

Welcome to The State University of New York at Potsdam and to many exciting opportunities as you pursue your educational goals. I am extremely proud of our fine institution, the oldest in The State University of New York, and envy your task of choosing from an array of quality programs that prepare you for leadership in an increasingly complex global world.

At SUNY Potsdam, we believe in the value of a handcrafted education. Here you will work with fellow students, faculty, and staff to create a learning experience that is unique. You will study both the basic building blocks of a broad education and have the opportunity to dig deep into one specific area. While here, you will also develop a strong sense of what it means to work hard, have fun, and explore exciting possibilities for your life. Our faculty and professional staff will introduce you to new ideas, new technologies, and new ways of approaching problems. You will cultivate lifelong learning skills that will translate directly to a successful career: critical thinking, writing, speaking, and the application of technology. All of these essential ingredients are important tools that will allow you to keep pace competitively throughout your lifetime.

More importantly, at SUNY Potsdam you will have the chance to explore collaborative and interdisciplinary study in many of our programs. You will want to participate in intramural athletics and recreational activities; cultivate leadership skills in student government, community service projects and academic honor societies; and gain a competitive edge in the future job market in special programs like international study, service learning, honors, or internships. What is important is that you will have the chance to integrate what you learn in the classroom with how you approach the world and how you develop personally.

The sum of your experience at SUNY Potsdam will undoubtedly change your life and lead to an understanding that YOU can change our world. The faculty, staff, and administration are all here simply to help you find the most meaningful way to make a profound difference, be it in the classroom or the local or global community.

This catalog is your guidebook to the future. Please use it as a special tool to assist you in getting the most out of your time with us. Seek the advice of those around you. We pride ourselves on offering you a handcrafted education: one in which you take an active role in working with faculty and staff in developing the unique features of your time here at Potsdam.

Welcome to this remarkable campus community! The faculty, staff, and I are genuinely interested in your involvement here and dedicated to providing you with the very best education.

Dr. John F. Schwaller, President, SUNY Potsdam

