

FSU News & Updates

December 8, 2025
Volume 56 Number 9

FSU Celebrates Achievements of Fall 2025 Graduates

Frostburg State University will celebrate the student achievements of its fall 2025 graduating class at the 167th Commencement Ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 17, in the Cordts Physical Education Center Main Arena at 2 p.m. This year's commencement speakers are Koley Richard from the College of Business, Engineering, Computing & Analytics; Kayla Casey from the College of Education, Behavioral & Health Professions; and Emily Guardado Toledo from the College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences. [Read more](#)



Richard, of Oakland, Md., will graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in human resource management.



Casey, of Nottingham, Md., will graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation and Parks Management with a minor in geography.



Guardado Toledo, of Frostburg, Md., will graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in English with a concentration in creative writing.



2026 ADAPT Applications Now Open

Applications for the 2026 cohort of FSU's Administrative Development and Professional Training (ADAPT) are now being accepted. Entering its 4th year, the ADAPT program is proud to continue collaborations campus-wide to offer robust content to each cohort featuring valuable, trending topics addressing challenges most relevant to our campus administrative support professionals.

[Learn More](#)



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

FSU's Social Work Program Earns 8 Years of Continued Accreditation

FSU's Social Work program has been granted 8 years of continuing accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education for its compliance with educational policies and accreditation standards. FSU's



Happy Thanksgiving from FSU

The FSU community held its annual Thanksgiving Basket Collection to create meals for families in our area. Coordinated through PAWS Pantry, 100 baskets were collected with 3,896 pounds of food and nearly \$3,000 in gift cards. Sixty-five of the baskets were delivered directly to homes in Allegany County and the remainder were taken to the Western Maryland Food Bank for distribution. Nineteen students, staff and alumni volunteers came together to distribute the baskets.

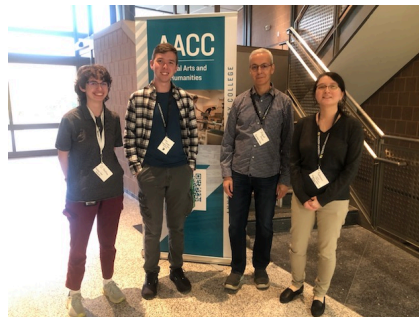


You're Invited to the President's Holiday Reception

All faculty and staff are cordially invited to the President's Holiday Reception Monday, Dec. 15, from 2-4 p.m. in the Lane University Center ARMAH. The Office of Human Resources will be looking for the

program has been continuously accredited by CWSE for more than 30 years and prepares students for entry-level careers in social work, teaching about the field and the importance of human relationships.

"Most Outlandish" holiday sweater, and the Office of Civic Engagement's AmeriCorps program will collect unwrapped toys for children in need. Sweater contest winners will be announced on Dec. 16.



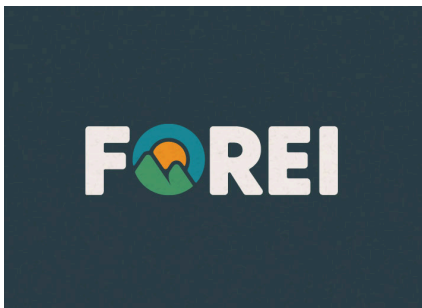
Record-Breaking Visit

Have you ever visited the Natural History Museum on the FSU campus, located in the Compton Science Center? During a recent Campus Visit Day, the Museum welcomed visitor number 5,683 for the 2025 calendar year -- surpassing the previous annual record of 5,661 set back in 2015. Congrats and thanks to the organizers and students who staff the museum from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, for members of the campus/local community and school groups.

Note: The museum is only 192 visitors away from reaching 6,000 for the 2025 calendar year. Stop by to help them reach their goal before the end of the semester!

FSU Students Shine at Geography Bowl

Several FSU geography majors recently competed in the Geography Bowl competition at the Mid-Atlantic Division of the American Association of Geographers (MAD-AAG) conference hosted by Anne Arundel Community College. Colton Swauger '27 and Sarah Jane Hardiman '28 were successful in securing a spot on the regional team to compete at the National Geography Bowl in San Francisco in March. This year's competition was titled "From Appalachia to the Atlantic."

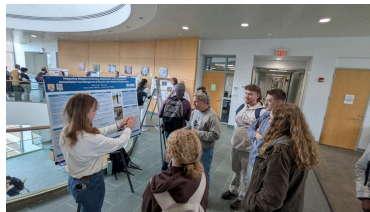
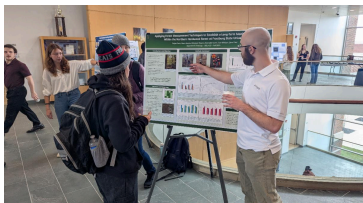
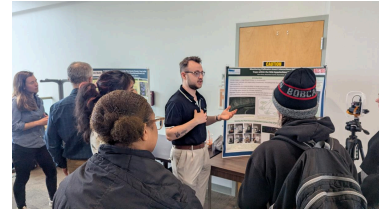
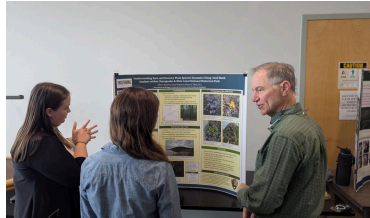


FSU's FOREI Receives ARC Award

The Appalachian Regional Commission awarded FSU's Frostburg Outdoor Recreation Economy Institute (FOREI) a \$500,000 **READY Grants to Grow** to help strengthen the region's outdoor recreation economy by facilitating economic development training for FOREI staff and to generate one digital infrastructure plan to improve workflows.

Department of Biology's 2nd Annual Biosymposium

FSU's Department of Biology recently hosted the 2nd Annual Biosymposium. The event featured student research projects and learning experiences, biology majors and minors and science and nature-focused student organizations.



Holiday Travel Advisory

The holiday season is upon us, which means many members of our campus community will be traveling in the upcoming weeks or during the winter break. To ensure you have continued access to FSU resources while you are away, please take the following considerations in mind:

1. If you are traveling more than a few states away in the US, or traveling internationally, submitting a notice prior to traveling helps reduce the chances of your FSU login being suspended due to unusual activity. The Travel Notice link is available in the **Bobcat Portal** or you can also visit the Security offerings on the **Office of Information Technology** home page.
2. If you are traveling internationally, your cybersecurity risk increases. We have compiled a list of International Travel Cybersecurity Procedures that will assist you in minimizing risk both to yourself and to the University. Please review the procedures at <https://www.frostburg.edu/information-technology/frostburgstateuniversity-international-travel-cybersecurity-procedures.pdf> prior to your trip.

Please note, if you are traveling internationally with a University-owned device (either for University business or personal travel), contact the Help Desk at x7777 or helpdesk@frostburg.edu before your trip to make necessary arrangements.

Show Your Support! Get Involved!

Food Recovery Network

For more information about these initiatives, to get involved or to ask a question or raise a concern tied to campus sustainability, reach out to Tracy Edwards '96, Sustainability Coordinator, tedwards@frostburg.edu.



MCC 2025: Giving Back Together

The Maryland Charity Campaign is the collective effort of thousands of individuals who give back and inspire hope in communities near and far. This year's campaign will run through Dec. 12 and offers state employees and eligible retirees a way to conveniently and securely contribute to charities that matter most to them.

Give Now

TRIO-SSS Toy Drive

Help ensure a Merry Christmas for all local children by contributing to FSU's Student Support Services Executive Board Christmas Toy Drive.

No donation is too big or too small. If interested, please drop off your gift donation to the SSS office located in 133 Pullen Hall Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, email blakevarela0@frostburg.edu.



Volunteering in the Community?

Log your service hours through the Volunteer Work app on Bobcat Connect. The instructions can be found **HERE**.

- The sponsoring unit for student organizations is Student Engagement
- The sponsoring unit for athletes is Athletics or your specific sport (ask your coach)

- The sponsoring unit for classes and employees is your department

Registration will remain open until Dec. 9. Students should watch for their monthly student organization email.

Important Resources & Reminders



[Learn More](#)

Announcements About Weather-Related Delays and Closings

It's that time of year again! Click the link for information on how to find out if Frostburg State University is CLOSED, DELAYED or will CLOSE EARLY on days with inclement weather, and what you should do to be prepared (Frostburg campus ONLY).

Cordts P.E. Center Finals Week & December Hours

General P.E. Center Hours

Regular facility hours through Tuesday, December 9.

- Dec. 10 – 12, 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- Dec. 13, 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- Dec. 14, 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Dec. 15 & 16 – 6 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Dec.17, Closed (Commencement)
- Dec. 18 & 19, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Dec. 20 & 21, Closed
- Dec. 22 & 23, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Dec. 24 – Jan. 4, Closed

Fitness Center Hours

- Dec.10 – 12, 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Dec.13, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Dec. 14, 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.
- Dec. 15 & 16, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Dec. 17, Closed (Commencement)
- Dec.18, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Dec.19, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Dec. 20 – Jan. 4, Closed

Climbing Wall Hours

- Dec. 10, Closed
- Dec. 11, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Dec. 12, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Pool Hours

- Dec. 10 & 11
 - 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Open Swim
 - 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. Faculty/Staff/Adult AFL Swim
 - 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Open Swim
- Dec. 12
 - 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Open Swim
 - 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. Faculty/Staff/Adult AFL Swim
- Dec. 14, 2-5 p.m. Open Swim
- Dec. 15 & 16
 - 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Open Swim
 - 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. Faculty/Staff/Adult AFL Swim
- Dec. 17, Closed
- Dec. 18
 - 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Open Swim
 - 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. Faculty/Staff/Adult AFL Swim
- Dec. 19 – 21, Closed
- Dec. 22 & 23
 - 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Open Swim
 - 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. Faculty/Staff/Adult AFL Swim

- Dec. 24 – Jan. 4, Closed

The climbing wall will reopen Feb. 2, 2026.



PAWS Pantry

Paws Pantry is open and available to all students, faculty and staff. Customers will complete a brief online intake and waiver form to register as a pantry member during their first visit. During regular hours, students may come to the pantry and shop from our selection of non-perishable foods, frozen foods and household/hygiene products (when available).

Fall 2025 hours:

- Mondays & Fridays: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Tuesdays: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Wednesdays: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Thursdays: closed

Contact Paws Pantry

Email: amdaniels@frostburg.edu

Phone: **301-687-7615**

Accepting Nominations

The Office of Human Resources is still accepting nominations for the Quarter 1 Employee of the Quarter through **Dec. 16**. The selected recipient will be announced during the second week of January, so don't miss the chance to recognize an outstanding colleague!



The Employee of the Quarter (EOQ) award celebrates FSU faculty and staff who demonstrate exceptional commitment and excellence by one or more of the following:

- Performing duties beyond the scope of their regular responsibilities.
- Making significant contributions that benefit the University and/or the broader community.
- Exemplifying FSU's core values.
- Identifying and implementing process improvements.
- Delivering exceptional customer service.
- Meeting the criteria outlined in the EOQ Overview PDF.

Make Your Nomination Here

3 STATE COMMUNITY MEDIA CENTER

www.frostburg.edu/3StateCMC

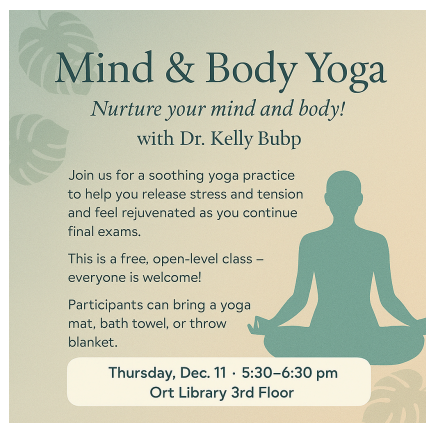
or

3StateCMC@frostburg.edu for membership forms, questions or enquires.

Bring Your Ideas to Life

Whether you're just starting out or you're a seasoned content creator, the new 3 State Community Media Center is your go-to destination for learning, creating, and sharing impactful media.

At the Center, you'll have access to hands-on training in media content creation, rentable audio & video equipment, professional studios & editing suites.



Mind & Body Yoga
Nurture your mind and body!
with Dr. Kelly Bubp

Join us for a soothing yoga practice to help you release stress and tension and feel rejuvenated as you continue final exams.

This is a free, open-level class – everyone is welcome!

Participants can bring a yoga mat, bath towel, or throw blanket.

Thursday, Dec. 11 · 5:30–6:30 pm
Ort Library 3rd Floor

Mind & Body Yoga

Join Dr. Kelly Bubp on Thursday, Dec. 11 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Ort Library (3rd floor) for a soothing yoga practice to help you release stress and tension and feel rejuvenated. This is a FREE, open-level class where everyone is welcome. Participants should bring a yoga mat or towel with them to class.



The 10 Days of Christmas Are Back!

The 10 Days of Christmas are back at the University Store! Each weekday beginning Dec. 3, they will announce an exciting **one-day sale** to help you grab your Bobcat swag just in time for Christmas. Be sure to keep an eye on the University Store's social media pages for each day's reveal—you won't want to miss these festive deals!



TEXTBOOK BUYBACK & IN-STORE RENTAL RETURNS

December 10th - December 16th

Refreshments and Chick-Fil-A Sandwiches available on December 10th while supplies last.



FSU Athletics Updates

Be sure to subscribe to Town Square to get an update every Monday from Frostburg State Athletics that highlights home contests for the upcoming week. Please use these announcements as a personal invitation to come see our student-athletes and staff members in action.

Visit the Athletics Website

Check Out Bobcat Dining!



Bobcat Dining invites faculty and staff to check out the newly renovated Chesapeake Dining Hall and all the exciting selections. Open 7 days a week, Chesapeake offers an "all-you-care-to-eat" dining experience, now with freshly updated features and menu items.

Every Friday, lunch is \$8 for faculty and staff. Don't miss out! Scan the QR code for the daily menu.

TRANSACT



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Cookie and Card Decorating

Stop by Chesapeake Dining Hall **TODAY, Dec. 8** any time between 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. to decorate a cookie for yourself and decorate a holiday card to be donated to the residents of Frostburg nursing homes who have not received any holiday cards.



Performing Arts



FSU's Department of Digital Media and Visual Arts Presents Senior Exhibition

FSU's Department of Digital Media and Visual Arts will present its fall 2025 senior exhibition "Cornucopia of Contrast" at the Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery in FSU's Fine Arts Building. This exhibition, which is free and open to the public, will be on display through Friday, Dec. 12.

[Read more](#)



MCTA Presents "An Irish Christmas" with John Doyle and Cathie Ryan

FSU's Mountain City Traditional Arts will host John Doyle and Cathie Ryan in "An Irish Christmas" on Thursday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. at 25 E. Main St. in Frostburg. The live entertainment is open to the public through general admission with a suggested donation of \$15.

[Read more](#)



Art Extravaganza

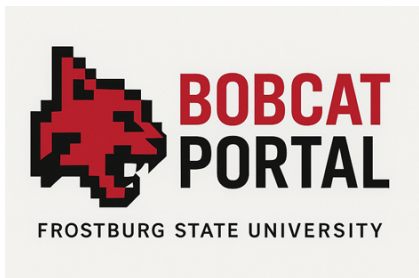
Stop by the Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery in FSU's Fine Arts building on Thursday, Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the annual Art Extravaganza!

For one day only, student and community artists will have creative gifts available for purchase. Hope to see you there!



Community Ceramics Course

Give the gift of learning this holiday season with a community course in ceramics. This 8-week course will provide an introduction to the basic ceramic processes, including hand-building and the pottery wheel. Classes, taught by ceramic artists Bobby Croft and Alexis Thorner, will be Tuesday nights from 6-9 p.m. from Jan. 27 through March 17. Contact the FSU Visual Arts Department at 301-687-4797 or jbrown@frostburg.edu with questions.



Check Out the Bobcat Portal!

The Office of Information Technology is proud to announce the launch of the Bobcat Portal, a reimagined version of the former Faculty/Staff Portal.

The Bobcat Portal is designed to better serve the *entire* FSU community, including faculty, staff, and now students. This expanded access creates a single, unified entry point for important tools, resources and information across campus.

We encourage you to take advantage of this resource. Check back often to explore the new features and begin experiencing the Bobcat Portal.

FSU Portal Highlight

Check out the Utilities feature in the Bobcat Portal!

From a simple percentage change calculator to a quick QR code generator to a SafeLinks decoder, the utilities section of the Portal offers very helpful resources. We encourage faculty and staff to take advantage of these valuable tools that are designed to support your work, streamline processes and ensure you have what you need to excel at your jobs.

Check Out Utilities



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