
Fitchburg State University Today

Monday, March 5, 2018 - Volume 8, Issue 11

Crocker Center initiative to link university, community

The Crocker Center for Civic Engagement kicked off a new initiative to avail community members of the expertise of university faculty while creating opportunities for students to put what they're learning into practice.

The Crocker Center Community Scholarship Group launched with a reception on Feb. 28 at Montachusett Opportunity Council headquarters on River Street.

"This project will unite our faculty's scholarly interests with community needs in a powerful way," President Lapidus said. "This will be a win-win for the campus and the city."



Crocker Center Coordinator David Weiss addressed guests at the Community Scholarship Group kickoff.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Alberto Cardelle welcomed approximately 50 guests at the event, including Fitchburg State faculty and staff, as well as leaders of business and community groups.

"We have a very large group of very qualified faculty and staff at the university with a range of expertise," Cardelle said. "All of them are looking for opportunities to apply the knowledge they have."

[Learn more](#)

Military families reunited at campus ceremony

Dozens of families were reunited Saturday when Fitchburg State University welcomed returning soldiers from the 1-181st Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts Army National Guard following a yearlong deployment overseas.

[Click here to see a photo gallery on our Facebook page.](#)

The soldiers were deployed to Africa as part of Task Force Sinai in support of the Multinational Force and Observers Mission to

assist with joint security efforts. It was the regiment's sixth deployment since 9/11.

[Learn more](#)



Specialist Rondinelle DePaula, studying criminal justice at Fitchburg State, posed with family and friends.

White privilege is topic of CDI discussion Tuesday

The Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness presents "white privilege: let's talk about it" at **3:30 p.m. tomorrow** in the main lounge at Hammond. The roundtable discussion will include remarks by Shelley Errington Nicholson, director of the Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement at Mount Wachusett Community College, who will discuss what white privilege is.

Also presenting will be Fitchburg State Professor Will Cortezia (Education), who will discuss tools to manage and move forward with privilege, while Professor Diego Ubiera (English Studies) will lead a discussion of scenarios in which participants try to use the tools they've just acquired. There will also be time for questions and answers.

Refreshments will be served.

white PRIVILEGE

let's talk about it!

**COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION
CREATING EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY**

**Tuesday, March 6 • 3:30 PM
HAMMOND MAIN LOUNGE**

 **FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**
CENTER FOR DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVENESS

Women's History Month events announced

Panel talks, performances and lectures comprise Fitchburg State University's observances of Women's History Month in March.

There will be an International Women's Day Fair from noon to 5 p.m on **Thursday, March 8** at the main lounge at Hammond Hall. The women's empowerment-themed student organization fair will include tables from campus

clubs including Feminist Conversations, the Gay Straight Alliance, FAVE Club, Phi Sigma Sigma, Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Tau.

At 2 p.m there will be a discussion circle with international students who were interviewed for the "Herstory" project conducted by students from Professor Viera Lorencova's (Communications Media) Intercultural Communication course. Various gender gap statistics such as differences in labor force participation rates between men and women will be presented by students from Professor Ozge Ozay's (Economics, History, and Political Science) Political Economy of Gender course, and poster designs from Professor Jon Krasner's (Communications Media) Image and Design class will also be on a display.

[Learn more](#)

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

POETRY SLAM: KYLA LACEY

Kyla Lacey is a blogger, emcee, and award-winning poet. Her poetry has garnered millions of views on Facebook and YouTube. Check out bass-schuler.com/kyla-lacey/

MARCH 1 7 PM
HAMMOND HALL, FALCON HUB
Sponsored by Feminist Conversations & Black Student Union

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FAIR

Join us for a women's empowerment-themed student organization fair. Attend our discussion circle at 2 PM as we explore the experiences of women from around the world.

MARCH 8 12 - 5 PM
HAMMOND HALL, MAIN LOUNGE
Organizing sponsors include Feminist Conversations, Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, International Education, Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness & Communications Media

NANCY KELLY MEMORIAL LECTURE

Susan Navarre, Director of the Fitchburg Historical Society
"Fitchburg's Women from the Gilded Age to World War II: Private Lives and Public Roles"

MARCH 20 3:30 PM
MAZZAFERRO CENTER, PRESIDENTS' HALL
Sponsored by Economics, History and Political Science & Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies

#HERMIONE: A FEMINIST CONVERSATION

English Studies professor Dr. Kisha Tracy will lead us in conversation about feminism in literature and contemporary film by highlighting Hermione's role in the Harry Potter series.

MARCH 22 3:30 PM
HAMMOND HALL, MAIN LOUNGE
Sponsored by Feminist Conversations & Harry Potter Alliance

WOMEN IN THE ARTS: A CELEBRATION FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Includes music, poetry, dance and more.

MARCH 29 4 PM
CONLON FINE ARTS, KENT RECITAL HALL
Sponsored by Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies & Feminist Conversations

ANNUAL LEAD(H)ERSHIP CONFERENCE

Students watch your email for more information.

MARCH 30 2 - 5 PM
HAMMOND HALL, MAIN LOUNGE
Sponsored by Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies & Feminist Conversations



Academic focus: Cybersecurity launches

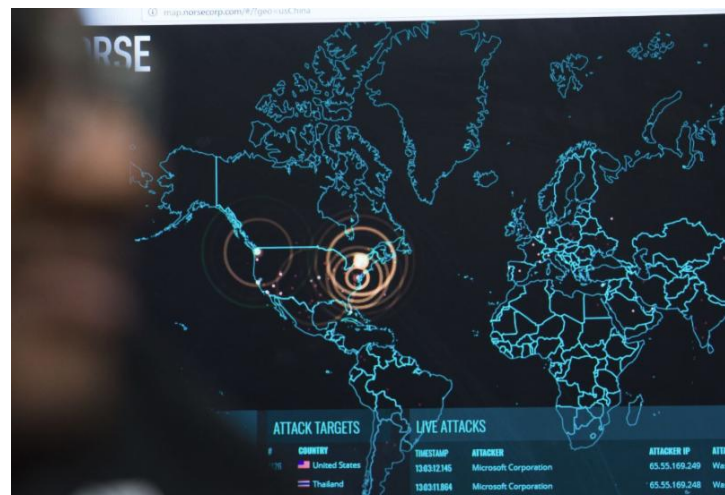
Standing at the front of a classroom in Edgerly Hall, Professor Nadimpalli Mahadev was schooling his students in the ways of "passive reconnaissance," and how much information can be gleaned just by exploring an organization's website.

Online organizational charts can provide people's names and job titles, which opens more doors for exploration.

"You want to snoop into the person's behavior," he said. "You know some people's names, you know their email addresses. There's a whole lot of snooping you can do."

Professor Mahadev wasn't encouraging any malfeasance, however. It was an early lesson in a new undergraduate course called "ethical hacking," launched this semester as part of Fitchburg State's new [cybersecurity concentration](#). The program is the university's latest offering to span academic departments to provide new opportunities for students.

[Learn more](#)



Falcons raise \$15K for Alzheimer's research in McNabb game

The Fitchburg State Falcons ice hockey team helped raise \$15,000 for the Walk to End Alzheimer's in memory of longtime Assistant Coach Terry McNabb. All proceeds from "Terry and Bette McNabb's Game" went to Alzheimer's research, along with funds raised from sponsorships and additional donations.

Shown here presenting the funds are, from left, Karen McNabb Noon, Bette McNabb, Fitchburg State Director of Alumni Relations Emily Austin-Bruns, Kathleen McNabb Hatch, Alzheimer's Association Senior Development Officer Melissa Shirtcliff and Falcons Hockey Coach Dean Fuller.



[Learn more](#)

ITEC career fair brought builders to students

Some of the state's largest construction firms engaged with students at a career fair last week in Hammond Hall.

The Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts (AGC MA) has been working with the university's construction technology program (part of its Industrial Technology Department) since the fall semester on efforts to develop the next generation of construction managers.

The partnership should help construction firms meet workforce needs and support the university's programs through the creation of a new Industry Advisory Board, according to AGC MA Director of Industry Advancement & Labor Relations Brendan Carter.



The career fair featured industry leaders from some of the state's largest, most respected construction companies meeting with students to discuss internships and full-time positions, from construction management and architectural technology to business development and financial positions.

Habitat for Humanity home dedicated

Fitchburg State helped celebrate [Habitat for Humanity North Central Massachusetts](#)' dedication ceremony on Saturday, Feb. 24, where the Yang family accepted the keys to their new house.

More than 50 Fitchburg State alumni, students, faculty and staff donated their time to help build the house on Henry Street.

James Walsh '75 represented the Alumni Association at the ceremony.



Mayor Stephen DiNatale handed the keys to the family during the ceremony.

Speakers Series continues today

The university's Speakers Series continues **today** from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. with a talk in the Center for Teaching and Learning at the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library by **Professor Kisha Tracy** (English Studies) entitled "Bisclavret's Wife, Were-abusers, and the Fear of Violence."

Refreshments will be served.



Student films accepted into regional film festival

Three documentary films produced by Fitchburg State students have been selected for the competitive 2018 Salem Film Festival's Mass Reality Check.

The Mass Reality Check features undergraduate, graduate or recently graduated students from Massachusetts colleges and universities.

The films were produced in Professor Robert Harris' advanced film and Professor Kevin McCarthy's intermediate film courses in the fall semester.

"Acceptance into the Mass Reality Check/Salem Film Festival is a significant and noteworthy achievement, one that will enhance each filmmaker's resume as they graduate and enter the workforce," Harris said. "It will be an honor and a pleasure to participate in the screening with students from other universities and colleges. The continued success of Fitchburg State University's documentary production area fortifies the Communications Media Department's reputation as an undergraduate film program of the highest quality."

- *Project Puffin* was created by Vanessa Kahn (director, camera), Kylee Acevedo (camera, editor) and Alexa DeMasse (sound recordist).
- *Robin's Nest* was created by Nicole Gaffney (director), Sarah Gardner (producer), Matthew Parece (camera) and Brennan Tremblay (editor).
- *The Vendor* was created by Matt Elicone (director) and Nick Girard (producer).

The films will be screened at the festival at 1 p.m. Friday, March 23 in Salem.

For more on the film festival, visit <https://salemfilmfest.com/2018/>.

Reminder: acclaimed artist Xu Bing lectures Tuesday



The Communications Media Lecture Series continues at 3:30 p.m. **Tuesday, March 6** at Ellis White Lecture Hall, with world-renowned multimedia artist Xu Bing presenting excerpts from his latest project, an as-yet-unreleased experimental fiction film called *Dragonfly Eyes*.

The accomplished artist has exhibited widely in the U.S. and across the globe. His calligraphic work, collected by major museums, was recently shown in an exhibit of Chinese art that just closed at the Guggenheim Museum in New York.

[Learn more](#)



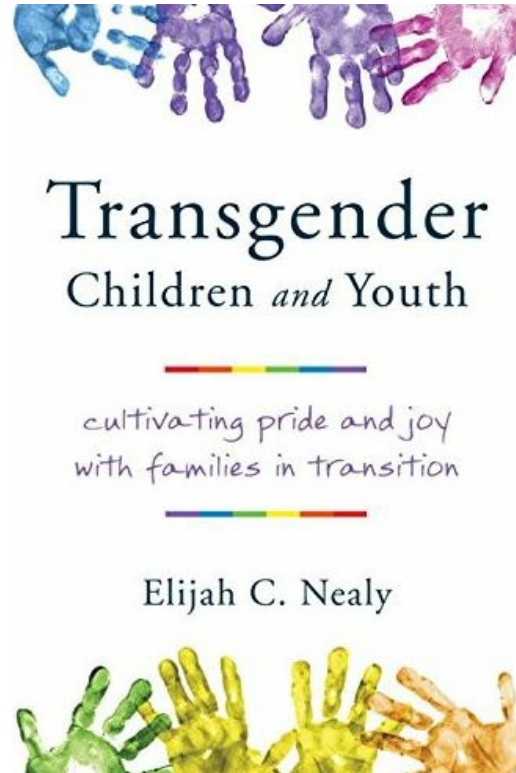
Xu Bing is pictured here in his studio with his work "Square Word Calligraphy," in which the calligraphy is made of English words.

Reminder: LGBTQ series features author talk Thursday

The university's "Journey to Equality: The LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement" series continues this week with a talk by author Elijah C. Nealy entitled *Helping Families with Transgender Children Navigate the Emotional Transition* at 6:30 p.m. **Thursday, March 8** at the Fitchburg Public Library, 610 Main St.

Bringing decades of clinical practice, especially with transgender and gender-diverse children and youth, Nealy will explore the joys and challenges families of trans youth experience. The program is ideal not only for families but also trans youth and adults, students, educators, professionals interested in gender issues and family counseling. Nealy is a professor of social work at the University of St. Joseph in West Hartford, Conn., as well as an ordained minister who preaches and provides workshops within faith communities. He is an out trans man, father and author of the book *Transgender Children and Youth: Cultivating Pride and Joy with Families in Transition*.

[Learn more](#)



HR Spotlight: Karen Chrobak

Karen Chrobak joined our community this semester as accounting administrator in Financial Services.

"It sounded like a great opportunity to expand my accounting knowledge and further my career," Chrobak said, describing her reaction to the job posting. "Overall it seemed like the type of position I was looking for."

Chrobak came to Fitchburg State after more than 10 years at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and was, she said, ready for a change.

"When I visited the campus for the first time, I was amazed at how great it looked," she said, adding she's looking forward to seeing it in the spring.

"I believe in first impressions, and after visiting campus I can honestly say I felt drawn to Fitchburg State," she continued. "I have worked in several places, and have never been given such a warm welcome as I received on my first day by the Financial Services department, and everyone I met along the way. They went above and beyond, and immediately made me feel like I belonged."

Chrobak said she looks forward to getting to know more members of the campus community.



Nursing program ranked top 3 in state

RegisteredNursing.org recently released their rankings of the state's top nursing programs, and Fitchburg State placed third on their list.



The site measured pass rates on the NCLEX-RN exams, among other factors, to rank the top 20 nursing programs in Massachusetts.

[Read more here](#)

M.Ed. in middle school ed is topic of webinar March 21

Fitchburg State's Office of Graduate and Continuing Education will hold a free [webinar](#) at 5 p.m. **Wednesday, March 21** for educators interested in their new Master of Education in Middle School Education program.

The 30-minute webinar will cover curriculum, admissions and application requirements and more, and attendees will have their admission application fees waived.

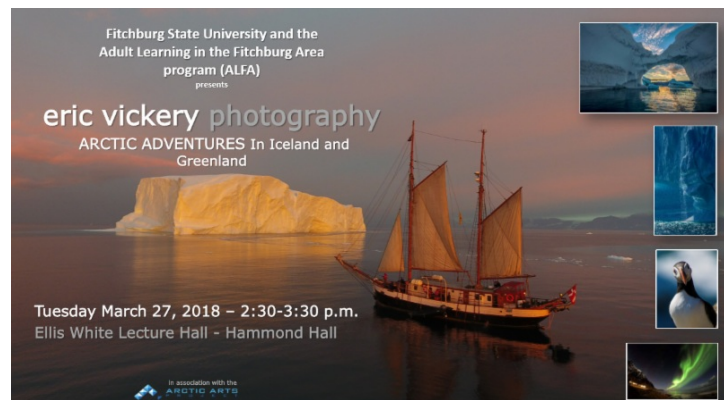
[Learn more](#)



ALFA lecturer will share sights of Iceland and Greenland

The ice caves, glaciers and remote landscapes of Iceland and Greenland captured by the lens of Lunenburg-based photographer Eric Vickery will be on display when Fitchburg State University's Adult Learning in the Fitchburg Area (ALFA) program hosts a free presentation at 2:30 p.m. **Tuesday, March 27.**

Vickery's talk, part of ALFA's "Food for Thought" lecture series,



will be delivered in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St.

An adventure and travel photographer, Vickery joined photographers from 10 other countries on a winter visit to the south coast of Iceland to experience ice caves, auroras and glaciers. He contributed the Arctic Arts Project, inspiring with a visual response to climate change.

[Learn more](#)

CenterStage and cultural events

ARteries opens Wednesday at Hammond Hall Art Gallery

Do not miss our tenth anniversary of Italian culinary tours with renowned author Fred Plotkin.

ARteries, the juried exhibition of student artwork, will be on display in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery from Wednesday, March 7 through Wednesday, April 19. There will be an opening reception **Wednesday, March 28** at 5:30 p.m. at the gallery.

Campania - a Dinner with Fred Plotkin

Do not miss our tenth anniversary of Italian culinary tours with renowned author Fred Plotkin. This perennial sellout will be held at 5:30 p.m. **Friday, April 20** and **Saturday, April 21** in the Falcon Hub in Hammond Hall.

This year's celebration will begin with a hour of passed bites and entertainment prior to our lecture and dinner. Delight your palate with the authentic tastes of Campania's food and wine as our friend Fred returns to Fitchburg to enlighten us about the history, culture and, perhaps most importantly, cuisine of Campania. An authentic menu of specialty dishes will set the stage for the gourmand's verbal tour of the region.

Come experience the traditions of Campania through this delightful culinary and cultural adventure.

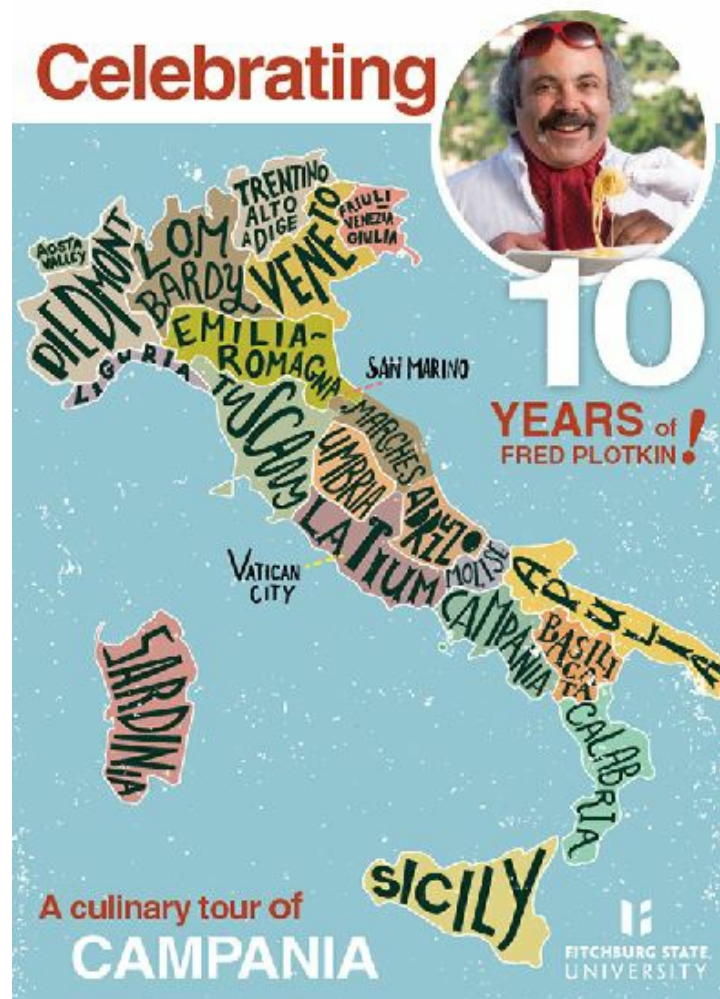
Plotkin's talk is sponsored by the Sandro and Lillian Clementi Lecture Fund of Fitchburg State University. Tickets are \$35, inclusive of tax and tip, and advance purchase is required. There will also be a cash bar featuring regional wines.

Tickets may be purchased at the Weston Box Office, 353 North St., which is open 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, and can be reached at 978-665-3347. Tickets may also be ordered [online](#).

[Order tickets](#)

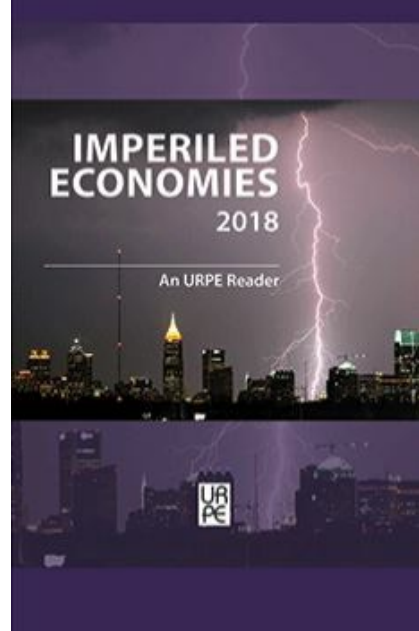
Faculty Spotlight

Adem Elveren (Economics, History and Political Science) saw the publication of his article "The Pious Predator State: The New Regime in Turkey" [published](#) in the journal Challenge. Also, his article "Functional Finance and Social



There will also be a cash bar featuring regional wines.

Security: Rereading Abba Lerner" appeared in an edited volume of "Imperiled Economies 2018: An URPE Reader," published by Dollars & Sense in 2017.



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