Special Summer Edition!

Welcome to this special Summer 2017 edition of the Provost’s Corner! I hope that you are having a restful and productive summer. Our campus has been busy with summer Orientations (thanks to everyone who has participated in these important events!!), and work is well underway with the Kellas renovation. Surge spaces are also being renovated, to ensure we have adequate classroom spaces for the beginning of the fall semester. The campus has also been busy with special events and visitors, including prospective students and their families. Many have remarked not only on the beauty of our campus, but the very warm reception that they have been receiving from all the faculty and staff with whom they have met. Thank you for the time you are taking to make our future students feel so welcomed!

Through this summer Newsletter, I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on the many exciting academic initiatives that we have underway. Many of these initiatives will be the topic of an Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Summit to be held on Tuesday, September 19th. More information on this interactive Summit is provided later in this Newsletter. I hope that you will be able to join me and members of the Academic Affairs team to share your ideas and input regarding the next steps in our academic planning process!

New Faces/New Positions

Please join me in congratulating the following on their new positions and roles:

- **Tom Baker**- Director, Office for Student Research & Creativity
- **Carrie Bates**- Academic Assessment Coordinator
- **Kelly Bonnar**- Assistant to the Provost (support for the Associated Colleges of St. Lawrence County)
- **Laura Carbone**- Associate Director, Enrollment & Operations, Watertown Extension Center
- **Nicole Conant**- Assistant to the President
- **Jason Dominie**- Executive Director, CPS
• Carol Franck- Co-Chair, IRB
• Tom Grabowski- PAC Facilities Manager/Technical Director
• Matt LaVine- Coordinator, Interdisciplinary/Exploratory Program
• Phil Neisser- Coordinator of Professional Development
• Lydia Rodriguez- Co-Chair, IRB
• Toby White- Interim Director, Career Services & Experiential Learning
• Nicole Zeledon- Coordinator, Continuing & Online Education

I also want to thank the following academic leaders for agreeing to serve on the executive board for the Chairs/Program Directors’ Council:

• Caroline Downing- Arts & Sciences
• Joe Timmerman- SOEPS
• Tim Sullivan- Crane
• Tom Baker- Council Secretary

Thanks to Caroline, Tom, Tim, and Joe for taking on this important leadership role!!

There have also been several clerical changes over the summer, including the following changes in departmental assignments and/or locations:

• Helen Bush- Mathematics, Philosophy
• Annie Butterfield- Center for Applied Learning
• Phyllis Charleston- Anthropology, Modern Languages
• Annette Kelly- Center for Applied Learning
• Sandra Larock- Computer Science, Economics, Interdisciplinary Studies
• Bonnie Lawrence- Student Research & Creativity

The Clerical Task Force will be continuing its important work this fall, with a comprehensive review of clerical positions in Raymond Hall and the Libraries.

It is also with great sadness that I share with you the news of the passing of two Crane faculty members:

• Heather Eyerly, Associate Professor, Choral Music Education
• Rebecca Reames, Associate Professor, Choral Music Education
Heather and Rebecca were inspirational musicians and teachers who will be greatly missed by their students, colleagues, and campus community. Our thoughts are with the Crane family during this very difficult time.

Campus Updates

**B.A. Arts Management.** We have recently been notified that the B.A. in Arts Management has been officially registered with the state! Congratulations to everyone who has worked on this exciting new degree. The B.A. in Arts Management is a wonderful complement to our academic profile, building on our strengths in the arts, liberal education, and professional studies. Students completing this degree will choose a minor from a range of art-related disciplines including art studio, visual arts, graphic design, dance, creative writing, theatre, and museum studies. While we won’t be able to enroll students immediately in the major, as approval from the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) will first need to be confirmed, we will be preparing for our first cohort to enroll in the Fall of 2018. It is hoped that full approval will be granted after the spring 2018 meeting of the NAST board. For more information about this exciting new major, please contact Joshua Vink, the program’s coordinator.

**Chief Financial Officer.** I am pleased to share the news that John Homburger has joined us as our Interim Chief Financial Officer (CFO). John has served as Vice President and CFO at SUNY Plattsburgh for over 40 years, and has agreed to work with us as interim CFO while we conduct our search for a permanent member of the leadership team. John is highly respected among the SUNY campuses and at System Administration, and he is eager to work with us as we strive to create better budgetary processes and policies.

During this period of transition, Mary Dolan will continue to oversee campus services, capital planning, environmental health and safety, facilities, purchasing and payables, and student accounts.

**Interdisciplinary/Exploratory Program.** Over the past several semesters, Academic Affairs has been discussing how to best support and serve the campus’ many Undeclared/Exploratory students. Of our approximately 731 registered freshmen for the Fall 2017 semester, 285 (39%) are entering as Undeclared/Exploratory. Finding an academic home for these students is critical to their retention and academic success. In addition, exploratory students exemplify all that is
best about the liberal education that we offer at SUNY Potsdam—including the chance to explore a range of academic disciplines, and to create a program that fits with individuals’ professional goals and life paths. Building from initial brainstorming and input from the planning team, an Interdisciplinary Studies unit has been initiated, coordinated by Matt LaVine. The primary initial purpose of this academic unit is to support incoming students who have not yet declared a major and to provide an academic home through which all of the campus’ 350-plus Undeclared/Exploratory students can be supported and mentored. This unit was rolled out during this summer’s Orientations, and the response from our incoming students and their families has been overwhelmingly positive.

During the coming academic year, it is anticipated that we will be exploring a variety of issues related to the creation of this unit, including how to address the assignment of faculty to the unit and which interdisciplinary programs could be housed within this unit. The Interdisciplinary Studies unit will be one of the topics for discussion and input at the upcoming Academic Affairs Summit on September 19th; other opportunities for discussion and feedback will be ongoing throughout the academic year. I look forward to working across Academic Affairs on this exciting new initiative, and wish to thank Matt LaVine and others involved in the planning process for their creativity, leadership, and support of student success!

Open Educational Resources (OER). On Friday September 1, our campus will be hosting a one-day SUNY workshop on Open Educational Resources (OERs). While specific definitions vary, OERs are generally understood as teaching and learning materials that are available for anyone to use without charge. They can include textbooks, videos, web exercises, and primary sources. The potential benefits of increased use of OER on our campus—especially given the increasing financial fragility of our students—is enormous.

SUNY Potsdam is participating in a system-wide multi-year program aimed at increasing the use of OERs on SUNY campuses. This is an important initiative, and I hope that many of you will be able to participate in the workshop on September 1st. Additional information regarding registration for the workshop will be available soon. If you have questions before then, please contact Alan Hersker, herskeal@potsdam.edu, X2138.
And if you’d like to learn more about OERs, you can check out Open Educational Resources, SUNY OER Services, OER Commons, and the Lumen catalog of OER textbooks.

**GrACE Update.** The Division of Graduate & Continuing Education (GrACE) has been undergoing a lot of changes over the summer months. These changes are a part of a larger restructuring that also includes the Center for Applied Learning (CAL). The restructuring has been planned as a strategic way to provide solutions to address financial efficiencies as well as to work on accomplishing specific elements of the Academic Affairs strategic plan. Further, the goal of these changes is to ensure that personnel and operational priorities position the division to provide both short and long-term impact on enrollment. Current restructuring underway includes the following:

- With the departure of Beth Todd to Student Accounts (Beth was the Director of Continuing Education), a vacancy has been created related to non-credit activities, special sessions, and professional development activities. Beginning in August, Nicole Zeledon (currently working in the Center for Graduate Studies) will assume the role of the Coordinator of Continuing Education. In this role, Nicole will support special sessions, professional development, special admissions, and online course delivery.
- With Nicole’s changes in responsibilities, the division is currently undergoing a search for an Assistant Director of Graduate & International Enrollment. This move is designed to work collaboratively with the International Education office on cultivating international prospects and recruitment efforts. This individual will also continue the work of supporting graduate enrollment.
- In support of International Enrollment efforts, GrACE will collaborate with CAL and the International Office in supporting international recruitment and admissions through realignment of personnel, sharing of resources, and furthering outreach and partnerships.
- To support the growth in the Center for Applied Learning, Annette Kelley has transitioned to CAL, departing from her role in the Center for Graduate Studies.
- Karla Fennell, Coordinator of Early College Programs, has moved into the Center for School Partnerships. This move allows for closer alignment with the programs and activities that SUNY Potsdam provides to our PK-12 partner schools including Early College opportunities, College in High School, Professional Development Schools, and Practicum oversight.
- Additional changes related to non-credit recreational activities are also in transition; more information will be provided to the campus community once final restructuring plans have been confirmed. Conferences and Special Programs will continue to operate within Continuing Education.
In addition to the restructuring activities, there are also members of GrACE who have moved, or are moving, into new positions on campus:

- Peter Cutler, Director of the Center for Graduate Studies, has accepted a position as the Director of Annual Giving.
- Michelle White, Office Assistant in CLEAR, has moved into the Secretary position in Residence Life.

Searches are currently underway for the Director of the Center for Graduate Studies, as well as the Assistant Director of Graduate & International Enrollment (a position that was outlined above).

Finally, we are very happy to welcome Laura Carbone into her new position as the Associate Director of Enrollment and Operations for the Watertown Extension Center on the Jefferson Community College campus. Laura is replacing Kathleen Morris, who retired last year. Laura has been teaching in Watertown for close to 10 years (as well as on campus), and comes with a wealth of administrative experience in the public-school system.

**Center for Applied Learning/Career Services Update.** The Division of Academic Affairs is excited to announce the integration of Career Services into the Center for Applied Learning (CAL). This move aligns with CAL’s goal of helping students build on their classroom education from their first day on campus through their first destination after graduation. The sequential retirements of Karen Ham, Meg Bain, and Bonnie Marsh-Godreau created an opportunity for the campus to re-envision our approach to career supports for students, and the CAL team will work closely with campus colleagues to identify how career services can effectively and innovatively serve our students and faculty/staff. The newly formed unit will also have the opportunity to redevelop its approach to applied learning and career services, preserving the best of our traditions, exploring new opportunities, and inviting the campus community to collectively join in this work.

In this transitional period, **Toby White** will serve as the Interim Director of Career Services and Experiential Education. The unit is searching for two new Career Coaches to begin work with the CAL team in September. CAL is thrilled to be adding Annette Kelley and Bonnie Lawrence to the Center’s staff, and welcoming Annie Butterfield back to campus. When classes start in Fall 2017, students and faculty will have access to a unified suite of services in Crumb 107 (in a reorganized Center to make room for these new colleagues). Please watch for more information, and an invitation to an open house!
**Student Research and Creativity.** Over the last year, a cohort of stakeholders has been discussing how our campus might combine and strengthen our student research and creative endeavors programs. The planning group, led by Alan Hersker with representation from the Honors Program, Presidential Scholars, and Center for Applied Learning, has proposed combining Presidential Scholars, the Kilmer program, and the Honors program as a part of the Center for Applied Learning, to create the Office for Student Research and Creativity (SRC) that will manage all of these student research and student excellence initiatives. During the Fall 2017 semester, Tom Baker, Associate Professor and Chair of History, will be directing the newly formed SRC Office and facilitating its implementation.

Over this summer, SRC programs have begun the process of physically moving into Crumb, expanding on our naturally evolving learning commons model. In order to accommodate the staff needed for this reorganization, a new office will be added to the Center for Applied Learning in Crumb 107 (currently, the conference room). In addition, a new “Honors Lounge” for all SRC students is being created in the basement of Crumb to replace the lounge in Dunn Hall. Included in this new space will be a student lounge, computer room, and presentation space. If you are interested in learning more about this new academic structure, and how it will have the potential to support the academic creativity and research of all of our campus’ students, you are encouraged to attend the Academic Affairs Summit on September 19th!

**North Country Community College Partnership.** We are currently in conversation with North Country Community College (NCCC) to offer a unique joint partnership on the SUNY Potsdam campus. The SUNY Potsdam/North Country Community College (NCCC) Collaborative focuses on our institutions’ missions related to access while providing a pipeline of academically qualified students into SUNY Potsdam. Much like our partnership with Jefferson Community College in Watertown, through which SUNY Potsdam offers its degrees on the JCC campus, this partnership enables NCCC to offer targeted Associate’s degrees on our campus. Because there are no community colleges in St. Lawrence County, a specific goal of this new partnership is to provide families in our region with access to an expanded repertoire of higher education opportunities. An [FAQ document](#) has been created and is posted online to provide information related to some of the issues and potential concerns that have been shared regarding this partnership; the document also includes a link to provide feedback on this initiative. I also look forward to sharing progress on this initiative at upcoming “Coffees” as well as at the Academic Affairs Summit. In addition, in the fall we will be putting together a planning team, consisting of academic representatives from both campuses, to begin to address programmatic opportunities and brainstorm ways in which to further enhance students’ academic experiences on our campus. Much more to come soon!
**New Logo.** SUNY Potsdam has a newly revised logo! Our new look was recommended by student focus groups, and combines our traditional design with a fresh new “edge.” Check [here](#) for information on logo usage and to download the new logo.

**NEW** **Student Recruitment and Retention Innovation Award.** The Student Recruitment and Retention Innovation Award (SRRI) has been established to acknowledge units that are implementing highly successful and creative initiatives in support of student success. The goal is also to create a “community of practice,” through which units from across campus can share and scale up successful practices that have been proven to have a positive impact on the recruitment and retention of a diverse population of SUNY Potsdam students. Any individual, department, and/or unit on campus is eligible to apply for this award.

Individuals/groups can apply by submitting a narrative (up to 3 pages) with the following information:

- Name of the individual/department/unit
- Name of the initiative
- Narrative describing the initiative
- Impact of the initiative on student recruitment and/or retention, with relevant data if available
- Plan for disseminating “lessons learned” to the campus

Two awardees will be recognized at the campus’ Opening Meeting. In addition, the awarded unit/departments will be provided with $500 to be used towards professional development for the academic year in which the award is made (awards will not be able to be “banked” for future years). If an individual faculty/staff member is selected, the amount of the award will be $250 for that individual or $500 for the individual’s department/unit, depending on the preference of the finalist. Summaries of all proposals will be provided in the Provost’s Newsletter. For more information, feel free to contact me at [bergerbs@potsdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potsdam.edu).

Applications are due to the Office of the Provost no later than [Friday, August 18th](#).

**Updates from Student Life.**

**Greek Life Update**
Campus Life is pleased to report that Greek organizations (including a total of 10 fraternities and sororities) excelled academically during the 2016-2017 academic year. During the Fall 2016 semester, Greek organizations earned a 3.1 semester GPA
and a 3.15 cumulative GPA, which surpassed the College’s semester GPA of a 2.98 and its cumulative GPA of a 2.92. For the Spring 2017 semester, the Greek semester GPA was a 3.08 and its cumulative GPA was a 3.12. This compares to the all campus GPA which was a 3.03 (semester) and 2.97 (cumulative). We are eager to continue working with our Greek organizations to support academic success. Ariel Adams, Campus Life Program Coordinator, will serve as the Coordinator of Greek Life beginning in Fall 2017 as Julie Dold has transitioned to Residence Life as the Interim Director.

Student Leadership Programs
Campus Life is requesting nominations from faculty/staff for students who might be interested in the following two leadership programs:

- **Emerging Leaders**: Coordinated by Campus Life and Annual Giving, Emerging Leaders provides students, who have demonstrated strong leadership potential, with an opportunity to enhance their leadership skills and help promote student giving and volunteerism at SUNY Potsdam. The program provides students with an opportunity for involvement throughout their time at Potsdam and as such is an excellent way for students to meet new people, develop their leadership skills, and network with student leaders, faculty/staff, and alumni.

- **Women, Gender, and Leadership**: The Women, Gender, and Leadership program is designed to provide an opportunity for SUNY Potsdam students to explore, discuss, and reflect on a wide variety of topics and issues related to women, gender, and leadership at SUNY Potsdam and beyond. The program includes two components: a workshop series in the Fall and a mentoring program in the Spring which pairs students with a SUNY Potsdam alum Mentor who is currently working in their desired career field.

Should you wish to nominate a student, please send names to Ruth Policella at policera@potsdam.edu by August 18th. An additional call for Emerging Leaders nominations will be sent the first week of classes.

Archaeological Studies. I am thrilled to announce that the inaugural cohort of nine students from Akwesasne will be coming to SUNY Potsdam this fall to take ANTH 204 *Intro to Archaeology* lecture and lab as part of the Akwesasne-St. Lawrence College-SUNY Potsdam 2+2 program in Archaeological Studies! This unique partnership was established last year, and provides a direct transfer pathway from St. Lawrence College (Canada) into SUNY Potsdam. We look forward to seeing these students on campus full-time in the Fall of 2018, when they begin their junior year at SUNY Potsdam!
**Bookstore Updates.** The Bookstore is pleased to announce the launching of the new faculty adoption site, accessed through [https://hero.sidewalkpro.com/Account/Login](https://hero.sidewalkpro.com/Account/Login). When creating your account, please enter your first name, last name, Potsdam email address (including @potsdam.edu) and password. **Please note: you must use your potsdam.edu email address.** Click create to finish signing up for Hero.

Once you have signed up, the site will take you to the “my courses” page. In the top right term field, you will see the courses you are assigned to teach for the term listed. If you need to toggle to a different term, use the toggle next to “Switch terms.” The site is very user friendly and intuitive, but if you need help you can visit [https://support.gosidewalk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115000452288-Faculty-Orientation](https://support.gosidewalk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115000452288-Faculty-Orientation) and [https://support.gosidewalk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115002682527-Faculty_User_guide](https://support.gosidewalk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115002682527-Faculty_User_guide).

**If you have not placed your textbook orders yet, please do so now!** You may use whichever site you prefer for this fall and summer semesters; the Bookstore is leaving both Faculty Adoption sites up and running at the present time. Therefore, if you have already placed your orders through the original platform you will not see your adoptions in Hero. The Bookstore welcomes your feedback regarding the new site—so please take the time to check it out!

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**Coffee and Conversation**

I want to thank all of you who were able to attend the “Coffee & Conversation” sessions this past year. I thoroughly enjoyed your insightful and productive feedback.

I look forward to reestablishing the Conversations in the fall. If you have ideas or suggestions regarding topics or other ways that we can increase communication and transparency, don’t hesitate to let me know! Possible topics:

- New budgeting process
- Updates on the campus’ strategic plans
- Faculty professional development

Please email your suggestions to me at bergerbs@potsdam.edu.
Around the State/System

**Accessibility Resources.** SUNY is excited to share a newly developing, centralized resource for campuses: [http://www.suny.edu/accessibility/](http://www.suny.edu/accessibility/). As living and learning environments are advanced through technology and the web, educators must ensure accessibility for the entire campus community, including individuals with differing abilities. The System invites your initial feedback, ideas, and content that you’ve already developed in areas related to accessibility. Topics of interest include:

- Terminology
- Universal Design for Learning
- Digital Content (courses, marketing, etc.)
- Procurement (technology, physical)
- Web accessibility
- Classroom accessibility
- Physical accessibility

For those wishing to share their best practices, the SUNY System will cite your home campus in the future “About” section of the new website. For more information about this initiative, contact Nazely at Nazely.Kurkjian@suny.edu

**Excelsior Scholarships.** The implementation of the state’s new Excelsior Scholarship is underway. A huge thanks to the staff in Financial Aid, Student Accounts, and the Registrar’s Office for the incredible amount of time (and patience) that they are contributing to this important initiative. As a reminder, eligibility requirements for this scholarship include the following:

- New York State residency
- Attendance at a SUNY or CUNY two or four-year degree program
- Completion of 30 credits per year
- Maintaining good academic standing (as defined by the institution)

While some of the specific regulations are still being refined, the following information may be helpful as questions arise regarding the scholarship:

- EOP students are considered to be in a five-year program, and therefore only need to complete 12 credits a semester. However, our Bridges students will still need to complete 15 credits because they are in a four-year program.
- Current students (those who started in 15/16 OR 16/17 only) can “catch up” by taking a course this summer to be eligible for next year. This does not apply, however, to
students who will be seniors and are behind in their total credit hours. These students will not be eligible for Excelsior.

- The Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC), the state entity that manages Excelsior, was very clear that all scholarships would be counted towards tuition before the Excelsior funds are applied. Foundation scholarships will need to explicitly state that they are not to be used for tuition in order for these funds to be applied after Excelsior. So, for example, if a donor-funded scholarship states that the funds are for “college expenses,” that scholarship would be applied before Excelsior.

- The following students are excluded from eligibility:
  - Those earning a second Associate’s degree
  - Those earning a second Bachelor’s degree
  - Individuals returning to school after stopping out for work, etc.

- Students who take a semester off will no longer be eligible once they return; students must be “continuing.” If there are extenuating circumstances, though, they can petition HESC for eligibility.

- Summer classes do count towards the 30 credit/year total… as long as they are completed by 8/31.

- If a student fails to meet the 30 credit eligibility in a given year, he/she/they will lose the ability to be eligible for any future Excelsior funds (i.e., they can’t “catch up”).

- Transfer students will be eligible, but only if they’ve completed 30 credits/year from their transfer institution(s).

- Awards are made for a term, not a year. Colleges must confirm eligibility every semester.

- If a student is in graduate school in NY, those years will count towards the “live/work” residency requirement. So, for example, if a student has received four years’ worth of Excelsior scholarships and completes a two-year graduate program in New York, the student would only need to live/work in NY for an additional two years.

- If a student loses eligibility, Excelsior awards are converted to a 0% loan.

More information on the Excelsior Scholarship can be found here.

**SUNY Diversity Conference.** The SUNY Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the University Faculty Senate will be hosting a conference entitled “Engaging Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity in the Classroom, Campus and Community: Celebrating a Decade of Transformational Diversity Leadership” on **November 29-December 1, 2017** at the Albany Marriott Hotel, located at 189 Wolf Road, Albany, New York. This conference explores best practices in recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff within the domain of higher education.
Dr. Estela M. Bensimon (Professor of Higher Education and Director of the Center for Urban Education at the University of Southern California), Dr. Samuel Museus (Associate Professor of Higher Education and Student Affairs at Indiana University, Bloomington and Founding Director of the Culturally Engaging Campus Environments (CECE) Project), Dr. Benjamin Reese (Vice President for Institutional Equity at Duke University and Duke University Health System) and Dr. Daryl G. Smith (Professor of Education and Psychology at the Claremont Graduate University), are scheduled as the four keynote speakers for this conference. For more information on this event, including how to submit a proposal for a workshop or poster presentation, please visit [www.suny.edu/2017diversityconference](http://www.suny.edu/2017diversityconference). Proposals are due on September 29th.

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**Academic Affairs Strategic Initiatives Summit and Reception.** You are invited to attend the Academic Affairs Strategic Initiatives Summit, scheduled for Tuesday, September 19th. The goal of this event is to provide the campus community with updates on some of our key academic initiatives and to solicit input/questions to help inform strategic implementation. The schedule is designed so that faculty/staff can choose either a morning or afternoon session; whichever best fits your schedules. (Individuals can also pop in/out as needed.) The sessions are only two hours, in order to maximize participation.

Details of the event are currently being finalized, but an initial agenda is as follows:

**Session 1: 8-10:00**

- Introduction- (8-8:30)
  - Update on the Academic Strategic Plan
  - Update/request for input on the North Country CC initiative
- Initiative “Speed Dating” (8:30-9:30)
  - Format: representatives from selected initiatives will provide posters/displays about the initiatives and will gather feedback from attendees (questions/concerns about the initiative, and general comments/feedback/ideas)
  - Possible initiatives:
    - Reorganization of GrACE & Center for Applied Learning
    - Interdisciplinary/Exploratory Program
    - Online loan/Faculty “credentialing”
    - Office for Student Research & Creativity
- Wrap-Up- (9:30-10:00)
Session 2: 2:00-4:00

- Repeat of the schedule as above

Academic Affairs Fall Reception: 4-5:00

I hope you will be able to join me on September 19th!

Webinar Series: High Impact Practices. Crumb Library is hosting a webinar series on High Impact Practices (HIP's) in Crumb 205 every Friday at 1:00 from August 18 to September 8th. Specific topics will include:

- August 8th- HIPs literature at the end of decade one
- August 25th- Assessment as culture management and professional development
- September 1st- Visible outcomes for employability
- September 8th- Measuring the ineffable

Welcome Weekend. Student Affairs invites your participation in two Welcome Weekend activities:

- **First Year Funnel, Friday, August 25th, 4:45pm**: Meet outside Sisson Hall on the corner of Barrington Drive

  The goal of this activity is to gather a large group of faculty and staff who will create a receiving line to officially welcome new students to campus. There is no need to sign-up in advance, just come out and join us!

- **Welcome Weekend Carnival, Sunday, August 27th, 1-5pm**: Maxcy Hall Field House

  The goal of this event is to bring the campus community together to kick-off the academic year while welcoming both new and returning students to campus. Representatives from student clubs/organizations will staff a wide variety of carnival activities throughout the day. During this time, student leaders will also have the opportunity to promote their organizations with the goal of motivating increased student participation in leadership activities on campus.

We would like to invite you and your families to join us for this fun-filled all campus event. Activities and prizes specially designed for children under 12 will be provided throughout the day along with larger prizes for SUNY Potsdam students only. We will have a variety of carnival games/activities including inflatables, photo booth, make your own stuffed animal, tie-dye T-shirts and much more! Additionally, open swim and open climbing wall hours will be available. All entertainment as well as refreshments will be provided free while supplies last.
Fall 2017 Days of Reflection. Please save Tuesday, October 17 and Wednesday, October 18 from 3pm to 8pm, for the Fall 2017 Days of Reflection: Education for Racial Equity and Justice, sponsored by the SUNY Potsdam Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. You are also encouraged to incorporate these events into your Fall courses or to excuse students from class who wish to attend.

The Steering Committee is also seeking event proposals for the Days of Reflection. The final Call for Proposals will go out by August 1, and proposals will be due August 28. Meanwhile, earlier submissions are welcomed using the current CFP and form, found at the following site:  https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSewY_HwP8RAW_juvVPNsvZ5fKmp7C5sPAHAJgrjWQNHWmwCWiQ/viewform

When creating a proposal, you may want to consider the following:

- This fall, the Steering Committee is looking for fresh ideas and new programs on the themes which were represented in previous programs.
- Sessions should be 2 – 2.5 hours. Each event should teach something new while also allowing time for discussion, interaction, or activity. Panels and lectures are welcome, and presenters are encouraged to allow time for discussion.
- A connection to current events or current popular culture can help to attract students to your event.

For more information, or if you wish to join in the planning process, please email Jennifer Mitchell, mitchejk@potsdam.edu. A special thanks to the Days of Reflection Steering Committee for their tremendous work: Jennifer Mitchell, Rachel Bayliss, Matt LaVine, Nimo Sugulle, and Jamyra Young.

Did You Know…

Looking for office supplies, need a spare table, or trying to find a home for excess equipment? Check out the Choose to Reuse Site: https://blogs.potsdam.edu/officesupplies/
Kudos

2017 Chancellor’s Awards. During the May Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony, the following were recognized for receiving 2017 Chancellor’s Awards:

- Excellence in Classified Service- Heather O’Hara
- Excellence in Faculty Service- Lonel Woods
- Excellence in Professional Service- Romeyn Prescott
- Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities- Glenn Johnson
- Excellence in Teaching- Mark Hartman

Congratulations on this prestigious recognition!!

NYSED Arts Advisory Panel. Dean Michael Sitton has been asked to serve on the New York State Education Department (NYSED) Arts Advisory Panel. Selection to this panel is based on individuals’ expertise in their arts discipline and dedication to improving student achievement. In an advisory role, panelists provide written and verbal feedback to the Department on suggested resources, policies, and implementation strategies. Congratulations, Michael, for your selection to this important Panel!

Study Abroad. SUNY Potsdam students are definitely on the move! In 2016/17, 165 students participated in a Study Abroad experience; this is up from just 86 students in 2013/14. Congratulations to Krista LaVack, the International Office team, and all of the faculty who support these tremendous high-impact experiences for our students.

Do you have ideas or news to include in the next Provost’s Corner? Be sure to let me know! Just email me at bergerbs@potsdam.edu.