To increase our followers on Facebook, the Experiential Education Office gave away a free 32” TV! In just a day and a half we went from 175 likes to 550 likes. In four days we had increased to 620 likes. The winner of the TV was Tevird Teshawn Abrose.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!
Megan Burke - Applied Learning Advisor

This semester we searched to fill the new position of Applied Learning Advisor. We are happy to announce Megan Burke will be joining our team! The Advisor will assist students in both internship and study abroad advising.

Megan is from Potsdam, and graduated from Clarkson University in December 2014. After she graduated she took a year off from school and worked for the St. Lawrence International Film Festival as their Ticketing Manager. This opportunity allowed her to work with many people from different countries, professional backgrounds, and talents.

After the festival she enrolled in the Organizational Performance, Leadership, and Technology Master’s program here at SUNY Potsdam. While attending school her first semester she worked at the Traditional Arts of Upstate New York in Canton. This position gave her the chance to learn about the different arts people partake in.

The summer after her first semester, Megan decided to apply to a Graduate Assistant posting for the Experiential Education Office and was hired to do marketing for internship programs, résumé and cover letter review with students, and social media for the office. While working as a Graduate Assistant, the Applied Learning Advisor position opened up and she took the chance to express her interest. She is very excited to be starting this position and she can't wait to help students get to where they want to go!

Rachel Malzacher - Student Assistant
Marketing, Public Relations, Social Media, Event Planning

My name is Rachel Malzacher and I will be a second semester senior here at SUNY Potsdam. I am a Business Administration major concentrating on Finance with a Journalism minor as well. On campus, I worked as a Student Assistant in The Center for Applied Learning for Fall 2016 semester. I am also VP of New Ventures for Future Business Leaders of America. Outside of school I am consistently looking for new adventures from hiking a new mountain to planning my next vacation. I am a very proactive individual striving to improve myself day in and day out. I am thrilled for this new opportunity to show-case my creativity and interact with the student body to promote the vast programs the Center for Applied Learning provides to assist students in maximizing their experience at SUNY Potsdam.
Police Academy

This fall the Experiential Education Office has been developing the SUNY Potsdam Law Enforcement Training Institute, home of our new Police Academy. This opportunity allows students to complete 85% of the total requirements for a NYS Police Academy prior to graduation. The first cohort will be selected during the fall semester and begin in the spring 2017 semester. Criminal Justice, Juniors and Seniors or higher are being considered and receive 12 upper division credits.

Sonny Duquette - Police Academy Director

We are extremely excited to be adding Albert “Sonny” Duquette to our Experiential Education Office team! Sonny graduated from Franklin Academy in Malone, NY in 1987 and joined the military soon after. In 1990 he was hired as a Deputy Sheriff for the Sheriff’s Office where he worked Road Patrol, made the SWAT team in 1997, became a Field Training Officer, a Police Academy Instructor, became the Lead Regional Defensive Tactics Instructor in charge for St. Lawrence County, was the Lead Tactics Instructor for the Police Academy, a Road Sergeant, a Counter Terrorism Detective, and then retired as a Major Crimes Detective Sergeant. He retired from the St. Lawrence County Sheriff’s Office in 2012. He was hired as the Canton Police Academy Director from 2013-2015. In 2016 he was hired to establish the Police Academy here at SUNY Potsdam.

His hobby is Mixed Martial Arts - he owned his own business from 1995-2013. He has been studying martial arts since 1985 and is a 2010 USA Martial Arts Hall of Fame Inductee.

He and his wife, Denise, have been married for 26 years. They have a daughter, Racheal, who is a RN at Canton-Potsdam Hospital, a son, Ryan, who is a Business Major here at SUNY Potsdam, and another daughter, Abby, who is a junior in St. Regis Falls Central School.
Students looking to position themselves in the global workforce need to build intercultural communication skills and awareness and there is no better way than to participate in the Global Experiences Internship Program through SUNY Potsdam. Site locations include London, Milan, Barcelona, Florence, New York, Shanghai, Dublin, Washington D.C., Paris, Stockholm, and Sydney.

Opportunities are available to students on all SUNY campuses, across all majors, and can be credit bearing.

Summer programs are 8 – 10 weeks and semester programs are 12 – 15 weeks depending on location. Language proficiency is not required, and in non-English speaking locations language courses are part of the program. Students participate in a Career Development Program and are matched individually to an internship approved by the Study Abroad office and relevant faculty.

Most students completing a Study Abroad Internship can receive 6 – 12 Upper Division Credits. This translates to 240-480 internship hours + an Academic Component. The Academic Component includes weekly reflective journals, a culminating final project, informational interviews, updated resume, critical book reviews assigned by SUNY Potsdam’s Faculty Sponsor and selected readings in the student’s major of career field.
Student Spotlight - Alyssa Jenkins

What were the highlights of your internship?
The first one with my internship at CPH is I was fortunate enough to work alongside a fantastic line of directors, counselors, nurses, and other staff members. I was considered to be a staff member which meant that I was able to work directly with the patients. Another highlight from my internship was being able to build rapport with the patients that I worked with which resulted in a better understanding of those individuals.

What did you learn from the internship?
The most important thing that a counselor can do is to see the individual for who they are, and not to see them for what they are (be it an alcoholic or a drug addict). I learned first hand experience when it came to counseling and therapy techniques and how to create boundaries with patients from a counselor’s point of view. I also learned to be comfortable with speaking in front of complete strangers and how to get them involved in activities and working with each other.

Did you feel it was worth your time?
Without question, I feel that this internship was well worth my time. At the beginning of it, I honestly was only looking at my internship as credits towards graduation. Towards the end of my internship, I was told that I should apply for an open position of a Chemical Dependency Aide. I applied and received a call from the Assistant Director. She offered me a 60% part-time position but with full-time benefits. I accepted the offer and began working at the Detoxification Unit in the main part of CPH. I never would have been given the opportunity of working for a fantastic organization if it were not for my internship there.

Would you recommend other students do an internship?
I would absolutely recommend students to look into doing an internship during their time at SUNY Potsdam. Internships take the course materials that you learned in the classroom, and applies them in a direct hands-on manner. In my opinion, they are the best way to gain experience and insight into a field of interest.

Faculty Spotlight - Shalu Wunnava

Why do you think internships are important for undergrad students?
A lot of students cannot understand the significance of concepts learned in class and their relevance and application in the real world. As a result, they may go through coursework without really understanding and believing that they will be using this knowledge and applying it on their jobs. And most find themselves later on wishing that their college work had better prepared them for their career. So it is very important to bridge this gap through internships. Internships provide students with the opportunity to apply what they are learning in class to a real world job, while they are still students. This opportunity bridges the gap between knowledge and application, and better prepares the students for their future careers.

Why do you sponsor student interns?
As a student I gained a lot of experience and advantages from all the internship opportunities I had. They helped me make the connection between knowledge and application, and helped me to get the most out of my education at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. It also helped me to find better job opportunities. Now that I’m a college professor myself, I feel it’s my turn to give back and help my students get the most out of their college education, by helping them to make the connection between knowledge and application and help them be better prepared for their careers.

What advice do you have for students looking to intern?
I think every student should try to do at least one internship during their college years. It is important to find an internship that closely ties in with your major and your future career aspirations. Your internship could prove to be a gateway to career opportunities. It is also important to network and maintain contacts with your internship supervisors and mentors at the internship site, because if you have done a good job and they really liked you, then there is a possibility that they will think about you when they are about to hire someone full time. So it never hurts to maintain contacts, because they could lead to other contacts and opportunities as well, and not to mention a source of reference when you are applying for other jobs.
Summer Statistics

Total number of interns: 126

Majors which completed internships

- Anthropology
- Archaeology
- Art Education
- Art History
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Business Administration
- Business Economics
- Communications
- Computer Science
- Creative Writing
- Criminal Justice
- Dance
- Digital Design
- Economics
- English
- English Writing
- Environmental Studies
- Exercise Science
- International Studies
- Literature
- Museum Studies
- Music Business
- Music Performance
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Speech
- Communications
- Theatre

Faculty Sponsors

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- Todd Canedy
- Tori Oakes
- Dr. Victoria Levitt

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