

# Provost's Corner

Bette S. Bergeron, Provost & VP for Academic Affairs

August 30, 2017

## *Welcome Back!*

On behalf of Academic Affairs, I want to welcome back to campus all of our faculty, staff, and students. It is wonderful to see the campus come back to life once again! This academic year promises to be a busy one, and I look forward to working with each of you as we refine and implement our campus' strategic goals.

This summer was an extraordinarily busy one, and I want to once again thank everyone who participated in Orientation, prepared our beautiful grounds, shared your creative talents through youth camps, and offered coursework for our students. Updates on many of our summer initiatives were outlined in the Summer Edition of this Newsletter. You can access a copy at <http://www.potsdam.edu/about/administration/provost/>. Many of these initiatives will be the topic of an **Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Summit** to be held on **Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**. 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!

As we begin this first week of classes, I know that your thoughts are turning to the unfolding tragedy in Texas. I want to thank those of you who have already reached out to me to suggest ways in which we can support the communities being affected by this unprecedented and ongoing storm. We are currently identifying events at which donations for the Red Cross can be collected, beginning with the Crane Faculty Gala on September 5<sup>th</sup>. As additional plans are solidified, I will be sure to pass them along to the campus community. Thank you for your concern—and for your support of our neighbors to the south.

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## *New Faces/New Positions*

Please join me in welcoming the following new full-time faculty in Academic Affairs:

- *Angelynn Alvarez*, Assistant Professor (Mathematics)
- *Margaret Chalker*, Visiting Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Katherine Cleary*, Lecturer (Biology)
- *Marina Cosgrove*, Instructor (Business Administration)

- *Melissa Dolese*, Assistant Professor (Psychology)
- *Yanick Dulong*, Assistant Professor (Sociology & Criminal Justice)
- *Marc Ernesti*, Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Allonah Ezro-Christy*, Lecturer (Modern Languages)
- *Marie-Elaine Gagnon*, Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Christopher Gainey*, Visiting Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Rose Gifford*, Visiting Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Casey Grev*, Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Lauren Jackson-Beck*, Associate Librarian (College Libraries)
- *Suzanne Kantorski*, Visiting Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Abere Kassa*, Assistant Professor (Business Administration)
- *Faris Khan*, Assistant Professor (Anthropology)
- *Lisa Lamondie-Grenville*, Instructor (Special Education)
- *Benjamin Landry*, Visiting Assistant Professor (English & Communication)
- *Matt LaVine*, Assistant Professor (Interdisciplinary/Exploratory/Philosophy)
- *Shana Lessing*, Visiting Assistant Professor (Anthropology)
- *Seon Levius*, Assistant Professor (Business Administration)
- *Sarah Lister*, Instructional Support Specialist (Community Health)
- *Sergio Lopez*, Assistant Professor (Modern Languages)
- *Nicole McClam*, Lecturer (Theatre & Dance)
- *Stephen Meyer*, Visiting Assistant Professor (Crane)
- *Adam Pearson*, Assistant Professor (Geology)
- *Ashley Reis*, Assistant Professor (Environmental Studies)
- *Sara (Rivka) Rocchio*, Assistant Professor (Theatre & Dance)
- *Christian Schrader*, Assistant Professor (Geology)
- *Leandra Smollin*, Assistant Professor (Sociology & Criminal Justice)
- *Anna Sorensen*, Assistant Professor (Sociology & Criminal Justice)
- *Claire Starrs*, Assistant Professor (Psychology)
- *Esta Toostiadi*, Senior Assistant Librarian (College Libraries)
- *Joshua Vink*, Assistant Professor (Theatre & Dance)
- *David Ward*, Visiting Assistant Professor (Crane)

I want to thank *Laura Brown* (SOEPS), *Andre Mount* (Crane), and *Tim Murphy* (A&S) for agreeing to serve as this year's New Faculty Mentors. Your support is deeply appreciated!

Plans are underway to host two international Visiting Scholars this academic year, including:

- *Maja Apelt* from Germany (August 2017-March 2018); Maja's faculty sponsor is Jeremy van Blommestein (Sociology & Criminal Justice).
- *Katarzyna (aka Kasia) Kurzatowska*; from Poland (September, 2017-December 2017); Kasia's faculty sponsor is Maria Hepel (Chemistry).

Please join me in welcoming these special scholars to our campus!

## *Campus Updates*

**Classroom Updates.** With Kellas Hall off-line this year for renovations, several spaces on campus have been refurbished to serve as interim classrooms. Physical Plant and CTS have been working diligently over the summer to get these rooms ready for the start of classes. Your patience is appreciated as any last-minute installations are being made!

Included in the plans for classroom surge spaces are the former Satterlee and Black Box Theaters (Satterlee 201I and 120). The Facilities team has done an amazing job getting these large classrooms ready for the start of the semester. Be sure to check out these wonderful new (temporary) classrooms!

Unfortunately, the technology in Morey 253 will not be finished for the first several class meetings of the Fall semester. When completed, classroom technology will include a lectern, computer with monitor, 70" television screen (wall-mounted), and external speakers. Until the technology installation has been completed, faculty will need to bring a laptop to Morey 253. Laptops may be available through your department; if not, please contact the CCI regarding their Equipment Loan Program by calling X4820 or emailing a request to [cci@potssdam.edu](mailto:cci@potssdam.edu).

In addition to the Kellas renovations, several areas in Timerman Hall are also under construction. Please be aware that, due to work currently being finished in the Timerman basement, the tunnel nearest to Stowell and the corridor between B7 and B8 will be walled off. Stairway 4 will be accessible for egress to the exterior from the first floor.

I apologize for any temporary inconvenience associated with our classroom transitions, and appreciate your understanding and willingness to be flexible for the first weeks of classes. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any problems or lingering concerns.

**Chief Financial Officer.** Planning is underway to initiate the search for our campus' new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). A search committee has been formed, and recently met with our campus' representative from Academic Search. The search committee's spokesperson is Mary Dolan, and members include Roberta Greene, Bernadette Tiapo, Arlene Stillwell, Karen Clary,

## Looking for previous copies of the Provost's Corner?

All editions of the Provost's Corner, as well as additional resources for faculty and staff, can be found at:

<http://www.potsdam.edu/about/administration/provost/>

John Homburger, Charles Guy, and me. I will continue to keep you updated on the progress of this critical search. In the meantime, John Homburger continues to serve as our Interim CFO and is providing invaluable leadership to our campus.

**Online Ordering System.** Central Printing Services is now using an online ordering system. Information can be found at: [www.myorderdesk.com/Potsdam](http://www.myorderdesk.com/Potsdam). Once registered, you can place all of your printing requests by utilizing the online storefront. As a reminder, when attaching files in the ordering system, please use PDF format only. For more information, contact Central Printing Services at 315-267-2054.

**International Hack-a-Thon.** SUNY Potsdam recently hosted an International Hack-a-Thon, facilitated by *Martin Walker* (Chemistry). Approximately 30 programmers, doctors, and aid workers from around the world worked collaboratively to develop "Internet in a Box," an offline platform for use in clinics and schools in regions that don't have access to the internet.

**Journey Into Literacy.** On **October 26-27**, SUNY Potsdam will be hosting the upcoming Journey Into Literacy Conference. The Literacy Department (now Literacy Program) has planned and presented this biennial event for the past five years. Through this conference, nationally recognized authors and presenters will be brought together with local educators and our students, faculty, and staff to explore a range of issues and ideas related to classroom literacy. The event's co-chairs are *Carolyn Stone* and *Sheryl Scales*. More information on the Conference can be found on the following site: <https://www.journeyintoliteracy.com/>.

## Coffee and Conversation

Plans are underway for this fall's Coffee and Conversations. I hope that you will be able to join me for these informal dialogues!

This fall's Coffees are scheduled from 8:30-9:30 in the Raymond 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Dining Room on the following dates:

- Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>- Campus Updates
- Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>- Topic TBD
- Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> - Technology and the New Generation of Students
- Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>-Topic TBD

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! Please email your suggestions to me at [bergerbs@potsgdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potsgdam.edu).



## *Around the State/System*

**Responding to Intolerance.** Recent events in Charlottesville and cities around our nation have reminded us all of the importance of tolerance and respect. As noted in President Esterberg's address at this fall's Convocation, our students come to us from all over the state and country, bringing with them a range of differing perspectives, experiences, and identities. These differences, reflected not only in our students but also in our faculty and staff, are what make our campus community so special.

While our campus remains firmly committed to all forms of diversity and inclusion, and values the opportunity for respectful dialogue that explores many perspectives and life experiences, it may be challenging to know how to address issues that arise in the classroom or to incorporate difficult conversations into classroom dialogue. The following resources may be helpful:

- <https://daily.jstor.org/charlottesville-syllabi-history-hate-america/>
- *Whistling Vivaldi and Other Conversations about Race* by Claude Steele
- <http://www.crlt.umich.edu/multicultural-teaching/difficult-moments> \
- [Responding to Incivility in the College Classroom](#)

If you have resources that you have found to be particularly beneficial, please pass them along and I will include them in future editions of this Newsletter.

**WeTeachNY Summit.** SUNY Potsdam is one of nine SUNY campuses that is partnering with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to convene a statewide summit to connect the state's teachers with a vast network of their peers. The Teachers' Summit will provide attendees with opportunities to attend workshops led by their peers, share best innovative practices, network with other dedicated pre-service and in-service teachers, and provide new tools and resources to bring back to their classrooms.

The Summit is planned for **October 9, 2017**. For more information, visit the event's [website](#) for registration details and to submit a [session proposal](#).

**Enhancing Excellence in Assessment: Connecting the Dots.** The SUNY Council on Assessment (SCoA), in partnership with the SUNY Center for Professional Development, will be offering a one-day workshop on curricular mapping focusing on the process of designing and implementing maps that are feasible, effective, and align with the college's overall mission. Workshops will be offered in three regional locations and will have the same agenda, with slight variations based upon registrant input.

Deborah Moeckel, SUNY System Administration, will discuss the process of mapping and how institutions can actively gain insights into gaps, absences, and redundancies in curriculum or instruction, programming and the obtainment of core objectives. Featured presenters will discuss examples of their experiences with mapping; highlighting the need for time to both create quality maps and units of study, and reviewing them for multiple purposes. The program will also highlight active engagement, allowing participants to collaborate with one another and share examples of their own experiences with mapping. Attendees will work as active participants with a partner to better understand the process of revisiting, reviewing, aligning, and revising curriculum maps, coupled with knowledge of the results of student assessments and teaching practices, which are at the heart of mapping.

**Dates/Locations:**

- October 10, 2017 – University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
- October 20, 2017 – Farmingdale State College, Farmingdale, NY
- October 24, 2017 – Mohawk Valley Community College, Utica, NY

To register or for more information, use the following link: [REGISTER NOW](#)



***Mark Your Calendars!***

**Spring 2018 Schedules.** The first iteration of the Spring 2018 schedule is due on **Tuesday, September 5th**. As a reminder, changes will not be able to be made to the schedule in the CPI (Campus Planning Interface) until the second iteration is available on Monday, September 18th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sarah Carr at (315) 267-3092.

**Community Check-In.** As we welcome in the new academic year, you are invited to attend this fall's initial Community Check-In, scheduled for **Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30-6:30** in the Student Union MPR. For more information on this campus event, please contact Bernadette Tiapo ([tiapobs@potdam.edu](mailto:tiapobs@potdam.edu)).

**Academic Affairs Strategic Initiatives Summit and Reception.** You are invited to attend the Academic Affairs Strategic Initiatives Summit, scheduled for **Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**. 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 19<sup>th</sup>!*

**Webinar Series: High Impact Practices.** The Center for Applied Learning has been hosting a webinar series on High Impact Practices (HIP’s) in Crumb 205 every Friday at 1:00. Remaining topics and dates include:

- **September 1<sup>st</sup>**- Visible outcomes for employability
- **September 8<sup>th</sup>**- Measuring the ineffable

**Crane Faculty Gala.** The 2017 Faculty Gala is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**, at 7:30. This special annual event, highlighting faculty from across performance areas, will be held in the Helen M. Hosmer Concert Hall. Donations to the Red Cross will be accepted at the door to support storm victims in Texas.

**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. For more information, or if you wish to join in the planning process, please email *Jennifer Mitchell*, [mitchejk@potsgdam.edu](mailto:mitchejk@potsgdam.edu). Special thanks to the Days of Reflection Steering Committee for their tremendous work: *Jennifer Mitchell, Rachel Bayliss, Matt LaVine, Nimo Sugulle*, and *Jamyra Young*.

**Research and Creative Endeavors.** The next deadline for the Research and Creative Endeavors program is **Wednesday October 4, 2017**. Submissions are due by 4:00 pm in the Research and Sponsored Programs Office, located in 238 Satterlee Hall.

The Research and Creative Endeavors Program is designed to provide faculty and staff with seed money to pursue a research or scholarly project and eventually seek and attract external funding for their work. The Committee will especially emphasize projects that have the potential to encourage new faculty, women, and minorities; support research and creative endeavors across the disciplines; and attract external resources. The maximum award per project is \$1,000. Generally, this program does not provide funding for conference travel, computer equipment, or general office expenses.

The on-line application can be found on the Research and Sponsored Programs [website](#). For more information, feel free to contact the Research office at x2131.

**Disciplined Inquiry in Education Seminar.** The Fall 2017 schedule has been set for the Disciplined Inquiry Seminar series, offered through the School of Education and Professional Studies. All sessions are held in the Literacy Center Balcony from noon to 1pm.

- 9/13/17- **Campus Climate and Instructional Success**  
Presenter: *Bernadette Tiapo*, Chief Diversity Officer
- 9/27/17- **Dabbling in Differential Equation Modeling**  
Presenter: *Brian Winkel*, United States Military Academy at West Point
- 10/18/17- **The Courage to Teach- The Work of Parker Palmer**  
Presenter: *Peter Brouwer*, Department of Secondary Education
- 11/1/17- **Impact of Consumers' Self-Image and Demographics on Preference for Healthy Labeled Products**  
Presenter: *Savita Hanspal*, Department of Business Administration

- 11/15/17- **The Funds of Knowledge Perspective: Integrating Diversity and Equity into Subject Area Methods Courses**

Presenter: *Tyler St. Clair*, Department of Secondary Education

Specific information about the series can be found at:

<http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/SOEPS/education/seminar>.

**Business Intelligence Study Groups.** The Business Office will be offering weekly Oracle Business Intelligence (BI) Study Group sessions, held on **Fridays from 11-12:30pm** in Flagg 162. Sessions will be offered from September 1<sup>st</sup> through December 8<sup>th</sup>, with the exception of 10/13 and 11/24. The first half hour of each Study Group will focus on BI basics, followed by Q&A, advanced tips and tricks, and updates. Participants may bring their lunch, as long as it is self-contained.

**Mariposa and the Saint.** The campus community is invited to attend a special performance of *Mariposa and the Saint* on **Thurs. Sept. 28 from 7:00-9:00** in the PAC. There will be a panel discussion and debrief following the presentation. The New York Times described the performance as *A Play that Confronts the Horrors of Solitary Confinement* (The New York Times, Oct. 19, 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/culture/culture-desk/a-play-that-confronts-the-horror-of-solitary-confinement>). The two-person play is built around letters sent from Mariposa, an inmate serving time in solitary confinement, to activist and performer Julia Steele.

The panel discussion will include formerly-serving state inmates as well as prison activists and advocates including Tyrrell Muhammad and Scott Paltrow. Tyrell spent 26 years and 11 months in New York state prisons, 7 of those years in solitary confinement. Currently he is employed as a Project Associate for the New York Correctional Association. Scott Paltrow is the Associate Director of the Visitation Program at New York Correctional Association and a member of the New York Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement. North Country community members will also be included on the panel.

This event is sponsored by the Center for Diversity, Women's and Gender studies, DIAC, Dean Steven Marqusee, Student Life, and the Departments of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Theatre and Dance, and English and Communications. For additional information, contact Nancy Lewis ([lewishnl@potsdam.edu](mailto:lewishnl@potsdam.edu)).

### *Did You Know...*



Campus articulation guides are found at:

<http://www.potsdam.edu/admissions/transfer/articulation>

### *In Case You Missed It...*

**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 1<sup>st</sup>. Additional information regarding registration for the workshop is available by clicking [here](#).

If you have questions, please contact Alan Hersker, [herskeal@potsdam.edu](mailto: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.

**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.



**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.

Estela M. Bensimon (Professor of Higher Education and Director of the Center for Urban Education at the University of Southern California), 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), Benjamin Reese (Vice President for Institutional Equity at Duke University and Duke University Health System) and 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 29<sup>th</sup>**.

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## *Kudos*

**Student Recruitment and Retention Awards.** 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.

Three awardees were recognized at our Opening Convocation:

*Academic Mentoring Program (AMP)*

**Tim Morse, Academic Advising & Support Office**

Summary: A proactive advising and support model piloted in the 2017 academic year for all students on academic probation. Components include requiring mandatory individual meetings with an academic advisor to focus on plans for academic recovery, referrals to appropriate resources, and regularly scheduled electronic check-ins with the academic advisors. Results from the initial year of implementation showed a 20% reduction of dismissed students as compared to the 15-year average and significant increases in students’ overall GPA.

***Akwesasne 2+2 Program***

***Hadley Kruczek-Aaron, Department of Anthropology***

Summary: Degree completion program partnership between the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, St. Lawrence College, and SUNY Potsdam's Department of Anthropology to meet the demand for cultural resource management professionals who can mitigate the impact of projects on cultural resources and help developers comply with laws designated to protect archaeological sites. Through the partnership agreement, students from Akwesasne earn an Associate's degree from St. Lawrence College and transfer seamlessly into Potsdam's B.A. in Archaeological Studies. Nine students from the initial cohort are taking two courses at Potsdam this Fall 2017 semester, and will fully enroll as juniors in Fall of 2018.

***India Skill Development Initiative***

**Tony Betrus, Business Administration Department**

Summary: Partnership with institutions of higher education in India and the National Education Foundation focused on business skill development. Components include offering non-credit courses for participants in India and opportunities for credit transfer into SUNY Potsdam; plans are underway to develop related short-term courses both in the US and India. Future goals anticipate 30 registered graduate students each year from India in addition to enrollments in short-term summer courses.

***Congratulations to Tim, Hadley, Tony, and their teams for the significant impact that they are having on our students' success!!***

Also recognized at the Opening Convocation were the following applicants:

***3-2 Dual Engineering Degree Program***

**Linghong Li, Department of Physics**

Summary: Increasing visibility of the 3-2 dual degree partnership with Clarkson University. Program components include advising students to ensure smooth transfer, working with the admissions office to identify high quality students to recruit into the program, active participation by faculty at each Open House, and recruitment through the annual high school Science Lab Days. An average of 46 majors annually has participated in the program in recent years.

*College Prep Workshop*

**Rebecca Smoke, Office of Native American Affairs**

Summary: Cross-divisional program targeted to Native American students (grades 9-12) from surrounding high schools. The two-day workshop exposes high school students to the campus, and teaches them life skills needed to become successful post-secondary students on the SUNY Potsdam campus. Implemented twice during the summer of 2017, overall evaluations from students were very positive particularly in reference to the writing workshop, library tutorial, diversity training, cultural presentation, and campus tour.

*Computer Science Mentoring Program (CSMP)*

**Chris Lanz, Department of Computer Science**

Summary: A peer mentoring program for students in introductory Computer Science classes. Mentors are assigned to each lower-division student. Program components include direct contact by the mentor when mentees miss any course requirements. The program was piloted in the spring of 2017, resulting in the highest median final grade in the introductory course since 2010. The department is also implementing workshops and review sessions to support students in test preparation and is renewing contacts with 20 community colleges with which the department has articulation agreements.

*Crane Open House for Accepted Seniors*

**David Heuser, The Crane School of Music**

Summary: April 2017 Open House held specifically for accepted music majors, attended by 34 accepted students (with an additional 11 requesting a different date due to scheduling conflicts). Program components included individualized scheduling to allow prospective students to attend classes, visits to ensemble rehearsals, and participation in a sample lesson. The overall deposit rate was 75%, compared with 45% for previous years.

*Cub2Max Cub Pilot Program*

**Mark Millward, TRIO**

Summary: Provides a single point of contact for incoming freshmen and transfer students eligible for TRiO Student Support Services prior to students' entry into SUNY Potsdam. A focus is on addressing questions related to the transition to college life and

directing students to appropriate resources. Of the 249 students contacted for the initial pilot in the spring of 2016, 246 attended campus in the fall of 2016; the fall to spring retention rate was 92.3%. A second pilot of 211 students was contacted in spring of 2017, with an anticipated 100% enrollment rate this fall.

*Office of Admissions Initiatives*

**Tom Nesbitt, Office of Admissions**

Summary: Ten-Year implementation of various strategies including implementation of “test optional” policies, GAP grants for students in financial need, bus transportation from NYC for prospective students and their families, two full-time recruiters in NYC, hosting NYSACAC’s Camp College, increased visits to community colleges, and the creation of Transfer Visit Days.

I want to express my thanks to everyone who is contributing to the recruitment and retention of our students. Your expertise and innovation are truly making a difference to our campus and 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@potdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potdam.edu).*