
Fitchburg State University Today

Monday, Feb. 4, 2019 - Volume 9, Issue 10

Crowd celebrates opening of ideaLab, game design studio

Fitchburg State's transformation of the Theater Block on Main Street marked another milestone last week with the ribbon-cutting [ceremony](#) for the ideaLab that includes the game design studio.

President Lapidus was joined by local and state officials for the official dedication of the space, which was followed by an open house that drew a large crowd of campus and community members to see the first phase of the project for themselves.

Jules Stackhouse '19, a senior studying game design at Fitchburg State, said the studio facilities are unmatched. "Every day I'm so excited to be in the game design lab," he said. "I hope at the end of this semester we can show you tremendous projects."



From left, State Rep. Stephan Hay, student Jules Stackhouse '19, President Lapidus and Mayor Stephen DiNatale cut the ribbon at the ideaLab on Jan. 29.

The opening of the ideaLab has drawn widespread media coverage, including articles in the [Sentinel & Enterprise](#) and [Telegram & Gazette](#).

[Read more](#)

University again ranked as Military Friendly

For the fifth consecutive year, Fitchburg State has been named a [Military Friendly](#) campus.

The designation is presented in recognition of the university's academic policies and compliance; admissions and orientation; culture and commitment; financial aid and assistance; graduation and career; and military student support and retention. The university was found to exceed all of those standards in this year's survey.



Information about the services available to veterans at Fitchburg State can be found on the university website at fitchburgstate.edu/veterans.

Speakers Series resumes today

The university Speaker Series begins its spring programming **today at 12:30 p.m.** in the Center for Teaching and Learning with a talk by **Assistant**

Professor Katharine Covino (English Studies) entitled "It's Just Not What I Thought It Would Be: Novice Teachers Navigating Tensions in Identity."

The talk will be in the Center for Teaching and Learning in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library. Refreshments will be served.

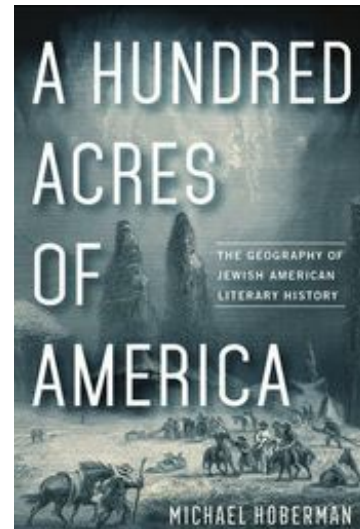


Faculty talks in library

The Center for Faculty Scholarship and Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library invite the campus community to celebrate two faculty recent faculty publications. Both events will be held in the University Archives (S03-Hammond Hall). Light refreshments will be served.

At **3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5**, Professor **Michael Hoberman** (English Studies) will discuss his recently published book, *A Hundred Acres of America: The Geography of Jewish American Literary History* (Rutgers University Press, 2018). More information about the book can be found [online](#).

At **3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20**, Professor **Josh Spero** (Economics, History, & Political Science), will discuss his recently published book, *Middle Powers and Regional Influence: Critical Foreign Policy Junctures for Poland, South Korea, and Bolivia* (Rowman & Littlefield International, 2019). More information about the book can be found [online](#).



Harrod Lecture on Feb. 13

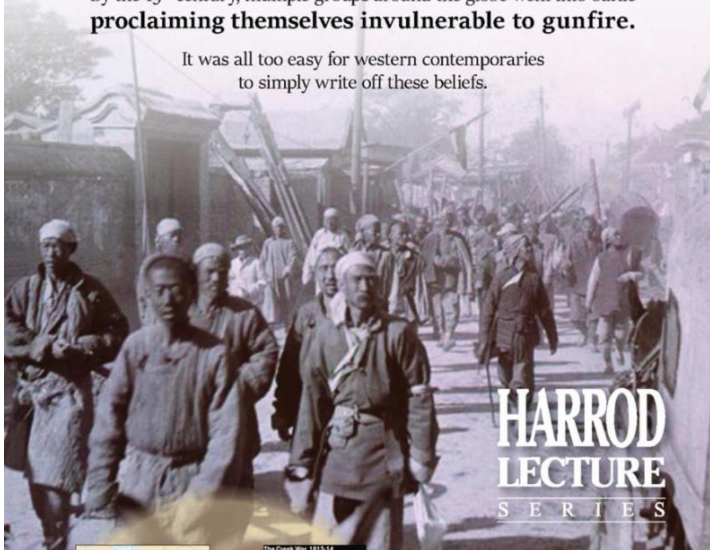
Professor Ben Lieberman (Economics, History and Political Science) will deliver the Harrod Lecture at **3:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, Feb. 13. "Magic and the Cartography of Resistance to Imperialism" will be presented in Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center.

Magic and the Cartography of Resistance to Imperialism

By the 19th century, multiple groups around the globe went into battle **proclaiming themselves invulnerable to gunfire.**

It was all too easy for western contemporaries to simply write off these beliefs.



HARROD
LECTURE
SERIES



Mapping invulnerability helps to reveal the level and patterns of resistance on a global level during a period of rapid expansion of imperial power and of settler societies.

By Ben Lieberman, Ph.D.
Economics, History & Political Science

February 13, 2019
3:30 pm

Presidents' Hall
Mazzaferro Center



Info session Wednesday on GIS crime mapping program

Learn about the new interdisciplinary [minor](#) in GIS (geographic information system) crime mapping and analysis at an information session at **4 p.m.**

Wednesday, Feb. 6 in McKay C-252.

The minor is designed to serve students who want to use GIS to transform crime-related information into actionable intelligence for officers in the field and for crime analysts in public safety agencies.

The program will provide students with the latest geospatial skills and essential criminal justice knowledge that can help them aggregate crime data, identify patterns and clusters, explore the relationship between crime and other types of datasets, and assess the effectiveness of crime-reduction strategies.



The information session is open to all. [Click here](#) to learn more about the program.

New partnership will help educate teachers

With recent data showing teachers are leaving the classroom at alarming rates, there is a growing demand for professional learning opportunities that support K-12

educators. To meet this need, Fitchburg State's [Office of Extended Campus Programs](#) announces the launch of a new suite of online professional development courses delivered by [PCG Education](#) (PCG), a leading provider of research-based, online professional learning for districts and educators.

Through this partnership, Fitchburg State will offer 20 graduate-level professional development online courses, developed by PCG's team of educational experts that will allow current K-12 educators to build their skills while actively teaching in the classroom.



[Learn more](#)

Reminder: MLK exhibition on activism on display in library

The university's Martin Luther King Jr. observations continue this month with a photo exhibit, "Activism through the Years," on display through **Feb. 22** in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library.

Student edition of online political show now airing

Fitchburg State student Alexander Ramos '19, the student representative to the university's Board of Trustees, hosts a student edition of the online program FLAP-TV, an outgrowth of a popular Fitchburg-Leominster All Politics Facebook group devoted to local and national issues.



In "FLAP TV (Student Edition)," Ramos and a panel of fellow students discuss issues of local and regional interest. The latest edition of the show, which tackles issues including the minimum wage and the Electoral College, can be seen [online](#).

Community Read events continue this month

Fitchburg State's [Community Read](#) of Celeste Ng's novel *Everything I Never Told You* continues with a series of talks, exhibitions and screenings that will be held on- and off-campus. The acclaimed book focuses on love, loss, and the meaning of family.

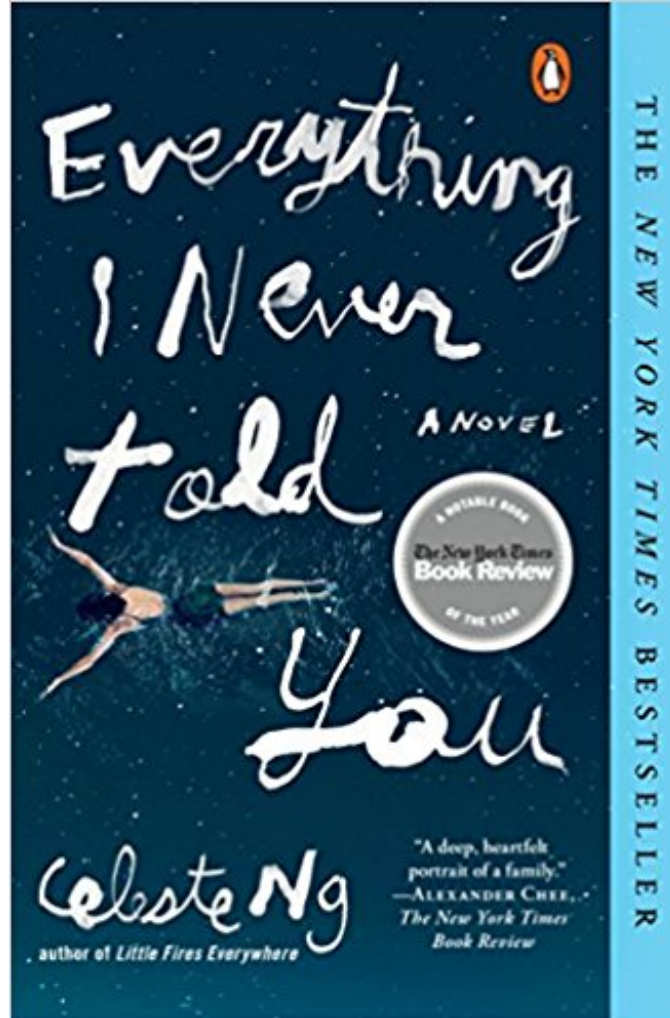
Among the Spring events:

- There will be a panel talk and group discussion at **2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12** in Ellis White Lecture Hall exploring various ways of viewing and considering the intersections of gender, race, family, self, and identity performance at work within Ng's piece.

Panelists will include Fitchburg State faculty members Katharine Covino-Poutasse, Danette Day, Lena Ficco, and Kori Ryan.

- The program moves to the [Leominster Public Library](#) from **1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23**, when Assistant Professor Kevin McCarthy (Communications Media) presents "Who Am I? Identity and Belonging in Multiracial America," a screening and discussion on multiracial identity using short clips and documentaries.
- Back in Fitchburg, there will be an opening reception from **1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 2** at the [Fitchburg Art Museum](#) for its exhibition "Everything We Never Told You," featuring artistic work by students at Fitchburg High School based on lessons learned from the Lee family in Ng's book. The exhibit will be on display through March.
- The Community Read Keynote Event will be held at **6:30 p.m. Monday, April 1**

in the Falcon Hub in Hammond Hall, when we welcome screenwriter Julia Cox, who is adapting Ng's novel for the screen. Cox will discuss the process she used to create her screenplay and the intersection of art and industry when transforming a novel to film. There will be a book and movie trivia event after the talk.



Keep up to date with all Community Read events by visiting fitchburgcommunityread.com.

Teaching opportunities in Grad and Continuing Education

The Office of [Graduate and Continuing Education](#) is currently seeking requests from faculty to teach for the summer 2019, fall 2019, winter 2020, spring 2020, and summer 2020 semesters, in both the day division and in GCE.

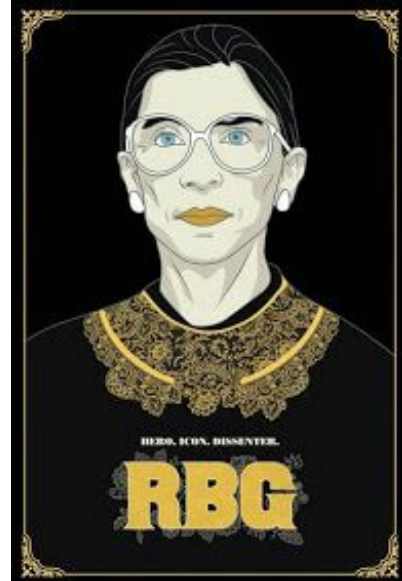
Faculty members interested in teaching through GCE should contact the appropriate department chair to express their interest and to obtain the chair's approval. The call for courses for the year is issued by the Registrar and closes on **Tuesday, Feb. 19**.

Ginsburg documentary "RBG" screens on Feb. 20

The acclaimed documentary "RBG," about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, will screen at **3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20** in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. The screening is free and open to the public.

The presentation is sponsored by the Center for Conflict Studies, the Minor in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library, and FemCon.

The screening will be followed by a brief discussion.



CenterStage and cultural events

Acclaimed actress Ginger Grace will bring her one-woman show "The First Ladies Coalition" to Fitchburg State for a performance at **3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27**. Admission is free and open to the public. The performance will be in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library.

The 90-minute performance encapsulates the lives of Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson and Mary Todd Lincoln through the eyes of the fictional Colleen, an ex-con, immigrant and survivor of domestic abuse. It describes the impact of women in politics from the perspective of the women themselves, revealing secrets well-kept and shedding light on their contributions to political representation today, as well as the #MeToo movement and social justice.



Photo Credits:
First Ladies courtesy of Smithsonian
Ginger Grace by Francisco Escobar:

Grace developed the play after touring nationally opposite Rich Little in "The Presidents," in which she played every First Lady from Jackie Kennedy to Hillary Clinton. "The First Ladies Coalition" premiered at the Bridge Theatre in New York City in 2012.

Grace has also toured with her production of William Luce's "The Belle of Amherst," in which she plays Emily Dickinson. Learn more about Grace and "The First Ladies Coalition" at firstladiescoalition.com.

Grace will also be presenting a theater workshop from **10 to 11:30 a.m. Feb. 27** in Weston Auditorium.

In the Hammond Hall Art Gallery: "Touchstones" by Colleen Pearce

The work of artist Colleen Pearce is now on display in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery. There will be a gallery talk with the artist at **3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20**. The exhibition is part of the Fitchburg State University [CenterStage](#) arts and culture series.

She studied ceramics, drawing and painting, receiving a diploma from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, and a BFA from Tufts University. While living in Australia, she earned a diploma in art history from the Gallery of New South Wales. She has taught at Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. She has been a guest lecturer at deCordova and Tufts on topic of the development of art in children. She was the recipient of a Massachusetts Cultural Grant in 2011 and recently received her MFA at

On the Conlon Hall Media Wall: "Cold Hudson" by Billy Wirasnik

Accomplished filmmaker and sound designer [Billy Wirasnik](#) will present a wall talk about his piece "Cold Hudson" at **3:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6**. The film, on display on the Conlon Hall Media Wall through March 4, contains stunning footage from along the Hudson River.



"Water Meditation" by Colleen Pearce

Staff notes

Vice President for Student Affairs **Laura A. Bayless** was a panelist in the New England College Personnel Association's webinar in January. Bayless discussed the transition into working as a student affairs professional after graduating from college.

Bayless will also make a presentation for the American College Personnel Association's Commission for Assessment and Evaluation from 1 to 2 p.m. **Thursday, Feb. 14**. Bayless will discuss assessment from a vice president's point of view.

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