Dr. Lonel Woods is a vital member of The Crane School of Music and has been an invaluable asset to our campus since his arrival in 2009. He has tirelessly served on countless committees, such as the Student Affairs Committee for both Faculty Senate and Crane, has acted as an advisor to numerous student organizations, and provides a voice to kindness, equity, and inclusion on campus.

Lonel has served as faculty advisor to student organizations such as the Ladies of Soul and the Musical Theatrical Organization. He has proven to be a dedicated mentor/advisor to our first-year students and faculty. He continues to expand his leadership repertoire through serving as co-Chair of the Diversity in Action Coalition Committee, Coordinator of the Crane Honors Recital and participation in the SUNY Leadership Institute.

Aside from his duties as co-Chair of The Crane School of Music’s Performance Department, perhaps one of Lonel’s most significant contributions to SUNY Potsdam is his commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive campus. He co-organized a Day of Reflection event held on on Martin Luther King Day, which provides the opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to come together for meaningful discussion on a variety of topics centering around our campus community. The event was so successful that it influenced the creation of additional campus-wide events.

In 2016, Lonel was awarded the President’s Award for Excellence in College Service for his strong involvement throughout the campus.

In recognition of his exceptional service to SUNY Potsdam, The State University of New York presents Dr. Lonel Woods the 2017 Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service.