 2020.



Reminder: #HackFitchburg event

Faculty, students and staff are encouraged to participate when the ideaLab at 717 Main St. hosts its second #HackFitchburg event **tonight from 6 to 8:30 p.m.**, bringing community stakeholders together for a fun-filled brainstorming activity. The event will focus on how to create strong student-community connections in Fitchburg.



"These events bring people together and make conversations about community development engaging through active brainstorming," said Joshua Croke, a consultant working with Fitchburg State at the ideaLab. "It also provides opportunities for residents to be directly involved in sharing their ideas for their neighborhoods and the communities of which they are a part."

[Learn more](#)

ALFA lecture on Tuesday explores "Who is American?"

We the People. The Constitution begins with those deceptively simple words, but how do Americans define that "We"? In "We the People," Professor **Ben Railton** (English Studies) argues that throughout our history two competing yet interconnected concepts have battled to define our national identity and community: exclusionary and inclusive visions of who gets to be an American. The talk, part of Adult Learning in the Fitchburg Area ([ALFA](#))'s Food for Thought lecture series, will be given at **2:30 p.m. tomorrow** in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall.



Talk will explore LGBTQIA+ representation in popular culture

A common response to modern fiction and literature, especially any based on historical settings, that includes LGBTQIA+ people is that "they shouldn't be included" because "they didn't exist

back then." In "Unclouding the Rainbow in History," at **2 p.m. Thursday** in Ellis White Lecture Hall, presenters Kisha G. Tracy (English Studies) and Fitchburg State alumna and PhD candidate Danielle Girard will explore why that view is incorrect.

Tracy is an Associate Professor of English Studies and former Coordinator of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Fitchburg State.

Girard is a PhD candidate at Lancaster University, UK and alum of Fitchburg State. Her thesis, tentatively titled "Slashing the Frontier; Queer Representation and the Hetero-normative Canon: Examining *Star Trek* and the Effects of Participatory Culture," explores Gene Roddenberry's *Star Trek* at the intersection of Queer and Fan Theory.

Washington Center internships discussed on Sept. 30

The campus will welcome the Washington Center's Internship/Career Building Program representative to discuss Spring 2020 internships and career development planning beyond this spring in Washington, DC at **3:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 30** in Miller Oval.

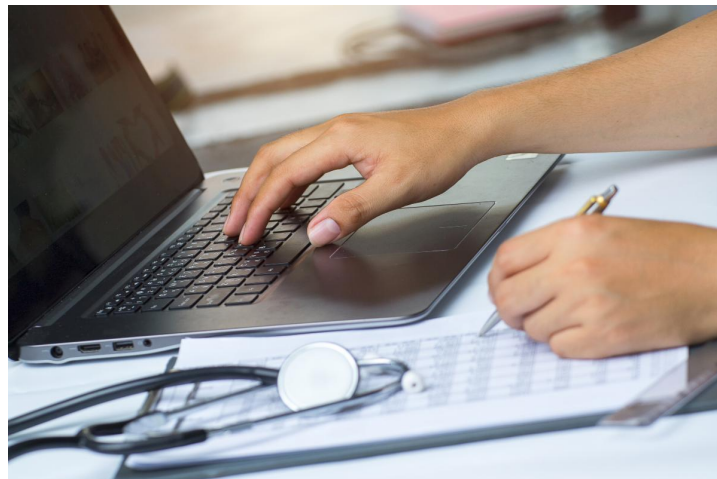
Professor Joshua Spero (Economics, History and Political Science) will also be visiting classrooms with the Washington Center representative during the day.

Fitchburg State students have long participated in the [internship program](#) that allows them to gain valuable career building experiences to advance their studies and their long-term goals.



Reminder: GCE hosts online forensic nursing webinar

The Division of Graduate and Continuing Education will present a free webinar on the online Master of Science in Nursing (Forensic) degree program, designed for registered nurses who wish to pursue advanced leadership positions in the community and the healthcare system, at **1 p.m. Wednesday**. Graduates are prepared to contribute to the development of nursing science, to the improvement of healthcare, and to pursue doctoral study.



CenterStage and cultural events

The work of Matt Eich, who uses photography to make long-form projects related to memory, family, community, and the American condition, will be on display in the Hammond Hall Art

Gallery through **Friday, Oct. 25**. The exhibit is part of the [Fitchburg State University CenterStage](#) arts and culture series.

The exhibit, featuring works from Eich's series "Sin & Salvation in Baptist Town" and "Carry Me Ohio," portrays the way of life in two different towns. The images depict communities affected by deep poverty and systemic violence as well as those trying to rebuild after their natural resources have been exhausted. [Click here](#) to learn more.



On the Conlon Hall Media Wall: "The Paper Hat Game" by Torry Bend

The innovative video art of Torry Bend, merging puppetry and computer animation among other disciplines, is on display through the Fitchburg State University CenterStage arts and culture series. The exhibit, titled "The Paper Hat Game," is on display through the end of December at the Conlon Hall Media Wall at 316 Highland Ave.



Torry Bend is a puppet artist and scenic designer whose work has been seen at puppet festivals across the country. She has created and directed "If My Feet Have Lost the Ground," "Love's Infrastructure" and "Nesting." Her show "The Paper Hat Game" received the UNIMA citation of excellence, the highest honor in North American puppetry, was nominated for a Drama Desk Award and was a New York Times Critic's Pick.

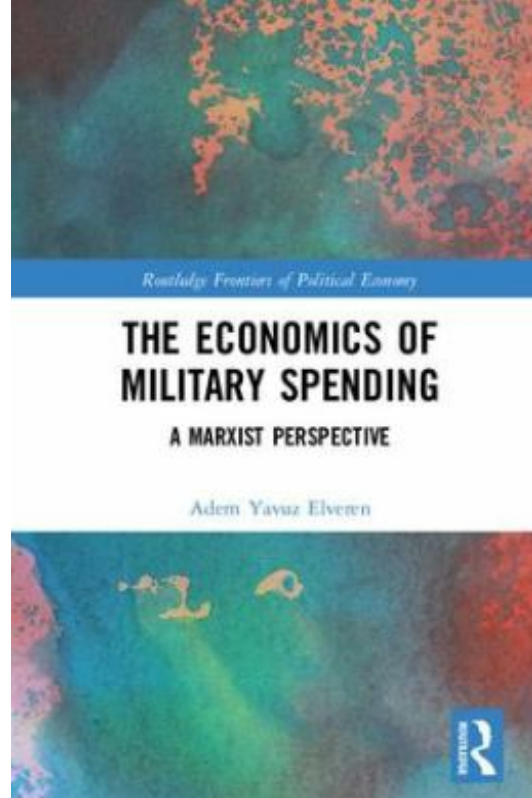
[Click here](#) to learn more about the artist.

Faculty Notes

Adem Elveren (Economics, History and Political Science) reports the publication of his latest book, *The Economics of Military Spending: A Marxist Perspective* (Routledge). Elveren's book offers a comprehensive analysis of the effect of military expenditures on the economy. It is the first book to provide both a theoretical and an empirical investigation of how military spending affects the profit rate, a key indicator of the health of a capitalist economy. More information on the book can be found [here](#). Elveren was also featured on a podcast about the book that can be heard [here](#).

Additionally, a paper that Elveren co-authored entitled "Hidden Gender Dimensions of the Brain Drain: The Case of Turkey" was published in the

journal *New Perspectives on Turkey*. That paper can be viewed [here](#).



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