Alumni Magazine Fall 2014

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President Cevallos

Dr. F. Javier Cevallos becomes the 16th president of Framingham State

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Dear Alumni and Friends of FSU,

On behalf of my entire family, I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome we have received since I started at Framingham State in July. I’ve had the opportunity to meet many of you during my first few months on the job, and I continue to be impressed by the level of enthusiasm and commitment people feel toward the University.

I am honored to serve as the 16th president of Framingham State University during such an exciting time in its history. Our 175th Anniversary provides us with a unique opportunity to celebrate our past while building toward an even brighter future. One thing I’ve always admired about FSU is the University’s ability to evolve and adapt over the years in order to meet the needs of the Commonwealth. We opened as the nation’s first public normal school in 1839 to meet a critical need for highly trained teachers. Today, we continue to explore and add programs that align with the needs of the state, such as our new bachelor’s degrees in American Sign Language and Pre-Engineering, as well as our upcoming professional science master’s degree in Biotechnology. By continuing to successfully evolve, we help our students—the large majority of whom choose to live and work in Massachusetts—to graduate with degrees in important fields that are growing.

If you haven’t been back to campus in a few years, there’s no better time to visit as we celebrate our historic anniversary through the end of the year. Public institutions like Framingham State are relying more than ever on the support and engagement of their alumni, friends and corporate partners, so it’s encouraging for me to find such a strong sense of excitement toward FSU in the community. I look forward to getting to know more of you in the months ahead and welcome any thoughts or ideas you may have about how we can work together to continue moving Framingham State in a positive direction.

Best wishes,

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THE CEVALLOS ERA BEGINS
Dr. F. Javier Cevallos comes to Framingham State from Kutztown University, where he served as president for 15 years.

175TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS
Check out how Framingham State has been celebrating its historical 175th Anniversary throughout 2014:

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More than 1,300 students join the FSU Alumni Association during two wonderful ceremonies.

CAMPUSS LIFE
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RAM NATION
Ryan McDonald ’15 leads FSU’s best hockey team in years.

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Janina ‘67 and Nancy ‘68 Swiacki continue to support FSU with a new sculpture project.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
Fall 2014, published semi-annually
Public higher education is a sort of family business for Dr. F. Javier Cevallos. He is the son of two college professors, both of whom were faculty members at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. Cevallos has taught only at state-supported institutions: the University of Maine in Orono and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He left the Bay State to become president of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, one of 14 schools in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

In fact, the only time Cevallos spent at a private institution was his year as an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow in 1996–97 at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. Nonetheless, it proved to be a formative 12 months.

"After the year, I think I have a better understanding of higher education in general," Cevallos wrote in "Learning to Lead, Learning to Learn: Reflections of an ACE Fellow," which appeared in the October 1997 issue of The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education.

“I understand how complex institutions and issues are, and the multiple aspects that must be considered every time in order to arrive at the right decision…. I also understand that there are many ways of being a leader, and there are many true leaders at any given institution. I look forward to contributing and to the opportunities to learn from all of them.”

The Cevallos Era Begins
On the move

"Framingham State University is an institution with a lot of momentum," says Cevallos. "It has great academic programs and a long historical tradition. It’s also located in an area of tremendous growth—MetroWest—surrounded by some of the most high-tech companies in the country."

And though the Northeast is facing a demographic decline in the number of high school graduates, Cevallos sees untapped potential. He points to the region’s burgeoning Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking populations as presenting “new opportunities for higher education. I am excited about exploring connections with these communities and helping them be successful,” he explains. “In that way, we will work toward the vision of Horace Mann, who founded Framingham State, to make education accessible so that people can achieve their full potential.”

It’s worth noting that under Cevallos, the diversity of the Kutztown student body grew from 6 percent representing communities of color to the current 17 percent. At the same time, the university’s academic profile strengthened, going from accepting close to 80 percent of applicants in 2002 to a 64 percent acceptance rate in 2012.

Demographics aren’t the only challenge. “Framingham State is not a technical school. We provide an excellent liberal arts education. We need to maintain that excellence while balancing being responsive to the needs of area employers,” he says.

Cevallos also wants to take a hard look at enrollment to determine if the University is optimally sized. During his tenure at Kutztown, for example, enrollment grew from 8,500 students to 10,000. "Looking at all of our programs, undergraduate and graduate, on campus and online, can we—or should we—grow by a few hundred students?” he asks. "I don’t know. But it’s worth exploring.”

While at Kutztown...

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COMING HOME

Now, Cevallos is bringing all that he knows—public and private—to Framingham State University, which for him is a bit of a homecoming. He spent the longest stint of his career, 18 years, at UMass, where he held various positions, including professor, department chair, vice chancellor for student affairs and faculty advisor to the provost. In this latter role, he had occasion to visit Framingham State.

"FRAMINGHAM STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN INSTITUTION WITH A LOT OF MOMENTUM. IT HAS GREAT ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND A LONG HISTORICAL TRADITION."

"In 1994, the provost at UMass explored moving from a three-credit to a four-credit course system," Cevallos explains. "I learned that Framingham State had made the move to a four-credit curriculum years earlier, and I wanted to find the secret to their success." Asked how he landed the job, he replies, "A lot of hard work. I remember being so impressed with the people and the programs at the University."

When the opportunity arose in 2013 to put his name in for the University’s top post, Cevallos didn’t think twice. "It was really very exciting," he recalls. "It felt like everything was aligning." After 12 years at Kutztown, Cevallos was ready for a change and for new challenges. For him, Framingham State is the perfect fit.

JUST THE FACTS

On July 1, 2014, Dr. F. Javier Cevallos became the 14th president of Framingham State University.

Cevallos comes from Framingham to Kutztown University, a state institution in Pennsylvania, where he served as president from 2002 to 2014.

Cevallos earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez and his master’s and doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His area of research is Latin American literature, with particular emphasis in the Colonial era.

He began his career in 1981 as an assistant professor of Spanish at the University of Maine in Orono. In 1984, Cevallos moved to the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he was promoted to associate professor in 1988 and full professor in 1992. In 1994, he was asked to serve as faculty adviser to the provost.

In 1996, Cevallos was selected as an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow, spending a year studying academic leadership at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

Upon his return to UMass in 1997, Cevallos was named chair of the department of Spanish and Portuguese. Soon after, he was appointed vice chancellor for student affairs, a post he held until he became president of Kutztown in 2002.

During his tenure at Kutztown, enrollment grew from 8,500 to 10,000 students, while simultaneously increasing the diversity and academic profile of each incoming class. Cevallos also presided over numerous campus construction projects, including a science center, visual arts building, residence hall and student recreation center.

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NEXT STEPS

In his first 100 days on campus, Cevallos plans to do a lot of exploring. “I want to meet with as many people as possible—students, faculty, staff, alumni and the foundation—so I can learn from the community. I’ve done my homework, which has been mostly reading. But there’s nothing like being there, getting to sit down with people face to face and speak with them.” At Kutztown, it was a point of pride for Cevallos that he knew so many students by name as he walked across campus. Being student focused is also his goal at Framingham State. “I am committed to doing anything I can to help students be successful,” he says.

Broadly, Cevallos says his goal is to “bring Framingham State to the next level of academic excellence and success.” That will involve connecting with alumni, of course, fundraising and ensuring that all of the University’s programs obtain the proper accreditations. “We need to guarantee students that our programs are the best,” he notes. “I want to make sure the University continues to reach its potential.”

“I WANT TO MEET WITH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE — STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, ALUMNI AND THE THE FOUNDATION — SO I CAN LEARN FROM THE COMMUNITY... THERE’S NOTHING LIKE BEING THERE, GETTING TO SIT DOWN WITH PEOPLE FACE TO FACE AND SPEAK WITH THEM.”

The fact that Cevallos gets to tackle all of this while returning to Massachusetts is a definite bonus. “My family is excited about moving back to New England. My wife (French-Canadian folk singer Josée Vachon-Cevallos) performs a lot in Maine and eastern Canada, so she’ll be closer to her work,” he explains. “I’m looking forward to having really good seafood close by and to the fall season. Fall in Pennsylvania is pretty, but there’s nothing like the brilliance of color in Massachusetts.”

Follow President Cevallos! Did you know you can follow President Cevallos on Twitter? Find him at @PRESCEVALLOS
Getting Involved

Using extracurriculars to Enrich the Academic Experience

Kendall Valente is a senior Sociology major with minors in Diversity Studies and Geography. She is an administrative resident assistant (ARA), an Academic Success Peer Tutor, the founder of the University’s Ski and Snowboarding Club, as well as the president of the Student Government Association and the Class of 2015. This past summer, she taught enrichment courses to high school students at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Q: What Attracted You to Framingham State University?
A: Not at all. In high school, I was very shy, held back and was not really involved in anything. Coming to college I didn’t anticipate being as involved as I am, but I knew I wanted to make the most out of the experience. It all started with my involvement with my residence hall council. I became friends with a lot of people that way, which led to my involvement in other things. Later I got involved with First Year Programs as a peer mentor and orientation leader and then I was hired as an R.A. I also started the Ski and Snowboarding Club on campus, which has been great. I’ve been skiing my whole life—it’s in my blood. The first year we took one trip to Wachusett, but this past year we were able to plan three trips out of state to Loon Mountain, Okemo and Sunapee.

Q: How Do You Manage Your Time With So Much Going On Outside Class, and What Are Your Plans As President of the Student Government Association (SGA)?
A: I’m a student first, but I do fill up just about all my free time with other activities. I enjoy everything so much that I wouldn’t want it any other way. It requires a lot of time management and organizing on my part. As for the SGA, I’m not totally submerged in it yet, but one of my main goals is to make sure students on campus know that student government is a place for them. There are so many friendly people here who are willing to help them out. The SGA has worked to become more open to the entire campus, and I’m happy to be a part of that effort. We want to get out into the community as much as possible.

Q: When You Arrived at FSU, Did You Know That You Would Be So Involved Outside the Classroom?
A: Not at all. In high school, I was super shy, held back and was not really involved in anything. Coming to college I didn’t anticipate being as involved as I am, but I knew I wanted to make the most out of the experience. It all started with my involvement with my residence hall council. I became friends with a lot of people that way, which led to my involvement in other things. Later I got involved with First Year Programs as a peer mentor and orientation leader and then I was hired as an R.A. I also started the Ski and Snowboarding Club on campus, which has been great. I’ve been skiing my whole life—it’s in my blood. The first year we took one trip to Wachusett, but this past year we were able to plan three trips out of state to Loon Mountain, Okemo and Sunapee.

Q: What Motivated You to Write This Book?
A: I teach Foundations of Education, and in that course we explore the history of schooling. A part of that history is the normal school movement. This was a subject I already had some knowledge about and was interested in. I appreciated the history of the University and its ties to the normal school movement, and was fascinated to learn about it through the eyes of the students. Framingham State’s archivist, Colleen Previte, showed me diaries from some of the first students, and that’s where I began my research. I was fortunate to receive a grant from the Center for Excellence in Learning, Teaching Scholarship and Service (CELTSS) and the Independent Association of Framingham State Alumni (IAFSFA) to cover travel and other expenses.

Q: How is the Book Organized?
A: The book is focused on the lives and experiences of Lydia Stow, Mary Swift and Louisa Harris, three women from Framingham State’s first class of 1853-1854. The book begins with a brief history of the normal school movement and the childhood experiences of the three women. The next section is about their formal and informal learning experiences while at Lexington Normal School, followed by their first teaching experiences and the different challenges they faced. The final sections of the book focus on their lifelong work and legacies. All three were amazing women, and I’m happy and humbled to have their stories made public 157 years later.

Q: What Makes These Women So Fascinating?
A: All three were remarkable trendsetters in the field of education and remained close friends throughout their lives. Mary Swift worked at the Perkins School for the Blind where she was one of the teachers of Helen Keller, one of the earliest deaf-blind Americans. She began to learn to communicate using the manual alphabet for the deaf. Mary also later convinced Helen Keller that she could learn to orally speak using her voice, and was one of the founders of the YWCA in Boston. Lydia Stow was an abolitionist. Her husband was close to Frederick Douglass. Lydia started a women’s union in Fall River that provided social and educational services for women who worked in the mills. Louisa Harris was a teacher throughout the majority of her life and taught in some difficult conditions in one-room schoolhouses. It wasn’t always easy for her, but she demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment to her work.

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Q: Where Did You Gather Your Information for the Book?
A: I began my research in the FSU archives, but I wound up going to more than 20 different organizations to recover their stories, including the Massachusetts Historical Society, Haverford College, the New York Public Library, Washington University in St. Louis, and the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. Mary Swift published a record of the first class. When I ordered it online from a used bookstore, I ended up receiving her own personal copy. That was a stroke of good luck, because in the back of it were several handwritten notes from Mary and a poem composed by Louisa Harris. NormaKolody is available for purchase at www.amazon.com or www.fsasfa.org.
Thousands gathered on the Framingham Town Green on Sunday, May 18th, to congratulate the latest class of FSU graduates and to celebrate the University’s 175th Anniversary.

The University conferred a posthumous honorary degree to Horace Mann, the original Massachusetts Secretary of Education who advocated for the founding of Framingham State as the first public normal school in America in 1839. Current State Secretary of Education Matthew Malone also received an honorary degree and gave the commencement address.

“No matter what, we need you to bring your own personality to it,” Malone told the graduates. “Not only your own personality, but you must also bring with you the personality of this institution. In whatever it is that you do, make it yours. Own it, love it and immerse yourself in it 110 percent.”

Framingham State English Professor Elaine Beilin delivered the commencement address during the graduate ceremony and encouraged members of the class to become servant leaders.

“If you are today already thinking about what to become tomorrow, I ask you to go forward with the understanding that servant leaders work everywhere on scales both large and small—and I ask you to bring your listening skills, your empathy, your foresight and your persuasion to the fulfillment of your vision,” Beilin said.

The University awarded Citizen Laureate Awards to two Framingham natives for their support of the University over the years—former Framingham Selectman Dennis Giombetti ’75 and longtime executive director of the Framingham Division of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Bob Merusi G ’96, who retired in April.

1,312 graduates join the FSU Alumni Association

792 Bachelor’s degrees conferred

520 Master’s degrees conferred

264 Latin Honor Students

“IN WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU DO, MAKE IT YOURS.”
When then-President Timothy J. Flanagan announced he was leaving FSU in May 2013, former vice president for Academic Affairs Robert A. Martin was the Board of Trustees’ immediate and unanimous choice to serve as interim president.

The choice turned out to be a strong one, following a year in which Dr. Martin guided FSU through three major accreditation processes, helped secure additional funding for a critical science building project, and oversaw the planning and implementation of the University’s 175th Anniversary celebrations.

“I appreciate the level of confidence the Board of Trustees had in me,” he says. “I can honestly say there wasn’t a single day that I didn’t look forward to going into work. I really enjoyed getting to know the entire FSU community and having the opportunity to represent and speak on behalf of the University.”

Martin took over during a busy year for the University, as 2014 marked the 175th Anniversary of FSU and the 10-year reaccreditation with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The University also applied for national accreditation for its programs in Global Studies and Anthropology.

The University was also successful last year in obtaining an additional $9.5 million from the Commonwealth and $3 million from the Mass Life Sciences Center for a major renovation and addition to Hemenway Hall that is expected to transform the University’s science and math programs.

Martin says that each success would not have been possible without the strong leadership of his executive staff team, which includes vice presidents Dale Hamel, Linda Vaden-Goid and Susanne Conley, and chief of staff and general counsel Rita Colucci. He also credits a strong sense of commitment and general spirit of collaboration among the faculty, staff and students with helping him to succeed.

Dr. Martin Reflects on a Positive Year

FORMER VP FILLS IN AS INTERIM PRESIDENT

RACHAEL COOPER ’14 HONORED AT “29 WHO SHINE” CEREMONY

Rachael Cooper ’14 was one of 29 students from the public colleges and universities across Massachusetts who were honored at the State House on May 4th for their civic and academic achievements.

“Rachael Cooper of Framingham State University typifies this group, having committed so much time and energy to helping her community and fellow students while excelling academically,” Governor Deval Patrick said. “Rachael is the latest example of a State University System student who has proven to be a great asset to the Commonwealth.”

Rachael graduated from FSU in February with a bachelor’s degree in Biology and minors in Spanish and Neuroscience. She is currently studying for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) and working as a medical assistant and physician scribe at Atkinson Family Practice. Rachael plans to attend medical school in fall 2015, and is interested in studying primary care, family medicine, public health and medical anthropology.

Rachael is passionate about using her civic and academic achievements to help others. “I have always had a drive to make things better in the world,” she says. Rachael is driven by the fact that the support around me was so strong. “I stepped into a really good situation. That’s the opportunity for eligible Framingham State University students, faculty and staff who are participating in the Framingham State Food Study (FS2), a comprehensive dietary and weight loss study being run in partnership with Boston Children’s Hospital (BCH).

The study was funded by a $10 million grant from the Nutrition Science Initiative (NSI), the food study builds upon the small but ground-breaking research of obesity prevention specialists Dr. David Ludwig and Dr. Cara Ebbeling from BCh. Its goal is to gain a better understanding of the reasons why some diets are more successful than others at maintaining weight loss.

Framingham State University was chosen to host the study because of the “Food and Nutrition Department’s great reputation,” said Ebbeling, who is serving as one of the directors for the FS2 study.

All participants will be compensated and meals will be provided by Sodexo Dining Services. Sodexo will work with participants to ensure that everyone has access to healthy and whole-some foods for the duration of the study.

As time progresses, FS2 participants will be given multiple medical evaluations—most of which will be performed at the newly created FSU House right off campus on Salem End Road. “That way, scientists can ascertain the effects that each diet is having on each group’s ability to maintain its initial 12 percent body weight loss.
2014 Distinguished Faculty Recipients

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

DR. MARIA ALESSANDRA BOLLETTINO

Dr. Maria Alessandra Bollettino has been a member of Framingham State University's Department of History since 2000. She received a bachelor's degree in European History from Brown University and both a master's degree and a doctor of philosophy degree in History from the University of Texas at Austin.

In the classroom, Dr. Bollettino prioritizes active student participation in the learning process over the traditional, non-collaborative lecture format. She also is a strong mentor to students, often taking time to work one-on-one with those who require additional assistance outside the classroom. Her colleagues describe her commitment to the needs of individual students as “awe inspiring.”

As Framingham State University celebrates its 175th Anniversary, Dr. Bollettino has been working tirelessly to ensure that America's oldest public teacher preparation program meets the rigorous standards for national accreditation through the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

The McAuliffe Center review encompasses the pre-health concentration. She has gone above and beyond in this role by developing advising sheets that list requirements for each of the eight types of graduate programs in the human and animal health professions to which FSU students regularly apply. Dr. Bollettino co-authored the book with FSU Professor Ementa Judith Flynn. Her research has appeared in the textbook, Merchandising Mathematics for Retailing, and in several scholarly publications, including the International Journal of Retail and Distribution Management and the Clothing and Textile Research Journal.

EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

DR. KELLY KOLODYN

Dr. Kelly Kolodyn has taught at Framingham State University since 1989. She received a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree from Framingham State University and a doctor of education degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Several of her colleagues credit Dr. Foster with guiding and supporting their careers over the years. In addition to being an outstanding teacher and mentor, she has compiled an impressive record of scholarship during her time at Framingham State. One highlight of her tenure is Research Methods for the Fashion Industry, a textbook for students who take the course. Research Methods in Fashion, Dr. Foster co-authored the book with FSU Professor Ementa Judith Flynn. Her research has appeared in other textbooks, as well as excellent research mentor for students. She also serves as the faculty advisor for the Aspiring Health Professionals student club.

As Dr. Foster has progressed through her career, she has been encouraged by some initial meetings with professors, but she also knows that she eventually wanted to work at a public university.

EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP

DR. IRENE FOSTER

Dr. Irene Foster has been teaching at the Department of Fashion Design and Marketing at Framingham State University since 1989. She received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Framingham State University and a doctor of education degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Several of her colleagues credit Dr. Foster with guiding and supporting their careers over the years. In addition to being an outstanding teacher and mentor, she has compiled an impressive record of scholarship during her time at Framingham State. One highlight of her tenure is Research Methods for the Fashion Industry, a textbook for students who take the course. Research Methods in Fashion, Dr. Foster co-authored the book with FSU Professor Ementa Judith Flynn. Her research has appeared in other textbooks, as well as excellent research mentor for students. She also serves as the faculty advisor for the Aspiring Health Professionals student club.

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EXCELLENCE IN ADVISING/MENTORING

DR. ALINE DAVIS

Dr. Aline Davis has been teaching in the Department of Biology at Framingham State University since 2000. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a master’s degree and a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Maryland.

Dr. Davis serves as an academic advisor to biology students in the pre-health concentration. She has gone above and beyond in this role by developing advising sheets that list requirements for each of the eight types of graduate programs in the human and animal health professions to which FSU students regularly apply. Dr. Davis is an academic advocate during orientation as well as an excellent research mentor for students. She also serves as the faculty advisor for the Aspiring Health Professionals student club.

As Dr. Foster has progressed through her career, she has been encouraged by some initial meetings with professors, but she also knows that she eventually wanted to work at a public university.

I THINK IT’S THE RIGHT TIME TO BUILD ON THAT SOLID PLATFORM AND DO EVEN MORE.”

RACHEL LUCKING RECEIVES FIRST-YEAR ADVOCATE AWARD

The Robert A. Martin Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award was given this year to Rachel Lucking, the director of Student Involvement and Leadership Development (SILD).

Lucking was honored for her outstanding work in developing the leadership skills of first-year students in the Emerging Leaders program. She helped them adjust to life as a member of the FSU community through Black and Gold Beginnings and the Wet Feet Retreat, and take part in several campus-wide initiatives that focus on the needs of first-year students. The award is named in honor of Dr. Robert A. Martin, former vice president for Academic Affairs and 2013-14 interim president.
This year marks the 175th Anniversary of the founding of Framingham State as the first public normal school in the country. The opening of the school paved the way for higher education to be extended to new segments of the population, without regard to race or economic class.

Throughout 2014, the FSU community has been marking the anniversary with a series of special events, lectures and exhibitions, which you can learn more about here.

The celebrations will culminate on Saturday, October 25th, with a special gala at the Massachusetts State House.

For more information about the 175th Anniversary, visit www.framingham.edu
Pioneers in Education—Repubhshed

When Dr. Susanne Conley was put in charge of coordinating Framingham State’s 175th Anniversary Celebrations, one of her first ideas to commemorate the anniversary was to update the book Pioneers in Education.

"People have really relied on that book over the years to gain a better understanding of Framingham State’s important role in the educational history of America," says Dr. Conley, FSU’s Vice President for Enrollment and Student Development. "I felt it was important to bring it up to date."

Originally published in 1989 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Framingham State, Pioneers in Education is a detailed history of America’s oldest public normal school, complete with historical photos and a timeline. Former FSU president D. Justin McCarthy and Paul F. Weller and faculty members Constance Brine Jordan, Rita Loos, P. Bradley Nutting and Beverly J. Weiss contributed chapters to the first edition of the book.

Last fall, FSU History professors Jon Huibregtse and Sarah Mulhall Adelman agreed to take on the task of updating the book and solicited the help of FSU history major Jasmine Bonanca ’15, who signed on as a research intern.

"Each chapter in the book covers about 25 to 30 years, so we decided it made sense to add one chapter to the end covering the last 25 years," Dr. Huibregtse says. "We also went back through all the original copy with an eye toward cleaning it up a bit and making it more consistent stylistically."

Much of the research was performed by combing through archived minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings and issues of The Gatepost student newspaper. Bonanca’s job was to synthesize all the information into more cohesive notes, from which major themes from the last 25 years began to emerge. These major themes include campus construction and development, advances in technology, curriculum expansion and changes, and growth of student services.

For Dr. Huibregtse, who has been teaching at Framingham State since 1997, the project was in many ways like taking a stroll down memory lane. "It’s interesting to look through the Gatepost issues and see photos of many of your old colleagues who are no longer here," Dr. Huibregtse says. "What really stood out is how far we’ve come in the last 25 years in terms of technology. When I arrived on campus, people were barely using email."

The work has given Dr. Adelman a new appreciation for all the resources FSU offers that she has never had a chance to interact with during her time here. "For example, I know about the McAuliffe Center, but I didn’t realize how expansive the programs are there," she says. "I didn’t understand the level of resources. We sometimes get caught in our own little bubbles, and don’t know about the innovative work that is going on across the University."

Bonanca says the project has been a truly rewarding experience. "As a History major, I appreciate that this internship has been a really practical application of the things I’ve learned in the classroom," she says.

Cyrus Peirce opened the doors of the Lexington Normal School 175 years ago. The first public teacher training school in the nation, it evolved into Framingham State University.

Only three girls showed up for admission to the normal school on the first day, but by Christmas 1839, over 20 girls were enrolled and the first graduating class boasted 35, the first professionally trained teachers in the country. Peirce singlehandedly created and taught the curriculum of 15 courses. He created the first student teaching program in the country by convincing the school committee in Lexington to let him open a school for village children within the normal school. Peirce was also the principal of that school. Normal school students were assigned to teach there on a rotating basis. Peirce also supervised the boarding school where the girls lived, shoveling the walks and stoking the stoves.

During the seven years that Peirce directed the normal school, there was never a time when it was not under attack. During the first year, there was a movement in the legislature to discontinue the school, and although it was staved off, the attacks never ceased.

Peirce’s name became fodder for the partisan Boston newspapers when a conservative minister, Matthew H. Smith, accused Peirce of allowing, and encouraging, inappropriate and immoral behavior at the school.

Smith’s allegations, made over the course of several years, did enough damage that the governor appointed a committee to investigate Peirce and the normal school. Peirce was exonerated, but overwork and the stress of the controversies had taken its toll on Peirce’s health and he resigned in 1849 at age 59. "LIVE TO THE TRUTH"

Sadly, Peirce’s name has faded from history, but his legacy lives on in the form of the many great universities in this country that originated as normal schools, modeled on Peirce’s curriculum.

Hundreds of thousands of classrooms were improved as a direct result of the professionalization of teaching. And the saying with which Peirce ended his classes, “Live to the Truth,” is still the motto of Framingham State University today.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?

Barbara Ann White is the author of an upcoming biography of Cyrus Peirce titled Live to the Truth.
Following several consecutive years of finishing at the bottom of the standings in the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (MASCAC), the Framingham State University men’s hockey team turned the corner last season thanks to the emergence of several players, including Ryan McDonald ’15.

The right winger helped guide the team to a respectable 11-11-4 overall record that included an impressive 7-1 rout of Fitchburg State in the quarterfinals of the MASCAC Tournament. Coming into the game, Fitchburg State was 3-0 versus Framingham State on the season.

“That was our best game of the year,” says McDonald, who is originally from Anchorage, Alaska. “We hadn’t beaten them all season. There was a huge crowd for the game that really got us going.”

McDonald led the team in points last year, tallying 13 goals and 16 assists in 26 games. A Business Administration major, he was also named to the MASCAC All-Academic Team for his performance in the classroom.

After years of the team struggling to compete in the conference, McDonald had never even heard of Framingham State University four years ago when he was contacted by an assistant coach while playing at the junior hockey level in Seattle, Washington.

“We started talking about my future plans and the different options I had,” McDonald says. “I was looking at a few other schools, but Framingham State was the only one that assured me I would play right away. I liked the idea of being part of a rebuilding process.”

He had never even seen a photo of Framingham State when he arrived on campus for his freshman year, but McDonald has no regrets about his decision.

“I love the size of the campus,” he says. “Everything is in one area. All my teachers in the business program have been great. It’s been a wonderful experience.”

McDonald eventually wants to get into marketing and management, but his immediate goal after graduation next spring is to take a shot at playing hockey professionally in the East Coast Hockey League or Southern Professional Hockey League.

“I want to pursue a professional hockey career because I know I would regret it if I didn’t at least try,” he says. “It’s hard coming from Division III, but if you can earn your way onto a team, you can work your way up from there.”

A much-needed project to improve the athletic fields and facilities off Maple Street is nearly finished. The $4.3 million project included the installation of a new synthetic turf field for the football team and conversion of the grass practice fields into a new softball field and multi-sports synthetic turf field.

The football field was completed over the summer, and the softball field should be ready in time for the spring 2015 season. The project also includes construction of a new press box system, bleachers, concession and storage buildings, fencing, netting and a scoreboard.

“This project will benefit and enhance the overall experience for our student-athletes and our general population,” says Director of Athletics Tim Kelley ’70. “It allows us to bring softball to campus for the first time in many, many years, and our visitors will have a more comfortable and user-friendly venue.”
The threat of rain wasn’t enough to stop a great turnout for All-Alumni Reunion & Commencement Weekend in May. Hundreds of FSU alumni gathered to catch up with old friends and toast the Golden Anniversary Class of 1964. The Office of Development and Alumni Relations put on a special series of lectures related to the University’s 175th Anniversary. There was also a special program in the Planetarium titled, “A Look Back: Science in 1839.”

Brian Boruta ’07 received the Young Alumni Achievement Award during Reunion Weekend.

It’s never too early to start planning for next year’s reunion. Contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations if you are interested in coordinating an event for your class.
Steved Whittemore ’10, 0’13 holds a bachelor’s degree in Biology and a master’s degree in Public Administration from Framingham State. He previously worked for Framingham State’s Campus Police Department. As the Alumni Relations Coordinator, his primary job is to support Alumni Relations Director Mary Casey in engaging FSU’s more than 40,000 alumni through programming and events such as Reunion and Homecoming. He is working closely with the University’s GOLD (Graduates Of the Last Decade) graduates to increase engagement among that age group.

Kelly O’Gara has a bachelor’s degree in Public Relations from Gonzaga University and previously worked as the Director of the Annual Fund & Constituent Relations at Catholic Memorial School in West Roxbury. She reaches out directly to FSU alumni to set up meetings in order to facilitate a more personal approach to engagement. The meetings help the Office of Development and Alumni Relations learn about what alumni have been up to since graduating and what they would like to see from their alma mater.

Boston-based publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt generously donated nearly $7,000 worth of books and other materials earlier this year for use by Framingham State’s Child Development Lab, Education Department and Library. A total of 108 items were donated in all. Many of the books will be utilized by the Child Development Lab, which serves as a field site for University students interested in teaching young children to learn, teach and participate in an early childhood classroom.

Valerie Hytholt, director of the Child Development Lab, says the books are already being put to good use.

“The children love them and our pre-service teachers are able to use them in their lessons and for guided reading in small groups,” Hytholt says. Titles include the Curious George Series and the Five Little Monkeys Series, which is a rhyming text.

“We are very excited to have Steven and Kelly on our team. In just a short period of time, they have proven to be a strong fit and bring a high level of enthusiasm and passion to work each day.”

— Eric Gustafson Director of Development and Alumni Relations

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“Of the first skills we work on with the children is rhyming, which starts the process of learning to read,” Hytholt says. Former Trustee and current FSU Foundation member Raymond Boulanger helped facilitate the donation. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt is one of the world’s longest-established publishing houses and largest providers of pre-K–12 education solutions.
AMY YANNI FINISHES SECOND IN AGE GROUP AT BOSTON MARATHON

Yanni, an avid runner who now lives in Florida, qualified to enter the 118th running of the historic race this past April and finished with an outstanding performance. The complete marathon with a time of 3:17:49 which was good for second in her age group (women ages 60 to 64). The result came as somewhat of a surprise to her, as she had run seven previous Boston Marathons and never finished better than 15th in her age group.

"Given that there were so many more runners admitted this year, where I finished was thearthest thing from my mind," Yanni says. "I just wanted to finish and, more importantly, I wanted all of us to finish and have the race return to what it has always been—a true celebration of running." Yanni credits the record crowd and Boston Athletic Association (BAA) volunteers with making this year’s marathon truly special.

"The BAA volunteers are out of this world," Yanni says. "You will not find a more impressive group of dedicated race folks. The crowds, which are always fantastic, were just extraordinary this year. I’m positive that I owe my good fortune in finishing as I did entirely to the crowds."

Yanni began running marathons shortly after undergoing a double mastectomy for breast cancer in 2013. Since that time, she has completed more than 150 marathons throughout the country, including aolk. This incredible accomplishment has earned her a spot on the Web site marathontimes.com, where she is listed as marathons number 130.
“FSU WAS A LAUNCHING PAD FOR US TO BUILD GREAT CAREERS OUT OF OUR PASSIONS.”

David Jrolf ’79 was part of the Pulitzer Prize-winning team for marathon bombings coverage.

David Jrolf ’79 was scheduled to take a well-earned vacation from his job as night city editor at The Boston Globe when two bombs exploded at the finish line of the 117th running of the Boston Marathon on April 15th, 2013.

Vacation would have to wait, as nearly every member of the paper was called in to cover the attack, which would ultimately take the lives of four people and injure another 260. Jrolf says the staff at the Globe worked around the clock for the next week, covering all aspects of the event.

“Every day the story evolved,” Jrolf says. “First there was the shock of the bombing, then the pursuit to figure out who did it and finally the hunt for the suspects.”

“I ABSOLUTELY LOVED FRAMINGHAM STATE... WORKING FOR THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER FUELED MY LOVE OF JOURNALISM AND SERVED AS THE SPRINGBOARD TO EVERYTHING THAT FOLLOWED.”

Through it all, The Boston Globe provided the most comprehensive, thoughtful and accurate coverage of the Marathon Bombings. The effort earned the team at the venerable paper a prestigious Pulitzer Prize in the breaking news category.

The efforts of the Globe received praise from people around the country, including President Barack Obama and the staff of the Chicago Tribune, which sent dozens of pizzas to the paper in a gesture of support.

“I’m proud of my colleagues and pleased that we did get the recognition,” Jrolf says. “I’ve been through a lot of stuff during my career in journalism, and that week was as intense as anything.”

Jrolf traces his career back to Framingham State, where he majored in English and served as editor of The Gatepost student newspaper.

“I absolutely loved Framingham State,” he says. “It’s a small school with a real sense of community. Working for the student newspaper fueled my love of journalism and served as the springboard to everything that followed.”

Jrolf was hired out of college as a reporter for the MetroWest Daily News. He would later work as a reporter for the Marlboro Enterprise before becoming the city editor at the Sentinel and Enterprise in Fitchburg.

“I really wanted to be an editor, so that was a great opportunity,” he says.

Jrolf went on to become the deputy managing editor at The Boston Herald, before moving on to The Boston Globe in 1994, where he has worked ever since. Through the years, he has covered the biggest events in the country’s recent history, including the 9/11 terrorist attacks and the war in Iraq. He played an important role in putting out a special edition of the paper when Cardinal Bernard Law resigned as Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Boston in 2002, following a sex abuse scandal uncovered by the Globe. That effort also earned the paper a Pulitzer Prize in the public service category.

2010s

Marc Dibuvono ’10 got engaged to Amanda Sharpe in March of 2010. Marc and Amanda are both educators.

Nicole Melone ’11 is a graphic designer for Gallery of African Art in Clinton, MA.

Meaghan Kelly ’12 recently accepted a full-time Graduate Research Assistantship at the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment, which is a federal grant-funded project housed at the Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation at the University of Kansas to develop an assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. She focuses on test development on the English Language Arts side of the project. For further information, readers can visit www.dynamiclearningmaps.org.

Charles Weber ’12 is engaged to marry Courtney Elute ’11 at Fenway Park in the summer of 2015.

Katelyn Marie Terranova ’13 got engaged to Nicholas G. Boudreau in April of 2014. Katelyn and Nicholas both work for public schools in MA.

2000s

Josephine Bridges d’09 recently embarked on a life-changing challenge, volunteering at one of the largest nonprofit schools in Africa, The School of St. Jude. As part of her role, Josephine works with academic and boarding staff at St. Jude’s to improve their English. She finds it extremely rewarding to help students understand the language and seeing how they learn from their mistakes.

Salvatore L. Perla d’07 was appointed president of Nashoba Valley Medical Center, a Steward Health Care System LLC facility, on January 20, 2014.

Stanley Iakopo ’08 is a recruiter with the Steward Health Care System LLC facility.

Master Sgt. Charles Webber ’12, a Steward Health Care System LLC facility, appointed Director of National Grantmaking of special note: Marcie Mills ’83

Marcie Mills ’83 was growing up in Wellesley, she thought of Framingham State as the affordable local state college that was within driving distance from home. It’s a big reason why she and her four sisters all have ties to the University.

It wasn’t until she reflected recently on her successful career in broadcast radio, that it struck Mills how lucky her family was to grow up so close to FSU.

“In hindsight, I look back at all that we have accomplished and realize what a big role that FSU played in that,” says Mills, a senior sales executive at Pandora Internet Radio. “We were so fortunate to live within 25 minutes of a school with unbelievable programs in subjects that we were passionate about.”

Marcie’s oldest sister Diana Mills Jones was the first to go through FSU, earning a degree in Early Childhood Education in 1981. Marcie came next, graduating in 1983 with a BA in English and a minor in journalism. Her younger sister Tracey Mills Arminio graduated in 1989 with a BS in Fashion Merchandising. Laurel Mills attended FSU a little later in life, earning a BA in 2002 and returning to earn a MS in Nursing in 2009 and an MS in Nursing in 2012. Janet Mills-Knudsen is the only Mills sister who did not graduate from Framingham State; but following a long career in marketing, today she is a visiting lecturer at the University.

The next generation of the family is building on the FSU tradition. Laurel Mills’ son Zach Handrahan recently earned an MS in Nursing at Framingham State and then quickly landed a job as the assistant manager of the Cardiac Unit at UMass Memorial Hospital.
Hemeway Hall Science Addition Slated to Open Late Next Year

Progress continues on the Hemeway Hall science addition, which will create 16 state-of-the-art laboratories for the University’s growing science programs. The project, which also includes major renovations to existing classroom and labs within Hemeway Hall; is expected to transform the University Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs. Enrollment growth in the STEM areas has outpaced growth in most other areas in recent years.

The new addition is tentatively slated to wrap up this fall. The University secured an additional $9 million from the state and $3 million from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) during the past year, which allows the University to complete the $14 million project as originally envisioned.

“The program has been incredibly successful,” says Dawn Bos, the University’s assistant director of Career Services and Employer Relations. “Many of our students are paying their way through college and can’t afford unpaid internships. Having the opportunity to complete meaningful internships that are related to their areas of study is very important to them.”

Incentive Fund.

Three students have completed paid internships at IAFSA through the program, according to Executive Director Debra Cleveland. “We were very grateful to have them, and it was wonderful to know they were getting paid for their efforts,” she says. “It’s a program we are very happy to support.”

The program has grown rapidly, from 18 CHOICE interns in the fall of 2013 to 220 during the spring 2014 semester. About 50 nonprofit and government organizations have created more than 200 CHOICE Internship opportunities, including the Boys and Girls Club of MetroWest; Framingham Public Schools; MetroWest Chamber of Commerce; United Way Tri-County; and Natick Labs.

I A F S A D o n a t e s
$4,000 to CHOICE Internship Program

“STUDENTS IN THE CHOICE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ARE GETTING PAID TO COMPLETE MEANINGFUL INTERNSHIPS THAT ARE RELATED TO THEIR AREAS OF STUDY.”

“From that point on, we felt like Framingham State was back in our lives again,” says Nancy Swiacki. “When we realized none exists, we decided it might be an appropriate addition to the FSU campus.”

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For more than a decade, Framingham State has benefited from the passion and generosity of longtime educators Janina ‘67 and Nancy ‘68 Swiacki. The support began with the donation of an organ to the Heineman Eucenical Center in 2001, which was facilitated by then-President Dr. Helen Heineman.

“From that point on, we felt like Framingham State was back in our lives again,” Janina says.

Their latest effort to support FSU is raising money to erect a statue of a Ram on campus. They got the idea from observing other college campuses where statues have become gathering areas for photos and rallies, as well as popular ways to display school pride.

“We walked around the campus one day in search of a Ram statue,” Nancy says. “When we realized none exists, we decided it might be an appropriate addition for the FSU campus.”

It helps that the sisters are both passionate about public art and spearheaded a similar project in their hometown. They co-chaired a committee that raised funds for a 20-foot-tall sculpture of an eyeglass frame that has graced the Southbridge Town Common since 2010.

The Swiackis have already made a substantial donation to the FSU sculpture project, which has been matched by other donors interested in the effort, including Mark Leonard ’83 and Trustee Bob Richards ’83. They are also working with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations to build additional support for the project.

The sisters are well known around FSU for their longtime support of the Children’s Literature Festival, which they have been closely involved with since 2006. In fact, this year the University is renaming the event in their honor.

“This festival literally would no longer exist if not for their efforts,” says Eric Gustafson, director of Development and Alumni Relations. “They’ve not only supported it financially, they’ve thrown their passion and energy behind it as well.”

The sisters both taught for more than 20 years—Janina at the Burgess Elementary School in Sturbridge and Nancy at the junior high and high school level in Southbridge—and share a passion for literature.

“One of the many reasons we’ve supported the festival so many years is the opportunity to meet so many people who are so supportive and enthusiastic about it.”
UPCOMING EVENTS

Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo
**OCTOBER 18–21, 2014 | ATLANTA, GA**

Staff from the Office of Alumni Relations will be on hand for the Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo put on by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in Atlanta, GA. Several alumni from FSU’s Food and Nutrition Program are expected to be in attendance at this event, which is the world’s largest meeting of food and nutrition experts.

Swiacki Children’s Literature Festival at Framingham State
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014 | 3 P.M.**

This year’s Swiacki Children’s Literature Festival will feature renowned author Steve Jenkins and award-winning illustrator Mark Teague. The event includes book signings, lectures and workshops on the latest developments in the craft.

SAVE THE DATE

Alumni Weekend in Florida
**MARCH 2015**

Join the Office of Alumni Relations for several fun activities in the Sunshine State. Past events have included an alumni trip to a Red Sox spring training game and marching in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Specific dates and additional details to be announced later this fall.

All-Alumni Reunion Weekend
**JUNE 5–7, 2015**

The best weekend of the year to reconnect with old friends and your alma mater! The Office of Alumni Relations is planning a jam-packed weekend full of events and activities. Join us as we toast the Golden Anniversary Class of 1965 and honor the latest group of Alumni Achievement Award Winners.

For more information or to register for alumni events, contact the Office of Alumni Relations.

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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.

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