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Alumni Magazine Fall 2013

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Commencement 2013
Thousands gather to celebrate the Class of 2013.

A Lasting Legacy
President Timothy J. Flanagan reflects on his seven-year tenure as president.

FSU Is Turning 175
Framingham State celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2014!
Dear Alumni and Friends of FSU,

It’s my great honor to serve as interim president of this wonderful university during an exciting period of transition. I had the opportunity to meet many of you during my time as vice president of Academic Affairs from 2004 to 2010, and I’m looking forward to reconnecting and forging new friendships over the next several months.

The upcoming year is sure to be an exciting one as the University celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2014. The opening of Framingham State in 1839 was a transformational moment in the educational history of our nation. It paved the way for higher education to be extended to segments of our population that previously couldn’t or wouldn’t have gone, including women and minority groups. I know many alumni take pride in our distinction as the oldest public normal school in the country. This institution and the hundreds founded after it have educated the workforce of our nation’s public schools. Today, of course, our reach extends well beyond teacher education, as we prepare students for successful careers in a broad range of disciplines.

To see just how far we’ve come over the past 175 years, one only needs to read the cover story of this issue of Framingham State Magazine, which is focused on our excellent science and math programs. Inside these pages, you will learn about the innovative research our students are performing in collaboration with their professors in the areas of biology, physics, chemistry, mathematics, computer science, nursing and environmental science. You will also hear from alumni who are performing advanced research at places like MIT and Emory University and can trace their career success and intellectual curiosity back to their time working in the laboratory as undergraduate students at FSU.

I hope you will be able to visit us at some point next year as we celebrate our historic anniversary. Institutions like Framingham State draw strength from the continued engagement of their alumni—not just in a philanthropic sense, but also in their willingness and desire to share their positive experience with the next generation of students and to form a network of professionals who understand the value and quality of an FSU degree. I hope to hear from you soon and welcome comments and feedback at my office, which can be reached at 508-626-4575.

Best wishes,

Robert A. Martin, PhD
Interim President
Framingham State University

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President Timothy J. Flanagan reflects on his seven-year tenure as president of Framingham State University
A university with its roots as a state teacher preparation college may seem an unlikely place for cutting-edge STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs. Then again, looks can be deceiving. Here at Framingham State University, science and math faculty are conducting applied research on everything from bioterrorism to pythons to the health properties of cranberries. Students are working right alongside faculty in their labs, often paid, thanks to grants from the likes of US Army Labs and Ocean Spray, among others.

Interim President Robert Martin acknowledges that the breadth and depth of the University’s STEM offerings may take some by surprise. “People think of us as producing outstanding math and science educators,” he says. But, “people may not know that we’re also historically very strong in chemistry, mathematics, biology, food and nutrition, and nursing. And we’ve recently added environmental science, an extremely popular major.”

Word of FSU’s STEM strength is getting out, at least among students: recent years have seen the number of STEM majors up significantly. “In the last five years, STEM program enrollment has grown by 34 percent as opposed to 21 percent overall,” says Dr. Linda Vaden-Goad, vice president for Academic Affairs.

This is good news, according to Martin, as it’s in line with the University’s strategic goal of increasing the number of STEM graduates. “Right now, approximately 17 percent of the average graduating class earn a STEM degree. We’d like to increase that to 25 percent over the next five years,” he says. Why? Because state economic forecasts show high demand for STEM-educated professionals, particularly in the MetroWest. “That’s one of our region’s competitive advantages. Just look at companies like Bose, Boston Scientific, and EMC,” he says.

As a state university, Framingham takes a comprehensive approach to this workforce demand. FSU is an active member of the MetroWest STEM Education Network, a partnership among K-12 school systems, businesses and area colleges. The University is offering college-level courses onsite to Marlborough Public Schools Early College STEM High School students. Current STEM majors are mentoring area schoolchildren on Science Olympiad projects, and the University is working energetically with area companies to provide internships for FSU students, knowing many internships lead to jobs. And those jobs pay well, says former President Timothy J. Flanagan, who was the driving force behind the creation of the STEM Education Network. “According to our 2011–2012 Post Graduation Placement Survey, which polls the most recent graduating class, 48 percent of STEM majors are earning $40,000 or more annually, versus 26 percent overall,” says Flanagan, who took over as president at Illinois State University in August.

“Everything here involves students. None of our research would be possible without them.”

Dr. Emmanouil Apostolidis, Assistant Professor in Chemistry and Food Science

FSU’s STEM Programs Lead the Way to 21st-Century Careers

Hands-on Science
Math gives students special problem-solving skills they can use in a wide variety of situations. It prepares them well for the job market.”

Mathematics Professor Joyce Cutler

Equation for Success

Mathematics is one department that has seen dramatic growth in majors: 100 today, versus 60 ten years ago. “I think it’s because teaching is the primary mission at Framingham State,” says Professor Joyce Cutler. “All teaching is done by professors who are outstanding. Good teachers attract good students.” Those students go on to take a wide variety of jobs—from teaching to finance to technology. “Math gives students special problem-solving skills they can use in a wide variety of situations,” she says. “It prepares them well for the job market.”

Math and elementary education major Lauren Grella ’13 says she definitely feels well prepared to start her teaching career in Sudbury. “Being a math major taught me to be precise, which helps in teaching,” she says. As for problem-solving, Grella finds it to be vital not just in teaching math, but also in classroom management. “With teaching, things don’t always go as planned,” she says. “Those problem-solving skills help you respond on your feet.” Grella, who graduated in May, is grateful to the math faculty, whom she says have “been so supportive throughout my four years—they’re so dedicated to students. They want you to be successful.”

Hands-on Research

Adam Kafka, a graduate student in food and nutrition science, is impressed by what he’s found at Framingham State. Interested in youth diabetes and obesity, he’s been working with Dr. Emmanouil Apostolidis, assistant professor in chemistry and food science, studying the potential antioxidant properties of sugar beet leaves. “Dr. Apostolidis is studying different plant products, trying to determine which would be good candidates for diabetes prevention,” Kafka explains.

This fall, thanks to a grant from Ocean Spray, he is a paid assistant in Apostolidis’ lab, researching the potential health properties of cranberry extracts. “I was surprised I was able to get grant money to do research here this. At Framingham State, I’m getting the education I need plus the hands-on research necessary to succeed in my field.”

Apostolidis explains that involving students in research isn’t a nice addition at FSU—it’s critical. “Everything here involves students. None of our research would be possible without them,” he says. In addition to Kafka, Apostolidis had six students working in his lab over the last two years and is proud that their work resulted in four poster presentations at national meetings. This kind of experience is invaluable, he notes, and one students can only get at small, liberal arts institutions. “At larger universities, research is done by PhD students. Here, because we don’t have doctoral students, undergraduates get excellent research opportunities,” he says.

Well-Rounded Preparation

Biology and wildlife management major Adam Parlin ’13, who graduated in May, agrees that research gives FSU students a competitive edge. Next year, thanks to his research, Parlin will start a master’s degree program in zoology at Miami University in Ohio.

“At Framingham State, I’m getting the education I need plus the hands-on research necessary to succeed in my field.”

Adam Kafka, Graduate Student in Food and Nutrition Science

Before embarking on those studies, however, Parlin will journey down to North Carolina for his third year, doing research at Nags Head Wood Ecological Preserve. “It’s a maritime forest, a rare habitat that only occurs on barrier islands, one that’s also home to the northernmost population of alligators,” he explains. Parlin is part of a team working with the Nature Conservancy on a population estimate—they’ll spend the summer capturing, marking and recording the creatures.

This fieldwork is thanks to the connections of Biology Assistant Professor Steve Dinkelacker. “Dr. Dinkelacker is all about research,” says Parlin. “He wants undergraduate students to do their own research.”

“My goal as a teacher is to develop creative thinkers who can integrate information and apply it to a problem, rather than regurgitate facts,” says Dinkelacker. In his lab, he maintains several reptile populations—including a rarely bred scrub python, named Leviathan—that keeps students actively engaged. “I view my laboratory as a place where students can be introduced to applied research and gain the practical experience needed to compete in today’s workforce,” he says.

While Parlin acknowledges research experience as invaluable, he also credits the well-rounded liberal arts preparation he gained at Framingham State with paving his way to Miami. “In my 40-minute phone interview, I talked all about my research. I was able to do that clearly and succinctly because I’ve also developed my writing and speaking skills as well.”

This dual preparation is critical in producing 21st-century workers, according to President Martin. “Our STEM programs are so successful because they’ve built upon a first-rate liberal arts foundation. Students learn to write clearly, think critically and work in teams. This foundational bedrock is what helps get them jobs,” he says.
Point of Impact

When Mike Anello ’81 came to FSU as a math major, he “didn’t even know what a computer was,” he admits. Anello went on to build a career as a software engineer, thanks to seeds first planted at Framingham State. “As a math major I took computer programming courses, which I enjoyed,” explains Anello, now at Qualcomm in San Diego. “Classes were small and I got lots of good guidance from professors. They were great about inviting people from DEC and Data General to come in to talk to us about what we could do with computer programming.” That encouragement spurred Anello to jump into the developing field when he graduated. There, he’s had a wildly successful career, including naming her to its annual list of Scientific American 50.

“My undergraduate experiences were very impactful and empowered me with the notion that anything is possible.”

Dr. Laurie Boyer ’90

Research scientist

“While I enjoyed science in high school, I didn’t know how it would translate into a future,” Boyer observes. “As a biology major at FSU, it was the classroom education plus the laboratory training that inspired me to pursue a science career. Because of outstanding laboratory training, I was able to secure a competitive position upon graduation, which set me on the path to graduate school and beyond. The faculty had a vested interest in pushing each student to succeed. I certainly recall times when my professors held me accountable when I knew I was capable of more. My undergraduate experiences were very impactful and empowered me with the notion that anything is possible.”

Fueling those aspirations is perhaps the greatest gift a university can give any student. For Anello and Boyer illustrate, such creative drive not only produces positive outcomes for individuals but also society at large. That, above all, is the ultimate goal of any world-class university education.
Med School Bound

GAINING THE SKILLS TO SUCCEED IN MEDICAL SCHOOL

What sort of research have you done while at FSU?
I'm currently working on a research project that examines the effects of estrogen on African clawed frogs as part of my Methods course. As part of that project, I spent the summer performing micro-dissections of the frogs in the FSU labs. I really enjoy doing the research and working in the lab, because it's hands-on.

What attracted you to Framingham State?
I loved the campus. When I took a tour, it was so green and beautiful. I came on a sunny day when everyone was laying outside. I was looking for a college that had a pre-med major, and I had the chance to meet with some of the biology faculty and tour all the labs. So far, it's been wonderful. FSU has been a great job. One of the best things about Framingham State is there are so many ways to get involved.

What do you hope to do after you graduate?
I've already begun looking at medical schools. I'm interested in focusing on neurology because I love the brain. Neurobiology with Dr. Atleen Davis was my favorite course here. Eventually, I'd love to perform research on brain-related ailments like tumors or Alzheimer's disease. My father had Alzheimer's disease, so if it's something that has affected me on a personal level, I can see myself working on research that hopefully could lead to a prolonged lifespan or reduced symptoms in people who suffer from the disease.

What are some of the awards and extracurricular activities in which you've participated?
I'm a member of the FSU Honors Program and a foundation peer mentor. I received the CRC Freshman Chemistry Award and the Alice M. Glover Scholarship for biology majors. My freshman year, I was an SGA Senator-at-Large, which I really enjoyed, but didn't have time to continue doing. I've also been involved with the Aspiring Health Professionals Club. Since my freshman year, I've worked for Campus Events as an audiovisual technician, which has been a good job. One of the best things about Framingham State is there are so many ways to get involved.

What are the job prospects for nurses, and how important is it to achieve at least a bachelor's degree?
Nurses are everywhere, working in hospitals, long-term care facilities and within the public health, community health and K-12 systems. They are not just caring for the sick, but also promoting health. We are predicting a major nursing shortage when many of the current older nurses retire. The economy has prevented some of them from retiring as soon as they might have hoped. Earning a bachelor's degree is important. Initially, most nursing students went through three-year hospital-based diploma programs, but our research indicates that there are better outcomes when nurses who have earned bachelor's degree care for patients. Right now, 55 percent of nurses in Massachusetts have a bachelor's degree or higher, which is good compared to other states. Our goal is to get that up to 66 percent by 2020.

What is unique about FSU's MSN program?
The University's MSN program is unique in that it's a hybrid program. Students do 50 percent of the program online and 50 percent face-to-face. This allows students to come to class just one night a week while taking two courses. It provides our students with a high level of flexibility, which is important, because they are all full-time working nurses. We also use a cohort model, which means students go through the program with the same classmates for the entire two years. It helps us maintain high graduation rates, because the students support one another. We offer two tracks, education and leadership. The education track is for those interested in teaching in a school of nursing or for staff educators in hospitals. The leadership track is for those interested in a job as a nurse manager.

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Tell us about your nursing background.
I have over 25 years of teaching experience in all levels of nursing education. This includes teaching practical nursing students, associate-degree students, bachelor-degree students, master-degree students, EMTs and paramedics. I am a certified nurse educator, a certified emergency nurse and a certified health care simulation educator. In addition, I am the president of the Massachusetts/Rhode Island League for Nursing (MARILN), a regional organization affiliated with the National League for Nursing. Our main goal is to improve nursing education. We held two conferences each year and bring in national speakers to talk about the latest teaching trends and best practices in nursing education.

How have nursing and nursing education changed over the years?
Nursing has become much more of an evidence-based practice. Instead of saying, “We are going to do this because we have always done it,” we look for research to support our practice. The focus is on patient outcomes, and the role of the nurse has grown more complex. Nursing also has embraced technology. Many schools, including FSU, have simulation labs where students practice with human patient simulators, in addition to their experience at clinical sites.

Dr. Cynthia Bechtel
With Dr. Cynthia Bechtel

Dr. Cynthia Bechtel is the coordinator of Framingham State’s Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program. She was hired to launch and oversee the program in 2008 and, along with Dr. Susan Mullaney, developed all the courses in the program. Dr. Bechtel holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Massachusetts Worcester Graduate School of Nursing.

What's unique about Framingham State’s Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program? What are the job prospects for nurses, and how important is it to achieve at least a bachelor's degree? How have nursing and nursing education changed over the years? Tell us about your nursing background.

Nursing Success
Thousands of students, faculty, families and friends gathered under a tent on the Framingham Town Green on Sunday, May 19, to celebrate the graduates during Framingham State’s 174th undergraduate commencement ceremony.

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren served as the undergraduate commencement speaker (see page 12). Framingham State presented its inaugural James G. Carter Award to Caitria and Morgan O’Neill during the ceremony. The award, which is named after the famed 19th-century politician and education reformer, recognizes an outstanding idea developed by a young person or persons from Massachusetts that benefits communities.

The O’Neill sisters are the founders and creators of Recovers.org, an easy-to-use software platform that can be deployed by a community to prepare for and respond to a natural disaster. They developed the software after their experience leading recovery efforts in their hometown of Monson, MA, following an EF3 tornado in 2011.

Earlier in the day, the University held its graduate commencement ceremony. Professor Emeritus Dr. John Ambacher served as the commencement speaker and urged the students to cultivate three virtues throughout their lives—civic engagement, intellectual curiosity and common decency. The University presented its annual Citizen Laureate Award to State Senator Karen Spilka for her support and advocacy on behalf of FSU.
### Senator Elizabeth Warren Tells Graduates to Embrace the Unexpected

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren told a group of more than 500 Framingham State graduates in May that planning and preparation are important in life, but they need to be prepared for the unexpected.

“Never be so faithful to your plan that you are unwilling to entertain the improbable opportunity that comes looking for you. And never be so faithful to your plan that when you hit a bump in the road—or when the bumps hit you—you don’t have the fortitude, grace and resiliency to rethinks and regroup.”

Warren, who is a product of public higher education, having graduated from the University of Houston, told the students that by getting an excellent education they have built a strong and resilient foundation that will help them succeed in an uncertain world.

“People who graduate are more resilient financially, and they weather economic downturns better than people who don’t graduate,” she said. “And, throughout their lives, people who graduate are more likely to be economically secure, more likely to be healthy and more likely to live longer. If you work hard, persevere and leave yourself open to the occasional unexpected opportunity, you’ll do great.”

The University conferred an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters on Warren during the ceremony.

“Senator Warren has dedicated herself to ensuring that everyone in this country gets a fair shot, regardless of their economic status,” former President Timothy J. Flanagan said.

“Her journey from growing up in a struggling working class family in Oklahoma to becoming a prominent lawyer, consumer advocate and United States senator is truly inspirational.”

Warren’s faculty mentor, Dr. Steven Cok, an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Physics, and finished his four years at Framingham State with a 3.06 GPA. This fall, he began working toward earning his PhD in biochemistry at Clark University in Worcester, MA.

“Corey’s story embodies the importance of having access to high-quality, affordable public higher education,” said Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick.

“Corey Ciullo ’13 was one of 29 students from the state’s public colleges and universities honored for outstanding academic achievement during the annual 29 Who Shine ceremony at the Massachusetts State House in May. Ciullo, who graduated in the spring, was a biochemistry major in the annual 29 Who Shine ceremony at the Massachusetts State House in May. The University had to remove the tree in May to make room on campus for a new science building that will provide students with access to 16 state-of-the-art laboratories. The project is being undertaken by the Massachusetts Department of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance.

“We’re thrilled that this beautiful tree is being given a new home,” said Ellie Donovan, executive director of Plimoth Plantation. “This tree will become part of Mayflower II’s living story of faith, courage and perseverance. This donation makes it possible for the ship to continue to inspire and educate for generations to come.”

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### Taryn Theriault Selected to Prestigious Teach For America Program

Taryn Theriault ’13 is taking part in the highly competitive Teach For America Program, which places exceptional college graduates in challenging school systems throughout the country in order to help close the achievement gap.

Theriault, an elementary education and social science double major who graduated in May, is spending two years teaching elementary students in Jacksonville, FL.

“I’m really excited about the opportunity,” Theriault says. “I was surprised to learn I was chosen. I’ve wanted to be a teacher since I was five years old. This will give me the chance to help out students who are in a difficult situation.”

The nonprofit agency draws students from top public and private schools throughout the country. Theriault says she interviewed with students from Wellesley College, Regis College and the College of the Holy Cross. To apply, a student submits an online application, which is used to narrow down the field. That’s followed by a phone interview. Those chosen to move on must then take part in an in-person interview, which includes giving a five-minute lesson in front of the evaluators and the other students interviewing.

“Theriault says. “I was surprised to learn I was chosen. I’ve wanted to be a teacher since I was five years old. This will give me the chance to help out students who are in a difficult situation.”

The interview process is really intense and nerve-wracking,” Theriault says.

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Framingham State Prepares to Celebrate Its 175th Anniversary

Founded by Massachusetts Secretary of Education Horace Mann, “The Normal School” in Framingham opened its doors in July of 1839. Rapid growth would lead to the school’s move to West Newton in 1842, before settling at its current location on Bare Hill in Framingham in 1853. A special Then and Now exhibit will open up at the Whittemore Library in January featuring photos of the University throughout its history. Later in the year, the library will showcase an FSU Pioneers exhibit, featuring notable Framingham State alumni.

Look for the special anniversary issue of Framingham State Magazine to hit mailboxes in early April 2014. For more information on the 175th anniversary, visit: www.framingham.edu

President Flanagan Leaves Behind a Lasting Legacy

Framingham State’s transition from a college to a university and its sustained years of growth and development in the midst of an economic recession are among the many accomplishments former President Timothy J. Flanagan feels proud of when he reflects on his seven years at FSU. Dr. Flanagan stepped down in August to take over as president of Illinois State University.

“I am proud of what we were able to accomplish during the past seven years. It is a credit to the hard work and dedication of the University’s faculty, staff, alumni and volunteers.”

In recent years, FSU also has emerged as a leader in green energy and environmental stewardship. “I am proud of what we were able to accomplish during the past seven years,” Dr. Flanagan says. “It is a credit to the hard work and dedication of the University’s faculty, staff, alumni and volunteers.”

Moving forward, Dr. Flanagan says the University must guard against complacency and focus on faculty development and student success.

“Student success must continue to be seen as the most important aspect of the University’s mission,” Dr. Flanagan says. “The hiring of top-notch faculty and investment in professional development for faculty and staff are also critical.”

The University also must continue to be responsive to the needs of the Commonwealth and its economy in academic program development, and be resourceful in identifying and seeking new forms of financial support for students, Dr. Flanagan says.

“I am confident that the leadership team in place at Framingham State University is fully capable of sustaining and advancing the University’s positive trajectory.”

Share your memories of FSU with us!

Framingham State holds a special place in the hearts of so many of our alumni. We want to hear about your favorite memories from your time at the University.

Email your memories and photos to publications@framingham.edu. We may choose to feature your special memory on our anniversary Website page or in the special anniversary issue of Framingham State Magazine.

Gatepost Receives National Recognition

Framingham State’s independent student newspaper, the Gatepost, received national recognition for editorial writing from the Society of Professional Journalists in the spring. The paper was the medium school division national winner in the Editorial Writing category of the Mark of Excellence Awards, which honors the best in student journalism.

“Editor-in-Chief Spencer Buell ’13 was the primary author of these editorials, but every member of the newspaper’s editorial board had input, and the award is shared by all of them,” says Gatepost advisor, Dr. Desmond McCarthy. “This award is an extraordinary accomplishment given that FSU students were competing against both graduate and undergraduate students at some of the most acclaimed schools in the country, including Ivy League institutions and universities with master’s programs in journalism.”

In addition to the national award, the paper also received three first-place Mark of Excellence Awards for Region 1, which consists of New England and the mid-Atlantic states. The awards were in the categories of Editorial Writing, Feature Writing and Feature Photography. Buell was recognized for his feature story, “My Name is Owen: One Transgender Student’s Journey into Manhood.”

Published on December 14, 2012, the story documented the journey of a transgender student and was recognized by the Society of Professional Journalists in the spring of 2013.

FSU Students Accepted into Disney College Program

Hannah Bruce ’13 and Kelli Hudson ’13 are the latest Framingham State University students accepted into the Disney College Program, which provides college students with the chance to spend a semester working and taking classes at Disney World. Bruce, a former president of the Student Government Association, says she heard about the program from a friend who spent a semester at Disney and loved it. Upon investigating further, Bruce learned there were several courses relevant to her major and interests, including Corporate Communications and Marketing.

“I haven’t settled on what I want to do long term, so I feel like this is a good bridge,” says Bruce, who graduated in May. “I’ll be taking courses and getting paid to work at the park.”

Hudson, who also graduated in May, chose to do the semester at Disney before starting out in a long-term job. This will be Hudson’s second semester in the Disney College Program. “I sold merchandise at World of Disney last time around,” says Hudson, who is a business marketing major. “I loved it, so I decided to do it again.”

The program has its perks, including free park access and a limited number of free passes for people who come to visit this.
The book has received several positive reviews. O’Brien-Weiss is a former investigative journalist who teaches writing and journalism at FSU, including a course on social media. She is the author of A Suburban Mom: Notes from the Asylum (Wyatt-MacKenzie, 2007), a collection of humor/parenting essays, and is a coauthor of The Burying of the President (Avon, 1996), an investigative portrait of the 1996 presidential candidates. She blogs about pop culture, media and politics at Notes from the Asylum (suburbanmomnotes.blogspot.com).

Her book blog is mortifiedthisbook.com

Debut Novel by English Professor Meredith O’Brien-Weiss Is Published

Meredith O’Brien-Weiss is being recognized for her work to grow and strengthen the hard way that there is such a thing as oversharing.

Mortified is a cautionary tale with real-world impact, as people ranging from congressmen and celebrities to TV personalities and angry baristas are learning the hard way that there is such a thing as oversharing.

2013 Distinguished Faculty Recipients

Faculty are recognized for outstanding accomplishment in the areas of Teaching, Scholarship/Creative Activity, Professional Service and Advising/Mentoring.

Dr. Lisa Eck

FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Dr. Lisa Eck has been a member of the Framingham State Department of English since 2001. She received her Doctor of Modern British and American Literature degree from Washington University, St. Louis. Dr. Eck’s colleagues describe her as "an extraordinarily generous, deeply skilled and inventive teacher who channels her passion for reading and the thrill of intellectual discussion into every course.” In 2012, she took students on Framingham State’s first study abroad program in India. During the 2012-13 academic year, Dr. Eck served on the Arts & Ideas Committee and chaired the Peace & Conflict Series, which brought several accomplished and innovative speakers, artists and performers to campus for cultural events. Dr. Eck was recently awarded a Fulbright Specialist Grant for a short-term project in Wuhan, China.

Professor John Anderson

FOR EXCELLENCE IN ADVISING/MENTORING

Professor John Anderson is a teacher in the Art and Music Department at Framingham State. He received his Master of Fine Arts degree from Tufts University. Professor Anderson is committed to showing students the various career options open to them as artists and designers. In 2010, he offered his first Art & Motion course, where students learned how to create stop motion animated films. He created a website for the course so that students had a place to post projects, gain instruction through video tutorials and get feedback from the wider community. Professor Anderson has coordinated and chaperoned departmental field trips, arranged for visiting artists to interact with class and departmental field trips, arranged for visiting artists to interact with class and

Dr. Ben Alberti

FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP/CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Dr. Ben Alberti has been teaching in the Department of Sociology since 2003. He received his Doctor of Archaeology degree from Southampton University in the United Kingdom. Dr. Alberti is an internationally recognized scholar of archaeological theory and masculinity studies. During the past five years, Dr. Alberti has published two edited volumes, 12 peer-reviewed journal articles and chapters, and three commentaries and reviews in journals related to his study of archaeological theory. Dr. Alberti also has compiled an impressive record of scholarship in the area of masculinity studies. Due to his considerable scholarship, work, Dr. Alberti is often invited to academic conferences around the world to deliver papers. He has recently spoken at Brown University, Columbia University, Harvard University and the University of Chicago. In 2011, Dr. Alberti received a Fulbright Teaching and Scholarship award to teach a graduate course and to conduct research in Córdoba, Argentina.

Dr. Patricia Luoto

FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Dr. Patricia Luoto, RD, is a professor of Food and Nutrition and director of the John C. Stalker Institute (JCI) of Food and Nutrition. She has been teaching at Framingham State since 1991. Dr. Luoto is a coauthor of the textbook, Exploring Foodservice Systems Management Through Problems, and is a pioneer in the use of instructional technologies and online course development. In 2007, she received the Course of Distinction award for JCI from MA Colleges Online. Along with Professor Janet Schwartz, Dr. Luoto has developed several distance education programs offered at JCI. Their first venture was to design the Certificate of Excellence in Child Nutrition program offered through JCI, which utilized video conferencing and has progressed to desktop conferencing. Together, they designed JCI’s online master’s degree in Nutrition Education.

Dr. Robert Alberti

FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP/CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Dr. Alberti's research in Córdoba, Argentina.

Dr. Patricia Luoto

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Dr. Maibor Receives Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award

Dr. Carolyn Maibor is the recipient of the 2013 Dr. Robert A. Martin Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award, which was created to recognize members of the FSU community who have created positive change and have developed programs designed to improve the transition to college for first-year students.

The award is named in honor of the University’s former vice president of Academic Affairs and college for first-year students.

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Since transferring from Long Island University to Framingham State University last fall, Andrea Smith has found a home on the field and in this classroom. She has done as the first baseman on the University’s softball team and has excelled within her major, which is mathematics. Smith currently has a perfect GPA.

“My major feels like my family,” Smith says. “I know so many of the other students. Our second home is the math lounge. Everyone is constantly in there studying and doing work, or hanging out in between classes.”

Smith, who hopes to teach high school math one day, reached out to a few of her former teachers for advice when she decided to transfer.

“They highly recommended Framingham State because of the University’s reputation for producing excellent teachers,” Smith says.

She says math has always come easier to her than other subjects.

“With math, everything fits together nicely,” Smith says. “I like that when you have a problem, there is one right answer. Whereas with an English problem, there can be several different correct answers to the same problem.”

Softball keeps Smith busy during the spring, but she says her education comes first.

“We all understand that none of us are going to be playing in the pros one day,” Smith says. “We are all going to have to go into the real world and get jobs. So while we all share a passion for sports, our education takes precedence.”

The FSU softball team had a tough season last spring, finishing sixth in the conference and 9-30 overall. But Smith says she is very optimistic about the upcoming season.

“We were a little young last season,” she says. “We have eight freshmen coming back. I also don’t think our record is a good indication of how we played last year. We played a lot of really good games and lost some heartbreakers. I think we’ve learned a lot from it, and it will make us a better team moving forward.”

Muirhead dominated during his four years at Framingham State, setting school records for sacks, tackles for a loss, and solo tackles. During his senior season, he was honored as the Eastern Conference Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division 3 North Defensive Player of the Year while leading the team to its first-ever NCAA playoff appearance.
FSU alumni descended on campus for Reunion Weekend in May. Alumni reconnected with old friends, toured the campus, took part in the All-Alumni Luncheon and celebrated the Alumni Achievement Award winners. On Friday, May 19, FSU thanked its largest financial supporters with an evening of dinner and dancing during the President’s Circle Gala.
The Office of Development and Alumni Relations has added new staff.

Mary Casey, a 2006 graduate of the Framingham State University (FSU) Office of Development and Alumni Relations, is pleased to announce the hiring of Mary Casey ‘06 as director of Alumni Relations and Brian Kurowski ‘13 as annual giving coordinator.

Mary Casey

Casey comes to Framingham State from Wellesley College, where she served as the assistant director of Classes for the Alumnae Association. She is a 2006 graduate of Framingham State and has previously served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Casey is responsible for planning and implementing all programs and events to engage alumni, including reunion and homecoming.

Brian Kurowski

Kurowski graduated from Framingham State in May with a degree in Business Administration and concentration in Management. While a student at FSU, he spent two years working in the Office of Development and Alumni Relations as a student manager. Kurowski’s responsibilities include coordinating the annual phonathon and direct mail appeals.

First Dr. Arthur G. Chaves Scholarship Awarded

Former Framingham Executive Vice President Arthur G. Chaves worked hard for everything he achieved, rising from humble beginnings to become a high-ranking educational administrator. The son of Portuguese immigrants, Chaves was raised in Framingham by his mother after the early death of his father, and finances were extremely tight.

But he didn’t let his family’s tough financial situation hold him back. He studied hard and became the first in his family to go to college, earning a degree in history from Worcester State University (WSU), where he also starred on the baseball team and was posthumously inducted into the WSU Athletic Hall of Fame. After graduating, Chaves began his career as a history teacher and continued advancement his education, earning a master’s degree from Boston University and eventually a PhD in education from Boston College.

“He grew up and lived his entire life a few miles from Framingham State and worked hard for everything he had.”

Following his death in 2006, the Chaves family established the Dr. Arthur G. Chaves Scholarship in his honor. The scholarship supports students who are interested in education and have demonstrated financial need. The first recipient was Allison Machacz ’15, an Early Childhood Education major who hopes to become a preschool and kindergarten teacher. Machacz says her parents raised her to work hard for everything she has.

“I am honored to be recognized for this scholarship,” Machacz says. “I try to do my best to work hard to better myself in any way.”

If you are interested in supporting the Arthur G. Chaves Scholarship, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 508-626-4012 or alumni@framingham.edu.

Regional Alumni Activities

The Office of Alumni Relations holds regional alumni events throughout the year. For more information on upcoming events, call 508-626-4687 or visit www.framingham.edu/alumni/events.

Study Abroad with FSU Faculty and Students

FSU alumni are welcome to join members of the Economics and Business Administration, Fashion Design and Retailing, and Modern Languages departments on a 10-day study tour of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in January 2014. The cost is $5,750 and includes round-trip air transportation, activity fees, entrance fees and transportation accommodations with daily breakfast and two dinners.

FSU alumni have joined current students and faculty on previous trips to China and other international locations.

For more information contact:
Professor Sandra Rahman
srahman@framingham.edu
Professor Virginia Noon
vnoon@framingham.edu
Professor Michael Harrison
mharrison@framingham.edu
Professor Juliana Freire
juna@framingham.edu

Regional Alumni Activities

BOSTON BRUINS GAME
SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013
FSU Alumni watched the Bruins take on the Philadelphia Flyers from the promenade section of the TD Bank Garden.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT LAB
THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013
The Child Development Lab at Framingham State has been training future generations of early childhood educators for 50 years. Several alumni who taught in the lab returned to campus to celebrate the anniversary in March.

FOOD AND NUTRITION GALA
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013
Dozens of Food and Nutrition alumni, including Susan Basile ’69 (WSU) and Gal Sztarowski ’83, returned to campus in May to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the John C. Stalker Institute of Food and Nutrition.

RED SOX GAME
SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2013
Alumni got together at Jillian’s outside Fenway Park prior to watching the Red Sox take on the Anaheim Angels.

TANGLEWOOD
SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2013
The annual Tanglewood alumni outing is one of the most popular events hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations. Alumni enjoy drinks and conversation prior to the outdoor show featuring the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra and Festival Chorus.
David W. McGrath  ’87 credits his time at Framingham State with helping him start his career. “Framingham State is where I first learned to speak in front of people, to think critically about issues; to listen to others; and to write in a coherent way,” McGrath says. “It was there that I met a psychology major I learned about experimental design and as a political science minor about our Constitution—no small things.”

McGrath is an attorney at Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green PA in Manchester, NH, where he serves as chairman of the firm’s Litigation Department and is one of four members of the Management Committee. The firm employs 14 attorneys in six offices throughout New England. He says his role has grown substantially "as a new lawyer, I spent a lot of my time in the library doing research,” McGrath says. “Now I’m directly involved in creating strategies for cases, which is great. You are always dealing with new fact patterns and new situations, and you get the opportunity to meet a tremendous amount of people from various walks of life.”

McGrath has been recognized as one of the Best Lawyers in America in the areas of labor and employment law by Woodward White, as well as a New England Super Lawyer. He handles a large number of employment-related disputes concerning discrimination and predatory hiring cases.

“My job is mainly about solving problems,” McGrath says. “I’m a certified mediator and take great pleasure in helping parties resolve their differences.”

McGrath says he has many fond memories of his time at Framingham State, not the least of which was meeting his wife, Lori (Carwell) McGrath ’86. He has also remained in touch with many of his professors, including Dr. Rene LeBlanc, Dr. Leonard Flynn and Dr. John Ambachtsheer.

“I feel enormous fortune to have met such wonderful people at Framingham State,” McGrath says. “The teachers were excellent—smart and extremely dedicated to supporting the students. I had a great experience.”

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Paul Tang has been hired as the North Andover High head basketball coach. Tang, who was captain of the PSU basketball team his senior year, and has previously coached at Plymouth State and Molloy College.

Kyle Manuel married Allison Lawrence in July 2013.

Lauren Grinley ’06 had her second child, Unialo, released in May 2013.

Charlotte Copela ’05 was recently appointed as director of the School of Education at Northern Marianas College. Prior to becoming director, Copela was an instructor at the college’s School of Education.

Karen Tyler ’08 was recently hired as the Human Resources director for the town of Saugus, MA. Tyler is a U.S. Army Veteran who earned her master’s degree in Public Administration at FSU.

Sara Zawadzkas ’08 was hired as the assistant principal at the Longfellow Elementary School. Zawadzkas has been a teacher for the past 13 years. In this time, she was elected as the lead teacher of the mentoring program for new educators.

Lauren DiPietro has been promoted to business development coordinator for the Quincy Credit Union. There, she will identify and execute business development and community outreach programs and increase brand awareness.

Esther Bawick Whitaker ’09 — February 6, 2013

Marion Morgan Cook ’35 — October 16, 2012

Roeby Wood Hall ’36 — October 15, 2012

Phyllis Easton Weinberg ’36 — June 10, 2011

Esther MMCahal ’40 — January 30, 2013

Shelley O’Connell Berg ’47 — March 9, 2013

Constance Guenter Broder ’47 — March 12, 2013

D. (Jim) Gahan Wilden ’47 — May 25, 2013

Clare Shook McCutcheon ’48 — June 29, 2013

Grace K. Kimball ’49 — February 25, 2013

Margaret Ellison Ravera ’49 — February 9, 2013

Dorothy Erns McSwiney ’53 — April 3, 2013

Susanna Montanelli Schneider ’58 — February 17, 2013

Judith Bowser Bekins ’60 — January 5, 2013

Sunny Nazarian Marashlian ’60 — April 11, 2013

Herb E. Fader G ’64 — April 16, 2013

Catherine M. Murphy ’66 — March 15, 2013

Edison Dungan Kenney ’69 — April 10, 2013

Jena MacGillivray Walker ’70 — January 28, 2007

Katharine Lane Brooks ’72 — July 26, 2007

James T. Tolland ’73 — February 10, 2013

Charles M. McGowan ’73 — May 26, 2013

Doris M. Irvine Stefanini ’75 — May 8, 2013

Grace Hendrick Prowenock ’75 — October 20, 2004

Barbara Colbeth Debow ’76 — January 4, 2013

Patricia Concini Gareggiani ’77 — March 15, 2013

Frank P. Costi ’79 — March 20, 2012

Dorothy A. Tapp ’77 — April 5, 2013

Patricia Quinn MalNevia ’78 — August 22, 2013

Charles C. Wright, Jr. ’66 — May 20, 2013

Margaret A. Cooley ’79 — April 16, 2013

Mary McCamsey Back ’50F — December 27, 2012

Veronica Halley Keele ’95 — January 21, 2003

It’s a dream job,” Sampson says. “I’ve felt right. Everything lined up and created a new path for me to nonprofit management and working with volunteers.”

Sampson recently began work as the Youth and Group Engagement coordinator for Habitat for Humanity in Tacoma, Washington—a position she applied for through AmeriCorps. In that role, she works with elementary and middle school to get young people thinking about volunteering at an earlier age. She also does outreach work at local colleges, trains new volunteers and seeks to form a bond between the nonprofit organization and area schools systems.

“We’re really doing a job,” Sampson says. “I’ve had a deep love for Habitat for Humanity ever since Alternative Spring Break. It’s such a good opportunity to get a real-world experience and get out of my comfort zone.”

Sampson credits her time at Framingham State with helping her discover her passion for service work. A course called “Future Philanthropists” with Dr. Silver.

“Sociology exposed Sampson to a variety of people who have dedicated themselves entirely to helping others,” Sampson says. “It’s definitely bittersweet to leave, like a light bulb went off,” Sampson says. “It just like a light bulb went off,” Sampson says. “It just...
Third-Party Comments Sought for Education Unit Accreditation

The Education Unit at Framingham State University is hosting an accreditation visit by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) on April 6, 2010. Interested parties are invited to submit third-party comments to the visiting team. Please note that comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of professional education programs offered, and should specify the party’s relationship to the Education Preparation Program (EPP).

We invite you to submit written testimony to:

Board of Examiners, NCATE, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036-1023

OR by E-MAIL TO:

callforcomments@ncate.org

FSU Expands the McCarthy Center Dining Commons

by Samantha Barston '13, Publications Intern

Students returning to campus this fall were excited to find that the University had completed work on a major expansion to the dining commons in the McCarthy Center. The new area, which extends off the back of the building, created space for about 200 additional seats—roughly a 40 percent increase over what was previously offered.

“The expansion of the McCarthy Center Dining Commons has significantly enhanced the student experience by providing a comfortable and spacious environment for guests to dine in,” says Ralph Eddy ’96, Framingham State’s director of Dining Services. “A secondary benefit of the addition is that the University has gained a new multifunction space that may be utilized for a variety of events throughout the year. Sodexo was proud to partner with the University on this project.”

The University has seen healthy enrollment growth during the past few years, which has led to a backup in the dining commons during peak eating hours. Students have expressed excitement over the additional space.

“It’s a really good idea since they want to bring more students to this campus. So we need more space to eat and sit and not feel crowded,” says senior Alexia Huston, an Education major.

Dining services provider Sodexo contributed $400,000 to the University and $1 million to the $3.8 million expansion project. An additional $2.4 million was financed through the Massachusetts State College Building Authority, and the remaining $4,000,000 came from the University. The new space offers more seating options, including booths, and doubles as an additional banquet and activity function room.

In Need of Your Support

By making a donation to the FSU Annual Fund, you directly support student scholarships and help keep the University affordable and accessible to the next generation of students.

ONLINE: Make your gift securely online at: www.framingham.edu/give

BY PHONE: You can give with a credit card by calling: 508-626-4012

BY MAIL: You can mail your check to: Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Framingham State University, 100 State Street PO, Box 9101, Framingham, MA 01701-9101

Professor Handschuch Endows Student Scholarship

Fashion Design and Retailing Professor Arlene Handschuch retired in the spring, following 35 years of mentoring thousands of FSU students and helping them secure jobs throughout the industry.

But even in retirement, Handschuch will continue to make a huge impact on Framingham State’s fashion students. She recently donated $50,000 to the University to set up the Arlene Handschuch Endowed Fund, which will provide scholarships to Fashion Design and Retailing majors.

“I got to spend 35 wonderful years here,” Handschuch says. “So I wanted to do something to support our students. I hope the fund grows in years to come.”

Handschuch taught all aspects of fashion design to students during her time at Framingham State, including Principles of Apparel Construction, Flat Pattern, Draping, Functional Clothing Design, Apparel Industry Methods and Apparel Design Portfolio.

She says the biggest strength of the department is the faculty’s ability to work one-on-one with students.

“We’re able to work very closely with our students, which they appreciate,” Handschuch says. “Most students come in with an idea of what they want to do, but they need close guidance to reach that goal.”

The professors in the program have established a wide-ranging network of alumni working at companies throughout the fashion industry, which is critical for job and internship placements.

“We get emails and calls when jobs and internships open up,” Handschuch says. “Our department has worked really hard to get our alumni into some great companies. We’ve got former students in positions at big companies like Reebok, T.J. Maxx, Balance, Natick Labs as well as numerous corporate merchandising positions.”

Professor Rebecca Taylor says Handschuch has been a wonderful mentor to countless students over the years, including three current faculty members whom Handschuch had as students.

“She has helped prepare our students for varied career paths, including coming back to Framingham State to teach the next generation of students,” Taylor says. “Her legacy will continue for many years to come because of her mentoring and the creation of this scholarship, which bears her name.”

If you’re interested in supporting the Arlene Handschuch Endowed Fund or would like more information about the University’s other scholarship programs, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 508-626-4012 or alumni@framingham.edu
Parents: If this issue of Framingham State Magazine is addressed to your son or daughter who now lives at a separate permanent address, please let us know. Call 508-626-4012 or email alumni@framingham.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Children's Literature Festival
THURSDAY, NOV. 7, 2013 | 3 p.m.
This year’s Children’s Literature Festival features renowned artist Beth Krommes and award-winning author Stephen Krensky. The event includes book signings, lectures and workshops about the latest developments in the craft.

Holiday Alumni Receptions
DECEMBER 2013*
Join fellow FSU alumni for a social and festive holiday gathering in your local area. Locations and details will be announced in fall 2013.

Winter Commencement
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2013
The University will hold its annual Winter Commencement ceremonies for undergraduate and graduate students finishing their degrees in the summer, fall and winter. Alumni are encouraged to join the celebrations, which will take place in the Dwight Performing Arts Center.

SAVE THE DATE

Alumni Activities in Florida
MARCH 2014*
Join alumni for activities throughout Florida. Look for details to be announced later in the fall.

Stories from the Hill
SPRING 2014*
An alumni panel geared toward today’s undergraduates. With humor and nostalgia, hear about Framingham State over the decades, and gain perspective from alumni who have walked “the Hill.”

All-Alumni Reunion & Commencement Weekend
MAY 16, 17 & 18, 2014
The Framingham State University Alumni Association is hosting several fun-filled events for you and your classmates on campus.
* Check www.framingham.edu/alumni for exact dates and more information.

For more information or to register for alumni events, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 508-626-4012 or alumni@framingham.edu.

Purchase tickets for certain events online at www.framingham.edu/alumnievents
Visit our fan page at www.facebook.com/framinghamstatealumni