

UPDATE



HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY!



May 2014



I would like to thank the many members that showed interest in the negotiation team. We had over 75 people show interest with many of them forwarding a bio on themselves. The table officers had several meetings and phone conference calls to discuss this team in depth and pick the following members,

Kevin Hanley

Joseph Nee

Carolyn Mathews

Sheila Fitzpatrick

Thomasine Corbett

Jose Torres

Marziale Carlopoli

Daniel Musto

Jason Raynard

Gail Feckley

Gordon Blaquiere

Diane Byrnes

We will be starting May 1st and hope to have a fruitful session. We will have our first meeting at Fitchburg State University. The list of proposals is in order and we will be working hard to try to obtain them.

Thank you to all the members that sent in the request, this also helped the team a great deal.

Once we start the negotiations, we will not be talking until we have a tentative agreement, and we will be meeting to discuss this at a special meeting.

May Holidays

MEMORIAL DAY	
1	May Day
4	Star Wars Day
5	Cinco de Mayo
6	National Teacher's Day
8	VE Day, WW II
11	Mother's Day - second Sunday
17	Armed Forces Day - third Saturday
26	Memorial Day

Table Officers E-Mail Addresses

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Memorial Day History

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of Union veterans — the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) — established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country.

The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various Washington officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided over the ceremonies. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

Local Observances Claim To Be First Local springtime tributes to the Civil War dead already had been held in various places. One of the first occurred in Columbus, Miss., April 25, 1866, when a group of women visited a cemetery to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers who had fallen in battle at Shiloh. Nearby were the graves of Union soldiers, neglected because they were the enemy. Disturbed at the sight of the bare graves, the women placed some of their flowers on those graves, as well.

Today, cities in the North and the South claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1866. Both Macon and Columbus, Ga., claim the title, as well as Richmond, Va. The village of Boalsburg, Pa., claims it began there two years earlier. A stone in a Carbondale, Ill., cemetery carries the statement that the first Decoration Day ceremony took place there on April 29, 1866. Carbondale was the wartime home of Gen. Logan. Approximately 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, many of them in the South where most of the war dead were buried.

Official Birthplace Declared In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, N.Y., the "birthplace" of Memorial Day. There, a ceremony on May 5, 1866, honored local veterans who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed and residents flew flags at half-staff. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal, not community-wide or one-time events.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the nation. State legislatures passed proclamations designating the day, and the Army and Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities.

It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then also placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

Some States Have Confederate Observances Many Southern states also have their own days for honoring the Confederate dead. Mississippi celebrates Confederate Memorial Day on the last Monday of April, Alabama on the fourth Monday of April, and Georgia on April 26. North and South Carolina observe it on May 10, Louisiana on June 3 and Tennessee calls that date Confederate Decoration Day. Texas celebrates Confederate Heroes Day January 19 and Virginia calls the last Monday in May Confederate Memorial Day.

Gen. Logan's order for his posts to decorate graves in 1868 "with the choicest flowers of springtime" urged: "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. ... Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

The crowd attending the first Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery was approximately the same size as those that attend today's observance, about 5,000 people. Then, as now, small American flags were placed on each grave — a tradition followed at many national cemeteries today. In recent years, the custom has grown in many families to decorate the graves of all departed loved ones.

The origins of special services to honor those who die in war can be found in antiquity. The Athenian leader Pericles offered a tribute to the fallen heroes of the Peloponnesian War over 24 centuries ago that could be applied today to the 1.1 million Americans who have died in the nation's wars: "Not only are they commemorated by columns and inscriptions, but there dwells also an unwritten memorial of them, graven not on stone but in the hearts of men."

To ensure the sacrifices of America's fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000, the U.S. Congress passed and the president signed into law "The National Moment of Remembrance Act," P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The commission's charter is to "encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity" by encouraging and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance. The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. As Moment of Remembrance founder Carmella LaSpada states: "It's a way we can all help put the memorial back in Memorial Day."



Happy Mother's Day



Mother's Day is a holiday honoring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. The American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday's commercialization and spent the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar. While dates and celebrations vary, Mother's Day most commonly falls on the second Sunday in May and traditionally involves presenting mothers with flowers, cards and other gifts.

MOTHER'S DAY: HISTORICAL PRECURSORS

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday." Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their "mother church"—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service. Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation. This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother's Day in the 1930s and 1940s.

Did You Know?

More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year. These holiday chats with Mom often cause phone traffic to spike by as much as 37 percent.

MOTHER'S DAY: EARLY INCARNATIONS

The roots of the modern American Mother's Day date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War (1861-65), Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children. These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation. Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2. Other early Mother's Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a temperance activist who inspired a local Mother's Day in Albion, Michigan, in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering, meanwhile, both worked to organize a Mothers' Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some have even called Hering "the father of Mothers' Day."

MOTHER'S DAY: FOUNDING BY ANNA JARVIS

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood. By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity. While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies. Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers, speaking out against confectioners, florists and even charities. She also launched countless lawsuits against groups that had used the name "Mother's Day," eventually spending most of her personal wealth in legal fees. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.

MOTHER'S DAY: CELEBRATIONS AND TRADITIONS

While versions of Mother's Day are celebrated throughout the world, traditions vary depending on the country. In Thailand, for example, Mother's Day is always celebrated in August on the birthday of the current queen, Sirikit. Another alternate observance of Mother's Day can be found in Ethiopia, where families gather each fall to sing songs and eat a large feast as part of Antrosht, a multi-day celebration honoring motherhood.

In the United States, Mother's Day continues to be celebrated by presenting mothers and other women with gifts and flowers, and it has become one of the biggest holidays for consumer spending. Families might also celebrate by giving mothers a day off from activities like cooking or other household chores. At times Mother's Day has also been a date for launching political or feminist causes. In 1968 Coretta Scott King, wife of Martin Luther King Jr., used Mother's Day to host a march in support of underprivileged women and children. In the 1970s women's groups also used the holiday as a time to highlight the need for equal rights and access to childcare.

VISION PROJECT | Colleges Back Away From Using Tests to Assess Student Learning

It wasn't long ago that standardized tests were ascendant in higher education. Feeling pressure from federal policy makers and the public to demonstrate rigor in their courses, colleges turned to the tests as seemingly objective measures of quality and what students are learning. ...Growing disenchantment with many standardized measures of critical thinking has created enthusiasm among many observers for a new effort to measure learning in a consistent and reliable way by using the materials that students are assigned and complete in their courses. The program, undertaken by a consortium of nine states, is using the Valid Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Education rubrics of the Association of American Colleges and Universities. The rubrics are divided into parts, each of which can be judged on a scale of one to four. They measure things like critical-thinking skills in a way that can be generalized and compared across departments, institutions, and states.

BRISTOL CC | BCC casino program teaches students ins and outs of gaming industry

If David Degrace had bet real money, he could have walked away from Paul Robillard's blackjack table with \$400 worth of chips. He started off with \$60. While the bets weren't real, the blackjack table was. And for the students who were playing the roles of dealers standing behind the semicircle-shaped table set up in the lobby of the Commonwealth College Center at Bristol Community College on Thursday afternoon, it was a chance to gain some gaming industry experience.

FITCHBURG STATE U | FSU provost named president of Arkansas Tech

Fitchburg State University Executive Vice President/Provost Robin E. Bowen has been named president of Arkansas Tech University.

MASSASOIT CC | YCCC names new president

York County Community College has named its new president. Barbara Finkelstein, senior vice president of Massasoit Community College in Brockton, Mass., will assume the post on Aug. 11. "Barbara is known for her devotion to students and her collaborative leadership style, which brings out the best in her faculty and staff. We look forward to her joining the Maine Community College System family," said John Fitzsimmons, president of the Maine Community College System.

WORCESTER STATE U | Worcester State grad who 'held my own' to receive honorary doctorate

Earning one doctorate in your career is quite an accomplishment. So what does it say when you earn two? In Robert Mullin's case, it says a lot about his commitment to the city where he was born and raised, and to the alma mater that got him started on his way to a career to which he would dedicate a lifetime. ...He says Worcester State "has been really on the ball" and "has developed a sense of loyalty and esprit de corps." He praises McNamara and WSU President Barry Maloney, along with Camilla Caffrey, executive director of alumni, for being so easy to deal with.

WESTFIELD STATE U | Westfield State students using Google Liquid Galaxy

Westfield State University is taking Google Maps to the next level: Big screen and 3D. Using the "Google Liquid Galaxy," students can now virtually visit locations around the world. Fly under and over the Golden Gate Bridge, or navigate mountains and the ocean floor. Students can access this immersive geographic experience that utilizes a panoramic system with wrap-around screens, and go anywhere in the world from the school library.

BERKSHIRE CC | BCC trustees get first look at planned turf-field project

Berkshire Community College's Board of Trustees got its first good look Tuesday at the multi-purpose turf facility planned for the school. Scott Richards, BCC's director of facilities, gave an update on the building process during the trustees' monthly meeting in the Susan B. Anthony College Center. He shared renderings of what the field would look like when completed, samples of the FieldTurf that would be used on the field, and updated the board on both the school's and EDM Services Inc.'s goals for construction.

GREENFIELD CC | Sec. of Education Malone: All students should enroll in higher education

State Secretary of Education Matthew Malone told Greenfield Community College students Wednesday that he wants to see all Massachusetts students enroll in some form of higher education. "The natural pathway for the 21st century is through community colleges," said Malone. The state will need to step up its investment in programs that train students for jobs, he said, and should also improve a student's ability to easily transfer from a community college to a four-year school. It was the first tour of the GCC campus for Malone, who became the governor's chief education adviser in January 2013. GCC President Robert Pura and Student Senate President Kia Burton-McLaughlin showed him around the school and introduced him to students along the way.

GREENFIELD CC | GCC in line to get slight increase in state funding

04/23/2014 - Greenfield Community College is in line to see an increase of \$310,000 to \$450,000 in state funding this year, which may be enough to convince trustees to again freeze student fees. President Robert Pura said fee hikes will come up in budget discussions with his staff and the board of trustees, but he'd prefer not to increase them. The state funding generally makes up between 40 and 50 percent of the college's revenue. GCC is planning its budget around last year's \$9.7 million allocation, said Pura.

FRAMINGHAM STATE U | FSU picks contractors for dorm, fields projects

Framingham State University has selected a contractor for its proposed \$37 million new dorm, according to a school administrator who also said officials are hoping to bring down the cost of the project. In addition, the university picked a company to undertake \$4.3 million worth of renovations to Framingham State's Maple Street athletic fields, said Dale Hamel, the school's executive vice president of administration, finance and information technology.

BRISTOL CC | BCC helps prepare a 'green' workforce

Bristol Community College's Green Center is preparing employees for the green workforce — for today and into the future. "The college makes it a priority to look toward the future, at where job growth will be, and it was clear a lot of trained workers were and will be needed for the green technology sector," said Carmen Aguilar, dean of the Center for Workforce and Community Education at BCC in Fall River.

FRAMINGHAM STATE U | FSU celebrates Innovation Center opening

Officials at Framingham State University will celebrate the opening of the school's new Entrepreneur Innovation Center with a ceremony on site this afternoon. The incubator provides office space for area entrepreneurs, as well as internship opportunities for FSU students.

HOLYOKE CC | Editorial: Welcome benefactor for HCC

Elaine Marieb is a big believer in the benefits of community college education, and she has a particular affection for Holyoke Community College where she taught for 26 years. Thus, it was no surprise when her latest initiative as one of the college's most loyal benefactors was announced late last month.

QUINSIGAMOND CC | \$1 million federal grant to create 100 entrepreneurial jobs in downtown Worcester

An entrepreneurial center estimated to create 100 new jobs in the former Telegram and Gazette building care of a \$1 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. "This is an investment for the future ... an investment that is vital for the revitalization of Worcester's downtown business district and critical to growth, diversification and new jobs," said EDA Deputy Assistant Secretary Matt Erskin. "This incubator and accelerator will provide a central location, a locus, a nexus for entrepreneurs and will provide the support for these entrepreneurs as they start businesses."

MCLA | MCLA offering accelerated business degree program

04/21/2014 - The Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts will offer a bachelor of science degree in business administration this fall as a degree completion program, an option for adult learners interested in completing their degree in an accelerated time period. MCLA is accepting applications for the next cohort, which begin their studies in September.

WORCESTER STATE U | College Town

A select group of Worcester State University nursing students will present their "Next Big Ideas" to improve health care before a panel of judges from 1 to 4 p.m. April 23. Submissions were turned in April 15 and the judges read them before choosing those who would have the chance to present their ideas orally before the panel, according to one of the judges, Mary K. Alexander.

MCLA | MCLA Opens New Facilities Building in North Adams

The crew that keeps Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts well groomed now has a home of its own. A brand-new, and barely used yet, 12,000-square-foot structure on Ashland Street will house all of the college's maintenance departments, including grounds, carpentry, electrical and motor. "In short order, when this turns into a working building, it will not be a place the team wants all of us touring around," said MCLA President Mary Grant at Friday's ribbon cutting and open house.

FINANCIAL AID | Rep. Mark: Higher ed. costs, student debt must be curbed

- A legislative committee led by a local lawmaker said this week that the state can and should act soon to help alleviate rising college costs and student debt. "Fewer people are going to start going to college ... (and) you also can't shed this debt," said state Rep. Paul Mark, D-Peru, who co-chaired the Subcommittee on Student Loans and Debt. "If all of a sudden almost 20 percent of the population can't get a mortgage, that's going to have a ripple effect throughout the rest of the economy," he said. "We can't allow that to happen."

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Evidence Of Racial, Gender Biases Found In Faculty Mentoring

Research found faculty in academic departments linked to more lucrative professions are more likely to discriminate against women and minorities than faculty in fields linked to less lucrative jobs.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Trading a Percentage of Tomorrow's Pay for Today's Tuition, Four Ways It Could Help

Senator Marco Rubio (R-Florida) and Congressman Tom Petri (R-Wisconsin) last week introduced the Investing in Student Success Act to encourage the development of Income Share Agreements (ISAs). Writing in the National Journal's Education Insiders blog, Fawn Johnson explained ISAs this way: "The bill would create a legal framework under which the student can agree to give the investor a portion of his or her earnings after college for a fixed period of time. The amount (5 percent? 10 percent?) and the time frame (10 years? 20 years?) is up to the individual parties.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Massachusetts part of national rebound in higher-ed funding

State colleges and universities saw public funding increase in 2013 for only the second time in five years, and the early indication is that the momentum might continue to carry over here in Massachusetts. According to Bloomberg News, state and local government funding for colleges and universities increased by 0.7 percent in 2013, rising to \$81.6 billion from \$81.1 billion in 2012. Another 5.7 percent increase is expected for the current year, the newswire reported, citing a new study to be released today by the State Higher Education Executive Officers.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Obama administration will move ahead with controversial new rules on teacher preparation programs

The Obama administration is planning to move ahead this summer with a proposal that would tie federal grants for teacher preparation programs, in part, to how well their graduates perform as teachers. Education Secretary Arne Duncan said Thursday that his agency would, in the coming months, propose new rules governing teacher preparation programs at colleges and universities. The proposal seeks to have states develop ratings of teacher preparation programs that the department would, in turn, use in determining whether the programs are eligible to receive federal TEACH Grants.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Public Sees College as More Than Just Job Preparation, Report Says

Rhetoric from policy makers may focus on the need to ensure that college graduates are competitive in the workplace, but students, faculty members, and others engaged in higher education take a more expansive view of the value of a degree, a new report from the Kettering Foundation and the National Issues Forums Institute suggests. College, they said, shouldn't be just about picking up job skills but should expose students to new ideas and diverse fields and should encourage critical thinking.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | New competency-based programs at Lipscomb could be model for liberal arts colleges

Competency-based education is a hot idea, albeit not a new one. But as it is with anything in higher education, there is great variation among numerous emerging models. And understanding how they work is complicated by the fact that competency-based programs don't look like much like most peoples' vision of college. On the least-ambitious end is an approach that merely embeds "competencies" into a conventional degree program. Loosely defined, a competency is a specified knowledge, skill or ability that a student can demonstrate, typically through an assessment.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | MIA: Accuplacer Prep

Reports of the redesign of the SAT resonate with many parents and their school-age children who have had personal experience with the controversial college gatekeeper. But another test in the College Board portfolio, though not in the news, is arguably even more important to the future—or lack of a future—of high-school age students. It's the Accuplacer. Accuplacer is, like the SAT, a suite of tests. It assesses concrete English and math skills—things like decimals, percents, equations, reading comprehension and basic writing skills. Accuplacer tests are used by community colleges, state colleges and public universities in all New England states to place incoming students in the right courses.

FINANCIAL AID | Student loan-debt solutions needed

As student-loan debt tops \$1 trillion nationally, state lawmakers are recommending ways to ease the burden on Massachusetts college students. About 66 percent of Massachusetts students take out loans to pay for college, and the state ranks 12th in the nation for the number of students carrying debt. A Joint Committee on Higher Education subcommittee approved a report Tuesday with nine recommendations to make higher education more affordable for Massachusetts students.

FINANCIAL AID | Free tuition may expand to children in first-responder deaths

Children of all Massachusetts first responders killed in the line of duty would be eligible to attend a public college or university for free, under a bill expected to pass in the Senate Thursday.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Michelle Obama: High school diploma is not enough

It may be a few years before the first daughters head to college, but Michelle Obama is already brainstorming a dorm room checklist while encouraging high school students to dream big about their education beyond graduation. The first lady told a group of students Thursday that a high school diploma is not enough in today's global economy. "No longer is high school the bar. That is not enough," Mrs. Obama told the crowd. "You have got to go to college or get some kind of professional training."

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Op-Ed: By Ben Wildavsky: How much are college students learning?

If you want to know how U.S. schoolchildren are performing, you don't have to look far: A wealth of information is available, thanks to the National Assessment of Educational Progress. Go online and see, for instance, that Massachusetts children outperform those in Texas, that average math scores have gone up nationally over the past 20 years and that the District of Columbia was the only urban district to improve in math and reading in grades 4 and 8 last year. But what if you want to know how much students are learning in college? Here, the trail grows cold.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Federal job training programs encourage collaboration with employers

The White House on Wednesday rolled out two job-training grant programs that focus on the community college sector. Both push for closer ties between colleges and employers. The news wasn't exactly new for the largest of the two pots of money – the fourth and final installment of a \$2 billion workforce development fund. This week the U.S. Department of Labor released the application website for the last \$450 million of the competitive grants, which were created in 2010.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | SAT Changes Shake Up Test Prep Industry

Last month The College Board, the nonprofit that writes and publishes the SAT, announced that the high-stakes college entrance exam will be changing. On Wednesday, it's showing the public exactly what the redesigned test will look like and now the test-prep industry is bracing for the changes. For decades, people who could afford certain advantages - like taking expensive SAT prep courses - have enjoyed a leg up in the college acceptance game. The new SAT hopes to change that.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Colleges seek to improve chances for students who take remedial classes

The odds have long been stacked against students like those in Edward Ennels' remedial math classes at Baltimore City Community College. Only about a quarter of students nationally who take developmental — or remedial — classes ever graduate. ...Richard Freeland, commissioner of Higher Education for Massachusetts, said he's hopeful renewed focus on the problem will bring about change, but he's realistic about the challenges. Of the 11,000 community college students in Massachusetts who took a remedial math class in fall 2010, 9,000 hadn't yet passed a credit-bearing class, according to 2013 task force report. "This is a tough issue, and anybody who says they think they've got it solved doesn't know what they're talking about as far as I'm concerned," Freeland said.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Which State is Among the Worst in Awarding Degrees to Hispanics?

With a population more than twice as Hispanic as the national average, California has a lower-than-average proportion of Hispanics with college or university educations, and no institution among the top five for awarding them degrees, according to a new study. The state is 38 percent Hispanic, compared to the national average of 17 percent. But only 16 percent of adults aged 25 or older have degrees, compared to the national average for Hispanics of 20 percent, the study, by the advocacy organization Excellencia in Education, finds.

HIGHER ED TRENDS | Colleges Seek to Improve Remedial Programs

The odds have long been stacked against students like those in Edward Ennels' remedial math classes at Baltimore City Community College. Only about a quarter of students nationally who take developmental — or remedial — classes ever graduate. ..

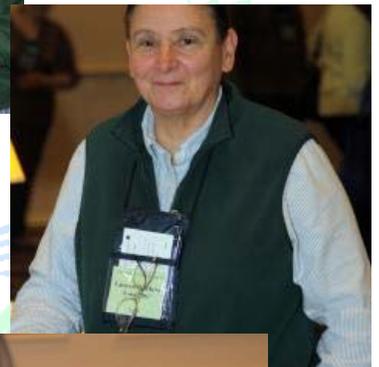
Students in rural counties are less likely to attend college, and those who do are less likely to choose a four-year, private, or highly selective institution, according to a recent report. Andrew Koricich, an assistant professor of higher education at Texas Tech University analyzed federal higher education and longitudinal data to determine how living in a rural community influences postsecondary choices. Koricich's study found that about 64 percent of rural students pursue postsecondary education, compared to nearly 70 percent of students who live in metro areas. Nationally, about 66 percent of graduating high school students enroll in a postsecondary institution.

It's Time!
To check
out the new
facepage for
Local 1067
AFSCME
also check
out the web
page!

Good Morning,

I wanted to let you all know that our new website is up and running! When you get a chance, please take a look by visiting www.afscme93.org.

Also, please share any feedback that you may have including suggestions for potential content additions or modifications by emailing them to info@afscme.org.



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The Higher Education Department represents more than 6,000 AFSCME members working at 27 public university, state and community college campuses in Massachusetts. Working in a number of job titles ranging from campus police officers to groundskeepers, AFSCME members make up the backbone of one of the most and respected and effective public higher education systems in the world. Department staff members work with Local leadership to engage in mid-term and successor collective bargaining, and handle the preparation and processing of unfair labor practice charges, individual and class appeals, and grievances. They also provide advice and guidance to local leadership and members as to their contractual and legal rights and obligations, and work with the office's administrator to assure the timely and effective exchange of information between the Council and Local leadership.

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Performance Recognition 2014

The Commonwealth Citation for Outstanding Performance is given to Executive Branch and **Higher Education employees of the Commonwealth** who have demonstrated exemplary work performance. Giving recognition for outstanding performance is an opportunity for the Commonwealth to say thank you to its employees.

Jacalyn Angelo received The Commonwealth Citation for Outstanding Performance for management and support of the Admissions Office. She provides critical services, ensures that the Admission process runs seamlessly. She is instrumental in the Enrollment of prospective student.

Francis Jarvis received The Commonwealth Citation for Outstanding Performance for her work at the Scholarship Coordinator. She works to ensure that students have access to fund to assist them in achieving their academic goals at Bunker Hill Community College and elsewhere.

